

THE PARISH OF CHRIST THE REDEEMER
PELHAM, NEW YORK



THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT
(ADVENT 4, YEAR A)

THE HOLY EUCHARIST
10:00 AM, DECEMBER 21, 2025

ABOUT CHRIST CHURCH

The Parish of Christ the Redeemer (known as Christ Church) is the Episcopal Church in Pelham, New York. The Episcopal Church is part of the Anglican Communion which is made up of 85 million people in over 165 countries and is the third largest Christian denomination in the world. Christ Church was founded in 1843 and is the first house of worship in Pelham. This building was consecrated on September 15, 1843, the original church building was expanded in 1910, and the sanctuary was reconstructed in 1968 to allow for the current, more intimate worship space. Our congregation draws primarily from Pelham, New Rochelle, Mount Vernon, and the Bronx, and includes people from diverse denominational and cultural backgrounds.

ABOUT ADVENT

Advent is the season in which the Christian Church waits and watches for the coming of Jesus Christ. Through scripture, song and silence we hear again the story of God's people who longed for a Savior. Living in the reality that Jesus Christ has indeed come, that he has died and that he has risen, we await for his coming again in glory. Blue or Purple vestments are worn at Christ Church throughout Advent, and the Advent Wreath, which is hung above the sanctuary, marks each passing week with an additional lighted candle. Throughout the Sundays of Advent *Gloria in excelsis*, "Glory to God in the highest," is suppressed as the opening song of praise, in its place is *Kyrie eleison*, "Lord, have mercy." The new liturgical year begins on the First Sunday of Advent: we are now in Year A; the gospel reading appointed most Sundays in Year A is from the Gospel according to Matthew.

ABOUT TODAY'S SERVICE

The Holy Eucharist, the principal act of Christian worship on the Lord's Day and other major Feasts, and Daily Morning and Evening Prayer, as set forth in the Book of Common Prayer, 1979, are the regular services appointed for public worship in the Episcopal Church. At Christ Church we celebrate the Holy Eucharist every Sunday, and also on Holy Days and other occasions. Today's liturgy is from the red *Book of Common Prayer* 1979. All hymns are taken from the blue *Hymnal 1982* or other authorized hymnals for use in the Episcopal Church. All hymns are reprinted with permission under OneLicense.net A713125.



CHILDREN, NURSERY CARE, AND SUNDAY SCHOOL

Children of all ages are always welcome in church. Childcare is available in the Nursery every Sunday during the 10:00 AM Eucharist. Sunday School is offered during the academic year. Sunday School children join the rest of the congregation for the Holy Communion. Scan the QR code to register for Sunday School.



NEW OR VISITING?

Welcome to Christ Church! Scan this QR code to fill out our online visitors form. If you prefer there are hard copies of this form in the pew – please fill one out and place it in the offering plate during Announcement. This will help us keep in touch with you.



SUPPORT CHRIST CHURCH: HOW TO GIVE

The majority of our operating budget is funded by donations. Ushers will pass the collection plate during the Offertory music midway through today's service, and you are invited to make a donation to support Christ Church. If you prefer, you can give online by scanning the QR code or texting an amount to: **914-351-2001**.



2026 STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN: PLEDGE TODAY

God is at work at Christ Church. Sunday worship attendance continues to increase; children and family ministries are growing; outreach and service efforts are aiding many in need across our communities; music and concert programs are flourishing; and fellowship and educational ministries are bringing people of all ages together. Our pledge goal this year is \$550,000 which accounts for cost increases. We want every parishioner to pledge. The amount is personal and should reflect where Christ Church lives with you and your family. Your continued support ensures we have excellent clergy and staff, keeps our buildings beautiful and safe, and funds our programs and ministries.

ORGAN PRELUDE

The prelude is offered before worship as a form of prayer. Once the prelude begins, please refrain from conversation in the church or outside the Sacristy.

Noels

Jean-Francois Dandrieu 1682-1738

Tous les Bourgeois de Chatres - Michau qui causoit ce grand bruit

Chantons je vous prie - Où s'en vont ces gais Bergers

ENTRANCE HYMN (#72)

All stand and sing the hymn as the minister enter.

