

## Opening Hymn: 664

Blessed be God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. And blessed be his kingdom, now and forever. Amen.

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**.

## **Penitential Rite**

God of the ages, in every generation you pull down tyrants, raise the humble and reconcile all things to yourself in Christ, the one who is an outcast, and yet the ruler, whose throne is the cross. Let this King's cross become the shape of our lives let this Lord's compassion form our hearts; let this Shepherd's embrace welcome us to Paradise. Restore us to unity as we humbly confess our sins against You 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.

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.

# Lord, open our lips

And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.

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.

Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness: **O come, let us adore him.** 

## Psalm 67:1-5

O God, be merciful to us and bless us, \*show us the light of your countenance and come to us.

Let your ways be known upon earth, \* your saving health among all nations.

Let the peoples praise you, O God; \* let all the peoples praise you.

Let the nations be glad and sing for joy, \* for you judge the peoples with equity and guide all the nations upon earth.

Let the peoples praise you, O God; \* let all the peoples praise you.

# Canticle 16

The Song of Zechariah Luke 1: 68-79

Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel; \* he has come to his people and set them free.

He has raised up for us a mighty savior, \* born of the house of his servant David.

Through his holy prophets he promised of old,

- that he would save us from our enemies, \* from the hands of all who hate us.
- He promised to show mercy to our fathers \* and to remember his holy covenant.
- This was the oath he swore to our father Abraham, to set us free from the hands of our enemies,
- Free to worship him without fear, \*holy and righteous in his sight all the days of our life.
- You, my child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High, \*for you will go before the Lord to prepare his way,
- To give his people knowledge of salvation \* by the forgiveness of their sins.
- In the tender compassion of our God \* the dawn from on high shall break upon us,
- To shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death, \* and to guide our feet into the way of peace.

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.

## First Lesson Jeremiah (23:1-6)

Woe to the shepherds who destroy and scatter the sheep of my pasture! says the LORD. Therefore

thus says the LORD, the God of Israel, concerning the shepherds who shepherd my people: It is you who have scattered my flock, and have driven them away, and you have not attended to them. So I will attend to you for your evil doings, says the LORD. Then I myself will gather the remnant of my flock out of all the lands where I have driven them, and I will bring them back to their fold, and they shall be fruitful and multiply. I will raise up shepherds over them who will shepherd them, and they shall not fear any longer, or be dismayed, nor shall any be missing, says the LORD. The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch, and he shall reign as king and deal wisely, and shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. In his days Judah will be saved and Israel will live in safety. And this is the name by which he will be called: "The LORD is our righteousness."

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

## Canticle H: A Song of Hosea

Come, let us return to our God, \* who has torn us and will heal us.

- God has struck us and will bind up our wounds, \* after two days revive us,
- On the third day restore us, \* that in God's presence we may live.
- Let us humble ourselves, let us strive to know the Lord, \* whose justice dawns like morning light, its dawning as sure as the sunrise.
- God's justice will come to us like a shower, \* like spring rains that water the earth.

## Second Lesson Colossians (1:11-20)

May you be made strong with all the strength that comes from his glorious power, and may you be prepared to endure everything with patience, while joyfully giving thanks to the Father, who has enabled you to share in the inheritance of the saints in the light. He has rescued us from the power of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of his beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins. He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation; for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers — all things have been created through him and for him. He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together. He is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything. For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all

things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross.

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

## Canticle B: A Song of Pilgrimage

Before I ventured forth, even while I was very young, \* I sought wisdom openly in my prayer.

- In the forecourts of the temple I asked for her, \* and I will seek her to the end.
- From first blossom to early fruit, \* she has been the delight of my heart.
- My foot has kept firmly to the true path, \* diligently from my youth have I pursued her.
- I inclined my ear a little and received her; \* I found for myself much wisdom and became adept in her.

To the one who gives me wisdom will I give glory, \* for I have resolved to live according to her way.

- From the beginning I gained courage from her, \* therefore I will not be forsaken.
- In my inmost being I have been stirred to seek her, \* therefore have I gained a good possession.
- As my reward the Almighty has given me the gift of language,\* and with it will I offer praise to God.

# The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke (23:33-43)

When they came to the place that is called The Skull, they crucified Jesus there with the criminals, one on his right and one on his left. Then Jesus said, "Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they are dong." And they cast lots to divide his clothing. And the people stood by, watching; but the leaders scoffed at him, saying, "He saved others; let him save himself if he is the Messiah of God. his chosen one!" The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine, and saying, "If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!" There was also an inscription over him, "This is the King of the Jews." One of the criminals who were hanged there kept deriding him and saying, "Are you not the Messiah? Save yourself and us!" But the other rebuked him, saying, "Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation? And we indeed have been condemned justly, for we are getting what we deserve for our deeds, but this man has done nothing wrong." Then he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom." He replied, "Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in Paradise.'

