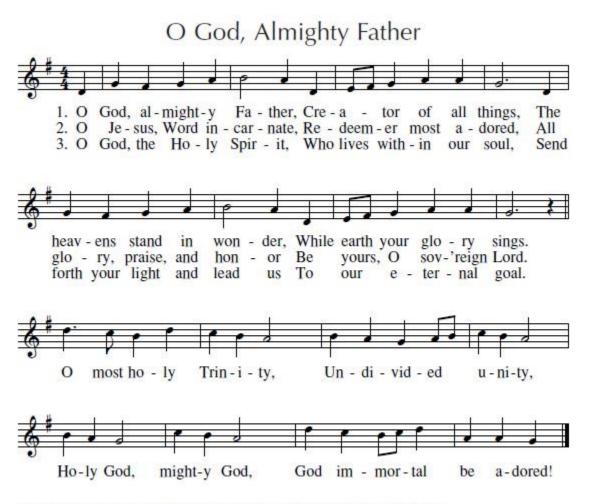
# Pride Mass and Blessing of Men Feast of the Holy Trinity June 15th 2025

#### Responses of the People are in bold

#### Welcome:

#### Opening Song: #485 O God, Almighty Father



Text: Gott Vater sei gepriesen; anon; & by Irvin Udulutsch, OFM Cap., fl. 1959, alt. © 1959, The Liturgical Press Tune: GOTT VATER SEI GEPRIESEN, 7 6 7 6 with refrain; Limburg Gesangbuch, 1838; harm, by Healey Willan, 1880-1968

Teri: Let us continue as one expression of God's people. + Father, Son, Holy Spirit. *Amen.* 

Teri: May the Love of God, the care and compassion of the Incarnation, and the Fire of the Holy Spirit be with you all. *And also with you.* 

#### **Penitential Rite**

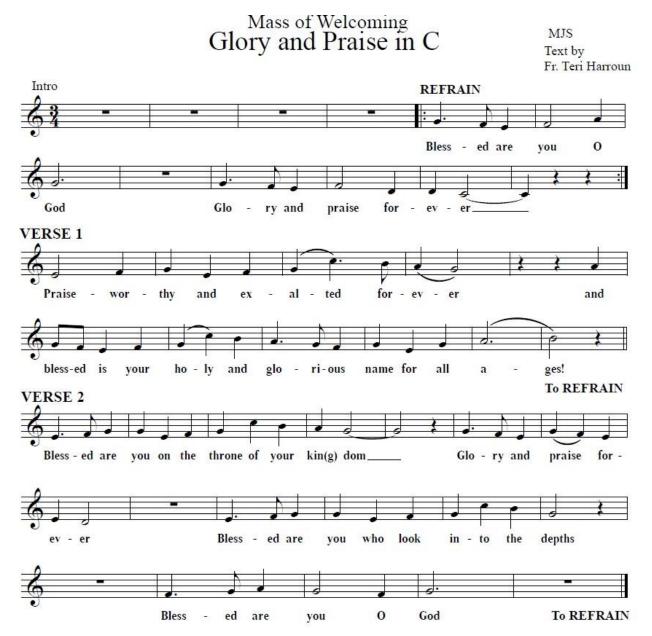
Let us turn to our God who drenches us in grace!

God, you are the first to say all are welcome. Lord have mercy. **Lord** have mercy

Christ, your words and actions show us what it means to be boldly inclusive. Christ have mercy *Christ have mercy* 

Spirit of God, you extend your grace before we even know that we need it. Lord have mercy **Lord have mercy** 

May our God of the Rainbow shower us with grace, be forever present to us, forgive our sins, and bring us to everlasting joy and light. *Amen.* 



# **Opening Prayer**

Teri: Let us pray....

