

**40th Annual Convention of the
Episcopal Diocese of Western Louisiana
Opening Eucharist**



The Way of Love: Making Disciples

**The Feast of St. Gregory of Nyssa
March 9, 2019**

The Liturgy of the Word

Opening Hymn

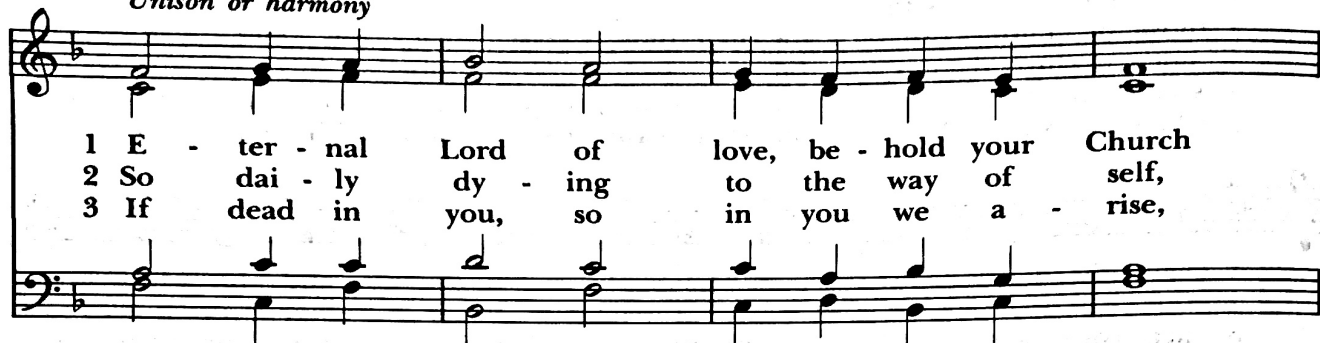
Eternal Lord of Love, Behold Your Church

Cain, Thomas H.

