

“King of Heaven”

Jesus let Your kingdom come here
Let Your will be done here in us
Jesus there is no one greater
You alone are Savior
Show the world Your love
King of heaven come down
King of heaven come now
Let Your glory reign
Shining like the day
King of heaven come
King of heaven rise up
Who can stand against us

You are strong to save in Your mighty name
King of heaven come
We are children of Your mercy
Rescued for Your glory
We cry Jesus set our hearts towards You
That ev'ry eye would see You lifted high
King of heaven come
King of heaven come
King of heaven come
Oh King of heaven come

Jason Ingram | Paul Baloche © 2010 Integrity Worship Music, Leadworship Songs,
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Collect of the Day (Celebrant and People)

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: *And also with you.*

Celebrant: Let us pray together.

Purify our conscience, Almighty God, by your daily visitation, that your Son Jesus Christ, at his coming, may find in us a mansion prepared for himself; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

First Reading:

Reader: A reading from Second Samuel. (7:1-11, 16)

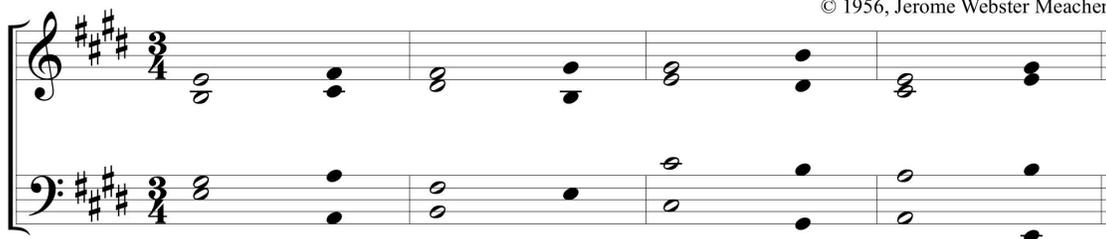
Now when the king was settled in his house, and the LORD had given him rest from all his enemies around him, the king said to the prophet Nathan, "See now, I am living in a house of cedar, but the ark of God stays in a tent." Nathan said to the king, "Go, do all that you have in mind; for the LORD is with you." But that same night the word of the LORD came to Nathan: Go and tell my servant David: Thus says the LORD: Are you the one to build me a house to live in? I have not lived in a house since the day I brought up the people of Israel from Egypt to this day, but I have been moving about in a tent and a tabernacle. Wherever I have moved about among all the people of Israel, did I ever speak a word with any of the tribal leaders of Israel, whom I commanded to shepherd my people Israel, saying, "Why have you not built me a house of cedar?" Now therefore thus you shall say to my servant David: Thus says the LORD of hosts: I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep to be prince over my people Israel; and I have been with you wherever you went, and have cut off all your enemies from before you; and I will make for you a great name, like the name of the great ones of the earth. And I will appoint a place for my people Israel and will plant them, so that they may live in their own place, and be disturbed no more; and evildoers shall afflict them no more, as formerly, from the time that I appointed judges over my people Israel; and I will give you rest from all your enemies. Moreover the LORD declares to you that the LORD will make you a house. Your house and your kingdom shall be made sure forever before me; your throne shall be established forever.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: *Thanks be to God.*

Psalm 89:1-4, 19-26

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- 1 Your love, O LORD, for ever will I **sing**; *from age to age my mouth will proclaim your **faithfulness**.
- 2 For I am persuaded that your love is established for **ever**; *you have set your faithfulness firmly in the **heavens**.
- 3 "I have made a covenant with my **chosen one**; *I have sworn an oath to David my **servant**:
- 4 'I will establish your line for **ever**, *and preserve your throne for all gener-**ations**.'"
- 19 You spoke once in vision and said to your faithful **people**: *"I have set the crown upon a warrior and have exalted one chosen out of the **people**.
- 20 I have found David my **servant**; *with my holy oil have I a-**nointed him**.
- 21 My hand will hold him **fast** *and my arm will make him **strong**.
- 22 No enemy shall de-**ceive him**, *nor any wicked man bring him **down**.
- 23 I will crush his foes be-**fore him** *and strike down those who **hate him**.
- 24 My faithfulness and love shall be **with him**, *and he shall be victorious through my **Name**.
- 25 I shall make his dominion ex-**tend** *from the Great Sea to the **River**.
- 26 He will say to me, 'You are my **Father**, *my God, and the rock of my sal-**vation**.'

Glory be to the Father, and to the **Son**,* and to the Holy **Spirit**:

As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever **shall be**,

*world without end. A-**men**.

Second Reading:

Reader: A reading from Romans. (16:25-27)

Now to God who is able to strengthen you according to my gospel and the proclamation of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery that was kept secret for long ages but is now disclosed, and through the prophetic writings is made known to all the Gentiles, according to the command of the eternal God, to bring about the obedience of faith-- to the only wise God, through Jesus Christ, to whom be the glory forever! Amen.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: *Thanks be to God.*

“The Angel Gabriel From Heaven Came” (Verses 1-2)

Hymnal, 265

Gospel Reading: Luke 1:26-38

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

People: *Glory to You, Lord Christ.*

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you." But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?" The angel said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. For nothing will be impossible with God." Then Mary said, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her.

