St. Ambrose Episcopal Church

October 4, 2026

The Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Feast of St. Francis
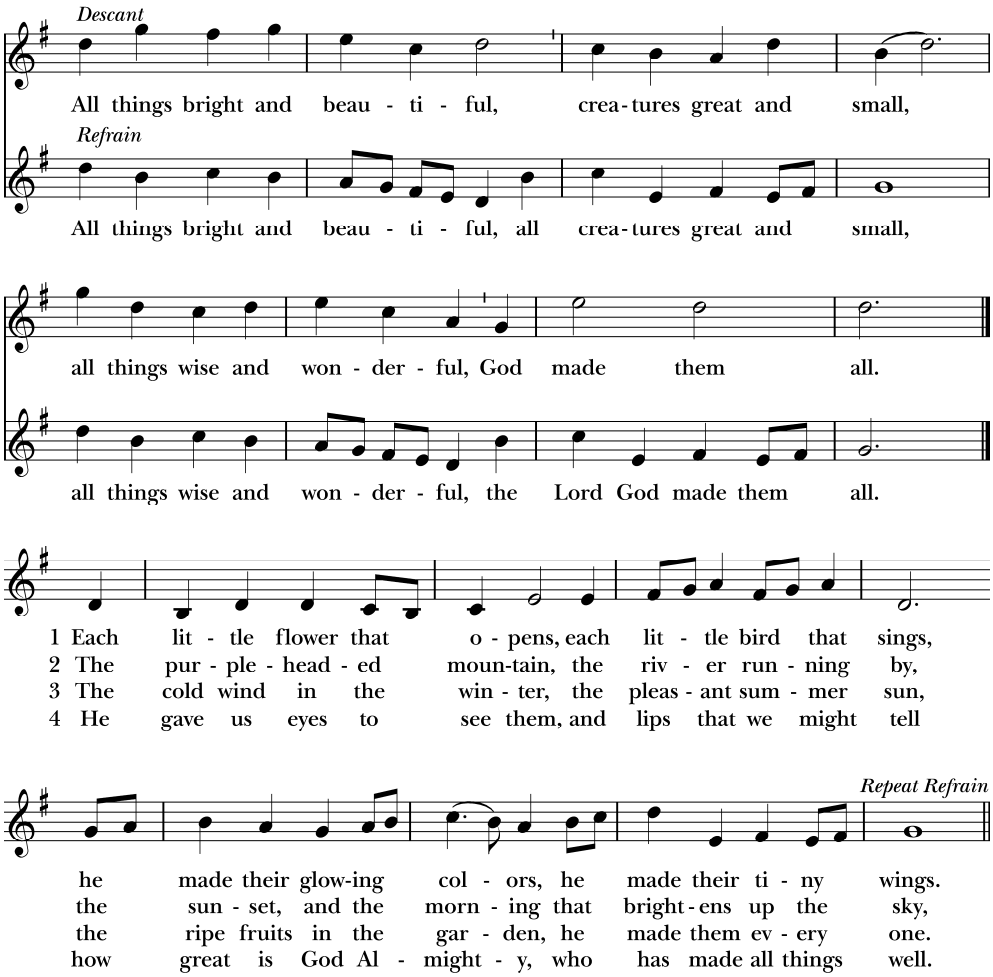
900 Edgewater Blvd
Foster City, CA 94404

(650) 574-1369 - office@stambrosefostercity.org - http://www.stambrosefostercity.org
Priest-In-Charge • *pastoral calls and emergencies* The Rev. Rebecca Goldberg 650 291-5289
revrebecca@stambrosefostercity.org