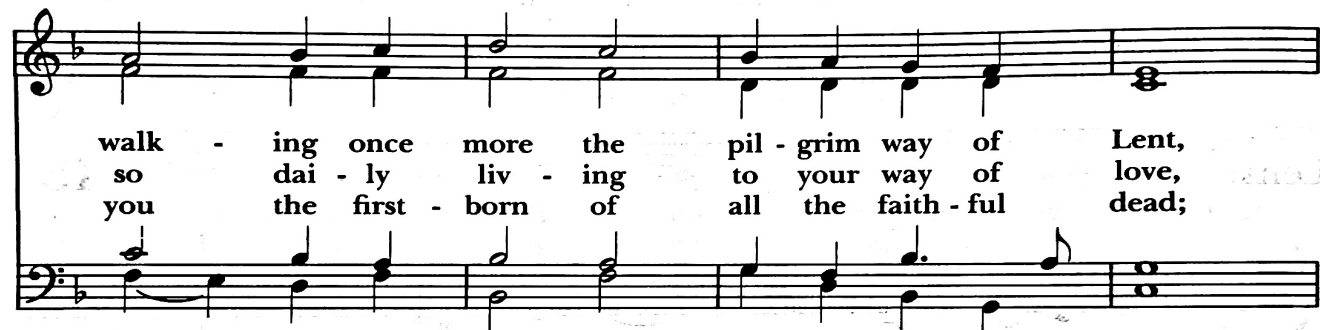
149

Lent

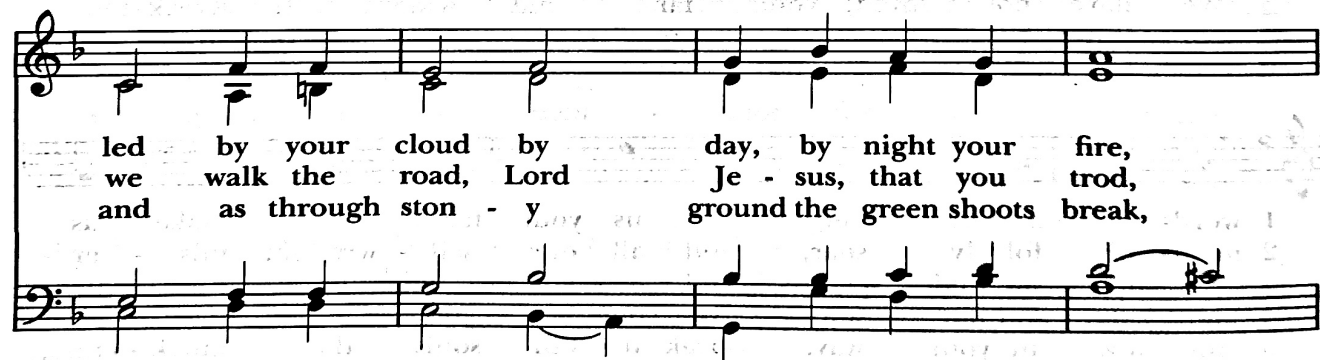
Unison or harmony



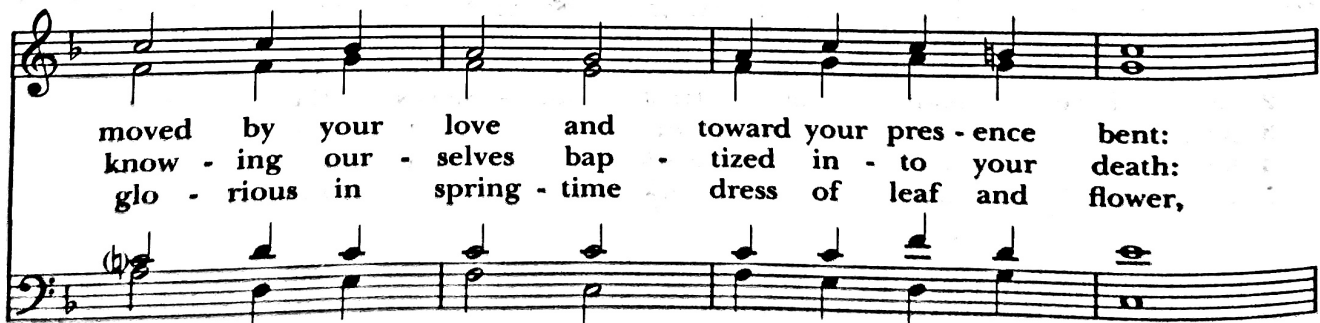
1 E - ter - nal Lord of love, be - hold your Church
2 So dai - ly dy - ing to the way of self,
3 If dead in you, so in you we a - rise,



walk - ing once more the pil - grim way of Lent,
so dai - ly liv - ing to your way of love,
you the first - born of all the faith - ful dead;



led by your cloud by day, by night your fire,
we walk the road, Lord Je - sus, that you trod,
and as through ston - y ground the green shoots break,



moved by your love and toward your pres - ence bent:
know - ing our - selves bap - tized in - to your death:
glo - rious in spring - time dress of leaf and flower,

far off yet here—the goal of all de sire.
so we are dead and live with you in God.
so in the Fa-ther's glo-ry shall we wake.

Words: Thomas H. Cain (b. 1931)
Music: *Old 124th*, melody *Pseaumes octante trois de David*, 1551;
harm. Charles Winfred Douglas (1867-1944)

10 10. 10 10 10

Opening Acclamation

Bishop Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.
People **His mercy endures for ever. Amen.**

The Collect for Purity

The Bishop may say

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.**

Bishop Lord have mercy
People **Christ have mercy**
Bishop Lord have mercy

The Collect of the Day

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

Almighty God, you have revealed to your Church your eternal Being of glorious majesty and perfect love as one God in Trinity of Persons: Give us grace that, like your bishop Gregory of Nyssa, we may continue steadfast in the confession of this faith, and constant in our worship of you, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit; for you live and reign for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The Lessons

First Lesson

A Reading from the Book of Wisdom

Wisdom of Solomon 7:24-28

Wisdom is more mobile than any motion; because of her pureness she pervades and penetrates all things. For she is a breath of the power of God, and a pure emanation of the glory of the Almighty; therefore nothing defiled gains

entrance into her. For she is a reflection of eternal light, a spotless mirror of the working of God, and an image of his goodness. Although she is but one, she can do all things, and while remaining in herself, she renews all things; in every generation she passes into holy souls and makes them friends of God, and prophets; for God loves nothing so much as the person who lives with wisdom.

