

THE FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER EASTER
APRIL 28, 2024
HOLY BAPTISM

9:15 A.M. IN THE CHAPEL

Presider – The Rev. Thomas Szczerba, Jr.

Preacher – The Rev. Sarah Dunn

Assisting – The Rev. Emily Given

Organist: Director of Music – Dr. Clair Rozier

Organist/Choir Director - Dr. Elaine Sonnenberg Whitelock

THE ORDER OF SERVICE

Voluntary

Prelude on "Brother James's Air"

Searle Wright

Hymn 379

God is Love: Let Heaven Adore Him

Abbot's Leigh



1 God is Love, let heaven a - dore him; God is Love, let
2 God is Love; and Love en - folds us, all the world in
3 God is Love; and though with blind-ness sin af - flicts all



earth re - joice; let cre - a - tion sing be - fore him
one em - brace: with un - fail - ing grasp God holds us,
hu - man life, God's e - ter - nal lov - ing - kind - ness



and ex - alt him with one voice. God who laid the earth's foun -
ev - ery child of ev - ery race. And when hu - man hearts are
guides us through our earth - ly strife. Sin and death and hell shall



da - tion, God who spread the heaven a - bove, God who breathes through
break - ing un - der sor - row's i - ron rod, then we find that
nev - er o'er us fi - nal tri - umph gain; God is Love, so



all cre - a - tion: God is Love, e - ter - nal Love.
self - same ach - ing deep with - in the heart of God.
Love for ev - er o'er the u - ni - verse must reign.

Words: Timothy Rees (1874-1939), alt. Held by A.R. Mowbray & Co. Ltd. Music: *Abbot's Leigh*, Cyril Vincent Taylor (1907-1991). Copyright © 1942 Renewal 1970, by Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All Rights Reserved. Used by permission.

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THE WORD OF GOD

Celebrant Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
People **And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**
Celebrant There is one Body and one Spirit;
People **There is one hope in God's call to us;**
Celebrant One Lord, one Faith, one Baptism;
People **One God and Father of all.**

The Collect of the Day

Almighty God, whom truly to know is everlasting life: Grant us so perfectly to know your Son Jesus Christ to be the way, the truth, and the life, that we may steadfastly follow his steps in the way that leads to eternal life; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

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

The First Reading – Acts 8:26-40

An angel of the Lord said to Philip, "Get up and go toward the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza." (This is a wilderness road.) So he got up and went. Now there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of the Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, in charge of her entire treasury. He had come to Jerusalem to worship and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. Then the Spirit said to Philip, "Go over to this chariot and join it." So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, "Do you understand what you are reading?" He replied, "How can I, unless someone guides me?" And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him. Now the passage of the scripture that he was reading was this:

"Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter,
and like a lamb silent before its shearer,
so he does not open his mouth.
In his humiliation justice was denied him.
Who can describe his generation?
For his life is taken away from the earth."

The eunuch asked Philip, "About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?" Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus. As they were going along the road, they came to some water; and the eunuch said, "Look, here is water! What is to prevent me from being baptized?" He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away; the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he was passing through the region, he proclaimed the good news to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

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

Psalm 22:24-30 *Read in unison.*

Deus, Deus meus

- 24 My praise is of him in the great assembly; *
 I will perform my vows in the presence of those who worship him.
- 25 The poor shall eat and be satisfied,
 and those who seek the Lord shall praise him: *
 "May your heart live for ever!"
- 26 All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the Lord, *
 and all the families of the nations shall bow before him.
- 27 For kingship belongs to the Lord; *
 he rules over the nations.
- 28 To him alone all who sleep in the earth bow down in worship; *
 all who go down to the dust fall before him.
- 29 My soul shall live for him;
 my descendants shall serve him; *
 they shall be known as the Lord's for ever.
- 30 They shall come and make known to a people yet unborn *
 the saving deeds that he has done.

The Second Reading - 1 John 4:7-21

Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us.

By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. And we have seen and do testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Savior of the world. God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God. So we have known and believe the love that God has for us.

