



The
EPISCOPAL CHURCH
of the
EPIPHANY

THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST
December 24, 2023
The Holy Eucharist at 8:00 PM

MERRY CHRISTMAS!

We are so glad you are here to celebrate this moment with us at The Church of the Epiphany. Tonight we are here for a very special reason. It is the night we celebrate the birth of baby Jesus in a manger in a stable on a hillside in Bethlehem some 2000 years ago. And yet, God is so near to us. Right here. Right now.

Please accept our very warm welcome from Epiphany to you to be fully engaged with us this night.

Be with us in this celebration. Let the musical offerings wash over you this night. Dip your finger in the font, whether you are already baptized, or just beginning to feel God's tug. Join us at God's table for Eucharist, or come for a blessing, or sit quietly in your seat. You are welcome. God is near.

Please let the clergy or staff know if there is anything we can do to support you on your journey.

Merry Christmas! From our Epiphany family, to yours.

WELCOME TO THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE EPIPHANY

Whether you just stopped in to visit, or you are looking for a place of belonging, we welcome you. In our worship, formation, fellowship, and community engagement work, we strive for justice and peace and to honor the dignity of every human being. Whoever you are and wherever you are on your journey, we are glad you are here. We believe God loves you—no exceptions!

For the latest news and events at Epiphany, visit our website at epiphany.org or subscribe to our weekly newsletter. There are newcomer cards available in the pew in front of you and on the newcomer page of our website. We hope that you will fill one out while you're here and hand it to one of the clergy so we can welcome you personally.

Children of all ages are invited to participate fully in our liturgy. We welcome wiggles and giggles as signs of life and understand that sometimes children need to move about during worship. Children's bulletins and activity bags are available. Ask an usher to help you locate those near the entrance to the worship space.

If you do not have a nametag, please sign up on the clipboard on the welcome table in the Gallery. For today, there are stick-on nametags available.



We are passing the plate, but if you would prefer to virtually pass the plate today, use your phone's camera to scan this QR code. Visit epiphany.org/ways-to-give to learn about other ways to give to our parish or to make a pledge. You'll also find more information about Realm, our secure online community.

Recording/Livestreaming May Be In Progress: Liturgies and meetings at Church of the Epiphany may be live-streamed and/or recorded so that we may include those who cannot be with us physically. If you prefer to sit in a location where you will be less visible to the camera, please let an usher, clergy, or staff person know.

THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE EPIPHANY, founded in 1898, is a parish in the Episcopal Diocese of Atlanta, The Right Rev. Robert C. Wright, Bishop.

Clergy: The Rev. Amy Dills-Wright, *Rector*; The Rev. Carmie McDonald, *Associate Priest for Family Ministry & Community Engagement*

Staff: Julie P. Ryder, *Organist & Choirmaster*; L. Shea McNutt, *Parish Administrator*; Emily Elder, *Director of Children & Youth Ministries*; Susie Boyko, *Bookkeeper*; Anna Democko, *Childcare Worker*; Saffie Coker-Robinson, *Childcare Worker*; Sarah Elizabeth Moore, *Childcare Worker*

Assisting Priests: The Rev. Barbara Ryder, The Rev. Bobbi Patterson, The Rev. Caroline Peacock

Seminarian: Peter Waggoner

Wardens: Bert Bender, *Senior Warden*; Lisa Daily, *Junior Warden*



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THE MUSIC AND DECORATIONS WHICH GRACE OUR WORSHIP ARE GIVEN TO THE GLORY OF GOD AND...

