

Christmas Eve

December 24, 2025 4:30 pm

Holy Trinity Parish Decatur, GA

Still, still, still,
He sleeps this night so chill.
The Virgin's tender arms enfolding,
Warm and safe the Child are holding.
Still, still,
He sleeps this night so chill.

Gifts to the flower fund are given to the glory of God

In thanksgiving for

Our family especially our grand children by Anthony Grant

Laura, Jacob, Nicholas, Skyler, Ashlyn, and Jordyn by Scott Miller

Our Godchildren, Hayley and Haden by Peter and Charlotte Pfeiffer

> a loving daughter in law by Paula K. McPhail

Barbara Miller-Murphy by Don Murphy

Park, Kana, and Luke by Kimiko and Walter Miller

My family by Tish Wallace

Prayers and love of our Holy Trinity family by Roy and Debby Johnson

In loving memory of

Carmen, Anita, Cameron, and Reynold Grant, Wendy Freeman-Smith, Mabel Belgrave, Herman Mayers, Patricia Parris, Carlton Carter, and Ricardo Mayers by Anthony Grant

Robin J. Titterington by Gertrude Beal

Loretta Duncan Morris and Helen Bryan Ball by Suzie and Tim Ball

Bill Skinner by Judy, Chip, and Carey Skinner Jan Jennings Crofford by Keith Crofford

Our parents by Mary and Dan Hinkel

Lanette Wright by Dick Wright

Tom Gibbs by Alison, Jackson, and James Gibbs

Kirk Miller by Scott Miller

Betty Fregosi, Albert Fregosi, Henry Fregosi, and Carroll Fregosi by Giulia Galvin

Our Parents by Peter and Charlotte Pfeiffer

Our family members and Dooley by Susan and Charlie Arraiz

Sara and Tom Stafford, Sandra Knight, and Jim Budd by The Stafford Family

my father, John Donald McDougall by Joy McDougall

> Shedrick Holder, our friend by Greg and Billie Mears

Thomas and Virginia Evans, Thomas Holland Evans by Ginna Evans

Marilynn Watley, Patrick Dougherty, and Susan Dougherty by the Watley Family

> Beth Ingram by Ellen Bishop

Margaret Kocurek by Tom and Honey Mustard

Gifts to the music fund are given to the glory of God

In thanksgiving for

Our family especially our grand children by Anthony Grant

Roland Timothy Getman by Suzie and Tim Ball

Cary Beth, Kate, MacKenzie, and Wynne by Barbara Hardin

Will Buthod and the music ministry by Mary and Dan Hinkel

Laura, Jacob, Nicholas, Skyler, Ashlyn, and Jordyn by Scott Miller

Will Buthod and the choir by Don and Barbara Murphy

Our Godchildren, Hayley and Haden by Peter and Charlotte Pfeiffer

> My Family by Joanna Goldman

HTP by Francis Daunt

Catalina, Mia, Will, Skylar and Ezra by Lynne Pickens

> Gregg Marx by Marie Ransley

My family by Tish Wallace

Prayers and love of our Holy Trinity family by Roy and Debby Johnson

Thanksgiving for Will and the choir by Tom and Honey Mustard

In loving memory of

Carmen, Anita, Cameron, and Reynold Grant, Wendy Freeman-Smith, Mabel Belgrave, Herman Mayers, Patricia Parris, Carlton Carter and Ricardo Mayers by Anthony Grant

> William Benjamin Morris and Rolland Wallace Ball by Susie and Tim Ball

Dot and Pop, Reade, and Lynne by Barbara Hardin

Lanette Wright by Dick Wright

Tom Gibbs by Alison, Jackson, and James Gibbs

Mary Hancock Clark and for her music legacy to Mary Martha Penner and Emma Ruth Penner by Bill and Barbara Clark

> Kirk Miller by Scott Miller

Our Parents by Peter and Charlotte Pfeiffer

> Cecil Waites by Chotsy Waites

My sister by Frank Smith

Cecil and Linda Pickens by Lynne Pickens

my mother, Seena Ruth McDougall by Joy McDougall

Montine Joyner, sister of Bille Mears by Greg and Billie Mears Annie and Gil Ransley by Marie Ransley

Thomas and Virginia Evans, and Thomas Holland Evans by Ginna Evans

Joyce H Shortell, Lou Chaillou by Greg and Elise Shortell Steve Bishop by Ellen Bishop

Richard Schrope by Mary Schrope

R. Scott Wilson by Amy Wilson

All deserve equal access to worship, study, and corporate prayer.

