HOLY COMMUNION: RITE I ~ DECEMBER 6, 2020

THE PRELUDE Tour les Bourgeois de Châtres C.B. Balbastre (1727-1799)

THE INTROIT Prepare the Way, O Zion arr. Mark Schweizer (1956-2019)

THE OPENING HYMN Comfort, Comfort Ye My People Psalm 42

Comfort, comfort ye my people, speak ye peace, thus saith our God;

Comfort those who sit in darkness, mourning 'neath their sorrow's load.

Speak ye to Jerusalem of the peace that waits for them;

Tell her that her sins I cover, and her warfare now is over.

Hark, the voice of one that crieth in the desert far and near,

Calling us to new repentance since the kingdom now is here.

O that warning cry obey! Now prepare for God a way;

Let the valleys rise to meet him and the hills bow down to greet him.

Make ye straight what long was crooked, make the rougher places plain;

Let your hearts be true and humble, as befits his holy reign.

For the glory of the Lord now o'er earth is shed abroad;

And all flesh shall see the token that the word is never broken.

THE ACCLAMATION (Standing)

Priest Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. People And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

THE COLLECT FOR PURITY AND THE SUMMARY OF THE LAW

THE KYRIE

Celebrant Lord, have mercy upon us. People Christ, have mercy upon us. Celebrant Lord, have mercy upon us.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

THE LESSON After the reading: The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.** Isaiah 40:1-11

THE GRADUAL HYMN

All Who Are Thirsty

Brenton Brown, Glenn Robertson

All who are thirsty, all who are weak, come to the fountain, dip your heart in the stream of life.

Let the pain and the sorrow be washed away

In the waves of His mercy as deep cries out to deep. We sing:

Come, Lord Jesus, come. Come, Lord Jesus, come. Repeat line

All who are thirsty, all who are weak, come to the fountain, dip your heart in the stream of life.

Let the pain and the sorrow be washed away in the waves of His mercy as deep cries out to deep. We sing:

Holy Spirit, come. Holy Spirit, come. Repeat line

THE GOSPEL (Standing)

Mark 1:1-8

Priest begins The Holy Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to St. Mark. People Glory be to thee, O Lord.

Priest concludes The Gospel of the Lord. People Praise be to thee, O Christ.

THE SERMON Comfort in Exile The Rev. Justin C. Hare

THE NICENE CREED (Standing)

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible; and in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of his Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father; by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven, and was incarnate by the Holy Ghost of the Virgin Mary, and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate; he suffered and was buried; and the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures, and ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of the Father; and he shall come again, with glory, to judge both the quick and the dead; whose kingdom shall have no end. And I believe in the Holy Ghost, the Lord, and Giver of Life, who proceedeth from the Father and the Son; who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified; who spake by the Prophets. And I believe one holy catholic and Apostolic Church; I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins; and I look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Father, we pray for your holy Catholic Church; that we all may be one.

Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you; that your Name may be glorified by all people.

We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons; that they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.

We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world; that there may be justice and peace on the earth.

Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake; that our works may find favor in your sight.

Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble; that they may be delivered from their distress.

Give to the departed eternal rest; let light perpetual shine upon them.

We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy; may we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.

CONFESSION OF SIN

Almighty God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, maker of all things, judge of all men: We acknowledge and bewail our manifold sins and wickedness, which we from time to time most grievously have committed, by thought, word, and deed, against thy divine Majesty, provoking most justly thy wrath and indignation against us. We do earnestly repent, and are heartily sorry for these our misdoings; the remembrance of them is grievous unto us, the burden of them is intolerable. Have mercy upon us, have mercy upon us, most merciful Father; for thy Son our Lord Jesus Christ's sake, forgive us all that is past; and grant that we may ever hereafter serve and please thee in newness of life, to the honor and glory of thy Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE PEACE (Standing) Priest The peace of the Lord be always with you. People And with thy spirit.

THE WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHORAL OFFERING

And the Glory of the Lord

George F. Händel (1685-1759)

THE DOXOLOGY, HYMN 1 (S. 1)

Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus

Stuttgart

Come, thou long expected Jesus, born to set thy people free;

From our fears and sins release us, let us find our rest in thee. Continuing with ...

Our fathers' God, to thee, author of liberty, to thee we sing. Long may our land be bright with freedom's holy light; Protect us by thy might, Great God, our King. Amen.

Celebrant The Lord be with you. And with thy spirit. Lift up your hearts. We lift them up unto the Lord. Let us give thanks unto our Lord God. It is meet and right so to do.

