

ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
Jefferson Street and Elm Avenue
Roanoke, Virginia

THE FIRST SUNDAY
AFTER CHRISTMAS:
A FESTIVAL OF
LESSONS AND CAROLS



Holy Eucharist, Rite II

December 29, 2024

10:00 a.m.

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- ❖ Ask the ushers about receiving Communion in your seat and about hearing assistance devices.
 - ❖ BCP refers to the red Book of Common Prayer.
 - ❖ Gluten free wafers are available during communion. If desired, please ask the priest for this option at the rail.

Prelude

Variations on "Hark, the Herald Angels Sing"

Janet Linker

The Word of God

The Procession: Hymn 93

"Angels, from the realms of glory"

Regent Square

1 An - gels, from the realms of glo - ry, wing your flight o'er
2 Shep - herds in the field a - bid - ing, watch - ing o'er your
3 Sa - ges, leave your con - tem - pla - tions; bright - er vi - sions
4 Saints be - fore the al - tar bend - ing, watch - ing long in

all the earth; ye, who sang cre - a - tion's sto - ry,
flocks by night, God with you is now re - sid - ing;
beam a - far: seek the great De - sire of na - tions;
hope and fear, sud - den - ly the Lord, de - scend - ing,

Refrain
now pro - claim Mes - si - ah's birth:
yon - der shines the in - fant Light: come and wor - ship,
ye have seen his na - tal star:
in his tem - ple shall ap - pear:

come and wor - ship, wor - ship Christ, the new - born King.

The Bidding Prayer (*standing*)

Beloved in Christ, in this Christmastide let it be our care and delight to hear again the message of the angels, and in heart and mind to go even unto Bethlehem and see this thing which is come to pass, and the Babe lying in a manger. Let us read and mark in Holy Scripture the tale of the loving purposes of God from the first days of our disobedience unto the glorious Redemption brought us by this Holy Child; and let us make this place glad with our carols of praise. But first, let us pray for the needs of the whole world; for peace and goodwill over all the earth; for the mission and unity of the Church for which he died, and especially in this country and within this valley. And because this of all things would rejoice his heart, let us at this time remember in his name the poor and helpless, the hungry and the oppressed; the sick and those who mourn; the lonely and the unloved; the aged and the little children; and all those who know not the Lord Jesus, or who love him not, or who by sin have grieved his heart of love. Lastly, let us remember before God his pure and lowly mother, and all those who rejoice with us, but upon another shore and in a greater light, that multitude which no one can number, whose hope was in the Word made flesh, and with whom in this Lord Jesus, we for evermore are one. The almighty God bless us with his grace; Christ give us the joys of everlasting life; and unto the fellowship of the citizens above may the King of Angels bring us all. **Amen.**

Hymn 96 (*standing*)

"Angels we have heard on high"

Gloria

1 An - gels we have heard on high, sing - ing sweet - ly through the night,
2 Shep - herds, why this ju - bi - lee? Why these songs of hap - py cheer?
3 Come to Beth - le - hem and see him whose birth the an - gels sing;
4 See him in a man - ger laid whom the an - gels praise a - bove;

and the moun - tains in re - ply ech - o - ing their brave de - light.
What great bright - ness did you see? What glad tid - ings did you hear?
come, a - dore on bend - ed knee Christ, the Lord, the new - born King.
Ma - ry, Jo - seph, lend your aid, while we raise our hearts in love.

Refrain
Glo - ri - a

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

- ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o.

The First Lesson: Isaiah 9:2-7*Christ's birth and kingdom are foretold by Isaiah.*

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. For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onward and forevermore. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.

The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.****Hymn 82 (standing)****"Of the Father's love begotten***Divinum mysterium*

1 Of the Fa-ther's love be-got-ten, ere the worlds be-
 2 O that birth for ev-er bless-ed, when the Vir-gin,
 3 Let the heights of heaven a-dore him; an-gel hosts, his
 4 Christ, to thee with God the Fa-ther, and, O Ho-ly

gan to be, he is Al-pha and O-me-ga,
 full of grace, by the Ho-ly Ghost con-ceive-ing,
 prais-es sing; powers, do-min-ions, bow be-fore him,
 Ghost, to thee, hymn and chant and high thanks-giv-ing,

he the source, the end-ing he, of the things that
 bore the Sa-vior of our race; and the Babe, the
 and ex-tol our God and King; let no tongue on
 and un-wea-ried prais-es be; hon-or, glo-ry

are, that have been, and that fu-ture
 world's Re-deem-er, first re-vealed his
 earth be-si-lent, ev-ery voice in
 and do-min-ion, and e-ter-nal

years shall see, ev-er-more and ev-er-more!
 sa-cred face, ev-er-more and ev-er-more!
 con-cert ring, ev-er-more and ev-er-more!
 vic-to-ry, ev-er-more and ev-er-more!

