

# Episcopal Church of the Incarnation



## Christmas Service

Christmas Eve  
December 24, 2024, 5:00pm

308 College Drive  
Gaffney, South Carolina 29340

864-489-6183  
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[secretary@Incarnation-Gaffney.org](mailto:secretary@Incarnation-Gaffney.org)

**The Rt. Rev. Daniel P. Richards, Bishop**  
**The Rev. Jenny Gettys, Rector**  
**Dr. Mike Langer, Organist**  
**Mrs. Bobbi Albert, Choir Director**  
**Mrs. Angharad Torres, Secretary and Bookkeeper**

*We love and serve the Lord  
by loving and serving others.*

# The Holy Eucharist Rite Two

## The Word of God

*The people gather at the outdoor manger.*

*The Celebrant says*

                    The word was made flesh and dwelt among us;  
*People*          And we beheld his glory.

*The Celebrant may say*

Most merciful and loving God, you have made this night holy by the Incarnation of your Son Jesus Christ, and by the child-bearing of the Blessed Virgin Mary: Grant that we your people may enter with joy into the celebration of this night, and may also rejoice forever as your adopted sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

# Song of Praise

# Hymn 111

*During the song of praise, the acolytes will share the light of Christ with the people. Please share the light by allowing those near you to light their candles from yours.*

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.

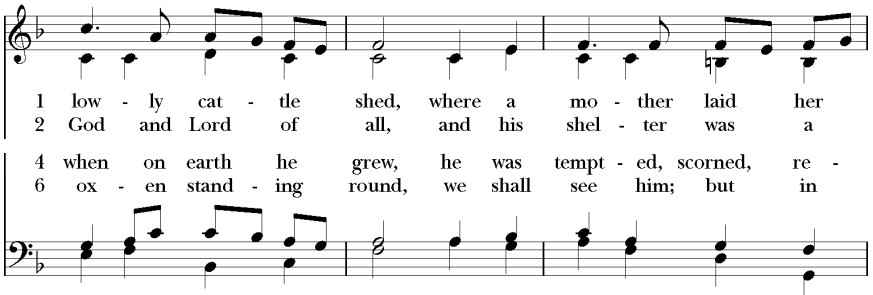
*The people process silently into the church with their candles.*

# The Processional Hymn Hymn 102, stanzas 1, 2, 4, and 6

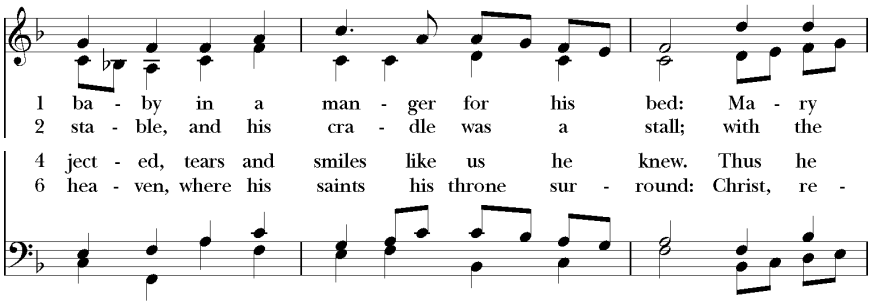
*The congregation will join singing on stanza four. The Christmas family comes forward to place the baby Jesus in the crèche and light the Advent wreath.*



1 Once in roy - al Da - vid's ci - ty stood a  
2 He came down to earth from hea - ven, who is  
4 For he is our life - long pat - tern; dai - ly,  
6 Not in that poor low - ly sta - ble, with the



1 low - ly cat - tle shed, where a mo - ther laid her  
2 God and Lord of all, and his shel - ter was a  
4 when on earth he grew, he was tempt - ed, scorned, re -  
6 ox - en stand - ing round, we shall see him; but in



1 ba - by in a man - ger for his bed; Ma - ry  
2 sta - ble, and his cra - dle was a stall; with the  
4 ject - ed, tears and smiles like us he knew. Thus he  
6 hea - ven, where his saints his throne sur - round: Christ, re -

1 was that mo - ther mild, — Je - sus Christ her lit - tle child. —  
 2 poor, the scorned, the low - ly, lived on earth our Sa - vior ho - ly.  
 4 feels for all our sad - ness, and he shares in all our glad - ness.  
 6 vealed to faith - ful eye, — set at God's right hand on high. —

Words: Sts. 1-2, 4-6, Cecil Francis Alexander (1818-1895), alt.; st. 3, James Waring McCrady (b. 1938); Music: *Irby*, melody Henry John Gauntlett (1805-1876); harm. Arthur Henry Mann

## The Collect of the Day

*The Celebrant says to the people*

The Lord be with you.

