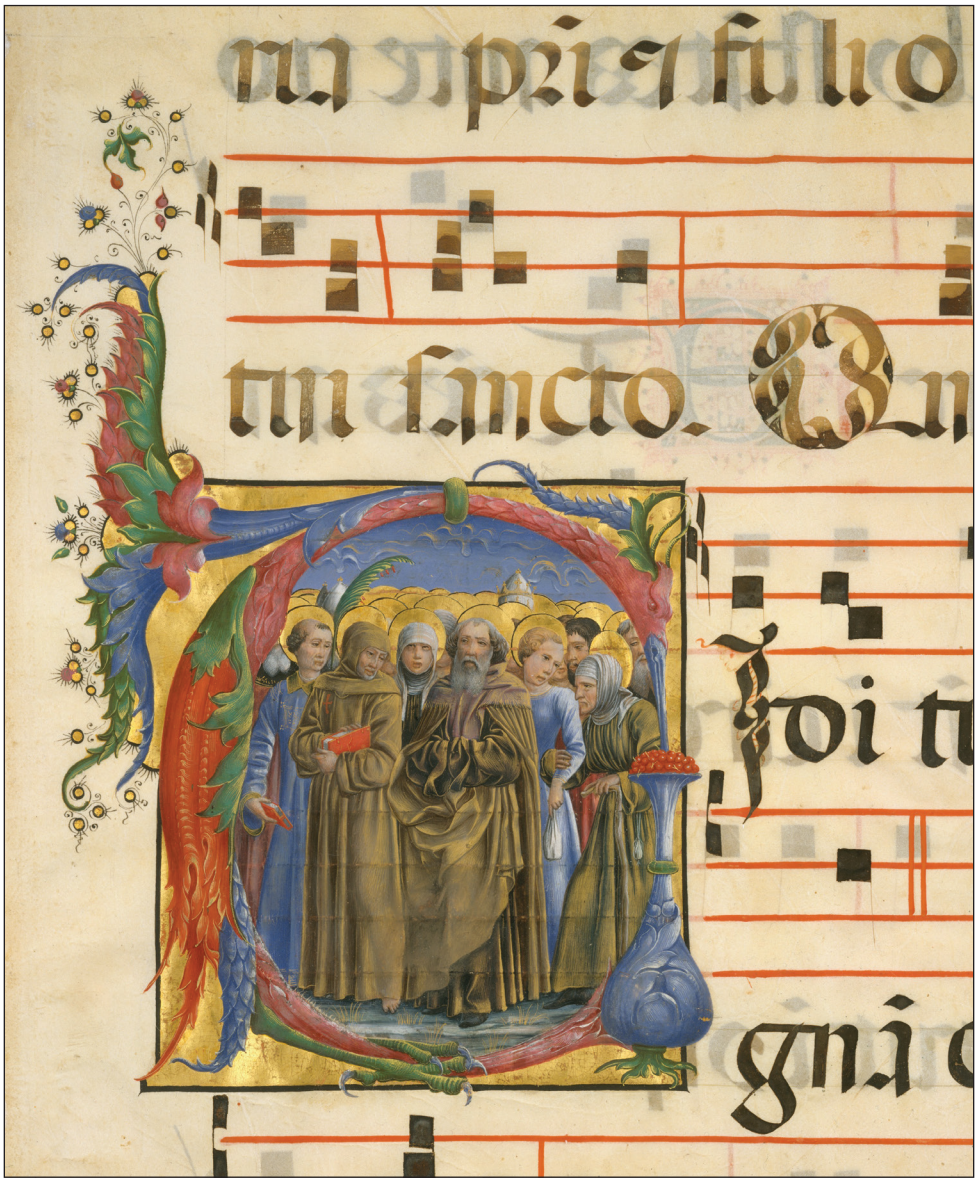
All Saints' Day

Holy Eucharist

November 1, 2026, at 11:15 am | livestreamed

ST. COLUMBA'S

EPISCOPAL CHURCH

COVER ART: OPEN ACCESS | THE MET | PUBLIC DOMAIN

Manuscript Illumination with All Saints in an Initial V, from an Antiphonary.
Attributed to Cosmè Tura (Cosimo di Domenico di Bonaventura), Ferrara, Italy, 1450–60.

The Word of God

Please keep a prayerful quiet as we prepare for worship.
The People's responses are printed in bold.

