

Sunday December 24, 2025 8:00 pm
Christmas Eve

We're so pleased that you've come to worship with us this morning. While this bulletin is a guide to the service, if you are unfamiliar with the ritual customs of the Anglican Church, simply relax with the liturgy and let the rest of the congregation carry you in worship. After the service please join us downstairs for coffee, tea, and juice.

(Congregational participation in **BOLD**)

Greeting/Land Acknowledgement

HYMN # 118 O Come All Ye Faithful
(Blue Book)

We gather together in this place:
prophets and dreamers, singers and poets,
we who dare to imagine a world renewed;
we who dare to dream God's dream.
We ponder with Mary;
we marvel at Christ's birth.
God comes to us, a vulnerable child—
heaven and earth, meeting in a manger.
The angels sing, the shepherds dance.
We treasure these things in our hearts.

Come and worship, all you who dream and imagine.
We have come to wonder and praise.

Collect
God of the vulnerable,
you come to us in ways that defy expectation:
as a fragile baby, not a trampling warrior;
birthed in a stable, not a palace;
born in the quiet stillness of night.
Teach us to look for you in the tender things.
Make our hearts soft and our spirits generous,
living the way of Christ, born to us this night. **Amen.**

Candle Lighting
The birth of Jesus has been told and retold a thousand times and in a thousand ways.
Its impact cannot be contained in any one perspective.
But who is telling the story changes how we hear it, how we imagine it, how we experience it.

Close your eyes for a moment and imagine:….
…. Our world is not what it should be, but with Jesus, we have hope that one day it will be.

We light the candle of Hope
because hope creates a path for a new, unknown story to unfold.
Light the first candle.

We light the candle of Peace
because peace requires us to pay attention to the needs of others.
Light the second candle

We light the candle of Joy
because joy sustains us when things are uncertain.
Light the pink candle

We light the candle of love
because love makes impossible things possible.
Light the fourth candle

We light the Christ Candle
Because Christ lights the way through the darkness.
Give us the will to dream, oh God. May all be true in your name.
Light the centre Christ candle

Thank you to Rebecca and Nathan for lighting the candles this evening

First Reading: Isaiah 9: 2-7
Reader: Phyllis Hawley
Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church
Thanks be to God

Choir Anthem: In Bethlehem by Dan Forrest

The Christmas Reading from the Gospel of Luke
Luke 2: 1-20 - *Nathan*

Mary Narrative – *Beckie Grant*

The Homily – *The Rev Dr. Jane Rowland*

The Prayers of the People
Response:
Be born again, Lord Jesus
in us and in our world.

The Peace

OFFERTORY HYMN # 122 In the Bleak Midwinter
(*Blue Book)*

Prayer over the Gifts

Invitation to the Table

Eucharistic Prayer
Celebrant: God be with you.
People: And also with you
Celebrant: Lift up your fears, your hopes, your dreams.
People: We lift them up to God.
Celebrant: Let us give thanks to our generous, imaginative God.
People: It is right to offer thanks and praise

Celebrant: God of Mary, Joseph, Zechariah, and Elizabeth, ….
… join their unending hymn.

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord; God of pow'r and might;
Heav'n and earth of your glory are full.
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest x2

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord
Blessed is he who comes in the names of the Lord.

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord; God of pow'r and might;
Heav'n and earth of your glory are full.
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest

Celebrant: Holy are you, and blessed is your name. …
…mystery of our faith.

Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

Celebrant: Send your Spirit upon us and our feast, …
…now and forever.

Amen, Amen, Amen.

Lord's Prayer
Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial,
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and for ever. Amen.

Breaking of the Bread
We break the Bread of Life
And that life is the light of the world
God here among us,
Light in the midst of us,
Bring us to light and life.

The gifts of God for the people of God
Thanks be to God

Chant # 126 Away in a Manger *(Blue Book)*

THE COMMUNION

HYMN # 148 See Amid the Winter's Snow
(Blue Book)

Angels We Have Heard on High

Angels We have heard on high
Sweetly singing o'er the plains
And the mountains in reply,
Echoing their joyous strains.
Gloria in excelsis Deo!

Shepherds why this jubilee?
Why your joyous strains prolong?
What the gladsome tidings be,
Which inspire your heavenly song?
Gloria in excelsis Deo!

Come to Bethlehem and see
Christ whose birth the angels sing;
Come adore on bended knee
Christ, the Lord, the newborn King.
Gloria in excelsis Deo!

See him in a manger laid,
Whom the choirs of angels praise,
Mary, Joseph, lend your aid
While our hearts in love we raise.
Gloria in excelsis Deo!

The Prayer after Communion

Announcements

The Dismissal

Remember, siblings in Christ, the journey of Advent…
…no matter what comes next.

Receive the light of Christ, born this day for the liberation
and peace of the whole world.

HYMN # 119 Silent Night
(Blue Book)