



All Together Sunday

All Welcome All Loved All Saints'

Pew Art

**The Twenty-fourth Sunday After Pentecost
10:00 AM + October 12, 2023**

Welcome! You are invited to participate fully in our worship. Whoever you are, wherever you are on your journey of faith, welcome! Please contact the church office (aschurch@allsaintschelmsford.org) if you would like to receive our weekly e-bulletin..

The Holy Eucharist: Rite Two The Word of God

Prelude: *Prelude in Classic Style*

Gordon Young (1919-1998)

Hymn: *Lift up your heads, ye might gates omit *vs*

Blue Hymnal 436

Celebrant Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People **And blessed be God's kingdom, now and forever. Amen.**

Celebrant Collect for Purity

Gloria: Glory to God

Black/Red Hymnal 243

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant : Together let us pray.

Collect

Said in unison

O God, whose blessed Son came into the world that he might destroy the works of the devil and make us children of God and heirs of eternal life: Grant that, having this hope, we may purify ourselves as he is pure; that, when he comes again with power and great glory, we may be made like him in his eternal and glorious kingdom; where he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

A Reading from the Book of Joshua 24:1-3a, 14-25

Joshua gathered all the tribes of Israel to Shechem, and summoned the elders, the heads, the judges, and the officers of Israel; and they presented themselves before God. And Joshua said to all the people, "Thus says the Lord, the God of Israel: Long ago your ancestors—Terah and his sons Abraham and Nahor—lived beyond the Euphrates and served other gods. Then I took your father Abraham from beyond the River and led him through all the land of Canaan and made his offspring many.

"Now therefore revere the Lord, and serve him in sincerity and in faithfulness; put away the gods that your ancestors served beyond the River and in Egypt, and serve the Lord. Now if you are unwilling to serve the Lord, choose this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your ancestors served in the region beyond the River or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you are living; but as for me and my household, we will serve the Lord."

Then the people answered, "Far be it from us that we should forsake the Lord to serve other gods; for it is the Lord our God who brought us and our ancestors up from the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery, and who did those great signs in our sight. He protected us along all the way that we went, and among all the peoples through whom we passed; and the Lord drove out before us all the peoples, the Amorites who lived in the land. Therefore we also will serve the Lord, for he is our God."

But Joshua said to the people, “You cannot serve the Lord, for he is a holy God. He is a jealous God; he will not forgive your transgressions or your sins. If you forsake the Lord and serve foreign gods, then he will turn and do you harm, and consume you, after having done you good.” And the people said to Joshua, “No, we will serve the Lord!” Then Joshua said to the people, “You are witnesses against yourselves that you have chosen the Lord, to serve him.” And they said, “We are witnesses.” He said, “Then put away the foreign gods that are among you, and incline your hearts to the Lord, the God of Israel.” The people said to Joshua, “The Lord our God we will serve, and him we will obey.” So Joshua made a covenant with the people that day, and made statutes and ordinances for them at Shechem.

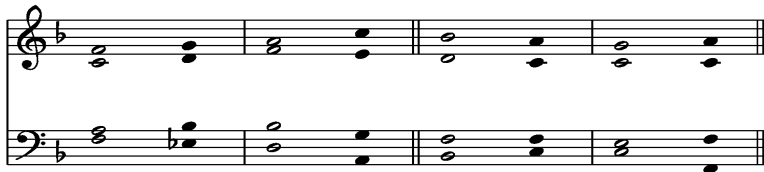
This day shall be a day of remembrance for you. You shall celebrate it as a festival to the Lord; throughout your generations you shall observe it as a perpetual ordinance.