Lector Here ends the reading.

Psalm 19:7-14

⁷The law of the Lord is perfect and revives the soul; *
the testimony of the Lord is sure and gives wisdom to the innocent.

⁸**The statutes of the Lord are just and rejoice the heart; ***
the commandment of the Lord is clear and gives light to the eyes.

⁹The fear of the Lord is clean and endures for ever; *
the judgments of the Lord are true and righteous altogether.

¹⁰**More to be desired are they than gold, more than much fine gold, ***
sweeter far than honey, than honey in the comb.

¹¹By them also is your servant enlightened, *
and in keeping them there is great reward.

¹²**Who can tell how often he offends? ***
cleanse me from my secret faults.

¹³Above all, keep your servant from presumptuous sins; let them not get dominion over me; *
then shall I be whole and sound, and innocent of a great offense.

¹⁴**Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your sight, ***
O Lord, my strength and my redeemer.

Second Lesson

A Reading from Letter to the Ephesians

Ephesians 2:17-22

So he came and proclaimed peace to you who were far off and peace to those who were near; for through him both of us have access in one Spirit to the Father. So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are citizens with the saints and also members of the household of God, built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the cornerstone. In him the whole structure is joined together and grows into a holy temple in the Lord; in whom you also are built together spiritually into a dwelling-place for God.

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

Sequence Hymn

Hymnal 487

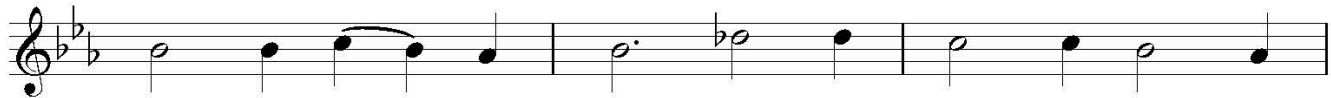
Come, my Way, my Truth, my Life

Herbert, George

The Hymnal 1982 - #487 Come, my Way, my Truth, my Life



1 Come, my Way, my Truth, my Life: such a
2 Come, my Light, my Feast, my Strength: such a
3 Come, my Joy, my Love, my Heart: such a



way as gives us breath; such a truth as ends all
light as shows a feast; such a feast as mends in
joy as none can move; such a love as none can



strife; such a life as kill - eth death.
length; such a strength as makes his guest.
part; such a heart as joys in love.

Words: George Herbert (1593-1633)

Music: *The Call*, Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958) Copyright ©1911 by Stainer and Bell, Ltd. All rights reserved. Used with permission.

The Holy Gospel

John 14:23-26

Deacon The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.
People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Jesus answered Judas (not Iscariot), "Those who love me will keep my word, and my Father will love them, and we will come to them and make our home with them. Whoever does not love me does not keep my words; and the word that you hear is not mine, but is from the Father who sent me. I have said these things to you while I am still with you. But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything, and remind you of all that I have said to you."

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

The Sermon

The Reverend Canon John Bedingfield
Canon to the Ordinary

The Nicene Creed

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 (Form V)

Deacon or other leader

In peace, let us pray to the Lord, saying, "Lord, have mercy."

For the holy Church of God, that it may be filled with truth and love, and be found without fault at the day of your coming, we pray to you, O Lord.

Here and after every petition the People respond

Lord, have mercy.