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

PRELUDE: Songs Without Words, Op.67 no.3 in B flat Major **Mendelssohn**

PROCESSIONAL #405 All Things Bright and Beautiful *Hymnal 1982*



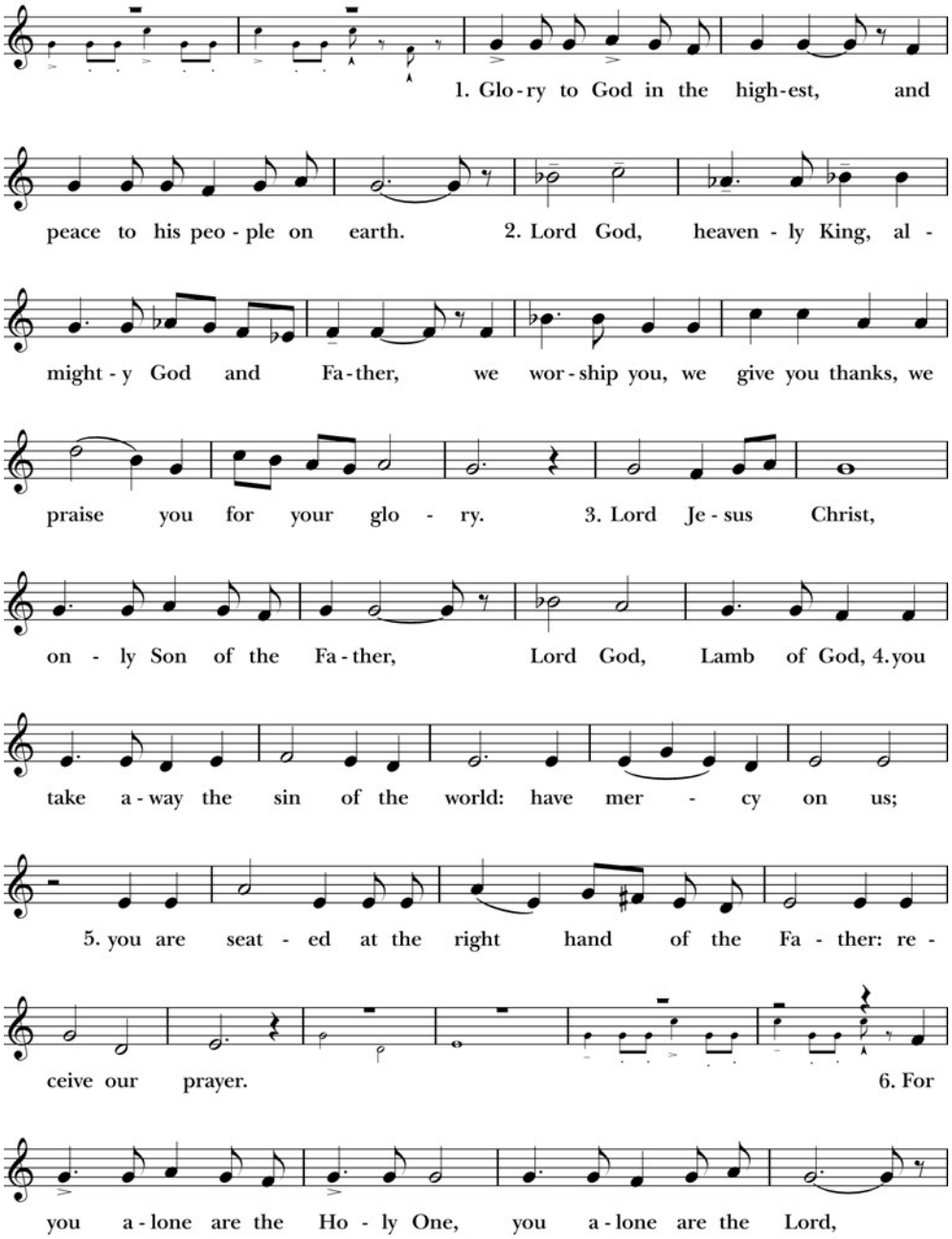
Words: Cecil Frances Alexander (1818-1895). Music: *Royal Oak*, melody from *The Dancing Master*, 1686; adapt. and harm. Martin Fallas Shaw (1875-1958), desc. Richard Proulx (b. 1937). Used by arrangement with G. Schirmer, Inc. Descant, Copyright © 1979, G.I.A. Publications, Inc.

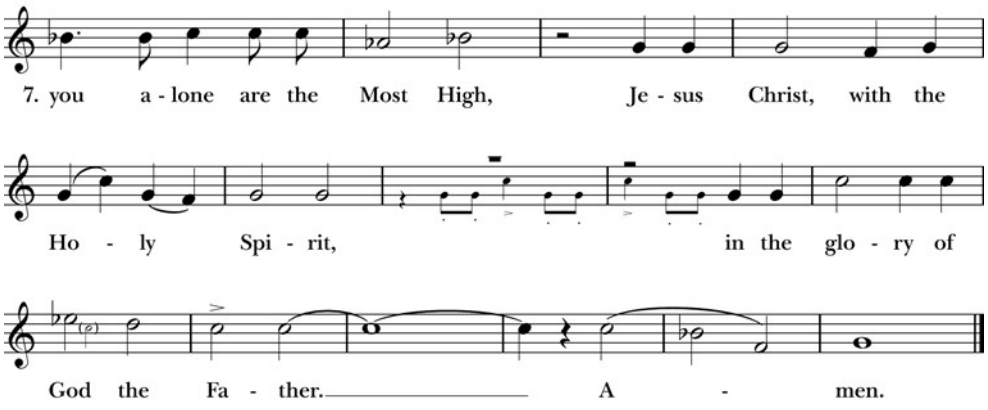
Opening Sentences

Celebrant: Blessed be God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
***People*:** **And blessed be his Kingdom, now and forever. Amen.**

The 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**

S278 Gloria





Music: William Mathias (1934-1992). Copyright © 1976 Oxford University Press.

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant: The Lord be with you..
People: **And also with you.**

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, you are always more ready to hear than we to pray, and to give more than we either desire or deserve: Pour upon us the abundance of your mercy, forgiving us those things of which our conscience is afraid, and giving us those good things for which we are not worthy to ask, except through the merits and mediation of Jesus Christ our Savior; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. ***Amen.***

First Lesson Isaiah 5:1-7

Let me sing for my beloved my love-song concerning his vineyard:
My beloved had a vineyard on a very fertile hill.
He dug it and cleared it of stones, and planted it with choice vines;
he built a watchtower in the midst of it, and hewed out a wine vat in it;
he expected it to yield grapes, but it yielded wild grapes.
And now, inhabitants of Jerusalem and people of Judah, judge between me and my vineyard.
What more was there to do for my vineyard that I have not done in it?
When I expected it to yield grapes, why did it yield wild grapes?
And now I will tell you what I will do to my vineyard.
I will remove its hedge, and it shall be devoured;
I will break down its wall, and it shall be trampled down.

I will make it a waste; it shall not be pruned or hoed,
and it shall be overgrown with briers and thorns;
I will also command the clouds that they rain no rain upon it.
For the vineyard of the Lord of hosts is the house of Israel,
and the people of Judah are his pleasant planting; he expected justice,
but saw bloodshed; righteousness, but heard a cry!

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

The Psalm

Psalm 80:7-148
Qui regis Israel

7 Restore us, O God of hosts; *
show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.
8 You have brought a vine out of Egypt; *
you cast out the nations and planted it.
9 You prepared the ground for it; *
it took root and filled the land.
10 The mountains were covered by its shadow *
and the towering cedar trees by its boughs.
11 You stretched out its tendrils to the Sea *
and its branches to the River.
12 Why have you broken down its wall, *
so that all who pass by pluck off its grapes?
13 The wild boar of the forest has ravaged it, *
and the beasts of the field have grazed upon it.
14 Turn now, O God of hosts, look down from heaven;
behold and tend this vine; *
preserve what your right hand has planted.