Beloved God, whose love is rising up in us right now. You are a breath of fresh air, and the Breath within our breath. Each of us gathered here online and onsite is made in your image, and it is you who dreamed us into being. You believed in each of us before we even took our first breath, and you believe in us today. Breathe in us, oh breath of God. Speak through us. We remember that in 1969, some of our siblings and family spoke truth to

power and brought attention to the needs of our LGBTQ members of humanity. We ask for your Spirit to guide us today, and lead us in the ways to end all oppression, and to bring your healing and peace to the world. May all churches, temples, mosques, abbeys, synagogues, chapels, bars, beaches, movie theaters, forests, all places be safe spaces for everyone. We gather today in love, with love, with you God, our Beloved, knowing that you have called us here and your love is rising up in us, in each breath we take, right now. Your love won't let us down. In your Divine and Holy name let us pray; *Amen.* 

#### **First Reading:**

Mark: Our First Reading is from Light of Christ member Helen.

"The Easter Surprise"

It was Easter years ago when, as a 20-something, I became absorbed in the fiction of C.S. Lewis, the British writer and philosopher of the 1930's. It was a time in my life when I was feeling empty and conflicted about what I should do with my life. God seemed very absent from me even though I had dedicated myself to a religious life of service as a Mercy sister.

On the evening of Easter, I had just finished reading one of the last books in the Chronicles of Narnia. If you have ever read the series, you know that C.S. Lewis wove spiritual, even theological, meaning throughout the seven books that told of the adventures of three young siblings, the main characters. The setting is England during WWII. The children find a secret world called Narnia, while living in the home of an old professor outside of London by going through the back of a wardrobe. The author describes Narnia as a world full of animal creatures but is ruled by Aslan, the lion, who is a Christ figure. The three siblings have a cousin named Eustace who finds himself covered in dragon scales because of his aggressive and hostile behavior toward

others. The scales are meant to represent his and our sinful condition. At a final point in the book, Eustace realizes that he has treated others shamelessly and asks for forgiveness when he meets Aslan. In a very touching moment, Aslan forgives and the scales fall from Eustace, leaving him with the skin of a newborn. It is a moment of both reconciliation, baptism, and resurrection.

As I read this final chapter, I put myself into the story and became Eustace before the Christ figure. I felt God removing the scales from my body as he did with Eustace. I didn't necessarily have clarity about my life decisions but I had a deep and abiding feeling of God's presence, reassurance, and a sense of new possibilities. That scene left me full of love for and gratitude to God. In fact, I would say that my heart was bursting with joy and pleasure at that moment of renewal and perhaps resurrection. I was there in that story and stood there with the other onlookers and felt only love for Eustace and for God. I have never forgotten that moment. It was the Easter gift of God's presence that I didn't even know I needed. This experience, and so many others like it, confirmed for me that God uses the unpredictable to connect with us. Even a children's story can bring a message of surprise and renewal.

This has been a reading from Helen. *Thanks be to God.* 

#### Psalm 8: How Beautiful is your name

## Response: How Beautiful is Your Name in all the earth

The Beauty of Earth reveals Your Name.

Your glory extends beyond the heavens.

When I look to the cosmos, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars that you have set on course,

What is human life that you are mindful of us?

What is a mere human being, that you are for us?

How Beautiful is Your Name in all the Earth.

You share Your divinity with us,
Endowing us with radiance and dignity.
You entrust us to the works of Your hands,
Calling us to care for Earth.

How Beautiful is Your Name in all the earth.

We tend your sheep and oxen, all of them,
Even the wild animals of the plains and mountains.
We care for the birds in the air and the fish in the sea,
All that passes along the paths of the seas.
The beauty of Earth declares Your Name.

How beautiful is Your Name in all the earth.