All have gifts to contribute. Please speak to an usher or priest
if your needs are not being met.



Welcome! We are so glad you are here. If you are visiting please use this QR code to fill out a visitor card or use the one in the pew.



Assisted
Listening Devices
are available for
all services in the
Nave. An usher
is happy to help
you with one.

WELCOME FROM THE RECTOR

Prelude

O Holy Night

Adolphe Charles Adam Sydney Brown, violoncello HYMN 109

The First Nowell

The first Nowell the angel did say was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay; in fields as they lay, keeping their sheep, on a cold winter's night that was so deep.

Refrain Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, born is the King of Israel.

They looked up and saw a star shining in the east beyond them far, and to the earth it gave great light, and so it continued both day and night.

Refrain

And by the light of that same star three wise men came from country far; to seek for a king was their intent, and to follow the star wherever it went.

Refrain

Then let us all with one accord sing praises to our heavenly Lord; that hath made heaven and earth of nought, and with his blood our life hath bought.

Refrain

Lully, Lulla, Lullay

Philip WJ Stopford

Lully, lulla, lully, lulla
Lully, lulla, lully lulla
By by, lully lullay
Lully, lulla, thou little tiny child
By by, lully lullay

Oh sisters, too
How may we do?
For to preserve this day
This poor youngling
For whom we sing
By by, lully lullay?

Herod, the king In his raging
Charged he hath this day
His men of might
In his own sight
All young children to slay

That woe is me
Poor child for thee!
And ever morn and day
For thy parting
Neither say nor sing
By by, lully lullay

THE WORD OF GOD

HYMN 83

O come all ye faithful vs. 1-3

Adeste fideles

O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant, O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem; come, and behold him, born the King of angels;

Refrain O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord.

God from God,
Light from Light eternal,
lo! he abhors not the Virgin's womb;
only-begotten
Son of God the Father; Refrain

Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation, sing, all ye citizens of heaven above; glory to God, glory in the highest; Refrain

OPENING ACCLAMATION

BCP 351

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

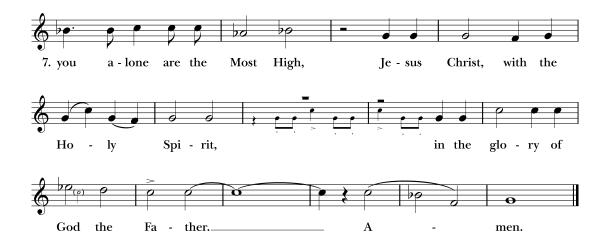
And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

COLLECT FOR PURITY

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen**.

GLORIA Mathias





COLLECT OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

O God, you make us glad by the yearly festival of the birth of your only Son Jesus Christ: Grant that we, who joyfully receive him as our Redeemer, may with sure confidence behold him when he comes to be our Judge; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen**.

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.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

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.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

Mary Had a Baby sung by Children's Choir and Quartet

Mary had a baby, my Lord.
What did she name him, my Lord?
She named him King Jesus, my Lord.
Where was he born, my Lord?
Born in a manger, my Lord.

Spiritual

LUKE 2:1-20 all stand, as able

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

Glory to you, Lord 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, Lord Christ.

SERMON

NICENE CREED all stand, as able

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

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

Father, in this holy night your Son was born among us, and Christians all over the world sing for joy; renew your Church and open our hearts that Christ may find in us a dwelling place prepared for himself.