Descant

4 Our glad ho - san - nas, Prince of Peace, thy wel - come

1 Hark! the glad sound! the Sa - vior comes, the Sa - vior

2 He comes, the pri - soners to re - lease in Sa - tan's

3 He comes, the bro - ken heart to bind, the bleed - ing

4 Our glad ho - san - nas, Prince of Peace, thy wel - come

shall pro - claim; and heaven's e - ter - - nal

prom - ised long: let ev - ery heart pre -

bond - age held; the gates of brass be -

soul to cure; and with the trea - - sures

shall pro - claim; and heaven's e - ter - - nal

Words:

Philip Doddridge (1702–1751)

Music:

Richmond, melody Thomas Haweis (1734–1820); adapt. Samuel Webbe (1740–1816); harm. *Hymns Ancient and Modern, Revised*, 1950; desc. Craig Sellar Lang (1891–1971)

Copyright:

Descant by Permission of Novello and Company, Ltd.

Meter:

CM

OPENING ACCLAMATION & COLLECT FOR PURITY

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

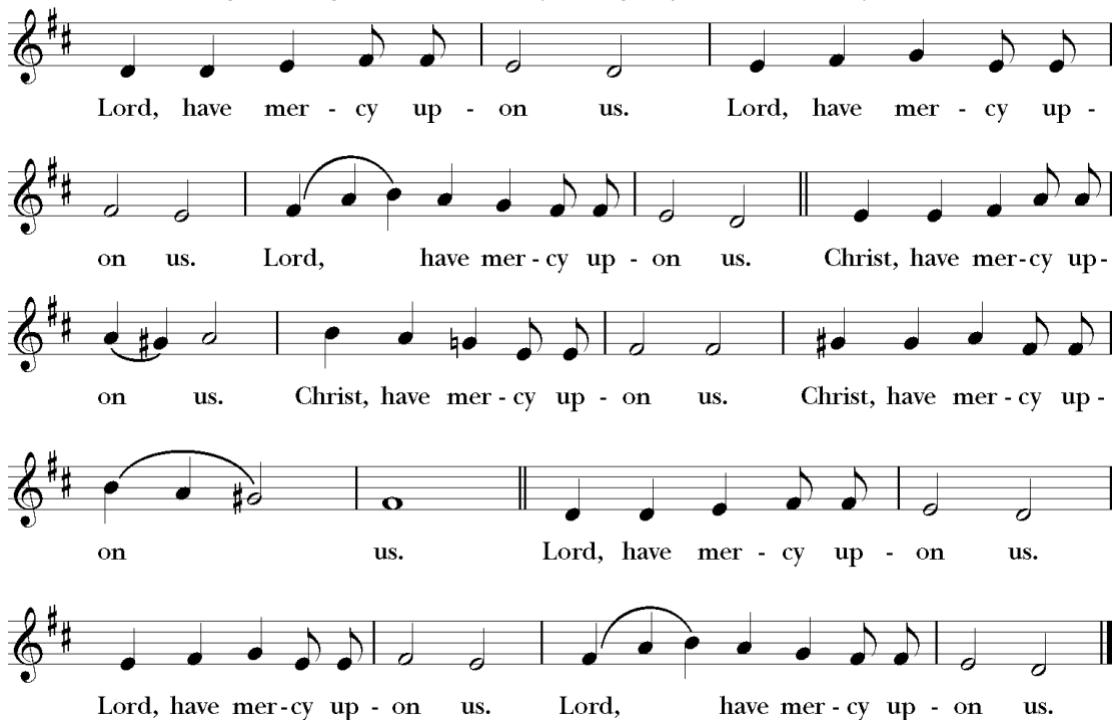
People **And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

Celebrant 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.

All **Amen.**

KYRIE ELEISON (#S-91)

All remain standing and sing “Lord, have mercy” (English for the Greek “Kyrie eleison”).



Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Lord, have mer - cy up -

on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -

on us. Christ, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -

on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

Music: From *Missa de Sancta Maria Magdalena*, Healey Willan (1880-1968)

Copyright: By permission of Oxford University Press. Reprinted under OneLicense.net license A-713125.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Purify our conscience, Almighty God, by your daily visitation, that your Son Jesus Christ, at his coming, may find in us a mansion prepared for himself; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

All **Amen.**

THE FIRST LESSON: ISAIAH 7:10-16

All are seated.

Reader A Reading from the Book of Isaiah.

Again the Lord spoke to Ahaz, saying, Ask a sign of the Lord your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven. But Ahaz said, I will not ask, and I will not put the Lord to the test. Then Isaiah said: "Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary mortals, that you weary my God also? Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son, and shall name him Immanuel. He shall eat curds and honey by the time he knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good. For before the child knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good, the land before whose two kings you are in dread will be deserted."

