

The congregation may be seated.

Holy God,
we thank you that Jesus comes to us even now
in this meal which he gave us
to be the sacrament of our redemption.

We remember:

as Mary and Joseph went from Galilee to Bethlehem
and found no room in the inn,
so Jesus went from Bethlehem to Jerusalem
and found no room in the hearts of the people.

As they went out in humiliation to lie in a stable,
so he went out in humiliation to die on a cross.

As in a lowly manger they laid him,
so from a lowly grave you raised him,
that we might have life!

As he took on our flesh that Christmas night so long ago,
so on that night in which he gave up his flesh for us,
the Lord Jesus took bread and wine, saying:
“This is my body, given for you.
this is my blood, shed for you.
Do this in remembrance of me.”

From that night on, in obedience to his command,
your Church has kept this sacred feast,
believing that in it you make present to us
the mystery of faith:

Intro



Christ has died, Christ is ris-en,



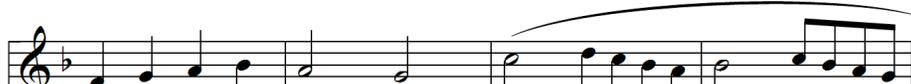
Christ will come to earth a-gain. Great the myst-'ry



of God's grace; great the myst-'ry of our faith.



Glo - - - - - ri - a



in ex-cel-sis De - o. Glo - - - - -



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Come, Holy Spirit, upon us and upon these gifts
of bread and wine from your good creation,
In receiving them, may we experience anew
Christ's advent and incarnation,
his crucifixion and resurrection
and be given a foretaste of the glory
which his final return will bring.

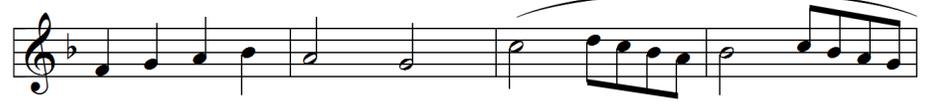
And now, may this meal strengthen us,
to work for that day when Christ shall come in final victory
and we shall feast forever at your table in the new creation

Through your Son Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,
all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father,
now and forever.

Intro



Glo - - - - - ri - a,



in ex-cel-sis De - o! Glo - - - - -



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Words: Unknown origin, revised by Daniel Benedict and Dean McIntyre

Music: *GLORIA* - French carol melody

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