

Hymns, Readings, and Collect

Opening Hymn: Angel-voices ever singing

Angel-voices ever singing
round thy throne of light,
angel-harps for ever ringing,
rest not day nor night;
thousands only live to bless thee
and confess thee
Lord of might.

Thou who art beyond the farthest
mortal eye can scan,
can it be that thou regardest
songs of sinful man?
Can we know that thou art near us,
and wilt hear us?
Yea, we can.

For we know that thou rejoicest
o'er each work of thine;
thou didst ears and hands and voices
for thy praise design;
craftsman's art and music's measure
for thy pleasure
all combine.

In thy house, great God, we offer
of thine own to thee;
and for thine acceptance proffer
all unworthily
hearts and minds and hands and voices
in our choicest
psalmody.

Honour, glory, might, and merit
thine shall ever be,
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
blessèd Trinity.
Of the best which thou hast given
earth and heaven
render thee.

Angel-voices 336 NEH

The Collect

Let your merciful ears, O Lord,
be open to the prayers of your humble servants;
and that they may obtain their petitions
make them to ask such things as shall please you;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.
Amen.

The New Testament Reading

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Ephesians.

Putting away falsehood, let all of us speak the truth to our neighbours, for we are members of one another. Be angry but do not sin; do not let the sun go down on your anger, and do not make room for the devil. Thieves must give up stealing; rather let them labour and work honestly with their own hands, so as to have something to share with the needy. Let no evil talk come out of your mouths, but only what is useful for building up, as there is need, so that your words may give grace to those who hear. And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with which you were marked with a seal for the day of redemption. Put away from you all bitterness and wrath and anger and wrangling and slander, together with all malice, and be kind to one another, tender-hearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ has forgiven you. Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children, and live in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.

This is the word of the Lord.

Ephesians 4: 25–5: 2

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation: O taste and see

O taste and see how gracious the Lord is:
blest is the man that trusteth in him.

Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872–1958)
Psalm 34: 8

The Gospel

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus said to the crowd, 'I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty.'

Then the Jews began to complain about him because he said, 'I am the bread that came down from heaven.' They were saying, 'Is not this Jesus, the son of Joseph, whose father and mother we know? How can he now say, "I have come down from heaven"?' Jesus answered them, 'Do not complain among yourselves. No one can come to me unless drawn by the Father who sent me; and I will raise that person up on the last day. It is written in the prophets, "And they shall all be taught by God." Everyone who has heard and learned from the Father comes to me. Not that anyone has seen the Father except the one who is from God; he has seen the Father. Very truly, I tell you, whoever believes has eternal life. I am the bread of life. Your ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness, and they died. This is the bread that comes down from heaven, so that one may eat of it and not die. I am the living bread that came down from heaven. Whoever eats of this bread will live for ever; and the bread that I will give for the life of the world is my flesh.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

St John 6: 35, 41–51

Praise to you, O Christ.

The Creed:

Let us declare our faith in the living God.

We believe in God the Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named.

We believe in God the Son, who lives in our hearts through faith, and fills us with his love.

We believe in God the Holy Spirit, who strengthens us with power from on high.

We believe in one God; Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.

Offertory Hymn: Alleluia! Sing to Jesus

Alleluia, sing to Jesus!

his the sceptre, his the throne;

alleluia, his the triumph,

his the victory alone:

hark, the songs of peaceful Sion

thunder like a mighty flood;

Jesus out of every nation

hath redeemed us by his blood.

Alleluia, not as orphans

are we left in sorrow now;

alleluia, he is near us,

faith believes, nor questions how:

though the cloud from sight received him,

when the forty days were o'er,

shall our hearts forget his promise,

'I am with you evermore'?

Alleluia, bread of angels,

thou on earth our food, our stay;

alleluia, here the sinful

flee to thee from day to day:

Intercessor, Friend of sinners,

earth's Redeemer, plead for me,

where the songs of all the sinless

sweep across the crystal sea.

Alleluia, King eternal,

thee the Lord of lords we own;

alleluia, born of Mary,

earth thy footstool, heaven thy throne:

thou within the veil hast entered,

robed in flesh, our great High Priest;

thou on earth both Priest and Victim

in the Eucharistic Feast.

Hyfrydol 271 NEH

Communion Hymn: Soul of my Saviour

Soul of my Saviour, sanctify my breast,
body of Christ, be thou my saving guest,
blood of my Saviour, bathe me in thy tide,
wash me with water flowing from thy side.

Strength and protection may thy passion be,
O blessèd Jesu, hear and answer me;
deep in thy wounds, Lord, hide and shelter me,
so shall I never, never part from thee.

Guard and defend me from the foe malign,
in death's dread moments make me only thine;
call me and bid me come to thee on high
where I may praise thee with thy saints for aye.

Anima Christi 305 NEH

Anthem: O salutaris hostia

O salutaris Hostia,
quae caeli pandis ostium:
bella premunt hostilia,
da robur fer auxilium.

Uni trinoque Domino
sit sempiterna gloria,
qui vitam sine termino
nobis donet in patria. Amen.

*O Sacrifice of salvation,
opening the gate of heaven:
the assaults of our enemies press upon us;
give aid, bring help.*

*To you O Lord, the Three and One,
be eternal glory.
Grant us life without end
in our native land. Amen.*

*Edward Elgar (1857–1934)
St Thomas Aquinas (c 1225–74)*

Dismissal: Let all the world

Let all the world in every corner sing,
My God and King!
The heavens are not too high,
his praise may thither fly;
the earth is not too low,
his praises there may grow.
Let all the world in every corner sing,
My God and King!

Let all the world in every corner sing,
My God and King!
The Church with psalms must shout,
no door can keep them out;
but above all, the heart
must bear the longest part.
Let all the world in every corner sing,
My God and King!

Luckington 394 NEH