



THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE REDEEMER

Welcome to Holy Eucharist in the Celtic tradition. At this service, we offer music and liturgy based on principles of Celtic worship. Our services follow themes which change with the liturgical season. In the season of Advent we celebrate (the stillness of) sound as we wait with pregnant hope to hear the proclamation of Emmanuel; God with us.



Third Sunday of Advent
Celtic Holy Eucharist
December 15, 2019 • 5 pm

PRELUDE

ECCE DEUS 20TH CENTURY HYMN TUNE
THE MILL, MILL, O TRADITIONAL SCOTTISH SLOW REEL

THE COLLECT

Stir up your power, O Lord, and with great might come among us; and, because we are sorely hindered by our sins, let your bountiful grace and mercy speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE FIRST READING

Isaiah 35:1-10

The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad, the desert shall rejoice and blossom; like the crocus it shall blossom abundantly, and rejoice with joy and singing.

The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it, the majesty of Carmel and Sharon. They shall see the glory of the Lord, the majesty of our God.

Strengthen the weak hands, and make firm the feeble knees. Say to those who are of a fearful heart, "Be strong, do not fear! Here is your God. He will come with vengeance, with terrible recompense. He will come and save you."

Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped; then the lame shall leap like a deer, and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy. For waters shall break forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert; the burning sand shall become a pool, and the thirsty ground springs of water; the haunt of jackals shall become a swamp, the grass shall become reeds and rushes.

A highway shall be there, and it shall be called the Holy Way; the unclean shall not travel on it, but it shall be for God's people; no traveler, not even fools, shall go astray. No lion shall be there, nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it; they shall not be found there, but the redeemed shall walk there. And the ransomed of the Lord shall return, and come to Zion with singing; everlasting joy shall be upon their heads; they shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

THE RESPONSE

Canticle 15

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,
my spirit rejoices in God my Savior; *
for he has looked with favor on his lowly servant.
From this day all generations will call me blessed: *
the Almighty has done great things for me,
and holy is his Name.
He has mercy on those who fear him *
in every generation.
He has shown the strength of his arm, *
he has scattered the proud in their conceit.
He has cast down the mighty from their thrones, *
and has lifted up the lowly.
He has filled the hungry with good things, *
and the rich he has sent away empty.
He has come to the help of his servant Israel, *
for he has remembered his promise of mercy,
The promise he made to our fathers, *
to Abraham and his children for ever.
Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: *
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

THE SECOND READING

James 5:7-10

Be patient, therefore, beloved, until the coming of the Lord. The farmer waits for the precious crop from the earth, being patient with it until it receives the early and the late rains. You also must be patient. Strengthen your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is near. Beloved, do not grumble against one another, so that you may not be judged. See, the Judge is standing at the doors! As an example of suffering and patience, beloved, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord.

GOSPEL SONG

Lord have mer-cy,

7
Lord havemer cy. Christ havemer-cy, Christ havemer-cy.

13
Lord have mer cy Lord have mer-cy.

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THE GOSPEL

Matthew 11:2-11

When John heard in prison what the Messiah was doing, he sent word by his disciples and said to him, “Are you the one who is to come, or are we to wait for another?” Jesus answered them, “Go and tell John what you hear and see: the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have good news brought to them. And blessed is anyone who takes no offense at me.”

As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds about John: “What did you go out into the wilderness to look at? A reed shaken by the wind? What then did you go out to see? Someone dressed in soft robes? Look, those who wear soft robes are in royal palaces. What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. This is the one about whom it is written,

‘See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you,
who will prepare your way before you.’

“Truly I tell you, among those born of women no one has arisen greater than John the Baptist; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.”

OFFERTORY

O As I Was Kissed Yestr'een 18TH CENTURY SCOTTISH AIR

THE SANCTUS

Ho - ly, Ho - ly

Ho - ly Lord. God of power and might. —

Heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na

in the high - est. Blessed is he, O blessed is

he who comes in the name of the Lord. — Ho - san - na

in the high - est ho -

san - na in the high - est.

