The Church of the Ascension

in the City of New York

FIFTH AVENUE AT TENTH STREET



CHRISTMAS DAY

December 25, 2022

The Holy Eucharist With Carols

Eleven O'Clock A.M.

THE HOLY EUCHARIST

Prelude **Gesù Bambino**
Pietro Yon (1886-1943)

Hymn 107 ***In dulci jubilo***

Opening Acclamation

Celebrant Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
People *And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.*

Collect for Purity

Celebrant Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord.
People *Amen.*

Gloria **Hymnal, S-280**

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.
People *And also with you.*

Celebrant Let us pray. Almighty God, you have given your only-begotten Son to take our nature upon him, and to be born this day of a pure virgin: Grant that we, who have been born again and made your children by adoption and grace, may daily be renewed by your Holy Spirit; through our Lord Jesus Christ, to whom with you and the same Spirit be honor and glory, now and for ever.
People *Amen.*

(Please be seated)

THE WORD OF GOD

A Reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah

How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of the messenger who announces peace, who brings good news, who announces salvation, who says to Zion, "Your God reigns." Listen! Your sentinels lift up their voices, together they sing for joy; for in plain sight they see the return of the LORD to Zion. Break forth together into singing, you ruins of Jerusalem; for the LORD has comforted his people, he has redeemed Jerusalem. The LORD has bared his holy arm before the eyes of all the nations; and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God. (52:7-10)

Reader The Word of the Lord.
People *Thanks be to God.*

Psalm 98 *(Said by all)*

Sing to the LORD a new song,
for he has done marvelous things.

With his right hand and his holy arm
has he won for himself the victory.

The LORD has made known his victory;
his righteousness has he openly shown in the sight of the nations.

He remembers his mercy and faithfulness to the house of Israel,
and all the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.

Shout with joy to the LORD, all you lands;
lift up your voice, rejoice, and sing.

Sing to the LORD with the harp,
with the harp and the voice of song.

With trumpets and the sound of the horn
shout with joy before the King, the LORD.

Let the sea make a noise and all that is in it,
the lands and those who dwell therein.

Let the rivers clap their hands,
and let the hills ring out with joy before the LORD,
when he comes to judge the earth.

In righteousness shall he judge the world
and the peoples with equity.

A Reading from the Letter to the Hebrews

Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets, but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, through whom he also created the worlds. He is the reflection of God's glory and the exact imprint of God's very being, and he sustains all things by his powerful word. When he had made purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs. (1:1-4)

Reader The Word of the Lord.
People *Thanks be to God.*

Hymn 115 ***Greensleeves***

The Gospel **John: 1-14**

Reader The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.
People *Glory to you, Lord Christ.*

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it. There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a

witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God. And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

Reader The Gospel of the Lord.
People *Praise to you, Lord Christ.*

Sermon **The Rev. Edwin Chinery**

The Nicene Creed **(All stand)**

We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.
We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father.
Through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven:
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,
and was made man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.
We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.
He has spoken through the Prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Prayers of the People **Form III**

The Leader and People pray responsively

Leader Let us pray for the Church and for the world.
Father, we pray for your holy Catholic Church;

People *That we all may be one.*

Leader We pray for Michael our Presiding Bishop, Andrew, Allen and Mary our Bishops, for Matt, our Bishop Coadjutor-elect, and all bishops, priests, and deacons;

People *That they may be faithful ministers of your* Word and Sacraments.

Leader We pray for Joe our President, Kathy our Governor, and Eric our Mayor, and all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;

People *That there may be justice and peace on the* earth.

Leader Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;

People *That our works may find favor in your sight.*

Leader We pray for Ed, Janet, Ellen, Joseph, Brielle, Lucas, Holly, Allejandro and Jesus, Nancy, Barbara, Dorothy, Stewart, Patricia, Judith, David, Hannah, Jurek, Alice, Michael, Todd, Jessica, Elaine, Brittney, Zebulon, Sonia, Susie, Kate, Andrea and Dan, Barbara, Joe ,Samantha, Katherine, Elizabeth, and Peter, David, Julia, Karli, Kamri, Susan, Skylar, Peter. Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble.