#### Second Reading: Mark

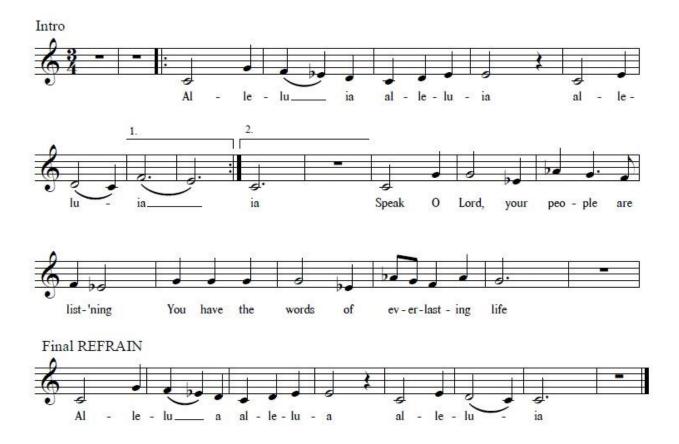
Our Second Reading is from Paul's Letter to the Romans (5:1-5)

Jesus the Christ revealed God's grace for all. So even though we make mistakes, we can be at peace with God. We live in grace even as our faith moves us to be our best selves. We joyfully look forward to the day on which we will all realize our full potential, radiating the fullness of God's glory. More than this, we even rejoice in our current hardships, for we know that suffering produces perseverance, and perseverance produces character, and character produces hope. This hope will not disappoint because of God's love that has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit. This is the Spirit that has been given to us, and who is with us, now and forever.

This has been a reading from the book of Romans. *Thanks be to God.* 

# Mass of Welcoming Gospel Acclamation

MJS



#### Teri:

The Risen Christ be with you all. And also with you.

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Luke (10:21-24) *Glory to you, O God*+

After hearing stories from disciples who had just returned from their mission, Jesus was filled with joy through the Holy Spirit. He prayed aloud.

"I praise you, Loving God, Creator of the Cosmos, because you have hidden things from the wise and learned and revealed them to the childlike. This is what You were pleased to do." Continuing in the joy of the Spirit, Jesus said to all who were listening,

"God has filled me with knowledge of the holy. God alone knows who is God's Chosen One. No one knows God except God's Chosen One, and those to whom the Chosen One chooses to reveal God."

Jesus turned to his disciples and said privately, "Blessed are the eyes that see what you see. I tell you, many prophets and rulers wanted to see what you see, but did not see it, and hear what you hear, but did not hear it."

A Reading from the Gospel according to Luke.

Praise to you, Jesus the Christ.

#### **Homily**

#### **Prayers of the People - Mark**

Response: Our response today is God of stories, hear our prayer. *God of stories, hear our prayer.* 

For our world leaders. That they may recognize the dignity and worth of every human being and that they set an example for others to follow. We pray: *God of stories, hear our prayer.* 

For the Church. That we may reflect the diversity of God and that we may be an inclusive and loving space for all people, understanding that as we welcome one, we welcome Christ. We pray: **God of stories, hear our prayer.** 

For those who are sick. For those who struggle. For those who feel isolated and alone. (We pray especially \_\_\_\_\_\_). That they may know the presence of God in their lives during these troubling times. We pray: *God of stories, hear our prayer.* 

For those who have died, (especially \_\_\_\_\_\_). That their souls may rest in eternal peace. And for those who grieve and mourn the loss of friends, family, and companions. That God's compassion may bring them comfort during these days. We pray: *God of stories, hear our prayer.* 

For our LGBTQ+ siblings. That they know that they are heard, welcomed and loved as they are for who they are. *We pray: God of stories, hear our prayer.* 

Mark: Fr. Teri will now read the prayers that have been typed in the comments (PAUSE until Teri tells you to go on.) For these and for all the prayers we share through our hearts, we pray: *God of stories, hear our prayer.* 

Mark: In addition, Prayer Partners will be available after Mass here in the Sanctuary by the back altar. For those at home, or those who have a prayer to share during the week, you can email our Prayer Companion Team at <a href="mailto:prayercompanionteam@lightofchristecc.org">prayercompanionteam@lightofchristecc.org</a> and someone will reach out to you. These prayer ministries welcome and invite you, in confidence, to share your concerns in more detail or depth, or even to pray for you when you can't find the words.