*People* And also with you.

*Celebrant* 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 Old Testament Lesson

**Isaiah 9:2-7**

*The people sit. Please extinguish your candle.*

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.

*After the Reading, the Reader says*

The Word of the Lord.

*People* Thanks be to God.

## Psalm 96

[S]409

Robert Knox Kennedy  
(b. 1945)



© 1979, Robert Knox Kennedy.

- 1 Sing to the Lord a new | song;  
sing to the Lord, all the whole | earth.
- 2 Sing to the Lord and bless his | Name;  
proclaim the good news of his salvation from day to | day.
- 3 Declare his glory among the | nations  
and his wonders among all | peoples.

- 4 For great is the Lord and greatly to be | praised;  
he is more to be feared than all | gods.
- 5 As for all the gods of the nations, they are but | idols;  
but it is the Lord who made the | heavens.
- 6 Oh, the majesty and magnificence of his | presence!  
Oh, the power and the splendor of his | sanctuary!
- 7 Ascribe to the Lord, you families of the | peoples;  
ascribe to the Lord honor and | power.
- 8 Ascribe to the Lord the honor due his | Name;  
bring offerings and come into his | courts.
- 9 Worship the Lord in the beauty of | holiness;  
let the whole earth tremble be- | fore him.
- 10 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."
- 11 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 there- | in.
- 12 Then shall all the trees of the wood shout for joy  
before the Lord when he | comes,  
when he comes to judge the | earth.
- 13 He will judge the world with | righteousness  
and the peoples with his | truth.

## **The New Testament Lesson**

**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.

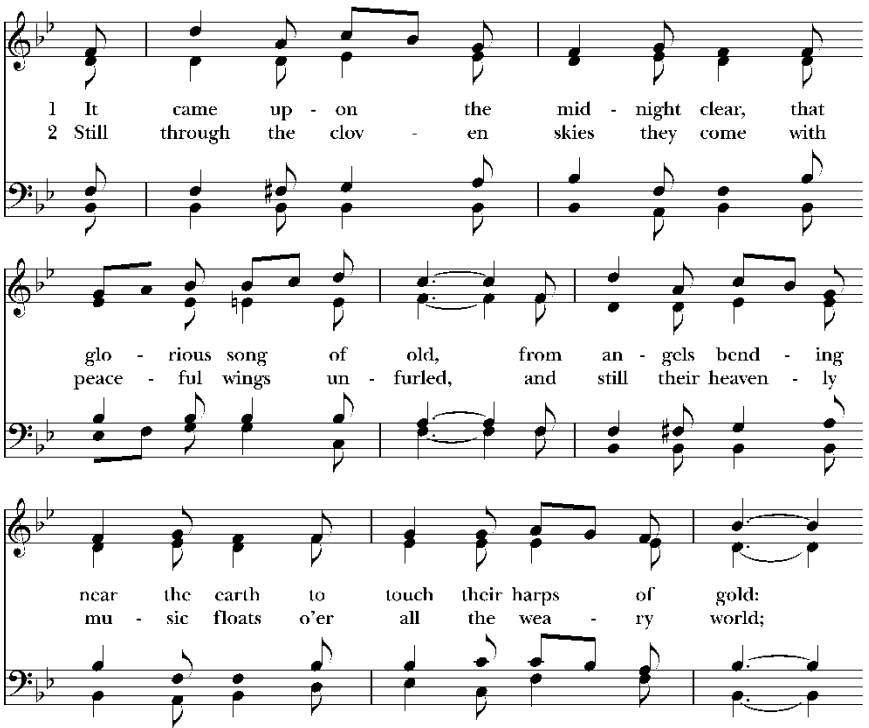
*After the Reading, the Reader says*

The Word of the Lord.

*People* Thanks be to God.

### The Gradual Hymn

### Hymn 89, stanzas 1-2



1 It came up - on the mid - night clear, that  
2 Still through the clov - en skies they come with  
glo - rious song of old, from an - gels bend - ing  
peace - ful wings un - furled, and still their heaven - ly  
near the earth to touch their harps of gold:  
mu - sic floats o'er all the wea - ry world;



"Peace on the earth, good will to men, from  
 a - bove its sad and low - ly plains they  
 heaven's all - gra - cious King." The world in sol - emn  
 bend on hov - ering wing, and ev - er o'er its  
 still - ness lay to hear the an - gels sing.  
 Ba - bel - sounds the bless - ed an - gels sing.

