

# GRACE AND ST. STEPHEN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH



## CHRISTMAS EVE

### THE HOLY EUCHARIST OF THE NATIVITY

December 24, 2025

10:30PM PRE-SERVICE MUSIC | 11:00PM HOLY EUCHARIST, RITE I

#### WELCOME TO GRACE AND ST. STEPHEN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH.

In this Christmas season we remember that the God who was born into this world two thousand years ago still comes near, to dwell in our hearts, to break into our lives, to live with us in all of our messiness and complexities. This is our God: the God who comes to us, even when we are sure we are out of reach; even when we are sure we are unworthy of God's love.

In response to such great, merciful, limitless love, we bring our finest offering: "ourselves, our souls and bodies." Because God always comes to us, because God is not scared away by our hurts, our situations, or our burdens, we offer our praise and worship surrounded by this holy family, the family God has made for us by the waters of baptism: the Church. In this place, in this holy season, we offer to God our lives in worship: a humble gift to the one who has given us so very much.

# *Christmas Eve*

December 24, 2025 at 11:00PM



*We give thanks to those who generously gave in support of  
Advent Decor and Music*



Diana Anderson

*In honor of Doug Anderson and Josh Anderson*

Jack & Deb Barry

*In memory of Murphy Barry*

Father Robert

*In honor of The Vestry, Staff, and People of Grace and  
St. Stephen's*

Tyler and Robert Black

*In honor of Eleanor and Rowen*

Gayle Bleckert

*In memory of family*

John Bois

*In memory of my beloved grandmother Alice*

Shane & Stormy Burns

*In honor of our beloved organist, Joel*

Sue Culver

*In memory of Basil & Jean Culver*

Sue Culver

*In memory of Pearl Pickering*

Nancy Duell

*In memory of Amy Duell and Father Ken Burton*

Dierdre & Tom Duff

*In honor of Evan, Elena, and Ryan Duff*

Joseph Galema

Anna Johnson

*In memory of Guinevere & Lewis Johnson*

Marianna McJimsey

*In memory of Robert McJimsey and in thanksgiving for  
our children, Elizabeth, George, and Katharine*

Dave & Leah Niedringhaus

*In memory of our son, Patrick*

Robyn Noufer

*In memory of Cody Snodgres*

Brian & Lauren Pilger

*In memory of Barbara "Nana" Hoffman*

Mary Roney

Kathye Stribrny

*In honor of Kenneth Mac*

Tom & Corie Wilcox

*In honor of Martha deUlibbani*

Fran Zankowski

*To the glory of God*

# *Pre-service Music*

6:30PM

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*March on a theme of Handel, "Lift up your heads"*

Alexandre Guilmant

*Concerto 8 – Allegro*

Arcangelo Corelli

*Sinfonia*, from Christmas Oratorio, BWV 248

Johann Sebastian Bach

*Dixit Maria*

Hans Leo Hassler

*Mary said to the Angel: Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord, let it be done to me, according to your word.*

Words: Luke 1:38

*Ding dong, merrily on high*

Mack Wilberg

*Ding dong! merrily on high, in heav'n the bells are ringing. Ding dong! verily the sky is riv'n with angel singing. Gloria, Hosanna in excelsis! E'en so here below, below, let steeple bells be swungen, and "io, io, io!" By priest and people sung. Gloria, Hosanna in excelsis! Pray ye, dutifully prime your matin chime, ye ringers; may ye beautifully rime your evetime song, ye singers. Gloria, Hosanna in excelsis!*

Words: George R. Woodward (1848-1934)

*Gesù bambino*

Pietro Yon

*When blossoms flowered 'mid the snows upon a winter night, was born the Child the Christmas Rose, The King of Love and Light. The angels sang, the shepherds sang, The grateful earth rejoiced, and at His blessed birth the stars, their exultation voiced. O Come let us adore Him, Christ the Lord.*

*Again the heart with rapture glows to greet the holy night, that gave the world its Christmas Rose, its king of Love and Light, let ev'ry voice acclaim His name, the grateful chorus swell, from paradise to earth He came that we with Him might dwell. O come let us adore him, Christ the Lord.*

Words: Frederick H. Martens (1874-1932)