God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them. Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness on the day of judgment, because as he is, so are we in this world. There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love. We love because he first loved us. Those who say, "I love God," and hate their brothers or sisters, are liars; for those who do not love a brother or sister whom they have seen, cannot love God whom they have not seen. The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also.

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

Children in grade 5 and younger are invited to meet at the back of the sanctuary by the main doors for a children's sermon.

Unison or harmony

1 In Christ there is no East or West, in
 2 Join hands, dis - ci - ples both of the faith, what -
 3 In Christ now meet both East and West, in

him no South or North, but one great fel - low -
 e'er your race may be! Who serves my Fa - ther
 him meet South and North, all Christ - ly souls are

ship of love through - out the whole wide earth.
 as his child is sure - ly kin to me.
 one in him, through - out the whole wide earth.

The Gospeler The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

The Gospel - John 15:1-8

Jesus said to his disciples, "I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinegrower. He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in

me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples.”

The Gospeler The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Sermon

Candidate, parents, and godparents join the clergy at the baptismal font.

Presentation and Examination of the Candidates

Parents and Godparents We present Isabella Rose Sessa to receive the Sacrament of Baptism.

Presider Will you be responsible for seeing that the child you present is brought up in the Christian faith and life?

Parents and Godparents I will, with God's help.

Presider Will you by your prayers and witness help this child to grow into the full stature of Christ?

Parents and Godparents I will, with God's help.

Question Do you renounce Satan and all the spiritual forces of wickedness that rebel against God?

Answer I renounce them.

Question Do you renounce the evil powers of this world which corrupt and destroy the creatures of God?

Answer I renounce them.

Question Do you renounce all sinful desires that draw you from the love of God?

Answer I renounce them.

Question Do you turn to Jesus Christ and accept him as your Savior?

Answer I do.

Question Do you put your whole trust in his grace and love?

Answer I do.

Question Do you promise to follow and obey him as your Lord?

Answer I do.

Question Will you who witness these vows do all in your power to support Isabella in her life in Christ?

People **We will.**

Presider Let us join with those who are committing themselves to Christ and renew our own baptismal covenant.

The Baptismal Covenant

Presider Do you believe in God the Father?

People **I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

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

People **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.**

Presider Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

People **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.**

Presider Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of the bread, and in the prayers?

People **I will, with God's help.**

Presider Will you persevere in resisting evil, and, whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord?

People **I will, with God's help.**

Presider Will you proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ?

People **I will, with God's help.**

Presider Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as yourself?

People **I will, with God's help.**

Presider Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being?

People **I will, with God's help.**

Prayers for the Candidates

Let us now pray for Isabella who will receive the Sacrament of new birth.

Reader Deliver her, O Lord, from the way of sin and death.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Reader Open her heart to your grace and truth.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Reader Fill her with your holy and life-giving Spirit.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Reader Keep her in the faith and communion of your holy Church.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Reader Teach her to love others in the power of the Spirit.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Reader Send her into the world in witness to your love.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Reader Bring her to the fullness of your peace and glory.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Presider Grant, O Lord, that all who are baptized into the death of Jesus Christ your Son may live in the power of his resurrection and look for him to come again in glory; who lives and reigns now and forever. **Amen.**

Thanksgiving over the Water

Presider The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Presider Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

We thank you, Almighty God, for the gift of water. Over it the Holy Spirit moved in the beginning of creation. Through it you led the children of Israel out of their bondage in Egypt into the land of promise. In it your Son Jesus received the baptism of John and was anointed by the Holy Spirit as the Messiah, the Christ, to lead us, through his death and resurrection, from the bondage of sin into everlasting life.

We thank you, Father, for the water of Baptism. In it we are buried with Christ in his death. By it we share in his resurrection. Through it we are reborn by the Holy Spirit. Therefore in joyful obedience to your Son, we bring into his fellowship those who come to him in faith, baptizing them in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Now sanctify this water, we pray you, by the power of your Holy Spirit, that those who here are cleansed from sin and born again may continue for ever in the risen life of Jesus Christ our Savior.

To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and for ever.
Amen.

The Baptism

Presider Isabella, I baptize you in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Isabella, you are sealed by the Holy Spirit in Baptism and marked as Christ's own for ever. **Amen.**

Presider Let us pray.