People *That they may be delivered from their distress.*

Leader We pray for Mohamed Sharif Choudhury, George Hayman, and Joseph Stafford. Give to the departed eternal rest.

People *Let light perpetual shine upon them.*

Leader We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;

People *May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.*

Leader Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.

Silence

The People may add their own petitions.

The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.

The Peace

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People *And also with you.*

Announcements

THE HOLY COMMUNION

Hymn 105 ***God Rest You Merry***

(During the singing of the hymn, an offering will be collected)

The Great Thanksgiving **Eucharistic Prayer B**

Sursum corda **Hymnal, S-120**

Celebrant The Lord be with you.
People *And also with you.*

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.
People *We lift them to the Lord.*

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People *It is right to give him thanks and praise.*

Celebrant It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. Because you gave Jesus Christ, your only Son, to be born for us; who, by the mighty power of the Holy Spirit, was made perfect Man of the flesh of the Virgin Mary his mother; so that we might be delivered from the bondage of sin, and receive power to become your children. Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Sanctus **Hymnal, S-129**

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

(The people stand or kneel, and the priest continues.)

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Memorial Acclamation

Celebrant Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

People *We remember his death,*
We proclaim his resurrection,
We await his coming in glory.

(The priest continues)

And we offer this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being

sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with Mary the God-Bearer, St. Joseph, and all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever.

People *AMEN.*

The Lord's Prayer

Celebrant And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

All Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.
People *Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.*

Agnus Dei **Hymnal, S-163**

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:
have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:
have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:
grant us peace.

Communion of the People

(The celebrant says the following invitation)

The gifts of God for the people of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

(The people come forward as directed by the ushers. All are welcome. The ushers will direct those seated in the outer aisles to go first- down to the back of the church and then up the center aisle, followed by the middle aisle. We offer communion in both kinds; if you choose to drink from the cup, you may help the chalice bearer by touching the base to guide it to your mouth. If you prefer not to take the cup you may cross your arms in front of you in acknowledgement or simply return to your seat. Intinction is not allowed due to public health concerns.)

Hymn 112 ***Cranham***

Post-Communion Prayer

(Said together by all)

Almighty and everliving God,
we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food
of the most precious Body and Blood
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ;
and for assuring us in these holy mysteries
that we are living members of the Body of your Son,
and heirs of your eternal kingdom.
And now, Father,
send us out to do the work you have given us to do,
to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord.
To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit,
be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

Christmas Blessing

May Christ, who by his Incarnation gathered into one all things earthly and heavenly, fill you with his joy and peace; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. *Amen.*

Hymn 100 ***Antioch***

Dismissal
(The congregation is dismissed, and the people respond)

Thanks be to God.

Postlude **Noël Suisse, Grand Jeu et duo**
Louis-Claude Daquin (1694-1772)

The Christmas flowers are offered in joy at the Incarnation of Our Lord Jesus Christ by:



Stephanie Bruder
in loving memory of
Vivienne Wolf Bruder

George Carr
in loving memory of
Annabel Peterson Carr, Mary Sue Carr, Walter Peterson Carr, Zack Carr III, Zack Carr, Jr., Henry Dantzler, J. D. Patton, Zula Mae Patton, Jenny M. Tates
in thanksgiving for
Helen Gibson Burks

John Grimes
in loving memory of
Mary Evelyn Carter, Ava L. Gardner, John A. & Inez G. Grimes, Melzer A. & Elizabeth R. Morgan,

Andrew Jones
in thanksgiving for
Geraldine Bryan, Jordan Scoggins
in loving memory of
Stephen Jones

David Lehmann
in thanksgiving for
Ken May
In loving memory of
John L. Havercamp, Tamma L. Havercamp, Chris & Sarah May, Beth H. Willingham

Helen Makarowsky
in thanksgiving for
Zhenya & Tamara Makarowsky
in loving memory of
Alexander, Remo, Nona, & Vladimir Makarowsky

Barbara Matovu
in loving memory of
Jacob Matovu

The Rev. Elizabeth G. Maxwell
in thanksgiving for
Mihret

Kenneth May
in loving memory of
Evelyn Birch, Charles Clarkson, Carol Gregory, Ethel Heser, Christopher Linstrom, Dorothy May, Robert May, Salvatore May