In Thanksgiving for

Isabelle and Boyd Braden, Frank Block, and Molly Nugent, by Erin & Chris Braden
Polly & Larry Nodine and family, by Ellen D. Carruth
The Pastoral Care Committee, the Community of Hope,
and all parishioners who engage with others with pastoral needs, by David Draper
our family and friends, by Kurt & Christen Erskine
Sharon, Buddy, Graydon, and Maddie, by Richard & Sheila Ferrell
John, Laura, and Sarah Keys, by Virginia Harrison
Julie Ryder, and all those participating in the music program, by Brent Henderson
our parents—Eileen, Lucy, and Alan; and our Chosen Family—Nancy, Brittany, Chris, Reid, and Ripley
by Lisa Carlson & Johanna Hinman
the Epiphany community, by Pam Hall
our family and friends, by Rod & Michele MacLeod
Linda & Steve, Julie & Terri, and Rachel & Matthew, by Barbara Ryder
Julie Ryder, the Epiphany Choirs, and our Epiphany family for the past 16 years, by Eric Schulz & Amy Shipp
the Weekday Morning Prayer Group, by Diane Tate
the people of Epiphany, and the Collins, Prikkel, and Hinman-Carlson families, by Nancy Thompson
Brandon, Tracey, Zoey, and Henry Laird, by Anne Widiger
Barbara, Julie, Terri, Rachel, and Matthew, by Linda Ryder-Wolf & Steve Wolf

In Memory of

Rob Ashmore and Jim & Katie Youngblood, by Susan Ashmore
Robert Boyd Block, Jean & Robert Braden, and Sarah Loeb Werkman, by Erin & Chris Braden
Linda Nelson, by Edie Brush
Richard & Vivian Knox and Foster & Bertha Toney, by David Draper
our Grandparents, by Kurt & Christen Erskine
Elizabeth Keys and Harrison Keys, by Virginia Harrison
Donald & Mary Ellen Henderson and Dorothy Houts, by Brent Henderson
Edgar J. Grider and Janet Brendel Montgomery, by Rick & Susan Montgomery
Collus & Eugenia Johnson, by Colleen & Peter Morich
Craig Ryder, Maggi Ewing, Marilyn Hughes, and Daniel Textoris, by Barbara Ryder
Nancy Goodyear and Lou Sadler, by Nancy Thompson
Craig Ryder, Meg Wolf, and Robert Wolf, by Linda Ryder-Wolf & Steve Wolf

UPCOMING LITURGIES

Monday, 12/25/2023 **Christmas Day • The Celebration of the Holy Eucharist at 10:00 a.m.**

Sunday, 12/31/2023 **Christmas 1 • Holy Eucharist and Christmas Lessons and Carols**

Sunday, 1/7/2023 **Feast of the Epiphany • Holy Eucharist and Epiphany Pageant at 10:00 a.m.**

The Blessing of Christmas

Beginning at 7:30 PM

Epiphany Choir • Epiphany Ringers • Strings • Organ

Chorale Prelude on *Wachet auf, ruft uns die Stimme*, BWV 645
(Awake, a voice is calling)

J.S. Bach (1685-1750)

Creator of the stars of night

Malcolm Archer (b. 1952)

Creator of the stars of night, your people's everlasting light, Jesu, redeemer save us all, and hear thy servants when they call. Thou camest, bridegroom of the bride, as drew the world to eveningtide, proceeding from a virgin shrine, the son of man, yet all divine. At thy great Name, exalted now, all knees must bend, all hearts must bow: and things in heaven and earth shall own that thou are Lord and King alone. To God the Father, God the Son, and God the Spirit, three in one, praise, honor, might, and glory be from age to age eternally. Amen.

Of the Father's love begotten • Divinum mysterium

arr. Arlen Clarke (b. 1954)

Of the Father's love begotten ere the worlds began to be, he is Alpha and Omega – he the source, the ending he, of the things that are, that have been, and that future years shall see evermore and evermore. O that birth forever blessed, when a virgin, blest with grace, by the Holy Ghost conceiving, bore the Savior of our race; and the babe, the world's Redeemer, first revealed his sacred face, evermore and evermore. Let the heights of heaven adore him; angel hosts, his praises sing: powers, dominions, bow before him and extol our God and King; let no tongue on earth be silent, every voice in concert ring evermore and evermore. Christ, to thee, with God the Father and O Holy Ghost to thee, hymn and chant and high thanksgiving and unwearied praises be: honor, glory, and dominion and eternal victory evermore and evermore.