The Second Lesson: Isaiah 11:1-9*The peace that Christ will bring is foretold.*

A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots. The spirit of the Lord shall rest on him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord. His delight shall be in the fear of the Lord. He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide by what his ears hear; but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth. The wolf shall live with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the kid, the calf and the lion and the fatling together, and a little child shall lead them. The cow and the bear shall graze, their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den. They will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain; for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea.

The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

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 Third Lesson: Luke 1:26-38*The angel Gabriel salutes the blessed Virgin Mary.*

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you." But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him 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 ancestor David. He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?" The angel said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. For nothing will be impossible with God." Then Mary said, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her.

The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**



1 The snow lay on the ground, the stars shone bright,
 2 'Twas Ma - ry, daugh - ter pure of ho - ly Anne,
 3 Saint Jo - seph, too, was by to tend the child;
 4 And thus that man - ger poor be - came a throne;



when Christ our Lord was born On Christ - mas night. Ve -
 that brought in - to this world the God made man. She
 to guard him, and pro - tect his mo - ther mild; the
 for he whom Ma - ry bore was God the Son. O



ni - te a - do - re - mus Do - mi - num. Ve -
 laid him in a stall at Beth - le - hem; the
 an - gels hov - ered round, and sang this song, Ve -
 come, then, let us join the heaven - ly host, to



ni - te a - do - re - mus Do - mi - num.
 ass and ox - en shared the roof with them.
 ni - te a - do - re - mus Do - mi - num. Ve -
 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.

The Fourth Lesson: Luke 2:1-7

Jesus is born in Bethlehem.

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

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 throng - 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.


The Fifth Lesson: Luke 2:8-20*The shepherds go to the manger.*

In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!" When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us." So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Introduction



1 On this day earth shall ring
 2 His the doom, ours the mirth;
 3 God's bright star, o'er his head,
 4 On this day an - gels sing;

with the song chil - dren sing to the Lord, Christ our King,
 when he came down to earth Beth - le - hem' saw his birth;
 Wise Men three to him led; kneel they low by his bed;
 with their song earth shall ring, prais - ing Christ, hea - ven's King,

born on earth to save us; him the Fa - ther gave us.
 ox and ass be - side him from the cold would hide him.
 lay their gifts be - fore him, praise him and a - dore him.
 born on earth to save us; peace and love he gave us.

Refrain

Id - e - o - o - o, Id - e - o - o - o,

Id - e - o glo - ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o!

The Sixth Lesson: John 1:1-14 (standing)*St. John unfolds the mystery of the Incarnation.**Assisting Priest:* The Holy Gospel of our Lord 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.

The Gospel of the Lord.

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

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 and
 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

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,

The Prayers of the People *(standing or kneeling)*

Officiant: Let us pray to God, who came among us in the birth of Jesus:

Intercessor: Gracious God, as a star rose, and drew people from great distances to Bethlehem that they might greet the Christ-child; Draw us, your Church, and all of your people to you – that we might be the Church and the People who you call us to be. ***Lord, in your mercy, Hear our prayer.***

As you gave Mary your Holy Spirit, filling her with the delight of your Presence; Fill us with your Spirit, and renew our lives. ***Lord, in your mercy, Hear our prayer.***

As Gentiles streamed to Jesus' Light, and Kings to the brightness of his rising; Draw our nation, our President, and all in authority, to His brightness. ***Lord, in your mercy, Hear our prayer.***

As angels sang 'glorias' to you and proclaimed peace on earth, and goodwill among all peoples; Bring us your peace, and bring an end to and terror and strife. ***Lord, in your mercy, Hear our prayer.***