*"Pifa," Pastoral Symphony*, from Messiah

George Frideric Handel

# Christmas Eve

## THE HOLY EUCHARIST OF THE NATIVITY: RITE I

### THE WORD OF GOD

*The people stand.*

#### HYMN 83: O COME ALL YE FAITHFUL

*Adeste fideles*



1. O come, all ye faith - ful, joy - ful and tri - um - phant, O come ye, O come ye to
2. God from God, Light from Light e - ter - nal, lo, he ab - hors not the
3. Sing, choirs of an - gels, sing in ex - ul - ta - tion, sing, all ye ci - ti - zens of
4. See how the shep - herds, sum - moned to his cra - dle, leav - ing their flocks, draw
5. Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this hap - py morn - ing; Je - sus, to thee be



Beth - le - hem; come, and be - hold him, born the King of an - gels;  
Vir - gin's womb; on - ly - be - got - ten Son of the Fa - ther;  
heaven a - bove; glo - ry to God, glo - ry in the high - est;  
nigh to gaze; we too will thith - er bend our joy - ful foot - steps;  
glo - ry given; Word of the Fa - ther, now in flesh ap - pear - ing;



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



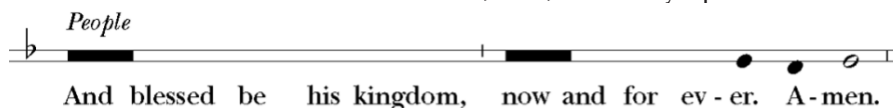
O come, let us a - dore him, Christ, the Lord.

Words: John Francis Wade (1711-1786); tr. Frederick Oakeley (1802-1880)

Music: John Francis Wade; harm. *The English Hymnal*; arr. David Willcocks (1919-2015)

#### OPENING ACCLAMATION

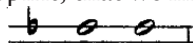
*Celebrant* Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.



#### COLLECT FOR PURITY

*Celebrant*

**A**Lmighty God, unto whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of thy Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love thee, and worthily magnify thy holy Name; through Christ our Lord.



*A - men.*

## HYMN OF PRAISE 96: ANGELS WE HAVE HEARD ON HIGH

*Gloria*



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



in re - ply ech - o - ing their brave de - light. Glo - - -  
 did you see? What glad tid - ings did you hear?  
 bend - ed knee Christ, the Lord, the new - born King.  
 lend your aid, while we raise our hearts in love.



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

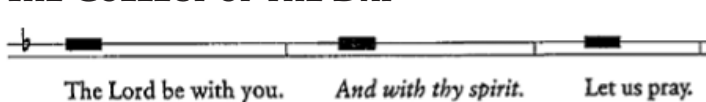


- - - ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o.


Words: French carol; tr. James Chadwick (1813-1882), alt.

Music: French carol; arr. Edward Shippen Barnes (1887-1958); desc. Betty Pulkingham (1928-2019)

## THE COLLECT OF THE DAY



The Lord be with you. And with thy spirit. Let us pray.

**O** GOD, who hast caused this holy night to shine with the illumination of the true Light: Grant us, we beseech thee, that as we have known the mystery of that Light upon earth, so may we also perfectly enjoy him in heaven; where with thee and the Holy Spirit he liveth and reigneth, one God, in glory everlasting. 

*The people sit.*

**A - men.**

## THE FIRST LESSON

*Reader*

A Reading from the Book of Isaiah.

[9:2-7]

**T**HE 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.

*Reader*           The Word of the Lord.

*People*           **Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM 96**, *Cantate Domino*

Josiah Booth

*Sung by the choir*

**S**ING TO THE LORD a new song;  
sing to the LORD, all the whole earth.

Sing to the LORD and bless his Name;  
proclaim the good news of his salvation from day to day.

Declare his glory among the nations  
and his wonders among all peoples.

For great is the LORD and greatly to be praised;  
he is more to be feared than all gods.

As for all the gods of the nations, they are but idols;  
but it is the LORD who made the heavens.

Oh, the majesty and magnificence of his presence!  
Oh, the power and the splendor of his sanctuary!

Ascribe to the LORD, you families of the peoples;  
ascribe to the LORD honor and power.

Ascribe to the LORD the honor due his Name;  
bring offerings and come into his courts.

Worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness;  
let the whole earth tremble before him.

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."

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 therein.

Then shall all the trees of the wood shout for joy  
before the LORD when he comes,  
when he comes to judge the earth.

