

Ascension Day

PROCESSION & SOLEMN PONTIFICAL MASS

Thursday, May 9, 2024, 6:00 PM

The Right Reverend Matthew F. Heyd
The Bishop of New York
Celebrant & Preacher

The Church of Saint Mary the Virgin in the City of New York

We Welcome Bishop Matthew F. Heyd

We are pleased and honored to welcome Bishop Matthew Heyd to Saint Mary's this evening. This is his first visit to the parish. Bishop Heyd was installed as the seventeenth bishop of New York on Saturday, February 10, 2024, after serving since his consecration in May 2023 as bishop alongside the sixteenth bishop, Andrew M.L. Dietsche.

He served for ten years as the tenth rector of Church of the Heavenly Rest here in Manhattan. As rector, he engaged with congregation and staff to create a "bigger table" of deep belonging and wide invitation.

Prior to coming to Heavenly Rest, Bishop Heyd served as director of Faith in Action at Trinity Church Wall Street. He expanded volunteer engagement with opportunities for children in New York City, New Orleans, Haiti, Panama, and Burundi. He supported the development of the Episcopal Service Corps. Bishop Heyd also helped launch Episcopal Charities in the Diocese of New York and served as chief operating officer of a national non-profit connecting students and teachers in schools to service opportunities. He worked with the family of Martin Luther King, Jr., on a program to help students celebrate the King National Holiday with service.

Bishop Heyd was a Morehead Scholar and student body president at the University of North Carolina. He holds a Master of Arts in religion *summa cum laude* from Yale

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University and a Master of Sacred Theology from the General Theological Seminary.

His spouse, Ann Thornton, is Vice Provost and University Librarian at Columbia University. They have a sixteen-year-old daughter and an eleven-year-old son. Bishop Heyd grew up in Charlotte, North Carolina. He graduated from Providence Day School. He likes to read and run and has completed five marathons.

About the Music

The Italian composer, Giovanni Pierluigi da Palestrina (c. 1525–1594), stood on foundations largely laid by the Netherlandish composers Guillaume Dufay (c. 1397–1474) and Josquin des Prez (c. 1450–1521). He is responsible for setting the canons for Renaissance polyphony and the standards for Catholic liturgical music which pertain even in our time. Among his hundreds of compositions are over one hundred Masses, most of which were published in thirteen volumes between 1554 and 1601. Palestrina's works also include more than three hundred motets.

The setting of the Mass this evening is derived from Palestrina's motet *Viri Galilaei*. Published in Venice in 1591, this motet is scored for six voices and, in effect, has two movements. The first part of the motet derives its text from Acts 1:11. Its second part, *Ascendit Deus*, is based upon Psalm 47:5 and Psalm 103:19. While the *Prima* and *Secunda Pars* of the motet, taken together, comprise the liturgical Offertory for Ascension Day, the polyphony makes no specific melodic reference to the traditional chant. There are some dramatic rising lines in all voices but, curiously, much of the melodic motion in the exuberant concluding *allelnias* is downward, coming from above. Palestrina's *Missa Viri Galilaei* takes its musical impetus from this motet. The date of its composition is uncertain, and it was published posthumously in Venice in 1601. Like the motet, the Mass movements employ six voices. The closing section of its *Gloria in excelsis* is particularly rich in upward sweeping melodic figures. In *Sanctus*, Palestrina reduced the texture to four voices at *Pleni sunt coeli*, returning to six voices at *Hosanna in excelsis*. Likewise, *Benedictus* is set for four voices with all six voices returning for the closing *Hosanna*.

Born in Dublin, Charles Villiers Stanford (1852–1924) was educated at the University of Cambridge—where he was appointed organist of Trinity College while an undergraduate—and later studied music in Leipzig and Berlin. In 1882, he was one of

the founding professors of the Royal College of Music. In addition, from 1887 he was also Professor of Music at Cambridge. Among his students were members of a generation of distinguished composers that included Gustav Holst and Ralph Vaughan Williams. Stanford was a prolific composer whose works included seven symphonies and nine operas. He is perhaps most dearly remembered today, however, for his enduring church anthems and settings for Anglican worship. The motet sung during the administration of Communion this evening is the second of Stanford's Three Motets, Opus 38, *Coelos ascendit hodie*. The text of this energetic double-choir motet is that of an Ascension hymn of uncertain authorship which was known in fourteenth-century Germany as *Gen Himmel aufgefahren ist*. It was published along with two other motets in 1905, and all three were dedicated to Alan Gray and the Choir of Trinity College, Cambridge.

