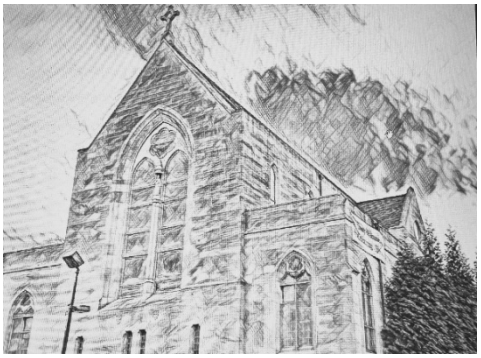
St. Paul's Episcopal Church
Canton, Ohio

Third Sunday after Epiphany
Holy Eucharist Rite 2
Jan. 25, 10:30 a.m.

Welcome to St. Paul's

Online and in-person services begin with music at 10:25 a.m.



St. Paul's Episcopal Church
425 Cleveland Ave SW
Canton OH 44702
(330) 455-0286

Website: www.stpaulscanton.org
Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/stpaulscanton
e-mail: stpaulsoffice@att.net
We're on YouTube: StPaulsCanton

St. Paul's Mission

St. Paul's is an exceptionally welcoming Episcopal community in downtown Canton, grounded in faith, and called by God's Love to minister to the world.

The mission of The Episcopal Church is "to restore all people to unity with God and each other in Christ." In step with that mission, we follow Jesus into loving, liberating, and life-giving relationships with God, with each other, and with the earth.

"Love God. Love Your Neighbor. Change the World."
"God Loves You. No Exceptions."