He will judge the world with righteousness  
and the peoples with his truth.



## THE EPISTLE

*Reader*

A Reading from the Letter of Paul to Titus.

[2:11-14]

**F**OR 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.

*Reader*

The Word of the Lord.

*People*

**Thanks be to God.**

*The people stand.*

## HYMN 105: GOD REST YOU MERRY, GENTLEMEN

*God Rest You Merry*



1. God rest you mer - ry, gen - tle - men, let noth - ing you dis - may;
2. From God our heaven - ly Fa - ther a bless - ed an - gel came
3. "Fear not, then," said the an - gel, "Let noth - ing you af - fright;
4. Now to the Lord sing prais - es, all you with - in this place,



re - mem - ber Christ our Sa - vior was born on Christ - mas Day,  
and un - to cer - tain shep - herds brought tid - ings of the same:  
this day is born a Sa - vior of a pure vir - gin bright,  
and with true love and char - i - ty each o - ther now em - brace;



to save us all from Sa - tan's power when we were gone a - stray.  
how that in Beth - le - hem was born the Son of God by name.  
to free all those who trust in him from Sa - tan's power and might"  
this ho - ly tide of Christ - mas doth bring re - deem - ing grace.



O tid - ings of com - fort and joy, com - fort and joy; O ti - dings of com - fort and joy!

Words: 18th century

Music: Traditional English carol, ca. 1850; arr. David Willcocks (1919-2015)

## THE GOSPEL

*Deacon*

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

[2:1-20]

*People*

**Glory be to thee, O Lord.**

**I****N 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.

*Deacon*

The Gospel of the Lord.

*People*

**Praise be to thee, O Christ.**

*The people sit.*

## SERMON

The Rev. Dr. Robert Black

*A period of silence is observed before the Creed.*

## THE NICENE CREED *(The people stand)*

**W****E 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.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE *(The people stand or kneel)*

BCP pg. 328

CONFESSION OF SIN

*Deacon* Let us humbly confess our sins unto Almighty God.

*Please kneel, as able.*

**M**OST MERCIFUL GOD, we confess that we have sinned against thee in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved thee with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of thy Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in thy will, and walk in thy ways, to the glory of thy Name. Amen.

*Celebrant*

**A**Lmighty GOD, our heavenly Father, who of his great mercy hath promised forgiveness of sins to all those who with hearty repentance and true faith turn unto him, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and bring you to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE PEACE *(The people stand)*

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

*People* And with thy spirit.

*The Ministers and People greet one another in the name of the Lord.*

## THE HOLY COMMUNION

OFFERTORY SENTENCE

*Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God. (EPHESIANS 5:2)*

*Give here:*



OFFERTORY ANTHEM: *Nativity Carol*

John Rutter

*Born in a stable so bare, born so long ago, born 'neath light of star, he who loved us so. Far away, silent he lay, born today, your homage pay, for Christ is born for aye, born on Christmas Day. Cradled by mother so fair, tender her lullaby, over her son so dear, angel hosts fill the sky. Wise men from distant far land, shepherds from starry hills, worship this babe so rare, hearts with his warmth he fills. Love in that stable was born into our hearts to flow, innocent dreaming babe, make me thy love to know.*

Words: Edward Caswall (1814-1878)

# PRESENTATION HYMN (HYMN 82, v. 4)

*Divinum mysterium*

*The people stand*

Christ, to thee with God the Fa - ther, and, O Ho - ly Ghost, to thee,  
hymn and chant and high thanks-giv - ing, and un - wea - ried prais - es be;  
hon - or, glo - ry and do - min - - ion, and e -  
ter - nal vic - to - ry, ev - er - more and ev - er - more!

Words: Marcus Prudentius (348-410); tr. John Mason Neale (1818-1866) & Henry Williams Baker (1821-1877), alt.  
Music: German carol, 14th century; Charles Winfred Douglas (1867-1944)

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Eucharistic Prayer I

*Celebrant*                      *People*  
The Lord be with you. And with thy spi - rit.  
*Celebrant*                      *People*  
Lift up your hearts. We lift them up un - to the Lord.  
*Celebrant*  
Let us give thanks un - to our Lord God.  
*People*  
It is meet and right so to do.