The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 80: 1-7, 16-18

Qui regis Israel

The Psalm is sung by the Parish Choir to an Anglican Chant by Henry Walford Davies.

Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph like a flock; *
 shine forth, you that are enthroned upon the cherubim.
In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin, and Manasseh, *
 stir up your strength and come to help us.
Restore us, O God of hosts; *
 show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.
O Lord God of hosts, *
 how long will you be angered
 despite the prayers of your people?
You have fed them with the bread of tears; *
 you have given them bowls of tears to drink.
You have made us the derision of our neighbors, *
 and our enemies laugh us to scorn.
Restore us, O God of hosts; *
 show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.
Let your hand be upon the man of your right hand, *
 the son of man you have made so strong for yourself.
And so will we never turn away from you; *
 give us life, that we may call upon your Name.
Restore us, O Lord God of hosts; *
 show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.

THE SECOND LESSON: ROMANS 1:1-7

Reader

A Reading from the Letter of Paul to the Romans.

Paul, a servant of Jesus Christ, called to be an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God, which he promised beforehand through his prophets in the holy scriptures, the gospel concerning his Son, who was descended from David according to the flesh and was declared to be Son of God with power according to the spirit of holiness by resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord, through whom we have received grace and apostleship to bring about the obedience of faith among all the Gentiles for the sake of his name, including yourselves who are called to belong to Jesus Christ, To all God's beloved in Rome, who are called to be saints: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

The Word of the Lord.

People

Thanks be to God.

SEQUENCE HYMN (#265)

All stand and sing the hymn.

The musical score consists of three staves of music. The top staff is in treble clef, the middle staff is in bass clef, and the bottom staff is in treble clef. The music is in common time. The lyrics are as follows:

1 The an - gel Ga - bri - el from hea - ven came,
2 "For know a bless - ed Mo - ther thou shalt be,
3 Then gen - tle Ma - ry meek - ly bowed her head,
4 Of her, Em - man - u - el, the Christ, was born

his wings as drift - ed snow, his eyes as flame;
all gen - er - a - tions laud and hon - or thee,
"To me be as it pleas - eth God," she said,
in Beth - le - hem, all on a Christ - mas morn,

All hail," said he, "thou low - ly maid - en Ma - ry,
 thy Son shall be Em - man - u - el, by seers fore - told,
 "my soul shall laud and mag - ni - fy his ho - ly Name."
 and Chris - tian folk through - out the world will ev - er say -

 most high - ly fa - vored la - dy," Glo - - - ri - a!
 most high - ly fa - vored la - dy," Glo - - - ri - a!
 Most high - ly fa - vored la - dy, Glo - - - ri - a!
 "Most high - ly fa - vored la - dy," Glo - - - ri - a!

Words:	Basque carol; para. Sabine Baring-Gould (1834–1924)
Music:	<i>Gabriel's Message</i> , Basque carol; harm. Edgar Pettman (1865–1943)
Copyright:	Music: Copyright © 1961, B. Feldman & Co. Ltd., trading as H. Freeman & Co. Reproduced by permission of EMI Music Publishing Ltd., 138-140 Charing Cross Road, London WC2H 0LD, England.
Meter:	10 10. 12. 10

THE HOLY GOSPEL: MATTHEW 1:18-25

All remain standing for the Gospel.

Deacon ✕ The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Deacon Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly. But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, “Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.” All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet: “Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel,” which means, “God is with us.” When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife, but had no marital relations with her until she had borne a son; and he named him Jesus.

The Gospel of the Lord.

People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

THE SERMON

All are seated for the sermon by the Rev. Matthew Hoxsie Mead.

NICENE CREED

All stand and join in saying the Nicene Creed.

Celebrant We believe in one God,

All **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

Deacon Father, we pray for your holy Catholic Church;
People **That we all may be one.**

Deacon Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;
People **That your Name may be glorified by all people.**

Deacon We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons;
People **That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.**

Deacon We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;
People **That there may be justice and peace on the earth.**

Deacon Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;
People **That our works may find favor in your sight.**

Deacon Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;
People **That they may be delivered from their distress.**

Deacon Give to the departed eternal rest;
People **Let light perpetual shine upon them.**

Deacon We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;
People **May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.**

Deacon Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.

