

Christmas Eve

Good Shepherd Episcopal Church

Christmas Eve Family Service
4:00 P.M. Holy Eucharist Rite II
December 24, 2023



Voluntary:

Good Christian friend, rejoice
Moderato from *Fourth Concerto*
O come, all ye faithful

Paul Manz
J.S. Bach
David Hegarty

Welcome

(An acolyte lights the Christ Candle)

Celebrant: Let us Pray.

Almighty God—you have made this night holy by the gift of your son, born of the Holy Spirit and of Mary. Upon him rested all your grace, through him has come all your mercy. Let this light shine within our hearts tonight—even more brightly than it shines from the candles in this place. Help us to hear your word and to celebrate your everlasting love through him.

People: Amen.



Please stand

Processional Hymn 83, St. 1, 3 & 6: O come, all ye faithful (ADESTE FIDELES)

Oh come, all ye faithful,
joyful and triumphant,

O'come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;
come, and behold him,
born the King of angels;
*O come, let us adore him; O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him, Christ, the Lord.*

Sing, choirs of angels,
sing in exultation,
sing, all ye citizens
of heaven above;
glory to God, glory in the highest;
*O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him, Christ, the Lord.*

Yea, Lord, we greet thee,
born this happy morning;
Jesus, to thee be glory given;
Word of the Father,
now in flesh appearing;
*O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him, Christ, the Lord.*

The Word of God

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

People: And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

Song of Praise 96, Stanza 1,3 &4: *Angels we have heard on high* (GLORIA)

Angels we have heard on high, singing sweetly through the night,
and the mountains in reply echoing their brave delight.

Refrain: Gloria in excelsis Deo.

Gloria in excelsis Deo.

Come to Bethlehem and see him whose birth the angels sing;
come, adore on bended knee Christ, the Lord, the newborn King. **R**

See him in a manger laid whom the angels praise above;
Mary, Joseph, lend your aid, while we raise our hearts in love. **R**

The Collect of the Day

BCP 212

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Celebrant: 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.

People: Amen.

The Lessons

Please be seated

Reader: A Reading from the Book of Isaiah
Isaiah 9:2-7

Pew Bible, page 627

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.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Hymn 99: *Go, tell it on the mountain* (GO TELL IT ON THE MOUNTAIN)

Refrain:

Go, tell it on the mountain,
over the hills and everywhere;
go, tell it on the mountain
that Jesus Christ is born!

1. While shepherds kept their watching
o'er silent flocks by night,
behold, throughout the heavens
there shone a holy light. (*Refrain*)
2. The shepherds feared and trembled
when lo! above the earth
rang out the angel chorus
that hailed our Savior's birth. (*Refrain*)
3. Down in a lowly manger
the humble Christ was born,
and God sent us salvation
that blessed Christmas morn. (*Refrain*),

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

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Luke 2:1-20

Pew Bible 1203

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.

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.

Celebrant: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Sermon: The Rev. William T. Richter

Please be seated

The Nicene Creed

Please stand

People:

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.

Prayers of the People

Leader:

As we join the angels and celebrate with joy the birth of the Son of God, let us offer prayers to God who gives new birth to sons and daughters in every place.

Leader:

By the birth of the timeless Son of God in the womb of the Virgin Mary.

Glory and praise to you, O living God.

For Andy our bishop and the presbyters, for the deacons and all who minister in Christ, and for all the holy people of God.

Glory and praise to you, O living God.

For all believers who put their trust in the incarnate Son of God.

Glory and praise to you, O living God.

For the leaders of the nations and all in authority, and for peace and justice.

Glory and praise to you, O living God.

For travelers, for the sick and the suffering, for the hungry and the oppressed, for those in prison, and for the dying and the dead.

Glory and praise to you, O living God.

For our deliverance from all affliction, strife, and need.

Glory and praise to you, O living God.

Remembering our most glorious and blessed Virgin Mary and all the saints, let us offer ourselves and one another to the living God through Christ.

To you, O Lord.

Leader:

Source of light and gladness, accept the prayers we offer on this joyful feast. May we grow in Jesus Christ who unites our lives to yours and who is Lord for all eternity; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Celebrant concludes with the following Collect:

O God, who wonderfully created, and yet more wonderfully restored, the dignity of human nature: Grant that we may share the divine life of him who humbled himself to share our humanity, your Son Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

The Peace

Celebrant: To us a child is born, to us a child is given, and his name shall be called the Prince of Peace.

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

People: And also with you.

Offertory Sentence

Please be seated

Celebrant: 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.

Luke 2:10-11

Anthem: *Ding dong! Merrily on high*
Quartet

Gwilym Beechey

Ding dong! merrily on high
In heav'n the bells are ringing:
Ding dong! verily the sky
Is riv'n with Angel singing.

Gloria,
Hosanna in excelsis!

E'en so here below, below,
Let steeple bells be swungen,
And "Io, io, io!"
By priest and people sungen.

Pray you, dutifully prime
Your matin chime, ye ringers;
May you beautifully rime
Your evetime song, ye singers.

Please stand

Presentation Hymn 87: *Hark! the herald angels sing* (MENDELSSOHN)

Hark! the herald angels sing
Glory to the newborn King!
Peace on earth and mercy mild.
God and sinners reconciled!
Joyful all ye nations, rise,
Join the triumphs of the skies;
With th'angelic host proclaim
Christ is born in Bethlehem!
Hark! the herald angels sing
Glory to the newborn King!

