

# PALMER MEMORIAL EPISCOPAL CHURCH HOUSTON, TEXAS

Our mission is to know and share the love of Jesus Christ

The First Sunday of Advent Choral Eucharist, Rite I 10:00 Am | November 27, 2022

6221 MAIN STREET | HOUSTON, TEXAS 77030 | 713.529.6196 PALMERCHURCH.ORG



# Welcome to Palmer, where our mission is to know and share the love of Jesus Christ.

We are a community of Christians worshiping in the Episcopal tradition, which has its roots in the practices of the ancient Church. We are a congregation that values not only eternal answers but also important questions. You are surrounded by the love of Jesus here this morning. Scan the QR code to the left or visit palmerchurch.org/connect to fill out a welcome card or a request for prayer.

# **COVID-19 Church Guidelines**

Masking is optional inside our church buildings, and we strongly encourage everyone to be up to date on COVID-19 vaccinations and boosters. Note that some who are fully vaccinated will continue wearing masks even when not required to do so.

## MEDICAL CENTER GUESTS

If you or a family member are here for care at the Texas Medical Center, please stop at the Welcome Tent on Main Street by the front doors of the Church and let us know how we can support you while you are in Houston. You may also contact Suzie Dennis at sdennis@palmerchurch.org. You are also invited to our service in our chapel on Wednesdays at 11 AM, with prayers for healing and strength for patients and caregivers.

## **Receiving Holy Communion**

If you are a baptized Christian of any tradition, you are invited to receive communion with us after the Breaking of the Bread. The consecrated bread will be placed in your outstretched hands. Those who require either grape juice or gluten-free bread and wine should let the minister of communion know. When the chalice of consecrated wine comes to you, you may sip from the chalice, or carefully dip part of the consecrated bread into the wine, or decline it. Rest assured that you will have made a full communion if you choose to receive the consecrated bread only, with nothing lacking in your experience of God's grace today.

## **Receiving a Blessing**

If you are not a baptized Christian, or your Christian tradition does not allow you to receive communion with us, we encourage you to come forward at the time of communion to receive a blessing. Simply cross your arms over your chest as someone approaches with the bread, and that person will know to give you a blessing instead of communion. In this way, everyone can participate in this part of the service.

#### SEEKING BAPTISM

If you have never been baptized and desire to be immersed in grace and forgiveness as a follower of Jesus, please speak with a member of the clergy listed below or someone at the Welcome Table after this hour of worship. It would be a joy to baptize you as a Christian here at Palmer Memorial Episcopal Church.

## CLERGY AND LITURGICAL CHURCH STAFF

The Rev'd Neil Alan Willard, *Rector* The Rev'd Ryan Hawthorne, *Curate* The Rev'd Jack Karn, *Deacon* Roger Hutchison, *Director of Christian Formation and Parish Life*  Dr. Brady Knapp, *Director of Music* Ken Cowan, *Organist and Artist-in-Residence* Hannah Cen, *Associate Organist* David Ashley White, *Composer-in-Residence* 

## The Word of God

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Opening Hymn 57 "Lo! he comes, with clouds descending"

CelebrantBlessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.PeopleAnd blessed be God's kingdom, now and forever. Amen.

Seeing that we have a great high priest, that is passed into the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need. *Hebrews 4:14, 16* 

# **Confession of Sin**

The Deacon says

Let us humbly confess our sins unto Almighty God.

#### The People kneel or stand.

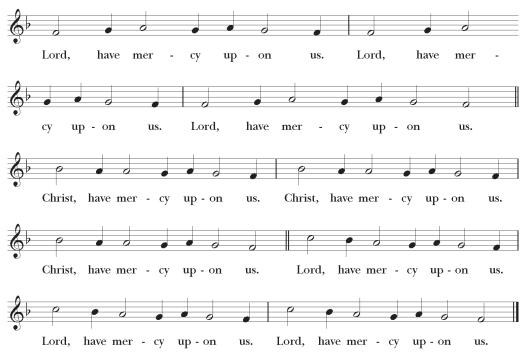
CelebrantAlmighty and most merciful Father,Peoplewe have erred and strayed from thy ways like lost sheep,<br/>we have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts,<br/>we have offended against thy holy laws,<br/>we have left undone those things which we ought to have done,<br/>and we have done those things which we ought not to have done.<br/>But thou, O Lord, have mercy upon us,<br/>spare thou those who confess their faults,<br/>restore thou those who are penitent,<br/>according to thy promises declared unto us<br/>in Christ Jesus our Lord;<br/>and grant, O most merciful Father, for his sake,<br/>that we may hereafter live a godly, righteous, and sober life,<br/>to the glory of thy holy Name. Amen.

#### The Priest stand and says

The Almighty and merciful Lord grant you absolution and remission of all your sins, true repentance, amendment of life, and the grace and consolation of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

The Celebrant invites the congregation to stand.

