

At the end of supper, taking the cup of wine, he gave you thanks, 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. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

Great is the mystery of faith:

The Celebrant and People say

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

The Celebrant continues

Father, we plead with confidence his sacrifice made once for all upon the cross; we remember his dying and rising in glory, and we rejoice that he intercedes for us at your right hand. Pour out your Holy Spirit as we bring before you these gifts of your creation; may they be for us the body and blood of your dear Son. As we eat and drink these holy things in your presence, form us into the likeness of Christ, and build us into a living temple to your glory. Remember Lord your Church in every land. Reveal her unity, guard her faith, and preserve her in peace. Bring us at the last with John and all the saints to the vision of that eternal splendor for which you have created us; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, by him, with him, and in him, with all who stand before you in earth and heaven, we worship you, Father almighty, in songs of everlasting praise:

The Celebrant and People say

Blessing and honor and glory and power be yours for ever and ever. *Amen.*

The Celebrant continues

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 Breaking of the Bread

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept.

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.
People Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

The Celebrant continues

The Gifts of God for the People of God. (Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.)

All people are invited forward to share in our communion. If you are not yet baptized, please stand with your arms crossed over your chest for a blessing from one of the clergy.

The Sending of Lay Eucharistic Visitors

Following communion, Eucharistic Visitors to our homebound members may be sent forth with the following prayer.

Celebrant **In the name of St. John’s Cathedral, I send you forth bearing** these holy gifts, that those to whom you go may share with us in **the communion of Christ’s Body and Blood.**
People We who are many are one body because we all share one bread, one cup.

The Postcommunion Prayer

Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Blessing

May Almighty God watch over you who wait for Christ to come again, you who long to see His face. And may the blessing of God Almighty, Father, Son and Holy Spirit be among you and remain with you always. *Amen.*

In Procession, Hymn 66 “Come, thou long expected Jesus”

Stuttgart

The Dismissal

Alleluia, alleluia! Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia!

† † †

The flowers in Cummings Chapel and at the High Altar are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Gary F. Keys, Sr., by Beverly Keys.

The flowers in Holy Communion Chapel are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Amelia Shields DeMuth, Amelia K. Ferber, Bayard Shields Ferber, Carl Robertson Kurtz, Jr., Bayard Benoit Shields, Paul L. Ferber, and other members of the Shields and Ferber families, by Paul S. Ferber.

† † †

THE HOLY EUCHARIST THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT December 20, 2015 - 8 a.m.

A joyous and warm welcome to our visitors and guests. Please know how happy our Cathedral community is to have you worship with us. We’d love to know our guests, so please fill out a visitor card and drop it in the offering plate as it comes by.

On each of the four Sundays of Advent, a candle is lit on the Advent wreath as the light of Christ comes into the world.

In Procession, Hymn 54 ““Savior of the nations, come!”

Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

Celebrant Blessed be our God.
People For ever and ever. Amen.

Celebrant and People

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Celebrant and the People say together

The Magnificat

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord, my spirit rejoices in God my Savior; for he has looked with favor on his lowly servant. From this day all generations will call me blessed: the Almighty has done great things for me, and holy is his Name. He has mercy on those who fear him in every generation. He has shown the strength of his arm, he has scattered the proud in their conceit. He has cast down the mighty from their thrones, and has lifted up the lowly. He has filled the hungry with good things, and the rich he has sent away empty. He has come to the help of his servant Israel, for he has remembered his promise of mercy, the promise he made to our fathers, to Abraham and his children for ever.

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.
People And also with you.
Celebrant Let us pray.

The Celebrant continues

Purify our conscience, Almighty God, by your daily visitation, that your Son Jesus Christ, at his coming, may find in us a mansion prepared for himself; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

The People are seated.

The Lesson

Hebrews 10:5-10

Lector A Reading from the Letter to the Hebrews.

Consequently, when Christ came into the world, he said, "Sacrifices and offerings you have not desired, but a body you have prepared for me; in burnt offerings and sin offerings you have taken no pleasure. Then I said, 'See, God, I have come to do your will, O God' (in the scroll of the book it is written of me)." When he said above, "You have neither desired nor taken pleasure in sacrifices and offerings and burnt offerings and sin offerings" (these are offered according to the law), then he added, "See, I have come to do your will." He abolishes the first in order to establish the second. And it is by God's will that we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

Lector The Word of the Lord.
People Thanks be to God.

A period of silence for reflection follows the reading.

The Psalm is read in unison.

