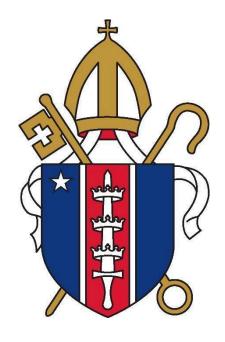
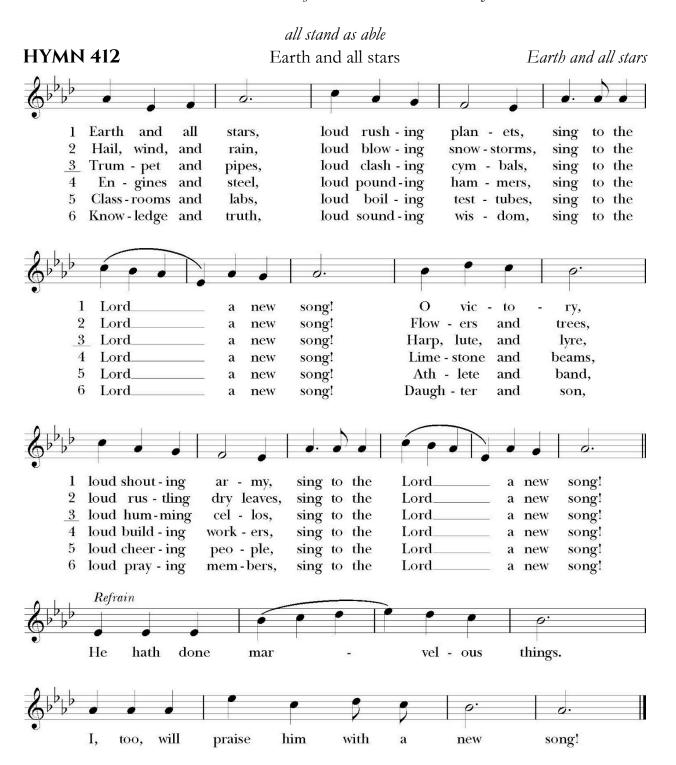
THE EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF MASSACHUSETTS



THE HOLY EUCHARIST WITH CONFIRMATIONS RECEPTIONS AND REAFFIRMATIONS OF VOWS

APRIL 27, 2025 5 P.M.

TRINITY CHURCH
CONCORD MA



Words: Herbert F. Brokering (b. 1926)

Music: Earth and All Stars, David N. Johnson (b. 1922)

Bishop Alleluia. Christ is risen.

People The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.

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.

The Bishop then continues

There is one Body and one Spirit:

People There is one hope in God's call to us;
Bishop One Lord, One Faith, one Baptism;

People One God and Father of all.

Bishop God be with you.
People And also with you.

Bishop Let us pray.

Grant, Almighty God, that we, who have been redeemed from the old life of sin by our baptism into the death and resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ, may be renewed in your Holy Spirit, and live in righteousness and true holiness; through Jesus Christ our Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen**.

THE LESSONS

all sit

THE FIRST READING Ezekiel 37:1-10

The hand of the Lord came upon me, and he brought me out by the spirit of the Lord and set me down in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. He led me all around them; there were very many lying in the valley, and they were very dry. He said to me, "Mortal, can these bones live?" I answered, "O Lord God, you know." Then he said to me, "Prophesy to these bones and say to them: O dry bones, hear the word of the Lord. Thus says the Lord God to these bones: I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. I will lay sinews on you and will cause flesh to come upon you and cover you with skin and put breath in you, and you shall live, and you shall know that I am the Lord."

So I prophesied as I had been commanded, and as I prophesied, suddenly there was a noise, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. I looked, and there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them, but there was no breath in them. Then he said to me, "Prophesy to the breath, prophesy, mortal, and say to the breath: Thus says the Lord God: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe upon these slain, that they may live." I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived and stood on their feet, a vast multitude.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

People Thanks be to God.

PSALM 139: 1-9 Read in unison

O LORD, you have searched me and known me.* You know when I sit down and when I rise up; you discern my thoughts from far away.

You search out my path and my lying down* and are acquainted with all my ways.

Even before a word is on my tongue,*
O LORD, you know it completely.

You hem me in, behind and before,* and lay your hand upon me.

Such knowledge is too wonderful for me;* it is so high that I cannot attain it.