As shepherds were drawn away from their flocks by night; Draw those who do not know you yet to the knowledge and love of you. ***Lord, in your mercy, Hear our prayer.***

As Jesus was born in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn; Be especially present with those who have no where to lay their head, those who are vulnerable, and those who are hungry. And for the poor, sick, and those who are in trouble. ***Lord, in your mercy, Hear our prayer.***

As the Holy Family gathered together in Bethlehem, and traveled together to far off lands; Bless all families, especially the families of our parish, and protect those who travel. ***Lord, in your mercy, Hear our prayer.***

As your son came to proclaim the forgiveness of sins, and the gift of Life Eternal; Let us pray especially for those who have died this week in service to their country and those who have perished in war-torn areas of the world. Give to the departed eternal rest and let Light perpetual shine on them. ***Lord, in your mercy, Hear our prayer.***

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.

Celebrant: O Lord our God, may the Light and Hope of this season, and of your Son's Incarnation, reassure our hearts that you are among us, that you hear our prayer, and that you will be with us always, even to the end of the age. In the name of Jesus of Nazareth we pray. ***Amen.***

The Assisting Priest 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 Absolution

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 (*standing*)

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

People: And also with you.

Then the Ministers and People may greet one another in the name of the Lord.

The Holy Communion

The Offertory

“In Dulci Jubilo”

arr. Dale Wood

The Presentation:

“The first Nowell the angel did say”

The First Nowell

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

The Great Thanksgiving, Eucharistic Prayer B (*standing*)

Celebrant: The Lord 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 him thanks and praise.**

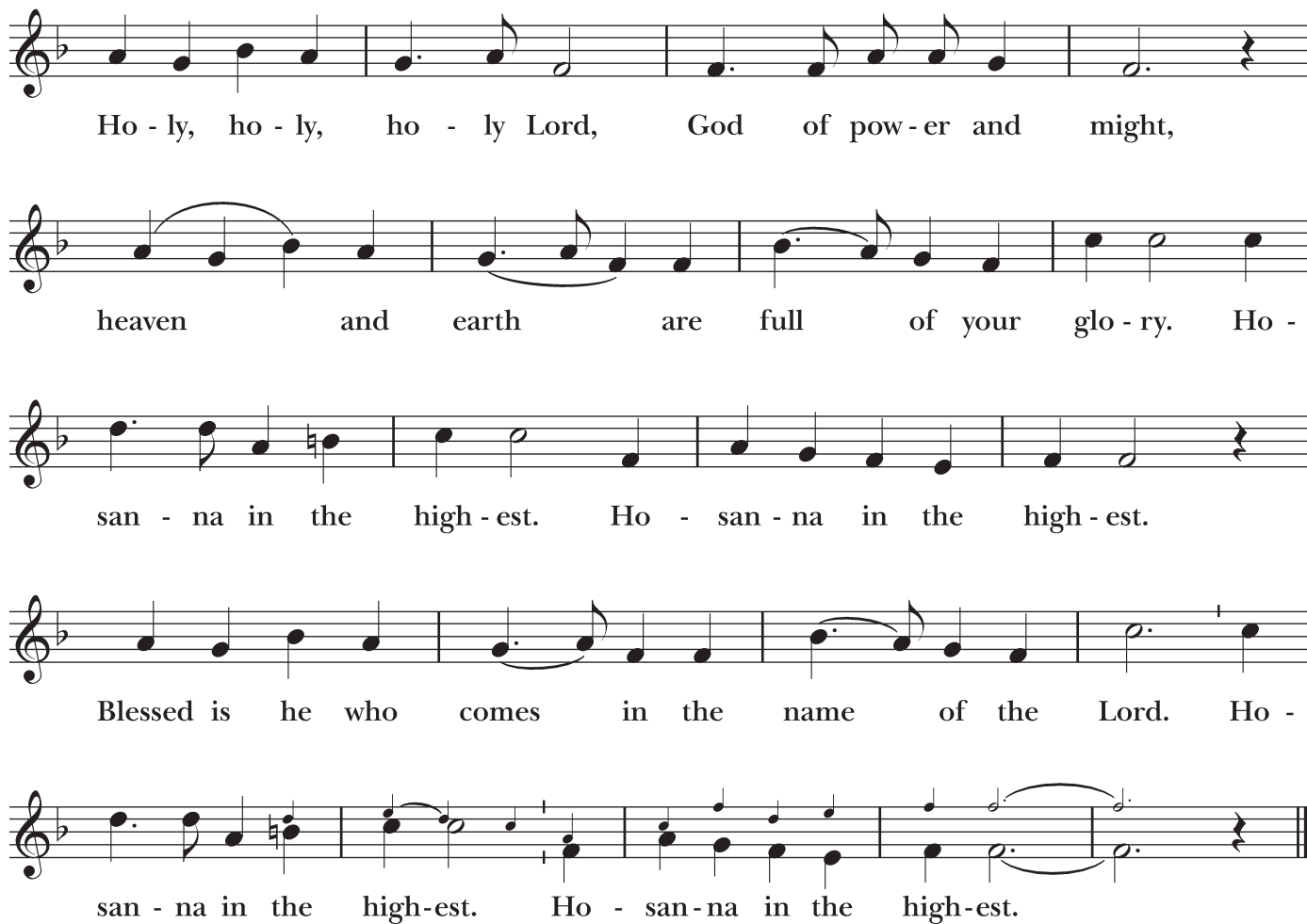
Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds
It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere
to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of
heaven and earth.