Let all mortal flesh keep silence • Picardy

arr. John A. Behnke (b. 1953)

Sheep may safely graze

J.S. Bach

The dream Isaiah saw

Glenn Rudolph (b. 1946)

Lions and oxen will sleep in the hay, leopards will join with the lambs as they play, wolves will be pastured with cows in the glade, blood will not darken the earth that God made. Little child whose bed is straw, take new lodgings in my heart. Bring the dream Isaiah saw: life redeemed from fang and claw. Peace will pervade more than forest and field: God will transfigure the Violence concealed deep in the heart and in systems of gain, ripe for the judgement the Lord will ordain. Little child whose bed is straw, take new lodgings in my heart. Bring the dream Isaiah saw: justice purifying law. Nature reordered to match God's intent, nations obeying the call to repent, all of creation completely restored, filled with the knowledge and love of the Lord. Little child whose bed is straw, take new lodgings in my heart. Bring the dream Isaiah saw: knowledge, wisdom, worship, awe.

Epiphany Choir

Jewel Allen, Susan Ashmore, Edie Brush, Patrick Bryant, Shelle Bryant, Lane Burnett, George Council, Sara Cushing, Paul DeSandre, Cliff Edge, Sheila Ferrell, Laura Gary, Bill Graves, Pat Graves, Paige Howell, Ron Hutcheson, Alix Janke, Brenda Lloyd, Dan Mundy, Keith Poole, Rosie Reily, Mary Ann Schneider, Nick Theyerl, Marjorie Timmer, Kate Wierwille, John Yntema

Epiphany Ringers

Edie Brush, Patrick Bryant, Lane Burnett, Cecilia Democko, Sheila Ferrell, Brent Henderson, April Maa, Linda Ryder Wolf

Strings

Katherine Jenkins, *violin* • Jennifer Derringer, *violin* • Kate Feltgen, *viola* Charae Krueger, *cello*

1 O come, all ye faith - ful, joy - ful and tri - um - phant, O
 2 God from God, Light from Light e - ter - nal,
 3 Sing, choirs of an - gels, sing in ex - ul - ta - tion,
 *4 See how the shep - herds, sum - moned to his cra - dle,
 *5 Child, for us sin - ners poor and in the man - ger,

1 come ye, O come ye to Beth - le - hem;
 2 lo! he ab - hors not the Vir - gin's womb;
 3 sing, all ye ci - ti - zens of heaven a - bove;
 4 leav - ing their flocks, draw nigh to gaze;
 5 we would em - brace thee, with love and awe;

1 come, and be - hold him, born the King of an - gels;
 2 on - ly - be - got - ten Son of the Fa - ther;
 3 glo - ry to God, glo - ry in the high - est;
 4 we too will thith - er bend our joy - ful foot - steps;
 5 who would not love thee, lov - ing us so dear - ly?

Refrain

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

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

6 Yea, Lord, we greet thee,
 born this happy morning;
 Jesus, to thee be glory given;
 Word of the Father,
 now in flesh appearing;

Refrain

Opening Acclamation

Celebrant Blessed be the one holy and living God.

People Glory to God for ever and ever. Amen.

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.

