



SAINT MICHAEL'S LITCHFIELD

Nurture Your Spirit

The Colossal Puppets
and
Holy Eucharist Rite II
10 a.m.

The Epiphany of our Lord Jesus Christ

January 9, 2022

INTROIT

Where is this stupendous stranger

Where is this stupendous stranger?
Prophets, shepherds, kings, advise.
Lead me to my Master's manger,
show me where my Savior lies.

O Most Mighty! O Most Holy!
Far beyond the seraph's thought:
art thou then so mean and lowly
as unheeded prophets taught?

O the magnitude of meekness!
Worth from worth immortal sprung;
O the strength of infant weakness,
if eternal is so young!

God all-bounteous, all-creative,
whom no ills from good dissuade,
is incarnate, and a native
of the very world he made.

Christopher Smart (1722-1771)

The Word Of God

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

People: And blessed be his 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.**

HYMN OF PRAISE 124 vs. 1, 2 & 5

What star is this, with beams so bright

Puer nobis

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Celebrant: Let us pray.

O God, by the leading of a star you manifested your only Son to the peoples of the earth: Lead us, who know you now by faith, to your presence, where we may see your glory face to face; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Pageant

Please sit for the Pageant Hymns and Readings

PART I: Gabriel, Mary, and Joseph

Reader: In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth, to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David, and the virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, "Hail, O favored one, the Lord is with you! Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High; and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his father David; and of his kingdom there will be no end."

HYMN 266 vs. 1-4

Nova, nova Ave fit ex Eva

Nova, nova

All sing burden, choir sings verses

But as Joseph considered this, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet: "Behold a virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and his name shall be called Emmanuel." (Which means, "God with us.')

HYMN 56 vs. 1 & 5

O come, O come, Emmanuel

Veni, veni, Emmanuel

PART II: The Baby, the Angels and the Shepherds

Reader: In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered. 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.

CAROL

Joseph and Mary

O Joseph being an old man truly,
He married a virgin fair and free;
A purer virgin could no man see
Than he chose for his wife and his dearest dear.

They lived both in joy and bliss;
But now a strict commandment is,
In Jewryland no man should miss
To go a long with his dearest dear,

And when thy were to Bethlehem come,
The inns were filled, both all and some;
For Joseph entreated them ev'ry one,
Both for himself and his dearest dear.

Words and music: English Traditional

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.”

HYMN 94 vs. 1 & 6

While Shepherds watched

Winchester Old

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.

HYMN 97 vs. 1 & 2

Dost thou in a manger lie

Dies est laetitiae

PART III: Four Kings: Three good, One bad.

Reader: In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, asking, “Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage.” When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. They told him, “In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet. Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, “Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage.” When they had heard the king, they set out: and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

HYMN 128 Refrain & Vs. 1 & 5 *Sung by all*
Vs. 2 -4 *sung by “Kings”*

We three Kings

Three Kings of Orient

PART IV: The Flight into Egypt and the Slaughter of the Innocents

Reader: Now after they 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.” Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother by night, and went to Egypt, and 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.”

When Herod saw that he had been tricked by the wise men, he was infuriated, and he sent and killed all the children in and around Bethlehem who were two years old or under, according to the time that he had learned from the wise men. Then was fulfilled what had been spoken through the prophet Jeremiah: A voice was heard in Ramah, wailing and loud lamentation, Rachel weeping for her children; she refused to be consoled, because they are no more.”

PART V: THE LAST PART

Reader: 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.

HYMN 115

What child is this, who, laid to rest?

*Greensleeves***THE SERMON** (*Please sit*)

The Reverend Dr. E. Bevan Stanley

THE NICENE CREED

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 FORM 2

I ask your prayers for God's people throughout the world; for our Bishop(s) _____ ; for this gathering; and for all ministers and people.

Pray for the Church.

Silence

I ask your prayers for peace; for goodwill among nations; and for the well-being of all people.

Pray for justice and peace.

Silence

I ask your prayers for the poor, the sick, the hungry, the oppressed, and those in prison.

Pray for those in any need or trouble.

Silence

I ask your prayers for all who seek God, or a deeper knowledge of him.

Pray that they may find and be found by him.

Silence

I ask your prayers for the departed [especially _____].

Pray for those who have died.

Silence

Members of the congregation may ask the prayers or the thanksgivings of those present

I ask your prayers for _____ .

I ask your thanksgiving for _____ .

Silence

Praise God for those in every generation in whom Christ has been honored [especially _____ whom we remember today].

Pray that we may have grace to glorify Christ in our own day.

Silence

The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.

CONFESSION

Let us confess our sins to God.

