

# TRADITIONAL SERVICE OF:



*THE FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS DAY*

*DECEMBER 26, 2021*

*11:00 A.M.*

# Jesus Christ the apple tree

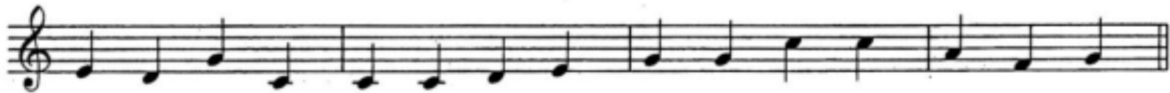
Words from *Divine Hymns or  
Spiritual Songs*, compiled by  
JOSHUA SMITH  
(New Hampshire, 1784)

ELIZABETH POSTON  
(1905-87)

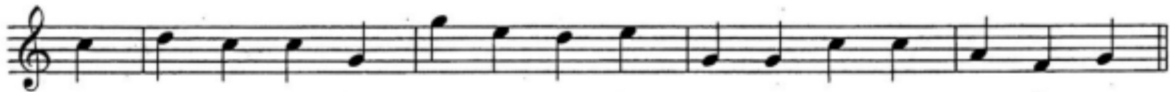
♩ = 120



1. The tree of life my soul hath seen, La - den with fruit and al - ways green: The  
2. This fruit doth make my soul to thrive, It keeps my dy - ing faith a - live; This



tree of life my soul hath seen, La - den with fruit and al - ways green:  
fruit doth make my soul to thrive, It keeps my dy - ing faith a - live;



The trees of na - ture fruit-less be Com - pared with Christ the ap - ple tree.  
Which makes my soul in haste to be With Je - sus Christ the ap - ple tree.

**PRELUDE**

**OPENING HYMN:** Once in royal David's city (v. 1, 2, 6)

Hymnal 102

**BIDDING**

Beloved in Christ, in this season of Christmastide let it be our care and delight to hear again the message of the Angels, and in heart and mind to go even unto Bethlehem, to see the Babe lying in a manger. Therefore let us read and mark in Holy Scripture the tale of the loving purposes of God from the first days of our disobedience unto the glorious Redemption brought us by his holy Child.

But first, let us pray for the needs of his whole world; for peace and goodwill over all the earth; for the mission and unity of the Church for which he died, and especially in this country and within this village.

And because this of all things would rejoice his heart, let us at this time remember in his name the poor and the helpless; the hungry and the oppressed; the sick and those who mourn; the lonely and the unloved; the aged and the little children; and all those who know not the Lord Jesus, or who love him not, or who by sin have grieved his heart of love.

Lastly, let us remember before God his pure and lowly Mother, and all those who rejoice with us, but upon another shore and in a greater light, that multitude which no one can number, whose hope was in the Word made flesh, and with whom, in this Lord Jesus, we for evermore are one. **Amen.**

**FIRST LESSON:** Genesis 3:8-15, 17-19

*Adam & Eve disobey God's command and disrupt the order and goodness of creation.*

**CAROL:** Jesus Christ, the Apple Tree

see facing page



**SECOND LESSON:** Genesis 22: 15-18

*God promises that, through Abraham, all the people of the world will be blessed.*

CAROL: Prepare the way O Zion

Hymnal 65



**THIRD LESSON:** Isaiah 9:2, 6-7

*The people who walk in darkness receive the promise of the Messiah.*

CAROL: Savior of the nations, come! (v. 1, 2)

Hymnal 54



**FOURTH LESSON:** Isaiah 11:1-4a, 6-9

*The Messiah will come from the root of Jesse to restore the peace of creation.*

CAROL: Lo, how a Rose e're blooming (v. 1, 2)

Hymnal 81



**FIFTH LESSON:** Luke 1:26-35, 38

*An angel appears to Mary and announces that she will bear a holy child.*

CAROL: The angel Gabriel from heaven came (v. 1, 2)

Hymnal 265



**SIXTH LESSON:** Luke 2:1-7

*Joseph and Mary travel to Bethlehem, where Mary gives birth to her child.*

CAROL: O little town of Bethlehem (v. 1, 2, 3)

Hymnal 78



**SEVENTH LESSON:** Luke 2:8-16

*Angels appear to shepherds in the fields and announce the birth of the Messiah.*

CAROL: The first Nowell the angel did say

Hymnal 109



**EIGHTH LESSON:** Matthew 2:1-11

*Magi from the East come seeking the Messiah and offer gifts to the baby Jesus.*

CAROL: What child is this, who laid to rest

Hymnal 115



THE GOSPEL LESSON: John 1:1-18 (*all stand*)

Mother Cathy Carpenter

*The Word of God becomes flesh and lives among us, full of grace and truth.*

CAROL: Of the Father's love begotten

Hymnal 82

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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.**

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

We pray this day for the Church throughout the world. For all the holy people of God. For those about to be baptized. For our Presiding Bishop Michael, for our Bishop DeDe, for our Rector Cathy and for all bishops, priests, and deacons. *(silence)*

We pray this day for this Nation and for every nation, and those in authority, especially Joe our President, and Kathy our Governor. *(silence)*

We pray this day for the welfare of people throughout the world, especially in places of war, famine, or natural disaster. *(silence)*

We pray this day for the concerns of our local communities and the people who live in them, especially for those without adequate food or housing. *(silence)*

We pray this day for those who are suffering or in any kind of trouble, for the sick, for those who mourn, for those on our parish prayer list, and for those we name, silently or aloud... *(silence)*

We pray this day for those who have died, especially Rasheed and for those we now name silently or aloud... *(silence)*

*The Celebrant concludes with the following*

Eternal Father, you gave to your incarnate Son the holy name of Jesus to be the sign of our salvation: Plant in every heart, we pray, the love of him who is the Savior of the world, our Lord Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, in glory everlasting. **Amen.**

## THE PEACE

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

**People:** And also with you.

## AT THE PREPARATION OF THE GIFTS:

*God rest you merry, gentlemen*

Hymnal 105

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Great Thanksgiving – Prayer B

367 (red book)

Sanctus Holy, holy, holy, Lord

S-130 (blue book)

At the Breaking of the Bread Jesus, Lamb of God

S-164 (blue book)

## COMMUNION

*All baptized persons, regardless of denomination, and including children, are welcome to receive Holy Communion. Communion will be administered by the (masked) celebrant. The Bread will be intincted (dipped) in the Wine then handed to you. If you desire to receive the Bread only, raise your hand in a “stop” gesture before presenting your hands for the wafer. Please return to your seat before removing your mask to receive. If you wish a blessing instead, please cross your arms across your chest.*

## POST COMMUNION PRAYER

366 (red book)

## BLESSING

*Celebrant:* May Christ, who by his Incarnation gathered into one things earthly and heavenly, fill you with his joy and peace; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. Amen.

## CLOSING HYMN: Go tell it on the Mountain

Hymnal 99

## DISMISSAL

## POSTLUDE



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