Second Lesson Philippians 3:4b-14

If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more: circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless.
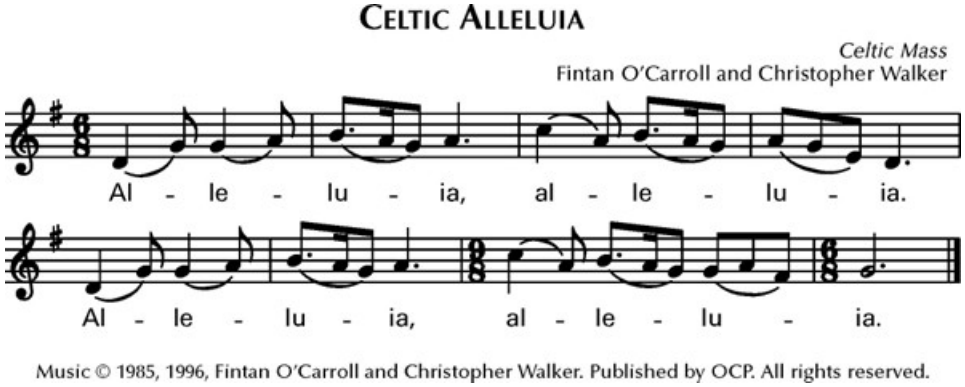
Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ. More than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but one that comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God based on faith. I want to know Christ and the power of his

resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death, if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal; but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. Beloved, I do not consider that I have made it my own; but this one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.

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

Sequence Hymn Celtic Alleluia



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Holy Gospel Matthew 21:23-32

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

Jesus said, "Listen to another parable. There was a landowner who planted a vineyard, put a fence around it, dug a wine press in it, and built a watchtower. Then he leased it to tenants and went to another country. When the harvest time had come, he sent his slaves to the tenants to collect his produce. But the tenants seized his slaves and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. Again he sent other slaves, more than the first; and they treated them in the same way. Finally he sent his son to them, saying, 'They will respect my son.' But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, 'This is the heir; come, let us kill him and get his inheritance.' So they seized him, threw him out of the vineyard, and killed him. Now when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?" They said to him, "He will put those wretches to a miserable death,

and lease the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the produce at the harvest time."

Jesus said to them, "Have you never read in the scriptures:

'The stone that the builders rejected
has become the cornerstone;
this was the Lord's doing,
and it is amazing in our eyes'?

Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people that produces the fruits of the kingdom. The one who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces; and it will crush anyone on whom it falls."

When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard his parables, they realized that he was speaking about them. They wanted to arrest him, but they feared the crowds, because they regarded him as a prophet.

Deacon: The Gospel of the Lord.
People: **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

Sequence Hymn Celtic Alleluia

Sermon **Reverend Rebecca Goldberg**

THE NICENE CREED

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.

The Prayers of the People

Form VI

The Leader and People pray responsively

In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

Silence

For all people in their daily life and work;
For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.

For this community, the nation, and the world;
For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.

For the just and proper use of your creation;
For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.

For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;
For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.

For the peace and unity of the Church of God;
For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.

For *Sean.* our Presiding Bishop, and *Austin* our Bishop; and for all bishops and other ministers;
For all who serve God in his Church.

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation.

Silence

The People may add their own petitions

Hear us, Lord;
For your mercy is great.

We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life.

Silence

The People may add their own thanksgivings

We will exalt you, O God our King;
And praise your Name for ever and ever.

We pray for all who have died, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom.

Silence

The People may add their own petitions

Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;
Who put their trust in you.

We pray to you also for the forgiveness of our sins.

Silence may be kept.

Leader and People

Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father;
in your compassion forgive us our sins,
known and unknown,
things done and left undone;
and so uphold us by your Spirit
that we may live and serve you in newness of life,
to the honor and glory of your Name;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Celebrant concludes with an absolution or a suitable Collect.

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. The Celebrant says to the people

Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be always with you.
People **And also with you.**