The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.

Our prayers are asked for Sean our Presiding Bishop, Matthew and Allen our Bishops, Father Matt our Rector, Mother Meredith, Deacon Chisara, and our Wardens, Officers, and Vestry members. We pray also for: Gina, Jenny, Mike, Bill, Tom, Julie, Anne, Kristen, Ari, Jennifer, Marion, Sam, Elaine, Sheila, Amy, Alice, Barbara, Janet, Sandy, Beth, Ingrid, Didi, Tim, Chris, Marilyn, Alison, Bob, Robert, Allison, Hildy, Jordan, Cathy, Tom, Bill, Mike, Sara, David, Drue, Kevin, Brian, Helen, and M&D. We pray for those in our Armed Services especially: Sean, Dylan, Gus, Chuck, Sam, Helen, Joseph, Philip, Jake, Matthew, Robert, Nicholas, Mitchel, Alec, Jonah, Tia, Tyrese, Terrence. We also pray for those who have died. May their souls, and the souls of the departed rest in peace, Amen. We give thanks for those celebrating birthdays this week, especially John Fox (12/22), Victoria Hoffer (12/27), Aiden Munro (12/26), Our Lord Jesus Christ (12/25), Claudette Coote (12/25), Dawn Ryder (12/27).

CONFESSON OF SIN

Deacon Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

All kneel (as able).

Celebrant Most merciful God,

All **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.**

Celebrant 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.

All **Amen.**

THE PEACE

All stand.

Celebrant The Peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

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

WELCOME & OFFERTORY SENTENCE

All are seated. The announcements conclude with the offertory sentence.



NEW OR VISITING?

Welcome to Christ Church! Scan this QR code to fill out our online visitors form. If you prefer there are hard copies of this form in the pew – please fill one out and place it in the offering plate during Announcement. This will help us keep in touch with you.



SUPPORT CHRIST CHURCH: HOW TO GIVE

*The majority of our operating budget is funded by donations. Ushers will pass the collection plate during the Offertory music midway through today's service, and you are invited to make a donation to support Christ Church. If you prefer, you can give online by scanning the QR code or texting an amount to **914-351-2001**.*

HOLY COMMUNION IN THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH

All baptized persons, including children, are full members of the Body of Christ and are invited to participate in every aspect of the service and receive the Holy Communion. Members of other Christian churches who are baptized are also invited to receive the Body and Blood of Christ. Persons who do not wish to receive Holy Communion are also invited to come forward with everyone else to receive a blessing (cross your arms over your chest to indicate that you want a blessing and not Holy Communion).

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

The gifts of bread and wine are prepared at the altar and an offering is taken while the Parish Choir sings an anthem.

