

Today's service will be mainly said with Carols

First Hymn

The advent of our God
with eager prayers we greet,
and singing haste upon the road
His glorious gift to meet.

The everlasting Son
scorns not the Virgin's womb;
that we from bondage may be won
He bears a bondsman's doom.

Daughter of Sion, rise
to meet thy lowly Kings;
let not thy stubborn heart despise
the peace he comes to bring.

On clouds of dazzling light,
as Judge he comes again,
His scattered people to unite,
with him in heaven to reign.

Let evil flee away,
ere that great hour shall dawn,
let this old Adam day by day
the new Man all put on.

Praise to the incarnate Son,
who comes to set us free,
with Father and with Spirit One,
to all eternity. Amen.

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Charles Coffin 1676-1749 Tune St Thomas

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You have brought us peace within:
Lord, have mercy, Christ have mercy,
Now your glorious reign begin,
Now your glorious reign begin.

The Alleluia is said

May the peace of Christ reign in your hearts;
let the message of Christ find a home with you.

Offertory hymn

Thou didst leave thy throne and thy kingly crown
when thou camest to earth for me;
but in Bethlehem's home there was found no room
for thy holy nativity:

*O come to my heart, Lord Jesus;
there is room in my heart for thee.*

Heaven's arches rang when the angels sang,
proclaiming thy royal degree;
but in lowly birth didst thou come to earth,
and in great humility: *Refrain*

Thou camest, O Lord, with the living word
that should set thy people free;
but with mocking scorn and with crown of thorn
they bore thee to Calvary: *Refrain*

When all heaven shall ring, and her choirs shall sing,
at thy coming to victory,
let thy voice call me home, saying, 'Yet there is room,
there is room at my side for thee.' *Refrain*

At Communion if you wish to receive from the chalice – the common cup – please make your way to the Font (by the entrance). If you would rather have the host intincted in the wine by the Priest please come to the front.

Communion Hymn

A great and mighty wonder,
a full and holy cure!

The virgin bears the infant
with virgin-honour pure:

Repeat the hymn again!

*“To God on high be glory,
and peace on earth to men.”*

The word becomes incarnate,
and yet remains on high!
And cherubim sing anthems
to shepherds from the sky.

Since all he comes to ransom,
by all be he adored,
the infant born in Bethl'em,
the Saviour and the Lord.

And idol forms shall perish,
and error shall decay,
and Christ shall wield his sceptre,
our Lord and God for ay.

St. Germanus 634-734 (tr J.M. Neale)
Tune: Es ist ein, Ros' entsprungen

Final Hymn

*Go, tell it on the mountain,
over the hills and everywhere;
go, tell it on the mountain
that Jesus Christ is Lord!*

While Shepherds kept their watching
o'er wand'ring flocks by night,
behold from out of heaven
there shone a holy light

and lo, when they had seen it
they all bowed down and prayed,
they travelled on together
to where the babe was laid.

When I was a seeker,
I sought both night and day;

I asked the Lord to guide me -
and he showed me the way.

Then he made me a watchman
upon a city wall,
to tell of his salvation -
that Jesus died for all.

Words and Music Traditional

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