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

# The Sermon

## Sermon Music

Here follows the Nicene Creed, all standing 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 Lord be with you. And also with you. Let us pray.

#### **Collects**

Almighty and everlasting God, whose will it is to restore all things in your well-beloved Son, the King of kings and Lord of lords: Mercifully grant that the peoples of the earth, divided and enslaved by sin, may be freed and brought together under his most gracious rule; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.** 

#### The Prayers of the People

In the life of Jesus Christ in our midst, we have known God's judgment and mercy, and in the glory of Jesus we acclaim the image of God invisible. With the whole church we turn to Christ this day, acknowledging that he alone rules in truth, as we say: When you come to rule, remember us, O Lord.

(As the Spirit moves you, please take turns reading one or more of the petitions. Please observe a short silence at the indicated times.)

Jesus, Savior and Judge, you have confounded earthly judgment by choosing to be numbered among the transgressors. May your words comfort all who are in prison, all judged guilty by society or church, and all who live on the margins of the human family. When you come to rule, **remember us**, **O Lord**. Jesus, condemned and powerless before your enemies, grant to the leaders of peoples to know that their rule is in the service of a greater law. When you come to rule, **remember us**, **O Lord**.

Christ, first-born of the dead, through the blood of your cross you give unity to the divided. Give to the church the hope of resurrection; may we recognize the image of God in your own rising. When you come to rule, **remember us**, **O Lord**.

Christ, image of the invisible God, free us from holding you in images of our own making. Grant that in the Spirit we may see all power and all life transformed by the compassion of the cross. When you come to rule, **remember us**, **O Lord**.

Jesus, pelican feeding your young with your own blood, may the dead who have partaken of your chalice be with you in paradise. When you come to rule, **remember us, O Lord.** 

Prince of Peace, wars seems to rule our lands and threaten our security. Give peaceful hearts to those who defend our freedom and help us all grow peace from the seed of our conflict. When you come to rule, **remember us, O Lord..** 

(Here other intercessions may be offered.)

We offer Prayers for Julian, Susie, Bonnie and Jennifer. When you come to rule, **remember us, O** Lord..

We acclaim you, Jesus Christ, as the judge condemned in judgment, knowing that in your death the world is judged. Grant that the world may seek God's justice rather than human wisdom, and that all victims of human cruelty may share in the victory of life revealed to us in your death and rising. We join our prayers with the pleading of your blood poured forth at God's right hand, where you rule in the spirit forever and ever. **Amen.** 

#### The Peace

All stand. The Celebrant says to the people The peace of the Lord be always with you. And also with you.

Then all may greet one another in the name of the Lord.

#### Announcements

The Celebrant may begin the **Offertory** with the following sentence

Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God. *Ephesians 5:2* 

## Offertory Hymn 652

**Prayer over the gifts**: Eternal God, by your grace you have raised us up and enthroned us with Christ in the heavenly realms. Receive all we offer you this day, and lead us in those good works for which you have created us. This we ask in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.** 

#### The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.** Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **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 through Jesus Christ our Lord. For you are the source of light and life, you made us in your image, and called us to new life in Jesus Christ our Lord. 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:

Celebrant and People sing

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

The people stand or kneel. Holy and gracious Father: . . .

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

We celebrate the memorial . . .

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. 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.** 

Let us pray in the words of the One whose coming is certain and whose day draws near: 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 Breaking of the Bread

Jesus, Lamb of God, have mercy on us. Jesus, bearer of our sins, have mercy on us. Jesus, redeemer of the world, give us your peace.

Then the celebrant and people pray together.

We do not presume to come to your holy table, merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in your great mercy. We are not worthy even to gather the crumbs from under your table. But you are the same Lord whose nature is always to have mercy. Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the body of your dear Son, Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that we may evermore dwell in him and he in us. Amen.

Facing the people, the Celebrant says the following Invitation or other suitable words.

They will come from east and west and from north and south to sit at table in the kingdom of God: Blessed are those who are called to the banquet of the Lamb.

#### After Communion, the Celebrant says

Heavenly Father, bring to perfection within us the communion we share in this sacrament. May the unity we know this day live in our community and family. Let us pray. 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.

May the Father from whom every family in earth and heaven receives its name strengthen you with his Spirit in your inner being so that Christ may dwell in your hearts by faith, and the blessing of God almighty, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, be with you and remain with you for ever. **Amen.** 

Knowing that all of our community cannot share the Eucharist in person, we affirm that the true mystical communion of Christ and His Church is a bond of spirit and heart, grounded in faith. Therefore, we commit ourselves to this deep bond of the Spirit in union with Christ our Lord. **Amen.** 

#### The Blessing

## Closing hymn: 290

Awaiting the day when the sun of righteousness shall dawn with its healing rays, go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.