Words: Edmund H. Sears (1810-1876), alt. Music: *Carol*, Richard Storrs Willis (1819-1900).

## The Gospel

**Luke 2:1-20**

*All standing, the Deacon or Priest reads the Gospel, first saying*

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

*People* Glory to you, Lord Christ.

And it came to pass in those days, that there went out a decree from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be taxed. (And this taxing was first made when Cyrenius was governor of Syria.) And all went to be taxed, every one into his own city. And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judaea, unto the city of David, which is called Bethlehem (because he was

of the house and lineage of David) to be taxed with Mary his espoused wife, being great with child. And so it was, that, while they were there, the days were accomplished that she should be delivered. And she brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn.

And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid. And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, which is Christ the Lord. And this shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, 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, and on earth peace, good will toward men."

And it came to pass, as the angels were gone away from them into heaven, the shepherds said one to another, Let us now go even unto Bethlehem, and see this thing which is come to pass, which the Lord hath made known unto us. And they came with haste, and found Mary, and Joseph, and the babe lying in a manger. And when they had seen it, they made known abroad the saying which was told them concerning this child. And all they that heard it wondered at those things which were told them by the shepherds. But Mary kept all these things, and pondered them in her heart. And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things that they had heard and seen, as it was told unto them.

*After the Gospel, the Deacon or Priest says*

The Gospel of the Lord.

*People* Praise to you, Lord Christ.

# The Sermon Hymn

# Hymn 89, stanzas 3-4

3 Yet with the woes of sin and strife the  
4 For lo! the days are haste - ning on, by  
world has suf - fered long; be - neath the heaven - ly  
pro - phets seen of old, when with the ev - er -  
hymn have rolled two thou - sand years of wrong;  
cir - cling years shall come the time fore - told,  
and war - ring hu - man - kind hears not the  
when peacc shall o - ver all the carth its  
tid - ings which they bring; O hush the noise and give  
an - cient splen - dors fling, and all the world give

cease your strife and hear the an - gels sing!  
back the song which now the an - gels sing.

Words: Edmund H. Sears (1810-1876), alt. Music: *Carol*, Richard Storrs Willis (1819-1900).

## The Sermon

The Rev. Jenny Gettys

## The Nicene Creed

*All stand.*

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.  
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 Leader prays:*

Brothers and sisters, on this most holy night of our Lord's birth,  
that we may find peace, joy, and contentment in this holy season,  
let us pray for ourselves and all those in need of our prayers,  
saying, "Lord, hear our prayer."

For the church of Christ, that it may faithfully proclaim the good  
news of salvation and may care for the needs of God's people in  
all corners of the world, and for those in our diocesan cycle of  
prayer, Church of the Incarnation, Gaffney and Church of the  
Nativity, Union, we pray to you, O Lord.

*Lord, hear our prayer.*

For peace in our troubled world, that the darkness of war and injustice may be replaced by the light of peace and love, we pray to you, O Lord.

*Lord, hear our prayer.*

For those in need of our prayers: the homeless, the unemployed, the hungry, those who are hospitalized, those who are imprisoned in body or soul, and all those for whom this season is one not of joy but of trial and sadness, for our Bread from Heaven family's needs:

- Ed's heart problems, Ronny who is recovering from a stroke, and for the new administration
- Pernice's daughter Tara, Rev. John who has short term memory problems, the Smith and Johnson families, and that schoolchildren would be safe
- For Ellis' finances, and our country
- Gloria T.'s health, and for everyone
- Brenda's husband, brother, friends Betty and Geneva, and her brother-in-law
- Cynthia, her brother Allen whose mother-in-law had a heart transplant, her mom, her children, and her church family
- Sybill's breathing problems

we pray to you, O Lord.

*Lord, hear our prayer.*

For the sick, especially those on our parish prayer list:

Ed Gumphrey

Rocky Nagel, nephew of Niccie Dearing

David Cornmesser

those on the confidential Daughters of the King prayer list, and our homebound friends and those with long-term needs:

Lucille Aldred

Gale Barzee

Lauren Bridges

Alli Buhler  
Tom and Anne Cooper  
Billy Corbett  
Vickie Cornmesser  
Kathy Cutler  
Shirley Davidson  
Mary Fleming  
Ida May Glidden  
Kathy Gumphrey  
Deloris Livingston  
Peter McAllister  
Renée McFalls  
Vincent Moore  
Garrett Moss  
June Oman  
Gery Pope, Sr.  
Greg Power  
Sloane Power  
Sarah Gumphrey Ramsey  
Cathy Roberts  
Dennis Rostenbach  
Dever and Carolyn Smith  
Susie Throop  
Linda Wilkins  
Tim Wood

that their illnesses may be turned into health and their sorrow  
into rejoicing, we pray to you, O Lord.

