



# The Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ: Christmas Eve 2024

4 p.m.  
Christmas Pageant & Eucharist

## Prelude

**Entrance Hymn 83** (vv. 1-3)

*faithful*

*O come, all ye*

Blessed be God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.  
*And blessed be God's Kingdom, now and forever. Amen.*

## The Collect for Purity

**Hymn 96 v. 1**

1 Angels we have heard on high,  
sweetly singing o'er the plains,  
and the mountains in reply  
echoing their joyous strains:

*Angels we have heard on high*

*Refrain:*

Gloria, in excelsis Deo!  
Gloria, in excelsis Deo!

## The Collect of the Day

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.*

## A Reading from the Prophet 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.*

**Hymn 114**

1 'Twas in the moon of wintertime  
 when all the birds had fled,  
 that God the Lord of all the earth  
 sent angel choirs instead;  
 before their light the stars grew dim,  
 and wand'ring hunters heard the hymn:

*Refrain:*

Jesus your king is born!  
 Jesus is born,  
 in excelsis gloria!

2 Within a lodge of broken bark  
 the tender babe was found;  
 a ragged robe of rabbit skin  
 enwrapped his beauty round;  
 but as the hunter braves drew nigh,

*'Twas in the moon of wintertime  
 the angel song rang loud and high: [Refrain]*

3 The earliest moon of wintertime  
 is not so round and fair  
 as was the ring of glory on  
 the helpless infant there.  
 The chiefs from far before him knelt  
 with gifts of fox and beaver pelt. *[Refrain]*

4 O children of the forest free,  
 the angel song is true;  
 the holy child of earth and heaven  
 is born today for you.  
 Come, kneel before the radiant boy,  
 who brings you beauty, peace, and joy.  
*[Refrain]*

**The Christmas Pageant**

*The congregation may be seated throughout the Pageant.*

Charlotte Watkins, *Narrator*

*The Donkey, the Cow, and the Sheep*

**Hymn 79 vv. 1, 2**

1 O little town of Bethlehem,  
 how still we see thee lie!  
 Above thy deep and dreamless sleep  
 the silent stars go by.  
 Yet in thy dark streets shineth  
 the everlasting light;  
 the hopes and fears of all the years  
 are met in thee tonight.

*O little town of Bethlehem*

2 For Christ is born of Mary;  
 and, gathered all above,  
 while mortals sleep, the angels keep  
 their watch of wond'ring love.  
 O morning stars, together  
 proclaim the holy birth,  
 and praises sing to God the King,  
 and peace to men on earth.

*Mary and Joseph*

**Hymn 102 v. 1**

*city*

1 Once in royal David's city  
 stood a lowly cattle shed,  
 where a mother laid her baby  
 in a manger for His bed:  
 Mary was that mother mild,  
 Jesus Christ her little Child.

*Once in royal David's*

*The Birth of Jesus*

**Hymn 101 vv. 1, 2**

*bed*

1 Away in a manger, no crib for a bed,

*Away in a manger, no crib for his*

the little Lord Jesus laid down His sweet head;

the stars in the heavens looked down where He lay,  
the little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.  
2 The cattle are lowing, the Baby awakes,

*Shepherds and Angel*

**Hymn 94 v. 1**

1 While shepherds watched their flocks by night,  
all seated on the ground,  
an angel of the Lord came down,  
and glory shone around.

*The Magi*

**Hymn 128 v. 1**

*are*

1 We three kings of Orient are;  
bearing gifts we traverse afar,  
field and fountain, moor and mountain,  
following yonder star.

*All come forward to offer their star*

**Hymn 111 vv. 1, 2**

1 Silent night! Holy night!  
All is calm, all is bright  
'round yon virgin mother and child!  
Holy infant, so tender and mild,  
sleep in heavenly peace,  
sleep in heavenly peace.

2 Silent night! Holy night!  
Shepherds quake at the sight.  
Glories stream from heaven afar,  
heav'nly hosts sing, "Alleluia!"

**The Prayers of the People**

*Leader* ...King of glory, come to earth.

*People* Lift us up into your kingdom.

**The Peace**

**Organ Offertory**

**Offertory Hymn 107**

but little Lord Jesus, no crying He makes.  
I love Thee, Lord Jesus, look down from the sky  
and stay by my side until morning is nigh.