The Organ Recital 5:30 PM

James Kibbie, Professor Emeritus, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor

Prelude and Fugue in E Major, BWV 566

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685–1750)

Go Down, Moses

Fela Sowande (1905–1987)

Passacaglia from Symphony in G Major

Leo Sowerby (1895–1968)

James Kibbie is Professor Emeritus at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor. Dr. Kibbie's forty-two-year tenure in Ann Arbor included service as University Organist and Chair of the Organ Department. His former students hold key positions in college teaching and church music nationally. Among the honors he has received, he is particularly proud of the James Kibbie Scholarship, endowed in perpetuity by the University of Michigan to support students majoring in organ performance and sacred music. Dr. Kibbie maintains a full schedule of concert, recording, and festival engagements throughout North America and Europe, including appearances at the Cathedral of Notre Dame in Paris, Royal Festival Hall in London, Dvořak Hall in Prague, and Lincoln Center in New York. During his month-long concert tour of the Soviet Union in 1991, the newspaper *Pravda* hailed him as "a marvelous organist, a

brilliant interpreter." A frequent jury member of international organ competitions, he has himself been awarded the Grand Prix d'Interprétation at the prestigious International Organ Competition of Chartres, France, and is also the only American to have won the International Organ Competition of the Prague Spring Festival in the former Czechoslovakia. He is internationally renowned as an authority on the organ music of Johann Sebastian Bach. He has performed the complete cycle of Bach organ works in a series of eighteen recitals and is in constant demand as a Bach recitalist and clinician. Thanks to generous support from Dr. Barbara Furin Sloat, in honor of J. Barry Sloat, the University of Michigan is offering Dr. Kibbie's critically acclaimed recordings of all 274 Bach works as free Internet downloads at www.blockmrecords.org/bach.

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The flowers on the altar and at the shrines are given by Steven Eldredge to the greater glory of God and in thanksgiving for the people and clergy of The Church of Saint Mary the Virgin, past and present.

*

The flowers were designed by a member of The Saint Thérèse Flower Guild of the Church of Saint Mary the Virgin.

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Please join us for a reception in Saint Joseph's Hall following Mass.
All are welcome.

The Regina coeli

All stand at the sound of the bell. The Officiant says

₩ O Queen of Heaven, be joyful,

People Alleluia.

Officiant Because he whom so meetly thou barest,

People Alleluia,

Officiant Hath arisen as he promised,

People Alleluia.

Officiant Pray for us to the Father,

People Alleluia.

Officiant Rejoice and be glad, O Virgin Mary, alleluia;

People For the Lord is risen indeed, alleluia.

The Officiant continues

Let us pray.

Officiant O God, who, by the resurrection of thy Son Jesus

Christ, didst vouchsafe to give gladness unto the world: Grant, we beseech thee, that we, being holpen by the Virgin Mary, his mother, may Attain unto the

joys of everlasting life, through the same Christ our

Lord.

People AMEN.

THE WORD OF GOD

The Entrance Song

All stand at the signal of the bell. The ministers of the assembly enter, and the Choir sings the appointed Introit.

Viri Galilaei, quid admiramini aspicientes in coelum, alleluia: quemadmodum vidistis eum ascendentem in coelum, ita veniet, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.
Omnes gentes plaudite manibus: iubilate Deo in voce exsultationis. Gloria Patri, et Filio, et Spiritui Sancto.
Sicut erat in principio, et nunc, et semper, et in saecula saeculorum.

Men of Galilee,
why do you stand looking
into heaven? alleluia;
in the same way that you saw
him ascending into heaven
will you see him coming again,
alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.
Clap your hands, all you peoples;
shout to God with a cry of joy.
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.

The Procession

The procession is formed. A Minister then intones the procession.

Let us go forth in peace.



People

In the name of Christ. A-men.

Hymn: Hail thee, festival day!