The Great Thanksgiving

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.**

Celebrant: 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 forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your name.

Sanctus – (American Folk melody – *Land of Rest*)

Holy, holy, holy Lord. God of power and might,
Heaven and earth are full, full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

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

Hosanna in the highest.

Please kneel as you are able.

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 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.**

The Lord's Prayer

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

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

Celebrant: Alleluia. Glory to God in the highest:

People: **and peace to his people on earth. Alleluia.**

(All baptized Christians are welcomed and encouraged to receive the Sacrament of Holy Communion. If you need to receive communion at your pew, please notify an usher. All others are invited to come forward and receive a blessing.)

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.

Distribution of Communion

Communion Music:

Anthem: *Carol of the Drum* arr. Tracy Shirk

Come they told me, pa rum pum pum pum,
a new born King to see, pa rum pum pum pum.
Our finest gifts we bring, pa rum pum pum pum,
to lay before the King, pa rum pum pum pum,
so to honor Him, pa rum pum pum pum,
when we come.

Silent night, holy night,
Son of God, love's pure light
radiant beams from thy holy face,
with the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord, at thy birth.
Jesus, Lord, at thy birth.

Post Communion Prayer

Please stand

Celebrant: Let us pray

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.

Christmas Blessing

Celebrant: May Almighty God, who sent his Son to take our nature upon him, bless you in this holy season, scatter the darkness of sin, and brighten your heart with the light of his holiness.

Amen.

May God, who sent his angels to proclaim the glad news of the Savior's birth, fill you with joy, and make you heralds of the Gospel.

Amen.

May God, who in the Word made flesh joined heaven to earth and earth to heaven, give you his peace and favor.

Amen.

And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever. **Amen.**

Hymn 100, Joy to the world! (ANTIOCH) Stanzas 1, 2, 4

Joy to the world! the Lord is come:
let earth receive her King;
let every heart prepare him room,
and heaven and nature sing. (repeat 3 times)

Joy to the world! the Savior reigns;
let us our songs employ,
while fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains,
repeat the sounding joy. (repeat 3 times)

He rules the world with truth and grace,
and makes the nations prove
the glories of his righteousness,
and wonders of his love. (repeat 3 times)

The Dismissal

Celebrant: Let us go forth into the world rejoicing in the power of the spirit.
Alleluia, Alleluia.

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

Voluntary: *Carillon* *Henri Mulet*

Leading today's music

Joseph Painter, organist/choirmaster

Danny East, guitar

Quartet

Danny East, Shamiyah Henry, Joel Mondejar and Anna Zhang

*Wishes for a Very Merry & Blessed Christmas
from the Staff of Good Shepherd Episcopal Church*

December 25

10:00 a.m. Christmas Day Holy Communion Service



Poinsettia Dedications



Memory of

Nicole DuBois

Harry G. Satterwhite

Judy Johle

Jennifer Johle

Walter & Sophie Johle

Bill & Aileen Sheehy

Alan Potok

Stetson Hack

Bob Little (AKA Grandpa)

Sue Hamill

Son, Brother, Parents

My Parents

Walter Berends

Phyllis & Jean Sizer

James, Ruth & Alison Coffey

Kathy Kincaid

Joane Verttoeve & Ruth Van Pelt

Dan & Hazel Johnson

Ed Bush

The Lights & The Kings

Our Beloved Parents

Given By

Jake & Maria Listvan

The Satterwhite Family

Dick Johle

Dick Johle

Dick Johle

Dick Johle

The Potok Family

The Hack Family

The Little Family

Peggy & Martin Booth

Anne Gilbert

Dale Berends

Dale Berends

The Sizer Family

The Sizer Family

Autumn & Donald Hawes

Linda Safranek

Christa Elliott

Karen Bush

Martin & Judith Light

Bill & Marilyn Knapp



Poinsettia Dedications



In Memory of

Mr. & Mrs. Bill Maynard

Mr. & Mrs. William Rood

In Thanksgiving for

The life of Don Hawes

Richard & Gail Clayden

Bud "Papa" Curell's 90th Birthday

Husband Bob Brink

Our Incredible children & amazing grandchildren

Our Family

Gift of Jesus

Our family & friends

Patrick, Asher, Sylvia & Avery

Our Family

Our children & grandchildren

Bud Currell's 90th Birthday

Family & Friends living & departed

Matthew, Harriet, Kensington, Paxton & Emmerson

Family & Friends

Good Shepherd Episcopal Church

In Honor Of

Bill & Kipp Richter

Given By

John & Brenda Rood

John & Brenda Rood

Given By

The Hawes Family

The Little Family

The Currell Family

Janet Brink

Susan & Ken MacHugh

Elena & Vernon Massey

Virginia "Ginny" Thomson

Jim & Jan Sizer

Bobby & Teri Watson

Randy & Carol Sutton

Valerie & Harry McMullen

Karen Bush

Paul & Wendy Brinsden

Sandie Johnson

John & Carol Thomas

Rodriguez Family

James Richter & Walter Lindsey



**MERRY
CHRISTMAS**

— ✦ —
Celebrate His Birth



Good Shepherd Episcopal Church
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281- 358-3154

Goodshepherdkingwood.org

Rector—The Rev. William T. Richter, Jr.

Curate—The Rev. Celeste Geldreich

Director of Music Ministries—Joseph Painter