*Lord, hear our prayer.*

For those who labor this night on behalf of others: doctors and  
nurses, police officers and firefighters, gas station attendants, bus  
and taxi drivers, and all those whose work prevents them from  
sharing this evening with those they love. For those whose jobs  
place them in harm's way:

Eliav Choney

Jamie Greene  
Mimi McCully  
Kyle & Ann Meade

we pray to you, O Lord.

*Lord, hear our prayer.*

For those celebrating birthdays or anniversaries this week and those expecting children:

Chad and Katlyn Black, friends of Noah and Gena

we pray to you, O Lord.

*Lord, hear our prayer.*

In thanksgiving we remember the lives of those who have gone before us in the faith, especially:

Arthur Sager, friend of the Geloks

Eva Rector, daughter of Pat Gotautas

That we, like them, may remain faithful to the end and live forever in the light of your eternal glory, we pray to you, O Lord.

*Lord, hear our prayer.*

*The Celebrant adds the concluding Collect:*

Mighty God, mercifully hear the prayer of the people you have chosen as your own. Give us zeal in our ministries and joy in our work, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

## **The Confession of Sin**

*The Deacon or Celebrant says*

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Silence may be kept.*



*Minister and People*

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.

*The Priest stands and says*

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.*

**The Peace**

*All stand. The Celebrant says to the people*

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

*Then the Ministers and People may exchange with strangers and friends  
a sign of the Peace of Christ.*

**Announcements**

## The Holy Communion

*The Celebrant begins the Offertory with the following sentence of Scripture.*

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

*Psalm 96:8*

*Representatives of the congregation bring the people's offerings of bread and wine, and money or other gifts, to the celebrant. The people stand while the offerings are presented and placed on the Altar.*

## The Offertory Anthem

## Christmas Joy

When the song of the angels is stilled,  
When the star in the sky has withdrawn,  
When the kings see their prophecy rightly fulfilled,  
When the princes and shepherds have gone;

Then the true work of Christmas begins.

to find the lost,  
to heal the broken hearts,  
to feed the hungry,  
to rebuild the nations,  
to bring peace among all brothers,  
to make music in the heart.

Music: Mark Schweizer. Words: from a poem by Howard Thurman, alt. MS.  
"Christmas Joy" used with permission by St. James Music Press, license No. 5622.

# The Presentation Hymn

# Hymn 110, Stanza 4

4 And thus that man - ger poor be - came a throne;  
 for he whom Ma - ry bore was God the Son. O  
 come, then, let us join the heaven - ly host, to  
 praise the Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost.  
 ni - te a - do - re - mus Do - mi - num. Ve -  
 ni - te a - do - re - mus Do - mi - num.

Words: Source unknown, 19th cent. Music: Venite adoremus, melody adapt. Charles Winfred Douglas (1867-1944); harm. Leo Sowerby (1895-1968).

# The Great Thanksgiving

## Eucharistic Prayer A

*The people remain standing. The Celebrant faces them and sings*

*Celebrant* *People*  
 The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.  
*Celebrant* *People*  
 Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

*Celebrant*

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

*People*

It is right to give him thanks and praise.

*Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds*

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**

**Hymn S-130**

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and  
 might, Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord,

God of power and might, hea-ven and earth are

full, full of your glo-ry. Ho-

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

in the high-est. Bless-ed 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.*

*Then the Celebrant continues*

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

*At the following words concerning the bread, the Celebrant is to hold it or lay a hand upon it; and at the words concerning the cup, to hold or place a hand upon the cup and any other vessel containing wine to be consecrated.*

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, 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 we proclaim the mystery of faith:

*Celebrant and People*

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

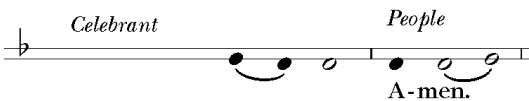
Christ will come again.

*The Celebrant continues*

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. 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.



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

## **The Lord's Prayer**

*Celebrant and People*

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

*The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread.  
 A period of silence is kept.*

## Fraction Anthem

S-164

Je - sus, Lamb of God: have mer - cy on us.

Je - sus, bear - er of our sins: have mer - cy on us.

Je - sus, re - deem - er, re - deem - er of the world:



give us your peace, give us your peace.

The image shows a musical score for a short piece. It consists of two staves: a treble clef staff on top and a bass clef staff on the bottom. The key signature is one sharp (F#), and the time signature is 4/4. The melody is simple and repetitive, with the lyrics 'give us your peace, give us your peace.' written below the notes. The accompaniment in the bass staff provides a steady harmonic support.