Merbecke



# The Collect of the Day

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

*People* And with thy spirit.

Celebrant Let us pray.

Almighty God, give us grace that we may cast away the works of darkness, and put upon us the armor of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which thy Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that in the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge both the quick and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, one God, now and for ever. **Amen**.

## The Lessons

shares, and their spears into pruning-hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall

*Reader* A reading from the Book of Isaiah. The word that Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem. In days to come the mountain of the Lord's house shall be established as the highest of the mountains, and shall be raised above the hills; all the nations shall stream to it. Many peoples shall come and say, 'Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob; that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths.' For out of Zion shall go forth instruction, and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem. He shall judge between the nations, and shall arbitrate for many peoples; they shall beat their swords into plough-

they learn war any more. O house of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the Lord!

ReaderThe Word of the Lord.PeopleThanks be to God.

#### Psalm 122

First Reading

I was glad when they said to me, "Let us go to the house of the Lord." Now our feet are standing within your gates, O Jerusalem. Jerusalem is built as a city that is at unity with itself; To which the tribes go up, the tribes of the Lord, the assembly of Israel, to praise the Name of the Lord. For there are the thrones of judgment, the thrones of the house of David. Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: "May they prosper who love you. Peace be within your walls and quietness within your towers. For my brethren and companions' sake, I pray for your prosperity. Because of the house of the Lord our God, I will seek to do you good."

Isaiah 2:1-5

Plainchant

Sequence Hymn 60 "Creator of the stars of night"

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Gospel Reading

DeaconThe Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.PeopleGlory be to thee, O Lord.

Jesus said to the disciples, "But about that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. For as the days of Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away, so too will be the coming of the Son of Man. Then two will be in the field; one will be taken and one will be left. Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken and one will be left. Keep awake therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. But understand this: if the owner of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour."

DeaconThe Gospel of the Lord.PeoplePraise be to thee, O Christ.

## The Sermon

The Rev'd Ryan Hawthorne, Curate

### The Nicene Creed

Celebrant We believe in one God, People 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

### The Leader and People pray responsively

Father, we pray for thy holy Catholic Church; That we all may be one.

Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve thee; That thy Name may be glorified by all people.

We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons, especially our bishops Andy, Jeff, Kai, and Héctor, our priests Neil and Ryan, and our deacon Jack;

#### That they may be faithful ministers of thy Word and Sacraments.

We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world, especially Joe, President of the United States, Greg, Governor of Texas, and Sylvester, Mayor of Houston;

#### That there may be justice and peace on the earth.

Give us grace to do thy will in all that we undertake;

#### That our works may find favor in thy sight.

Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble, especially patients across the street at the Texas Medical Center;

That they may be delivered from their distress.

Give to the departed eternal rest, especially those who have died from gun violence in Colorado and Virginia and bomb explosions in Jerusalem

Let light perpetual shine upon them.

We praise thee for thy saints who have entered into joy;

May we also come to share in thy heavenly kingdom.

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others, adding our own petitions with our lips or in our hearts.

## The Celebrant then says

Hasten, O Father, the coming of thy kingdom; and grant that we thy servants, who now live by faith, may with joy behold thy Son at his coming in glorious majesty; even Jesus Christ, our only Mediator and Advocate. **Amen**.

# The Peace

CelebrantThe peace of the Lord be always with you.PeopleAnd with thy spirit.

# THE HOLY COMMUNION

The Celebrant says this or another sentence of Scripture to begin the Offertory.

Ascribe to the Lord the honor due God's Name; bring offerings and come into the courts of the Lord. Psalm 96:8

All laud, eternal Son, to thee

Whose advent sets thy people free, Whom with the Father we adore,

And Holy Ghost for evermore. Amen.

Those who have brought with them an offering are invited to place it in the offering plate that will be passed in the pews. Others are invited to make their financial contributions online at palmerchurch.org/give or by texting the key word "Palmer" and the dollar amount (for example, Palmer 100) to 73256 or by using this QR code.

Offertory Anthem: Come Thou Redeemer of the Earth

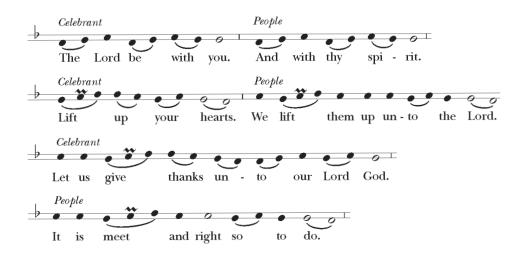
Come, thou Redeemer of the earth, And manifest thy virgin-birth. Let ev'ry age adoring fall; such birth befits the God of all.

Begotten of no human will, But of the Spirit, thou art still The Word of God in flesh arrayed, The promised fruit to man displayed.