The Hymnal 1982 #216

The Congregation sings the hymn as the procession moves to the first station.

The Station at the Shrine of Christ the King

At the Shrine, the Bishop says the versicle, and the People respond.

Bishop The Lord is King, alleluia

People And has put on glorious apparel, alleluia.

Bishop Let us pray.

Father all-powerful, God of love, you have raised our Lord Jesus Christ from death to life, resplendent in glory as King of creation. Open our hearts to rejoice in his peace, to glory in his justice and to live in his love, through Jesus Christ your Son; whose kingdom is with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for

ever and ever.

People AMEN.

Hymn: Hail the day that sees him rise

The Hymnal 1982 #214

The Congregation then sings the hymn as the procession moves to the second station.

The Station at the Rood

At the Crossing, beneath the Rood, the Bishop says the versicle, and the People respond.

Bishop God is gone up with a merry noise, alleluia

People And the Lord with the sound of the trumpet, alleluia.

Bishop Let us pray.

O Almighty God, blessed Father, as your Son was raised on the cross, his mother Mary stood by him, sharing his sufferings. May your Church be united with Christ in his suffering and death and so come to share in his rising to new life; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. for ever and ever.

People AMEN.

The Opening Acclamation

Bishop Alleluia. Christ is risen.

People The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.

The Song of Praise

The Choir sings the song of praise, Gloria in excelsis Deo. The setting is Missa Viri Galilaei by Giovanni Pierluigi da Palestrina (c. 1525–1594).

Gloria in excelsis Deo et in terra pax hominibus bonae voluntatis. Laudamus te, benedicimus te, adoramus te, glorificamus te, gratias agimus tibi propter magnam gloriam tuam.

Domine Deus, Rex coelestis,
Deus Pater omnipotens.
Domine Fili unigenite, Iesu Christe,
Domine Deus, Agnus Dei, Filius Patris,
qui tollis peccata mundi,
miserere nobis;
qui tollis peccata mundi,
suscipe deprecationem nostram;
qui sedes ad dexteram Patris,
miserere nobis.

Quoniam tu solus Sanctus, Tu solus Dominus, Tu solus Altissimus, Iesu Christe, cum Sancto Spiritu, ♣ in gloria Dei Patris. Amen. Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to people of good will.

We praise you, we bless you, we worship you, we glorify you, we give you thanks for your great glory.

O Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father,
O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ,
O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,
you take away the sins of the world,
have mercy on us;
you take away the sins of the world,
receive our prayer;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father,
have mercy on us.

For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,

I in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

The Collect of the Day

The Bishop says

The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Bishop Almighty God, whose blessed Son our Savior Jesus Christ

ascended far above all heavens that he might fill all things:

Mercifully give us faith to perceive that, according to his promise, he abides with his Church on earth, even to the end of the ages; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and

the Holy Spirit, one God, in glory everlasting.

People AMEN.

The Lessons

All are seated for the Lessons. The first Lesson, Acts 1:1–11, is now read.

In the first book, O Theophilus, I have dealt with all that Jesus began to do and teach, until the day when he was taken up, after he had given commandment through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. To them he presented himself alive after his passion by many proofs, appearing to them during forty days, and speaking of the kingdom of God. And while staying with them he charged them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the promise of the Father, which, he said, "you heard from me, for John baptized with water, but before many days you shall be baptized with the Holy Spirit." So when they had come together, they asked him, "Lord, will you at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?" He said to them, "It is not for you to know times or seasons which the Father has fixed by his own authority. But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria and to the end of the earth." And when he had said this, as they were looking on, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. And while they were gazing into heaven as he went, behold, two men stood by them in white robes, and said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking into heaven? This Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven."

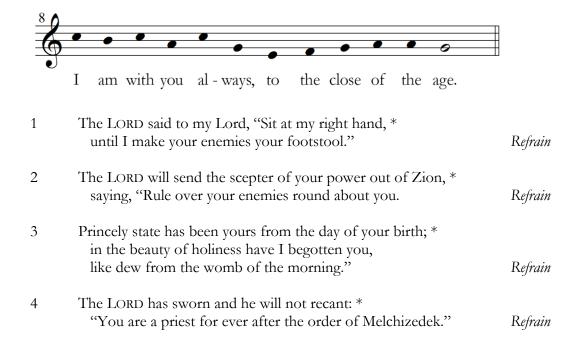
After the Lesson, the Reader says

The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Psalm 110:1-4

The Congregation remains seated. The Cantor sings the Refrain and the Congregation repeats it. Then the Choir sings the psalm verses to Anglican chant by Charles Villiers Stanford, and the Congregation sings the Refrain.