**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.**

THE PEACE

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

People: **And also with you.**

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS *(Please sit)*

The Holy Communion

“Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God.”

OFFERTORY MUSIC *Please feel free to sing along.*

O worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness!
Bow down before him, his glory proclaim;
With gold of obedience, and incense of lowliness,
Kneel and adore him, the Lord is his name!

Low at his feet lay thy burden of carefulness,
High on his heart he will bear it for thee,
He will Comfort thy sorrows, and answer thy pray'rfulness,
Guiding thy steps as may best for thee be.

Fear not to enter his courts in the slenderness
Of the poor wealth thou wouldst recon as thine:
Truth in its beauty, and love in its tenderness,
These are the off'rings to lay on his shrine.

These, though we bring them in trembling and fearfulness,
He will accept for the name that is dear;
Mornings of joy give for evenings of tearfulness,
Trust for our trembling and hope for our fear.

O worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness!
Bow down before him, His glory proclaim;
With the gold of obedience, and incense of lowliness,
Worship, adore him, the Lord is his name!

Music: Was lebet 1754
Words: J.S.B. Monsell (1811-1875)

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

SURSUM CORDA

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.

Because in the mystery of the Word made flesh, you have caused a new light to shine in our hearts, to give the knowledge of your glory in the face of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. 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 S124

David Hurd

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

earth are full of your glo - ry. 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.

The Celebrant continues

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,

Celebrant and People

**We remember his death,
We proclaim his resurrection,
We await his coming in glory;**

The Celebrant continues

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.

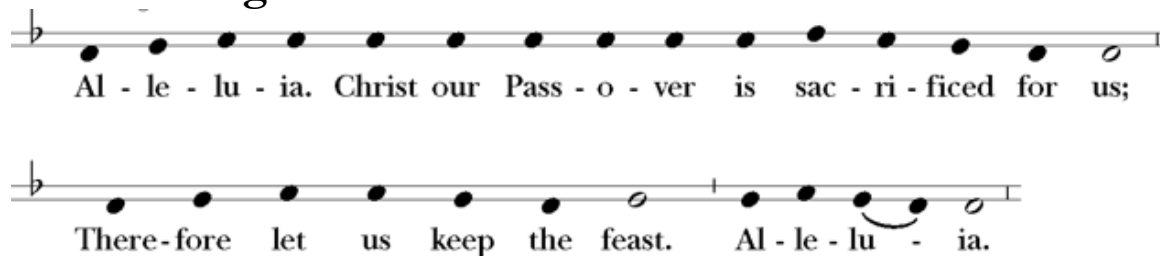
We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put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

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

**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,
forever and ever. Amen.**

The Breaking of the Bread



Celebrant

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.

MEDITATION

I wonder as I wander

I wonder as I wander, out under the sky
How Jesus the Saviour did come for to die
For poor on'ry people like you and like I;
I wonder as I wander out under the sky.

If Jesus had wanted for any wee thing,
A star in the sky or a bird on the wing,
Or all of God's angels in heaven to sing,
He surely could have it 'cause he was the King.

Words & Music: John Jacob Niles? 1892-1980

HYMN 112

In the bleak mid-winter

Cranham

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

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 Lord. Amen.

BLESSING

Life is short, and we have little time to gladden the hearts of those who travel the way with us. So, be swift to love, make haste to be kind, and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

DISMISSAL

Celebrant: Let us go forth to live and proclaim the transforming love of God.
People: **Thanks be to God.**

Assisting with today's service:

Reader: Alinda Stanley

Intercessor: Connor Bachmann

Liturgical Asst.: Connor Bachmann

Greeter: Curry Walker

Usher: Miles Borzilleri

Altar Guild, Team II: Sara Gadomski & Michele Veseskis

From riteplanning.com.

Copyright © 2019 Church Publishing Inc. All rights reserved

PARISH PRAYERS

Prayers are asked for:

Susan Kirk, Janice Bradbury, Tessa Gallardo, Beth Merritt, Mary Beth LaMay, Carla Benson, Chris Clarke, Carolyn Spangenberg, Sharon & Frank McClintock, Richard Pocock, Sarah Melcher, John, Maisie, Lodowick, Ann, David, Jen, Don, John, Annie, Helen, Leslie, Courtney, Frank, Milo, Linda, Brian, Liz, Anthony, Nancy, Janet and Chris, Alie, Violet & Abraham Fiorello.

For the safety of Curry Walker's son Chris, working in Saudi Arabia.

For protection for all people threatened with violence anywhere in the world. For the victims of gun violence in our land, and wisdom to address this bane in our common life.