The Doxology (Hymn 380, verse 3)

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise him, all creatures here below; Praise him above, ye heavenly host: Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

# The Great Thanksgiving





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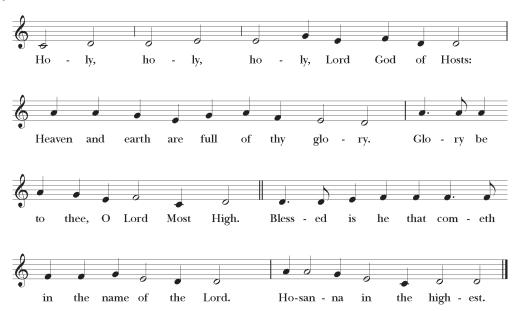
arr. David Willcocks

It is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord, holy Father, almighty, everlasting God, because thou didst send thy beloved Son to redeem us from sin and death, and to make us heirs in him of everlasting life; that when he shall come again in power and great triumph to judge the world, we may without shame or fear rejoice to behold his appearing.

Therefore with Angels and Archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious Name; evermore praising thee, and saying,

Merbecke

Sanctus (Hymnal S-113)



All glory be to thee, O Lord our God, for that thou didst create heaven and earth, and didst make us in thine own image; and, of thy tender mercy, didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to take our nature upon him, and to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption. He made there a full and perfect sacrifice for the whole world; and did institute, and in his holy Gospel command us to continue, a perpetual memory of that his precious death and sacrifice, until his coming again.

For in the night in which he was betrayed, he took bread; and when he had given thanks to thee, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take, eat, this is my Body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Likewise, after supper, he took the cup; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, "Drink this, all of you; for this is my Blood of the New Covenant, which is shed for you, and for many, for the remission of sins. Do this, as oft as ye shall drink it, in remembrance of me."

Wherefore, O Lord and heavenly Father, we thy people do celebrate and make, with these thy holy gifts which we now offer unto thee, the memorial thy Son hath commanded us to make; having in remembrance his blessed passion and precious death, his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension; and looking for his coming again with power and great glory.

And we most humbly beseech thee, O merciful Father, to hear us, and, with thy Word and Holy Spirit, to bless and sanctify these gifts of bread and wine, that they may be unto us the Body and Blood of thy dearly-beloved Son Jesus Christ.

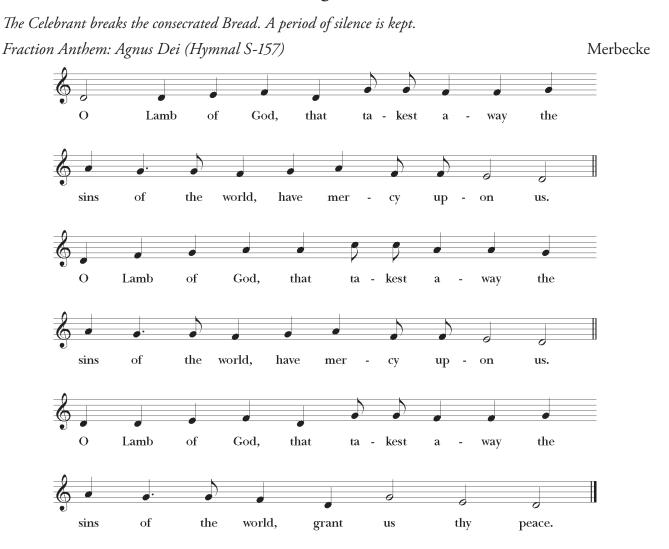
And we earnestly desire thy fatherly goodness to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, whereby we offer and present unto thee, O Lord, our selves, our souls and bodies. Grant, we beseech thee, that all who partake of this Holy Communion may worthily receive the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son Jesus Christ, and be filled with thy grace and heavenly benediction; and also that we and all thy whole Church may be made one body with him, that he may dwell in us, and we in him; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord;

By whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Ghost all honor and glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, world without end. AMEN.

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

Celebrant Our Father, who art in heaven, People 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 says the following Invitation

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.

#### Anthem: O Pray for the Peace of Jerusalem

O pray for the peace of Jerusalem; they shall prosper that love thee. Peace be within thy walls, and plenteousness within thy palaces. For my brethren and companions' sakes, I will wish thee prosperity. Yea, because of the house of the Lord our God, I will seek to do thee good.

#### Anthem: Echo Carol

Creator of the starry heights, Thy people's everlasting light, Jesu, Redeemer, save us all, And hear they servants when they call: Alleluia, Alleluia.