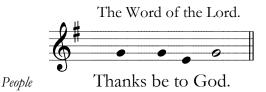


The second Lesson, Ephesians 1:15–23, is now sung.

For this reason, because I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, I do not cease to give thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers, that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and of revelation in the knowledge of him, having the eyes of your hearts enlightened, that you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power in us who believe, according to the working of his great might which he accomplished in Christ when he raised him from the dead and made him sit at his right hand in the heavenly places, far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in that which is to

come; and he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, which is his body, the fulness of him who fills all in all.

After the Lesson, the Reader sings



The Gospel Acclamation

All stand. The ministers of the assembly prepare for the Gospel while the appointed antiphon is sung.

Alleluia. Dominus in Sina in sancto, ascendens in altum, captivam duxit captivitatem. Alleluia

Alleluia. The Lord is in Sinai, in the holy place; ascending on high, he has led captivity captive. Alleluia.

The Holy Gospel

People

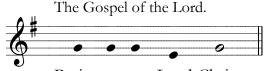
A Minister proclaims the Gospel, first singing



The appointed Gospel, Luke 24:44–53, is now proclaimed.

Then Jesus said to his disciples, "These are my words which I spoke to you, while I was still with you, that everything written about me in the law of Moses and the prophets and the psalms must be fulfilled." Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, and said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Christ should suffer and on the third day rise from the dead, and that repentance and forgiveness of sins should be preached in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things. And behold, I send the promise of my Father upon you; but stay in the city, until you are clothed with power from on high." Then he led them out as far as Bethany, and lifting up his hands he blessed them. While he blessed them, he parted from them, and was carried up into heaven. And they returned to Jerusalem with great joy, and were continually in the temple blessing God.

After the Gospel, the Minister sings



People

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Sermon

The Right Reverend Matthew Foster Heyd

The Bishop of New York

The Presentation and Examination of the Candidates

The Bishop says

The Candidates will now be presented.

Presenters We present these persons for Confirmation.

Presenter I present N.N. who desires to reaffirm her baptismal vows.

The Bishop asks the following questions of the candidates.

Question Do you reaffirm your renunciation of evil?

Answer I do.

Question Do you renew your commitment to Jesus Christ?

Answer I do, and with God's grace I will follow him as my Savior

and Lord.

After all have been presented, the Bishop addresses the Congregation, saying

Will you who witness these vows do all in your power to

support these persons in their life in Christ?

All We will.

Bishop Let us join with those who are committing themselves to

Christ and renew our own baptismal covenant.

The Baptismal Covenant

The Bishop says

Do you believe in God the Father?

People I believe in God, the Father almighty,

creator of heaven and earth.

Bishop Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

People I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit

and born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate,

was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended to the dead.

On the third day he rose again.

He ascended into heaven,

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

Bishop Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

People I believe in the Holy Spirit,

the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body,

and the life everlasting.

Bishop Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in

the breaking of bread, and in the prayers?

People I will, with God's help.

Bishop Will you persevere in resisting evil, and, whenever you fall into

sin, repent and return to the Lord?

People I will, with God's help.

Bishop Will you proclaim by word and example the Good News of

God in Christ?

People I will, with God's help.

Bishop Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your

neighbor as yourself?

People I will, with God's help.

Bishop Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and

respect the dignity of every human being?

People I will, with God's help.

Prayers for the Candidates

The Bishop then says to the Congregation

Let us now pray for these persons who have renewed their commitment to Christ.

A Minister leads the following petitions.

Minister Deliver them, O Lord, from the way of sin and death.

People Lord, hear our prayer.

Minister Open their hearts to your grace and truth.

People Lord, hear our prayer.

Minister Fill them with your holy and life-giving Spirit.

People Lord, hear our prayer.

Minister Keep them in the faith and communion of your holy Church.