Music: From *Deutsche Messe*; Franz Peter Schubert (1797-1828); arr. Richard Proulx (b. 1937)

*Facing the people, the Celebrant says the following 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.

*The Episcopal Church invites all baptized persons of any age to receive Communion. The greeters will send the people to the altar rail.*

*To receive the consecrated bread, extend your hands upward with palms crossed. You may then either consume your wafer or wait to dip it in the chalice. When receiving the wine from the common cup, please guide the chalice to your lips by grasping the base of it. If you prefer not to receive Communion, you may come to the altar rail and fold your arms across your chest to receive a blessing from the priest. If you are unable to come to the altar rail to receive Communion, please let a greeter know so the sacrament may be brought to you at your seat.*

## The Communion Hymn

## Hymn L-27, stanza 1

1. A - way in a man-ger, no crib for a bed, The lit - tle Lord

The image shows the first line of a hymn. It features a treble clef staff with a 3/4 time signature and a key signature of one flat (Bb). The melody is simple and hymn-like. The lyrics '1. A - way in a man-ger, no crib for a bed, The lit - tle Lord' are written below the notes. The bass staff provides a simple accompaniment.

1. Je - sus laid down His sweet head. The stars in the sky — looked

1. down where He lay, The lit - tle Lord Je - sus a - sleep on the hay.

Words: Anonymous

Music: James R. Murray (1841-1905); arr. Edythe Ethelynn Woodruff (b. 1970). Used by Permission.

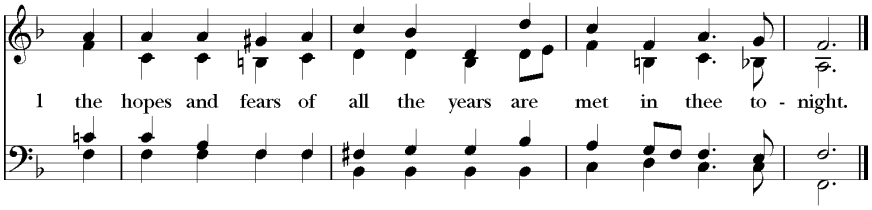
## The Communion Hymn

## Hymn 79, stanza 1

1 O lit - tle town of Beth - le - hem, how still we see thee lie!

1 A - bove thy deep and dream-less sleep the si - lent stars go by;

1 yet in thy dark streets shin - eth the ev - er - last - ing Light;

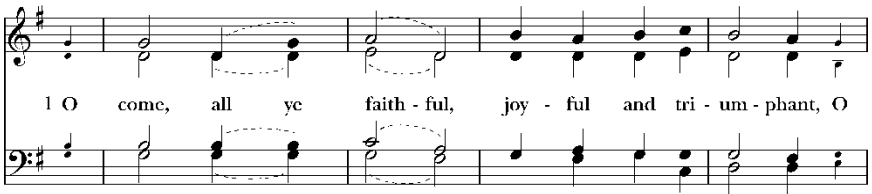


I the hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee to - night.

Words: Phillips Brooks (1835-1893) Music: St. Louis, Lewis H. Redner (1831-1908)

## The Communion Hymn

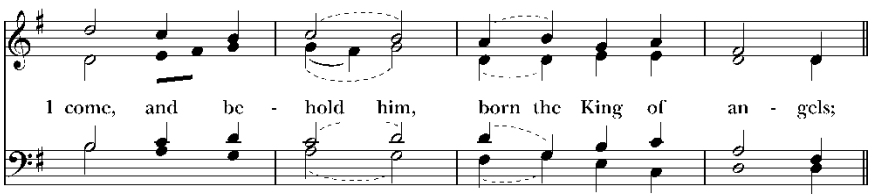
## Hymn 83, Stanza 1



I O come, all ye faith - ful, joy - ful and tri - um - phant, O

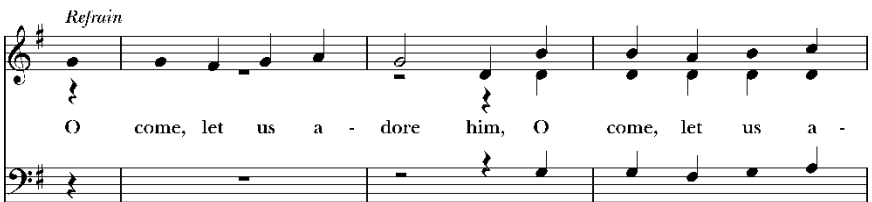


I come ye, O come ye to Beth - le - hem;