*The Celebrant continues with the Proper Preface...* “evermore praising thee and saying,”

## SANCTUS AND BENEDICTUS

Healey Willan (S1114)

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, Lord God of Hosts:  
 Hea - ven and earth are full of thy glo - ry. Glo - ry be to  
 thee, O Lord Most High. Bless - ed is he that com - eth in the  
 name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

*The people kneel or stand. The Celebrant continues...*

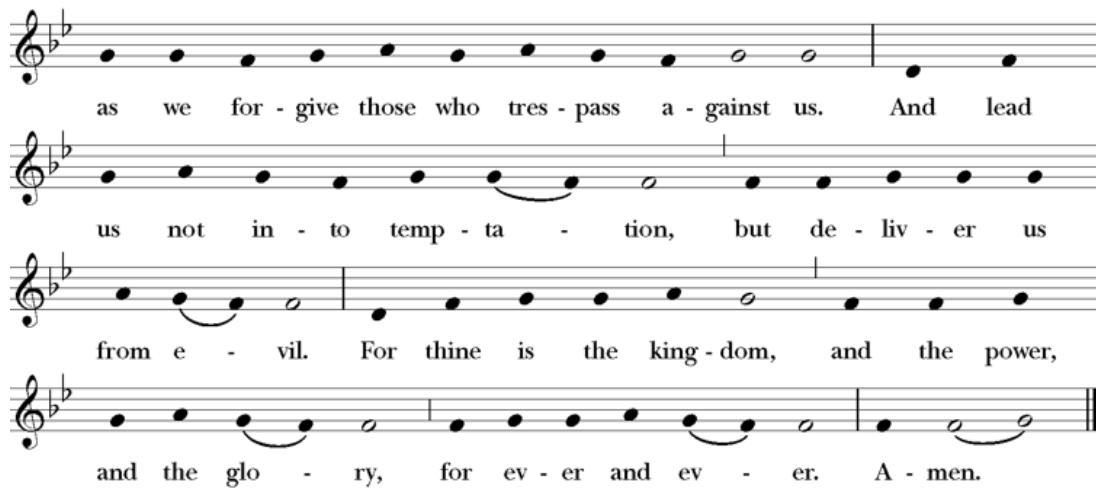
By whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Ghost all honor and glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, world without end.

*Celebrant* *People*  
 A - MEN.

And now, as our Savior Christ hath taught us, we are bold to say,

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

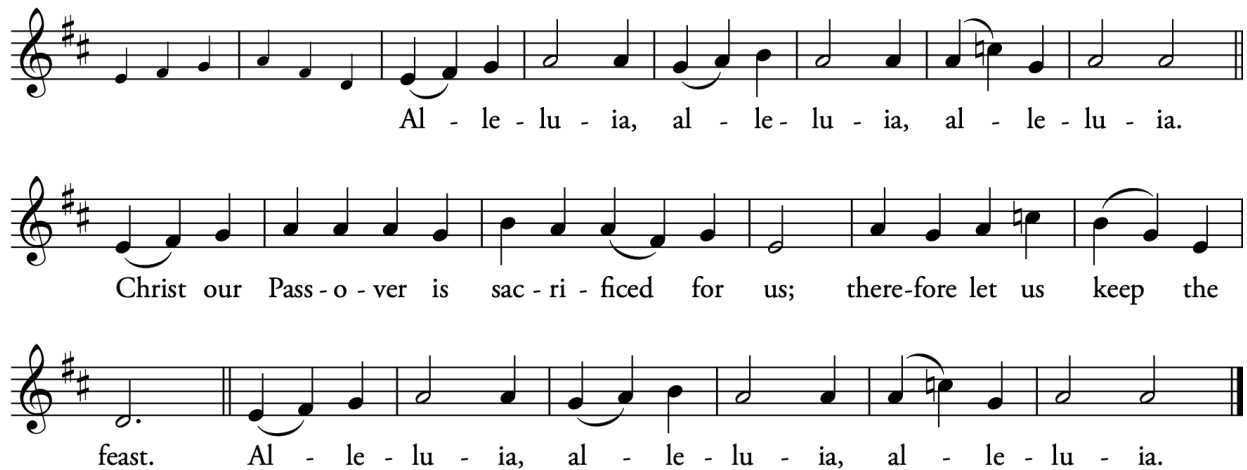
Our Fa - ther, who art in hea - ven, hal - low - ed  
 be thy Name, thy king - dom come, thy will be done,  
 on earth as it is in hea - ven. Give us this day our  
 dai - ly bread. And for - give us our tres - pas - ses,  
 as we for - give those who tres - pass a - gainst us. And lead



## THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

### FRACTION ANTHEM

Gerald Near (S155)



### *Celebrant*

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

## THE ADMINISTRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION

*The celebration of the Holy Eucharist has been called the “source and summit” of the faith and it is central to our identity, as in this sacred meal we are gathered in beloved community, made present to the Passion of our Lord, and nourished in God’s abundant love in the Body and Blood of Christ, the bread of heaven and the cup of salvation. Therefore, **all are welcome and invited to come forward to participate in the grace and peace of Communion.** There are a few ways that you can do this:*

- *Receive both the bread and wine: Place one palm on top of the other and you will be given a piece of bread, which you consume. Please do not take the bread, but allow the clergy to place it on your palm. When the chalice comes to you, please assist by guiding the chalice to your lips. Please note that there is no self-intincting (dipping) of the bread into the chalice.*
- *If, due to illness or preference, you are not able to drink from the chalice, place your palms face down before receiving the bread. The clergy will then intinct (dip) the bread into the chalice for you. Turn your palms over to receive.*
- *If you need to receive a **gluten-free** wafer, please let the clergy person distributing bread know. You will be given wine from a separate chalice for those receiving gluten-free wafers.*

- Receive only the bread: Cross your arms across your chest after receiving the bread to indicate that you do not wish to receive the chalice.
- Receive a prayer of blessing: If you prefer not to receive Communion, or are not Baptized, cross your arms across your chest before receiving the bread. All Baptized Christians (in any tradition or denomination) are welcome to receive Communion. If you are not Baptized and desire to be a part of and receive the Body of Christ, please speak with our clergy.

Please fill the Altar Rail from right to left (wall to the middle on the right side & middle to wall on the left side), return to your pew via the side aisles. You may kneel or stand to receive. If you need Communion brought to you in the pew, please let an usher know.

As you wait to go forward to receive Communion, or afterward, you might find prayers 66 & 67 on page 834 of the Prayer Book to be helpful. It is our intention that as we share in this Sacrament that we behold what we are and become what we receive.

### COMMUNION ANTHEM: Mary's Magnificat

Andrew Carter

*Softly a light is stealing sweetly a maiden sings ever wakeful, ever wistful watching faithfully, thankfully, tenderly Her King of kings: My soul doth magnify the Lord: And my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour. Mary her song to Jesus woefully, serenely sings: 'I will love you, I will serve you, may my lullaby glorify, magnify My King of kings.'*

Words: Andrew Carter (B. 1939)

### COMMUNION HYMN 79: O LITTLE TOWN OF BETHLEHEM

St. Louis



1. O lit - tle town of Beth-le-hem, how still we see thee lie! A - bove thy deep and
2. For Christ is born of Ma - ry; and gath - ered all a - bove, while mor - tals sleep, the
3. How si - lent - ly, how si - lent - ly, the won - drous gift is given! So God im - parts to
4. Where child - ren pure and hap - py pray to the bless - ed Child, where mis - er - y cries
5. O ho - ly Child of Beth-le-hem, de - scend to us we pray; cast our our sin and



dream-less sleep the si - lent stars go by; yet in thy dark streets shin - eth the  
an - gels keep their watch of won - dering love. O morn - ing stars, to - geth - er pro -  
hu - man hearts the bless - ings of his heaven. No ear may hear his com - ing, but  
out to thee, Son of the mo - ther mild; where char - i - ty stands watch - ing and  
en - ter in, be born in us to - day. We hear the Christ - mas an - gels the



ev - er - last - ing Light; the hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee to - night.  
claim the ho - ly birth! and prais - es sing to God the King, and peace to men on earth.  
in this world of sin, where meek souls will re - ceive him, still the dear Christ en - ters in.  
faith holds wide the door, the dark night wakes, the glo - ry breaks, and Christ - mas comes once more.  
great glad tid - ings tell; O come to us, a - bide with us, our Lord Em - man - u - el!