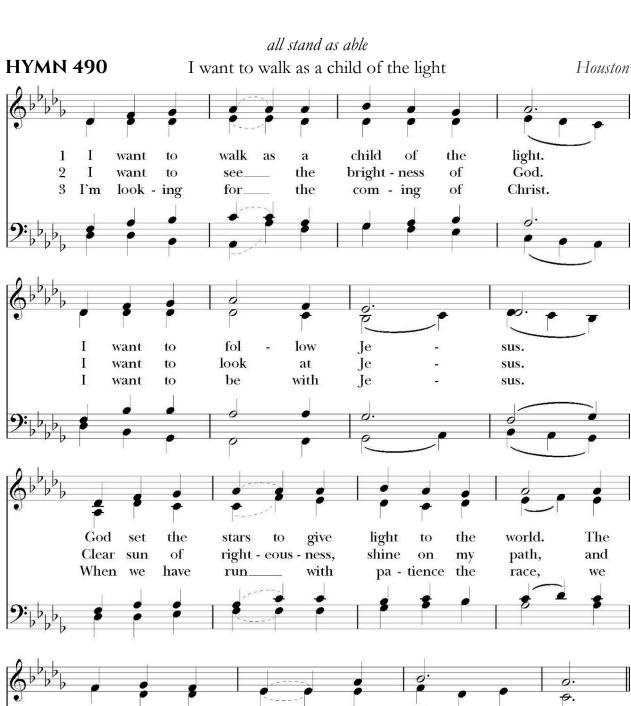
Where can I go from your spirit?*

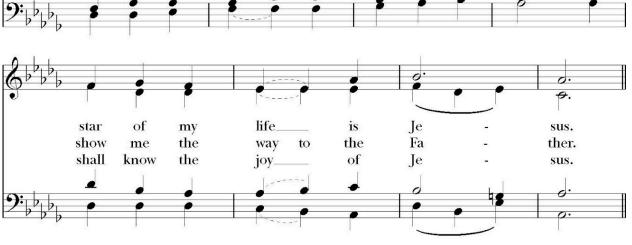
Or where can I flee from your presence?

If I ascend to heaven, you are there;* if I make my bed in Sheol, you are there.

If I take the wings of the morning* and settle at the farthest limits of the sea,

even there your hand shall lead me,*
and your right hand shall hold me fast.







Words: Kathleen Thomerson (b. 1934) Music: *Houston,* Kathleen Thomerson (b. 1934) Words, Music: Copyright ©1970, 1975, Celebration. All rights reserved. Used with permission.

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

"If you love me, you will keep my commandments. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever. This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him because he abides with you, and he will be in you.

"I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live. On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. They who have my commandments and keep them are those who love me, and those who love me will be loved by my Father, and I will love them and reveal myself to them."

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

All sit

THE SERMON

The Right Rev. Julia E. Whitworth



Words: Frances Ridley Havergal (1836-1879), alt. Music: Hollingside, John Bacchus Dykes (1823-1876).

all sit

Presentation and Examination of the Candidates

The Bishop says

The Candidates will now be presented.

Candidates and their sponsors stand when their parish name is called and remain standing

Presenters On behalf of (church name), I present these persons for Confirmation.

On behalf of (church name), I present these persons to be received into

this Communion.

On behalf of (church name), I present these persons for Reaffirmation of their Baptismal Vows.

The Bishop asks the candidates

Do you reaffirm your renunciation of evil?

Candidates I do.

Bishop Do you renew your commitment to Jesus Christ?

Candidates I do, and with God's grace I will follow him as my Savior and Lord.

After all have been presented, all stand. The Bishop addresses the congregation, saying

Will you who witness these vows do all in your power to support these persons in their life in Christ?

People We will.

THE BAPTISMAL COVENANT

The Bishop then says

Let us join with those who are committing themselves to Christ and renew our own baptismal covenant.

all stand as able

Bishop Do you believe in God the Father?

People I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

Bishop Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

People I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit

and born of the Virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate,

was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again.

He ascended into heaven,

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

Bishop Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

People I believe in the Holy Spirit,

the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.

Bishop Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the

breaking of bread, and in the prayers?

People I will, with God's help.

Bishop Will you persevere in resisting evil, and, whenever you fall into sin,

repent and return to the Lord?

People I will, with God's help.

Bishop Will you proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in

Christ?

People I will, with God's help.

Bishop Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as

yourself?

People I will, with God's help.

Bishop Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the

dignity of every human being?