**Collect: Teri** 

Sign of Peace

#### Offertory Song:#678 Lord, When You Came



Text: Piscusfor de Bombres, Cesáreo Gabartin, © 1979, published by OCP Publications; trans. by Willard Francis Jabrach, 5,1930, © 1932, administrated by OCP Publications.

Tune: Cesáreo Gabartin, © 1979, published by OCP Publications; acc. by Diana Kodner, 5,1957.

#### **Liturgy of the Eucharist:**

Teri: Blessed are you, Loving God of all Creation, through your goodness we have this bread and this wine to place on your table. Work of earth and human hands. May these become our spiritual food and drink. **Blessed be God forever.** 

Teri: Blessed are you, Loving God of all Creation, through your goodness we have these gifts to place on your table. They represent our entire lives, and all that we have to offer. These gifts have traveled through purses, pockets, and even the mail. May these become the Light of Christ in your world. **Blessed be God forever.** 

Teri: Pray my sisters and brothers, my family, that these our gifts, our lives may continue to be blessed by our Loving God.

May the Lord accept the sacrifice at our hands, for the praise and glory of God's name, for our good and the good of all God's world.

Teri: The peace of our God be with you all. *And also with you.* 

Teri: Open up our hearts. We open them up to God.

Teri: Let us give thanks to our Loving God. *It is right to give God thanks and praise.* 

Teri: God of all Love, For the presence of love in human life and history, we give thanks and praise.

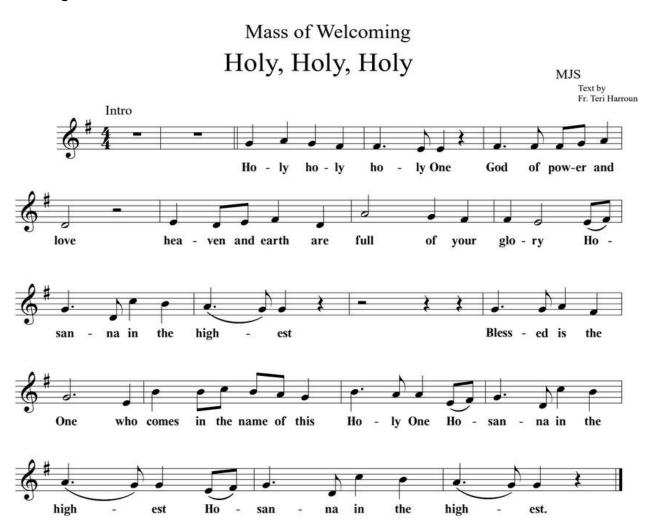
Long ago our ancestors knew love's power and they became the tellers of love's tale. Love bound them in covenant, teaching them to live in community with compassion and concern for all including for the poorest among them.

Yet the centuries of time shaped a different kind of community with outcasts and inequality.

In the struggle against oppression, Jesus became the face of love, showing us the way to abundant life, through abundant love.

In word and deed, he announced love's new reign of justice, reconciliation, and peace. Filled with the courage and passion of love's spirit, he gave his life to challenge the unjust systems of this world.

Now with all of God's creation, with the angels and shepherds we are glad to sing:



#### THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Teri: God, Goodness of the World, you prepare tables before us. Send your Holy Spirit upon us gathered around these tables throughout your world and gathered as your Body that we may become signs of your love and transforming work in the world. + Let also your Spirit come upon these gifts of bread and wine before us to make them holy so that they may become for us the Body and Blood of our brother, Jesus the Christ.

Today, we gather to remember that on the night before he died, Jesus ate with his followers and his friends. We recall how he took a loaf of bread, and after blessing it, he broke it, and gave it to them saying - "Take this all of you and eat it. This is my body which will be given up for you."

We remember also, that on the night before Jesus died, He took the cup filled with wine, and after giving thanks, passed it to his friends, saying, "Take this all of you and drink from it. This is the cup of my blood. The blood of the new and everlasting covenant. It will be shed for you and for all so that sins may be forgiven. Do this in memory of me."