Heavenly Father, we thank you that by water and the Holy Spirit you have bestowed upon your servants the forgiveness of sin and have raised them to the new life of grace. Sustain them, O Lord, in your Holy Spirit. Give them an inquiring and discerning heart, the courage to will and to persevere, a spirit to know and to love you, and the gift of joy and wonder in all your works. **Amen.**

Presider Let us welcome the newly baptized.

We receive you into the household of God. Confess the faith of Christ crucified, proclaim his resurrection, and share with us in his eternal priesthood.

All stand. The priest gives a parent or godparent the baptismal candle to light from the Paschal candle, saying:

Presider You are the light of the world. So let your light shine before others that they may see your good works and give glory to God.

The Peace

Presider The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE HOLY COMMUNION

Offertory Anthem

Upon Your Heart

Eleanor Daley

Set me as a seal upon your heart, as a seal upon your arm,

For love is strong as death.

Many waters cannot quench love, neither can the floods drown it.

If you keep my commandments, you shall abide in my love.

Love one another as I have loved you,

Then shall your joy be complete.

Adult Choir

Doxology

Lasst uns erfreuen

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow. Praise him, all creatures here be -
low Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Praise him a - bove ye heaven - ly host. Praise
Fa - ther, Son and Ho - ly Ghost. Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le -
lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

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The Great Thanksgiving

Presider The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Presider Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them to the Lord.**

Presider Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds.

God of all power, Ruler of the Universe, you are worthy of glory and praise.
Glory to you for ever and ever.

At your command all things came to be: the vast expanse of interstellar space, galaxies, suns, the planets in their courses, and this fragile earth, our island home.
By your will they were created and have their being.

From the primal elements you brought forth the human race, and blessed us with memory, reason, and skill. You made us the rulers of creation. But we turned against you, and betrayed your trust; and we turned against one another.
Have mercy, Lord, for we are sinners in your sight.

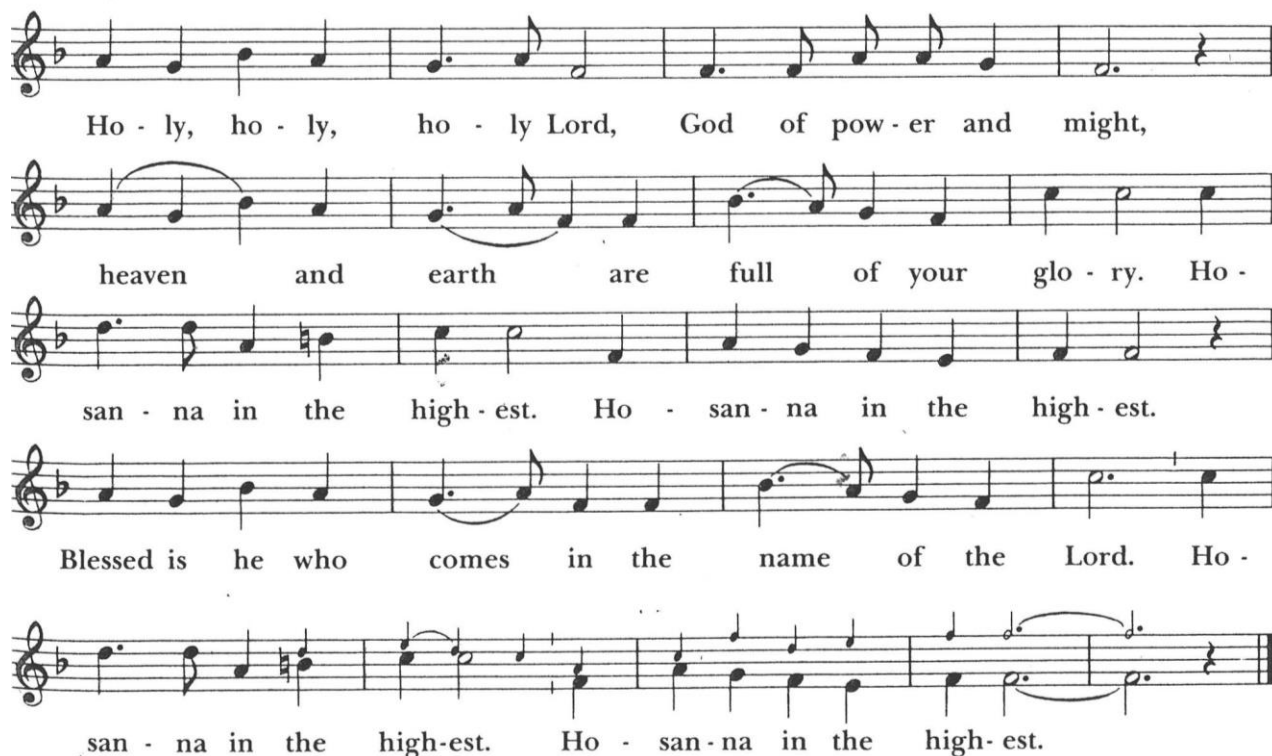
Again and again, you called us to return. Through prophets and sages you revealed your righteous Law. And in the fullness of time you sent your only Son, born of a woman, to fulfill your Law, to open for us the way of freedom and peace.
By his blood, he reconciled us.
By his wounds, we are healed.