People’s response after the reading

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 78:1-7

Robert Knox Kennedy
(b. 1945)



- 1 Hear my teaching, O my people; *
incline your ears to the words of my mouth.
 - 2 I will open my mouth in a parable; *
I will declare the mysteries of ancient times.
 - 3 That which we have heard and known,
and what our forefathers have told us, *
we will not hide from their children.
 - 4 We will recount to generations to come
the praiseworthy deeds and the power of the Lord, *
and the wonderful works he has done.
 - 5 He gave his decrees to Jacob
and established a law for Israel, *
which he commanded them to teach their children;
 - 6 That the generations to come might know,
and the children yet unborn; *
that they in their turn might tell it to their children;
- repeat 1st half of verse:*
- 7 So that they might put their trust in God, *
and not forget the deeds of God,
but keep his commandments.



A Reading from the first Letter to the Thessalonians 4:13-18

We do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters, about those who have died, so that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have died. For this we declare to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will by no means precede those who have died. For the Lord himself, with a cry of command, with the archangel's call and with the sound of God's trumpet, will descend from heaven, and the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up in the clouds together with them to meet the Lord in the air; and so we will be with the Lord forever. Therefore encourage one another with these words.

People's response after the reading

Thanks be to God.

Hymn: *Jesus came, adored by angels*

Blue Hymnal 454

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew 25:1-13

People Said before the reading

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus said, "Then the kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them; but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept. But at midnight there was a shout, 'Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.' Then all those bridesmaids got up and trimmed their lamps. The foolish said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.' But the wise replied, 'No! there will not be enough for you and for us; you had better go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves.' And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet; and the door was shut. Later the other bridesmaids came also, saying, 'Lord, lord, open to us.' But he replied, 'Truly I tell you, I do not know you.' Keep awake therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour."

Said after the reading

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Sermon

Reverend Sean Maloney

The Nicene Creed

Spoken by all, standing.

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.

Prayers of the People—Form IV

Deacon or other leader

Let us pray for the Church and for the world.
Grant, Almighty God, that all who confess your Name may be united in your truth, live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy ***Hear our prayer.***
Guide the people of this land, and of all the nations, in the ways of justice and peace; that we may honor one another and serve the common good.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy ***Hear our prayer.***
Give us all a reverence for the earth as your own creation, that we may use its resources rightly in the service of others and to your honor and glory.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy ***Hear our prayer.***
Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, and grant that we may serve Christ in them, and love one another as he loves us.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy ***Hear our prayer.***
Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit; give them courage and hope in their troubles, and bring them the joy of your salvation.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy ***Hear our prayer.***
We commend to your mercy all who have died, that your will for them may be fulfilled; and we pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy ***Hear our prayer.***

Silence

The People may add their own petitions.

The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.

The Deacon or Celebrant says

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence may be kept.

Confession

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, when present, or the Priest, 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

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

Announcements: Birthdays and Anniversaries



The Holy Communion

Offertory: *Keep Your Lamps Trimmed and Burning*

arr/Alan Hommerding

The Great Thanksgiving - Prayer 1 Enriching our worship

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 our thanks and praise.**

Celebrant: It is truly right, and good and joyful, to give you thanks, all-holy God, source of life and fountain of mercy.

You have filled us and all creation with your blessing and fed us with your constant love; you have redeemed us in Jesus Christ and knit us into one body. Through your Spirit you replenish us and call us to fullness of life.

Therefore, joining with Angels and Archangels and with the faithful of every generation, we lift our voices with all creation as we sing:

Sanctus: *Holy, holy, holy*

Black/Red Hymnal 255

The Celebrant continues

Blessed are you, gracious God, creator of the universe and giver of life. You formed us in your own image and called us to dwell in your infinite love. You gave the world into our care that we might be your faithful stewards and show forth your bountiful grace. But we failed to honor your image in one another and in ourselves; we would not see your goodness in the world around us; and so we violated your creation, abused one another, and rejected your love. Yet you never ceased to care for us, and prepared the way of salvation for all people. Through Abraham and Sarah you called us into covenant with you. You delivered us from slavery, sustained us in the wilderness, and raised up prophets to renew your promise of salvation. Then, in the fullness of

time, you sent your eternal Word, made mortal flesh in Jesus. Born into the human family, and dwelling among us, he revealed your glory. Giving himself freely to death on the cross, he triumphed over evil, opening the way of freedom and life.