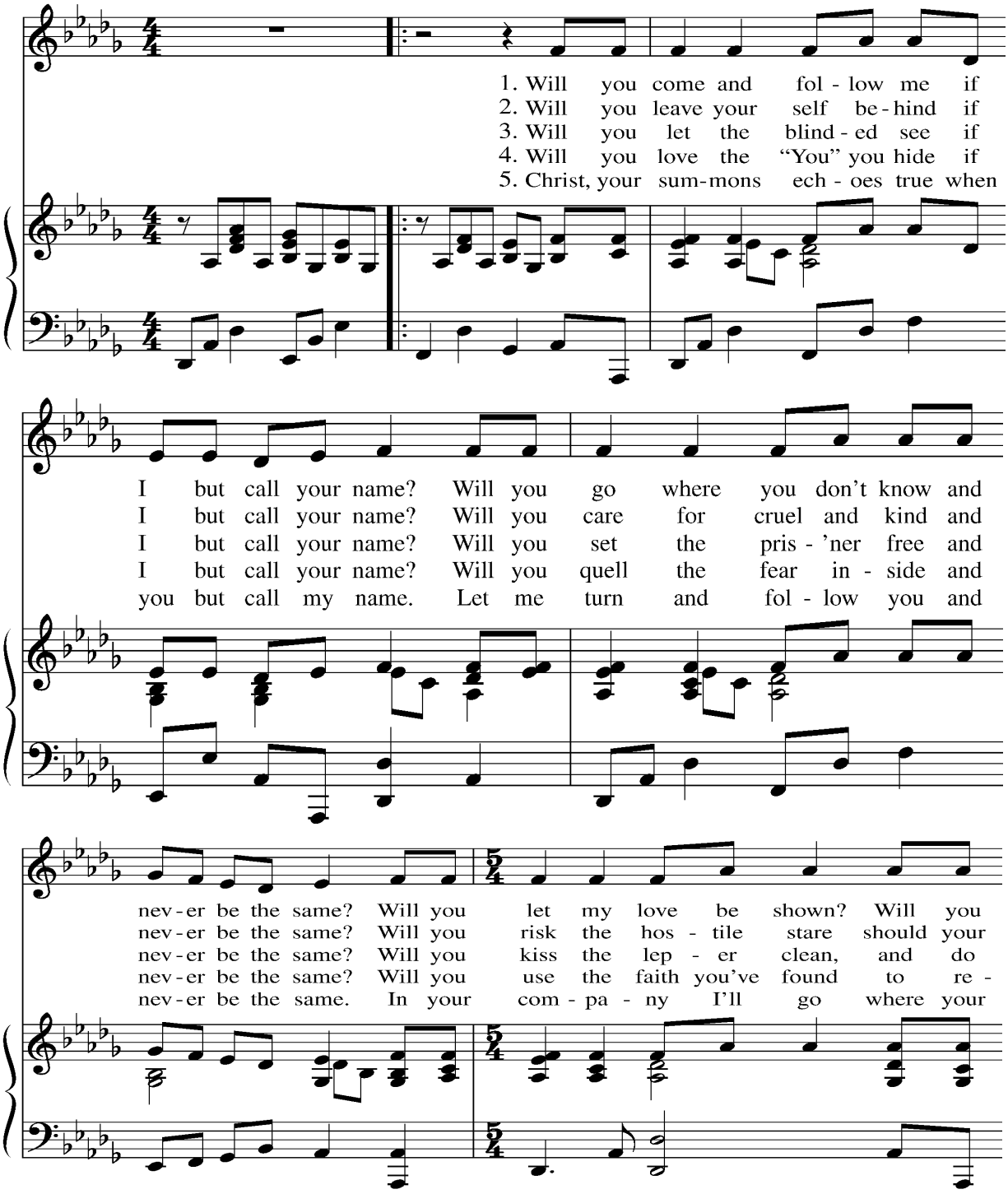
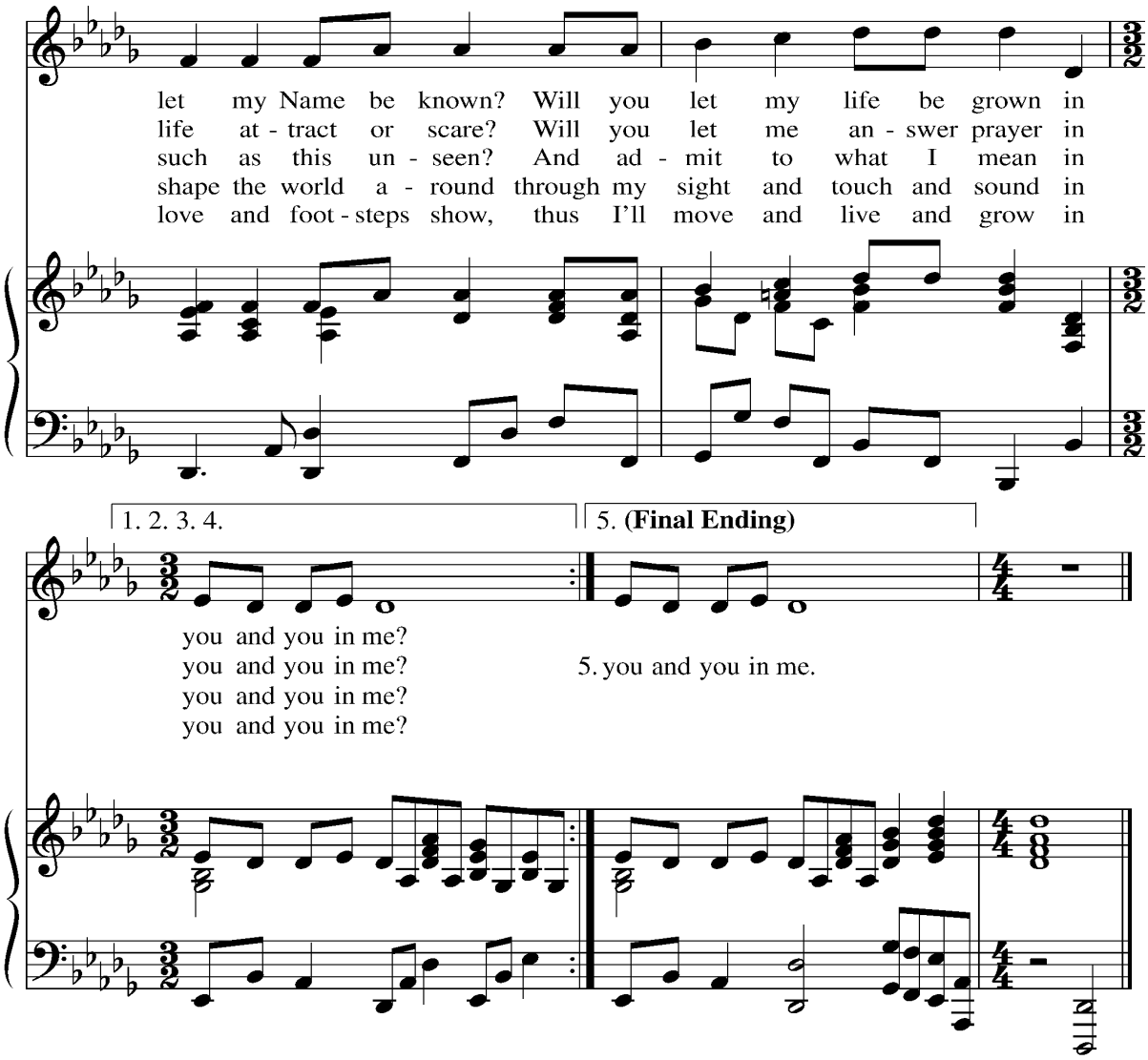
Third Sunday after Epiphany
Holy Eucharist
Celebrants: The Revs. Joe and Kay Ashby

Readings and Psalm
Isaiah 9:1-4
Psalm 27:1, 5-13
1 Corinthians 1:10-18
Matthew 4:12-23
From riteplanning.com. Copyright © 2025 Church Publishing Inc. All rights reserved.

