

# *The Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ*

**DECEMBER 24, 2022**

**9:30PM - MUSIC PRELUDE**

**10PM - FESTIVAL EUCHARIST**

**LIVE STREAMED ON [YOUTUBE](#)**

**ST. GREGORY THE GREAT EPISCOPAL CHURCH**

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## SPIRITUAL COMMUNION \*

What happens when you are spiritually prepared and desire to receive communion, but can't?  
Such a case is referenced by a paragraph in the 1979 Prayer Book:

*If a person desires to receive the Sacrament, but, by reason of extreme sickness or physical disability, is unable to eat and drink the Bread and Wine, the Celebrant is to assure that person that all the benefits of Communion are received, even though the Sacrament is not received with the mouth.*

A nation-wide shut down due to a pandemic fits, I'm sure we'll agree, with the words "by any other impediment" listed in the first Prayer Book. Our Lord will not cut us off from his grace. If we truly desire him, he will come to us, even if we cannot receive the Sacraments he has instituted so that we may receive his grace. This is not a new idea. St Thomas Aquinas, writing nearly 800 years ago, said:

*before receiving a sacrament, the reality of the sacrament can be had through the very desire of receiving the sacrament. Accordingly, before actual reception of this sacrament, a man can obtain salvation through the desire of receiving it, just as he can before Baptism through the desire of Baptism, as stated above (Summa, III.73.iii)*

Desiring to receive the spiritual grace of the Most Holy Eucharist (and being prevented from receiving it sacramentally) is known as Spiritual Communion. It is so very important to note that this gift is given to us when we cannot, for very good reason, be present at mass.

When you are watching a live-stream or recording of our liturgies, any of the following prayers may be said at the moment of communion when you would normally leave your pew and make your journey to the altar:

**In Union, dear Lord, with the faithful at every altar of Your Church where Your blessed Body and Blood are being offered to the Father, I desire to offer You praise and thanksgiving. I believe that You are present in the Holy Sacrament. And since I cannot now receive You sacramentally, I ask You to come spiritually into my heart. I unite myself to You, and embrace You with all the affections of my soul. Let me never be separated from You. Let me live and die in Your love. Amen.**

OR

**Faithful God, in the wonder of your wisdom and love, you fed your people in the wilderness with the bread of angels, and you sent Jesus to be the bread of life. Though I cannot physically consume these gifts of bread and wine, I thank you that I have received the sacrament of Christ's presence, the forgiveness of sins, and all other benefits of Christ's passion. By the power of the Holy Spirit, may I embody your desire, and be renewed for your service, through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen. (from *Enriching Our Worship 2*)**

OR

**"My Jesus, I believe that you are present in the Blessed Sacrament.  
I love you above all things and I desire you with all my heart.  
Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally,  
I ask you to come spiritually into my heart.  
I embrace you as if you were already in my heart  
and unite myself to you completely.  
Please do not let me ever be separated from you." (by St. Alphonsus Liguori)**

*\*Except where otherwise indicated, the whole of this article (with only very little amendment) is taken from the website of St. Timothy's Episcopal Church, Winston-Salem, North Carolina, where it was posted on April 5, 2020. No author was specified.*

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### Schedule of Services

**Christmas Day**

**Sunday, December 25**

**10AM Holy Eucharist & Carols \***  
(no Sunday school or nursery)

**Sunday, January 1, 2023**

**8AM Holy Eucharist**

**10:30AM Holy Eucharist \***  
(no Sunday school or nursery)

**\* also live streamed**



## MUSIC PRELUDE

<b>Choir</b>	<i>O Hearken Ye</i>	Alfred Burt
<b>Congregational Hymn 84</b>	<i>Love came down at Christmas</i>	<b>GARTAN</b>
<b>Congregational Hymn 94</b>	<i>While shepherds watched their flocks by night</i>	<b>WINCHESTER OLD</b>
<b>Organ Solo</b>	<i>On December 25<sup>th</sup></i>	Richard Lind
<b>Instrumental</b>	<i>Bring a Torch Jeannette Isabella</i>	French Carol arr. Michael Tyree
<b>Instrumental</b>	<i>Ding Dong Merrily On High</i>	arr. David Burndrett
<b>Congregational Hymn 113</b>	<i>Duérmete, Niño lindo/ Sleep now, holy baby</i> v. 1 Spanish (soloist) vs. 1-2 English (congregation)	<b>A LA RU</b>
<b>Solo</b>	<i>Go Tell It On the Mountain</i>	Spiritual arr. Mark Hayes
<b>Choir</b>	<i>Gloria in D Major</i> <i>Gloria</i> Glory to God in the highest! <i>Domine, Fili unigenite</i> God the only begotten Son Jesus Christ. <i>Cum Sancto Spiritu</i> With the Holy Spirit in the glory of God the Father. Amen.	Antonio Vivaldi