People I will, with God's help.

Bishop Will you cherish the wondrous works of God, and protect the beauty

and integrity of all creation?

People I will, with God's help.

PRAYERS FOR THE CANDIDATES

The Bishop then says to the congregation

Let us now pray for these persons who have renewed their commitment to Christ.

The Deacon leads the following petitions

Leader Deliver them, O God, from the way of sin and death.

People Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader Open their hearts to your grace and truth.

People Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader Fill them with your holy and life-giving Spirit.

People Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader Keep them in the faith and communion of your holy Church.

People Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader Teach them to love others in the power of the Spirit.

People Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader Send them into the world in witness to your love.

People Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader Bring them to the fullness of your peace and glory.

People Lord, hear our prayer.

A period of silence follows

Then the Bishop says

Almighty God, we thank you that by the death and resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ you have overcome sin and brought us to yourself, and that by the sealing of your Holy Spirit you have bound us to your service. Renew in these your servants the covenant you made with them at their Baptism. Send them forth in the power of that Spirit to perform the service you set before them; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen**.

The candidates, presenters, family and friends from each congregation will go forward as a group as they are called.

FOR CONFIRMATION

A Bishop lays hands upon each person and says

Strengthen, O Lord, your servant N. with your Holy Spirit; empower [him/her/them] for your service; and sustain [him/her/them] all the days of [his/her/their] life. **Amen**.

or this

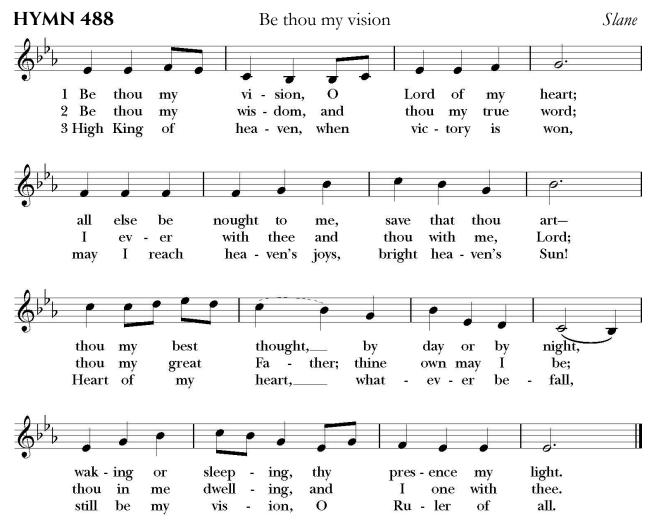
Defend, O Lord, your servant N. with your heavenly grace, that [she/he/they] may continue yours for ever, and daily increase in your Holy Spirit more and more, until [she/he/they] come[s] to your everlasting kingdom. **Amen**.

FOR RECEPTION

N., we recognize you as a member of the one holy catholic and apostolic Church, and we receive you into the fellowship of this Communion. God, the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, bless, preserve, and keep you. **Amen**.

FOR REAFFIRMATION

N., may the Holy Spirit, who has begun a good work in you, direct and uphold you in the service of Christ and his kingdom. **Amen**.



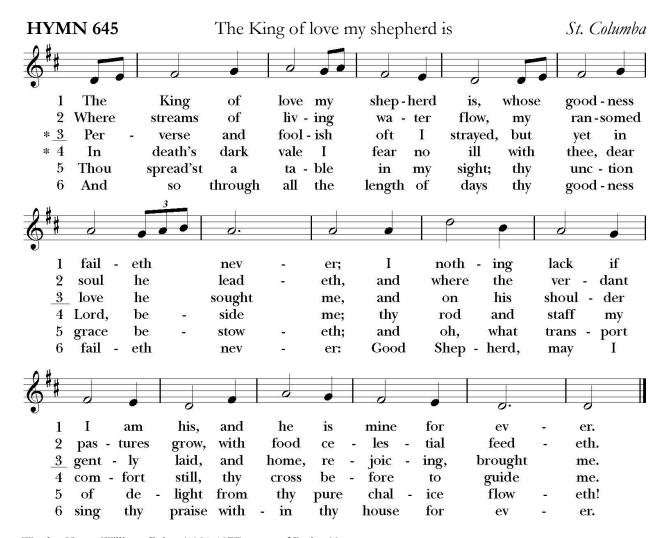
Words: Irish, ca. 700; versified Mary Elizabeth Byrne (1880-1931); tr. Eleanor H. Hull (1860-1935), alt. Copyright © by permission of the Estate of Eleanor Hull and Chatto & Windus Ltd. Music: Slane, Irish ballad melody; adaapt. The Church Hymnary, 1927; harm. David Evans (1874-1948) Copyright © by permission of Oxford University Press. All rights reserved. Used with permission.



