



Voluntary

Präludium II in G Major, Op. 37

Felix Mendelssohn

Entrance Song

Hymnal 1982 – 537

Christ for the world we sing!

Moscow

Jennifer Cook, soprano

1 Christ for the world we sing! The world to Christ we bring
with loving zeal;

the poor, and them that mourn, the faint and overborne,
sin-sick and sorrow-worn, whom Christ doth heal.

2 Christ for the world we sing! The world to Christ we bring
with fervent prayer;

the wayward and the lost, by restless passions tossed,
redeemed at countless cost from dark despair.

3 Christ for the world we sing! The world to Christ we bring
with one accord;

with us the work to share, with us reproach to dare,
with us the cross to bear, for Christ our Lord.

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Opening Acclamation

BCP p. 355

The people standing, the Celebrant says

Celebrant: Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit

People: **And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

Collect of 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.
Amen.

Song of Praise

Hymnal 1982 – S 278

Gloria in excelsis

Courtney Steinberg, soprano

Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to his people on earth.

Lord God, heavenly King,
almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world:

have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:
receive our prayer.

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.

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The Collect of the Day

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Give us grace, O Lord, to answer readily the call of our Savior Jesus Christ and proclaim to all people the Good News of his salvation, that we and the whole world may perceive the glory of his marvelous works; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The Lessons

The people sit.

The First Reading: Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10

A Reading from the Book of Nehemiah.

All the people of Israel gathered together into the square before the Water Gate. They told the scribe Ezra to bring the book of the law of Moses, which the Lord had given to Israel. Accordingly, the priest Ezra brought the law before the assembly, both men and women and all who could hear with understanding. This was on the first day of the seventh month. He read from it facing the square before the Water Gate from early morning until midday, in the presence of the men and the women and those who could understand; and the ears of all the people were attentive to the book of the law. And Ezra opened the book in the sight of all the people, for he was standing above all the people; and when

he opened it, all the people stood up. Then Ezra blessed the Lord, the great God, and all the people answered, “Amen, Amen,” lifting up their hands. Then they bowed their heads and worshiped the Lord with their faces to the ground. So they read from the book, from the law of God, with interpretation. They gave the sense, so that the people understood the reading.

And Nehemiah, who was the governor, and Ezra the priest and scribe, and the Levites who taught the people said to all the people, “This day is holy to the Lord your God; do not mourn or weep.” For all the people wept when they heard the words of the law. Then he said to them, “Go your way, eat the fat and drink sweet wine and send portions of them to those for whom nothing is prepared, for this day is holy to our Lord; and do not be grieved, for the joy of the Lord is your strength.”

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Silence may follow.

Psalm 19

Remain seated.

- 1 The heavens declare the glory of God, *
and the firmament shows his handiwork.

- 2 One day tells its tale to another, *
and one night imparts knowledge to another.

- 3 Although they have no words or language, *
and their voices are not heard,

- 4 Their sound has gone out into all lands, *
and their message to the ends of the world.

- 5 In the deep has he set a pavilion for the sun; *
it comes forth like a bridegroom out of his chamber;
it rejoices like a champion to run its course.

- 6 It goes forth from the uttermost edge of the heavens
and runs about to the end of it again; *
nothing is hidden from its burning heat.

- 7 The law of the Lord is perfect and revives the soul; *
the testimony of the Lord is sure and gives wisdom to the innocent.

- 8 The statutes of the Lord are just and rejoice the heart; *
the commandment of the Lord is clear and gives light to the eyes.

- 9 The fear of the Lord is clean and endures for ever; *
the judgments of the Lord are true and righteous altogether.

- 10 More to be desired are they than gold, more than much fine gold, *
sweeter far than honey, than honey in the comb.

- 11 By them also is your servant enlightened, *
and in keeping them there is great reward.

- 12 Who can tell how often he offends? *
cleanse me from my secret faults.

13 Above all, keep your servant from presumptuous sins;
let them not get dominion over me; *
then shall I be whole and sound, and innocent of a great offense.

14 Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart
be acceptable in your sight, *
O Lord, my strength and my redeemer.

The Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 12:12-31a

Remain seated.

A Reading from Paul's first letter to the Corinthians.

Just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body – Jews or Greeks, slaves or free – and we were all made to drink of one Spirit.

Indeed, the body does not consist of one member but of many. If the foot would say, “Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body,” that would not make it any less a part of the body. And if the ear would say, “Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body,” that would not make it any less a part of the body. If the whole body were an eye, where would the hearing be? If the whole body were hearing, where would the sense of smell be? But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose. If all were a single member, where would the body be? As it is, there are many members, yet one body. The eye cannot say to the hand, “I have no need of you,” nor again the head to the feet, “I have no need of you.” On the contrary, the members of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, and those members of the body that we think less honorable we clothe with greater honor, and our less respectable members are treated with greater respect; whereas our more respectable members do not need this. But God has so arranged the body,

giving the greater honor to the inferior member, that there may be no dissension within the body, but the members may have the same care for one another. If one member suffers, all suffer together with it; if one member is honored, all rejoice together with it.

Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it. And God has appointed in the church first apostles, second prophets, third teachers; then deeds of power, then gifts of healing, forms of assistance, forms of leadership, various kinds of tongues. Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles? Do all possess gifts of healing? Do all speak in tongues? Do all interpret? But strive for the greater gifts.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Sequence Anthem

All stand.

Here I am, Lord

Daniel L. Schutte

Resurrection Choir

I, the Lord of sea and sky,
I have heard my people cry.
All who dwell in deepest sin
My hand will save.