Teri: Let us proclaim the mystery of faith.....



Teri: God of Imagination and Creator of Diversity, You have invited each of us here today, and so we gather at many tables, for we know that all tables are Your table, God, and in you we are one. May we recognize Christ present in every person everywhere, broken and blessed and shared. Every day as we care for each other, may we encounter the God who dwells with us anew.

We come from many places, differing in age, differing in gender, differing in race, orientation, politics, and even religion.

But we are of one world, and we are all made in your image, God. Our differences are a blessing and our diversity is to be celebrated, the more difference we bring, the more fully we experience the presence of the sacred and holy in one another and in our midst.

Be with our family and friends, the young and the old, the sick and the dying. Bless them. Protect them. Heal them. Encourage them. And comfort all who need your grace. Bring all the Beloved Departed into the fullness of Your Eternal Embrace.

We remember our chosen shepherds in our prayer as well, especially Bishop Kae and Bishop Paul. May your blessed fire re-ignite within them a spark of imagination and renewal.

Today, we are the hands of Christ to reach out to the earth and its peoples who ache or suffer. We are the feet of Christ, walking in solidarity with those on the margins. We are the voice of Christ, speaking truth to power. We are the heart of Christ, the heartbeat of love and compassion, striving to love all people with a generosity of heart. May we ever be aware and alert to the new things the Spirit makes possible, as our world unfolds amidst pain *and* beauty, into the fullness of life to which all have been created through You.

Teri: Together now, we say......

Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor is yours all loving God, forever and ever.



#### **Our Father**

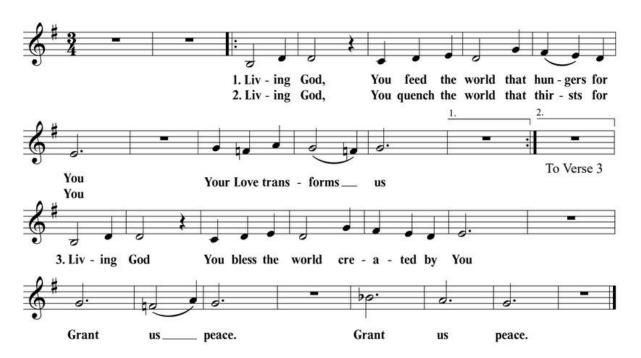
Teri: Let us join hearts together, a symbol of how God is circling the world right now and prayer words that have been prayed for centuries.

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 the Kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

# Mass of Welcoming Agnus Dei

MJS Text by: Fr. Teri Harroun



Teri: This is the Living God. This is the Body and Blood of Christ. The one who transforms the world with love. The one who transforms us. Blessed are we who are called to this meal.

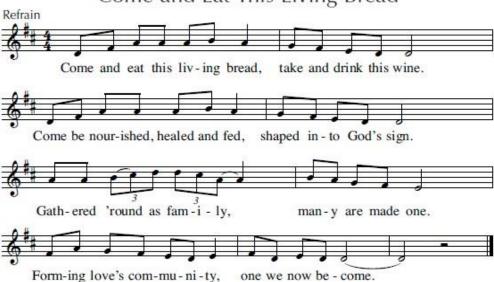
# God, I am ready to receive you. Because by your invitation, I am here.

## (Invitation to Communion)

It is here at these tables that we find hope and imagination to see God's dream and promise of a world of wholeness, and it is here that we receive the nourishment and strength to continue on the paths of justice. No matter where you are on your journey, you are invited to come and receive. (Receive the grace that Christ shares with you this day.)