On the night before he died for us, Our Savior Jesus Christ took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his friends, and said: "Take, eat: This is my Body which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

As supper was ending, 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 poured out 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:

Celebrant and People

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

Remembering his death and resurrection, we now present to you from your creation this bread and this wine. By your Holy Spirit may they be for us the Body and Blood of our Savior Jesus Christ. Grant that we who share these gifts may be filled with the Holy Spirit and live as Christ's Body in the world. Bring us into the everlasting heritage of your daughters and sons, that with [_____ and] all your saints, past, present, and yet to come, we may praise your Name for ever. Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor, glory, and praise, for ever and ever. **AMEN.**

The Lord's Prayer

BCP p. 364

As our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

People and Celebrant

**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

Fraction Anthem: *Christ our Passover*

Black/Red Hymnal 268

The Gifts You are invited as you feel moved to join us for Communion today. Simply move into the aisle as the Ushers assist you. If you would like to receive communion place your hands out and the priest will give you a piece of bread (or gluten free if needed). You may then receive wine from either the chalice or the individual cup. At this time intinction (dipping) is not

permitted. Communion in one kind for any reasons is fully acceptable and has wide use in the tradition. If you don't want to share in communion but want to share in this holy moment come forward with your hands across your heart to receive a blessing.

Communion Music:

1 What does the Lord re - quire of you?
 2 Jus - - - tice, kind - - - ness,
 3 To seek jus - tice, and love kind - ness,
 what does the Lord re - quire of you?
 walk hum - bly with your God.
 and walk hum - bly with your God.

Words and Music: Jim Strathdee © 1986 Desert Flower Music, PO Box 1476, Carmichael, CA 95809 [www.strathdee_music.com]. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

What does the Lord require of you
 My Lord, What a Mornin'

MHSO 153
 American Spiritual

Celebrant 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.

Hymn: *Rejoice, rejoice believers*

Blue Hymnal 68

The Dismissal

Celebrant : Let us go forth in the name of the Lord Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia

People: Thanks be to God Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia

Postlude: *Trumpet Tune*

Antonio Vivaldi (1678-1741)

1 Lift up your heads, ye might - y gates; be - hold the
 2 O blest the land, the ci - ty blest, where Christ the
 3 Fling wide the por - tals of your heart; make it a
 *4 Re - deem - er, come! I o - pen wide my heart to
 5 So come, my Sov - ereign; en - ter in! Let new and

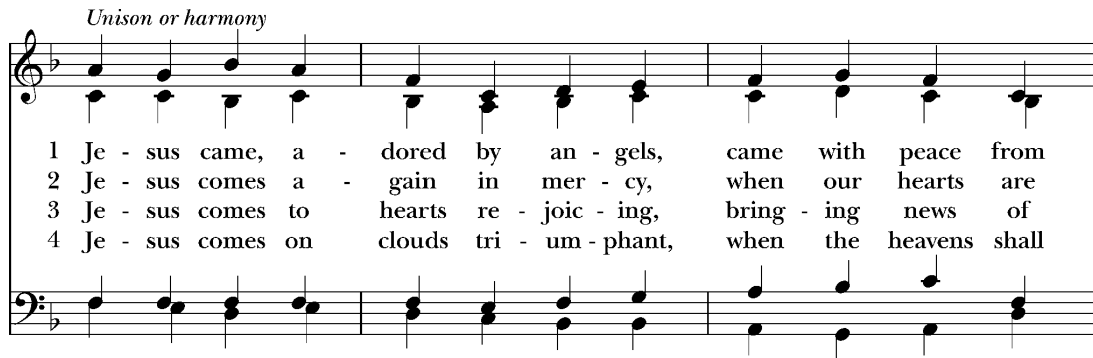
1 King of glo - ry waits! The King of kings is
 2 ru - ler is con - fessed! O hap - py hearts and
 3 tem - ple, set a - part from earth - ly use for
 4 thee: here, Lord, a - bide! Let me thy in - ner
 5 no - bler life be - gin; thy Ho - ly Spi - rit