*While shepherds watched their flocks by night*

*We three kings of Orient*

*Refrain:*

O star of wonder, star of light,  
star with royal beauty bright,  
westward leading, still proceeding,  
guide us to thy perfect light.

*Silent Night*

Christ the Savior is born!  
Christ the Savior is born!"

3 Silent night! Holy night!  
Son of God, love's pure light  
radiant beams from Thy holy face  
with the dawn of redeeming grace,  
Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth!  
Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth!

*Good Christian friends, rejoice*

## THE HOLY COMMUNION

### The Great Thanksgiving B

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*Celebrant* *People*  
The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

*Celebrant* *People*  
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

*Celebrant*  
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

*People*  
It is right to give him thanks and praise.

### Hymn S130

*Sanctus*

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might  
Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might  
Heaven and earth are full of your glory  
Hosanna in the highest, Hosanna in the highest.  
...Therefore, according to his command, O Father,  
**We remember his death,**  
**We proclaim his resurrection,**  
**We await his coming in glory...**  
...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

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### Hymn S164

Jesus, Lamb of God: have mercy on us.  
Jesus, bearer of our sins: have mercy on us.  
Jesus, redeemer, redeemer of the world:  
Give us your peace, give us your peace.

### The Communion

*After Communion all stand and pray*

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.

Fraction Anthem: Jesus, Lamb of God

## **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.*

## **Hymn 100**

*come*

*Joy to the World! The Lord is*

1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come!  
Let earth receive her King!  
Let every heart prepare Him room,  
and heav'n and nature sing,  
and heav'n and nature sing,  
and heav'n, and heav'n and nature sing.

2 Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns!  
Let men their songs employ,  
while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains  
repeat the sounding joy,  
repeat the sounding joy,  
repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

## **The Dismissal**

**R/ Thanks be to God**

## **Postlude**

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### **Liturgical Ministers**

Cheryl White, Isa Babb, *Ushers*

Gwen Prosser, *Reader*

Amy Frankel, Grayce Sivigny, *Eucharistic Minister*

Clarissa Brown, *Organist & Choir Director*

The Rev. Dr. Rosalee Glass, *Deacon*

The Rev. Paul Briggs, *Celebrant*

# Christmas Flowers & Greens are given to the glory of God

## **In Thanksgiving For:**

The life and ministry of the people of St. Thomas'  
The loving and faithful people of St. Thomas' Church  
For all of our family  
Flowers, Greens, Christmas Music  
Flowers and Music  
Music  
Flowers  
Flowers

## **In Memory of:**

Ralph Vangel  
John and Marjorie Cummings  
John Hunter  
Terry Jewett  
Isabel Ames, Robie and Dorothy Ames  
Ron Such and my parents and siblings in Heaven  
Russell and Ruth Turner, Frank and Vi Stopper  
Rita and Robert Souther  
Debbie and Sarah Chittick, Barbara and Edward  
Ravscher  
Del Babb

## **Given By:**

*Paul and Barbara Briggs*  
*Jeff and Sarah McParland*  
*Susan and Bill Freeman*  
*Benjy Lowry and Shelly Gallender*  
*Robert and Connie Bock*  
*Wallace*  
*SallyAnn Williamson*  
*Ian Cambell*

## **Given By:**

*Joanne Vangel*  
*John Cummings and Jennifer Gromada*  
*Thomas F. Pike*  
*Edar Jewett*  
*Andrew and Elizabeth Moran*  
*Sue Such*  
*Susan and Dave Stopper*  
*Phyllis Barry*  
*Rebecca Vogt*  
*Isa Babb*

Bobby and Ann Gabrielson  
And Mary Probst

*Gabrielson*

Alfred and Anne Robinson, John and Dorothy  
Simson, George and Maisie Robinson, William and  
Katheryn Carroll

*Robinson*

Gwyneth Jones and Carolyn Aller

*The Groman Family*

The People of Ukraine

*Cheryl White*

Isabelle and Valerio Mello, Sarah and John  
McDermott, Michaelene McDermott, Rev. M. Joseph  
Joaquim, Patricia Patrocky

*Carlos and Terry Mello*

The McAllen and Morelli Families

*Eileen Morelli*

Helen and Jim Funk  
Sandy and Nancy Lyle

*Sandy and Jan Lyle*

*Corallie Murray*

*Anna Ford*

*Robert and Susan Snead*

## St. Thomas' Episcopal Church

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