

The Word of God

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

ENTRANCE HYMN *The first Nowell the angel did say*
(The First Nowell) (H 109, v. 1-3 only)

OPENING ACCLAMATION & COLLECT FOR PURITY (BCP p. 355)

SONG OF PRAISE *Glory to God (Canticle 20) (Powell)* (S 280)

1. Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and

peace to his peo - ple on earth. 2. Lord God, heaven - ly

King, al - might - y God and Fa - ther, we wor - ship you, we

give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry. 3. Lord Je - sus

Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, 4. you

take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy

on us; 5. you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re -

ceive our prayer. 6. For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One,

you a - lone are the Lord, 7. you a - lone are the Most

High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spi - rit, in the

glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

Music: Robert Powell (b. 1932), rev. Setting: Copyright © Church Publishing Inc.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY (BCP p. 357)

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Celebrant: Let us pray.

O God, who wonderfully created, and yet more wonderfully restored,
the dignity of human nature: Grant that we may share the divine life of

him who humbled himself to share our humanity, your Son Jesus
Christ; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one
God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

THE LESSONS

FIRST READING: Jeremiah 31:7-14

A Reading from the book of the prophet Jeremiah.

⁷Thus says the LORD:

“Sing aloud with gladness for Jacob,
and raise shouts for the chief of the nations;
proclaim, give praise, and say,
‘Save, O LORD, your people,
the remnant of Israel.’

⁸See, I am going to bring them from the land of the north,
and gather them from the farthest parts of the earth,
among them the blind and the lame,
those with child and those in labor, together;
a great company, they shall return here.

⁹With weeping they shall come,
and with consolations I will lead them back,
I will let them walk by brooks of water,
in a straight path in which they shall not stumble;
for I have become a father to Israel,
and Ephraim is my firstborn.

¹⁰Hear the word of the LORD, O nations,
and declare it in the coastlands far away;
say, ‘He who scattered Israel will gather him,
and will keep him as a shepherd a flock.’

¹¹For the LORD has ransomed Jacob,
and has redeemed him from hands too strong for him.

¹²They shall come and sing aloud on the height of Zion,
and they shall be radiant over the goodness of the LORD,
over the grain, the wine, and the oil,
and over the young of the flock and the herd;
their life shall become like a watered garden,
and they shall never languish again.

¹³Then shall the young women rejoice in the dance,
and the young men and the old shall be merry.

I will turn their mourning into joy,
I will comfort them, and give them gladness for sorrow.

¹⁴I will give the priests their fill of fatness,
and my people shall be satisfied with my bounty,”
says the LORD.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

GRADUAL HYMN: *How lovely is thy dwelling-place* *(Brother James's Air)* (H 517) (Paraphrase of Psalm 84)

How lovely is thy dwelling-place,
O Lord of hosts, to me!
My thirsty soul desires and longs
within thy courts to be;
my very heart and flesh cry out,
O living God, for thee.

Beside thine altars, gracious Lord,

the swallows find a nest;
how happy they who dwell with thee
and praise thee without rest,
and happy they whose hearts are set
upon the pilgrim's quest.

They who go through the desert vale
will find it filled with springs,
and they shall climb from height to height
till Zion's temple rings
with praise to thee, in glory throned,
Lord God, great King of kings.

One day within thy courts excels
a thousand spent away;
how happy they who keep thy laws
nor from thy precepts stray,
for thou shalt surely bless all those
who live they words they pray.

SECOND READING: Ephesians 1:3-6, 15-19a

A Reading from Paul's letter to the Church in Ephesus.

³Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has
blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places,
⁴just as he chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be
holy and blameless before him in love. ⁵He destined us for adoption as
his children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his
will, ⁶to the praise of his glorious grace that he freely bestowed on us in
the Beloved.

¹⁵I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all
the saints, and for this reason ¹⁶I do not cease to give thanks for you as I
remember you in my prayers. ¹⁷I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus
Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and
revelation as you come to know him, ¹⁸so that, with the eyes of your
heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has
called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the
saints, ^{19a}and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us
who believe.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

SEQUENCE INTROIT *Angels we have heard on high (Gloria)* (H 96, v. 1 & 2)

GOSPEL: Matthew 2:13-15, 19-23

Deacon: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to
Matthew.