Psalm 80:1-7

Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph like a flock; *
shine forth, you that are enthroned upon the cherubim.

In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin, and Manasseh, *
stir up your strength and come to help us.

Restore us, O God of hosts; *
show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.

O LORD God of hosts, *
how long will you be angered despite the prayers of your people?

You have fed them with the bread of tears; *
you have given them bowls of tears to drink.

You have made us the derision of our neighbors, *
and our enemies laugh us to scorn.

Restore us, O God of hosts; *
show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.

A period of silence for reflection follows the reading.

The Gospel Luke 1:39-55

Gospeler The Holy Gospel of our Saviour Jesus Christ according to Luke.
People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit and exclaimed with a loud cry, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me? For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leaped for joy. And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her by the Lord." And Mary said, "My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, for he has looked with favor on the lowliness of his servant. Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed; for the Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy is his name. His mercy is for those who fear him from generation to generation. He has shown strength with his arm; he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts. He has brought down the powerful from their thrones, and lifted up the lowly; he has filled the hungry with good things, and sent the rich away empty. He has helped his servant Israel, in remembrance of his mercy, according to the promise he made to our ancestors, to Abraham and to his descendants forever."

Gospeler The Gospel of the Lord.
People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The People are seated.

The Sermon The Reverend Canon David Erickson

A period of silence for reflection follows the sermon.

The People stand.

The Nicene Creed

The Celebrant and People say

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. 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 *All remain standing as able.*

The Leader and People pray responsively

Hear us, good Lord, as we pray to you with the words, Lord, come among us.

Almighty God, we ask you to guide us as we seek to serve you and to bring about your peace in this broken world. Help us to find a way to end the violence and hatred that threaten the safety of our own nation and that plague the Middle East and Europe. Guide us to administer justice. Keep our loved ones safe. Help us to show both mercy and compassion. You alone can guide us. Lord, we wait for you.
Lord, come among us.

Be present with those who are sick or suffering in any way. Bless those who mourn. Comfort the lonely in this holiday season and come to the aid of those who are poor and in need. I invite you to speak aloud the names of those in **need....Lord, we wait for you.**
Lord, come among us.

Embrace the souls of those who have died. May they see you face to face. I **invite you to speak aloud the names of those who have died....Lord, we wait for you.**
Lord, come among us.

Bless this community, Lord, as we seek to worship and serve you without fear. Help us to make space for you in our busy lives so that we may be ready for the coming of your Son, our Savior, Jesus Christ. Lord, we wait for you.
Lord, come among us.

We give you thanks for the many gifts that you have given us: for the love of family and friends, for our children, for the gifts of music, art and literature, for the freedom to worship you, and for this beautiful cathedral. Lord, we wait for you.
Lord, come among us.

The Celebrant concludes the prayers.

The Confession of Sin

The People kneel.

The Celebrant says

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence

Celebrant and People

Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.

The Celebrant says

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. *Amen.*

The Peace

The People stand.

Celebrant The peace of Christ be always with you.
People And also with you.

The Clergy and People greet one another in the name of the Lord.

Welcome and Announcements

THE HOLY COMMUNION

Representatives of the congregation bring forward the People's offerings of money, and other gifts. The People stand when the offerings are brought forward and placed on the Altar.

Hymn 380, stanza 3 **“Praise God, from whom all blessings flow”** *Old 100th*

The Great Thanksgiving, from the Prayer Book of the Church of England

The People stand.

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 him thanks and praise.

The Celebrant continues

Blessed are you, Lord God, our light and our salvation; to you be glory and praise for ever!

From the beginning you have created all things and all your works echo the silent music of your praise. In the fullness of time you made us in your image, the crown of all creation.

You give us breath and speech that with angels and archangels and all the powers of heaven we may find a voice to sing your praise:

The Celebrant and People say

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

The People stand or kneel. The Celebrant continues

How wonderful the work of your hands, O Lord! As a mother tenderly gathers her children you embraced a people as your own. When they turned away and rebelled your love remained steadfast. From them you raised up Jesus our Saviour, born of Mary, to be the living bread, in whom all our hungers are satisfied. He offered his life for sinners and with a love stronger than death he opened wide his arms on the cross.

At the following words concerning the bread, the Celebrant is to hold it or lay a hand upon it; and at the words concerning the cup, to hold or place a hand upon the cup and any other vessel containing wine to be consecrated.

On the night before he died, he came to supper with his friends, and taking bread, he gave you thanks. He broke it and gave it to them, saying: Take eat: this is my body which is given for you.