John Merryman
in thanksgiving for
Ann McGee Merryman

Kimberly & Jason Miller
in loving memory of
Bernadine Kopko, Dolores & Richard Stichter

Peter Nordeen
in loving memory of
Dan Sendzik

Sibyl Piccone
in loving memory of
Josephine & Paul Piccone, Helen & Kerry Ryan

Rima Rabbath
in thanksgiving for
Wesley (VOA Usher)

Tom Rice
in loving memory of
Elisabeth Reiter, John & Jane Rice
Anna Reiter

Shep Skiff
in loving memory of
Jeff Geffine, Elizabeth Shepard Jones

Madonna Stack-Barker
in loving memory of
William Barker

Announcements

WELCOME to the Church of the Ascension! We're glad to have you worship with us, and hope that you have experienced the peace and presence of Christ in this place. If you'd like to learn more about our parish, please fill out the card in your pew and give it to an usher or put it in the offering plate.

The guest organist for today is Gregory D'Agostino.

Office Closed- The church and parish office will be closed on December 26 & 27, & January 2.

Have you made your pledge for 2023? Thanks to all who have pledged to support Ascension in the coming year. If you have not yet pledged, please prayerfully consider doing so. You can pledge online at **ascensionnyc.org/stewardship**. We need everyone's participation, and depend on your

commitments for our budget planning. Thank you for your generosity and care for our church!

To pay your pledge online, please go to **ascensionnyc.org/give** to find out how easy and secure it is to give. You can also download the Abundant app for iOS or Android. When donating, please choose whichever purpose you intend for your contribution.

Help Us Repair & Restore our Tower Brownstone - Ascension is making urgently needed repairs and restoration on the historic masonry & copings of our tower brownstone. We have received a generous matching grant from the Manton Foundation for this important work. Now we need your help make our space secure for the next generation!

Every dollar you give will be matched up to $200,000. You can pledge to this campaign online at **ascensionnyc.org/matchinggrant**, or contact the parish office at 212-254-8620. Payments can be made by check payable to the Church of the Ascension (remember to put "Tower Brownstone" in the memo line) or online through Abundant (Ascensionnyc.org/Give – select "Manton Matching Grant" from the drop-down menu). If you have any questions about this campaign or the tower, please speak to Mother Liz or one of the Wardens. Thank you for your generosity!

Spirit Driven Stitching: Quilts by Posey Krakowsky: On View through December 31. The Rev. Posey Krakowsky, Priest Associate at Ascension, is also an artist, theologian, and writer. A lifelong fiber artist, Posey's specialty is quilting, but she also knits, weaves, paints, sews, and works with beads. Posey's quilting pieces are multi-layered and rich and take months to complete. Several of her Quilts are on display at the Heavenly Rest Undercroft Gallery (1085 5th Ave, New York, NY). Of her work Posey says, "We are Spirit-driven beings on an earthly, incarnate journey. God walks beside us every step. The ways we use our hands inform our hearts, our minds, and our souls: leading them deeper and deeper into Love."

Help for Asylum Seekers Needed- Our friends at Judson Church (239 Thompson St.) have created a respite and mutual aid center for asylum seekers who have been bussed to New York from Texas. They are open every Monday from 10 am to 7 pm. You can help by volunteering time (Spanish speakers and those with medical, legal or social work training especially welcome), or by donating supplies. They need new (or like new) winter coats (men's, women's, & children's), underwear (boxers preferably), and backpacks.

To learn more about volunteering, please contact the Rev. Micah Bucey at micah@judson.org. Donated supplies can be brought to Ascension, marked "mutual aid for migrants" and we will see that they get to Judson. Thank you!

Mask Policy –With the rise of respiratory illnesses, we do strongly encourage everyone to be masked when indoors and to be sensitive to the concerns of others. Clergy, servers, and choir will remain masked during services.