For Michael, our Presiding Bishop, for Jake our Bishop, for all bishops and other ministers, and for all the holy people of God, we pray to you, O Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For all who fear God and believe in you, Lord Christ, that our divisions may cease, and that all may be one as you and the Father are one, we pray to you, O Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the mission of the Church, that in faithful witness it may preach the Gospel to the ends of the earth, we pray to you, O Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For those who do not yet believe, and for those who have lost their faith, that they may receive the light of the Gospel, we pray to you, O Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the peace of the world, that a spirit of respect and forbearance may grow among nations and peoples, we pray to you, O Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For those in positions of public trust especially Donald, our President and John Bel, our Governor, that they may serve justice, and promote the dignity and freedom of every person, we pray to you, O Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For a blessing upon all human labor, and for the right use of the riches of creation, that the world may be freed from poverty, famine, and disaster, we pray to you, O Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the poor, the persecuted, the sick, and all who suffer; for refugees, prisoners, and all who are in danger; that they may be relieved and protected, we pray to you, O Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For this congregation [for those who are present, and for those who are absent], that we may be delivered from hardness of heart, and show forth your glory in all that we do, we pray to you, O Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For our enemies and those who wish us harm; and for all whom we have injured or offended, we pray to you, O Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For all who have commended themselves to our prayers; for our families, friends, and neighbors; that being freed from anxiety, they may live in joy, peace, and health, we pray to you, O Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For all who have died in the communion of your Church, and those whose faith is known to you alone, that, with all the saints, they may have rest in that place where there is no pain or grief, but life eternal, we pray to you, O Lord.

The Necrology Report is read at this time

The Bishop then says the following Collect

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

Confession of Sin

The Bishop says

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence may be kept.

Minister 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 Bishop stands and 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

All stand

Bishop	The peace of the Lord be always with you.
People	And also with you.

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

The Holy Communion

The Bishop says an offertory sentence



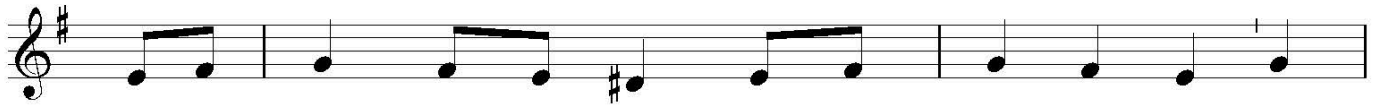
Offertory Hymn

Hymnal 143

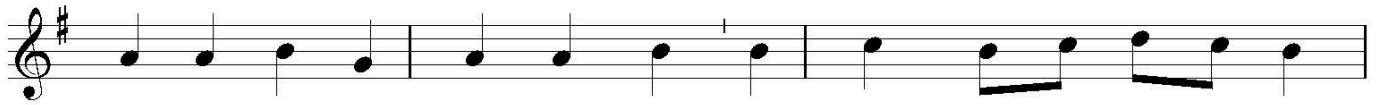
The Glory of These Forty Days

Bell, Maurice F.

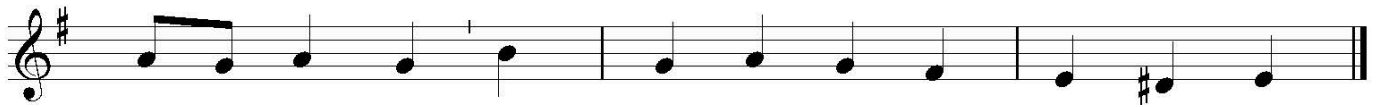
The Hymnal 1982 - #143 The glory of these forty days



1 The glo - ry of these for - ty days we
2 A - lone and fast - ing Mo - ses saw the
3 So Dan - iel trained his mys - tic sight, de -
4 Then grant us, Lord, like them to be full
* 5 O Fa - ther, Son, and Spi - rit blest, to



1 ce - le - brate with songs of praise; for Christ, through whom all
2 lov - ing God who gave the law; and to E - li - jah,
3 liv - ered from the li - ons' might; and John, the Bride - groom's
4 oft in fast and prayer with thee; our spi - rits strength - en
5 thee be ev - ery prayer ad - dressed, who art in three - fold



1 things were made, him - self has fast - ed and has prayed.
2 fast - ing, came the steeds and char - i - ots of flame.
3 friend, be - came the her - ald of Mes - si - ah's name.
4 with thy grace, and give us joy to see thy face.
5 Name a - dored, from age to age, the on - ly Lord.