The Hymn of Praise—Good Christian friends, rejoice

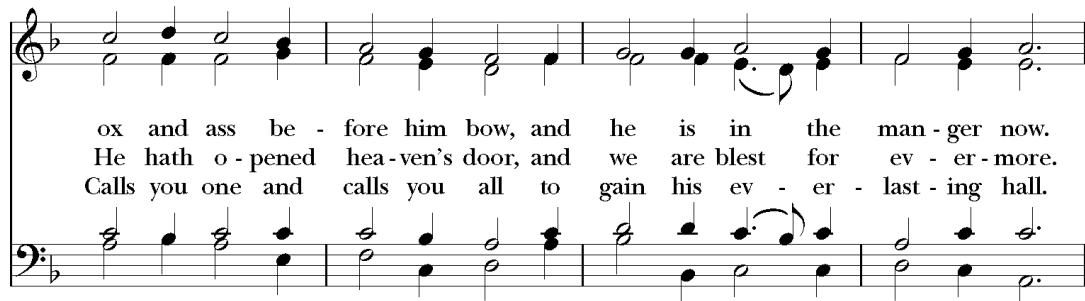
In dulci jubilo



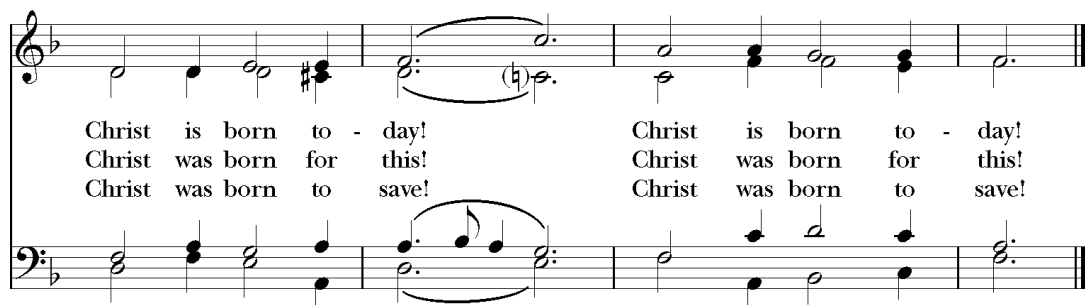
1 Good Chris - tian friends, re - joice with heart and soul and voice;
2 Good Chris - tian friends, re - joice with heart and soul and voice;
3 Good Chris - tian friends, re - joice with heart and soul and voice;



give ye heed to what we say: Je - sus Christ is born to - day;
now ye hear of end - less bliss; Je - sus Christ was born for this!
now ye need not fear the grave: Je - sus Christ was born to save!



ox and ass be - fore him bow, and he is in the man - ger now.
He hath o - pened hea - ven's door, and we are blest for ev - er - more.
Calls you one and calls you all to gain his ev - er - last - ing hall.



Christ is born to - day! Christ is born to - day!
Christ was born for this! Christ was born for this!
Christ was born to save! Christ was born to save!

The Collect for The Nativity of Our Lord

Celebrant God be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Together, let us pray.

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.

The First Lesson

Isaiah 52:7-10

How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of the messenger who announces peace, who brings good news, who announces salvation, who says to Zion, "Your God reigns." Listen! Your sentinels lift up their voices, together they sing for joy; for in plain sight they see the return of the Lord to Zion.

Break forth together into singing, you ruins of Jerusalem; for the Lord has comforted his people, he has redeemed Jerusalem. The Lord has bared his holy arm before the eyes of all the nations; and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Response Hymn—Lo, how a Rose e'er blooming

Es ist ein Ros

1 Lo, how a Rose e'er bloom-ing from ten - der stem hath sprung!
 2 I - sa - iah 'twas fore - told it, the Rose I have in mind,
 * 3 O Flower, whose fra - grance ten - der with sweet - ness fills the air,

Of Jes - se's lin - eage com - ing as seers of old have sung.
 with Ma - ry we be - hold it, the Vir - gin Mo - ther kind.
 dis - pel in glo - rious splen - dor the dark - ness ev - ery - where;

It came, a blos - som bright, a - mid the
 To show God's love a - right, she bore to
 true man, yet ve - ry God, from sin and

cold of win - ter, when half spent was the night.
 us a Sa - vior, when half spent was the night.
 death now save us, and share our ev - ery load.