Prelude: Prelude in C Major Josef Seger

The Word of God

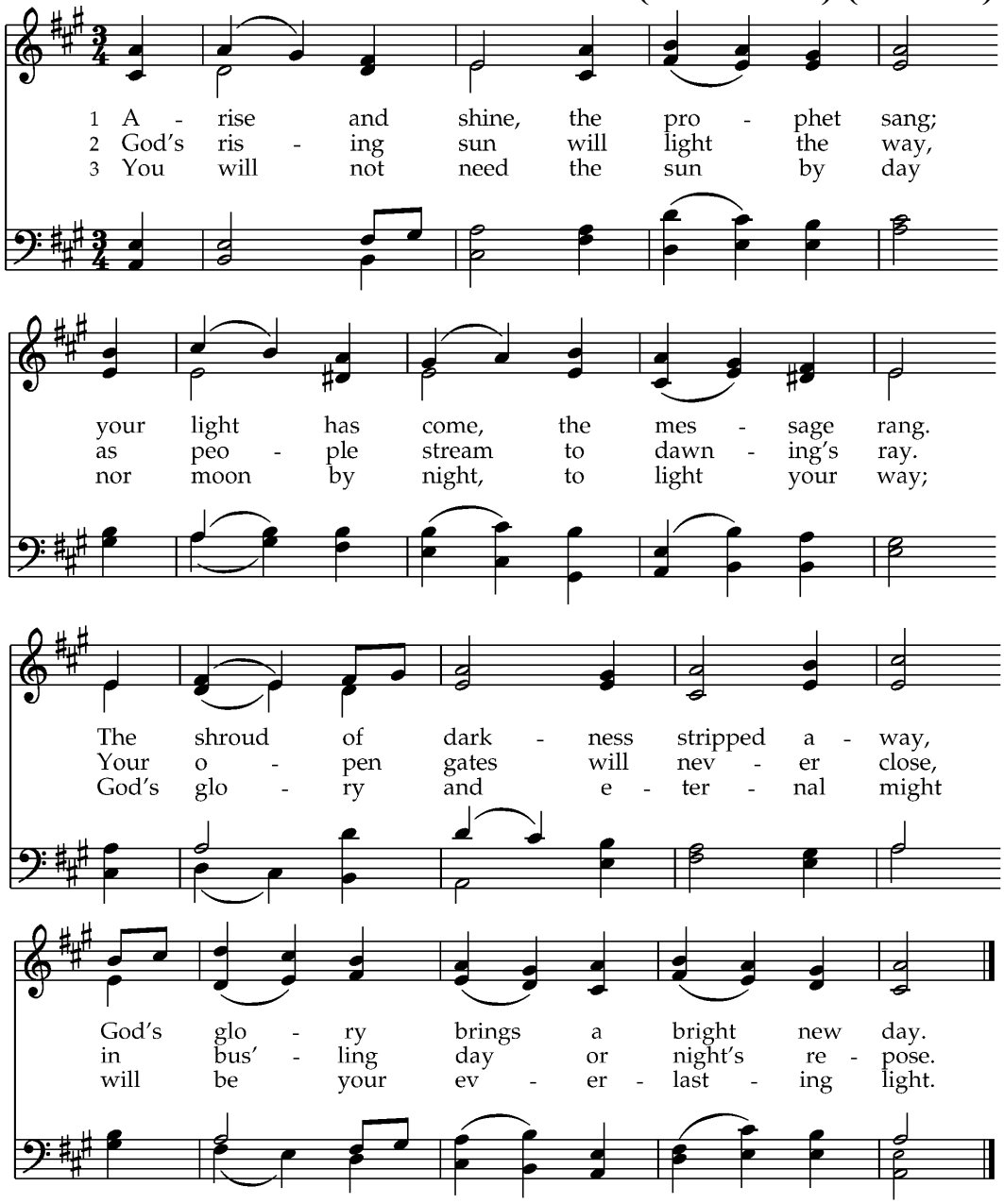
Please stand in body or spirit

Entrance Hymn: *Will You Come and Follow Me?* (Mary Alexandra) (WLP 757)

Opening Acclamation

Celebrant: Blessed be God; Father, Son and Holy Spirit
People: And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

Collect for Purity

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. *Amen.*

SONG OF PRAISE: *Arise and Shine* (Wareham) (VF 156)

The Collect of the Day

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

Give us grace, O Lord, to answer readily the call of our Savior Jesus Christ and proclaim to all people the Good News of his salvation, that we and the whole world may perceive the glory of his marvelous works; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen*.

The Lessons

Please sit.

FIRST READING: Isaiah 9:1-4

[1]There will be no gloom for those who were in anguish. In the former time he brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he will make glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations.

[2]The people who walked in darkness
have seen a great light;
those who lived in a land of deep darkness—
on them light has shined.
[3]You have multiplied the nation,
you have increased its joy;
they rejoice before you
as with joy at the harvest,
as people exult when dividing plunder.
[4]For the yoke of their burden,
and the bar across their shoulders,
the rod of their oppressor,
you have broken as on the day of Midian.

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

PSALM 27:1, 5-13

[1]The Lord is my light and my salvation;
whom then shall I fear? *
the Lord is the strength of my life;
of whom then shall I be afraid?
[5]One thing have I asked of the Lord;
one thing I seek; *
that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life;
[6]To behold the fair beauty of the Lord *
and to seek him in his temple.
[7]For in the day of trouble he shall keep me safe in his shelter; *
he shall hide me in the secrecy of his dwelling
and set me high upon a rock.
[8]Even now he lifts up my head *
above my enemies round about me.
[9]Therefore I will offer in his dwelling an oblation
with sounds of great gladness; *

I will sing and make music to the Lord.
[10]Hearken to my voice, O Lord, when I call; *
have mercy on me and answer me.
[11]You speak in my heart and say, “Seek my face.” *
Your face, Lord, will I seek.
[12]Hide not your face from me, *
nor turn away your servant in displeasure.
[13]You have been my helper;
cast me not away; *
do not forsake me, O God of my salvation.