For all those serving in the military.

For an end to the COVID19 pandemic, for all infected with the virus, and for all medical personnel caring for them.

For people, whose lives are affected by addiction, especially those who come to 12-step meetings here.

For caregivers and those they care for.

For people who struggle with hunger and poverty, especially for those who receive food from our Food Pantry.

For wisdom and courage to address the sin of racism in ourselves and in our country.

This week we pray for:

1/9 Day of Thanksgiving
1/10 Kristin Eaton
1/11 Susan & Emily Fearey
1/12 Christopher, Alie, Violet & Abraham Fiorello
1/13 Judy Fisher
1/14 Jim Flint
1/15 Pray for Parish

For Parish Birthdays we pray for:

1/12 Janice White

Weekly at St. Michaels

Sundays 8 a.m.- Holy Eucharist in person inside, no music. Masks no longer required if inoculated.

Sundays 10 a.m.- Holy Eucharist in person inside with music. Also, streaming on [Youtube](#).

Sundays @5 – a quiet and peaceful service-a great way to end the weekend.

THE SUNDAY PAPER JUNIOR is available printed each week in the back of church or online in the weekly e-blast. Aimed at younger children (preschool through grade 3 or 4) The SUNDAY PAPER JUNIOR features one lesson, usually the Gospel. Big, bold artwork accompanies a simple story line and an activity page designed to stir children's imaginations and spirituality.

Mon - Fri - Morning Prayer 9 am through Zoom. Go to [Zoom.us](#).

From now on you will need a passcode to join Morning Prayer.

The meeting ID number stays the same: 303 232 792.

Passcode: 320077

Tuesday at 11 a.m. – Centering Prayer in Church.

Wed- Bible Study 8 am in the Library and on Zoom followed by Holy Eucharist at 9 a.m.. Meeting number 597-616-029. No password needed.

We usually discuss the readings for the coming Sunday. We expect that those participating in person will have been fully vaccinated. You can also look these up in a Bible or at www.thelectionarypage.net.

Monday 9:30 a.m. Education for Ministry (EfM) in the Library.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Annual Meeting

WE will have one 10 a.m. service on the 6th of February

The Annual meeting will be held on February 6th after the 10 a.m. service in the Community House.

Giving envelopes are in the back of the Church. Your number may have changed due to the fact that we ordered less envelopes to save money.

If you do not see envelopes with your name on it and would like to have some, please let Karen know.

You can call her at 860-567-9465 or e-mail at office@stmichaels-litchfield.org.

New Start Ministry CT

A refugee resettlement interfaith ministry co-sponsoring refugee families for resettlement with Integrated Refugee & Immigrant Services, New Haven, CT

Email: newstartministryct@gmail.com

Address: c/o St. Paul's Episcopal Church, P.O. Box 5002, 294 Main Street South, Woodbury, CT 06798

Facebook: facebook.com/groups/NewStartCT

Instagram: [newstartministryct](https://www.instagram.com/newstartministryct)

IRIS. Connecticut's Integrated Refugee & Immigrant Services (IRIS) is also in need of support. Learn how you can help at: [IRIS-Integrated Refugee & Immigrant Services \(irisct.org\)](http://IRIS-IntegratedRefugee&ImmigrantServices(irisct.org))

Saint Michael's Parish

25 South Street † Litchfield, Connecticut 06759
860.567.9465 (voice) † 860.567.4820 (fax)
www.stmichaels-litchfield.org † office@stmichaels-litchfield.org

The Reverend Dr. E. Bevan Stanley

Rector, rector@stmichaels-litchfield.org

Mark Johnson

Music Director, music@stmichaels-litchfield.org

Karen Ackerman

Administrative Asst.& Bookkeeper, office@stmichaels-litchfield.org

WELCOME TO SAINT MICHAEL'S LITCHFIELD!

Please sign our guest book or put your information on one of the visitor's cards and place it in the offering plate. We hope you will join us for refreshments and fellowship after the 10 a.m. service.

ALL CHILDREN ARE WELCOME AT WORSHIP. A copy of the Sunday Paper, a kid friendly booklet, which follows the lectionary readings for the day, are available in the back of the Church.

Vestry 2021

Officers:

Denise Butwill, Senior Warden

Michael LaHart, Junior Warden

Megan Furtado Lynn, Secretary

Sky Post, Treasurer

Terms ending 2022: Adam Kuegler, Don Moore, Kristin Eaton

Terms ending 2023: Rosamond Quay, Anne Bowen, Ann McKinney

Terms ending 2024: Beth Morgan, Anne Yanaway

Diocesan Delegates: John Cox & Denise Butwill