The Second Lesson

Hebrews 1:1-12

Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets, but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, through whom he also created the worlds. He is the reflection of God's glory and the exact imprint of God's very being, and he sustains all things by his

powerful word. When he had made purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs.

For to which of the angels did God ever say, "You are my Son; today I have begotten you?" Or again, "I will be his Father, and he will be my Son?" And again, when he brings the firstborn into the world, he says, "Let all God's angels worship him." Of the angels he says, "He makes his angels winds, and his servants flames of fire."

But of the Son he says, "Your throne, O God, is forever and ever, and the righteous scepter is the scepter of your kingdom. You have loved righteousness and hated wickedness; therefore God, your God, has anointed you with the oil of gladness beyond your companions." And, "In the beginning, Lord, you founded the earth, and the heavens are the work of your hands; they will perish, but you remain; they will all wear out like clothing; like a cloak you will roll them up, and like clothing they will be changed. But you are the same, and your years will never end."

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Sequence Hymn—O holy night

Cantique de Noël

O Ho - ly Night! The stars are bright ly shi - ning, It is the night of our
 Tru - ly He taught us love for one a - noth - er, His law is love and His
 dear Sav - iour's birth. Long lay the world in sin and er - ror pin -
 gos - pel is peace. Chains He shall break, the slave is our broth -
 ning. Till He ap - peared and the soul felt its worth. A thrill of hope the
 er, And in His name all op - pres - sion shall cease. Sweet hymns of joy in
 wea - ry world re - joi - ces, For yon - der breaks a new and glor - ious morn. Fall
 grate - ful chor - us raise we, With all our hearts we praise His ho - ly name. Christ
 on your knees! Oh, hear the an - gel voi - ces! O night
 is the Lord! Oh, praise His name for - ev - er! His pow'r
 di - vine, O night when Christ was born; O
 and glo - ry ev - er - more pro - claim! His
 night, O Ho - ly Night, O night di - vine!
 pow'r and glo - ry ev - er - more pro - claim!

The Gospel

John 1:1-14

Gospeller The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to John.

People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

Gospeller The Gospel of the Lord.

People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

The Sermon

The Rev. Amy Dills-Wright

A period of silence is kept

The Prayers of the People for Christmas—*The People stand*

Let us pray to our incarnate Lord, who in coming to dwell among us has revealed the radiance of God's glory and brought us into marvelous light. Christ born for us, Son of God given for us: help us to know you, to worship and to serve you. Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Wonderful counsellor, you order all things with your wisdom: help the Church to reveal the mystery of your love, and fill it with the Spirit of truth. Guide and inspire your faithful people throughout the world: especially Michael our Presiding Bishop and Rob our bishop. Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Mighty God, the government is on your shoulders: guide the leaders of the nations and bring in your kingdom of justice and righteousness. We pray especially for Joseph our President, Brian our Governor, and Andre our Mayor. Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Everlasting father, eternal mother, you call us to live together in unity: protect by your mercy all your children, bless our families and renew our communities. Be the strength among the people of this parish as we seek to live our core values of faith, integrity, inclusiveness, compassion, social justice, and stewardship. Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Prince of peace, you bring reconciliation through the cross: by your healing power give to those who suffer your gift of wholeness and peace. Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Celebrant's concluding Collect

Lord Jesus Christ, Word made flesh, life of the world; hear our prayer. May we, who like the shepherds have seen in your birth a new kind of love, witness to that love in our lives. **Amen.**

The Peace

Celebrant The peace of Christ be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

The Welcome

Offertory Anthem—Rejoice, rejoice Jerusalem

Michael Praetorius, 16 c. German carol

Epiphany Choir

arr. Simon Mold

Rejoice, rejoice Jerusalem, our Lord is born in Bethlehem, the noble flower of Jesse's stem, rejoice, rejoice Jerusalem, Alleluia! In humble stall the Lord of all sleeps on, mankind befriending, behold His reign un-ending! Alleluia! Poor shepherds hear the angels sing Alleluia, they humbly kneel before their King, Alleluia! From eastern lands come monarchs three, Alleluia, to Mary's son they bow the knee, Alleluia! So make we joy on Christmas morn, sing praise to God whose Son is born, no more a grieving race forlorn, so make we joy on Christmas morn, Alleluia! Thrice blessed be the Trinity, the fount of our endeavor to thank our God for ever, Alleluia!