I come, and be - hold him, born the King of an - gels;

*Refrain*



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

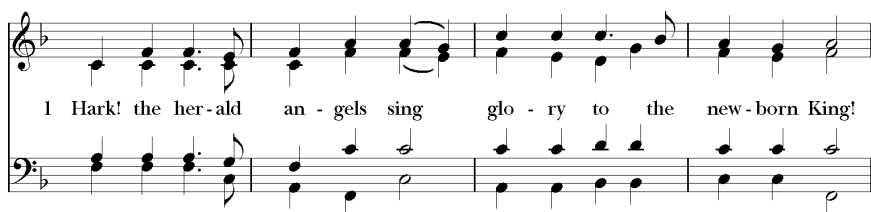


dore him, O come, let us a - dore him, Christ the Lord.

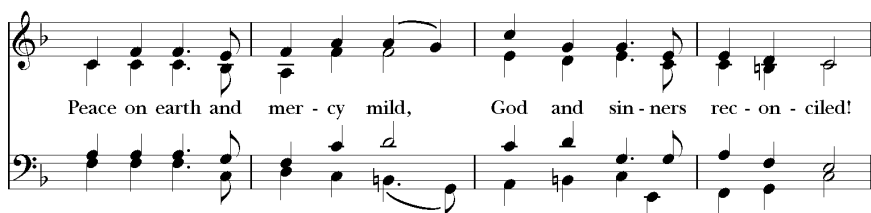
Words: John Francis Wade (1711-1786); tr. Frederick Oakeley (1802-1880) and others. Music: *Adeste fideles*, present form of melody att. John Francis Wade (1711-1786); haru. *The English Hymnal*, 1906.

## The Communion Hymn

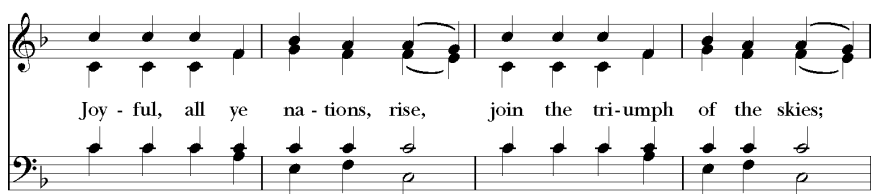
## Hymn 87, stanza 1



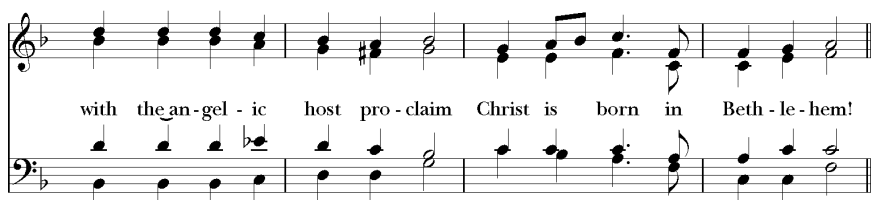
1 Hark! the her-ald an - gels sing glo - ry to the new-born King!



Peace on earth and mer - cy mild, God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled!



Joy - ful, all ye na - tions, rise, join the tri - umph of the skies;



with the an - gel - ic host pro - claim Christ is born in Beth - le - hem!

*Refrain*

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

Detailed description: This block contains the musical notation for the Refrain of the hymn. It features a treble and bass clef staff in G major. The melody is primarily chordal, with some eighth-note runs. The lyrics are: "Hark! the her - ald an - gels sing glo - ry to the new - born King!".

Words: Charles Wesley (1707-1788), alt. Music: *Mendelssohn*, Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847); adapt. William H. Cummings (1831-1915)

## The Communion Hymn

## Hymn 96, stanza 1

1 An - gels we have heard on high, sing - ing sweet - ly through the night,

Detailed description: This block contains the first line of the Communion Hymn. It features a treble and bass clef staff in G major. The melody is primarily chordal. The lyrics are: "1 An - gels we have heard on high, sing - ing sweet - ly through the night,".

and the moun-tains in re - ply ech - o - ing their brave de - light.

Detailed description: This block contains the second line of the Communion Hymn. It features a treble and bass clef staff in G major. The melody is primarily chordal. The lyrics are: "and the moun-tains in re - ply ech - o - ing their brave de - light.".

*Refrain*

Glo - - - - - ri - a

Detailed description: This block contains the Refrain of the Communion Hymn. It features a treble and bass clef staff in G major. The melody is primarily chordal. The lyrics are: "Glo - - - - - ri - a".