#### Communion Song: #820 Come and Eat This Living Bread

# Come and Eat This Living Bread



#### Verses

- Saint and sinner welcome in to this meal of harmony.
   Lonely people, next of kin journey toward the glory tree.
   Gathered strangers, scattered sheep, at this table all are fed.
   Blood and body bonds run deep as your kingdom feast is spread.
- May we see the Christ revealed in the breaking of the bread. Living stories, holy meals, we become what we are fed. Broken shattered, fragile life, now received by you and me. Eating, drinking, joy and strife, Gospel living sets us free.
- 3. See the Christ in saddened sighs, blood poured out in every land. Wounded people, wailing cries lie upon our outstretched hands. Jesus is the way through death; truth beyond the present rage. Life unfolding, healing breath now enfleshed in youth and age.
- 4. Bless us, Lord, and these your gifts, fruit of vine and human hands. With our hearts and minds we lift all the goodness of these lands. Praise and thanks we shout and sing, from your bounty we are blessed. Joyfully all gifts we bring to receive our Lord and guest.
- 5. Death and life in water meet, drenching us in floods of light. Marking us with oil so sweet, clothing us in glorious white. Priest and prophet, spirit led, we are God's new living sign. Feeding on this holy bread, drinking of this holy wine.
- 6. Witnessing to love and peace, hands of blessing we remain. Helping fear and hate to cease, we bring forth God's wondrous reign. Strength and power here we find, given in this kingdom feast. We go forth to heal and sign everyone, both great and least.

Text: Rob Glover, b.1950
Tune: ADOROTE DEVOTE, 12 12 12 12; verses and arr. Rob Glover, b.1950
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#### **Prayer after Communion:**

Teri: Let us pray...

O God, Let us pray: God, you feed our bodies, our minds, and our spirits and remind us that we are loved fiercely by You, forever. In the holy name of Jesus our brother we pray. *Amen.* 

#### **Blessing of Men:**

#### Teri:

Loving God, Heavenly Father, We adore You and bless You.

Thank You for the gift of life. Thank You also for the men in our life, for our fathers and for those who have been like fathers to us, for the men who have said "yes" and adopted children.

We are grateful for their protection and provision, for their encouragement and wisdom, for their presence and persevering love.

We are especially grateful for the ways they guided us to be closer to you.

Too often we took their love and sacrifice for granted. Forgive us.

Help us to live in such a way that our words and actions bring honor to them and to You.

#### Beloved One.

For many, this day we call Father's Day is full of joy and celebration, but for others it is an especially painful day.

Pour out Your healing, consolation and peace

on those who are grieving the loss of their father or the loss of their child, For those whose desire to be a father has not been fulfilled,

Pour you good grace upon

families separated by distance or disagreement, and families plagued by disappointment, abandonment, addiction or abuse.

Let us extend ourselves in blessing.....

Gracious God, thank you for the every man here today
In the sanctuary, and online through Facebook,
and for every one we have brought with us in our hearts.
Reveal Your purpose and plan for their life.
Bless them. Deepen their love and trust of You.
Strengthen them, empower them, and anoint them with Your Holy Spirit that their faith, influence and achievement would bring You honor and glory. Receive our thanks and praise again for these men

In the name of your Eternal Son, Jesus. We pray. Amen.

Teri: The Love of God be with you.

for they are precious to us and to You.

ALL: And also with you.

#### Teri:

Let us open our hearts to receive God's blessing.

Rainbow Christ, you light up the world. You remind us of God's promise that love is for everyone. In your rainbow may we see the interconnections between sexuality, gender, ability, and race. Bless us, like the rainbow, that we may embody all the colors and shine in your world. Bless us now through the Three in One: the Creator, the Eternal Son, and the Holy Sophia. *Amen.* 

Teri: Please repeat our sending forth after me:

We are Light of Christ....

Let us go forth as such.....

Loving and serving God.....

As we get to love and serve in God's world.

Thanks be to God......

#### Closing Hymn: # 483 Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty

# Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty





Ear - ly in the morn - ing our song shall rise to thee: Cast - ing down their gold - en crowns a - round the glass - y sea; Though the eye made blind by sin thy glo - ry may not see, All thy works shall praise thy Name in earth, and sky, and sea;





Text: Reginald Heber, 1783-1826, alt. Tune: NICAEA, 11 12 12 10; John Bacchus Dykes, 1823-1876