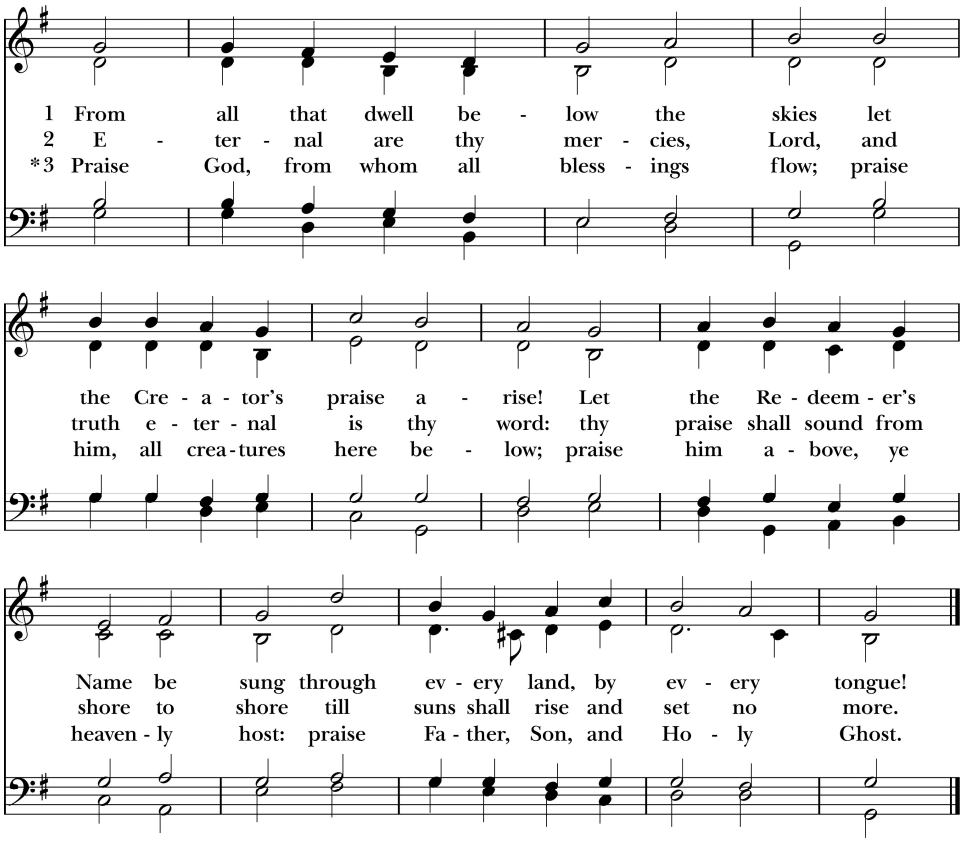
Announcements

Blessing of the Animals

Offertory Hymn: #655 O Jesus, I have promised

Doxology

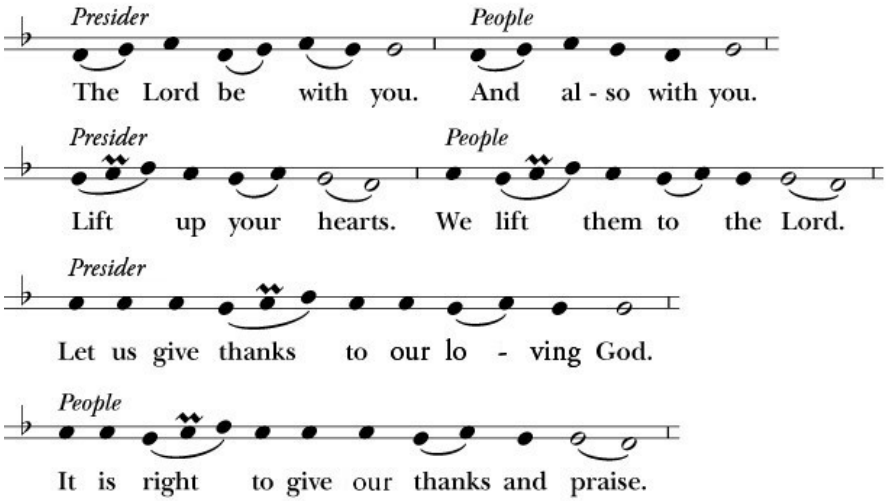
Hymn 380 From All That Dwell Below the Skies Verse 3



Words: Isaac Watts (1674-1748), para. of Psalm 117. St. 3, Thomas Ken (1637-1711). Music: *Old 100th*, melody from *Pseaumes octante trois de David*, 1551, alt.; harm. after Louis Bourgeois (1510?-1561?).

THE HOLY COMMUNION

Eucharistic Prayer C



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 our thanks and praise.

Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds

God of all power, Ruler of the Universe, you are worthy of glory and praise.
Glory to you for ever and ever.

At your command all things came to be: the vast expanse of interstellar space, galaxies, suns, the planets in their courses, and this fragile earth, our island home.
By your will they were created and have their being.

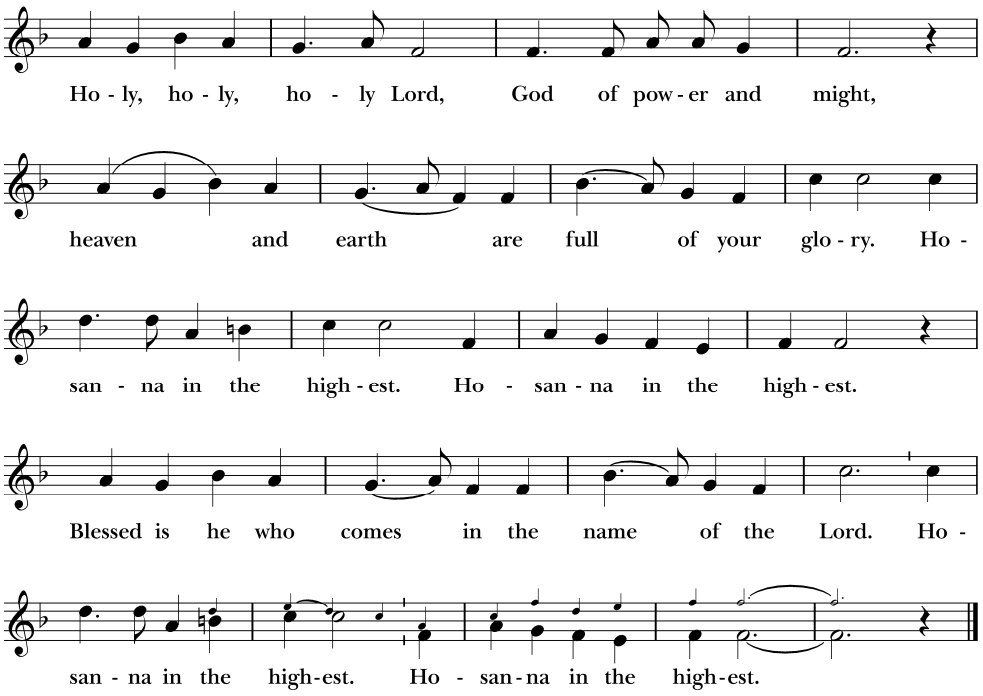
From the primal elements you brought forth the human race, and blessed us with memory, reason, and skill. You made us the rulers of creation. But we turned against you, and betrayed your trust; and we turned against one another.
Have mercy, Lord, for we are sinners in your sight.