Words: Phillips Brooks (1835-1893)

Music: Lewis H. Redner (1831-1908)

# COMMUNION HYMN 89: IT CAME UPON THE MIDNIGHT CLEAR

*Carol*



1. It came up - on the mid - night clear, that glo - rious song of old,
2. Still through the clo - ven skies they come with peace - ful wings un - furled,
3. Yet with the woes of sin and strife the world has suf - fered long;
4. For lo! the days are has - tening on, by proph - ets seen of old,



from an - gels bend - ing near the earth, to touch their harps of gold.  
and still their heaven - ly mu - sic floats o'er all the wea - ry world;  
be - neath the heaven - ly hymn have rolled two thou - sand years of wrong;  
when with the ev - er - cir - cling years shall come the time fore - told,



"Peace on the earth, good will to men, from heaven's all gra - cious King."  
a - bove its sad and low - ly plains they bend on hov - ering wing,  
and war - ring hu - man - kind hears not the tid - ings which they bring;  
when peace shall o - ver all the earth its an - cient splen - dors fling,



The world in sol - emn still - ness lay, to hear the an - gels sing.  
and ev - er o'er its Ba - bel-sounds the bless - ed an - gels sing.  
O hush the noise and cease your strife and hear the an - gels sing!  
and all the world give back the song which now the an - gels sing.

Words: Edmund H. Sears (1810-1876)

Music: Richard Storrs Willis (1819-1900)

*The people stand or kneel.*

## POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

**A**Lmighty and Everliving God, we most heartily thank thee for that thou dost feed us, in these holy mysteries, with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and dost assure us thereby of thy favor and goodness towards us; and that we are very members incorporate in the mystical body of thy Son, the blessed company of all faithful people; and are also heirs, through hope, of thy everlasting kingdom. And we humbly beseech thee, O heavenly Father, so to assist us with thy grace, that we may continue in that holy fellowship, and do all such good works as thou hast prepared for us to walk in; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honor and glory, world without end. Amen.



*The people stand.*

## HYMN 111: SILENT NIGHT, HOLY NIGHT

*Stille Nacht*

*The candles are lit by the acolytes for the singing of Silent Night. You are invited to keep them lit through the end of the service.*



1. Si - lent night, ho - ly night, all is calm, all is bright,  
2. Si - lent night, ho - ly night, shep - herds quake at the sight,  
3. Si - lent night, ho - ly night, Son of God, love's pure light

round yon vir - gin mo - ther and child. Ho - ly in - fant, so ten - der and mild,  
glo - ries stream from hea - ven a - far, heaven - ly hosts sing al - le - lu - ia;  
ra - diant beams from thy ho - ly face, with the dawn of re - deem - ing grace,

sleep in hea - ven - ly peace. Sleep in hea - ven - ly peace.  
Christ, the Sa - vior, is born! Christ, the Sa - vior, is born!  
Je - sus, Lord, at thy birth. Je - sus, Lord, at thy birth.

Words: Joseph Mohr (1792-1848), tr. John Freeman Young (1820-1885)

Music: Franz Xaver Gruber (1787-1863); arr. Simon Morley

## THE BLESSING

...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 87: HARK! THE HERALD ANGELS SING

*Mendelssohn*



1. Hark! the her - ald an - gels sing glo - ry to the new-born King! Peace on earth and  
2. Christ, by high - est heaven a - dored; Christ, the ev - er - last - ing Lord; late in time be-  
3. Mild he lays his glo - ry by, born that we no more may die, born to raise us



mer - cy mild, God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled! Joy - ful, all ye na - tions, rise,  
hold him come, off - spring of the Vir - gin's womb. Veiled in flesh the God - head see;  
from the earth, born to give us sec - ond birth. Risen with heal - ing in his wings,



join the tri - umph of the skies; with the an - gel - ic host pro - claim Christ is born in  
hail the in - car - nate De - i - ty. Pleased as man with us to dwell; Je - sus, our Em -  
light and life to all he brings, hail, the Sun of Right - eous - ness! hail, the heaven-born



Beth - le - hem! Hark! the her - ald an - gels sing glo - ry to the new-born King!  
man - u - el!  
Prince of Peace!

Words: Charles Wesley (1707-1788)

Music: Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847); arr. David Willcocks (1919-2015)

## THE DISMISSAL

*Deacon* Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

**VOLUNTARY:** *Toccata on "Mendelssohn"*

Craig Phillips

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