A Spotless Rose

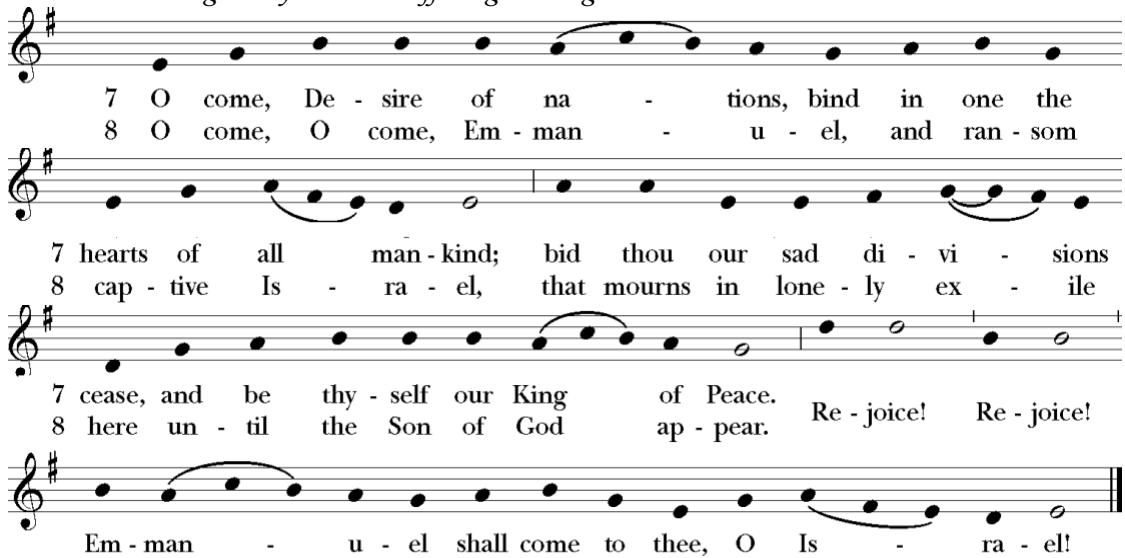
Herbert Howells 1892-1983

A spotless Rose is blowing
Sprung from a tender root,
Of ancient seers' foreshowing,
Of Jesse promised fruit;
Its fairest bud unfolds to light
Amid the cold, cold winter
And in the dark midnight.

The Rose which I am singing,
Whereof Isaiah said,
Is from its sweet root springing
In Mary, purest Maid;
For through our God's great love and might
The blessed babe she bare us
In a cold, cold winter's night.

OFFERTORY HYMN (#56 VS. 7-8)

All stand and sing the hymn as the offering is brought to the altar and blessed.



7 O come, De - sire of na - - tions, bind in one the
8 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som
7 hearts of all man - kind; bid thou our sad di - vi - - sions
8 cap - tive Is - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - - ile
7 cease, and be thy - self our King of Peace. Re - joice! Re - joice!
8 here un - til the Son of God ap - pear.
7 Em - man - - u - el shall come to thee, O Is - - ra - el!

Words: Latin, ca. 9th cent.; ver. *Hymnal 1940*, alt.

Music: *Veni, veni, Emmanuel*, plainsong, Mode 1, Processionale, 15th cent.; adapt. Thomas Helmore (1811-1890); acc. Richard Proulx (b. 1937)

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

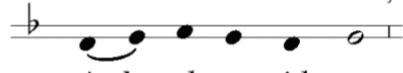
All remain standing.

Celebrant



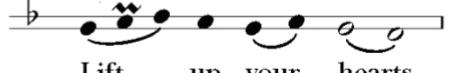
The Lord be with you.

People



And also with you.

Celebrant



Lift up your hearts.

People



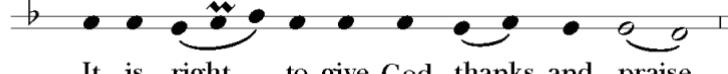
We lift them to the Lord.

Celebrant



Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People



It is right to give God thanks and praise.

Celebrant

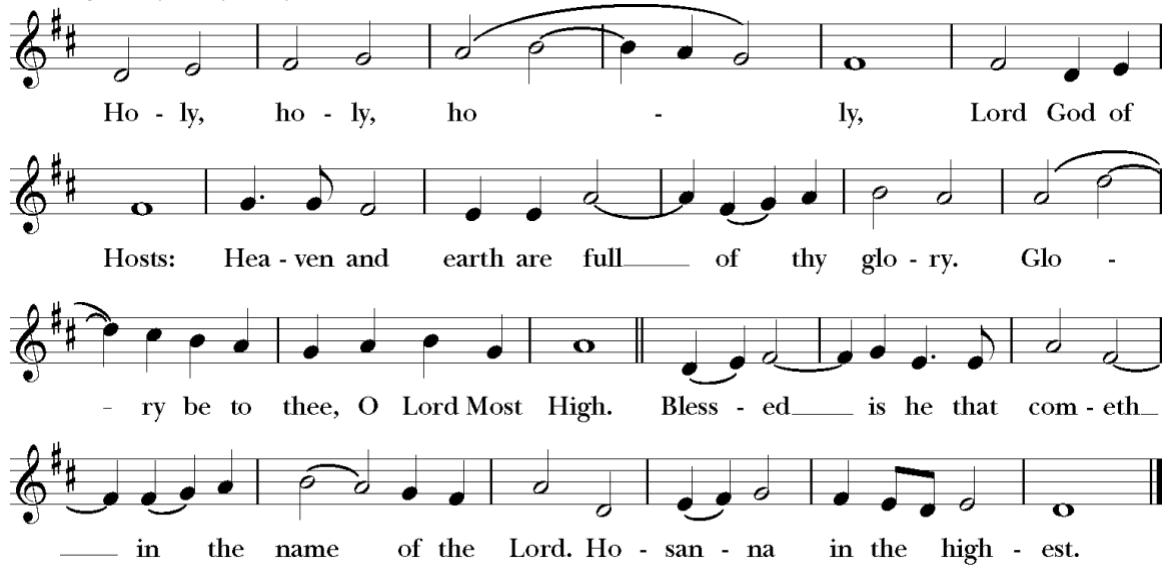
It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

The Celebrant continues with the Proper Preface assigned for the day.