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 1:10-18

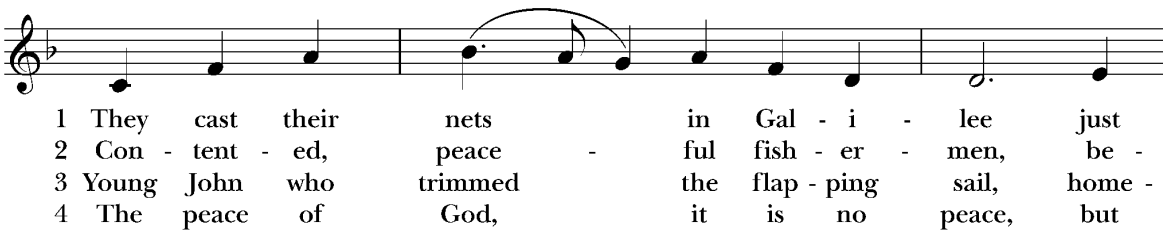
A Reading from Paul's First letter to the Church in Corinth.

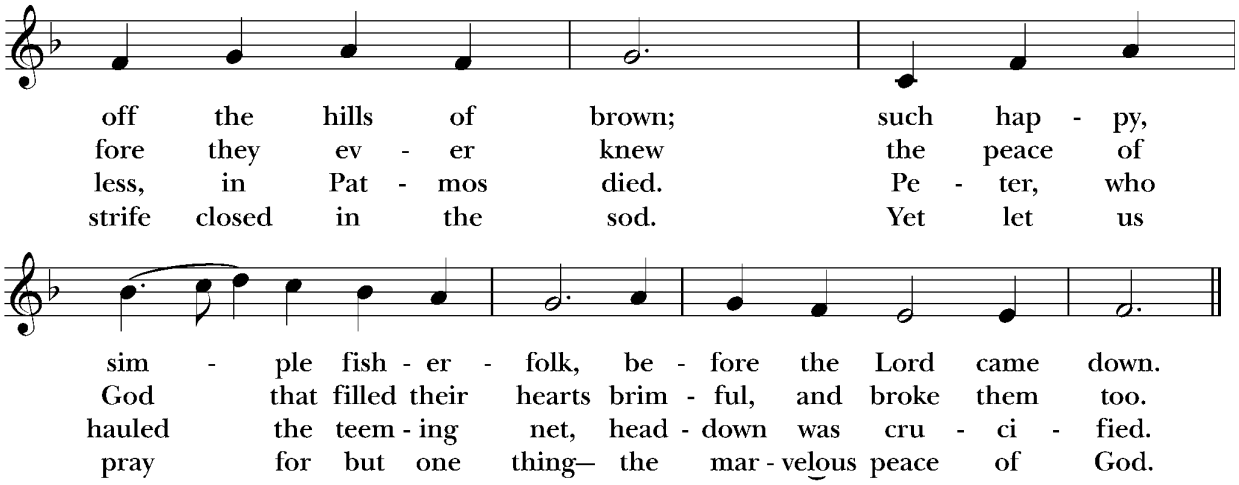
[10]Now I appeal to you, brothers and sisters, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you be in agreement and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and the same purpose. [11]For it has been reported to me by Chloe’s people that there are quarrels among you, my brothers and sisters. [12]What I mean is that each of you says, “I belong to Paul,” or “I belong to Apollos,” or “I belong to Cephas,” or “I belong to Christ.” [13]Has Christ been divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? [14]I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius, [15]so that no one can say that you were baptized in my name. [16](I did baptize also the household of Stephanas; beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized anyone else.) [17]For Christ did not send me to baptize but to proclaim the gospel, and not with eloquent wisdom, so that the cross of Christ might not be emptied of its power.

[18]For the message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.
Reader The Word of the Lord.
People Thanks be to God.

Please stand in body or spirit

Sequence Hymn: *They Cast Their Nets* (Georgetown) (H 661)





Please remain standing if able

GOSPEL: Matthew 4:12-23

Celebrant The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.
People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

[29][John] [12]Now when Jesus heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew to
Galilee. [13]He left Nazareth and made his home in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory
of Zebulun and Naphtali, [14]so that what had been spoken through the prophet Isaiah
might be fulfilled:
[15]"Land of Zebulun, land of Naphtali,
on the road by the sea, across the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles—
[16]the people who sat in darkness
have seen a great light,
and for those who sat in the region and shadow of death
light has dawned."
[17]From that time Jesus began to proclaim, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come
near."
[18]As he walked by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon, who is called Peter,
and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea—for they were fishermen. [19]And he
said to them, "Follow me, and I will make you fish for people." [20]Immediately they left
their nets and followed him. [21]As he went from there, he saw two other brothers, James
son of Zebedee and his brother John, in the boat with their father Zebedee, mending their
nets, and he called them. [22]Immediately they left the boat and their father, and followed
him.
[23]Jesus went throughout Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the
good news of the kingdom and curing every disease and every sickness among the
people.