Rota for December 25, 2022

11:00 a.m.	
Altar Guild	Candace Lombardi
Ushers	Terry Rogers, TBA, TBA
Lectors	James Amodeo, Rusty Moore
Intercessor	Kyle Cheseborough
Server	Candace Lombardi
Torches	Rusty Moore, David Lehmann

Rota for January 1, 2023

9:00 a.m.	
Server	June Fait
11:00 a.m.	
Altar Guild	TBD
Ushers	TBD
Lectors	Isabel Spencer, Stanley Weinberg, Sabra Brock, John Merryman, Richard Mitchell, Peter Nordeen, Sibyl Piccone, Maurice Seaton
Server	Tom Rice
Thurifer	John Grimes
Crucifer	TBD
Torches	Candace Lombardi, Richard Mitchell
Chalice Bearers	Stanley Weinberg, David Lehmann
Counter	Tom Rice

Parish Activities

Sunday – December 25
The Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ
Holy Eucharist & Hymns (Church) 11:00 a.m.
Since Christmas falls on a Sunday, there are no other services on that day.

Monday – December 26
Church and Parish Office closed. There are no services or meetings.
Evening Prayer (Zoom) 5:30 p.m.

Tuesday – December 27
Church and Parish Office closed. There are no services or meetings.
Evening Prayer (Zoom) 5:30 p.m.

Wednesday – December 28
Church open for prayer & meditation; Noon to 3:00 p.m.
Evening Prayer (Zoom) 5:30 p.m.
Holy Eucharist (Church) 6:00 p.m.

Thursday – December 29
Church open for prayer & meditation; Noon to 3:00 p.m.
Evening Prayer (Zoom) 5:30 p.m.

Friday – December 30
Church open for prayer & meditation; Noon to 3:00 p.m.
Evening Prayer (Zoom) 5:30 p.m.

Saturday – December 31
Food pantry is available the 1st and 3rd Saturdays of the month. For assistance or to volunteer, please contact Amy Shaw at amyqshaw@gmail.com.

Sunday – January 1 – The Holy Name of Our Lord
Holy Eucharist (Church) 9:00 a.m.
Holy Eucharist w/ Music; (Church & Live Stream) 11:00 a.m.
In person and online (Ascensionnyc.org/Sunday)
Join us for Coffee Hour following the Service
Meditation & Sacrament (Church) 6:00 p.m.

The Church of the Ascension

in the City of New York

Fifth Avenue at Tenth Street

Incorporated October 1, 1827

Parish House 12 West 11th Street, New York, New York 10011

www.ascensionnyc.org (212) 254-8620 info@ascensionnyc.org

Office Hours:

Monday – Friday, 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Weekly Worship Schedule

Sunday Eucharist, 9:00 a.m.
Sunday Eucharist w/ Music, 11:00 a.m.
Sunday Online Church, 11:00 a.m. (Ascensionnyc.org/Sunday)
Sunday Meditation & Sacrament, 6:00 p.m.
Wednesday Eucharist, 6:00 p.m.
Weeknight Evening Prayer, 5:30 p.m. (ascensionnyc.org/eveningprayer)

Clergy & Staff	***Vestry***
The Rev. Elizabeth G. Maxwell, *Rector*	David Cholcher, *Warden*
The Rev. Edwin Chinery, *Associate Rector*	Isabel Spencer, *Warden*
The Rev. Posey Krakowsky, *Priest Associate*	Mary Gaillard, *Treasurer*
Charles E. Schmidt, *Chancellor*	Mary Gossy: *Clerk*
Dennis Keene, D.M.A., *Organist & Choirmaster*	Elizabeth Adams
Andrew P. Jones, *Parish Administrator*	Kyle Church Cheseborough
Kelli Long, *Business Manager*	Peter Clark
Sajia Choudhury, *Parish Bookkeeper*	John Grimes
Dwight Roberts, *Sexton*	Steve Hubbard
William Gordon, *Assistant Sexton*	Vin Knight
Rashean Thompkins, *Assistant Sexton*	Gale Lynch
	Tom Rice
	Rachel Sedor
	Madonna Stack-Barker
	John Thompson
	Jill Tildesley

@ascensionnyc

Paperless Bulletin

Hymn 107 ***In dulci jubilo***

Good Christian friends, rejoice
with heart and soul and voice;
give ye heed to what we say:
Jesus Christ is born today;
ox and ass before him bow,
and he is in the manger now.
Christ is born today!