Again and again, you called us to return. Through prophets and sages you revealed your righteous Law. And in the fullness of time you sent your only Son, born of a woman, to fulfill your Law, to open for us the way of freedom and peace.
By his blood, he reconciled us.
By his wounds, we are healed.

And therefore we praise you, joining with the heavenly chorus, with prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with all those in every generation who have looked to you in hope, to proclaim with them your glory, in their unending hymn:

The Sanctus

S125



Music: From *A Community Mass*; Richard Proulx (b. 1937). Copyright © 1971, 1977 GIA Publications, Inc.

The Celebrant continues

And so, Father, we who have been redeemed by him, and made a new people by water and the Spirit, now bring before you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ our Lord.

At the following words concerning the bread, the Celebrant is to hold it, or lay a hand upon it, and at the words concerning the cup, to hold or place a hand upon the cup and any other vessel containing wine to be consecrated.

On the night he was betrayed he took bread, said the blessing, broke the bread, and gave it to his friends, 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, gave thanks, 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."

Remembering now his work of redemption, and offering to you this sacrifice of thanksgiving,

We celebrate his death and resurrection,
as we await the day of his coming.

Lord God of our Fathers: God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob; God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ: Open our eyes to see your hand at work in the world about us. Deliver us from the presumption of coming to this Table for solace only, and not for strength; for pardon only, and not for renewal. Let the grace of this Holy Communion make us one body, one spirit in Christ, that we may worthily serve the world in his name.
Risen Lord, be known to us in the breaking of the Bread.

Accept these prayers and praises, Father, through Jesus Christ our great High Priest, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, your Church gives honor, glory, and worship, from generation to generation. *AMEN.*

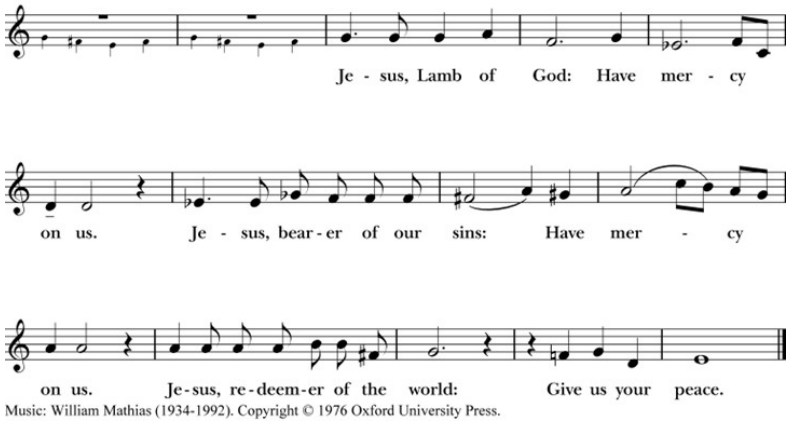
And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,	As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray,

The Lord's Prayer

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.