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 and Benedictus (Holy, holy, holy, Lord)

Richard Proulx



The musical score is written on five staves in a single system. The key signature has one flat (B-flat), and the time signature is common time (C). The melody is written on a single treble clef staff. The lyrics are written below the staff, aligned with the notes. The first line of music corresponds to the lyrics 'Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might,'. The second line corresponds to 'heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -'. The third line corresponds to 'san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.'. The fourth line corresponds to 'Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -'. The fifth line corresponds to 'san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.'. The score ends with a double bar line.

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.

Then 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 Blessed John the Evangelist 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,

The Lord's Prayer

*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

Fraction Anthem: S155

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

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

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

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

Communion of the People

The Celebrant says,

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.

Carols during the Ministration of Communion (*all singing*)

Hymn 115

“What child is this”

Greensleeves

Unison or harmony

1 What child is this, who, laid to rest, on
 2 Why lies he in such mean es - tate where
 3 So bring him in - cense, gold, and myrrh, come,

Ma - ry's lap is sleep - ing? Whom an - gels greet with
 ox and ass are feed - ing? Good Chris - tian, fear: for
 peas - ant, king, to own him; the King of kings sal -

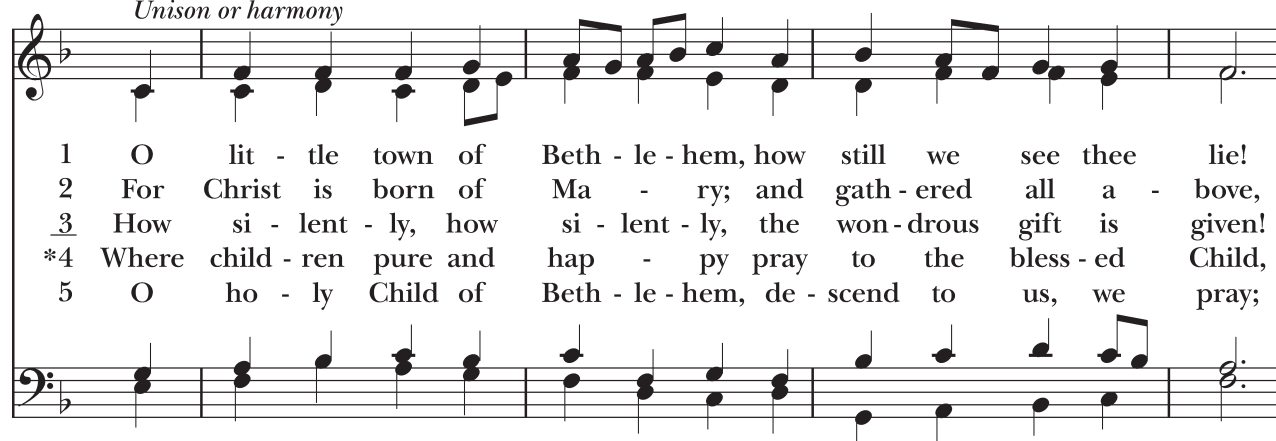
an - thems sweet, while shep - herds watch are keep - ing?
 sin - ners here the si - lent Word is plead - ing.
 va - tion brings, let lov - ing hearts en - throne him.

