

An Order for Spiritual Communion

Lessons & Carols

Virtual Worship

December 27, 2020



St. James' Episcopal Church
Fremont, CA

Opening Hymn

see insert

The Acclamation

Celebrant

Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

People

And blessed be God's Kingdom, now and forever. Amen.

The Collect for the Day

Celebrant

The Lord be with you.

People

And also with you.

Celebrant

Let us pray.

Lessons, Carols, and Reflections

The First Lesson, All Saints, San Leandro

Genesis 3:1-15

Hymn 54: Savior of the nations, come!

The Second Lesson, Holy Cross, Castro Valley

Isaiah 40: 1-11

Hymn 67: Comfort, comfort ye my people

The Third Lesson, St. Anne's, Fremont

Isaiah 7:10-15

Hymn 81: Lo, how a Rose e'er blooming

The Fourth Lesson, St. Bartholomew's, Livermore

Luke 1:26-38

Hymn 265: The angel Gabriel from heaven came

The Fifth Lesson, St. Clare's, Fremont

Luke 2:1-20

Hymn 96: Angels we have heard on high

The Sixth Lesson, St. James', Fremont

John 1:1-18

Hymn 83: O come, all ye faithful

Reflections offered by Deacon Jennifer Nelson

The Nicene Creed

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.¹
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 Prayers of the People

With all our heart and with all our mind, let us pray to the Lord, saying “Lord, have mercy.

For the peace of the world, for the welfare of the Holy Church of God, and for the unity of all peoples, let us pray to the Lord. ***Lord, have mercy.***

For our Bishop Marc, for our Presiding Bishop Michael, and for all the clergy and people, let us pray to the Lord. ***Lord, have mercy.***

For our President, for the leaders of the nations, and for all in authority, let us pray to the Lord. ***Lord, have mercy.***

For the cities of Fremont, Newark, and Union City, for every city and community, and for those who live in them, let us pray to the Lord. ***Lord, have mercy.***

For the good earth which God has given us, and for the wisdom and will to conserve it, let us pray to the Lord. ***Lord, have mercy.***

For the aged and infirm, for the widowed and orphans, and for the sick and the suffering, let us pray to the Lord. ***Lord, have mercy.***

For our own community, for those in the military, for those experiencing economic hardship, for those who need guidance and direction, comfort and strength, for those who are expecting children, for our children and youth, for those traveling, for those who need continued healing, and for those who have died.

I invite your own intercessions and thanksgivings, either out loud or in silence.

Let us pray to the Lord. ***Lord, have mercy.***

For the poor and the oppressed, for the unemployed and the destitute, for prisoners and captives, and for all who remember and care for them, let us pray to the Lord. ***Lord, have mercy.***

For all who have died in the hope of the resurrection, and for all the departed, let us pray to the Lord. ***Lord, have mercy.***

In the communion of all the saints, let us commend ourselves, and one another, and all our life, to Christ our God. ***To thee, O Lord our God.***

The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect

The Passing of the Peace

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 God thanks and praise.

Celebrant

It is right and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth; 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:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and



might, Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord,



God of power and might, hea - ven and earth are



full, full of your glo - ry. Ho -



san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na

Celebrant

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 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 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 we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Celebrant and People

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

Celebrant

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O God, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling Jesus' 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 him. 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 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.*

The Lord's Prayer

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 Fraction & Act of Reception

**In union, O Lord, with your faithful people at every altar at your Church, I
desire to offer you praise and thanksgiving. I thank you for creation and all the
blessings of this life, for the promise of the resurrection, for the means of grace
and the hope of glory.**

**Since I cannot receive you today in the sacrament of your Body and Blood, I
beseech you to come spiritually into my heart. Cleanse and strengthen me with
your grace and let me never be separated from you. May I live in you, and you
in me, in this life and in the life to come. Amen.**

The Blessing

Closing Hymn

see insert

People Go in peace to love and serve the Lord, Alleluia, Alleluia!
 Thanks be to God, Alleluia, Alleluia!