Words: Daniel Iverson (1890-1977)

Music: Daniel Iverson

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Words: Henry Williams Baker (1821-1877); para. of Psalm 23

Music: St. Columba, Irish melody

The Bishop concludes with this prayer

Almighty and everlasting God, let your caring hand ever be over these your servants; let your Holy Spirit ever be with them; and so lead them in the knowledge and obedience of your Word, that they may serve you in this life, and dwell with you in the life to come; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**.

The Peace is then exchanged

Bishop The peace of Christ be always with you.

People And also with you.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Rev. Nancy J. Hagner

THE OFFERTORY

The offering will go to Episcopal Relief and Development for the Middle East to support critical health services in Gaza.

Checks should be made out to The Diocese of MA, with "ERD" in the memo.

ANTHEM

Draw us in the Spirit's tether

Harold Friedell

Draw us in the Spirit's tether, for when humbly, in thy name, Two or three are met together, thou are in the midst of them:
Alleluya! Alleluya! Touch we now thy garment's hem.

As the brethren used to gather in the name of Christ to sup, Then with thanks to God the Father break the bread and bless the cup, Alleluya! Alleluya!, so knit thou our friendship up.

All our meals and all our living Make as sacraments of Thee, That by caring, helping, giving, We may true disciples be. Alleluya! Alleluya! We will serve thee faithfully.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

EUCHARISTIC PRAYER A

Bishop God be with you.

People And also with you.

Bishop Lift up your hearts.

People We lift them to the Lord.

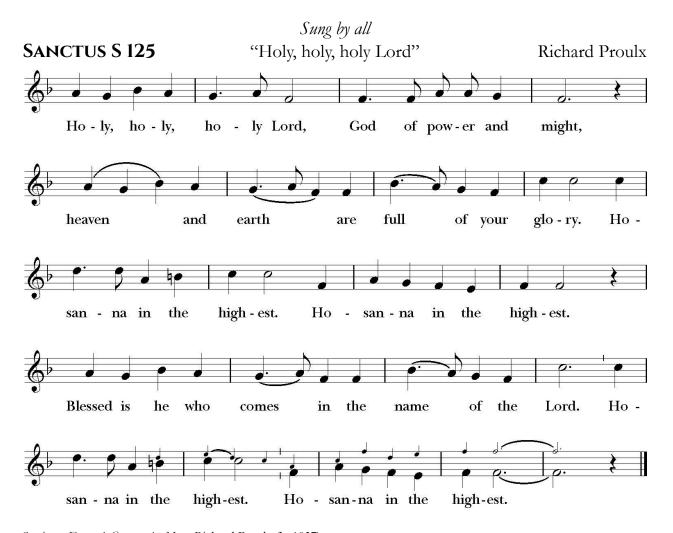
Bishop Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People It is right to give our thanks and praise.

The Bishop continues

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Almighty God, Creator of heaven and earth. Through the great shepherd of your flock, Jesus Christ our Lord; who after his resurrection sent forth his apostles to preach the Gospel and to teach all nations; and promised to be with them always, even to the end of the ages.

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:



Setting: From A Community Mass; Richard Proulx (b. 1937)

The Bishop continues

Holy and gracious God: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and maker of all. Jesus stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Savior 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 Jesus 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."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Bishop and People

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

The Bishop continues

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, Almighty God, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling Christ's death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in Christ. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through Jesus Christ our Savior. By Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Silence may be kept

THE LORD'S PRAYER

The Bishop continues

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

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 Bishop breaks the consecrated Bread.