THE SANCTUS AND BENEDICTUS, HYMN 797

Healey Willan

Holy, holy, Lord God of hosts, heaven and earth are full of thy glory: Glory be to thee, O Lord most High. Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord, Hosanna in the highest.

EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

And here we offer and present unto thee, O Lord, our selves, our souls and bodies, to be a reasonable, holy, and living sacrifice unto thee; humbly beseeching thee that we, and all others who shall be partakers of this Holy Communion, may worthily receive the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son Jesus Christ, be filled with thy grace and heavenly benediction, and made one body with him, that he may dwell in us, and we in him. And although we are unworthy, through our manifold sins, to offer unto thee any sacrifice, yet we beseech thee to accept this our bounden duty and service, not weighing our merits, but pardoning our offenses, through Jesus Christ our Lord; by whom, and with whom, in the unity of the Holy Ghost all honor and glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, world without end. Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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 AGNUS DEI, HYMN 712

Healey Willan

- O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.
- O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.
- O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, grant us thy peace.

THE PRAYER OF HUMBLE ACCESS

We do not presume to come to this thy Table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in thy manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under thy Table. But thou art the same Lord whose property is always to have mercy. Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of thy dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.

Those worshiping from home may participate in the Eucharist by speaking the following words of the Prayer for Spiritual Communion.

PRAYER FOR SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

Dear Jesus, I believe that you are truly present in the Holy Sacrament. I love you above all things, and I desire to possess you within my soul. And since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, I beseech you to come spiritually into my heart. I unite myself to you, together with all your faithful people gathered around every altar of your Church, and I embrace you with all the affections of my soul. Never permit me to be separated from you. Amen.

COMMUNION MUSIC

He Shall Feed His Flock Like a Shepherd (Rachel Murphy, alto)

G. F. Händel (1685-1759)

COMMUNION HYMN

My Heart Is Filled

Stuart Townend, Keith Getty

My heart is filled with thankfulness to Him who bore my pain, who plumbed the depths of my disgrace and gave me life again, Who crushed my curse of sinfulness and clothed me with His light, and wrote His law of righteousness with pow'r upon my heart.

My heart is filled with thankfulness to Him who walks beside, who floods my weaknesses with strength, and causes fears to fly, Whose ev'ry promise is enough for ev'ry step I take, sustaining me with arms of love and crowning me with grace.

My heart is filled with thankfulness to Him who reigns above, whose wisdom is my perfect peace, whose ev'ry thought is love, For ev'ry day I have on earth is given by the King, so I will give my life my all to love and follow Him.

COMMUNION HYMN

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

Nettleton

Come, thou fount of every blessing, tune my heart to sing thy grace! Streams of mercy never ceasing, call for songs of loudest praise. Teach me some melodious sonnet, sung by flaming tongues above. Praise the mount! I'm fixed upon it, mount of thy redeeming love.

Here I raise my Ebenezer; hither, by thy help, I'm come; and I hope, by thy good pleasure, safely to arrive at home.

Jesus sought me when a stranger wandering from the fold of God; he, to rescue me from danger, interposed his precious blood.

Oh, to grace how great a debtor daily I'm constrained to be! Let thy goodness, like a fetter, bind my wandering heart to thee: Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it, prone to leave the God I love; here's my heart, oh, take and seal it, seal it for thy courts above.

THE POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER

Celebrant Let us pray.

The people join in saying this prayer

Almighty and everliving God, we most heartily thank thee for that thou dost feed us, in these holy mysteries, with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and dost assure us thereby of thy favor and goodness towards us; and that we are very members incorporate in the mystical body of thy Son, the blessed company of all faithful people; and are also heirs, through hope, of thy everlasting kingdom. And we humbly beseech thee, O heavenly Father, so to assist us with thy grace, that we may continue in that holy fellowship, and do all such good works as thou hast prepared for us to walk in; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honor and glory, world without end. Amen.

THE BLESSING

THE CLOSING HYMN 9

Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding

Merton

Hark! A thrilling voice is sounding! "Christ is nigh," it seems to say. "Cast away the works of darkness, O ye children of the day!"

Waken'd by the solemn warning, let the earthbound soul arise; Christ, her sun, all sloth dispelling, shines upon the morning skies.

Lo! the Lamb so long expected comes with pardon down from heav'n.

Let us haste, with tears of sorrow, one and all to be forgiven;

So when next he comes with glory and the world is wrapped in fear, May he with his mercy shield us, and with words of love draw near.

Honor, glory, might, and blessing to the Father and the Son, With the everlasting Spirit while unending ages run.

THE DISMISSAL

The priest dismisses the people, and the people respond: Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

POSTLUDE Voluntary on *Pisgah* Dale Wood (1934-2003)