Presentation Hymn—Joy to the world! the Lord is come

Antioch

1 Joy to the world! the Lord is come: let earth re -
2 Joy to the world! the Sa - vior reigns; let us our
*3 No more let sins and sor - rows grow, nor thorns in -
4 He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the

ceive her King; let ev - ery heart pre - pare him room, and
songs em - ploy, while fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains, re -
fest the ground; he comes to make his bless - ings flow far
na - tions prove the glo - ries of his right - eous - ness, and

heaven and na - ture sing, and heaven and na - ture
peat the sound - ing joy, re - peat the sound - ing
as the curse is found, far as the curse is
won - ders of his love, and won - ders of his

sing, and heaven, and heaven and na - ture sing.
joy, re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.
found, far as, far as the curse is found.
love, and won - ders, won - ders of his love.

The Great Thanksgiving: Eucharistic Prayer B

Celebrant God be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them to the Lord.**

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

Celebrant

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Almighty God, 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 S125—Holy, holy, holy Lord

Richard Proulx

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 people stand or kneel

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 Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh. For in these last days you sent Jesus to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In Christ, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In Christ, 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 Savior 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 Jesus 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 poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

Celebrant and People

**We remember Christ's death,
We proclaim Christ's resurrection,
We await Christ's coming in glory;**

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Savior 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 in the sacrifice of Jesus Christ, through whom we are acceptable to you, 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, with all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your children; through Jesus Christ our Savior, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, now and for ever. *AMEN.*

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

The Lord's Prayer—traditional language

Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy Name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen

The Breaking of the Bread

A period of silence is kept.

Fraction Anthem 84—Love came down at Christmas

Gartan

1 Love came down at Christ-mas, love all love - ly, love di - vine;
2 Wor - ship we the God - head, love in - car - nate, love di - vine;
3 Love shall be our to - ken; love be yours and love be mine,

love was born at Christ - mas: star and an - gels gave the sign.
wor - ship we our Je - sus, but where-with for sa - cred sign?
love to God and neigh - bor, love for plea and gift and sign.

The Communion of the People

All God's people are welcome to share in the Holy Eucharist. Communion is received either kneeling or standing at the altar rail or at the standing station on the floor level. At the altar rail you have the option to drink from the chalice, to hand your wafer to the Lay Eucharistic Minister to intinct for you, or to cross your arms after you receive the bread to indicate that you do not wish to receive the chalice. At the floor station, communion is received by intinction by the Priest. If you prefer to receive a blessing instead of Communion, cross your hands across your chest; the priest will bless you. Gluten free wafers are available upon request.

Communion Motet—The infant king

Frederick Teardo

Epiphany Choir

Sing lullaby, lullaby baby, now reclining, sing lullaby. Hush, do not wake the infant king, angels are watching, stars are shining over the place where he is lying. Sing lullaby. Sing lullaby, lullaby baby, now a-sleeping, sing lullaby. Hush, do not wake the infant king, soon will come sorrows with the morning, soon will come bitter grief and weeping. Sing lullaby. Sing lullaby, lullaby baby, now a-dozing, sing lullaby. Hush, do not wake the infant king, soon comes the cross, the nails, the piercing, then in the grave, a last reposing. Sing lullaby. Sing lullaby, lullaby, is the babe awaking? Sing lullaby. Hush, do not wake the infant king, dreaming of Easter, gladsome morning, conquering death, its bondage breaking. Sing lullaby.