Celebrant The Gospel of the Lord.
People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Sermon: The Rev. Kay Ashby

The Creed

Please stand in body or spirit

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.

Please remain standing

Prayers of the People

Friends, it is the Lord who speaks in our hearts, who says, "Seek my face." With humble hearts let us come before the Lord saying, "When we call, O Lord, *Hearken to our voice.*"

God, help your Church. Heal her divisions. Increase her joy. Unite her members that we might have a common purpose: to proclaim the gospel.
Silence
When we call, O Lord,
Hearken to our voice.

God, help this nation and the world. Where there are heavy burdens, where oppression reigns, show the strength of your arm and set your people free. May the coming of your kingdom be ever nearer.
Silence
When we call, O Lord,
Hearken to our voice.

God, help your creation. You make glorious the way of the sea; you bring us joy at the harvest. Teach us to live in harmony with all you have made.
Invite the congregation to add their thanksgivings, followed by silence
When we call, O Lord,
Hearken to our voice.

God, help our local community. May your great light drive away all of the shadows that darken our region. Even now lift up the heads of the downcast.
Silence
When we call, O Lord,
Hearken to our voice.

God, help the sick and suffering, especially Patricia Willford, Cara Warren, Alice Bolam, Molly Weisel, Gene, Andrea, Marilyn Dickinson, Ed Denning, Doug Geissinger, Joanne, Jackson, Gary, Richard Green, Steve Hamilton, John Titmas, Holly Hillen, Bob Reiner, Frances Beacon, Vicki Simpkins and Brinley Wyczalek. Give them courage and hope in their troubles, and bring them the joy of your salvation.
Do not forsake them but show yourself to be the strength of their lives and their salvation. May Jesus be the healer of every disease and sickness among the people.
Invite the congregation to add their petitions, followed by silence
When we call, O Lord,
Hearken to our voice.

God, help the dying and the dead, especially Hilary Powell. Hide them in the secrecy of your dwelling. May all those being saved say with boldness, “I belong to Christ. Forever.”
Silence
When we call, O Lord,
Hearken to our voice.

We pray together now the Discernment Prayer for St. Paul’s
O Lord our God,
May we, the parish of St. Paul’s Episcopal Church, embrace your commandment of loving our neighbors as you have loved us while we discern who we are and how best to serve you.
We ask that you quiet our souls, so we may listen to you.
We ask that you grant us wisdom as we seek new leadership.
And lastly, we ask for the courage to follow wherever you lead us.
Through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Celebrant: O Lord our God, accept the fervent prayers of your people; in the multitude of your mercies, look with compassion upon us and all who turn to you for help; for you are gracious, O lover of souls, and to you we give glory, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and for ever. *Amen.*

Confession of Sin

Celebrant: Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Priest 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 Priest 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.

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.
People And also with you.
The People greet one another in the name of the Lord.

Church Announcements

Holy Communion

Offertory Sentence (Psalm 50:14)

The Celebrant says
Offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving, and make good your vows to the Most High.

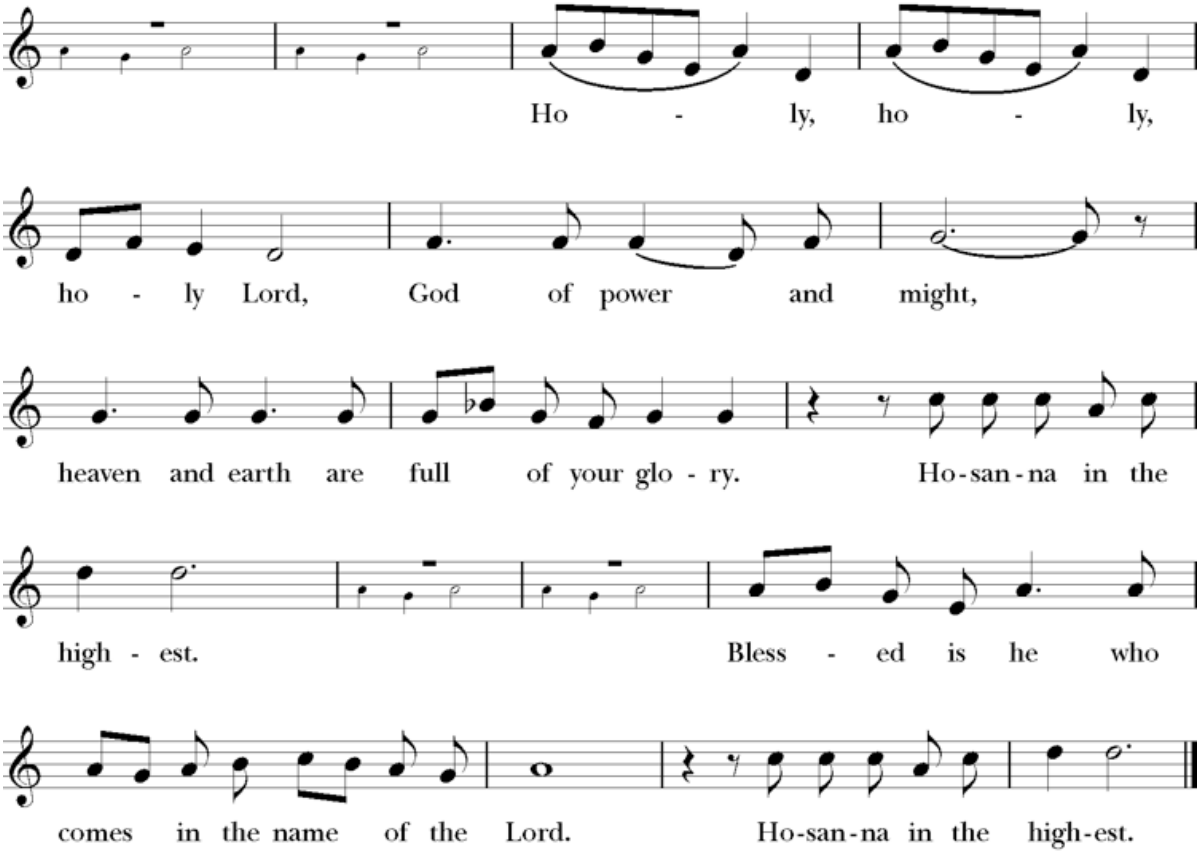
OFFERTORY ANTHEM: *Christ, Our God, Descends from Heaven (*Alan Bullard)