Prelude The Virginia Chamber Brass

Lawrence Oates and Ethan Bartley, trumpet ~ Karin Berkley, horn
David Sciannella, trombone ~ Paul Erion, tuba ~ William Richards, timpani

Please stand as you are able.

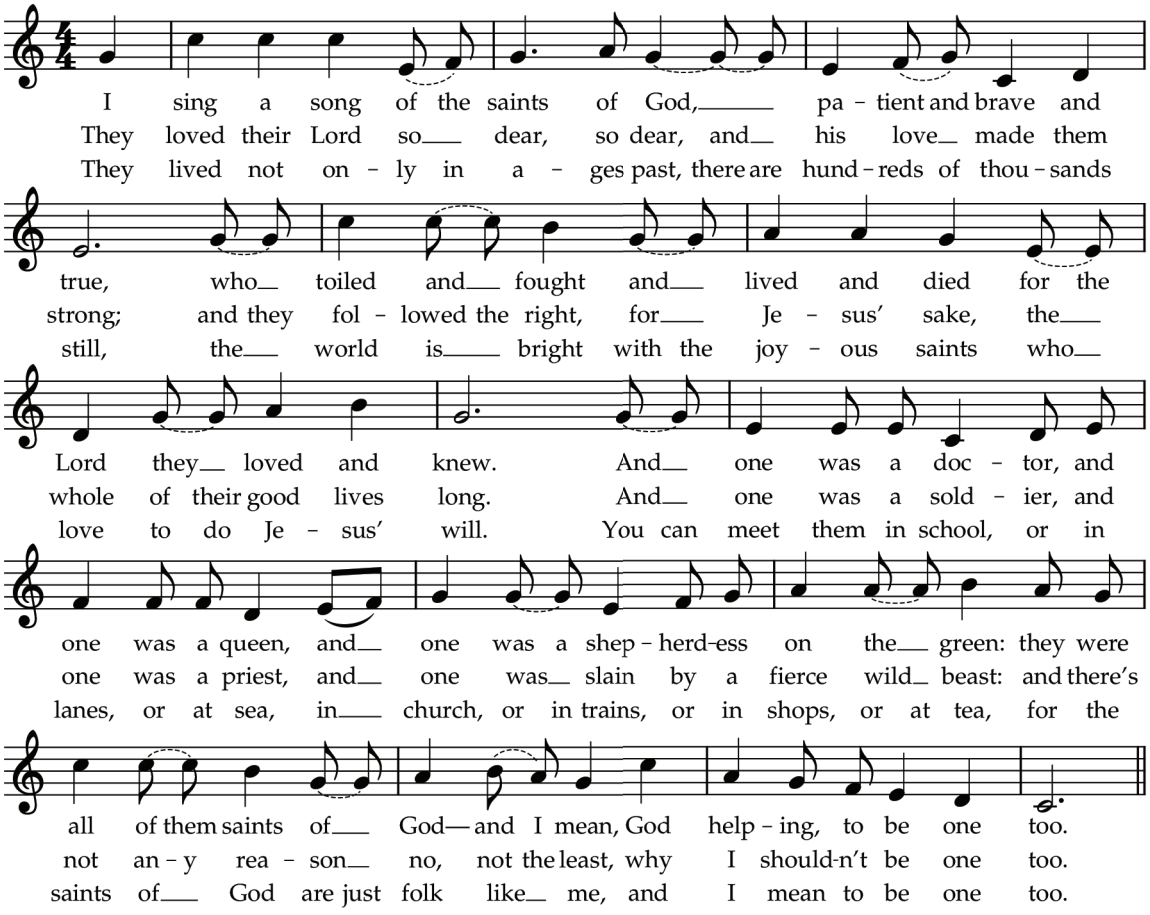
Hymn 287 *verses 1–4* For all the saints, who from their labors rest *Sine Nomine*

Opening Acclamation

Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

Collect for Purity

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 Savior. **Amen.**

Song of Praise Hymn 293 I sing a song of the saints of God *Grand Isle*

—Text: Lesbia Scott (1898–1986), alt.

Collect of the Day

God be with you.
And also with you.
Let us pray.