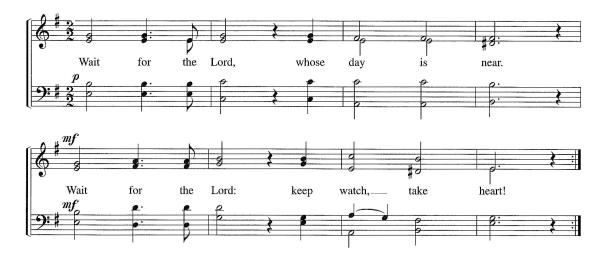
Thou, grieving that the ancient curse, Should doom to death a universe, Hast found the med'cine, full of grace, To save and heal a ruined race: Alleluia, Alleluia. Thou cam'st, the Bridegroom of the bride, As drew the world to eventide; Proceeding from a Virgin shrine, The spotless victim all divine: Alleluia, Alleluia. At whose dread name, majestic now, All knees must bend, all hearts must bow; All things celestial thee shall own, And things terrestrial, Lord alone. Alleluia, Alleluia.

John Blow

Philip Wilby



#### Hymn "Wait for the Lord"



#### When Eucharistic Visitors take communion to the shut-in and infirm:

Celebrant In the name of this congregation, I send you forth bearing these holy gifts, that those to whom you go may share with us in the communion of Christ's body and blood.

*People* We, who are many, are one body, because we all share one bread, one cup.

#### After communion, the Celebrant says

Let us pray.

#### Celebrant Almighty and everliving God,

*People* we most heartily thank thee for that thou dost feed us, in these holy mysteries, with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and dost assure us thereby of thy favor and goodness towards us; and that we are very members incorporate in the mystical body of thy Son, the blessed company of all faithful people; and are also heirs, through hope, of thy everlasting kingdom. And we humbly beseech thee, O heavenly Father, so to assist us with thy grace, that we may continue in that holy fellowship, and do all such good works as thou hast prepared for us to walk in; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honor and glory, world without end. Amen.

#### The Priest blesses the people saying

The peace of God, which passeth all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, be amongst you, and remain with you always. **Amen.** 

#### The Deacon dismisses the people with these words

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. *People* Thanks be to God.

Closing Hymn 73 "The King shall come when morning dawns"

St. Stephen



Postlude: Savior of the Nations, Come, BWV 661

Johann Sebastian Bach

# TOGETHER, WE PRAY

#### Please pray for these people:

Easton Allen Clifford Arnebeck Adeline Arning Georgia Barton John Beckerly Mary Broussard Jack Browns John Calvert Carmen Brassfield Conaway Katie Courtney Dan Cromack Tina & Ricky Cruz Kristie Curtis Ruth Davies Lauren and Chris Davis Halley Erickson Laura Everhart Julian Gascoyne Hilda Gomez Peter Hatten James Hesterly

Melvyn Huckaby Courtney, Peter, & Graham Holcomb Jennifer Rabb Elizabeth, Jeff, William, James, and Christian King David Lapp Jennifer Lewis Marcos de Souza Lima Io Lvdav Berta Maestef Gavin Marshall Carolyn Mason Paul Martin Michael McKinley Samantha Schatte Mitchell Hashim Musa Alexander Nelson-Fryar **Bill Newchurch** The Rev'd Liz Parker Yamy Lec Perez Harry Powe Marsha Powe

Lisa Powell Posey Raish Maria de Nazare & Michele Rios Jo Anne Ritacca Michael Rybarski Kellie Shaffer **Rick Sheridan** Susan Shivers Roxane & Michael Short Sandy, Julian, Nick, Snyder Bert Suarez Tim T and family Spence Walton Charles & Shirley Watkins Mimi & Kim Lopez-Waymer Josephine White Brooke Wilson Audray Worthing Ruth Yarbrough Zach, Sam, Carrie

<u>Names remain on the list for two Sundays unless the request is renewed by contacting</u> one of the coordinators of our Pastoral Care Ministry: Ruth Davies at rmmdavies@cebridge.net for Palmers or Suzie Dennis at sdennis@ palmerchurch.org for non-Palmers.

#### Please pray for expectant households:

The Mitchell Family The Zwicker Family

Those expecting a child by birth or adoption are encouraged to contact Roger Hutchison at rwhutchison@palmerchurch.org.

#### Please pray for those in the armed forces:

Evan Adams Nathan Adam Michael Anderson Gaston Baza Travis Chambers John Harrison Connor Hurt Jarrett Johnson Christopher Kent James King Mike Martinez Nate Miller Andrew Nesom Harrison Power Jim Rosenbach Adam Salvati Matthew Van Arsdale Ashley Waddle Alex Walker Taylor Wilby

The Altar Flowers are given to the glory of God and in memory of Fr. John Price, "our Chaplain, on his birthday," by Palmer's Scouting Units Troop 1511, Troop 511, and Pack 511.

If you would like to make a special flower dedication please visit palmerchurch.org/give/flowerfund or fill out a flower envelope located in the narthex or bell tower entrance.