Celebrant

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:

All sing “Holy, holy, holy” (#S 114)



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, Lord God of
Hosts: Hea - ven and earth are full of thy glo - ry. Glo -
- ry be to thee, O Lord Most High. Bless - ed is he that com - eth
— in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Music:

From *Missa de Sancta Maria Magdalena*, Healey Willan (1880-1968)

Copyright:

By permission of Oxford University Press. Reprinted under OneLicense.net license A-713125.

The people stand or kneel.

Celebrant 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.”



Celebrant

There - fore, according to his command, O Father,



People

We re-mem-ber his death,



We pro-claim his res - ur - rec - tion,



We a-wait his com-ing in glo-ry.

Celebrant

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 Mary, the Virgin Mother of God and 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,

Celebrant

now and for ev - er.

People

A - MEN.

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

All **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 Celebrant breaks the consecrated bread. A period of silence is observed.

Celebrant

Al - le - lu - ia. Christ our Pass-ov-er is sac-ri-ficed for us;

People

There-fore let us keep the feast. Al - le - lu - ia.

All sing "Lamb of God" (Hymn #S 158)

O Lamb of God, that ta - kest a - way the sins of the world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Lamb of God, that ta - kest a - way the sins of the world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Lamb of God, that ta - kest a - way the sins of the world, grant us thy peace.

Music: From *Missa de Sancta Maria Magdalena*, Healey Willan (1880-1968)

Copyright: By permission of Oxford University Press. Reprinted under OneLicense.net license A-713125.

INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION

The Celebrant invites the people to receive the Holy Communion. All baptized persons, including children, are invited to receive Holy Communion. Members of other Christian churches who are baptized are also invited to receive the Body and Blood of Christ. Persons who do not wish to receive Holy Communion are invited to come forward with everyone else to receive a blessing (cross your arms over your chest to indicate that you want a blessing).

ANTHEM AT THE COMMUNION

During the ministration of Holy Communion, the Parish Choir sings an anthem.

A Maiden Most Gentle

Arr. Andrew Carter b 1939

A maiden most gentle and tender we sing
Of Mary the mother of Jesus our King
Ave, Ave, Ave Maria.

How blest is the birth of her heavenly child
Who came to redeem us in Mary so mild
Ave, Ave, Ave Maria.

The archangel Gabriel foretold by his call
The Lord of creation and Saviour of all
Ave, Ave, Ave Maria.

Three kings came to worship with gifts rich and rare
And marveled in awe at the babe in her care
Ave, Ave, Ave Maria.

Rejoice and be glad at this Christmas we pray
Sing praise to the Savior sing end-lessly
Ave, Ave, Ave Maria.
Ave, Ave, Ave, Ave Maria.

POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER

All kneel as you are able.

Celebrant Let us pray.

All Almighty and ever living 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.

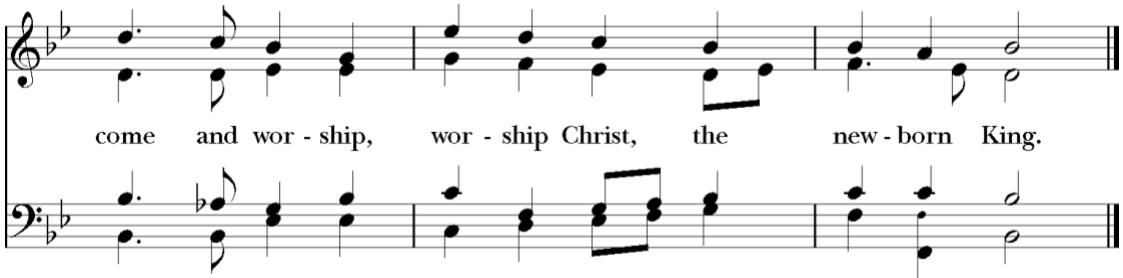
POST COMMUNION HYMN (#93)

All stand and sing the hymn.