Almighty God, you have knit together your elect in one communion and fellowship in the mystical body of your Son Jesus Christ: Give us grace so to follow your blessed saints in all virtuous and godly living, that we may come to those ineffable joys that you have prepared for those who truly love you; through Jesus Christ our Savior, who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, in glory everlasting. **Amen.**

A Prayer for the Election

God of every nation and people, we lift before you the election in the days ahead. We pray for every voter, that each may cast a ballot freely and without fear. We pray for election officials and poll workers, that they may do their work with integrity, patience, and safety. We pray for every candidate, that they may seek the common good and accept the will of the people with grace. We pray for those who hold power, that they may use it to protect and not to threaten. Calm our anxious hearts. Where there is fear, grant courage. Where there is division, grant understanding. Where there is anger, grant peace. Help us to love our neighbors, including those with whom we disagree, and to remember that our ultimate hope rests not in any ruler or party, but in you. In your holy name we pray. **Amen.**

First Reading *seated as you are able* Revelation 7:9-17

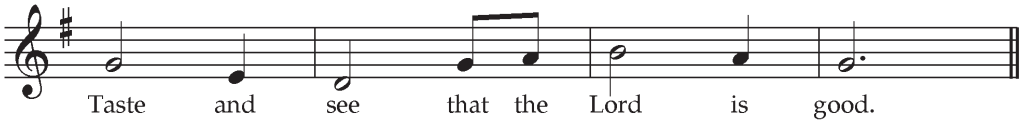
After this I, John, looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, robed in white, with palm branches in their hands. They cried out in a loud voice, saying, "Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb!" And all the angels stood around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, singing, "Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be to our God forever and ever! Amen."

Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, "Who are these, robed in white, and where have they come from?" I said to him, "Sir, you are the one that knows." Then he said to me, "These are they who have come out of the great ordeal; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

"For this reason they are before the throne of God, and worship him day and night within his temple, and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them. They will hunger no more, and thirst no more; the sun will not strike them, nor any scorching heat; for the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd, and he will guide them to springs of the water of life, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

For the Word of God in scripture, for the Word of God among us, for the Word of God within us,
Thanks be to God.

Psalm 34:1-8 Carl P. Daw, Jr. (b. 1944) and Kevin R. Hackett (b. 1956)

The People sing the antiphon after it has been introduced by the Choir and where indicated.

I will bless God at all times, * and praise shall ever be in my mouth.
I will glory in the Most High; * let the humble hear and rejoice.
Proclaim with me the greatness of God; * let us exalt God's Name together. *Antiphon*

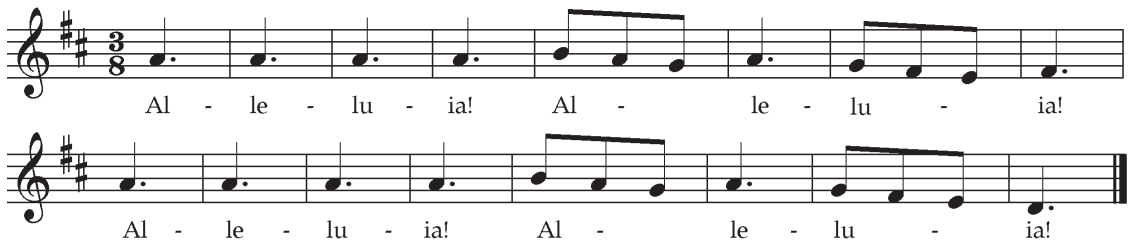
I sought, and God answered me * and delivered me out of all my terror.
Look upon the Most High and be radiant, * and let not your faces be ashamed.
I called in my affliction, and God heard me * and saved me from all my troubles. *Antiphon*

The angels encompass those who fear God, * and God will deliver them.
Taste and see that God is good; * happy are they who trust in the Most High! *Antiphon*

Second Reading 1 John 3:1-3

See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. Beloved, we are God's children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is. And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

For the Word of God in scripture, for the Word of God among us, for the Word of God within us,
Thanks be to God.

Gospel Alleluia *standing as you are able* Norah Duncan

The Gospel Matthew 5:1-12

The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to Matthew.
Glory to you, Lord Christ.

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying: "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted. Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth. Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled. Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy. Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God. Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God. Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you."

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

All repeat the sung alleluia.

Sermon The Rev. Dr. Hillary Raining

Please be seated as able at the invitation of the preacher. A period of silence will be observed after the sermon.

Renewal of Baptismal Vows *standing as you are able*

Presider Dear friends: Through Baptism we are born again into the life of God's Kingdom and brought into the company of all the saints. I call upon you, therefore, on this holy day, to renew the solemn promises and vows of Holy Baptism, by which we once renounced Satan and all his works, and promised to serve God faithfully.