# THE HOLY EUCHARIST

## The Word of God

Music Prelude (see above)

Processional Hymn 83

*O come, all ye faithful*

ADESTE FIDELES

1 O come, all ye faith - ful, joy - ful and tri - um - phant, O  
 2 God from God, Light from Light e - ter - nal,  
 3 Sing, choirs of an - gels, sing in ex - ul - ta - tion,  
 \*4 See how the shep - herds, sum - moned to his cra - dle,  
 \*5 Child, for us sin - ners poor and in the man - ger,

1 come ye, O come ye to Beth - le - hem;  
 2 lo! he ab - hors not the Vir - gin's womb;  
 3 sing, all ye ci - ti - zens of heaven a - bove;  
 4 leav - ing their flocks, draw nigh to gaze;  
 5 we would em - brace thee, with love and awe;

1 come, and be - hold him, born the King of an - gels;  
 2 on - ly - be - got - ten Son of the Fa - ther;  
 3 glo - ry to God, glo - ry in the high - est;  
 4 we too will thith - er bend our joy - ful foot - steps;  
 5 who would not love thee, lov - ing us so dear - ly?

*Refrain*

O come, let us a - dore him, O come, let us a -

dore him, O come, let us a - dore him, Christ the Lord.

6 Yea, Lord, we greet thee,  
 born this happy morning;  
 Jesus, to thee be glory given;  
 Word of the Father,  
 now in flesh appearing;

*Refrain*

### OPENING ACCLAMATION

*Celebrant:* Alleluia! Unto us a child is born.

*People:* **O come let us adore him. Alleluia!**

1 Joy to the world! the Lord is come: let earth re -  
 2 Joy to the world! the Sa - vior reigns; let us our  
 \*3 No more let sins and sor - rows grow, nor thorns in -  
 4 He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the

ceive her King; let ev - ery heart pre - pare him room, and  
 songs em - ploy, while fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains, re -  
 fest the ground; he comes to make his bless - ings flow far  
 na - tions prove the glo - ries of his right - eous - ness, and

heaven and na - ture sing, and heaven and na - ture  
 peat the sound - ing joy, re - peat the sound - ing  
 as the curse is found, far as the curse is  
 won - ders of his love, and won - ders of his

1 and heaven and na - ture sing, and  
 2 re - peat the sound - ing joy, re -  
 3 far as the curse is found, far  
 4 and won - ders of his love, and

sing, and heaven, and heaven and na - ture sing.  
 joy, re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.  
 found, far as, far as the curse is found.  
 love, and won - ders, won - ders of his love.

heaven and na - ture sing,  
 peat the sound - ing joy,  
 as the curse is found,  
 won - ders of his love,

THE COLLECT FOR CHRISTMAS

*Celebrant:* The Lord be with you.

*People:* **And also with you.**

*Celebrant:* Let us pray.

O God, you have caused this holy night to shine with the brightness of the true Light: Grant that we, who have known the mystery of that Light on earth, may also enjoy him perfectly in heaven; where with you and the Holy Spirit he lives and reigns, one God, in glory everlasting. Amen.

## THE FIRST READING

Isaiah 9:2-7

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness— on them light has shined. You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder. For the yoke of their burden, and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian. For all the boots of the tramping warriors and all the garments rolled in blood shall be burned as fuel for the fire. For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onward and forevermore. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.

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

## Psalm 96 *Cantate Domino*

- 1 Sing to the LORD a new / song; \*  
sing to the LORD, all the whole / earth.
- 2 Sing to the LORD and bless his / Name; \*  
proclaim the good news of his salvation from day to /day.
- 3 Declare his glory among the / nations \*  
and his wonders among all / peoples.
- 4 For great is the LORD and greatly to be / praised; \*  
he is more to be feared than all / gods.
- 5 As for all the gods of the nations, they are but / idols; \*  
but it is the LORD who made the / heavens.
- 6 Oh, the majesty and magnificence of his / presence! \*  
Oh, the power and the splendor of his / sanctuary!
- 7 Ascribe to the LORD, you families of the / peoples; \*  
ascribe to the LORD honor and / power.
- 8 Ascribe to the LORD the honor due his / Name; \*  
bring offerings and come into his / courts.
- 
- 9 Worship the LORD in the beauty of / holiness; \*  
let the whole earth tremble be-/fore him.
- 10 Tell it out among the nations: "The LORD is / King! \*  
he has made the world so firm that it cannot be moved;  
he will judge the peoples with / equity."
- 11 Let the heavens rejoice, and let the earth be glad;  
let the sea thunder and all that is / in it; \*  
let the field be joyful and all that is there-/in.
- 12 Then shall all the trees of the wood shout for joy before the LORD when he / comes, \*  
when he comes to judge the / earth.
- 13 He will judge the world with / righteousness \*  
and the peoples with his / truth.