In this holy night, the angels sang of "Peace on earth and good will toward all." We pray for the leaders of this country and all in authority, that they may work for peace and promote the well-being of all.

Silence.

When the bell rings, the cantor sings the bidding, and the congregation sings the response.



In this holy night, the shepherds found the Christ Child lying in a manger, with the Blessed Virgin Mary and Joseph; bless our homes and families, and all those we love. We pray especially for those who are without a home on this night.

Silence.

Lord in your mercy

Hear our prayer

The darkness of this night is scattered with the light of Christ's presence; bring comfort to all who suffer, who grieve, or who are alone.

Silence.

Lord in your mercy

Hear our prayer

In the word made flesh, you have joined heaven and earth; keep in safety all those who have died and bring us all to the joys of heaven.

Silence.

Lord in your mercy

Hear our prayer

O Father of mercy, whose Son Jesus took upon himself our nature, that he might bear our sorrows, be the companion of our journeys, and the forgiveness of our sins; pour out on us your Holy Spirit, that as Christ was born in our likeness, even so may we grow into his; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

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.

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**.

PEACE

The peace of the Lord be always with you. **And also with you.**

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

If you would like to give online, use your phone's camera to scan this QR code.



THE HOLY COMMUNION

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

My Lord has come sung by Quintet

Will Todd

Shepherds, called by angels, called by love and angels:
No place for them but a stable.
My Lord has come.

Sages, searching for stars, searching for love in heaven;
No place for them but a stable.
My Lord has come.

His love will hold me,
his love will cherish me,
love will cradle me.
Lead me, lead me to see him,
sages and shepherds and angels;
No place for me but a stable.
My Lord has come.

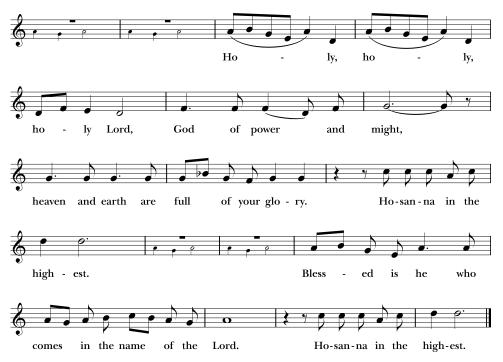
THE GREAT THANKSGIVING: EUCHARISTIC PRAYER B



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 William Mathias



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,

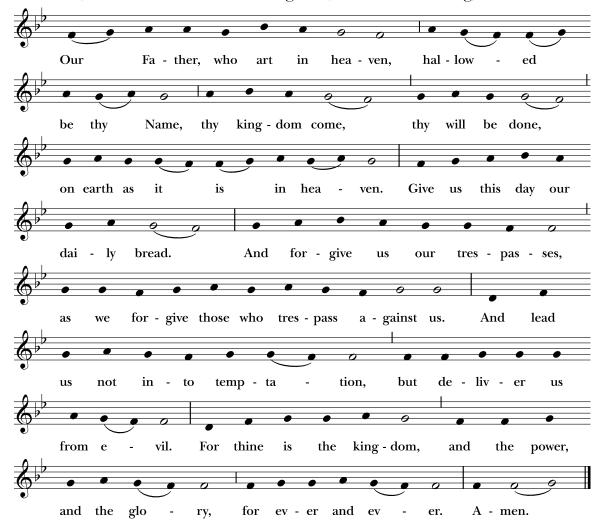
We remember his death, We proclaim his resurrection, We await his coming in glory; And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