A period of silence is kept. Then may be said

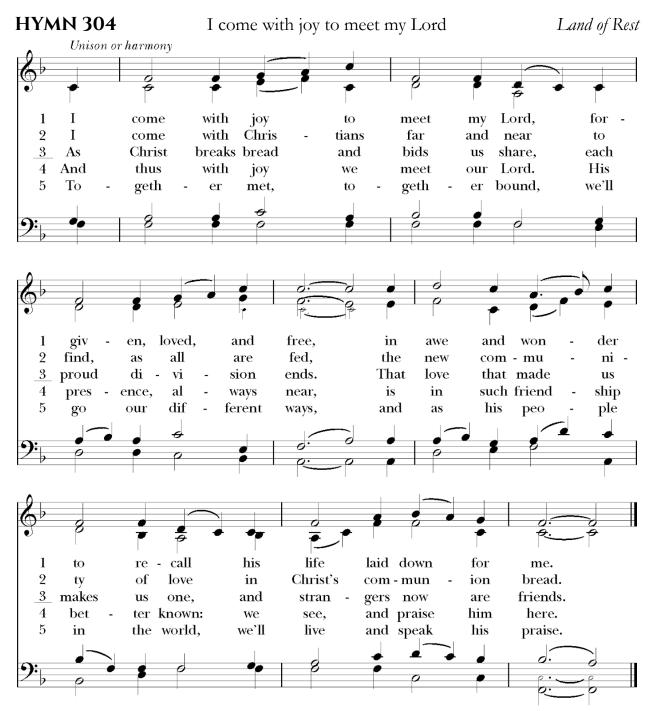
Bishop Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us. People Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

Bishop The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance

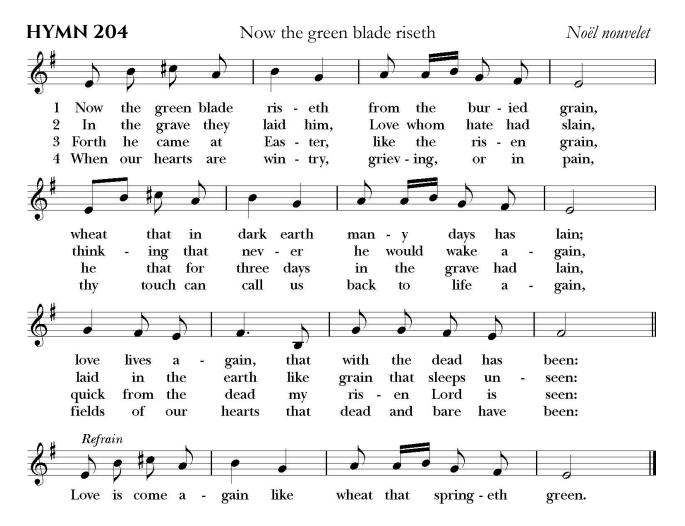
that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with

thanksgiving.

All are welcome to receive Holy Eucharist as One Body in Christ. Please come forward as directed by the ushers. You are welcome to receive wine from the common cup, but there is no intinction. We are always ONE Body in Christ.

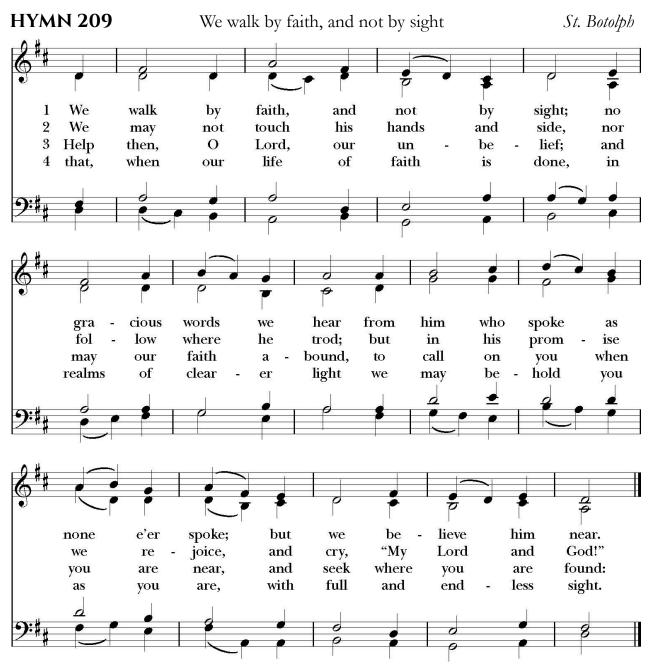


Words: Brian A. Wren (b. 1936), alt. Copyright ©1971 by Hope Publishing Company. Music: Land of Rest, American folk melody; adapt. and harm. Annabel Morris Buchanan (1889-1983) Copyright ©1938 by J. Fischer & Bro., a division of Belwin-Mills Publishing Corp. Copyright renewed. All rights reserved. Used with permission.