Jerome Webster Meachen  
(b. 1930)



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## THE SECOND READING

Titus 2:11-14

For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all, training us to renounce impiety and worldly passions, and in the present age to live lives that are self-controlled, upright, and godly, while we wait for the blessed hope and the manifestation of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ. He it is who gave himself for us that he might redeem us from all iniquity and purify for himself a people of his own who are zealous for good deeds.

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

*The people stand to sing and remain standing for the Gospel.*

1 Hark! the her-ald an - gels sing glo - ry to the new-born King!  
 2 Christ, by high-est heaven a - dored; Christ, the ev - er - last - ing Lord;  
 3 Mild he lays his glo - ry by, born that we no more may die,

Peace on earth and mer - cy mild, God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled!  
 late in time be - hold him come, off - spring of the Vir - gin's womb.  
 born to raise us from the earth, born to give us sec - ond birth.

Joy - ful, all ye na - tions, rise, join the tri - umph of the skies;  
 Veiled in flesh the God - head see; hail the in - car - nate De - i - ty,  
 Risen with heal - ing in his wings, light and life to all he brings,

with the an - gel - ic host pro - claim Christ is born in Beth - le - hem!  
 Pleased as man with us to dwell; Je - sus, our Em - man - u - el!  
 hail, the Sun of Right - eous - ness! hail, the heaven-born Prince of Peace!

*Refrain*  
 Hark! the her - ald an - gels sing glo - ry to the new - born King!

## THE GOSPEL

Luke 2:1-20

Celebrant: *The Holy Gospel of our Savior, Jesus Christ, according to Luke.*

People: *Glory to you, O Christ.*

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn. In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see-- I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!" When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us." So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them. *The Gospel of the Lord. Praise to you, O Christ.*

THE NICENE CREED

BCP 358

*(said by all, standing)*

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, Form VI

BCP 392

In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

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;

We pray for our President, Joseph, our Governor, Brian, and our Mayor, Kelly.

**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 Michael, our Presiding Bishop, Rob, Paul, and Don, our Bishops; (...) and for all bishops and other ministers, priests, deacons, and clergy associates, especially Lin, Dutton, Carol, Ellen, Christina, & Nikki;

**For all who serve God in his Church.**

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation. We pray especially for (...)

Hear us, Lord;

**For your mercy is great.**

We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life. We give thanks for (...)

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.

Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;

**Who put their trust in you.**

*The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.*

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

BCP 360

*Celebrant:* Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Celebrant and People:* **Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.**

*Celebrant:* 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

Celebrant: *The peace of Christ be always with you.*

People: **And also with you.**

**The Holy Communion**

**Offertory Anthem**

*In Dulci Jubilo*

Dietrich Buxtehude

Now sing we, now rejoice. Now raise to heav'n our voice;  
He from whom joy streameth poor in a manger lies;  
Not so brightly beameth the sun in yonder skies.  
Thou my Savior art!  
Come from on high to me; I can not rise to Thee.  
Cheer my wearied spirit, O pure and holy Child;  
Thro' Thy grace and merit, blest Jesus, Lord most mild,  
Draw me unto Thee!  
Now through His Son doth shine the Father's grace divine.  
Death o'er us had reigned through sin and vanity;  
He for us obtained eternal joy on high.  
May we praise Him there!  
Oh, where shall joy be found?  
Where but on heav'nly ground?  
Where the angels singing with all His saints unite,  
Sweetest praises bringing in heav'nly joy and light.  
Oh, that we were there!

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING, EUCHARISTIC PRAYER B

BCP 367

*The Lord be with you.*

**And also with you.**

*Lift up your hearts.*

**We lift them to the Lord.**

*Let us give thanks to the Lord.*

**It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. Because you gave Jesus Christ, your only Son, to be born for us; who, by the mighty power of the Holy Spirit, was made perfect Man of the flesh of the Virgin Mary his mother; so that we might be delivered from the bondage of sin, and receive power to become your children.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

# Sanctus

## Holy, Holy, Holy Lord

arr. Richard Shephard

*Unison*  
Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r, of pow'r and might.