The Great Thanksgiving

The People 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 him thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.
Because in the mystery of the Word made flesh, you have caused a new light to shine in our hearts, to give the knowledge of your glory in the face of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. 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: ♪♪♪

Sanctus: *Holy, Holy, Holy* (Mathias) (H S128)

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." ♪

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

We remember his death,
We proclaim his resurrection,
We await his coming in glory;

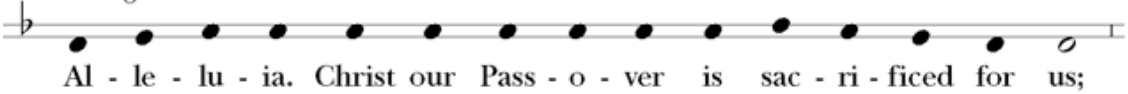
And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.
We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite 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 Paul 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, now and for ever. ***AMEN.***

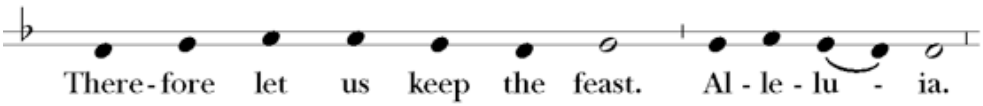
The Lord's Prayer

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,
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,
forever and ever. Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread

This setting is not used in Lent.





This setting may be sung full by all, or by the choir, or as a versicle and response.

Celebrant: The Gifts of God for the People of God.

Spiritual Communion

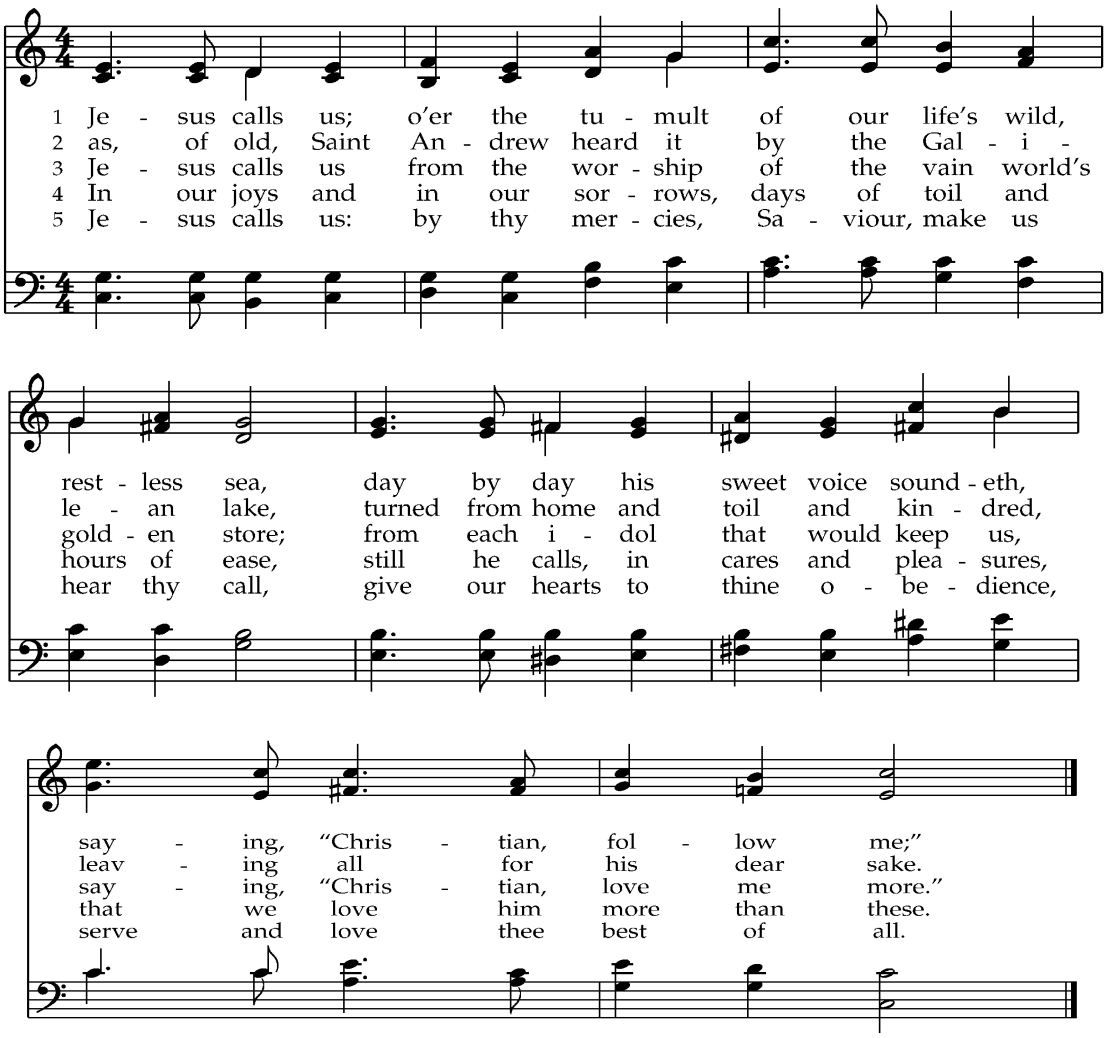
Celebrant: Please join us in praying with our siblings in Christ who are with us online and receiving communion spiritually.

