

The Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ: Christmas Eve 2024

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,

The Christmas Pageant

The congregation may be seated throughout the Pageant.

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.

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.

The Birth of Jesus

Hymn 101 vv. 1, 2

bed

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

'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]

Charlotte Watkins, Narrator

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.

Once in royal David's

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!

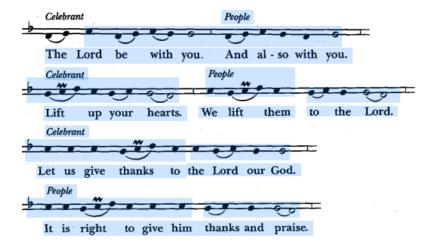
Good Christian friends, rejoice

THE HOLY COMMUNION

The Great Thanksgiving B

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Fraction Anthem: Jesus, Lamb of God



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 page 364

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.

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

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. Joy to the World! The Lord is

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

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:

Given By:

The life and ministry of the people of St. Thomas' Paul and Barbara Briggs

The loving and faithful people of St. Thomas' Church Jeff and Sarah McParland

For all of our family Susan and Bill Freeman

Flowers, Greens, Christmas Music

Benjy Lowry and Shelly Gallender

Flowers and Music Robert and Connie Bock

Music Wallace

Flowers SallyAnn Williamson

Flowers Ian Cambell

In Memory of:

Given By:

Ralph Vangel Joanne Vangel

John Hunter Thomas F. Pike

Terry Jewett Edar Jewett

Isabel Ames, Robie and Dorothy Ames

Andrew and Elizabeth Moran

Ron Such and my parents and siblings in Heaven Sue Such

Russell and Ruth Turner, Frank and Vi Stopper

Susan and Dave Stopper

Rita and Robert Souther Phyllis Barry

Debbie and Sarah Chittick, Barbara and Edward

Rebecca Vogt

Ravscher

Del Babb 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

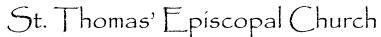
Helen and Jim Funk
Sandy and Nancy Lyle

Sandy and Jan Lyle

Corallie Murray

Anna Ford

Robert and Susan Snead



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