Words: Latin, 6th cent.; tr. Maurice F. Bell (1862-1947), alt. Copyright © by permission Oxford University Press. All rights reserved. Used with permission.
Music: *Erhalat uns, Herr*; melody from *Geistliche Lieder*, 1543; harm. Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

The Great Thanksgiving (*Eucharistic Prayer B*)

Bishop 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.**

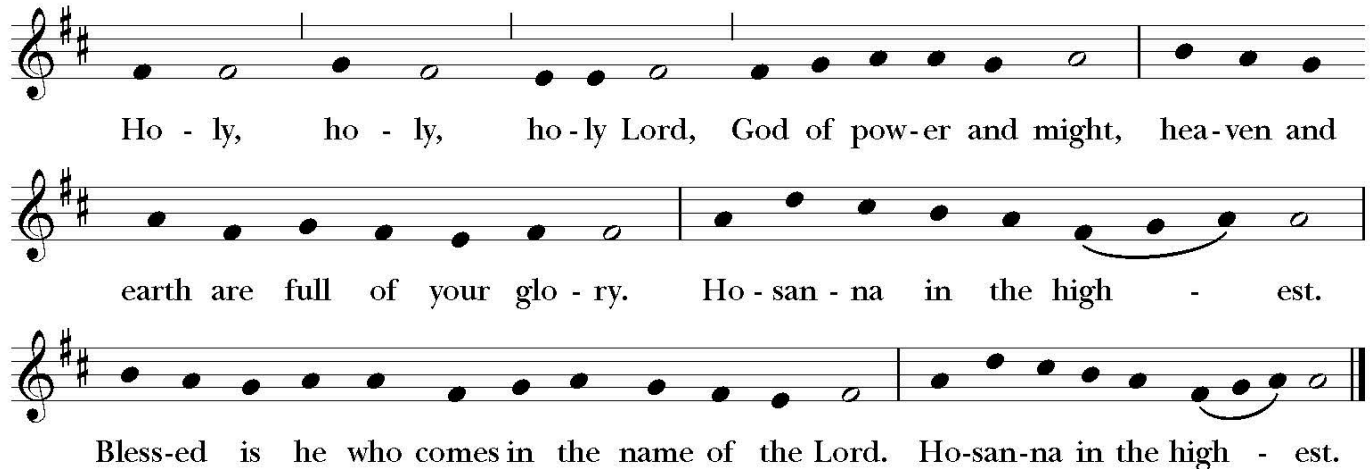
The Bishop continues

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth, through the great shepherd of your flock, Jesus Christ our Lord; who after his resurrection sent forth his apostles to preach the Gospel and to teach all nations; and promised to be with them always, even to the end of the ages.

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:

The Hymnal 1982, Service Music - #124 The Holy Eucharist II, Holy, holy, holy Lord:

Sanctus



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might, hea - ven and
earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.
Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Then the Bishop continues

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, 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 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."

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

Bishop and People

**We remember his death,
We proclaim his resurrection,
We await his coming in glory;**

The Bishop continues

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your

Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and forever. **AMEN.**

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

People and Bishop

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 Hymnal 1982, Service Music - #161 The Holy Eucharist II, Fraction Anthem: Lamb of God: *Agnus Dei*

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world:
have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sins of the world: have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God,
you take a - way the sins of the world: grant us peace.

Invitation to Communion

The Communion of the People

The people stand as they are able and move to the nearest Communion stations.

Communion Hymns

Hymnal 314

Humbly I Adore Thee

Acquinas, Thomas

The Hymnal 1982 - #314 Humbly I adore thee, Verity unseen

1 Hum - bly I a - dore thee, Ver - i - ty un - seen,
 2 Taste and touch and vi - sion to dis - cern thee fail;
 3 O me - mo - rial won - drous of the Lord's own death;
 4 Je - sus, whom now hid - den, I by faith be - hold,
 who thy glo - ry hid - est 'neath these sha - dows mean;
 faith, that comes by hear - ing, pierc - es through the veil.
 liv - ing Bread that giv - est all thy crea - tures breath,
 what my soul doth long for, that thy word fore - told:
 lo, to thee sur - ren - dered, my whole heart is bowed,
 I be - lieve what - e'er the Son of God hath told;
 grant my spi - rit ev - er by thy life may live,
 face to face thy splen - dor, I at last shall see,
 tranced as it be - holds thee, shrined with - in the cloud.
 what the Truth hath spo - ken, that for truth I hold.
 to my taste thy sweet - ness nev - er - fail - ing give.
 in the glo - rious vi - sion, bless - ed Lord, of thee.

