

GREETING

PRELUDE

In Dulci Jubilo – G. Martin

OPENING SENTENCE

Behold, the dwelling of God is with mankind. He will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself will be with them, and be their God. ~ Revelation 21:3~

INVITATORY AND PSALTER

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Officiant Lord open our lips. *People* **And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.**

**GLORIA (All) 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.**

ANTIPHON Alleluia. To us a child is born: **Come let us adore Him.**

VENITE (*In Unison*) Pg. 82

ANTIPHON Alleluia. To us a child is born: **Come let us adore Him.**

MUSICAL MEDITATION *How Lovely is Thy Dwelling Place (Brother James Air)* – D. Wood

PSALM 84 Pg. 707

¹ How dear to me is your dwelling, O LORD of hosts! My soul has a desire and longing for the courts of the LORD; my heart and my flesh rejoice in the living God.

² **The sparrow has found her a house and the swallow a nest where she may lay her young; by the side of your altars, O LORD of hosts, my King and my God.**

³ Happy are they who dwell in your house! they will always be praising you.

⁴ **Happy are the people whose strength is in you! whose hearts are set on the pilgrims' way.**

⁵ Those who go through the desolate valley will find it a place of springs, for the early rains have covered it with pools of water.

⁶ **They will climb from height to height, and the God of gods will reveal himself in Zion.**

⁷ LORD God of hosts, hear my prayer; hearken, O God of Jacob.

⁸ **Behold our defender, O God; and look upon the face of your Anointed.**

⁹ For one day in your courts is better than a thousand in my own room, and to stand at the threshold of the house of my God than to dwell in the tents of the wicked.

¹⁰ **For the LORD God is both sun and shield; he will give grace and glory;**

¹¹ No good thing will the LORD withhold from those who walk with integrity.

¹² **O LORD of hosts, happy are they who put their trust in you!**

**ALL: 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.**

A READING FROM EPHESIANS 1:3-6,15-19a

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, just as he chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love. He destined us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will, to the praise of his glorious grace that he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved.

I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe.

Hear what the Holy Spirit is saying to the Church: **Thanks be to God.**

CANTICLE 9 ~ *The First Song of Isaiah.*

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MUSICAL MEDITATION

We Three Kings - Hopkins/Lovelace

READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF MATTHEW 2:1-12

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage." When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet:

And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,
are by no means least among the rulers of Judah;
for from you shall come a ruler
who is to shepherd my people Israel."

Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage." When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

Here what the Holy Spirit is saying to the Church: **Thanks be to God.**

THE HOMILY

Fr. M. Alton Plummer

A TIME OF SILENCE - *A bell will sound three times.*

THE APOSTLE'S CREED

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THE LORD'S PRAYER *traditional*

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SUFFRAGES "B"

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THE COLLECT FOR THE DAY

O God, who wonderfully created, and yet more wonderfully restored, the dignity of human nature: Grant that we may share the divine life of him who humbled himself to share our humanity, your Son Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

COLLECT FOR RENEWAL OF LIFE

Pg. 99

O God, the King eternal, whose light divides the day from the night and turns the shadow of death into the morning: Drive far from us all wrong desires, incline our hearts to keep your law, and guide our feet into the way of peace; that, having done your will with cheerfulness during the day, we may, when night comes, rejoice to give you thanks; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

COLLECT FOR MISSION

Pg. 100

O God, you have made of one blood all the peoples of the earth, and sent your blessed Son to preach peace to those who are far off and to those who are near: Grant that people everywhere may seek after you and find you; bring the nations into your fold; pour out your Spirit upon all flesh; and hasten the coming of your kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

WE CONTINUE TO PRAY FOR ALL OF US WHO HAVE BEEN IMPACTED BY THE COVID-19 VIRUS, THOSE WHO ARE SICK, THOSE WHO'VE DIED, AND THOSE WHO MOURN.

Silence

AND FOR THE FOLKS ON OUR PRAYER LIST ...

for those who are traveling, especially **Josey** Parker and **Cameron** Klass

and those with special needs:

Suzanne Eller, **Mark** Adkins, **Chris** Alexander, **Cora** Alexander, **Bobby** Allgood, **Amanda** Amon, **Ella** Asebes, **Barbara** Beck, **Alice** Brandon & family, **Baylee** Brown, **Andrea** Cain, **Russell** Cinque, **Lynne** Cleckley, **Morgan** Curia, **Barbara** Dixon, **Johanna** Dresser, **Mike** Egan, **Aubrie** Gallen, **Shana** Garland, **Frances** Garner, **Marlon** Gaskins, **Susan** Gibson, **Jan** Greer, **Jane** Grimes, **George** Hanna, **Rob** Hare, **Kristen** Harris, **Elizabeth** Harvey, **Nancy** Hinkle, **Chris and Mike** Hodges, **Will** Holmes, **Jon** Huff, **Nancy** Hutchins, **Brinkley** Johnson, **Anne** King, **Lindsay** Layfield, **Lynn** Mack, **Carol** May, **Kate** McKenzie, **Nicholas** Melomo, **Molly** Michael, **Roan** Mitchell, **O'Lema** Morgan, **Kathie and Scott** Nelson, **Page** Onorato, **Lynn** Parsley, **Gabby** Plott, **Jacklyn** Rojas, **Suzy** Sheets, **Talmadge** Silversides, **Amy** Burkhart Smith, **Dan Griff** Smith, **Martha Ellen** Smith, **Sean** Sullivan, **Clarice and Henry** Surratt, **Robin** Tilley, **Jackie** Touchton, **Toni** Underwood, **Frances** Welch, **Courtney** Weller, **Susan** Whetmore, **Bill** Whitehurst, **Flynn** Williams, and **Charlotte** Young.

✦ *At this time you may offer your prayers in the comments bar on Facebook so that we may pray with you through the week.*

MUSICAL MEDITATION

The Star Carol – Alfred Burt

A GENERAL THANKSGIVING

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Accept, O Lord, our thanks and praise for all that you have done for us. We thank you for the splendor of the whole creation, for the beauty of this world, for the wonder of life, and for the mystery of love.

We thank you for the blessing of family and friends, and for the loving care which surrounds us on every side.

We thank you for setting us at tasks which demand our best efforts, and for leading us to accomplishments which satisfy and delight us.

We thank you also for those disappointments and failures that lead us to acknowledge our dependence on you alone.

Above all, we thank you for your Son Jesus Christ; for the truth of his Word and the example of his life; for his steadfast obedience, by which he overcame temptation; for his dying, through which he overcame death; and for his rising to life again, in which we are raised to the life of your kingdom.

Grant us the gift of your Spirit, that we may know him and make him known; and through him, at all times and in all places, may give thanks to you in all things. **Amen.**

DISMISSAL Let us bless the Lord. *Thanks be to God!*

Glory to God whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine: Glory to him from generation to generation in the Church, and in Christ Jesus for ever and ever. **Amen.**

~ Ephesians 3:20,21

POSTLUDE

Let Our Gladness Know No End (15th Cen.) – D. Cherwien