Words: John Macleod Campbell Crum (1872-1958), alt.

Music: Noël nouvelet, medieval French carol



Words: Henry Alford (1810-1871), alt.

Music: St. Botolph, Gordon Slater (1896-1979)

POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER

Bishop

Let us pray.

Bishop and People

Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

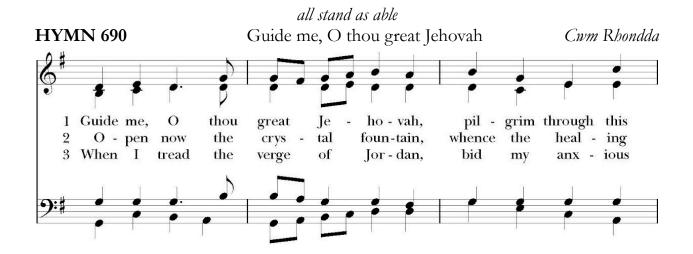
BLESSING

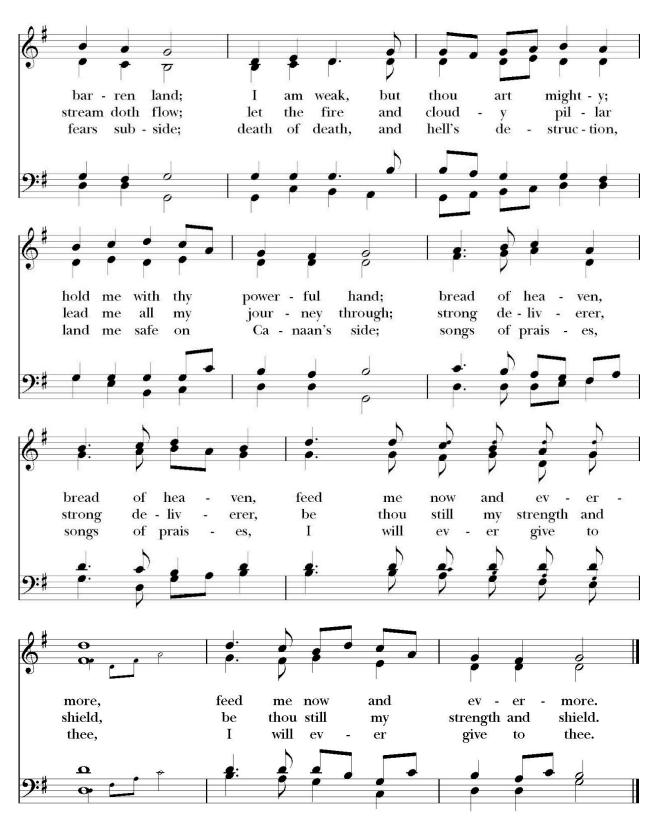
Bishop Our help is in the Name of the Lord;
People The maker of heaven and earth.

Bishop Blessed be the Name of the Lord;
People From this time forth for evermore.

The Bishop blesses the people

And the blessing of God Almighty, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit be with you now and always.





Words: William Williams (1717-1791); tr. Peter Williams (1722-1796), alt.

Music: Cwm Rhondda, John Hughes (1873-1932)

DISMISSAL

Deacon Let us go forth into the world,

rejoicing in the power of the Spirit. Alleluia, Alleluia!

People Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia!

Postlude

Fugue in C Major BWV 547 b

Johann Sebastian Bach

The congregation remains in place as the closing procession passes. Everyone is invited to the Parish Hall for a reception.

Special thanks to all our choirs for the musical offerings. Our liturgy this morning is from the *Book of Common Prayer* and *The Book of Alternative Services of the Anglican Church of Canada* (1985) Toronto: Anglican Book Centre, p217, and *The Book of Occasional Services 2022*. Hymns and Liturgical Music reprinted with permission from RiteSong #CPIRS29383. Copyright 2025, Church Publishing Incorporated. All rights reserved. OneLicense #A-735627 All rights reserved.

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Judy Marriner, flowers

Win Wilbur

Verger
Walter Birge
Lector
Albe Larsen

Ushers

Ed Prewitt John Stone James Hornblower Martha Stone

Live Stream Technician

John Sun

Music Director

Robert Barney

Clergy

Robert Christian, *Chaplain*The Rev. CJ Coppersmith, *Asst.*Rector
The Rev. Dilia E. Whitworth,
Bishop Diocesan

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