And therefore we praise you, joining with the heavenly chorus, with prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with all those in every generation who have looked to you in hope, to proclaim with them your glory, in their unending hymn:

Sanctus S-125

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord

Richard Proulx



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

Setting: From *A Community Mass*; Richard Proulx (b. 1937)

Then the Celebrant continues

And so, Father, we who have been redeemed by him, and made a new people by water and the Spirit, now bring before you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ our Lord.

On the night he was betrayed he took bread, said the blessing, broke the bread, 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."

After supper, he took the cup of wine, gave 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. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Remembering now his work of redemption, and offering to you this sacrifice of thanksgiving,

We celebrate his death and resurrection, as we await the day of his coming.

Lord God of our Fathers: God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob; God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ: Open our eyes to see your hand at work in the world about us. Deliver us from the presumption of coming to this Table for solace only, and not for strength; for pardon only, and not for renewal. Let the grace of this Holy Communion make us one body, one spirit in Christ, that we may worthily serve the world in his name.

Risen Lord, be known to us in the breaking of the Bread.

Accept these prayers and praises, Father, through Jesus Christ our great High Priest, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, your Church gives honor, glory, and worship, from generation to generation. **Amen.**

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

Presider and People say together,

**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 Presider breaks the consecrated Bread.

Presider Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;


People Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

Antiphon: Cantor; then All




Be known to us, Lord Je - sus, in the break - ing of the bread.

Cantor




1. The bread which we break, al - le - lu - ia,




is the com - mun - ion of the bo - dy of Christ. [Ant.]

Cantor



2. One bo - dy are we, al - le - lu - ia,



for though man - y we share one bread. [Ant.]

The Presider faces the people and says:

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.

THE COMMUNION

Please come forward to receive communion. You may intinct (dip) the bread, or eat the bread and guide the chalice to drink the wine then return to your pew. If you need gluten-free bread, please let the priest know.

Music at the Communion - *The congregation is encouraged to join in singing the hymns.*



1. I've got peace like a riv - er, I've got peace like a
 2. I've got joy like a foun - tain, I've got joy like a
 3. I've got love like an o - cean, I've got love like an



1. riv - er, I've got peace like a riv - er in my
 2. foun - tain, I've got joy like a foun - tain in my
 3. o - cean, I've got love like an o - cean in my



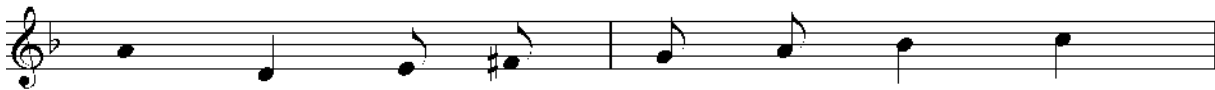
1. soul; _____ I've got riv - er in my soul. _____
 2. soul; _____ I've got foun - tain in my soul. _____
 3. soul; _____ I've got o - cean in my soul. _____



1 Like the mur - mur of the dove's song, like the
 2 To the mem - bers of Christ's Bo - dy, to the
 3 With the heal - ing of di - vi - sion, with the



chal - lenge of her flight, like the vig - or of the
 branch - es of the Vinc, to the Church in faith as -
 cease - less voice of prayer, with the power to love and



wind's rush, like the new flame's ca - ger
 sem - bled, to her midst as gift and
 wit - ness, with the peacc be - yond com -



might: come, Ho - ly Spi - rit, come.
 sign: come, _____ Ho - ly Spi - rit, come.
 pare: come, _____ Ho - ly Spi - rit, come.