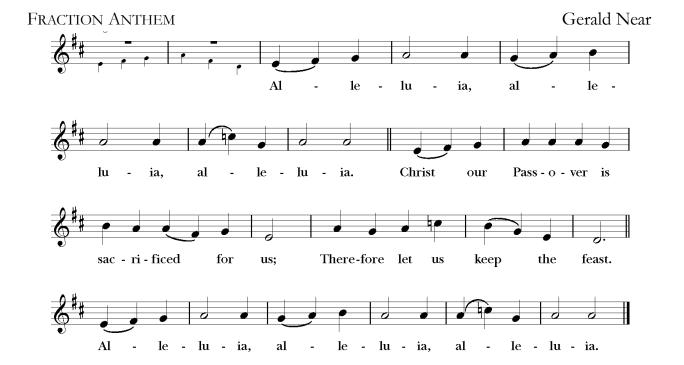
We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with the blessed Virgin Mary 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, A-men.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to sing,





INVITATION

The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

All baptized Christians of any age and tradition are invited to receive Holy Communion, and no one who comes to the altar with outstretched hands will be turned away. To receive a blessing instead of the sacrament cross your arms over your chest.

Intinction (dipping) is best reserved for the sick and the very young. To receive via intinction allow the minister to dip the bread into the wine and place it in your hands. Please do not dip the bread into the wine yourself.

AT THE ALTAR RAIL - you are welcome to stand or kneel.

AT THE FLOOR STATION - the bread is gluten-free.

IF YOU NEED THE SACRAMENT BROUGHT TO YOU - please let an usher know.

HYMN 115 What child is this?

What child is this, who, laid to rest, on Mary's lap is sleeping? Whom angels greet with anthems sweet, while shepherds watch are keeping?

Refrain This, this is Christ the King,

whom shepherds guard and angels sing; haste, haste to bring him laud,

the babe, the son of Mary.

Why lies he in such mean estate where ox and ass are feeding?
Good Christian, fear: for sinners here the silent Word is pleading.

Refrain

So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh, come, peasant, king, to own him; the King of kings salvation brings, let loving hearts enthrone him.

Refrain

HYMN 96 Angels we have heard on high

Angels we have heard on high, singing sweetly through the night, and the mountains in reply echoing their brave delight.

Gloria in excelsis Deo.

Shepherds, why this jubilee? Why these songs of happy cheer? What great brightness did you see?

What glad tidings did you hear? Gloria in excelsis Deo.

Come to Bethlehem and see him whose birth the angels sing; come, adore on bended knee Christ, the Lord, the newborn King

Christ, the Lord, the newborn King. Gloria in excelsis Deo.

See him in a manger laid whom the angels praise above; Mary, Joseph, lend your aid, while we raise our hearts in love.

Gloria in excelsis Deo.

HYMN 78 O little town of Bethlehem

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.

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

O holy Child of Bethlehem, descend to us, we pray; cast out our sin and enter in, be born in us today.

We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell;

O come to us, abide with us, our Lord Emmanuel!

POSTCOMMUNION HYMN 111 Silent night, holy night

Stille Nacht

As communion concludes, acolytes light the people's candles. The lights dim and all kneel to sing the hymn:

Silent night, holy night, all is calm, all is bright round you virgin mother and child. Holy infant, so tender and mild, sleep in heavenly peace, sleep in heavenly peace.

Silent night, holy night, shepherds quake at the sight, glories stream from heaven afar, heavenly hosts sing alleluia; Christ, the Savior, is born! Christ, the Savior, is born!

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.

POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER

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.

BLESSING

May the Sun of Righteousness shine upon you and scatter the darkness from before your path; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

PROCESSIONAL HYMN 100

Joy to the World

Joy to the world! the Lord is come:
let earth receive her King;
let every heart prepare him room,
and heaven and nature sing,
and heaven and nature sing,
and heaven, and heaven and nature sing

Joy to the world! the Savior reigns; let us our songs employ, while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains, repeat the sounding joy, repeat the sounding joy, repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

No more let sins and sorrows grow, nor thorns infest the ground; he comes to make his blessings flow far as the curse is found, far as the curse is found, far as, far as the curse is found.

He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the nations prove the glories of his righteousness, and wonders of his love, and wonders of his love, and wonders, wonders of his love.

DISMISSAL

Response: Thanks be to God.

VOLUNTARY

In dulci jubilo

Johann Sebastian Bach