People Lord, hear our prayer.

Minister Teach them to love others in the power of the Spirit.

People Lord, hear our prayer.

Minister Send them into the world in witness to your love.

People Lord, hear our prayer.

Minister Bring them to the fullness of your peace and glory.

People Lord, hear our prayer.

Silence is kept. Then the Bishop says

Almighty God, we thank you that by the death and resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ you have overcome sin and brought us to yourself, and that by the sealing of your Holy Spirit you have bound us to your service. Renew in these your servants the covenant you made with them at their Baptism. Send them forth in the power of that Spirit to perform the service you set before them; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

All AMEN.

For Confirmation

The Bishop lays hands upon the Candidate and says

Defend, O Lord, your servant N. with your heavenly grace, that s/he may continue yours for ever, and daily increase in your Holy Spirit more and more, until s/he comes to your everlasting Kingdom.

All AMEN.

For Reaffirmation

The Bishop says

N., may the Holy Spirit, who has begun a good work in you, direct and uphold you in the service of Christ and his kingdom.

All AMEN.

Then the Bishop says

Almighty and everliving God, let your fatherly hand ever be over these your servants; let your Holy Spirit ever be with them; and so lead them in the knowledge and obedience of your Word, that they may serve you in this life, and dwell with you in the life to come; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All AMEN.

The Peace

The Bishop says

The Peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you.

Then the Ministers and People may share with each other a sign of Christ's peace.

THE HOLY COMMUNION

The Preparation of the Gifts

The Congregation is seated as the Choir sings the appointed song and the offerings of the assembly are collected.

Ascendit Deus in jubilatione, Dominus in voce tubae, alleluia. God has gone up with a shout, the Lord with the sound of the ram's-horn, alleluia.

Hymn: Lord, enthroned in heavenly splendor

The Hymnal 1982 #307

All stand and sing the hymn while the ushers bring forward the People's gifts of bread, wine, and money, and the Altar is prepared.

The Great Thanksgiving

The People stand. The Bishop turns to face the Congregation and says

The Lord be with you.

People And also with you. Bishop Lift up your hearts.

People We lift them to the Lord.

Bishop Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. People It is right to give him thanks and praise.

The Bishop continues

It is truly right to glorify you, Father, and to give you thanks; for you alone are God, living and true, dwelling in light inaccessible from before time and for ever.

Fountain of life and source of all goodness, you made all things and fill them with your blessing; you created them to rejoice in the splendor of your radiance.

Countless throngs of angels stand before you to serve you night and day; and, beholding the glory of your presence, they offer you unceasing praise. Joining with them, and giving voice to every creature under heaven, we acclaim you, and glorify your Name, as we sing

The Choir sings Sanctus and Benedictus. The setting is by Palestrina.

Sanctus, Sanctus, Sanctus, Dominus Deus Sabaoth.
Hosanna in excelsis.
Benedictus qui venit in nomine Domini.
Hosanna in excelsis.

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

The People stand or kneel. Then the Bishop continues

We acclaim you, holy Lord, glorious in power. Your mighty works reveal your wisdom and love. You formed us in your own image, giving the whole world into our care, so that, in obedience to you, our Creator, we might rule and serve all your creatures. When our disobedience took us far from you, you did not abandon us to the power of death. In your mercy you came to our help, so that in seeking you we might find you. Again and again you called us into covenant with you, and through the prophets you taught us to hope for salvation.

Father, you loved the world so much that in the fullness of time you sent your only Son to be our Savior. Incarnate by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, he lived as one of us, yet without sin. To the poor he proclaimed the good news of salvation; to prisoners, freedom; to the sorrowful, joy. To fulfill your purpose he gave himself up to death; and, rising from the grave, destroyed death, and made the whole creation new.

And, that we might live no longer for ourselves, but for him who died and rose for us, he sent the Holy Spirit, his own first gift for those who believe, to complete his work in the world, and to bring to fulfillment the sanctification of all.

When the hour had come for him to be glorified by you, his heavenly Father, having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end; at supper with them he 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."

Father, we now celebrate this memorial of our redemption. Recalling Christ's death and his descent among the dead, proclaiming his resurrection and ascension to your right hand, awaiting his coming in glory; and offering to you, from the gifts you have given us, this bread and this cup, we praise you and we bless you.