Refrain

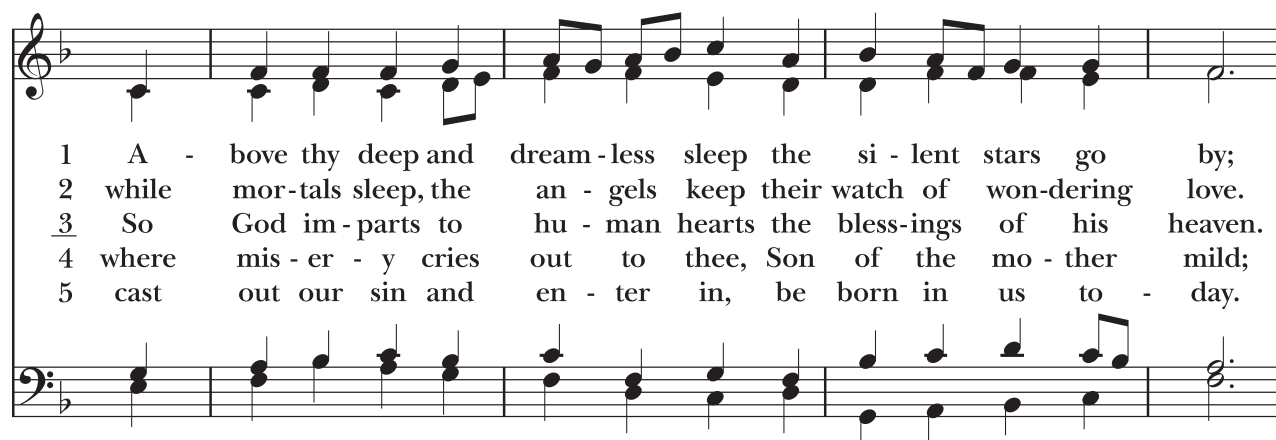
This, this is Christ the King, whom shep - herds

guard and an - gels sing; haste, haste to

bring him laud, the babe, the son of Ma - ry.

Unison or harmony


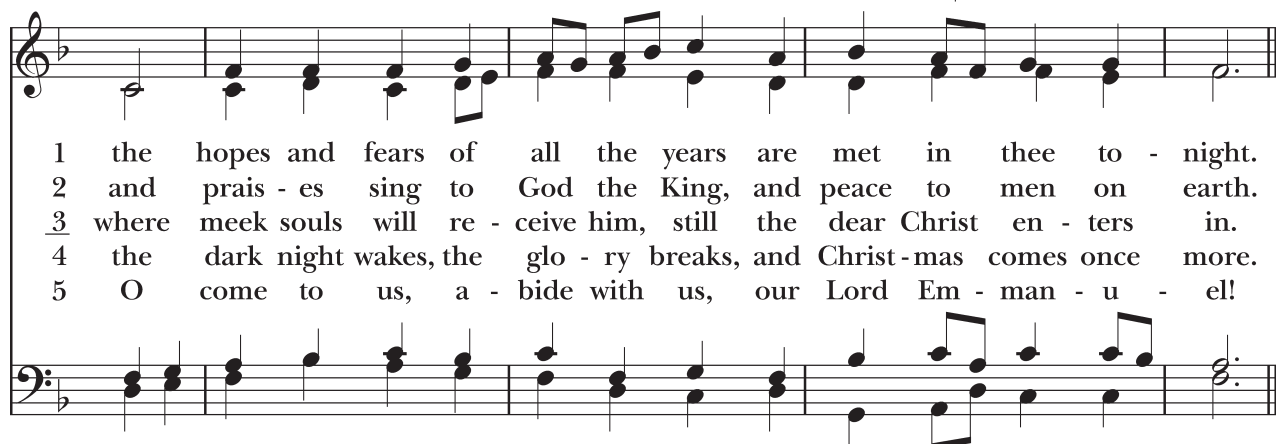
1 O lit - tle town of Beth - le - hem, how still we see thee lie!
 2 For Christ is born of Ma - ry; and gath - ered all a - bove,
3 How si - lent - ly, how si - lent - ly, the won - drous gift is given!
 *4 Where child - ren pure and hap - py pray to the bless - ed Child,
 5 O ho - ly Child of Beth - le - hem, de - scend to us, we pray;