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

Detailed description: This block contains the final line of the Communion Hymn. It features a treble and bass clef staff in G major. The melody is primarily chordal. The lyrics are: "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: *Gloria*, French carol; arr. Edward Shippen Barnes (1887-1958).

**The Communion Hymn**

**Hymn 109, stanza 1**

1 The first No - well the an - gel did say

1 was to cer - tain poor shep - herds in fields as they lay;

1 in fields as they lay, keep - ing their sheep,

1 on a cold win - ter's night that was so deep.

*Refrain*

No - well, No - well, No - well, No - well,

born is the King of Is - ra - el.

Words: English carol, 18th cent. Music: *The First Nowell*, English carol, 17th cent.; harm. John Stainer (1840-1901)

*After Communion, the Celebrant says*

Let us pray.

*Celebrant and People*

Eternal God, heavenly Father,  
 you have graciously accepted us as living members  
 of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ,  
 and you have fed us with spiritual food  
 in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood.  
 Send us now into the world in peace,  
 and grant us strength and courage  
 to love and serve you  
 with gladness and singleness of heart;  
 through Christ our Lord. Amen.

*The Priest blesses the people.*

May Christ our infant savior give you the joy of the Bethlehem

shepherds, the awe of the worshipping sages, and the humility and love of the Holy Family. May you become as little children. And the blessing of God Almighty - Father, Son, and Holy Spirit - be with you this night and remain with you always. *Amen.*

**The Processional Hymn**

**Hymn 100**

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  
 repeat 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

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



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.

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

Words: Isaac Watts (1674-1748), alt. Music: *Antioch*, George Frideric Handel (1685-1759); adapt. and arr. Lowell Mason (1792-1872).

## The Dismissal

## Hymn H-99

Afro-American Spiritual, adapt. John W. Work

Afro-American Spiritual, arr. B. Albert

$\text{♩} = 120$

1 2 3 4 5  
 Go, tell it on the

6 7 8 9 10  
 moun-tain, o-ver the hills and ev-ry-where; Go, tell it on the moun - tain that

11 12 13 14 15  
 Je-sus Christ is born! Go, tell it on the moun-tain, o-ver the hills and

16 17 18 19 20 21

ev-ry-where; Go, tell it on the moun - tain that Je - sus Christ is born!

The image shows a musical score for piano and voice. It consists of two staves: a treble clef staff for the voice and a bass clef staff for the piano accompaniment. The music is in a key with one flat (B-flat major or D minor) and a 4/4 time signature. The score is divided into six measures, numbered 16 through 21. The lyrics are: 'ev-ry-where; Go, tell it on the moun - tain that Je - sus Christ is born!'. The piano accompaniment features a steady bass line and chords that support the vocal melody.

*The Deacon or Priest says*

Thanks be to God.

*People Alleluia! Alleluia!*

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## Those Who Serve

Date	December 24 Christmas Eve 5:00	December 29 1st Christmas 10:30
Altar Guild	All	Sudie Gelok
Coffee Hour	None	Sudie Gelok
Greeters	Robin Childers Jennie Hamrick	Ed and Jackie Hoffman
Christmas Family	Torres Family	None
Digital Greeter	Ben Torres	Angharad Torres
Camera	Ben Torres	Don Bird
Nursery	None	Cathy Roberts
Eucharistic Minister	Cynthia Glidden	Robin Childers
Acolyte(s)	Angharad Torres Cora Torres Asher Torres Ben Torres	Ellie Bird
1st Lector	Noah Lindemann	Joette Johnson
2nd Lector	Ben Torres	Bobbi Albert
Intercessor	Scott Glidden	John Gelok
Flowers	Poinsettias	Torres
Counters	None	Robin Childers Ellie Bird
Pew Racks	Asher Torres	Available

## Announcements

### Christmas Poinsettias

The lovely poinsettias surrounding the altar are given in memory of...

*Libby Blanton by Miles and Jenny Gettys*  
*Gene Childers by Robin Childers*  
*Tom and Belva Clarkson by Nancy Fowler*  
*Melissa Gray by the Torres family*  
*David Hamrick by Jennie Hamrick*  
*Arthur Sager by John and Sudie Gelok*  
*Jim and Jean Sarratt by Nancy Fowler*  
*Lupe Torres by the Torres family*

and in thanksgiving for...