Phrase 1 of each stanza may be sung by one group, with a contrasted group singing phrase 2, and all joining for the final phrase.

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1 My God, thy ta - ble now is spread, thy cup with
 2 O let thy ta - ble hon - ored be, and fur - nished
 3 Drawn by thy quick - ening grace, O Lord, in coun - less
 4 Nor let thy spread - ing Gos - pel rest till through the

love doth o - ver - flow; be all thy chil - dren
 well with joy - ful guests; and may each soul sal -
 num - bers let them come and gath - er from their
 world thy truth has run, till with this Bread shall

thith - er led, and let them thy sweet mer - cies know.
 va - tion see, that here its sa - cred pledg - es tastes.
 Fa - ther's board the Bread that lives be - yond the tomb.
 all be blessed who see the light or feel the sun.

Words: Sts. 1-3, Philip Doddridge (1702-1751), alt.; st. 4, Isaac Watts (1674-1748), alt. Music: *Rockingham*, melody from *Second Supplement to Psalmody in Miniature*, ca. 1780; adapt. Edward Miller (1731-1807); harm. Samuel Webbe (1740-1816).

The Post Communion Prayer

Let us pray.

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 Rector Transition Prayer

We ask for open hearts and minds in our search for a new rector. We ask for the eyes to see, ears to hear, and hearts to sense your guidance and inspiration. We ask you to help us to imagine as much as think, to listen more than we speak, and to trust the movements of the Holy Spirit throughout this process.

We pray for comfort in this time of change; for our friends who generously served on our discernment committee; for the priests we met through this search; and, gratefully, for Devon, as she leads us in this time of transition. Help us, O God, to keep trusting in what we cannot yet see. In Christ we pray. Amen.

The Blessing

The peace of God that passes all understanding keep your hearts and minds in the love of God and of God's Son, Jesus Christ; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. Amen.



1 Come, we that love the Lord, and let our joys be known; join
 2 Let those re - fuse to sing that nev - er knew our God; but
 3 The heirs of grace have found glo - ry be - gun be - low; ce -
 4 Then let our song a - bound and let our tears be dry; we're



in a song with sweet ac - cord and thus sur - round the throne.
 chil - dren of the heav - en - ly King may speak their joys a - broad.
 les - tial fruits on earth - ly ground from faith and hope may grow.
 march - ing through Em - man - uel's ground to fair - er worlds on high.

Refrain



Ho - san - na, ho - san - na! Re - joice, give thanks and sing.

Words: Isaac Watts (1674-1748), alt.

Music: *Vineyard Haven*, Richard Wayne Dirksen (b. 1921)

SM with Refrain

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The Sending

Clergy Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Voluntary

Prelude, Fugue and Chaconne

Dietrich Buxtehude

We welcome Isabella Rose Sessa into the Christian family by Holy Baptism.

~ LAY ASSISTANTS ~

Lectors/Chalicists – Kathy Wagner, Anthony Khan, Robin Ford, Nancy Collins

Altar Guild – Pam Ross, Kate Fahey, Janet Pollan, Ginny Spofford

Flower Guild – Nancy Morris (*Church*)

Donna Nichols, Kathy Grim (*Chapel*)

Acolytes – Ella Barber, Jace Barber, Henry Vandiver, Grant Itin

Verger – Susan Nagy

Greeters – Tracey Smith, Margot Walker

~ MEMORIALS ~

Flowers in the Chapel are given to the glory of God,

and in memory of

Adolph G. Rosengarten, Sr.

Peter Robinson Morsbach, 1989-1999