Do you reaffirm your renunciation of evil and renew your commitment to Jesus Christ? **I do.**

Do you believe in God the Father?
I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

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

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?
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.

Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers? **I will, with God's help.**

Will you persevere in resisting evil, and, whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord?
I will, with God's help.

Will you proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ? **I will, with God's help.**

Will you cherish the wondrous works of God, and protect the beauty and integrity of all creation?
I will, with God's help.

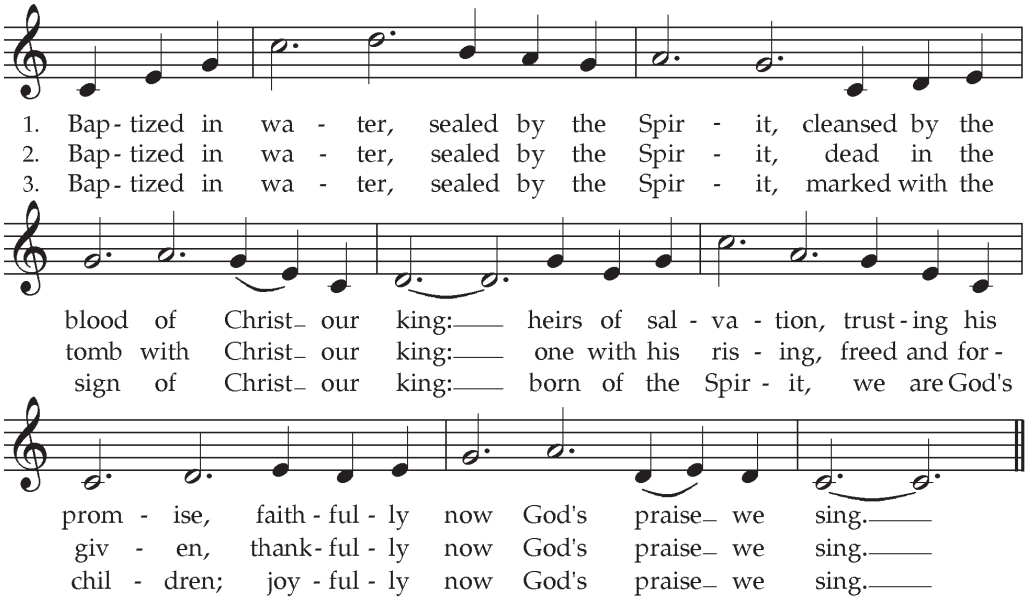
Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as yourself?
I will, with God's help.

Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being? **I will, with God's help.**

May Almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given us a new birth by water and the Holy Spirit, and bestowed upon us the forgiveness of sins, keep us in eternal life by his grace, in Christ Jesus our Lord. **Amen.**

Hymn Baptized in water *Bunessan*

The Presider sprinkles the congregation with baptismal water, a sign of our renewed baptismal covenant.



— Text: Michael Saward (1932–2015)

Prayers of the People

Intercessor Gracious God, we give you thanks for the gift of beloved community that is your church. Guard and guide it, that in our worship and our witness we may be true heralds of the Gospel. Hear our prayer, Gracious One, **for we put our trust in you.**

Sovereign God, we ask your blessing on our community and this nation. Instruct those entrusted with authority to govern us in the ways of love and mercy, so that the dignity of all people may be realized to the glory of your Name. Hear our prayer, Sovereign One, **for we put our trust in you.**

Loving God, we cry out to you for peace in the world. We pray especially for victims of war and violence in eastern Europe, the Middle East, and Africa, that you will comfort and console them amid their grief and terror. Stir up in us renewed courage to work for justice and peace for the benefit of all. Hear our prayer, Loving One, **for we put our trust in you.**

Merciful God, remember in your compassion all those who are sick, unhoused, lonely, or suffering any kind of grief or trouble. We pray especially for . . . and for those we name aloud or in the silence of our hearts . . . May your tender love and mercy be made known through the care and concern we show to them. Hear our prayer, Merciful One, **for we put our trust in you.**

Generous God, we thank you for the many blessings you have given us. We rejoice over . . . and those gifts we name aloud or in the silence of our hearts . . . May we follow your example and give joyfully to others. Hear our prayer, Generous One, **for we put our trust in you.**

Saving God, we commend to your care all who have died, especially . . . and those dear to us whom we name aloud or in the silence of our hearts . . . May your will for them be fulfilled; and we pray that we may share with Columba and all your saints in your eternal kingdom. Hear our prayer, Saving One, **for we put our trust in you.**

Almighty and eternal God, ruler of all things in heaven and on earth: Mercifully accept the prayers of your people, and strengthen us to do your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Confession and Absolution *standing or kneeling as you are able*

Deacon Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence may be kept.