6  
Hea - ven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

10  
*Opt. des.*  
Blessed is he, is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

14  
*molto rit.*  
Ho - sa - na, Ho - sa - na in the high - est.  
Ho - san - na in the high - est, Ho - sa - na in the high - est.

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, 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; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, 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." Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

*Celebrant and People: We remember his death,  
We proclaim his resurrection,  
We await his coming in glory;*

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with the Blessed Virgin Mary and all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation. By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **Amen.**

#### THE LORD'S PRAYER

BCP 364

*Rejoicing in the presence of God here among us, as our Savior taught us, so we pray*

**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 S-161

#### Lamb of God

David Hurd

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world:  
have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the  
sins of the world: have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God,  
you take a - way the sins of the world: grant us peace.

#### THE COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE



1 It came up - on the mid - night clear, that  
 2 Still through the clov - en skies they come with  
 3 Yet with the woes of sin and strife the  
 4 For lo! the days are haste - ning on, by

glo - rious song of old, from an - gels bend - ing  
 peace - ful wings un - furled, and still their heaven - ly  
 world has suf - fered long; be - neath the heaven - ly  
 pro - phets seen of old, when with the ev - er -

near the earth to touch their harps of gold;  
 mu - sic floats o'er all the wea - ry world;  
 hymn have rolled thou - sand years of wrong;  
 cir - cling years shall come the time fore - told,

"Peace on the earth, good will to men, from  
 a - bove its sad and low - ly plains they  
 and war - ring hu - man - kind hears not the  
 when peace shall o - ver all the earth its

heaven's all - gra - cious King." The world in sol - emn  
 bend on hov - ering wing, and ev - er o'er its  
 tid - ings which they bring; O hush the noise and  
 an - cient splen - dors fling, and all the world give

still - ness lay to hear the an - gels sing.  
 Ba - bel - sounds the bless - ed an - gels sing.  
 cease your strife and hear the an - gels sing!  
 back the song which now the an - gels sing.

Communion Anthem

Mary Had a Baby

arr. Roland Carter

Mary had a baby, Oh my Lord!  
 Mary had a baby, where was he born?  
 Born in a manger low.  
 Mary had a baby, oh my Lord.  
 What did they call Him?  
 Some call Him one thing, but I'll call Him another,  
 Some say Immanuel, I'll call Him Sweet Little Jesus Boy,  
 I'll call Him Jesus.  
 He is called King Jesus, Wonderful counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father  
 He's the Prince of peace  
 Mary had a baby oh my Lord.

SPIRITUAL COMMUNION PRAYER (for our livestreaming community)

Enriching Our Worship 2

Faithful God, in the wonder of your wisdom and love, you fed your people in the wilderness with the bread of angels, and you sent Jesus to be the bread of life. Though I cannot physically consume these gifts of bread and wine, I thank you that I have received the sacrament of Christ's presence, the forgiveness of sins, and all other benefits of Christ's passion. By the power of the Holy Spirit, may I embody your desire, and be renewed for your service, through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER

BCP 366

Almighty and everliving God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

Hymn 111

Silent night, holy night

STILLE NACHT

First time through, soloist & guitar; congregation join for vs. 1-3

(Individual candles are lit as the lights are dimmed; people are invited to kneel, if able.)

Please pass your flame to your neighbor.)

Si - lent night, ho - ly night, all is calm,  
 Si - lent night, ho - ly night, shep - herds quake  
 Si - lent night, ho - ly night, Son of God,  
 all is bright round yon vir - gin mo - ther and child.  
 at the sight, glo - ries stream from hea - ven a - far,  
 love's pure light ra - diant beams from thy ho - ly face,  
 Ho - ly in - fant, so ten - der and mild, sleep in hea - ven - ly  
 heaven - ly hosts sing al - le - lu - ia; Christ, the Sa - vior, is  
 with the dawn of re - deem - ing grace, Je - sus, Lord, at thy  
 peace. Sleep in hea - ven - ly peace.  
 born! Christ, the Sa - vior, is born!  
 birth. Je - sus, Lord, at thy birth.

