

CO-CATHEDRAL OF THE SACRED HEART

December 25, 2020

The Nativity of the Lord – Mass during the Day

Christmas Day 10 AM Mass

We are continuing to monitor rapidly-emerging information about the pandemic related to group music-making. Several multi-disciplinary research studies have been initiated around this topic and we await news from those in the coming weeks. The current consensus among choral leaders is that distance while singing remains important until we know more. We join with other cathedrals worldwide, of those that are open, in a position of caution at this time: we are minimizing congregational singing while remaining faithful to Mass rubrics. The cantor is moved upstairs and will sing the Propers of the day alone, on your behalf. The Mass Ordinary remains a familiar one, but we ask that you do not sing out of prudence for your neighbors. Organ music will stand in for the people in the places allowed by liturgical documents. Please silently meditate on the texts, and certainly, if you are with your family at home, sing along.

Music is an integral part of the liturgy, and will remain in the long term. Your Co-Cathedral Music remains committed to excellence, and to your participation. We don't like this temporary situation, and we don't like this virus. We expect more information to come forth and will pivot accordingly. For now, until further notice, we prefer to err on the side of caution and concern for your safety until more is known. We will continue to monitor. Thank you and God bless.

Prelude

12 Days of Christmas

Crista Miller (b. 1970)

Ding Dong Merrily

Andrew Unsworth (b. 1974)

Go Tell it on the Mountain

Richard Elliott (b. 1957)

Prelude on What Child is This

Richard Purvis (1913 – 1994)

I Saw Three Ships

Richard Elliott

Processional

O Come, All Ye Faithful

ADESTE FIDELES

Welcome

Penitential Act

Kyrie eleison (Mass of St. Gregory the Great)

Luke Mayernik

Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

Gloria (Mass of St. Gregory the Great)

Luke Mayernik

Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to people of good will.

We praise you, we bless you, we adore you, we glorify you,

we give you thanks for your great glory,

Lord God, heavenly King, O God, almighty Father.

Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son, Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,

you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us;

you take away the sins of the world, receive our prayer;

you are seated at the right hand of the Father, have mercy on us.

For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord,

you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,

in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

Collect

LITURGY OF THE WORD

First Reading

Isaiah 52:7-10

How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him who brings glad tidings, announcing peace, bearing good news, announcing salvation, and saying to Zion, "Your God is King!"

Hark! Your sentinels raise a cry, together they shout for joy, for they see directly, before their eyes, the LORD restoring Zion. Break out together in song, ruins of Jerusalem! For the LORD comforts his people, he redeems Jerusalem. The LORD has bared his holy arm in the sight of all the nations; all the ends of the earth will behold the salvation of our God.

Responsorial: Psalm 98

Owen Alstott

All the ends of the earth have seen the saving power of God.

Sing to the LORD a new song, for he has done wondrous deeds;
his right hand has won victory for him, his holy arm.

The LORD has made his salvation known: in the sight of the nations he has revealed his justice.
He has remembered his kindness and his faithfulness toward the house of Israel.

All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation by our God.
Sing joyfully to the LORD, all you lands; break into song; sing praise.

Sing praise to the LORD with the harp, with the harp and melodious song.
With trumpets and the sound of the horn sing joyfully before the King, the LORD.

Second Reading

Hebrews 1:1-6

Brothers and sisters: In times past, God spoke in partial and various ways to our ancestors through the prophets; in these last days, he has spoken to us through the Son, whom he made heir of all things and through whom he created the universe, who is the refulgence of his glory, the very imprint of his being, and who sustains all things by his mighty word. When he had accomplished purification from sins, he took his seat at the right hand of the Majesty on high, as far superior to the angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs.

For to which of the angels did God ever say: *You are my son; this day I have begotten you?*

Or again: *I will be a father to him, and he shall be a son to me?*

And again, when he leads the firstborn into the world, he says: *Let all the angels of God worship him.*

Gospel Acclamation

Owen Alstott

Alleluia, alleluia.

A holy day has dawned upon us. Come, you nations, and adore the Lord.

For today a great light has come upon the earth.

Gospel

John 1:1-5, 9-14

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 to be through him, and without him nothing came to be. What came to be through him was life, and this life was the light of the human race; the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world came to be through him, but the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, but his own people did not accept him.

But to those who did accept him he gave power to become children of God, to those who believe in his name, who were born not by natural generation nor by human choice nor by a man's decision but of God. And the Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us, and we saw his glory, the glory as of the Father's only Son, full of grace and truth.

Homily

Nicene Creed

**I believe in one God, the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible.**

**I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Only Begotten Son of God,
born of the Father before all ages.**

**God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,
begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father; through him all things were made.**

**For us men and for our salvation he came down from heaven,
and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate, he suffered death and was buried,
and rose again on the third day 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.

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.**

I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church.

I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins

and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Prayers of the Faithful

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

Preparation of the Gifts

And the Glory of the Lord
from *Messiah*

George Frideric Handel (1865-1759)

And the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together:
for the mouth of the Lord hath spoken it.

This is a time where everyone is anxious about finances and job security. At our parish, we are hoping to pay our required expenses without cutting ministries or staff—both that are so important to spread the Gospel and serve you.

Traditionally, this is the normal part of the Mass for the Offertory Collection. *IF* you are able to make any contribution to the Co-Cathedral, we ask you to do so now by using the QR code to the right or following the link below. Or after Mass, you may enroll in Faith Direct for regular online contributions, also by following the link.

Thank you for your assistance at this trying time.

www.sacredhearhouston.org/donate



Eucharistic Prayer

Eucharistic Preface

Sanctus (Mass of St. Gregory the Great)

Luke Mayernik

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts. 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.

Memorial Acclamation (Mass of St. Gregory the Great) Luke Mayernik
When we eat this Bread and drink this Cup, we proclaim your death, O Lord, until you come again.

Concluding Doxology (Mass of St. Gregory the Great) Luke Mayernik
AMEN.

Communion Rite

The Lord's Prayer

Agnus Dei (Mass of St. Gregory the Great) Luke Mayernik
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.

Holy Communion

In splendoribus sanctorum (mode VI) Gregorian Chant
In the brightness of the Saints, from the womb before the daystar I begot Thee.

O magnum mysterium Tomás Luis de Victoria (1548 – 1611)
*O great mystery and wonderful sacrament,
that animals should see the new-born Lord lying in a manger!
O blessed is the Virgin, whose womb was worthy to bear Christ the Lord.
Alleluia!*

Lo! how a Rose e're Blooming Dale Adelman (b. 1961)
Lo, how a rose e'er blooming, from tender stem hath sprung.
Of Jesse's lineage coming, as men of old have sung;
It came, a flow'ret bright, amid the cold of winter, when half spent was the night.
Isaiah 'twas foretold it, the Rose I have in mind,
With Mary we behold it, the virgin mother kind;
To show God's love aright, she bore to men a Savior, when half spent was the night.
O Flower, whose fragrance tender with sweetness fills the air,
Dispel with glorious splendor the darkness everywhere;
True man, yet very God, from Sin and death now save us, and share our every load.

We invite you to pray for Spiritual Communion using these words:

*My Jesus, I believe that you are present in the Most Holy Sacrament.
I love you above all things and I desire to receive you in my soul.
Since I cannot at this moment receive you sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart.
I embrace you as if you were already there and unite myself wholly to you.
Never permit me to be separated from you. Amen.*

Prayer after Communion Blessing and Dismissal

Recessional

Toccata on Antioch, "Joy to the World" Craig Phillips (b. 1961)