I who made the stars of night,
I will make their darkness bright.
Who will bear my light to them?
Whom shall I send?

Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord?
I have heard you calling in the night.

I will go, Lord, if you lead me,
I will hold your people in my heart.

I, the Lord of wind and flame,
I will tend the poor and lame.
I will set a feast for them,
My hand will save.

Finest bread I will provide
Till their hearts be satisfied.
I will give my life to them.
Whom shall I send?

Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord?
I have heard you calling in the night.
I will go, Lord, if you lead me,
I will hold your people in my heart.

“Here I Am, Lord” words & music: Daniel L. Schutte. Words based on Isaiah 6:8
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The Gospel

All remain standing.

Deacon: The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

People: **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Luke 4:14-21

Jesus, filled with the power of the Spirit, returned to Galilee, and a report about him spread through all the surrounding country. He began to teach in their synagogues and was praised by everyone.

When he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, he went to the synagogue on the sabbath day, as was his custom. He stood up to read, and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written:

“The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor.

He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor.”

And he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. Then he began to say to them, “Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing.”

Deacon: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

Sermon

The Reverend Jackie Whitfield

Nicene Creed

BCP p. 358

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.

The Prayers of the People

From Praying the Scriptures, by Jeremiah D. Williamson

Leader: Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it.
Empowered by the Spirit, let us pray together saying, “We bless you,
Lord our God. *Amen, amen.*”

Let the words of our mouth and the meditations of our hearts be acceptable in your sight, O Lord, our strength and our redeemer.

Silence.

We bless you, Lord our God.

People: **Amen, amen.**

Leader: By the spirit of the Lord, may we, your Church, carry on the work of Jesus. Open our hearts to the poor and the captives, to the blind and the oppressed. *Silence.*

We bless you, Lord our God.

People: **Amen, amen.**

Leader: The heavens declare your glory, Great Creator, and the firmament shows your handiwork. We praise you and we thank you for the beauty and majesty of your creation. *The people are invited to add their thanksgivings, followed by silence.*

We bless you, Lord our God.

People: **Amen, amen.**

Leader: We thank you, O God, for the many members that make up our body; for the gifts, the work, and the prayers we share. We ask you to bless especially our leaders, lay and ordained. Give us wisdom and guide by your Spirit. *Silence.*

We bless you, Lord our God.

People: **Amen, amen.**

Leader: We pray for those who are sick or sorrowful. When they suffer, we suffer with them. Revive and heal them, we pray. May your joy be their strength. *The people are invited to add their petitions, followed by silence.*

We bless you, Lord our God.

People: **Amen, amen.**

Leader: O God, you have formed an eternal bond with us in baptism.
Whether living or dead, bless and keep your children forever. *Silence.*
We bless you, Lord our God.

People: **Amen, amen.**
Silence.

The Celebrant adds a concluding collect.

Confession of Sin

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The Deacon or Celebrant says

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor. *Silence may be kept.*

Minister and People

Most merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us and forgive us;
that we may delight in your will,
and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your Name. Amen.

The Priest stands and says

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

BCP p. 363

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

People and Celebrant

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 Peace

Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Then the Ministers and the People may greet one another in the name of the Lord.

Blessing

Announcements

Procession into the World

Hymnal 1982 – 530

Spread, O spread, thou mighty word

Gott sei Dank

Jennifer Cook, soprano

- 1 Spread, O spread, thou mighty word, spread the kingdom of the Lord,
that to earth's remotest bound all may heed the joyful sound;
- 2 word of how the Father's will made the world, and keeps it, still;
how his only Son he gave, earth from sin and death to save;
- 3 word of how the Savior's love earth's sore burden doth remove;
how forever, in its need, through his death the world is freed;
- 4 word of how the Spirit came bringing peace in Jesus' name;
how his never-failing love guides us on to heaven above.
- 5 Word of life, most pure and strong, word for which the nations long,
spread abroad, until from night all the world awakes to light.

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Dismissal

BCP p. 366

Deacon: Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Voluntary

Benedetto Marcello/arr. Bryan Hesford

The Heavens Declare the Glory of God

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A Note on Today's Readings *The Third Sunday after the Epiphany – Year C*

Welcome to All Saints' Episcopal Church. The season of Epiphany celebrates the manifesting of Christ in his ministry. Today we focus on his preaching the Good News of the Kingdom of God. Jesus did not simply tell about the Kingdom. He was and is the Kingdom, embodied. When he preached in his home synagogue for the first time, this was the theme. He reads Isaiah's passage foretelling the role of Messiah in bringing about the reign of God. Then he tells the people, "This day this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing."

The first reading recounts that period in the fifth century B.C. when, as the central event in the reconstituting of Israel as God's Kingdom, Ezra the priest and others read the Word of God to all the people. Some scholars believe that this came about because of the final formulation of the Torah as the definitive written Word of God. That event established Judaism as the religion of the Book. It is in this event that the foundations were laid for the ministry of Jesus as the preacher and teacher of the Kingdom.

Christianity is not simply a message about what once happened. In baptism, we are empowered to join Christ in proclaiming the Good News to the whole world. That ministry of ours is Paul's concern as he uses the image of the human body with all its parts and organs – all of which are essential for it to function. In the same way, Paul tells us, each of us has an essential role in the Body of Christ. Each of us is baptized in order that each may be the fulfillment of the Kingdom now. In our celebration of Eucharist, we are built into that Body, so that God's salvation may be made manifest in us.

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