Dearest Lord Jesus, we believe that you are truly present in the Sacrament of the Eucharist. We love you above all things and long for you in our souls. Since we are not altogether in our church today to receive the bread and wine made holy, we ask you to come spiritually into our hearts. Fill us with your light and nourish us all with your word and Spirit. Amen.

***

Note to the congregation: Everyone is welcome to receive Holy Communion. Please tell the clergy if you need gluten-free bread. If you come to the communion station for a blessing instead, please cross your arms on your chest. If you are interested in being baptized, please contact the Priest of St. Paul's.

***

POST-COMMUNION HYMN: *Jesus Call Us* (St. Andrew) (VF 129)

Post-Communion Prayer

Let us pray.

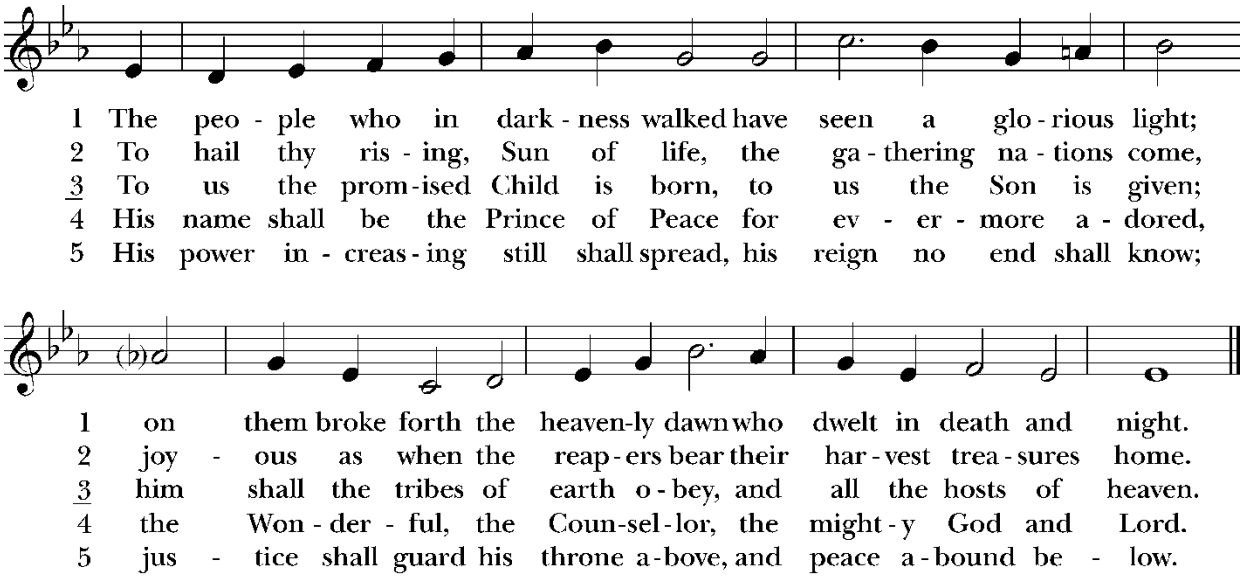
Celebrant and People

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.*

Post-communion blessing

The blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever. *Amen.*

RECESSIONAL HYMN: *The people who in darkness walked* (Perry) (H125)



Dismissal

Celebrant Let us go forth in the name of Christ.
People: Thanks be to God.