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.

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.**

Peace

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

All greet one another in the name of Jesus Christ, and are seated as able for the announcements.

The Holy Communion

At the Offertory

The Holy Spirit inspires us to give generously, to extend Christ's mission in this place and the wider world. Please visit http://tinyurl.com/GivetoSCEC to make your offering, or you can text to give using your phone. Text SCEC and AMOUNT to 73256 (QR code in Connections) and you will receive a text with instructions.

Anthem The Tree of Life — K. Lee Scott (b. 1950)
The St. Columba Singers — *Text: Erik Routley (1917–1982)*

There in God's garden stands the Tree of Wisdom, whose leaves hold forth the healing of the nations: Tree of all knowledge, Tree of all compassion, Tree of all beauty.

Its name is Jesus, name that says, "Our Savior!" There on its branches, see the scars of suff'ring; see where the tendrils of our human selfhood feed on its lifeblood.

Thorns not his own are tangled in its foliage; our greed has starved it, our despite has choked it. Yet, look! it lives! its grief has not destroyed it nor fire consumed it.

See how its branches reach to us in welcome; hear what the Voice says, "Come to me, ye weary! Give me your sickness, give me all your sorrow, I will give blessing."

This is my ending, this my resurrection; into your hands, Lord, I commit my spirit.
This have I searched for; now I can possess it. This ground is holy.

All heav'n is singing, "Thanks to Christ whose Passion offers in mercy healing, strength, and pardon. Peoples and nations, take it, take it freely!" Amen! My Master!

Please stand as you are able as the offering is brought forward and blessed.

The Great Thanksgiving

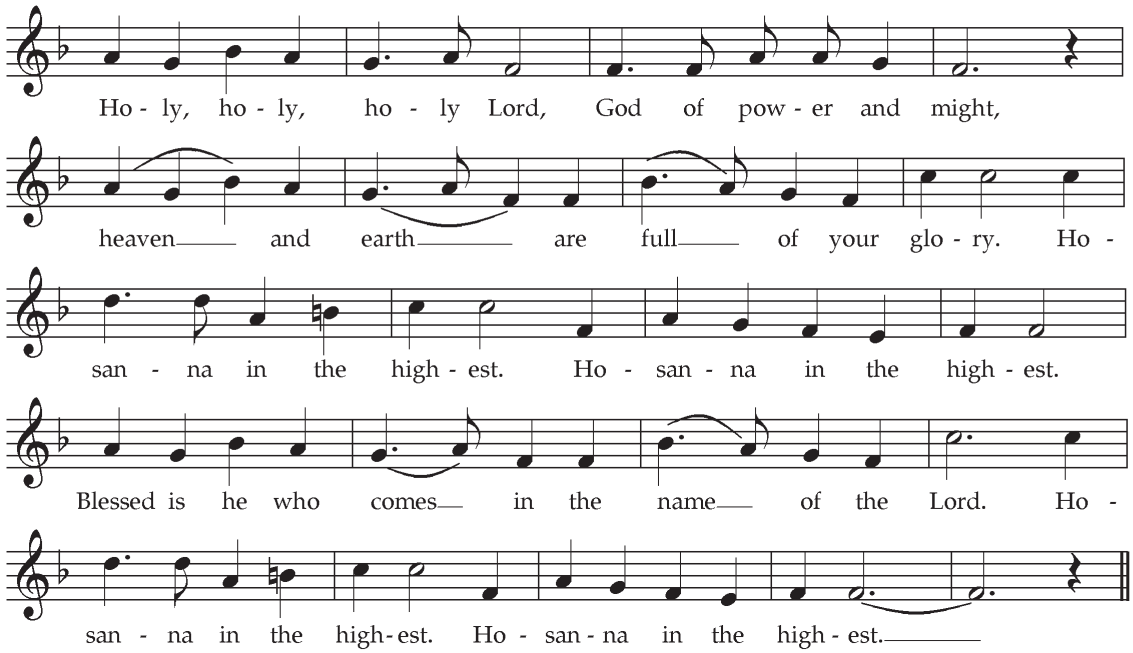
God be with you.
And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.
We lift them unto God.