1 A - bove thy deep and dream - less sleep the si - lent stars go by;
 2 while mor - tals sleep, the an - gels keep their watch of won - dering love.
3 So God im - parts to hu - man hearts the bless - ings of his heaven.
 4 where mis - er - y cries out to thee, Son of the mo - ther mild;
 5 cast out our sin and en - ter in, be born in us to - day.



1 yet in thy dark streets shin - eth the ev - er - last - ing Light;
 2 O morn - ing stars, to - geth - er pro - claim the ho - ly birth!
3 No ear may hear his com - ing, but in this world of sin,
 4 where char - i - ty stands watch - ing and faith holds wide the door,
 5 We hear the Christ - mas an - gels the great glad tid - ings tell;



1 the hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee to - night.
 2 and prais - es sing to God the King, and peace to men on earth.
3 where meek souls will re - ceive him, still the dear Christ en - ters in.
 4 the dark night wakes, the glo - ry breaks, and Christ - mas comes once more.
 5 O come to us, a - bide with us, our Lord Em - man - u - el!

Postcommunion Prayer

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Celebrant and People

***Almighty and everliving God,
we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food
of the most precious Body and Blood
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ;
and for assuring us in these holy mysteries
that we are living members of the Body of your Son,
and heirs of your eternal kingdom.
And now, Father, send us out
to do the work you have given us to do,
to love and serve you
as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord.
To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit,
be honor and glory, now and for ever.***

The Blessing

The Procession: Hymn 105

“God rest you merry, gentlemen”

God Rest You Merry

1 God rest you mer - ry, gen - tle - men, let noth - ing you dis - may;
2 From God our heaven - ly Fa - ther a bless - ed an - gel came
3 “Fear not, then,” said the an - gel, “Let noth - ing you af - fright;
4 Now to the Lord sing prais - es, all you with - in this place,

re - mem - ber Christ our Sa - vior was born on Christ - mas Day,
and un - to cer - tain shep - herds brought tid - ings of the same:
this day is born a Sa - vior of a pure vir - gin bright,
and with true love and char - i - ty each o - ther now em - brace;

to save us all from Sa - tan’s power when we were gone a - stray.
how that in Beth - le - hem was born the Son of God by name.
to free all those who trust in him from Sa - tan’s power and might.”
this ho - ly tide of Christ - mas doth bring re - deem - ing grace.

Refrain
O tid - ings of com - fort and joy, com - fort and
joy; O tid - ings of com - fort and joy!

The Dismissal *(standing)*

Assisting Priest: Alleluia, alleluia. Let us go forth into the world rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.

People: ***Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.***

Postlude

“Joy to the World”

arr. Norman Johnson

Parishioners are invited to take home a poinsettia after the service.

Serving at 10:00 a.m.

Lector: Anne Tiffany **Intercessor:** Kaitlin Jackson **Chalice Bearers:** Heidi Anne Mesmer, Sharon Wrenn **Torchbearers:** Ezra Olson, Eve Heletz **Crucifer:** Isaac Olson **Jr. Crucifer:** Maggie Hutchens **Gospel Book Bearer:** Abigail Heletz **Verger:** John Merten **Beadle:** Ben Jenkins **Greeter:** Kathleen Jackson **Ushers:** Team 10.2: John Parrott **Altar Guild:** Team 3: Cathy Creekmore, Kathleen Tate

Remembered in our Prayers, Suffering in Mind, Body or Spirit

Joan Berlin
Pat and Linda Caldwell
Teresa Calhoun
Drew Dill
Bill and Dana England
Richard Fife
Ginny George
John and Julie Grove
Deano Harris
Karin Howard
David Hurley
Margaret Jackson
Tom Jackson, Jr.
Jim Johnson

Jane Kelly
Arlie Lively
William Howard McLarin
Amanda Obenchain
Kate Pyritz
Benjamin Sexton
Joan Smith
Kristina Smith
Reggie Wood
Donna
Doug
Jennie and Max
Lynne