FRACTION ANTHEM

S165
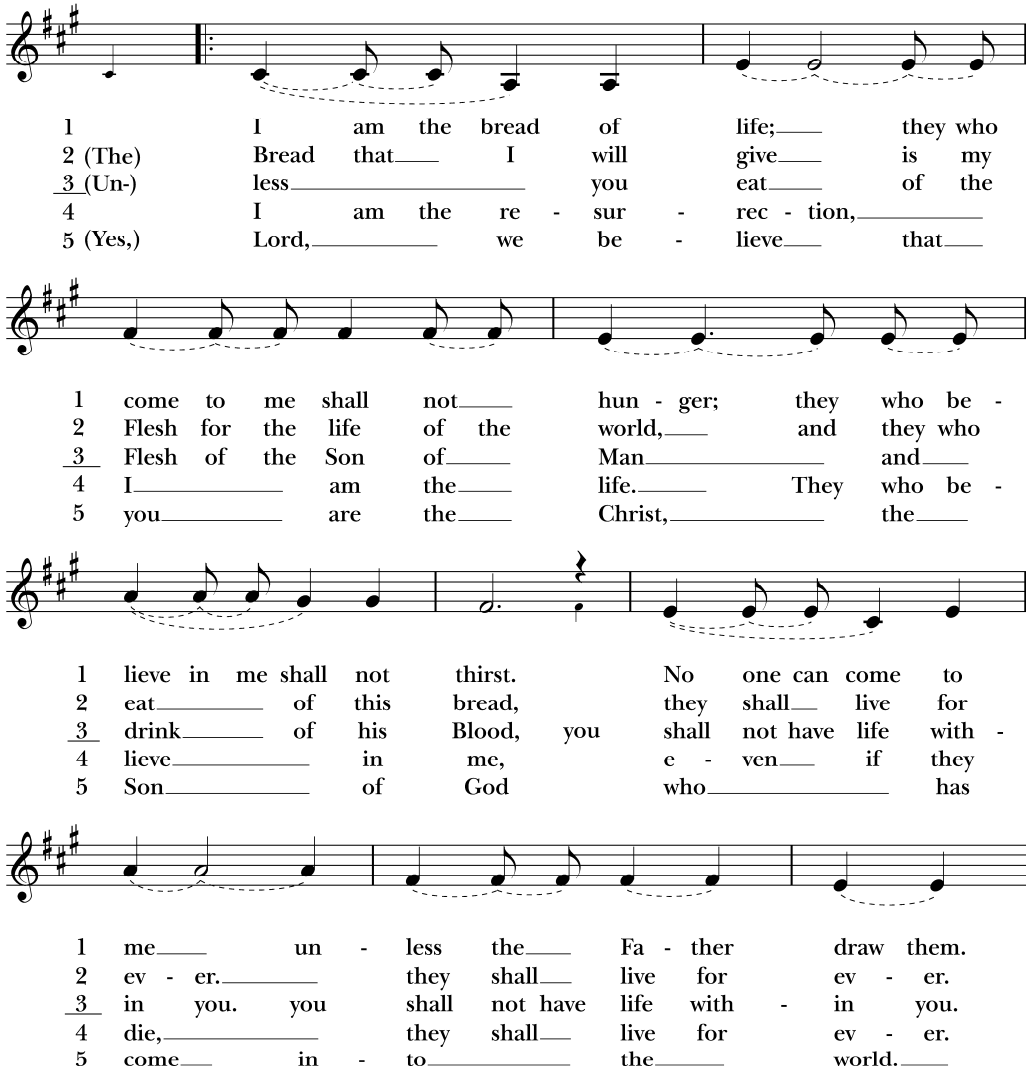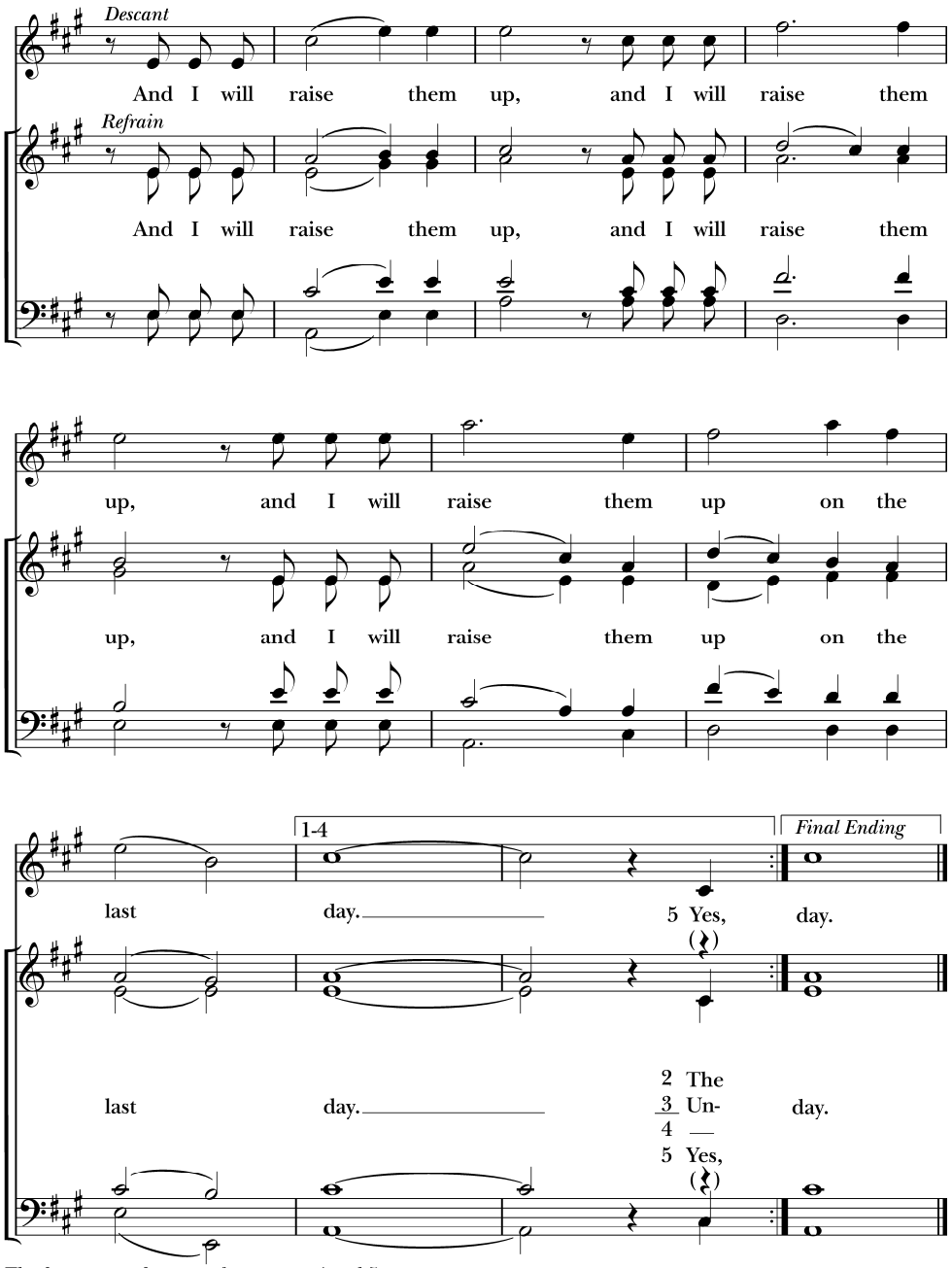


Music: William Mathias (1934-1992). Copyright © 1976 Oxford University Press.

Invitation

COMMUNION HYMN

335 I am the Bread of Life *Hymnal 1982*





The descant may be sung after stanzas 4 and 5.

Words: Suzanne Toolan (b. 1927), adapt. of John 6. Copyright © 1971, G.I.A. Publications, Inc. Music: *I Am the Bread of Life*, Suzanne Toolan (b. 1927); arr. Betty Pulkingham (b. 1928). Copyright © 1971, G.I.A. Publications, Inc.

