early holiday liturgy

December 5

2021

Prepare in the desert a way for the Lord.
Make a straight highway for our God.

isaiah 40:3
Prelude

“O Thou That Tellest Good Tidings to Zion”

O thou that tellest good tidings to Zion,
Get thee up into the high mountain!
O thou that tellest good tidings to Jerusalem,
Lift up thy voice with strength, lift it up, be not afraid!
Say unto the cities of Judah, “Behold your God!”
O thou that tellest good tidings to Zion,
Arise, shine, for thy light is come,
And the glory of the Lord is risen upon thee.

“Comfort Ye My People”/”And the Glory of the Lord”

tenor recitative:
The voice of him that crieth in the wilderness,
“Prepare ye the way of the Lord. Make straight in the desert a highway for our God.”

chorus:
And the glory of the Lord shall be revealed
And all flesh shall see it together
For the mouth of the Lord has spoken it.

From Messiah; Words and music by George Frideric Handel.

Entrance rite

The church is darkened for the candle procession, and remains in darkness until the Gospel Acclamation.

Processional & “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel” Penitential Rite

Latin, 9th c.; translation by John M. Neale

During the Penitential Rite, the refrain is sung by all after each invocation.
Baruch 5:1–9

“Take off the garment of your sorrow and affliction, O Jerusalem.” God will return the children of Israel from their enemies, making the mountains and valleys into a level plain, so that Israel may walk in safety.

Psalm

“Home From Our Exile” (Psalm 126)

Philippians 1:3–6, 8–11

Paul prayed for the Philippians, that the good work begun in them might be filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ.

Gospel

“Advent Gospel Acclamation”

Luke 3:1–6

The word of God came to John, who went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins.
Apostles’ Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
Creator of heaven and earth,
and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried;
he descended into hell;
on the third day he rose again from the dead;
he ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of God, the Father almighty;
from there he will come to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting.
Amen.

liturgy of the Eucharist

Preparation of Gifts

“Night of Silence”

1. Cold are the people, winter of life, we tremble in shadows this
2. Voice in the distance, call in the night, on wind you enfold us, you
3. Spirit among us, shine like the star, your light that guides shepherds and

cold endless night, Frozen in the snow lie roses sleeping,
speak of the light, Gentle on the ear you whisper softly,
kings from afar, Shimmer in the sky so empty, lonely,

flowers that will echo the sunrise, Fire of hope is our
rumors of a dawn so embracing, Breathless love awaits
rising in the warmth of your Son’s love, Star unknowing of

only warmth, weary, its flame will be dying soon.
darkened souls, soon will we know of the morning.
night and day, Spirit we wait for your loving Son.

Fourth time: repeat verse 1, with counter-melody sung by choir

Sanctus  from “Mass of Creation”

Ho-ly, ho-ly, ho-ly____ Lord God of hosts.___ Hea-en 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.___ Ho-san-na in the high-est.___

Memorial  from “Mass of Creation”

Acclamation

When we eat this Bread and drink this Cup, we pro-
claim your death, O Lord, un-til you come a-gain.

Great Amen  from “Mass of Creation”

A-men, a-men, a-men. A-men, a-men, a-men.
Communion  “Sing and Rejoice”

1) Sing and rejoice, the Lord is near; His saving grace proclaims, And let the whole creation show The glory of his name.

2) We, by the Spirit’s power, proclaim Good news for all the poor; Our God will set the captive free, The broken heart restore.

3) Here in the light of Christ alone, Redeemed by grace we stand, And treasure ev’ry perfect gift Of his unfailing hand.

4) Freedom and truth, like garden flow’rs, Upon the earth shall grow, And all the nations, lost in praise, His perfect peace will know.

Words: Michael Forster. Music: Sam Batt Owens.
Communion  “Silent Night”

1) Silent night, holy night, all is calm, all is bright
   Round yon virgin mother and child. Holy infant so tender and mild,
   sleep in heavenly peace, sleep in heavenly peace.

2) Silent night, holy night, shepherds quake at the sight.
   Glories stream from heaven afar, heavenly hosts sing alleluia,
   Christ the savior is born, Christ the savior is born!

3) Silent night, holy night, son of God, love’s pure light
   Radiant beams from Thy holy face, with the dawn of redeeming grace,
   Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth, Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth.

4) Stille Nacht, Heilige Nacht! Alles schläft, einsam wacht
   Nur das traute hochheilige paar. Holder Knabe im lockigen Haar,
   Schlaf in Himmlischer Ruh! Schlaf in Himmlischer Ruh!

Words: Joseph Mohr, tr. John F. Young. Tune: Franz Gruber.

Recessional  “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

1) 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.”

Refrain) Hark! the herald angels sing, “Glory to the newborn King.”

2) Christ, by highest heav’n adored, Christ, the everlasting Lord,
   Late in time behold him come, offspring of a virgin’s womb:
   Veiled in flesh the Godhead see, hail th’incarnate Deity!
   Pleased as man with man to dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel.

3) Hail the heav’n-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.

choir

Soprano: Sophie Decoppet, Bernie Hake, Nicole Johnson, Catie Kasse, Lorrayne Murphy, Isabel Ruby, Lee Ann Rucker, Ana Saavedra, Stephanie Tena-Meza, Deborah Wicks La Puma

Alto: Mary Bobel, Maryann Fernandes, Karen Irwin, Marie Le, Stella Rajakumar, Connie Solari

Tenor: Ben Eloy, Richard Akira Heru, Mark Lewis, Chris Mikol, Tom Wilcoski, Kyle Yoshida

Bass: Peter Csernica, Rick Hake, Paul Hugo, Joseph Kelly

orchestra

Violin: Catherine Habiger, Adelaide Madary, Richard Ruby, Nathan Sariowan, Matthew Tan

Viola: Lauren Kane, Rosie Lebel

Cello: Monica Anuforo, Cece La Puma

Bass: Griffen Glenn

Brassworks quintet:

Trumpet: Frank Davis, Stephen Ruppenthal

Horn: Diane Ryan

Trombone: Christopher Vincente

Tuba: Michael Kuntz

Percussion: Victor Flaviani, Robert Kasse

Organ: Eric Lebel

Teresa Pleins conductor
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