Let us give thanks to our Sovereign God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Almighty God, Creator of heaven and earth. For in the multitude of your saints, you have surrounded us with a great cloud of witnesses, that we might rejoice in their fellowship, and run with endurance the race that is set before us; and, together with them, receive the crown of glory that never fades away. 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:

Sanctus and Benedictus *sung by all* Richard Proulx (1937–2010)



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 and Creator 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 Jesus 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 all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

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

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 God, now and for ever. **AMEN.**

The Lord's Prayer

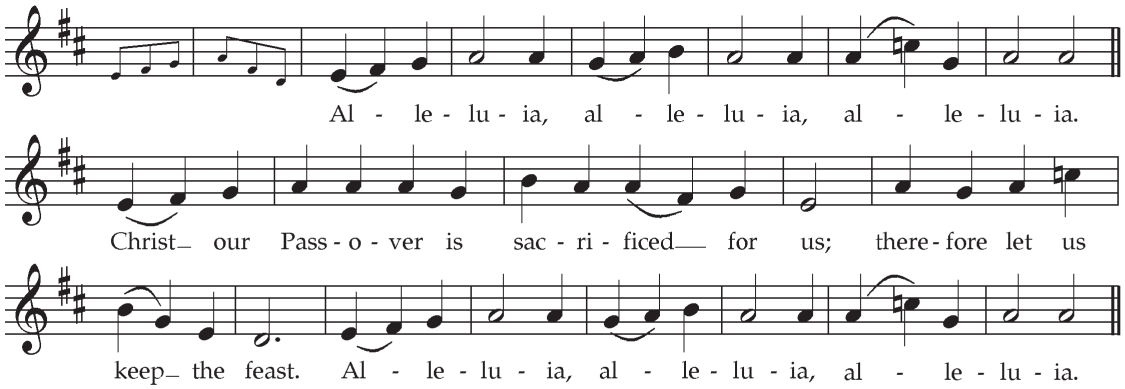
And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

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.

Breaking of the Bread

The bread is broken and silence observed.

Fraction Anthem

Gerald Near (b. 1942)

Invitation to Communion

The Gifts of God for the People of God. Whoever you are, wherever you find yourself on the journey of faith, you are welcome at Christ's table.

Communion

Christ welcomes all to communion. ■ *Receive the bread in open and outstretched hands and sip the wine, guiding the chalice to your lips.* ■ *If you do not want to sip the wine, it is also appropriate to dip your wafer gently into the wine, or to receive the bread only.* ■ *Respond to communion by saying "Amen."* ■ *If you prefer a blessing, cross your hands over your chest.* ■ *Gluten-free wafers are available at each communion station.* ■ *Baptism is offered several times a year; speak to a priest to learn more.*

Anthem

Close now thine eyes — Daniel E. Gawthrop (b. 1949)

