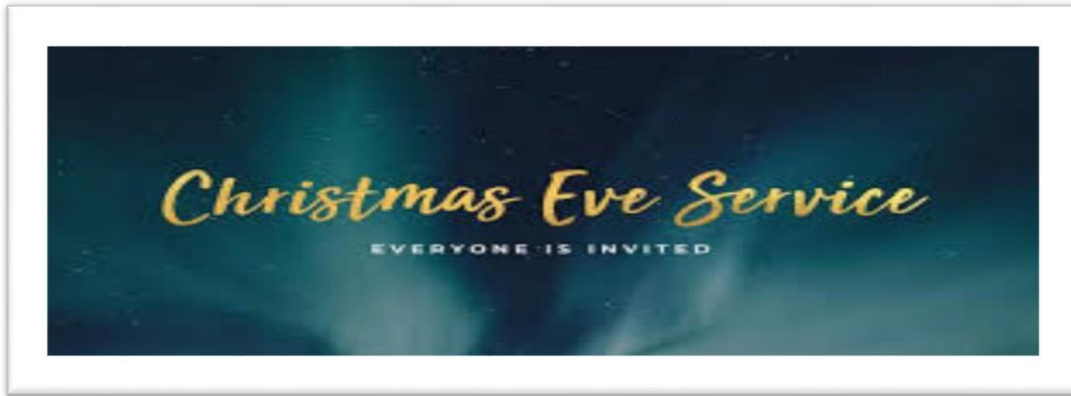


Welcome to CHRIST CHURCH

December 24, 2023—Christmas Eve—5:00 p.m.



A CHILDREN'S LITURGY FOR CHRISTMAS EVE AND HOLY EUCHARIST

PRELUDE

Hymn 83 O Come all ye faithful (vv. 1-3)

Celebrant: Christ the Lord is born this night

People: O come, let us adore him

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: and also with you.

Celebrant: Let us pray

The Collect of the Day

O God, you caused this holy night to shine with the brightness of the true light: Grant that we, who have known the mystery of the 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. *Amen.*

ON THE WAY TO BETHLEHEM

[The congregation seated]

[Background Music: O Little town of Bethlehem]

Story 1 - Setting the Scene

Story 2 - Mary and Joseph Travel

Hymn 101 **Away in a Manger (verse 1 & 2)**

Story 3 - The Birth of Mary's Child

Hymn 109 **The first Noel (verses 1 & 2)**

Story 4 - Shepherds and Angels

Hymn 87 **Hark! The Herald Angels sing (verse 1)**

Story 5 - Visitor Arrive

Hymn 128 **We the Three Kings (verse 1)**

Story 6 - The Star Appear

Hymn 100 **Joy to the World (verse 1 & 2)**

The Concluding Prayer

O God, our loving Father, help us to rightly remember the birth of Jesus, that we may share the songs of the angels and the gladness of the shepherds. May Christmas make us happy to be your children and fill us with grateful hearts, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen*

PEACE

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People *And also with you.*

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The people sit.

HOLY COMMUNION

The Celebrant says

Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God. *Ephesians 5:2*

OFFERTORY HYMN

Away in a manger

HYMNAL 101

1 A - way in a man - ger, no crib for his bed,
2 The cat - tle are low - ing, the ba - by a - wakes,
*3 Be near me, Lord Je - sus; I ask thee to stay

the lit - tle Lord Je - sus laid down his sweet head.
but lit - tle Lord Je - sus no cry - ing he makes.
close by me for ev - er, and love me I pray.

The stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay,
I love thee, Lord Je - sus! Look down from the sky,
Bless all the dear chil - dren in thy ten - der care,

the lit - tle Lord Je - sus a - sleep on the hay.
and stay by my side un - til morn - ing is nigh.
and fit us for hea - ven to live with thee there.

THE DOXOLOGY

Praise God from whom all blessings flow, in ev - ery gen - er - a - tion. Praise
God, all crea - tures here be - low, who gives to us sal - va - tion. Praise
God a - bove, ye heaven - ly host. Praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. Let
all cre - a - tion praise the Lord with love and ad - or - a - tion.

GREAT THANKSGIVING—EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER B

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.

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.

Here a Proper Preface is sung or said on all Sundays, and on other occasions as appointed.

And now we give you thanks because in his earthly childhood you entrusted him to the care of a human family. In Mary and Joseph you give us an example of love and devotion to him, and also a pattern of family life. 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

S 130



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and
might, Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord,
God of power and might, hea - ven and earth are
full, full of your glo - ry. Ho -
san - na in the high - est. 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. 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 Mary, Joseph, the shepherds, 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.

The Celebrant then continues

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

BREAKING OF THE BREAD

A period of silence is kept.

*Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia*

The Celebrant says

The Gifts of God for you the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

Communion Norms-- *We welcome our guests this evening. All are welcome at the Lord's table. The people respond after receiving the bread or the wine by saying "Amen." If you prefer not to receive the wine, please cross your arms over your chest. If you do not want to receive communion, you are still welcome to come forward, cross your arms over your chest, and receive a blessing from the priest.*

COMMUNION HYMN

What child is this

HYMNAL 115

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 sal -
peas - ant, king, to him; the King of kings
an - them's 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.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

After Communion, the Celebrant says Let us pray.
Celebrant and People

God our Father, whose Word has come among us in the Holy Child of Bethlehem: may the light of faith illumine our hearts and shine in our words and deeds; through him who is Christ the Lord. Amen.

The people kneel as they are able.

Si - lent night, ho - ly night, all is calm,
Si - lent night, ho - ly night, shep - herds quake
Si - lent night, ho - ly night, Son of God,

all is bright round you vir - gin mo - ther and child.
at the sight, glo - ries stream from hea - ven a - far,
love's pure light ra - diant beams from thy ho - ly face,

Ho - ly in - fant, so ten - der and mild, sleep in hea - ven - ly
heaven - ly hosts— sing al - le - lu - ia; Christ, the Sa - vior, is
with the dawn of re - deem - ing grace, Je - sus, Lord, at thy

peace. Sleep in hea - ven - ly peace.
born! Christ, the Sa - vior, is born!
birth. Je - sus, Lord, at thy birth.

Words: Joseph Mohr (1792-1848); tr. John Freeman Young (1820-1885)
Music: *Silte Nacht*, melody Franz Xaver Gruber (1787-1863); harm. Carl H. Reinecke (1824-1910)

BLESSING FOR CHRISTMAS (Church of England)

The priest blesses the people, saying

May the joy of the angels,
the eagerness of the shepherds,
the perseverance of the wise men,
the obedience of Joseph and Mary,
and the peace of the Christ-child be yours this Christmas;
and the blessing of God Almighty:
+ the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit
be upon you and remain with you always. *Amen.*

100

Christmas

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 -
 feast the ground; he comes to make his bless - ings flow far
 na - tions prove the glo - ries of his right - eous - ness, and

heaven and na - ture sing, and heaven and na - ture
 repeat 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

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.

DISMISSAL

Celebrant
People

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Alleluia, alleluia!
 Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia!

POSTLUDE

Please note that the Parish Office will be closed from December 25th- January 1st.