



1 Be thou my vi - sion, O Lord of my heart;  
 2 Be thou my wis - dom, and thou my true word;  
 3 High King of hea - ven, when vic - tory is won,  
 all else be nought to me, save that thou art—  
 I ev - er with thee and thou with me, Lord;  
 may I reach hea - ven's joys, bright hea - ven's Sun!  
 thou my best thought, — by day or by night,  
 thou my great Fa - ther; thine own may I be;  
 Heart of my heart, — what - ev - er be - fall,  
 wak - ing or sleep - ing, thy pres - ence my light.  
 thou in me dwell - ing, and I one with thee.  
 still be my vis - ion, O Ru - ler of all.

## THE PRAYER FOR EVENING

Leader The world is not dead:  
**All It is sleeping.**  
 Leader Its life draws in:  
**All It is keeping.**  
 Leader The earth is gathering energy:  
**All For a new burst of life.**  
 Leader We breathe in the mystic air:  
**All That we may breathe out care.**  
 Leader Your presence supports us through the night:  
**All So we can hail the coming source of Light.**  
 Leader Shine through the mists, the deadening heavy clod:  
**All Hail gladdening Light of God's pure glory poured.**

(*Celtic Worship Through the Year*, p. 86)

## THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

*Please be seated.*

A READING FROM THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

Matthew 13:36-43

Then he left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples approached him, saying, "Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the fields." He answered, "The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man; the field is the world, and the good seed are the children of the kingdom; the weeds are the children of the evil one and the enemy who sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are angels. Just as the weeds are collected and burned up with fire, so will it be at the end of the age. The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will collect out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all evildoers, and they will throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Let anyone with ears listen!

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.  
 People **Thanks be to God.**

SILENCE FOR TWO MINUTES

*begun and ended by the ringing of the Tibetan Singing bowl*

REFLECTION OF THE DAY

It is by God's grace that our feet don't lose contact with the path we set out to follow. We say, "Here I am, Lord" when He calls. He calls continually to the willing and the unwilling. It is not so much our ability He has need of, but our availability.

Jesus stands on the shore and whistles for his people to respond, wave upon wave. He calls them to bind the broken-hearted, and build up waste places.

*Bryan Pollard*

I see a Man walking by the seashore, whistling gently to the waves of those who will come to restore the ruined places, who're crying,  
"PREPARE THE WAY!  
Prepare the way, Prepare the way.  
Prepare the way for the Lord!"

SILENCE FOR TWO MINUTES

*begun and ended by the ringing of the Tibetan Singing bowl*

PRAYERS FOR OURSELVES AND OTHERS

*standing, as you are able*

*The Intercessor and People pray responsively*

Leader Watching and praying, we draw near to you, High King of the universe. We glimpse your awesome presence in the gleaming pools, in the gentle coves, in storm and thunder, and in the stillness of the night. Reveal to us the mysteries of heaven; rebuke us for our wretched ways, and bring us to the place of holiness through your Son, the Prince of peace, Jesus Christ our Saviour and Lord.

All **Amen.**

Leader Lord, make us ready to be pilgrims for love of you, to go wherever you open the doors.

Open the doors of devotion to your word;  
Open the doors of devotion to prayer and vigil;  
Open the doors of devotion to the eternal mysteries  
Open the doors of devotion to sorrow and restitution.  
Open the doors of devotion to good deeds;  
Open the doors of devotion to truth and justice.

*Topics for prayer are welcome using the introduction "Open the doors of..."*

Leader Good and gracious God, grant us a glimpse of your glory. Deliver us from the darkness of night. Give us a share with your saints in light that we too may live to your glory, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

RESPONSE

“Bless The Lord My Soul”

*sung multiple times by all, standing*

The musical score is written for two staves, Treble and Bass clef, in 4/4 time with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The melody is simple and hymn-like. The lyrics are: "Bless the Lord my soul and bless God's ho - ly name." and "Bless the Lord my soul, Who leads me in - to life." The score includes a repeat sign at the end of the second system.

*While we sing, you are welcome to come forward and light a candle for a prayer intention.*

THE CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

*said by all in unison*

Celebrant Happy are those whose sins are forgiven, whose wrongs are pardoned. I will confess my sins to the Lord, I will not conceal my wrongdoings.

*Silence*

Leader From all that is false and flirts with evil:

All **Good Lord, deliver us.** *(pause)*

Leader From the love of riches and from greed and envy:

All **Good Lord, deliver us.** *(pause)*

Leader From insensitive words and from discord and strife:

All **Good Lord, deliver us.** *(pause)*

Leader From manipulation and abuse of others:

All **Good Lord, deliver us.** *(pause)*

*Silence*

Leader Through Christ, God has put away your sin: approach your God in peace.  
*(Celtic Worship Through the Year, p. 146)*

THE PEACE

Celebrant The Peace of Christ be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

# THE HOLY COMMUNION

MUSIC MEDITATION

“I Want Jesus to Walk With Me”

Traditional Spiritual

Marlene Whittemore, *soprano*; Larry Arnold, *piano*

Collection plates are not passed through the congregation at this service. For your offerings, collection plates are located at each entrance of the church. We appreciate your generosity in supporting the mission and ministries of Christ Episcopal Church. The parish is supported primarily by its parishioners and friends.