Priest: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: *Praise to you, Lord Christ.*

“The Angel Gabriel From Heaven Came” (Verses 3-4)

Hymnal, 265

Sermon

The Reverend Joseph Shepley

Nicene Creed (Please Stand As Able)

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.

Prayers of the People (You May Stand, Sit, or Kneel)

In the course of the silence after each bidding, the People offer their own prayers, either silently or aloud.

I ask your prayers for God's people throughout the world; for our bishops; for this gathering; and for all ministers and people.

Pray for the Church.

Silence

I ask your prayers for peace; for goodwill among nations; and for the well-being of all people. Pray for justice and peace.

Silence.

I ask your prayers for the poor, the sick, the hungry, the oppressed, and those in prison. Pray for those in any need or trouble.

Silence.

I ask your prayers for all who seek God, or a deeper knowledge of him. Pray that they may find and be found by him.

Silence.

We remember the faithful departed this day in whose memory the altar flowers are given: The flowers on the altar today are given to the greater glory of God.

Silence.

Praise God for those in every generation in whom Christ has been honored. Pray that we may have grace to glorify Christ in our own day.

Silence.

The Celebrant adds a concluding prayer.

Confession of Sin (Please Kneel)

Priest: Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence.

Priest 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.

Celebrant: 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.*

Peace (Please Stand As Able)

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

People: *And also with you.*

Offertory (Please Stand As Able)

“For Unto Us A Child Is Born - Open the Eyes of my Heart”

For unto us a child is born
A Son is given, A Son is given
For unto us a child is born
A Son is given, A Son is given
The Messiah oh to see Him to see Him
To see You high and lifted up,
Shining in the light of Your glory
Pour out Your power and love;
As we sing holy, holy, holy.

Holy, holy, holy... Holy, holy, holy...
Holy, holy, holy... Holy, holy, holy...
For unto us a child is born
Holy, holy, holy...

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Presentation

Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow
Praise Him all creatures here below
Alleluia, Alleluia

Praise Him above Ye heav'nly host
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost
Alleluia, Alleluia
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia

Great Thanksgiving (Please Stand As Able)

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: *And also with you.*

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

People: *We lift them to the Lord.*

Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: *It is right to give him thanks and praise.*

It is right, and a good and joyful thing always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth; because you sent your beloved Son to redeem us from sin and death, and to make us heirs in him of everlasting life; that when he shall come again in power and great triumph to judge the world, we may without shame or fear rejoice to behold his appearing.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your name.

Sanctus

Hymnal, S129

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and
 might, hea - ven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
 san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who
 comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est._____

The Celebrant continues (You may stand, sit or kneel)

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, our Lord 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 he 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, according to his command, O Father,

Celebrant and People

We remember his death,
 We proclaim his resurrection,
 We await his coming in glory.

The Celebrant continues

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with Saint Paul and all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your

sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By him and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. AMEN.

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.

Breaking of the Bread

Celebrant: Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

People: *Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.*

Agnus Dei

John Merbecke, 1549



O Lamb of God, that ta - kest a - way the sins of the world, have mer - cy up - on us.



O Lamb of God, that ta - kest a - way the sins of the world, have mer - cy up - on us.



O Lamb of God, that ta - kest a - way the sins of the world, grant us thy peace.

All baptized Christians are welcome to receive Holy Communion. To receive in one kind is considered full communion. If you choose to receive a blessing only, please cross your arms over your chest. If you prefer a gluten-free wafer, please let the priest know as you kneel at the altar rail. For those who wish to intinct the Bread, by dipping it in the Wine rather than drinking directly from the Chalice, you may signify this choice by holding the consecrated Bread between your fingers. Please intinct the Bread in the small Chalice which will come before the larger Chalice. After you leave the altar rail, please know that we have prayer servants in the hallway available to pray with you.

Communion Songs

“Rejoice”

Humbly You came to save
To offer all Your grace and love so amazing
Let every heart adore
The Savior Christ our Lord who's mercy's
unfailing

Glory to God in the highest
And peace to the earth

Rejoice Emmanuel God with us
Rejoice Emmanuel God with us

Let all the earth proclaim
There is no other name who grants us salvation
The hosts of heaven sing
To praise our newborn King the ruler of nations

You are my hope you are my peace
You are the love the love that rescues me
You are my hope you are my peace
You are the love the love that rescues me

Anthony Hoisington | Chris Hoisington | Michael Bahn
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“You Shine Through”

You shine brighter when we're broken
With our hearts stretched out upon the floor
In our weakness and our failures
Your light shines beauty to this world
From our broken hearts we're crying out

Through the cracks in all of us
Through the fractures and our dust
You shine through You shine through
In the darkness You're the dawn

Blazing like the morning sun
You shine through You shine through

No our sin will not define us
For Your cross it speaks the final word
Guilt and shame are now behind us
And You are making us brand new

From our broken hearts we're crying out
From our deepest scars we're singing out

Anthony Hoisington | Chris Hoisington | Chris Llewellyn | Gareth Gilkerson © 2012
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“Hark The Herald Angels Sing”

Hark! The herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn King;
Peace on earth, and mercy mild,
God and sinners reconciled!"
Joyful, all ye nations rise,
Join the triumph of the skies;
With th'angelic host proclaim,
"Christ is born in Bethlehem!"
Hark! the herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn King!"