On the Anniversary of Their Deaths

Robert Davidson Saul, Jr.
Edwin Moir Wilson
Edmund Pendleton Goodwin
Arthur Scrivenor, Jr.
Martha Holmes Beasley
Constance Wells

Alfred Benson Geer
Susan Jean Gurley
Pauline Barlett Ilyus
Laura Nicholson Scatchard
Marion Bradley Via

We invite you to call the Parish Office (343-9341) with your requests for names to be listed in the Sunday bulletin. We pray on four Sundays for each person and you are welcome to call again and request additional four-Sunday periods of prayer. If you ask us, we will pass your prayer request to our intercessory prayer group (parishioners who pray daily on behalf of others).

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

The December Challenge

An anonymous parishioner has promised to match any contributions to the Community Engagement Fund made in the month of December, up to \$20,000. Please help us meet this match. Your generosity makes a difference in the life of our neighbors. A donation envelope is included in the December *Record*.

Adult Education: The Gospel of Luke

Led by the Rev. Tray Light, January 5, 9 a.m., Parish Hall

The liturgical Church recently began Year C in its three-year church cycle. During Year C, our gospel readings come mainly from the Gospel of Luke. In this class we will review the broad themes of the third gospel, and we will identify what makes it different from our other three gospels. We will learn about its authorship and the historical context within which it was written, as well as review some of Jesus's parables found within it and not the other gospels.

Adult Education: Prophetic Voices: A Vision of What Could Be

Led by St. John's Clergy,, January 12, 19, 26, 9 a.m., Parish Hall

Prophets are not soothsayers, as often believed, but people who envision the world as God intends it, and powerfully share their vision for the world with others. For them, the world as it is, our real world, is not as it should be. Often in the face of opposition, prophets boldly share with us the message that God will upturn the world as it is to provide us all something beautifully different. Please join us for this 3-week class as we hear from three modern prophets, Dietrich Bonhoeffer, Martin Luther King Jr, and Flemming Rutledge, and take the time to discuss the implications of their prophetic messages for our lives today.

Women at the Well

January 14, February 11, March 11, April 8, May 13, 6-7:30 p.m., Gathering Area

Please join us at 6 p.m. for potluck and fellowship. If interested in childcare, please contact the parish office at 343-9341. For more information contact Stace Todd at shrck013@gmail.com.

St. John's Book Club

The St. John's Book Club will meet the first Thursday at 6:30 p.m. in the conference room to discuss each book. All are welcome.

January 2: *The Man Who Died Twice* by Richard Osman

February 6: *Rules of Civility* by Amor Towles

March 6: *Brooklyn* by Colm Toibin

Contact the Rev. Mary Mackin mkruetten@gmail.com for more information.

CLERGY

The Rev. Eric Long, Rector
The Rev. David Olson, Senior Associate Rector
The Rev. Tray Light, Associate Rector

STAFF

Christine Oiler, Minister for Children, Families, and Lifelong Formation
Michael R. Milam, Minister of Music
Lisa Cayse, Minister for Parish Administration
Joel Benson, Financial Controller
Kristi L. Brown, Rector's Secretary
Evan Hines, Communications Coordinator
Robert V. Butler, Sexton
Teresa Kemper, Custodial Supervisor
Griffin Pivarunas, Gathering Band Leader
Ani Silva-Berrios, Children's Music Associate
Cyndi Fletcher, Wedding Director
Crystal Gills-Fernatt, Child Care Coordinator

VESTRY

Kathleen Jackson, Sr. Warden, Tom Schroeder, Jr. Warden,
Hansford Leake, Treasurer, Wayles Dandridge, Assistant Treasurer,
Stephen Belderes, Clerk, Alison Blanton, Jennifer Casteel,
Laura Hale, Bill H'Doubler, Jacob Jackson, Paul Jenkins, Lydia Leake,
Carrie O'Keeffe, Clair Spencer, Jeremiah Walker

COMMUNITY YOUTH PROGRAM STAFF

Jackie Smith, Executive Director
Beth Reedy, Program Coordinator



St. John's Episcopal Church

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Facebook: facebook.com/stjohnsroanoke
Instagram: @StJohnsRoanoke

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