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

¹³After the wise men had left, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in
a dream and said, “Get up, take the child and his mother, and flee to
Egypt, and remain there until I tell you; for Herod is about to search for
the child, to destroy him.” ¹⁴Then Joseph got up, took the child and his
mother by night, and went to Egypt, ¹⁵and remained there until the
death of Herod. This was to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord
through the prophet, “Out of Egypt I have called my son.”

¹⁹When Herod died, an angel of the Lord suddenly appeared in a
dream to Joseph in Egypt and said, ²⁰“Get up, take the child and his

mother, and go to the land of Israel, for those who were seeking the child’s life are dead.” ²¹Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother, and went to the land of Israel. ²²But when he heard that Archelaus was ruling over Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there. And after being warned in a dream, he went away to the district of Galilee. ²³There he made his home in a town called Nazareth, so that what had been spoken through the prophets might be fulfilled, “He will be called a Nazorean.”

Celebrant: The Gospel of the Lord.
People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

SEQUENCE *Angels we have heard on high (Gloria)*
(H 96, v. 3 & 4)

THE SERMON (BCP p. 358)

THE CREED (BCP p. 358)

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE (BCP Form III p. 387)

CONFESSION OF SIN (BCP p. 393)

THE PEACE (BCP p. 360)
Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be always with you.
People: And also with you.

The Holy Communion

OFFERTORY ANTHEM
Mary's Cradle Song, Max Reger (1873-1916) (arr. Bullard)
The Virgin Mary gently rocks the newborn Jesus child.
Through a bow'r of roses peaceful blow the breezes mild.
At Mary's feet sings a bird melodiously;
"Sleep, dear one, calmly, sleep now, sleep.
Sweet is your laughter, dreamy is your peaceful rest;
Lay your head in slumber, gently on your mother's breast.
Sleep, dear one, calmly, sleep now, sleep."
- Martin Boelitz (1874-1918)

DOXOLOGY *Old 100th* (H 380, v. 3)
Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise him, all creatures here below;
praise him above, ye heavenly host:
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING
EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER C (BCP p. 369)

SANCTUS *Holy, holy, holy (Proulx)* (S 125)

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might,

heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -

san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -

san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

THE LORD’S PRAYER (BCP p. 363)

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD (BCP p. 364)

FRACTION ANTHEM *Christ Our Passover* (S155)

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le -

lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Christ our Pass - o - ver is

sac - ri - ficed for us; there - fore let us keep the feast.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

DISTRIBUTION (BCP p. 365)
The Body of Christ, the Bread of Heaven. The Blood of Christ, the Cup of Salvation. [Amen.]

COMMUNION HYMN *O sisters, too [Lully, lullay, thou little tiny child] (Coventry Carol)* (H 247)

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER (BCP p. 365 or p. 366)

BLESSING (BCP p. 366)

RECESSIONAL HYMN *Brightest and best of the stars of the morning (Morning Star)* (H 117)

DISMISSAL (BCP p. 366)

Join us for refreshments & fellowship in our Upper Room following worship!

In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer we pray for *The Church of the Province of Central Africa*.

In the Parish Cycle of Prayer we pray for Rick Stall.

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THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE MESSIAH
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The Episcopal Church of the Messiah

The Episcopal Church for Myrtle Beach

THE SECOND SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS

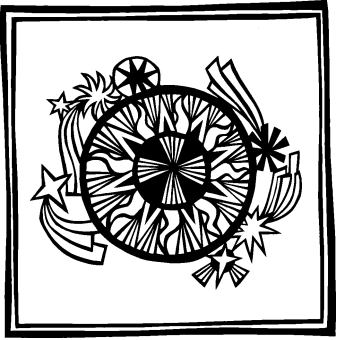
The Holy Eucharist: Rite II
4 January 2026 AD, 10:00 a.m.



Box 70367, Myrtle Beach, SC 29572
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Rev. Jim Craig, Celebrant



Welcome! We warmly welcome with open arms all who join us in worship and invite you to join us afterwards for refreshments & fellowship in the Upper Room. If you need pastoral care, please email Fr. John at lakesinai@comcast.net. If you would like the Intercessory Prayer Team to lift up yourself, family, friends, or circumstances fill out a prayer request card available on the Welcome Table and place in the red box. All requests are confidential.

Please let us know you visited by signing the visitor register in the back of the church so we may get to know you better.

NOTES: BCP is The Book of Common Prayer, the book with the gold cross. Feel free to quietly ask a neighbor for guidance if you are “lost” at any point during worship. Gluten-free communion wafers are available. Let an usher or acolyte know prior to the start of worship if possible.