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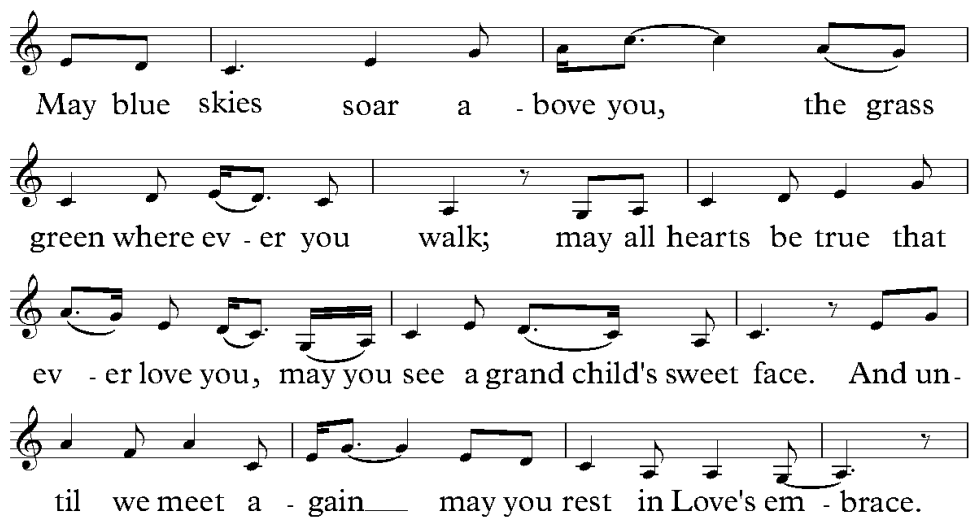
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COMMUNION MUSIC

HECTOR THE HERO EARLY 20TH CENTURY SCOTTISH

LAMENT

BLESSING SONG



May blue skies soar a - bove you, the grass
green where ev - er you walk; may all hearts be true that
ev - er love you, may you see a grand child's sweet face. And un -
til we meet a - gain may you rest in Love's em - brace.

Text from traditional Irish Blessing; music by John Grover

CLOSING HYMN

MARY HEARD THE ANGEL'S MESSAGE (VS. 3-5)



3. Ma - ry heard the shep - herds' sto - ry, words she trea - sured

4. Ma - ry heard, "Who is _ my moth - er? Who is in my

5. When they learned the Lord _ had ris - en, Christ's dis - ci - ples



with de - light. Then an an - gel gave _ the warn - ing: "Flee with

fa - mi - ly? All who do my Fa - ther's bid - ding, all these

met to pray. Ma - ry was a - mong _ the faith - ful, bound in



Je - sus in the night!" Mar - ry won - dered in _ her an - guish,

ones be - long to me." La - ter, on the hill _ she heard _ him,

love, on Je - sus' Way. God, we see her, Christ's _ dis - ci - ple,



what would be the pain _ he'd know? Flee - ing then, she

"Wom - an, see your new _ Son there!" You, my friend, be

lov - ing, learn - ing, serv - ing, too. Like her, may we



held _ him close - ly. One day she _ would let him go.

hold _ your moth - er!" So Christ formed _ new bonds of care.

hear _ and an - swer, "We, your ser - vants, live for you."

Music: Alfred Victor Fedak © 1990. Lyrics: Carolyn Winfrey Gillette, b. 1961

RECEIVING COMMUNION

The Church believes that in Holy Communion, the Body and Blood of Christ is given to God's people and received by faith. All who seek God and a deeper life in Christ are welcome here and invited either to participate in Communion or to receive a blessing. To receive the bread, please hold your hands out in front of you. To receive the wine, help guide the chalice to your lips. If you prefer, you may dip the bread in the wine and then place it in your mouth. If you do not wish to receive the bread and the wine, you are invited to come forward, cross your hands across your chest, and receive a blessing. **Gluten-free communion wafers are available upon request.**

COMMISSIONING OF LAY EUCHARISTIC VISITOR

Celebrant In the name of God and on behalf of this congregation, I send you forth bearing these holy gifts, that those to whom you go may share with us in the communion of Christ's body and blood.