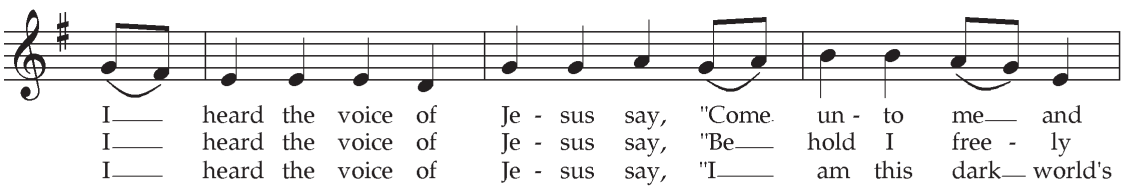
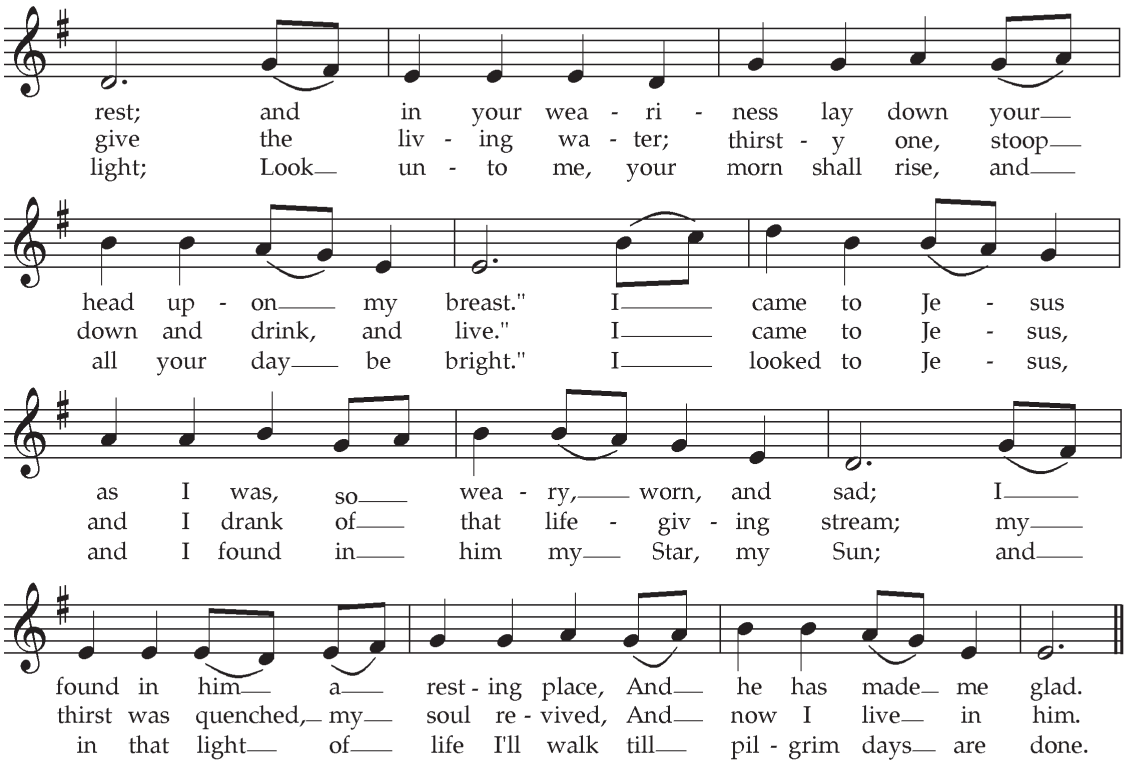
The St. Columba Singers — *Text: Francis Quarles (1592–1644)*

Close now thine eyes and rest secure, thy soul is safe enough, thy body sure. He that loves thee, he that keeps and guards thee, never slumbers, never sleeps. The smiling conscience in a sleeping breast has only peace, has only rest. The music and the mirth of kings are all but very discords when she sings. Then close thine eyes; close thine eyes. Close now thine eyes and rest secure, thy soul is safe enough, thy body sure.

Music

In paradisum — Charles Callahan (1951–2023)

Hymn

I heard the voice of Jesus say — *Kingsfold*

— Text: Horatius Bonar (1808–1889), alt.

Prayer after Communion *standing as you are able*

Let us pray.

Almighty and everliving God, 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.

Sending Forth of Eucharistic Ministers *when scheduled*

In the name of St. Columba's we send you forth bearing these holy gifts, that *N.* may share with us in the communion of Christ's body and blood. **We who are many are one body, as we all share one bread, one cup.**

Blessing

The People respond **Amen.**

Hymn 618 Ye watchers and ye holy ones *Lasst uns erfreuen*

Dismissal

The People respond **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.**

Postlude Marche Triomphale — Sigfrid Karg-Elert (1877–1933)
The Virginia Chamber Brass — arr. Gary Olson

Land Acknowledgement

We meet today on the traditional land of the first people of Nacotchtank, who were custodians of the land for thousands of years, caring for and nurturing it. We give thanks for their stewardship and lament the ways the Nacotchtank were removed from their ancestral home. We pray for all who live on this land and pay our respects to the native leaders past, present, and emerging. We also remember and lament that this plot of land was given to St. Columba's Episcopal Church by an enslaver and that the wealth created by the labor of enslaved persons helped to build this sanctuary.

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ST. COLUMBA'S
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

St. Columba's Episcopal Church is an inclusive Christian community of all ages that welcomes one and all, encourages spiritual curiosity, celebrates children and youth, and embraces the world in the spirit of God's justice and love.

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