The Bishop and the People say

We praise you, we bless you, we give thanks to you, and we pray to you, Lord our God.

The Bishop continues

Lord, we pray that in your goodness and mercy your Holy Spirit may A descend upon us, and upon these gifts, sanctifying them and showing them to be holy gifts for your holy people, the bread of life and the cup of salvation, the Body and Blood of your Son Jesus Christ.

Grant that all who share this bread and cup may become one body and one spirit, a living sacrifice in Christ, to the praise of your Name. Remember, Lord, your one holy catholic and apostolic Church, redeemed by the blood of your Christ. Reveal its unity, guard its faith, and preserve it in peace.

Remember Michael, our presiding bishop, and all who minister in your Church. Remember all your people, and those who seek your truth. Remember all who have died in the peace of Christ, and those whose faith is known to you alone; bring them into the place of eternal joy and light.

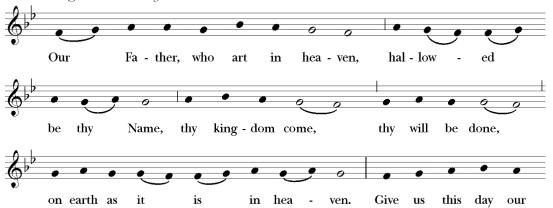
And grant that we may find our inheritance with the Blessed Virgin Mary, with patriarchs, prophets, apostles, martyrs, and all the saints who have found favor with you in ages past. We praise you in union with them and give you glory through your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

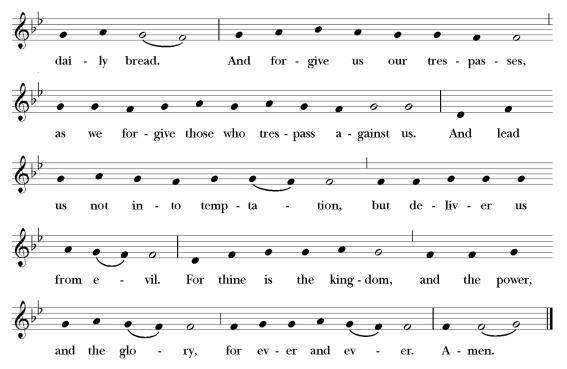
Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, all honor and glory are yours, Almighty God and Father, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, for ever and ever.

People AMEN.

Minister And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say

Then all sing the Lord's Prayer.

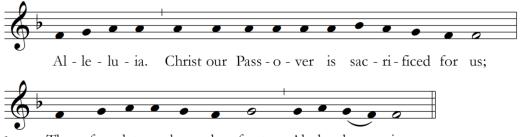




Setting: Plainsong; adapt. Charles Winfred Douglas (1867–1944)

The Breaking of the Bread

The Bishop breaks the consecrated Bread, and then a Minister sings



People There-fore let us keep the feast. Al-le-lu - ia.

Setting: Ambrosian Chant adapt. Mason Martens (1933–1991)

The Choir sings Agnus Dei. The setting is by Palestrina.

Agnus Dei, Lamb of God,

qui tollis peccata mundi; you take away the sins of the world;

miserere nobis. have mercy on us.

Agnus Dei, Lamb of God,

qui tollis peccata mundi; you take away the sins of the world;

miserere nobis. have mercy on us.

Agnus Dei, Lamb of God,

qui tollis peccata mundi; you take away the sins of the world;

dona nobis pacem. grant us peace.

The Invitation

The Bishop invites the People to receive the Holy Communion.

We are all invited to the Lord's Table

Those who wish to receive Communion should proceed to the Communion rail, guided by the ushers.

At the rail, you may either stand or kneel.

In the Episcopal Church all baptized persons are invited to receive the Holy Communion.

Members of other Christian churches who are baptized are also invited to receive the Body and Blood of Christ.

Persons who do not wish to receive the Holy Communion are also invited to come forward to receive a blessing.

If you would like someone to bring you
Communion at your seat, please notify an usher.

We would be happy to accommodate you.

The Communion Song and Motet

As the ministration of Communion begins, the Cantor sings the appointed antiphon.