*our daughters Dana and Susan by Eddie and Dawn Bridges*  
*Craig and Brigitte Sobol by Robin Childers*  
*their church family by Miles and Jenny Gettys*  
*their church family by Scott and Cynthia Glidden*  
*Clay Childers by Jennie Hamrick*  
*their church family by Ed and Jackie Hoffman*  
*Julia Johnson by Morgan Johnson*  
*their 31<sup>st</sup> wedding anniversary by Wes and Jen Spencer*

### Remaining Christmas Services...

Christmas Day, Monday, December 25

9:00 am Pajama Service on Facebook

The First Sunday of Christmas – Sunday, December 29

8:30 Eucharist in the Church

10:30 Eucharist in the Church and on Facebook

The Second Sunday of Christmas – Sunday, January 5

8:30 Eucharist in the Church

10:30 Eucharist in the Church and on Facebook

### Supper Clubs

Want to share some great meals and get to know folks at church better? Sign up on the hallway bulletin board to join a supper club. We'll divide into groups of 8 or so and take turns hosting. The host may open their home to the group or suggest that they meet at a restaurant. If at a home, the host prepares the main dish and assigns what the others will bring. If at a restaurant, everyone pays their own way. Sign up now but groups won't meet until the new year.

### Annual Parish Meeting and Covered Dish Breakfast

Bring a breakfast item to share as we gather and meet (breakfast casseroles, muffins or pastries, fruit, etc.) We'll fill our plates on Sunday, January 5, at 9:30 and as we eat, we'll meet. We'll vote on a budget for 2025. We'll thank Robin Childers, Niccie Dearing, Amanda McAllister and Angharad Torres for their years of service on vestry and we'll elect four new vestry members from the following nominees:

John Gelok  
Charlie Zinko  
Ed Harkins  
Morgan Johnson.

We'll also thank Niccie Dearing and Angharad Torres for their years serving as delegates to Convention. And we'll elect two new delegates from the following nominees:

Niccie Dearing  
Scott Glidden.

### Next Week's Readings:

Isaiah 61:10-62:3; Psalm 147:13-21; Galatians 3:23-25, 4:4-7; John 1:1-18

## Donations

To make an online contribution to Incarnation, go to our web site [www.Incarnation-Gaffney.org](http://www.Incarnation-Gaffney.org) and go to “Giving” under the “About” tab. Or scan the following QR code:



You can also text “Give” to (833)537-0569 to donate by text message. To cover the fees associated with any of these ways of giving, check the “cover fees” box. And thank you!

## **Regular Schedule of Services**

Monday through Friday:

8:00am Morning Prayer livestreamed on Facebook

Sundays:

8:30am Holy Eucharist Rite II in the Church  
(quiet and contemplative)

9:30am Sunday School for all ages  
or breakfast on first Sunday of each month

10:30am Holy Eucharist Rite II in the Church  
with Nursery and Children's Chapel  
also livestreamed on Facebook

## **Prayer Group**

In case of emergencies, confidential prayer requests can be sent out to the Daughters of the King, a group of women committed to praying confidentially for anyone in need of prayer. To add a name to the Daughters' list, fill out a prayer request card and place it in the offering plate – it will be sent to the Daughters. If the need is immediate, call the Rev. Jenny Gettys at 489-6183 and she'll get word out right away.

## **2024 Vestry**

Angharad Torres, Senior Warden and Worship

Niccie Dearing, Junior Warden and Evangelism

Don Bird, Buildings and Grounds

Robin Childers, Administration

Vickie Cornmesser, Pastoral Care

Joette Johnson, Hospitality

Scott Glidden, Outreach

Ex Officio: Ellie Bird, Treasurer

Ex Officio: Cynthia Glidden, Clerk

## **Welcome to Incarnation!**

*Wherever you are on your spiritual journey, you are welcome here. Whether you are passing through, or this is the beginning of a longer relationship, welcome. You are today part of our family. We invite you to fill out one of the Welcome cards in the pew rack so that we can get to know you better. Completed cards may be placed in the offering plate or handed to the priest after the service.*

*Restrooms and a water fountain are located on the left side of the long hallway between the church and the parish hall. The Greeters are eager to point you in the right direction and to answer any questions you may have.*

*The Episcopal Church invites all baptized persons of any age to receive Communion. To receive the consecrated bread, extend your hands upward with palms crossed. When receiving the wine, please guide the chalice to your lips by grasping the base of it. If you prefer not to receive Communion, you may come to the altar rail and fold your arms across your chest to receive a blessing from the priest. If you are unable to come to the altar rail to receive Communion, please let a greeter know so the sacrament may be brought to you at your seat.*

## **Children in Worship**

*We love the joyful noise of children in worship! They're welcome to wander, chatter, and make themselves at home as they take in the sights and sounds of worship.*

*On the table in the Narthex (the entry hall) you'll find a variety of children's items like Children's Bulletins and Bible Story Books.*