Post communion Prayer

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.

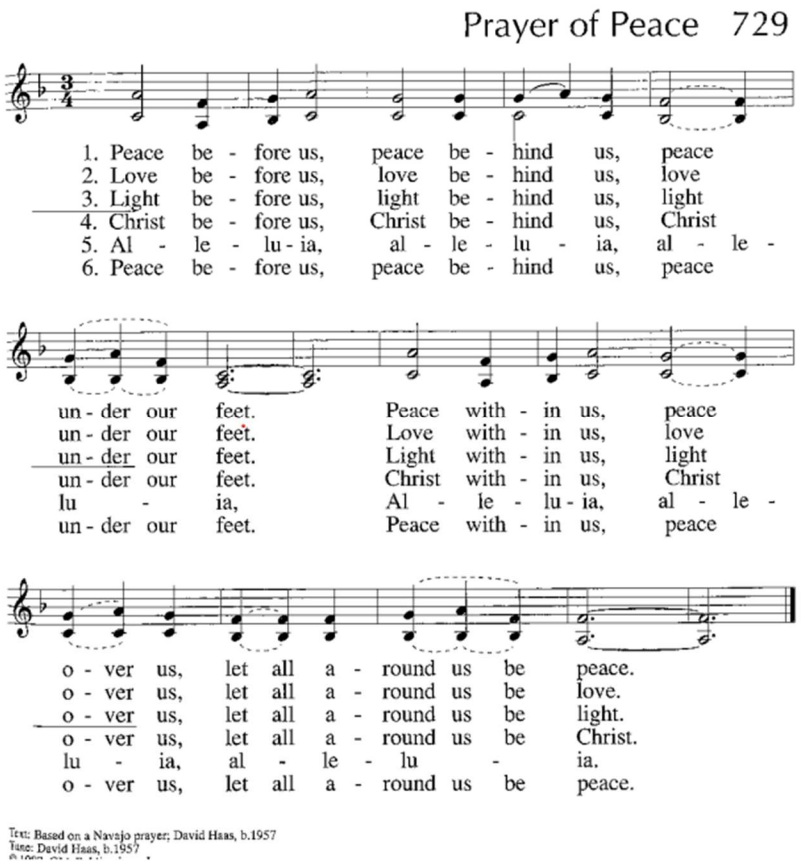
Eternal God, in whose perfect kingdom no sword is drawn but the sword of righteousness, no strength known but the strength of love: So mightily spread abroad your Spirit, that all peoples may be gathered under the banner of the Prince of Peace, as children of one Father; to whom be dominion and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

The Blessing

May the peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and his Son Jesus Christ our Lord. And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you always. **Amen**

RECESSIONAL

#729 Prayer of Peace *Gather*



THE DISMISSAL

POSTLUDE: Suite from "Water Music" I. Allegro Vivace **G.F. Handel**

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The Mission of St. Ambrose Church of Foster City

Is to proclaim the Good News of God in Jesus Christ as we care for each other and our larger community. We worship in the Episcopal and Anglican tradition, extending an open and inclusive invitation to all people, welcoming children into our church family and serving those in need.

Worship Leaders:

Reverend Rebecca Goldberg
Amanda Yuxin Dai, Music Director
Kay Ballantyne, Sunday School Director

Worship Leader Rota:

Intercessor
Eugene Hetzer, Lector
Daniel Tate, Eucharistic Minister
Usher
Livestream Technician

Next Week's Scripture Lessons

Isaiah 25:1-9
Psalm 23
Philippians 4:1-9
Matthew 22:1-14

Presider	Date
Reverend Rebecca Goldberg	Sunday, October 04, 2026
Reverend Rebecca Goldberg	Sunday, October 11, 2026
Reverend Rebecca Goldberg	Sunday, October 11, 2026
Reverend Rebecca Goldberg	Sunday, October 18, 2026

ANNOUNCEMENTS

St. Francis Day Blessing of the Animals

At our Sunday service of Holy Eucharist on **October 4**, we will learn about the life and witness of St. Francis of Assisi. In his honor, and in keeping with his great love of all creation, you are invited to bring your animal companions for a special blessing during the Peace. Stuffed animals and photos of your beloved companions will also be blessed. Then, from **2-4:00 pm** at the Foster City Dog Park, we will offer blessings for the companion animals of our community. All are welcome! Please let Mother Rebecca know if you would like to come to the Dog Park. Thank you.

Seasoned Souls of St Ambrose

Our Seniors' group meets the **first Monday** of every month in the Parish Hall from 11:30 am-1:00 pm for a program, meal, and fellowship. Please bring a bag lunch; beverages will be provided. If you are over 55 and enjoy connecting with other seniors, you are most welcome to join us!

Drum Circle

The St. Ambrose Drum Circle, convened by the Rev. Jay Watan, meets in the Parish Hall the **3rd Monday of each month at 11:30 a.m**. Please bring a bag lunch, drums are provided. All are welcome!

Diocesan Convention October 23-24

The 177th Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of California will be held from **10/23-10/24**. The Saturday in-person session is open to everyone, visitors and delegates alike. If you would like to experience the excitement of fellowship with folks from all over our diverse diocese, and learn about the governance, mission, and ministry of the wider church in the Bay Area, you are warmly welcomed to attend. The Saturday session runs from 8:30-5 and lunch is provided. If you would like to come, please let Mother Rebecca know so we can get you signed up.

Stewardship

Stewardship is a year-round spiritual practice, and this is the time of the year for us to be especially mindful of the gifts God has given us, and how we might offer our time, talent and treasure to share the transforming love of God in our community and in the world. More information will be coming out the first week of October.

