Opening Hymn: *The God of Abraham Praise* vv.1-3 Blue Hymnal 401

#### PENITENTIAL ORDER

Bless the Lord who forgiveth all our sins. His mercy endureth forever.

The Decalogue Confession and Absolution Kyrie Eleison Book of Common Prayer, 317 Book of Common Prayer, 320 Blue Hymnal S 91

The Lord be with you. *And with thy spirit.* Let us pray. O God, whose glory it is always to have mercy: Be gracious to all who have gone astray from your ways, and bring them again with penitent hearts and steadfast faith to embrace and hold fast the unchangeable truth of your Word, Jesus Christ your Son; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen*.

#### Please be seated

# A Reading from Genesis

The Lord said to Abram, "Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed." So Abram went, as the Lord had told him; and Lot went with him. The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.** 

# Psalm 121 (Simplified Anglican Chant, remain seated)

Lift up my eyes to the/ hills; \* from where is my help to/ come?

My help comes from the/ Lord, \* the maker of heaven and/ earth.

He will not let your foot be/ moved \* and he who watches over you will not fall a/sleep.

Behold, he who keeps watch over/ Israel \* shall neither slumber nor/ sleep;

The Lord himself watches over/you; \* the Lord is your shade at your right/ hand,

So that the sun shall not strike you by/ day, \* nor the moon by/ night.

The Lord shall preserve you from all/evil; \* it is he who shall keep you/ safe.

The Lord shall watch over your going out and your coming/ in, \* from this time forth for ever/more.

## A Reading from Paul's Epistle to the Romans

What then are we to say was gained by Abraham, our ancestor according to the flesh? For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God. For what does the scripture say? "Abraham believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness." Now to one who works, wages are not reckoned as a gift but as something due. But to one who without works trusts him who justifies the ungodly, such faith is reckoned as righteousness. For the promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation. For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, as it is written, "I have made you the father of many nations") —in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist.

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

Please stand

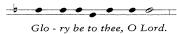
#### THE GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

The Alleluia is not sung during Lent. Instead, we will sing the following,



V: God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so everyone who believe in him might have eternal life. *(the acclamation is repeated)* 

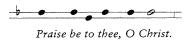
**THE GOSPEL** The Holy Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew



There was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. He came to Jesus by night and said to him, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God." Jesus answered him, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above." Nicodemus said to him, "How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother's womb and be born?" Jesus answered, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. Do not be astonished that I said to you, 'You must be born from above.' The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the

sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit." Nicodemus said to him, "How can these things be?" Jesus answered him, "Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things? "Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony. If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. "For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. "Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him."

The Gospel of the LORD.



THE HOMILY
THE NICENE CREED
THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

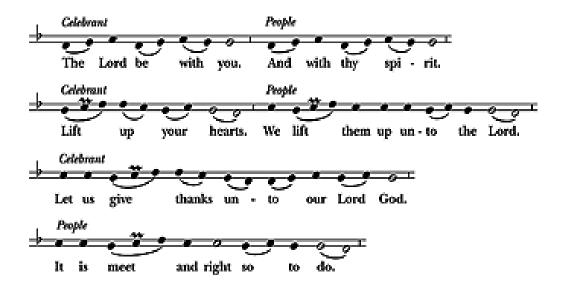
Book of Common Prayer, 326 Book of Common Prayer, 328

### THE PEACE, WELCOME & NOTICES

Please stand to sing

CHOIR ANTHEM Psalm 121
OFFERTORY HYMN The Great Creator of the Worlds

Robert Powell
Blue Hymnal 489



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. Through Jesus Christ our Lord, who was in every way tempted as we are, yet did not sin; by whose grace we are able to triumph over every evil, and to live no longer unto ourselves, but unto him who died for us and rose again. Therefore with Angels and Archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious Name; evermore praising thee, and saying:

THE OUR FATHER
THE FRACTION

Prayer Book, 336

After a moment of silence, please sing

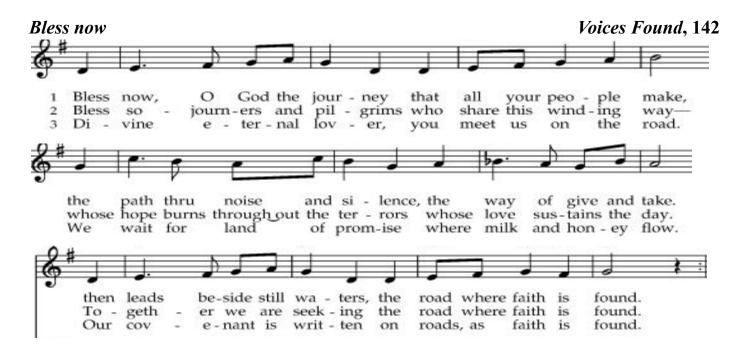
LAMB OF GOD

Blue Hymnal, S 158

THE PRAYER OF HUMBLE ACCESS

Prayer Book, 337

# THE INVITATION TO COMMUNION HOLY COMMUNION COMMUNION HYMNS



# Let Thy Blood in Mercy Poured

**Blue Hymnal 313** 

Please kneel

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER LENTEN PRAYER OVER THE PEOPLE & DISMISSAL Prayer Book, 339

Please stand

**HYMN** Lift High the Cross, vv. 1,4

Blue Hymnal 473

#### SERVING TODAY

Thurifer: Fausto Beleno Crucifer: Nick Persson

Lay Eucharistic Minister: Br. Philip Muniz Lector: Jennifer Persson Choir: Alison Jandak, Beth Hixenbaugh, Jane Maloney, Rob Vernon

Organist: Kathy Shanklin Rector: Father Rob Laws