OFFERTORY HYMN, WLP 791, Vs. 1-4 “Peace Before Us” *sung multiple times by all, standing*

1. Peace be - fore us, peace be - hind us,  
 2. Love be - fore us, love be - hind us,  
 3. Light be - fore us, light be - hind us,  
 4. Christ be - fore us, Christ be - hind us,

peace un - der our feet. \_\_\_\_\_ Peace with - in us,  
 love un - der our feet. \_\_\_\_\_ Love with - in us,  
 light un - der our feet. \_\_\_\_\_ Light with - in us,  
 Christ un - der our feet. \_\_\_\_\_ Christ with - in us,

peace o - ver us, let all a - round us be peace. \_\_\_\_\_  
 love o - ver us, let all a - round us be love. \_\_\_\_\_  
 light o - ver us, let all a - round us be light. \_\_\_\_\_  
 Christ o - ver us, let all a - round us be Christ. \_\_\_\_\_

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING, *standing*

*from All Saints' Church, Pasadena, CA*

Celebrant God dwells in you.

**People** And also in you.

Celebrant Come to the table with thankful hearts.

**People** We open our hearts to God and to one another.

Celebrant Creative God, source of all life, you are the vibrant energy dancing at the center of the universe! Through us you move, and through us you are made known to the world. Co-creators with you, we are emboldened to move beyond ourselves, to find the courage to let go of old ways and welcome new life.

And so, in concert with those of every generation who have been touched by your redeeming love, we lift our praise to you:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and

might, heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -

san - na in the high - est. \* Bless - ed is he who comes

in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the

high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

\*Optional text:

Bless - ed is the one

Celebrant

Holy God, known and beyond all knowing, in your image you created us, giving the earth into our care. In our arrogance, we lost touch with the breath of God within us, with the divinity of the creation, growing blind to its beauty and deaf to its harmonies. But through Christ, born of Mary, your deep abiding love reclaimed us and realigned us with you.

Celebrant On that evening in an upper room, with friends around him, Jesus blessed the bread, broke it, and shared it with all who gathered: This bread is my body, an offering of God's love for all. When you eat it, remember me. Taking the cup of wine, he blessed it and shared it with all who gathered: This wine is my blood, God's promise of new life for all. When you drink it, remember me. God, in the memory of Jesus who healed people and washed his disciples' feet, who loved children and honored outcasts, who fed people and turned water into wine, who died and rose to new and unending life, we ask that you send your Holy Spirit upon this bread and wine, making them the Body and Blood of Christ.

People and Celebrant **Breathe through us, God,  
that our bodies, minds, souls, and spirits  
may be filled with your life-giving presence.  
Make us again a holy people,  
strongly bound to you,  
firmly rooted in the earth,  
with eyes to see all life as sacred.  
Empower us to spread the light of Christ  
in our wondrous and confusing world. AMEN.**

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

**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

Celebrant We are one bread, one body.

People **We will love one another as Christ loves us.**

Celebrant The Gifts of God for you, the People of God. Come and meet the Risen Lord.

#### AT COMMUNION

*All who desire to receive the sacrament of the Body and Blood of Christ are welcome. Receive the Bread (wafer) in the palm of your outstretched hands. The Blood of Christ is available in Wine or non-alcoholic Grape Juice (in the crystal chalice). You can drink from the chalice as it is extended to you, or touch the wafer lightly to the Wine or Juice. If you do not wish to receive Communion, please come forward to receive God's blessing. You may indicate your desire for a blessing by crossing your arms over the chest.*

COMMUNION MUSIC "Be Thou My Vision" Slane, arr. By Kristin Campbell  
Marlene Whittemore, *flute* and Lawrell Arnold, *piano*

THE POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER

*standing*

Celebrant Let us pray.

All **Circle me Lord, keep light and love within, keep dark powers and demons without.**

**Circle me Lord, keep health and hope within, keep depression and denial without.**

**Circle me Lord, keep childlike trust within, keep fear of death's powers without.**

*Celebrant* The Holy Three encircling be, nurturing in eternity.

*All* **Giving more than we can ask, scattering darkness from our path.**

BLESSING

Leader May the angels guard you along the road. May heaven's praises be in you where'er your abode. May the Three-fold Glory your life enfold.

All **Amen.**

POSTLUDE "Brother James' Air" James Leith Macbeth Bain, arr. by Larry Shackley  
Lawrell Arnold, *piano*

*You are welcome to remain in church.*

WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU AT THE ADVENT CELTIC WORSHIP SERVICE  
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 18, AT 5 P.M. (3RD SUNDAY OF THE MONTH).

*ASSISTING IN WORSHIP*

*Celebrant:* The Reverend Thomas E. Mathews Jr.

*Flute & Soprano:* Marlene Whittemore

*Piano:* Lawrell Arnold