Words: Att. Thomas Aquinas (1225?-1274); sts. 1-3, tr. *Hymnal 1940*; Copyright © The Church Pension Fund; st. 4, tr. *Hymnal 1982* Music: *Adoro devote*, French church melody, Mode 5, *Processionale*, 1697; acc. Charles Winfred Douglas (1867-1944), alt. Copyright © The Church Pension Fund. All rights reserved. Used with permission.

TASTE And SEE
 THAT THE Lord
 Is Good.
 PSALM
 34:8

Lift Every Voice and Sing II - #154 Taste and See

Taste and see. Taste and see the good - ness

of the Lord. O Taste and see. Taste and

see the good - ness of the Lord, of the Lord. **Fine**

1. I will bless the Lord at all times.
 2. Glo - ri - fy the Lord with me.
 3. Wor - ship the Lord all you peo - ple.

1. — His praise — shall al - ways — be on my
 2. — To - geth - er — let us all — praise His
 3. — You'll — want for noth - ing — if you

1. lips; — my soul — shall
 2. name. — I called — the
 3. ask. — Taste — and

1. glo - ry — in the Lord; — for
 2. Lord — and He an - swered me; — from
 3. see — that God is good; — in

1. He has been so good to me.
 2. all my troubles He set me free.
 3. Him we need put all our trust.

D.C.

Postcommunion Prayer

Bishop Let us pray.

People 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 Episcopal Blessing

Bishop 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 forever.

People **Amen.**

Closing Hymn

Hymnal 448

O Love, How Deep, How High

Webb, Benjamin

The Hymnal 1982 - #448 O love, how deep, how broad, how high



1 O love, how deep, how broad, how high, how pass - ing
2 For us bap - tized, for us he bore his ho - ly
3 For us he prayed; for us he taught; for us his
4 For us to wick - ed hands be - trayed, scourged, mocked, in
5 For us he rose from death a - gain; for us he
6 All glo - ry to our Lord and God for love so



1 thought and fan - ta - sy, that God, the Son of
2 fast and hun - gered sore; for us temp - ta - tions
3 dai - ly works he wrought; by words and signs and
4 pur - ple robe ar - rayed, he bore the shame - ful
5 went on high to reign; for us he sent his
6 deep, so high, so broad; the Trin - i - ty whom



1 God, should take our mor - tal form for mor - tals' sake.
2 sharp he knew; for us the tempt - er ov - er - threw.
3 ac - tions, thus still seek - ing not him - self, but us.
4 cross and death; for us gave up his dy - ing breath.
5 Spi - rit here to guide, to strength - en, and to cheer.
6 we a - dore for ev - er and for ev - er - more.

Words: Latin, 15th cent.; tr. Benjamin Webb (1819-1885), alt. Music: *Deus tourum militum*, from *Antiphoner*, 1753; adapt. *The English Hymnal*, 1906, alt.; harm. after Basil Harwood (1859-1949)

The Dismissal

Deacon

Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People

Thanks be to God.

The Ministers of the Service

Celebrant	The Rt. Rev. Jacob W. Owensby, PhD, DD IV Bishop of Western Louisiana
Preacher	The Rev. Canon John Bedingfield
Deacon of the Table	The Venerable Bette Jo Kauffman
Deacon of the Word	The Rev. Deacon Lois Maberry
Paten	The Very Rev. Rich Snow
Chalices	The Very Rev. Ron Clingenpeel The Rev. Canon John Bedingfield The Rev. Andre Bordelon The Rev. Suzanne Wolfenbarger
The Wisdom Reading	Ms. Paige Quillin
The Psalm	Ms. Loulie Middleton
The Ephesians Reading	Mr. Coan Knight
Prayers of the People	The Rev. Deacon Lois Maberry
Acolytes/Altar Guild	Mr. Jimmie Haise & Mr. Roy Rosenthal
Organist	Ms. Jude Geiger