People **We who are many are one body, because we all share one bread, one cup.**

Please use this poetry for your own contemplation during the service or to take with you for your own prayer life.

POETRY

Advent

Somewhere your star-struck choir sings
As the evening unpeels our histories.
The world is here again!
I feel the breathing of yuletide fires,
The ribboned refrains of seasoned candles
And bars of voices beyond St. Stephen's Wall.
The robin appears in a globe of joy
His carol negotiating wreaths of cloud
And tinsled cakes of snow.
We wing into the holy day
While the blinking eye of the gifting moon
Receives you at that vanishing point
On memory's path:
Outlived by love
Alone.

-Stephen Leake

Expectans Expectavi

The candid freezing season again:
Candle and cracker, needles of fir and frost;
Carols that through the night air pass, piercing
The glassy husk of heart and heaven;
Children's faces white in the pane, bright in the tree-light.
And the waiting season again,
That begs a crust and suffers joy vicariously:
In bodily starvation now, in the spirit's exile always.
O might the hilarious reign of love begin, let in
Like carols from the cold
The lost who crowd the pane, numb outcasts into welcome.

-Anne Ridler

The Waiting Place

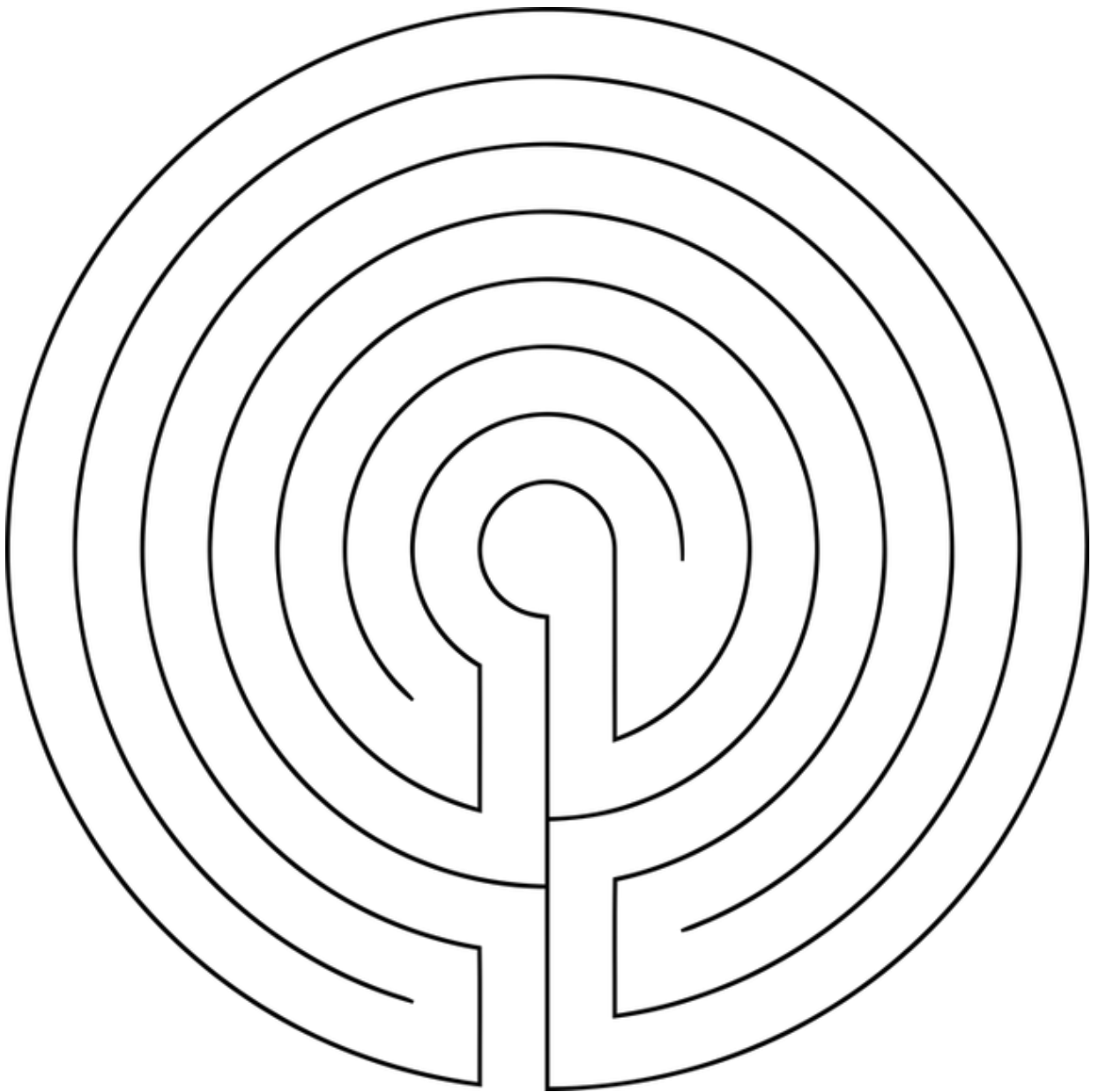
Waiting for a train to go or a bus to come,
or a plane to go or the mail to come,
or the rain to go or the phone to ring,
or the snow to snow or waiting around for a Yes or No
or waiting for their hair to grow.

