[22] But be doers of the word and not merely hearers who deceive themselves. [23] For if any are hearers of the word
and not doers, they are like those who look at themselves in a mirror; [24] for they look at themselves and, on going
away, immediately forget what they were like. [25] But those who look into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and
persevere, being not hearers who forget but doers who act—they will be blessed in their doing.
[26] If any think they are religious and do not bridle their tongues but deceive their hearts, their religion is
worthless. [27] Religion that is pure and undefiled before God the Father is this: to care for orphans and widows in
their distress and to keep oneself unstained by the world.
Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION *Please stand in body or spirit.* "Halle, Halle, Halle" - HAL H. HOPSON

Music: Caribbean traditional

GOSPEL: Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

The holy gospel according to Mark 7th chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Mark's gospel depicts Jesus as challenging traditional ways in which religious people determine what is pure or impure. For Jesus, the observance of religious practices cannot become a substitute for godly words or deeds that spring from a faithful heart.

7 Now when the Pharisees and some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem gathered around him, [2] they
noticed that some of his disciples were eating with defiled hands, that is, without washing them. [3] (For the
Pharisees, and all the Jews, do not eat unless they wash their hands, thus observing the tradition of the elders, [4] and
they do not eat anything from the market unless they wash, and there are also many other traditions that they
observe: the washing of cups and pots and bronze kettles and beds.) [5] So the Pharisees and the scribes asked him,
"Why do your disciples not walk according to the tradition of the elders but eat with defiled hands?" [6] He said to
them, "Isaiah prophesied rightly about you hypocrites, as it is written,
'This people honors me with their lips,
but their hearts are far from me;
[7] in vain do they worship me,
teaching human precepts as doctrines.'
[8] "You abandon the commandment of God and hold to human tradition."
[14] Then he called the crowd again and said to them, "Listen to me, all of you, and understand: [15] there is nothing
outside a person that by going in can defile, but the things that come out are what defile."
[21] For it is from within, from the human heart, that evil intentions come: sexual immorality, theft, murder, [22] adultery,
avarice, wickedness, deceit, debauchery, envy, slander, pride, folly. [23] All these evil things come from within, and
they defile a person."
The gospel of our Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

PLEASE BE SEATED

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY *Please stand in body or spirit* ……..Hymn #514 *"O Word of God Incarnate"*

APOSTLES' CREED

With the whole church, let us confess our faith using the words of the Apostles' Creed.

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

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary, 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, he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**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.
Amen.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

We entrust these and all our prayers to you, holy God, in the name of your beloved child, Jesus Christ, our Savior.

Amen.

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

PLEASE BE SEATED

MEAL

OFFERING ……..Hymn #512 *"Lord, Let My Heart Be Good Soil"*

OFFERING PRAYER *Please stand in body or spirit*

Let us pray. Blessed are you, O God, source of every gift of your creation. By these gifts and with our lives, help us to serve one another and all in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

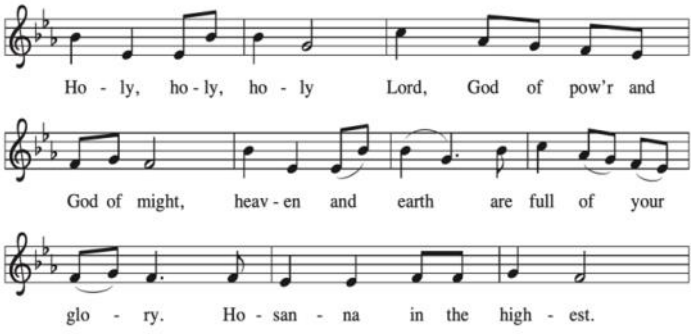
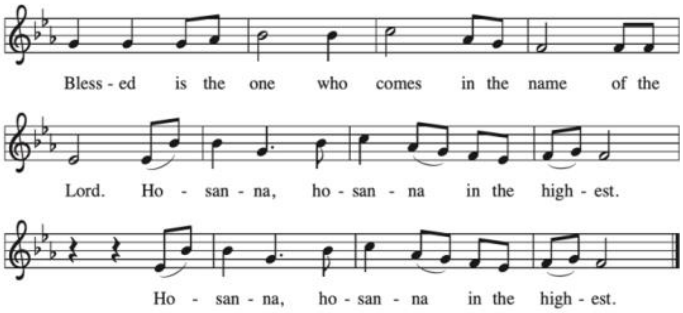
DIALOGUE

The Lord be with you.	**And also with you.**
Lift up your hearts.	**We lift them to the Lord.**
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.	**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

STAND

PREFACE

It is indeed right ...join their unending hymn:

ACCLAMATION AND AMEN

SANCTUS (HOLY, HOLY, HOLY)