1 An - gels, from the realms of glo - ry, wing your flight o'er
 2 Shep - herds in the field a - bid - ing, watch - ing o'er your
 3 Sa - ges, leave your con - tem - pla - tions; bright - er vi - sions
 4 Saints be - fore the al - tar bend - ing, watch - ing long in

all the earth; ye, who sang cre - a - tion's sto - ry,
 flocks by night, God with you is now re - sid - ing;
 beam a - far: seek the great De - sire of na - tions;
 hope and fear, sud - den - ly the Lord, de - scand - ing,

now pro - claim Mes - si - ah's birth: Refrain
 yon - der shines the in - fant Light: come and wor - ship,
 ye have seen his na - tal star:
 in his tem - ple shall ap - pear:



Words: James Montgomery (1771–1854), alt.

Music: *Regent Square*, Henry Thomas Smart (1813–1879)

Meter: 87. 87. 87

BLESSING & DISMISSAL

The celebrant offers a blessing which concludes as follows.

Celebrant ... and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always.

People **Amen.**

Deacon Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People **Thanks be to God.**

PROCESSIONAL VOLUNTARY

All remain standing as the altar party processes from the Sanctuary during the Postlude. Once the altar party has departed, please be seated and be courteous to those who are listening to the music by remaining quiet.

Noel – Carillon ou Cloches

Dandrieu

Dr. J's Music Notes

Herbert Norman Howells CH CBE was an English composer, organist, and teacher, most famous for his large output of Anglican church music. He was a pivotal 20th-century English composer, celebrated for his rich, expressive harmonies, deeply spiritual church music (like the *Collegium Regale* settings), and ability to transform personal grief, especially the loss of his son, into profound musical beauty, becoming a key figure in English musical modernism with a style blending Tudor influences and innovative dissonance for evocative, contemplative works. He was profoundly influenced by personal tragedies, especially the death of his son Michael in 1935, which led to intensely moving works like *Hymnus Paradis*. A distinguished teacher at the Royal College of Music, he received numerous honors, including a CBE and Companion of Honour (CH), and is buried at Westminster Abbey.

Christmas Schedule

Christmas Lessons & Carols, Sunday, December 21, 4pm

*An hour of cherished, traditional, and well known
Christman Carols and Scripture Lessons*

Christmas Eve Family Mass, 4pm

*Prelude at 3:45pm featuring instrumental Carols with Strings
Mass with the Parish Choir & Modus Operandi Chamber Orchestra*

Christmas Eve Midnight Mass, 10pm

*Prelude at 9:45pm featuring instrumental Carols with Strings
Mass with the Parish Choir & Modus Operandi Chamber Orchestra*

Christmas Day Choral Mass

December 25, 10am

With Choral Quartet

CHRIST CHURCH

Episcopal/Anglican

Clergy & Staff

The Reverend Matthew Hoxsie Mead, *Priest & Rector*

The Reverend Meredith Hawkins, *Associate Priest*

The Reverend Deacon Chisara Alimole, *Deacon*

Ms. Marie Main, *Parish Administrator*

Dr. Justin Bischof, *Director of Music & Organist*

Mr. Liam Myers, *Director of Children's & Family Ministries*

Mr. Michael Moynihan, *Director of Adult Christian Formation*

Mr. Walter Roberts, *Verger and Sexton*; Mr. Ed Blue, *Sexton*

Honorary Clergy

The Rev. David Hoag, *Rector Emeritus*

The Reverend Deacon Katie Lawrence, *Deacon Emerita*

Parish Officers & Vestry

The Reverend Matthew Hoxsie Mead, *Rector*

J.D. Calder, *Senior Warden*; Etta Gumbs, *Junior Warden*

Allison Bodenmann, *Treasurer*; John Fox, *Assistant Treasurer*; Jean Gruener, *Clerk*

Jennifer Hawks Bland, Stephen Dolan, Robert Boyer, Charlette Finch,
Curtis Chase, Jack Kraft, Andy DesRault, Robert Landis, Barbara Zambelli

Worship Schedule

Every Sunday at 8am & 10am: Holy Eucharist

Sundays as announced at 5pm: Holy Eucharist or Evensong

Wednesdays & Holy Days as announced at 5:15pm: Holy Eucharist

The Parish of Christ the Redeemer

1415 Pelhamdale Avenue, Pelham, New York 10803

914.738.5515 - www.christchurchpelham.org

*Christ Church Pelham is a Christian community in the Episcopal tradition.
As members of the Body of Christ, we are dedicated to spiritual growth and committed
to serving God through worship and service to our community and the world.*