Everyone is just waiting.

Waiting for the fish to bite
or waiting for wind to fly a kite
or waiting around for Friday night
or waiting, perhaps, for their Uncle Jake
or a pot to boil, or a Better Break
or a string of pearls, or a pair of pants
or a wig with curls, or Another Chance.

Everyone is just waiting.

- Dr. Seuss



During periods of silence throughout this service, or in your personal times of prayers and reflection outside of worship, this labyrinth is a gift of peace to all who seek deeper relationship with God in their life's journey.

Using your finger, journey on this labyrinth toward inner-contentedness with the Divine, spend some time with God there, in the center, and then re-trace your journey outward with the knowledge that God is ever with you.

A Labyrinth is not a maze; as a maze has dead ends that are used to confuse and trick the mind. A labyrinth is a spiral course having a single, winding unobstructed path from the outside to the center.

IN THANKSGIVING & MEMORY

WE GIVE THANKS FOR THOSE CELEBRATING:

Birthdays in the next week: Vic Walton, Mark Upson, Anne Lilly Cone, Nathan Carlson, Brooke Kelly, James Baur, Harris Foad, Reese Kattman, William Theobald, Brian Babb, Rebecca Kappers, Charles Perez, Marilyn Blemker, Helen Ferguson, George Callard, Elizabeth Lilly, Joyce Milton.

Anniversaries in the coming week: Janice & Gary Lubin, Elise & Jon Allred, Mary Southworth & Jeff Shaffer, Gretchen & Tim Webb.

The **GREENS** that beautify our worship spaces are given to the glory of God in loving memory of Marita France McMillan Fischer by Anne Lilly & Philip Cone and in loving memory of Thomas Burleigh Boehme, her brother, by Rachel Votaw.

During the season of Advent, the Redeemer flower guild offers arrangements made exclusively of greens. Thus, we focus on the eternal nature of the evergreens on our Advent Wreath: a circular and illuminated symbol of unending life which gives hope to us in times of darkness.

PARTICIPATING IN TODAY'S WORSHIP

Celebrant & Preacher

The Rev. Philip DeVaul

Lector

Angela Lyman

Lay Reader

Tom Hill

Intercessor

Cynthia Walker

Bread Guild

Ryan Andrews, Blake Gustafson, Carol Hall

Flower Guild

Francie Morrison, Denise Beauchamp, Laurie Maguire, Courtney Vice

Altar Guild

Kelli Wisecup, Adrea Beatty, Julie Joyce, Sheila Maxwell, Rachel Votaw

Celtic Guild

Cynthia Walker

