

CHRISTMAS DAY



DECEMBER 25, 2020

10:30 A.M.

ST. JAMES PARISH

THE HOLY EUCHARIST RITE II

Christmas Prelude Music

Welcome and Announcements

THE WORD OF GOD

Opening Hymn *(Sung by the soloist; the congregation is invited to listen)*

O 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; *Refrain*

Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning;
Jesus, to thee be glory given;
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing; *Refrain*

Opening Acclamation

Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
And blessed be his kingdom, now and forever. 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.**

Song of Praise *(Sung by the soloist; the congregation is invited to listen)*

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

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

The Collect of the Day

O God, you make us glad by the yearly festival of the birth of your only Son Jesus Christ: Grant that we, who joyfully receive him as our Redeemer, may with sure confidence behold him when he comes to be our Judge; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Lessons

The First Reading

Isaiah 9:2-4, 6-7

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 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.
Thanks be to God.

Solo

Puer nobis nascitur

Unto us a boy is born! The King of all creation,
came he to a world forlorn, the Lord of every nation.

Cradled in a stall was he with sleepy cows and asses;
but the very beasts could see that he all men surpasses.

Now may Mary's son, who came so long ago to love us,
lead us all with hearts aflame unto the joys above us.

Unto us a boy is born! The King of all creation,
came he to a world forlorn, the Lord of every nation.

The Second Reading

Titus 2:11–14

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.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

The Holy Gospel

Luke 2:1–14

Priest 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 Saviour, 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.

Priest The Gospel of the Lord.
People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

In the bleak mid-winter, frosty wind made moan,
 earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone;
 snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow,
 in the bleak midwinter long ago.

Our God, heaven cannot hold him, nor earth sustain;
 heaven and earth shall flee away, when he comes to reign:
 in the bleak midwinter, a stable place sufficed
 the Lord God incarnate, Jesus Christ.

Angels and arch-angels may have gathered there,
 cherubim and seraphim thronged the air;
 but his mother only, in her maiden bliss,
 worshiped the beloved with a kiss

What can I give him, poor as I am?
 If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb;
 If I were a wise man, I would do my part;
 yet what I can I give him, give my heart.

Christina Rossetti

The Homily

The Reverend Pierce Klemmt

The Nicene Creed

Officiant and People together

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

The response to each petition:

Lord, in your mercy... **Hear our prayer.**

The Peace

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

THE HOLY COMMUNION

Offertory Solo: "Gesù Bambino" (*Sara Westermarck, soprano*)

Pietro Yon

When blossoms flowered 'mid the snows upon a winter night
Was born the Child the Christmas Rose, The King of Love and Light
The angels sang, the shepherds sang, The grateful earth rejoiced
And at His blessed birth the stars Their exultation voiced.
O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord.

Again the heart with rapture glows to greet the holy night
that gave the world its Christmas Rose, its king of Love and Light
Let ev'ry voice acclaim His name, The grateful chorus swell
From paradise to earth He came that we with Him might dwell
O come let us adore him O come let us adore him
O come let us adore him, Christ the Lord.

Eucharistic Prayer A

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give him thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and every- where 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:

(Celebrant and People)

**Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

Hosanna in the highest.

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

Hosanna in the highest.

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.

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."

(The Eucharistic Prayer continues immediately overleaf.)

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Celebrant and People

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again

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. AMEN.

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

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 Fraction

Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

Therefore let us keep the feast.

The Communion of the People.

Communion Solo: "The Virgin's Slumber Song" (*Sara Westermarck, soprano*)

Max Reger

Amid the roses Mary sits
And rocks her Jesus-child,
While amid the treetops
Sighs the breeze so warm and mild.

And soft and sweetly sings
A bird upon a bough:
Ah, baby, dear one,
Slumber now!

Happy is Thy laughter,
Holy is Thy silent rest,
Lay Thy head in slumber
Fondly on Thy Mother's breast.
Ah, baby, dear one,
Slumber now!

Post-Communion Prayer *(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.

Blessing

Hymn *(Sung by the soloist; the congregation is invited to listen)*

Hark, the herald-angels sing glory to the new-born King!
Peace on earth, and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled.
Joyful, all ye nations, rise, join the triumph of the skies;
with th' angelic host proclaim Christ is born in Bethlehem!
Hark, the herald-angels sing glory to the new-born King!

Christ, by highest heaven adored; Christ, the everlasting Lord;
late in time behold him come, offspring of a Virgin's womb.
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see: hail th' incarnate Deity.
Pleased as man with us to dwell; Jesus, our Emmanuel!
Hark, the herald-angels sing glory to the new-born King!

Mild he lays his glory by, born that we no more may die,
born to raise us from the earth, born to give us second birth.
Ris'n with healing in his wings, light and life to all he brings,
hail the Sun of Righteousness! hail the heaven-born Prince of Peace!
Hark, the herald-angels sing glory to the new-born King.

Dismissal

Let us go forth in the name of Christ.
Thanks be to God.



Celebrants

The Reverend Cheryl Brainard

Preacher

The Reverend Pierce Klemmt

Musicians

John Sullivan, Director of Music

Sara Westermarck, soprano

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