THE BLESSING:

May Almighty God, who sent his son to take our nature upon him, bless you in this holy season, scatter the darkness of sin, and brighten your heart with the light of his holiness. **Amen.**

May God, who sent his angels to proclaim the glad news of the Savior's birth, fill you with joy, and make you heralds of the Gospel. **Amen.**

May God, who in the Word made flesh joined heaven to earth and earth to heaven, give you his peace and favor. **Amen.**

And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever. **Amen.**

Recessional Hymn 96

Angels we have heard on high

GLORIA

1 An - gels we have heard on high, sing - ing sweet - ly through the night,  
 2 Shep - herds, why this ju - bi - lee? Why these songs of hap - py cheer?  
 3 Come to Beth - le - hem and see him whose birth the an - gels sing;  
 4 See him in a man - ger laid whom the an - gels praise a - bove;

and the moun - tains in re - ply ech - o - ing their brave de - light.  
 What great bright - ness did you see? What glad tid - ings did you hear?  
 come, a - dore on bend - ed knee Christ, the Lord, the new - born King.  
 Ma - ry, Jo - seph, lend your aid, while we raise our hearts in love.

*Refrain*

Glo - - - - - ri - a

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

- - - - - ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o.

THE DISMISSAL

*Celebrant  
People*

Let us go forth into the world rejoicing in the power of the Spirit. Alleluia, alleluia!  
**Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia!**

Choral Postlude

*And the Glory of the Lord*

G. F. Handel

And the glory of the Lord shall be revealed  
and all flesh shall see it together  
for the mouth of the Lord hath spoken it.

*Special thank you to our choir  
and the following instrumentalists and soloists tonight:*

*Lauren Covington (soprano), Josh Klein (trumpet), Cristobal Provoste (violin I),  
Beth Clement (violin II), Rogelio Bonilla (viola), Karen Bergmann (cello),  
Lewis Heald (double bass), Stacie Court (soprano), Kevin Greene (guitar)*

**THE FLOWERS ON THE CHRISTMAS ALTAR ARE GIVEN**

**In Memory of**

Dwayne & Thelma Coker, from Jeff & Shelby Welch  
William & Evelyn Welch, from Jeff & Shelby Welch  
John Rives, from Diane Barret  
Iris and Jack Moorhead, from Sheila Kelley  
Jackie and Roy Kelley, from Sheila Kelley  
Terry Kelley, from Sheila Kelley  
Stephen Corn, from Dolores Holt  
Cedric Kuhn, from Barbara Kuhn  
Dwayne & Thelma Coker, Bill & Kitty Ross, and Bill & Evelyn Welch, from Caley & Amelia Ross  
Rita Murphy, from Alexa Lamm  
Sandra Everett, from Alexa Lamm  
George Watson, Jr. and George Watson, III (Trey), from Nancy Watson & family  
George Watson, Sr. and Louise Watson, from Nancy Watson & family  
Charles Harrison & Helen Walker Harrison, from Nancy Watson & family  
Pattie Hiles, from Nancy Watson & family  
Joan Barber, Jane Armistead's mother, from Jack & Jane Armistead  
Ophelia Glover, from Alex Glover  
Caroline Chapman, from Alex Glover

**In Thanksgiving for**

Nathaniel, Jenny, Charlie, and Hayden Welch, from Jeff & Shelby Welch  
Toni and Wes Chapman, from Jeff & Shelby Welch  
Amelia, Caley, Jeffery, & Kitty Ross, from Jeff & Shelby Welch  
Jeffery & Kitty Ross, from Caley & Amelia Ross  
Jeff & Shelby Welch, Bob Ross, and Paula Moon, from Caley & Amelia Ross  
My grandchildren, Scarlett & Carter, from Marlaine Barnes  
Karen & Will Klein from Jonathan Klein and Grace Huang  
Wen Tseng & M. Y. Huang from Grace Huang and Jonathan Klein  
Joe Napoli and the St. Gregory's choir from Jonathan Klein

## **SERVERS**

Eucharistic Ministers: Karen Hankins & David Stooksbury

Crucifer: Maggie Reinberger

Torches:

Ushers:

Reader: Jane Hudson

Altar Guild: Nancy Watson, Carol Schwenke, Jane Sheridan

Flower Guild: Flower Guild

The Rev. Nikki Mathis, Rector

The Rev. Christina Dondero, Deacon

Jonathan Klein, Organist & Director of Music

Joseph Napoli, Choir Director

Doug Adkins, Director of Children's Ministries

Wade McGlamery, Coordinator of Youth Ministries

Kendall M. Kookogey, Parish Administrator

Mark Hein, Buildings & Grounds