Postlude: *Fugue in D Major,* Josef Seger

TODAY'S SERVERS:
Celebrants: The Revs. Joe and Kay Ashby
Parish musician: Edward Grimes
Greeters: David Lewis
Crucifer: Douglas Colmery
Eucharistic Minister: Demetrius Carrothers
Video: David Lewis and David Rotthoff
Altar Guild: Karen Swope and Barbara Anderson
Lector: Carol Sutek
Counters: M.L. Schultze and Kelli Green

Announcements

Happy January Birthdays!

Richard Senften, 1/3
Natalie Sutek, 1/11
Sabrina Patterson, 1/12
Owen Valentine, 1/15
Bethany Sutek, 1/17
Maureen Wood-Major 1/18
Nancy Reinbold, 1/19
David Rotthoff 1/21
Megan Demastus, 1/24
Wyatt Marcum, 1/26
Mary Lou Stauffer, 1/27
Ed Denning, 1/28
Cathi Johanning, 1/29
Joseph Patterson, 1/29
Cayson Schmidt, 1/30
Barbara Anderson, 1/31

And Happy Anniversaries!

James & Deborah Husted, 1/23
Richard & Nancy Reinbold, 1/25

Wednesday mornings and the Old Testament

Bible study has resumed in the library every Wednesday morning beginning at 10 a.m. We're currently tackling the sometimes-challenging Stories of the Old Testament, with the help of Fr. Joe and Mother Kay and one of the Great Courses by Dr. Amy-Jill Levine, a professor of New Testament and Jewish Studies at Vanderbilt University Divinity School.

The power of stillness

Christ Presbyterian Church is inviting us to join in a new kind of prayer service that will eventually rotate among the downtown churches. Every Wednesday through Lent, our neighbor at 530 W. Tuscarawas St. will host Taizé prayer services each Wednesday beginning at 6 p.m. The simple services include silence, chants, prayer and contemplation.

Social Justice Book Group:
Church and Hate, Unbroken, librarians and more

The Social Justice Book Group will resume our get-togethers at 6:30 p.m. on Jan. 27, and the first book we'll be sharing is "Separation of Church and Hate: A Sane Person's Guide to Taking Back the Bible from Fundamentalists, Fascists, and Flock-Fleecing Frauds."

The author of the New York Times bestseller, John Fugelsang, notes that "Jesus's movement was about humility, it was about service to others, it was about uplifting the marginalized, not about total right-wing domination." He traces the history of non-violent Christian activism and urges people on the left, including atheists, to engage with Christianity to strengthen the movement.

Throughout the year, the Book Club will be reading five non-fiction books and three works of fiction. And in July and August, we'll watch some of the movies that have documented the ongoing fight against racism in our lives and communities.

Sanctuary: A message from Diocese of Ohio Bishop Anne Jolly

In a world marked by grief, division, and violence, Christians are called to be sanctuary—places and people shaped by God's love. Across the Diocese of Ohio, our faith communities are being given the option to name this commitment by placing sanctuary signs on their doors, signaling spaces of prayer, welcome, and transformation. This is a statement of faith, not politics. We are sanctuary not because we are fearless, but because God is faithful.

If you are like me, you may find yourself longing for a hiding place—from the news, from bitter disagreements, from the violence that seems to surround us. Sometimes we can turn off our screens and find a measure of peace. Sometimes that refuge looks like a quiet walk, a warm blanket and a good book, or sitting in a church—resting in silence, prayer, music, and beauty shaped by generations of faith.

Christians believe that the deepest peace comes not from escape, but from the abundant love of God. This peace—the peace that passes all understanding—anchors our souls when nothing else can. When we place ourselves intentionally in God's presence, we are changed. We are steadied. We are rooted again in love.

Scripture calls this gift sanctuary.

Throughout the Bible, sanctuary is a sacred space where God is near. At times it is physical: the Ark, the Temple. Across Christian history, churches have also understood sanctuary as refuge—a place of mercy, prayer, and protection. Sanctuary has always been both comfort and challenge: a place where God meets us, and a place where God shapes how we live.

In the Christian scriptures, Jesus himself is sanctuary. And the apostle Paul reminds us that we are, too—that we are temples of the Holy Spirit. We carry Christ's love into the world. As Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. said, "Darkness cannot drive out darkness; only light can do that."

Living as sanctuary does not look the same for everyone. For some, it is prayer. For some, it is teaching and learning. For some, it is choosing love when anger would be easier. For some it means quietly accompanying and serving those who are oppressed by delivering food, driving children to and from school, and making grocery runs. And for some, it means publicly standing alongside those who are vulnerable and at risk. Scripture gives us no single way to live this calling—only the command to love God and love our neighbor fully.

In the Diocese of Ohio, we commit to living into this call together. Our faith communities are places of sanctuary—spaces of prayer, welcome, and transformation. In the coming days, churches across the diocese will have an opportunity to place signs on their doors naming this commitment.

These signs are not promises of perfection. They are signs of intention—that here, God's love is honored, human dignity matters, and violence does not have the final word. We are sanctuary—not because we are fearless, but because God is faithful.