1 draw - ing near; the Sa - vior of the world is here.
 2 hap - py homes to whom this King of tri - umph comes!
 3 heaven's em - ploy, a - dorned with prayer and love and joy.
 4 pres - ence feel: thy grace and love in me re - veal.
 5 guide us on, un - til the glo - rious crown be won.

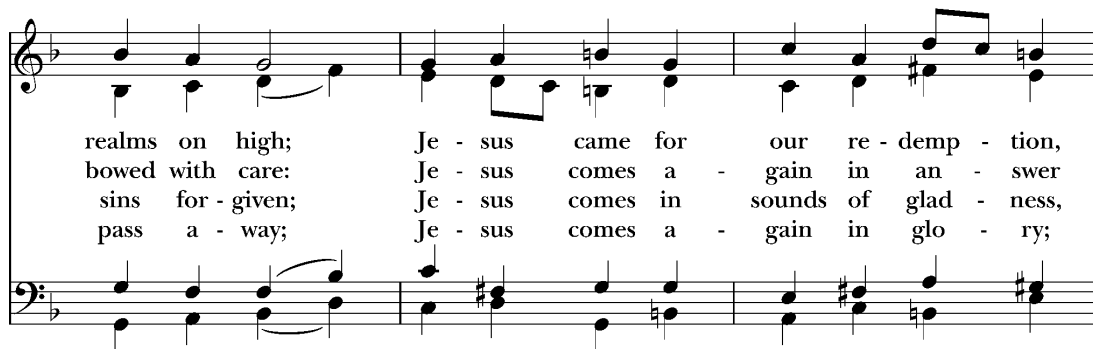
Hymn: *Jesus came, adored by angels*

Blue Hymnal 454

Unison or harmony



1 Je - sus came, a - dored by an - gels, came with peace from
2 Je - sus comes a - gain in mer - cy, when our hearts are
3 Je - sus comes to hearts re - joic - ing, bring - ing news of
4 Je - sus comes on clouds tri - um - phant, when the heavens shall



realms on high; Je - sus came for our re - demp - tion,
bowed with care: Je - sus comes a - gain in an - swer
sins for - given; Je - sus comes in sounds of glad - ness,
pass a - way; Je - sus comes a - gain in glo - ry;



low - ly came on earth to die: Al - le - lu - ia,
to our ear - nest heart - felt prayer; Al - le - lu - ia,
lead - ing souls re - deemed to heaven; Al - le - lu - ia,
let us then our hom - age pay: Al - le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia! came in deep hu - mil - i - ty.
al - le - lu - ia! comes to save us from de - spair.
al - le - lu - ia! now the gate of death is riven.
al - le - lu - ia! till the dawn of end - less day.

1 Re - joice! re - joice, be - liev - ers, and let your lights ap - pear!
 2 See that your lamps are burn - ing, re - ple-nish them with oil;
 3 Our hope and ex - pec - ta - tion, O Je - sus, now ap - pear;

The eve - ning is ad - vanc - ing, and dark - er night is near.
 look now for your sal - va - tion, the end of sin and toil.
 a - rise, thou Sun so longed for, a - bove this dark - ened sphere!

The Bride - groom is a - ris - ing, and soon he will draw nigh;
 The mar - riage - feast is wait - ing, the gates wide o - pen stand;
 With hearts and hands up - lift - ed, we plead, O Lord, to see

up, watch in ex - pec - ta - tion! at mid - night comes the cry.
 rise up, ye heirs of glo - ry, the Bride - groom is at hand!
 the day of earth's re - demp - tion, and ev - er be with thee!