Signa eos These signs

qui in me credunt haec sequentur: will accompany those who believe:

daemonia eicient: They will cast out demons,

super aegros manus imponent, and when they lay their hands upon the sick,

et bene habebunt. Alleluia. these will recover. Alleluia..

Then the Choir sings the motet, Coelos ascendit hodie. The setting is by Charles Villiers Stanford.

Coelos ascendit hodie, Jesus Christus Rex gloriae, sedet ad patris dexteram, Alleluia! Gubernat coelum et teram, Alleluia! Jam finem habent omnia, paatris Davidis carmina, Alleluia! Jam Dominus cum Domino, sedet in Dei solio, in hoc triumpho maximo, Alleluia! Benedicamus Domino, laudatur Sancta Trinitas Deo dicamus gratia, Alleluia! Amen.

Today Jesus Christ, the King of glory, has ascended into the heavens, Alleluia! He sits at the Father's right hand, ruling heaven and earth, Alleluia! Now are David's songs fulfilled, now is the Lord with his Lord, Alleluia! He sits upon the royal throne of God, in this his greatest triumph, Alleluia! Let us bless the Lord: let the Holy Trinity be praised, let us give thanks to the Lord. Alleluia! Amen.

Hymn: A hymn of glory let us sing

The Congregation stands and sings the hymn.

The Postcommunion Prayer

The People may stand or kneel. The Bishop says

Let us pray.

Bishop Almighty and everliving God,

All 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.

The Pontifical Blessing

The People may stand or kneel. The Bishop prays

Our help is in the Name of the Lord;

People The maker of heaven and earth.

Bishop Blessed be the Name of the Lord; People From this time forth for evermore.

Bishop The blessing, mercy, and grace of God Almighty, ♥ the Father, the

Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever.

People Amen.

Welcome and Announcements

All are seated while the Priest-in-Charge welcomes the People. Refreshments are served in Saint Joseph's Hall immediately following the service. All are welcome.

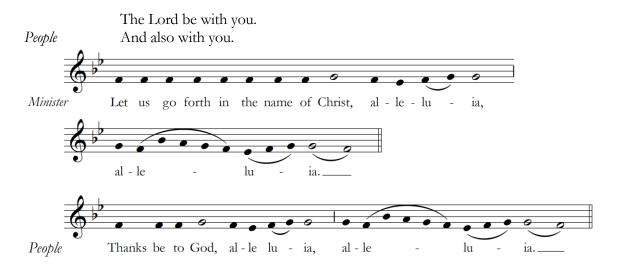
Hymn: The Lord ascendeth up on high

The Hymnal 1982 #219

The Congregation stands and sings the hymn.

The Dismissal

A Minister dismisses the assembly, first singing



The Postlude

Improvisation

We are grateful for your help

We are enormously grateful to all the members and friends of Saint Mary's from far and wide who have supported the parish during the extraordinary events of the past three years. Your gifts have encouraged us, and they have kept us going.

If you have not yet done so, we hope that you will make a pledge to the parish for 2024 at this time. Pledge cards may be found on the ushers' table at the Forty-sixth Street entrance to the church. If you can make an additional donation to support the parish at this time, we would happily receive it. Donations may be made by scanning the QR code below with your smartphone; or by arranging to pay in other ways by contacting our parish administrator, Christopher Howatt, who would be happy to assist you. He may be reached at 212-869-5830 x 10.



The Church of Saint Mary the Virgin

145 West Forty-sixth Street New York, New York 10036-8502 Web: www.stmvirgin.org Phone: 212.869.5830

The Parish Clergy

The Reverend Sammy Wood, priest-in-charge
The Reverend James Ross Smith, associate rector
The Reverend Dr. Matthew Daniel Jacobson, assistant to the rector
The Reverend Dr. Peter Ross Powell, assisting priest

The Music Program

Dr. David Hurd, organist & music director Mr. Lawrence Trupiano, organ curator

The Parish Staff

Mr. Christopher Howatt, parish administrator Mr. Shalim Peña, Mr. Marcos Orengo Roman, Mr. Jorge Trujillo, sextons Ms. MaryJane Boland, assistant to the priest-in-charge for special projects

The Board of Trustees

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Saint Mary's ministries are supported by the financial gifts of those who worship here.