Good Christian friends, rejoice
with heart and soul and voice;
now ye hear of endless bliss;
Jesus Christ was born for this!

He hath opened heaven's door,
and we are blest for evermore.
Christ was born for this!

Good Christian friends, rejoice
with heart and soul and voice;
now ye need not fear the grave:
Jesus Christ was born to save!
Calls you one and calls you all
to gain his everlasting hall.
Christ was born to save!

Good Christian friends, rejoice, #107 from The Hymnal 1982 — Words: John Mason Neale (1818-1866), alt. Music: In dulci jubilo, German carol, 14th cent.; harm. Charles Winfred Douglas (1867-1944).

Hymn 115 ***Greensleeves***

What child is this, who, laid to rest,
on Mary's lap is sleeping?
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet,
while shepherds watch are keeping?
Refrain

This, this is Christ the King,
whom shepherds guard and angels sing;
haste, haste to bring him laud,
the babe, the son of Mary.

Why lies he in such mean estate
where ox and ass are feeding?
Good Christian, fear: for sinners here
the silent Word is pleading.
Refrain

So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh,
come, peasant, king, to own him;
the King of kings salvation brings,
let loving hearts enthrone him.
Refrain

What child is this, who, laid to rest, #115 from The Hymnal 1982 — Words: William Chatterton Dix (1837-1898). Music: Greensleeves, English melody; harm. Christmas Carols New and Old, 1871.

Hymn 105 ***God Rest You Merry***

God rest you merry, gentlemen,
let nothing you dismay;
remember Christ our Savior
was born on Christmas Day,
to save us all from Satan's power
when we were gone astray.
Refrain *O tidings of comfort and joy,*
comfort and joy;
O tidings of comfort and joy!

From God our heavenly Father
a blessèd angel came
and unto certain shepherds
brought tidings of the same:
how that in Bethlehem was born
the Son of God by name.

Refrain

"Fear not, then," said the angel,
"Let nothing you affright;
this day is born a Savior
of a pure virgin bright,
to free all those who trust in him
from Satan's power and might."
Refrain

Now to the Lord sing praises,
all you within this place,
and with true love and charity
each other now embrace;
this holy tide of Christmas
doth bring redeeming grace.
Refrain

God rest you merry, gentlemen, #105 from The Hymnal 1982 — Words: London carol, 18th cent. Music: God Rest You Merry, melody from Little Book of Christmas Carols, ca. 1850; harm. Charles Winfred Douglas (1867-1944). Copyright © The Church Pension Fund.

Hymn 112 ***Cranham***

In the bleak midwinter,
frosty wind made moan,
earth stood hard as iron,
water like a stone;
snow had fallen, snow on snow,
snow on snow,
in the bleak midwinter, long ago.

Our God, heaven cannot hold him,
nor earth sustain;
heaven and earth shall flee away
when he comes to reign:
in the bleak midwinter
a stable-place sufficed
the Lord God incarnate, Jesus Christ.

Angels and archangels
may have gathered there,
cherubim and seraphim
throngèd the air;
but his mother only,
in her maiden bliss,
worshiped the beloved with a kiss.

What can I give him,
poor as I am?
If I were a shepherd,
I would bring a lamb;
if I were a wise man,
I would do my part;
yet what I can I give him— give my heart.

In the bleak midwinter, #112 from The Hymnal 1982 — Words: Christina Rossetti (1830-1894). Music: Cranham, Gustav Theodore Holst (1874-1934).

Hymn 100 ***Antioch***

Joy to the world! the Lord is come:
let earth receive her King;
let every heart prepare him room,
and heaven and nature sing.

Joy to the world! the Savior reigns;
let us our songs employ,
while fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains,
repeat the sounding joy.

No more let sins and sorrows grow,
nor thorns infest the ground;
he comes to make his blessings flow
far as the curse is found.

He rules the world with truth and grace,
and makes the nations prove
the glories of his righteousness,
and wonders of his love.

Joy to the world! the Lord is come, #100 from The Hymnal 1982 — Words: Isaac Watts (1674-1748), alt. Music: Antioch, George Frideric Handel (1685-1759); adapt. and arr. Lowell Mason (1792-1872).