Lectors and Intercessors needed

Proclaiming the Word and leading the prayers of the faithful are important ministries in the life of our community. We give thanks for those who are currently serving, and we are in need of more volunteers If you would like to read or lead the intercessions, please let Mother Rebecca know. Training will be provided.

Notation of Pledge Contributions

If you are writing a check for your pledge contributions, please indicate "Pledge" in the memo portion of your check. This helps the office accurately account for what is received. Thank you!

Meditation Group

On Monday nights, at 6:30 p.m., St. Ambrose hosts a weekly in-person silent meditation group. The format follows that of the East-West Meditation Program that was offered at Mercy Center, Burlingame, for many years. The format follows the Zen tradition, with a brief introduction and then a 25-minute silent meditation, 5-minute walking meditation (you are not obligated to physically move) and another 25-minute silent meditation. This will be held in the chapel, and bring your own cushion if you wish to sit on the floor. You can also sit in a

chair or pew if it is better to you. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact David McIntyre, ntkod@icloud.com

Questionable Text/Emails

There is a text and scam email that is circulating, signed Rev. Rebecca Goldberg, which requests a copy of the Church directory. Please delete it. None of the St. Ambrose or Sea Breeze staff will send you an email asking you to divulge personal information, or contribute funds to a questionable cause. Please let Mother Rebecca know if you have any questions.

Mother Rebecca's office hours

Mother Rebecca will be in her office on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday 9:30-4:30. She can be reached during office hours at 650-574-1369. If you have a pastoral emergency, please call 650 291-5289 revrebecca@stambrosefostercity.org

Coffee Hour

Join us for Coffee Hour after the service at 11:00 am in the parish hall. Please volunteer to contribute (cakes, cookies, finger food or sandwiches) by using the link below or by the signup sheet in the Narthex by the Reflections & Gratitude Board: Sign Up Genius https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60B0D4FA5A82CA0F94-coffee1

Worship Leaders Needed

Please sign up as a Lector for our 10:00* am Eucharist by emailing office@stambrosefostercity.org or the Church signup sheet. We also need Worship Leader volunteers for our 10:00* am Eucharist. There are openings for Intercessors, Lectors, Greeters, Ushers and Acolytes, and Livestream Technicians.

Contact us at office@stambrosefostercity.org or use the following link to signup: Signup Genius or Click on the following link https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60B0D4FA5A82CA0F94-worship **No 8:30am service at this time*

Sunday School 10 AM

Sunday school is at 10:00am every week Please contact Kay Ballantyne rose466@earthlink.net or Raphael Gerber raphaele.gerber@gmail.com

Rides for Gene Hetzer

Gene Hetzer a longtime church member and Karl his guide dog need rides on an alternating basis from church members. Please contact Jim Neubert to schedule a day for driving.

Bible Study

Every Tuesday at 1:00pm, we meet for Bible Study on Zoom and discuss the Scriptures for the upcoming Sunday Service. Join us! For questions, please Warren Wong at wwong@nd.edu

Contemplative Meditation

Every Wednesday 10am-11am we meet for Contemplative Meditation on Zoom. Currently we are working through "Reading Van Gogh: An Amateur's Search for God" by Elizabeth Barks Cox. If interested, please contact Hamilton Fong. hfongster@gmail.com

Prayer Support Group
Every 1st and 3rd Sunday after the service at 11:30am, we will be meeting in the sanctuary to have a prayer meeting. Please join us any time as you are able. For questions, please contact Daniel Tate at 650-799-7084, or dtate@ses.cdsp.edu

Prayer list: We pray especially for Clara Padilla, Stavros and Helen Chrysovergis, Verna Labrador Cinotti, Belinda Yuen and family, Keith Adolph, Etta Bates, Dulce Lord's sister Divina, Andra Baker Gleinn, Renee Sheldon and family, Darren Su, Carol Frisch and the Frisch family, Yvonne Sidell, Jerelyn Weber, Miles Martin, Barbara Milligan, Ed Avakoff, Mirta Padilla, Isabella, Jerry Boykin, Carol Newman, Arjun Katyan, Janet Mc Annally, Elliott Dun, Alison LeBlanc, Peggy Chapman, Ronnie Rosen, Leo Gauthier, Alice Deckel, and the pupils and staff of Sea Breeze School.

***For those who have died*:** Max Gumbert, Eleanor Hui, Bettie Davis, Pat Cinotti, Juan Francisco Medina, Veronica Rutledge, Paul Rose, Stephen Yuen, Charlene Adolph, David Labrador, Don Peter, Alene Karthas, Diane Robertson, Bob Gleinn, Doreen Yuen, Veneranda Ramirez, Arthur Labrador, Buck Schott, Ercira Puig, Zaw-Sing Su, Mike Frisch, John Miller, Eva Rios Chong, Judi Guilford, John David Tate, Martin Gardiner
[Please contact the parish office to add any names of the sick and suffering to be prayed for in our monthly cycle of prayer.]

The Altar Flowers are given by
The Altar Guild for the Glory of God

Birthdays

Anniversaries
Kirk and Brenda Matsuo – October 2



St. Ambrose Episcopal Church
900 Edgewater Blvd
Foster City, CA 94404

Priest-In-Charge	Reverend Rebecca Goldberg
Music Director	Amanda Yuxin Dai
Sunday School Director	Kay Ballantyne
Office Administrator	Angeli Labrador
Bookkeeper	Ron Cook

Sr. Warden	*David McIntyre*
Jr. Warden	*Elizabeth Peter*
Treasurer	*Alison LeBlanc*
Vestry	*Keith Adolph*
	Suzanne Canada
	Mary Loretta Davila
	George Gardiner
	Janet Gardiner
	Cathy Rincon