Communion Hymn—'Twas in the moon of wintertime

Une jeune pucelle



1 'Twas in the moon of win - ter - time, when all the birds had
 2 (With - in a lodge of) bro - ken bark the ten - der babe was
 3 (The ear - liest moon of) win - ter - time is not so round and
 4 (O chil - dren of the) for - est free, the an - gel song is



fled, that God the Lord of all the earth sent
 found, a rag - ged robe of rab - bit skin en -
 fair as was the ring of glo - ry on the
 true; the ho - ly child of earth and heaven is



an - gel - choirs in - stead; be - fore their light the
 wrapped his beau - ty round; but as the hunt - er
 help - less in - fant there. The chiefs from far be -
 born to - day for you. Come kneel be - fore the



stars grew dim, and won - dering hunt - ers heard the hymn:
 braves drew nigh, the an - gel - song rang loud and high:
 fore him knelt with gifts of fox and bea - ver - pelt.
 ra - diant boy, who brings you beau - ty, peace, and joy.



Je - sus your King is born, Je - sus is



born, in ex - cel - sis glo - ri - a.

1 In the bleak mid - win - ter, frost - y wind made moan,
 2 Our God, heaven can - not hold him, nor— earth sus - tain;
 3 An - gels and arch - an - gels may have gath - ered there,
 4 What— can I give him, poor— as I am?

earth stood hard as i - ron, wa - ter like a stone;
 heaven and earth shall flee a - way when he comes to reign:
 cher - u - bim and se - ra - phim thron - ed the air;
 If I were a shep - herd, I would bring a lamb;

snow had fal - len, snow on snow, snow— on— snow,
 in the bleak mid - win - ter a sta - ble - place suf - ficed
 but his mo - ther on - ly, in her maid - en bliss,
 if I were a wise— man, I would do my part;

in the bleak mid - win - ter, long a - go.
 the Lord— God in - car - nate, Je - sus Christ.
 wor - shiped the be - lov - ed with a kiss.
 yet what I can I give him— give my heart.

Postcommunion Prayer—*Celebrant and People*

Let us pray

Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of 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 Savior. Amen.

Candles will be lit from the center aisle, then individuals light their neighbor's candle.

Si - lent night, ho - ly night, all is calm,
 Si - lent night, ho - ly night, shep - herds quake
 Si - lent night, ho - ly night, Son of God,

all is bright round yon vir - gin mo - ther and child.
 at the sight, glo - ries stream from hea - ven a - far,
 love's pure light ra - diant beams from thy ho - ly face,

Ho - ly in - fant, so ten - der and mild, sleep in hea - ven - ly
 heaven - ly hosts— sing al - le - lu - ia; Christ, the Sa - vior, is
 with the dawn of re - deem - ing grace, Je - sus, Lord, at thy

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

The Christmas 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 Holy and undivided Trinity be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

1 Hark! the her-ald an - gels sing glo - ry to the new-born King!
 2 Christ, by high-est heaven a - dored; Christ, the ev - er - last - ing Lord;
 3 Mild he lays his glo - ry by, born that we no more may die,

Peace on earth and mer - cy mild, God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled!
 late in time be - hold him come, off - spring of the Vir - gin's womb.
 born to raise us from the earth, born to give us sec - ond birth.

Joy - ful, all ye na - tions, rise, join the tri - umph of the skies;
 Veiled in flesh the God - head see; hail the in - car - nate De - i - ty.
 Risen with heal - ing in his wings, light and life to all he brings,

with the an - gel - ic host pro - claim Christ is born in Beth - le - hem!
 Pleased as man with us to dwell; Je - sus, our Em - man - u - el!
 hail, the Sun of Right - eous - ness! hail, the heaven-born Prince of Peace!

Refrain
 Hark! the her - ald an - gels sing glo - ry to the new - born King!

The Dismissal

Celebrant Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People Thanks be to God.

Voluntary—Carillon on Antioch

Mary Beth Bennett

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