Hail the heaven born Prince of Peace!
Hail the Sun of Righteousness!
Light and life to all He brings,
Ris'n with healing in His wings.
Mild He lays His glory by,
Born that man no more may die.
Born to raise the sons of earth,
Born to give them second birth.
Hark! the herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn King!"

King of heaven come down
King of heaven come now
Let Your glory reign
Shining like the day
King of heaven come
King of heaven rise up
Who can stand against us
You are strong to save in Your mighty name
King of heaven come

Christ, by highest heav'n adored;
Christ the everlasting Lord;
Late in time, behold Him come,
Offspring of a virgin's womb.
Mild He lays His glory by,
Born that man no more may die.
Born to raise the sons of earth,
Born to give them second birth.
Hark! the herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn King!"

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Postcommunion Prayer

Almighty and everliving God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

Blessing

Closing Hymn **“Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates”** **Hymnal, 436**

Dismissal

Lay Reader: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People: *Thanks be to God.*

Postlude **“Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus”** **E. Broughton**



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Upon entering the church, please turn off your cell phone or switch it to a worship respectful setting. Please be sure to dispose of all food and drinks before entering the church. Thank You!

Prayer Servant Teams

Prayer for any need or request is available at each service. After you have received communion, please see one of our trained Prayer Servant Teams (with the Blue Name Badges) who are available at the open side door at the entrance to the Vesting Room. Prayer is available in the Vesting Room, Hallway or Back Room as space is available. Our Prayer Servants are ready to confidentially take your request and pray for you and with you. Should you wish to schedule a private prayer time, please let Fr. Joe or Mary Perry, Prayer Ministry Leader (maryperry2@me.com) know and we will work with you to schedule a convenient time. Your Prayer Servants today for Healing Sunday are all who are available.

Synthesis CE Study Guide

You may pick up a copy of the week's Synthesis CE Study Guide, as well as the following week's, for your personal use. They are located at the back of the church. Thank You!

All money to be credited to your 2017 account MUST be in the Parish Office by December 31st. Any money received after December 31st will be credited to your 2018 account. Thank you!

Covenant Envelopes for 2018

Covenant Envelopes for 2018 are in the back of the church. Please take yours and those of any friends who may be absent, as this helps us save on mailing costs. Please DO NOT use the 2018 Blue envelopes until the new year, and DO NOT use the 2017 Green envelopes after December 31, 2017. If you do not wish to use the covenant envelopes, as long as your gift can be identified, an account is established in your name and you will receive quarterly statements. If you have any questions, please contact Beth Miller, Financial Secretary, at 203-775-9587 or Bethmiller.stpaul@gmail.com Thank you.

Ladies Tuesday AM Bible Study

The Ladies Tuesday AM Bible Study will be studying, THE GOSPEL OF MARK, starting Tuesday, January 9th at 9:15AM in the Guild Room. In this, probably the earliest of the four Gospels, Mark vigorously defends the claim that Jesus was the true Messiah and that His own people, the Jews, rejected Him because HE came not as the glorious warrior-like they expected but as a suffering servant. The intensity of Mark's writing and his enthusiasm for Christ's Gospel bring us a powerful message of salvation, inspiration, and encouragement. Please join us in study on Tuesday's from 9:15AM-11:00AM. Please register by January 2, 291j8, by emailing Debbi Pomeroy at debbi415@aol.com. Workbooks are \$10.

Calendar for the Week

(We welcome and encourage parishioners to come to any of these ministries.)

Sun., Dec. 24	-	Christmas Eve		
		9:00 AM	-	Traditional Eucharist
		5:00 PM	-	Family Service
		9:00 PM	-	Evening Service
Mon., Dec. 25	-	Christmas Day		
		10:30 AM	-	Holy Eucharist
Tue., Dec. 26	-	9:15 AM	-	Ladies Bible Study
		5:45 PM	-	Boot Camp
Wed., Dec. 27	-	10:00 AM	-	Holy Eucharist and Healing
Sat., Dec. 30	-	7:30 AM	-	Men's Prayer Breakfast
		10:00 AM	-	PraiseMoves

Next Sunday — First Sunday after Christmas Holy Eucharist at 8:00 A.M. and 9:30 A.M.

Preacher, Peter Scalzo, Jr.
Celebrant, The Reverend Joseph Shepley, Rector

Readings

Isaiah 61:10-62:3; Galatians 3:23-25; 4:4-7; John 1:1-18; Psalm 147

Saint Paul's Staff

Rector
Wardens
Seminarian
Parish Office Coordinator
Organist and Choirmaster
Coord. of Contemporary Worship & Family Ministries
Sunday School Administrators
Sexton

The Reverend Joseph Shepley
Mary Perry and David Williams
Stephen Nagy
Beth Miller
Kirsten Peterson
Patrick O'Connors
Nicole O'Connors
Doug Melody