# THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST

**DECEMBER 24, 2022** 



# Christmas Eve Services

4:00 p.m. & 9:00 p.m.

Christ Church Parish - Kent Island, 830 Romancoke Rd., Stevensville, MD 21666 www.ccpki.org 410-643-5921

# Welcome to Christ Church Parish – Kent Island

# When the Song of the Angels Is Stilled

When the song of the angels is stilled,
When the star in the sky is gone,
When the kings and the princes are home,
When the shepherds are back with their flocks,
The work of Christmas begins:
To find the lost,
To heal the broken,
To feed the hungry,
To release the prisoner,
To rebuild the nations,
To bring peace among people,
To make music in the heart.

Howard Thurman 1899-1981

To some, Christmas Eve seems to be the end of the season. All the decorating, wrapping, and cooking is done. We're finished.

Howard Thurman tells us that Christmas Eve is the Starting Gate, not the Finish Line. The lost, the broken, the hungry, and those in prison await our response. Tonight, we feast. Tomorrow, we are asked to take up the work of rebuilding, bringing peace and making music from the heart. May you find strength and joy in our worship this evening.

Merry Christmas and a Happy, Healthy New Year from the Staff of Christ Church Parish: Fr. Mark, Gary, Brenda, Jane & Bob!



# THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST

# THE HOLY EUCHARIST: RITE TWO

Prelude

"Noel: A la Venue de Noel."
"In Dulci Jubilo"
"Silent Night"
Dave Hasek, organ

Balbastre J. S. Bach arr. Hampton

Welcome

The Very Rev. Mark S. Delcuze

Introit

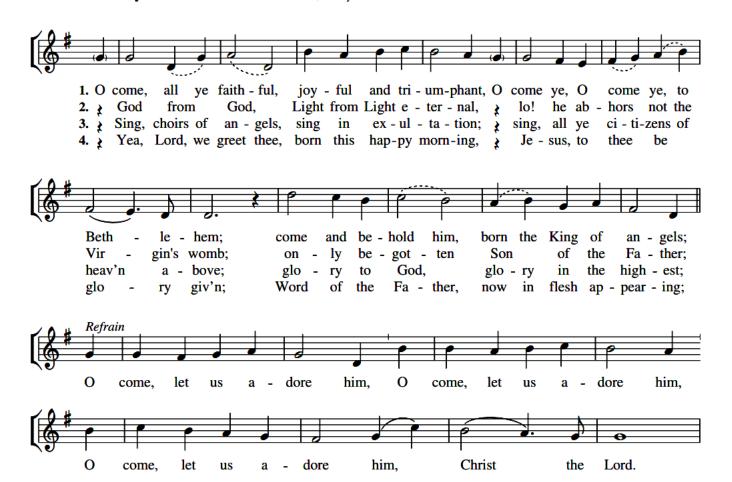
"Hodie Christus natus est" text from the Antiphon to the Magnificat

D. A. White

Hodie Christus natus est: hodie in terra canunt Angeli: Gloria in excelsis Deo, alleluia! Today Christ is born: today the Angels sing: Glory to God in the highest, praise the Lord!

+Processional Hymn

O come, all ye faithful



<sup>+</sup>Please stand as able

#### <sup>+</sup>Opening Sentences

The people remain standing, the Celebrant says

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

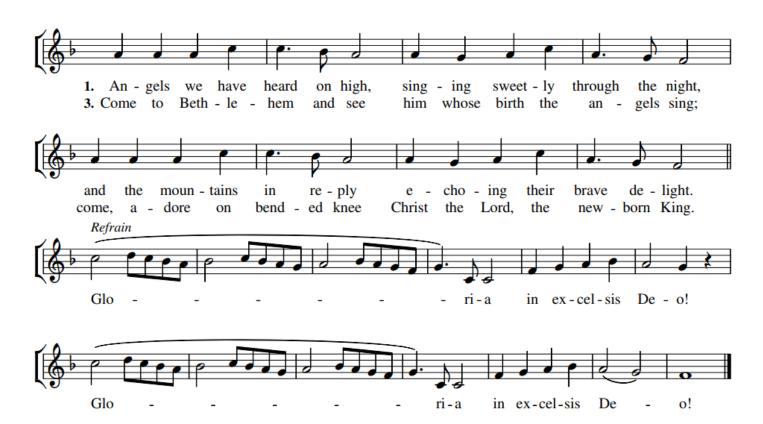
People And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

# +Collect for Purity (said by all)

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.

#### +The Gloria

Angels we have heard on high



# +The Collect of the Day

The Celebrant says to the people

The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Let us pray.

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. **Amen**.

The First Reading Isaiah 9:2-7

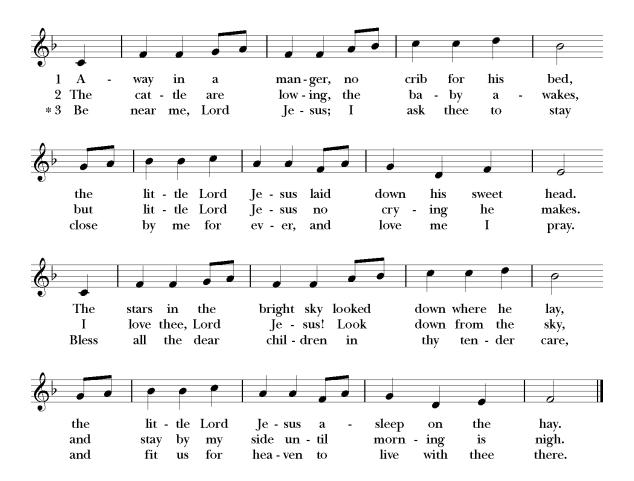
The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness --on them light has shined. You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder. For the yoke of their burden, and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian. For 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 (4 p.m. only)

Away in a manger, no crib for his bed



<sup>+</sup>Please stand as able

Psalm 96

The Choir introduces the antiphon, all repeat it. The Cantor chants the psalm verses, all repeating the antiphon as indicated.



- 1 Sing to the LORD a new song; \* sing to the LORD, all the whole earth.
- 2 Sing to the LORD and bless his Name; \* proclaim the good news of his salvation from day to day.
- 3 Declare his glory among the nations \* and his wonders among all peoples.
- 4 For great is the LORD and greatly to be praised; \* he is more to be feared than all gods. [ANT.]
- 5 As for all the gods of the nations, they are but idols; \* but it is the LORD who made the heavens.
- 6 Oh, the majesty and magnificence of his presence! \*
  Oh, the power and the splendor of his sanctuary!
- 7 Ascribe to the LORD, you families of the peoples; \* ascribe to the LORD honor and power.
- 8 Ascribe to the LORD the honor due his Name; \* bring offerings and come into his courts.
- 9 Worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness; \* let the whole earth tremble before him.
- Tell it out among the nations: "The LORD is King! \*
  he has made the world so firm that it cannot be moved;
  he will judge the peoples with equity." [ANT.]
- 11 Let the heavens rejoice, and let the earth be glad; let the sea thunder and all that is in it; \* let the field be joyful and all that is therein.
- 12 Then shall all the trees of the wood shout for joy before the LORD when he comes, \* when he comes to judge the earth.
- He will judge the world with righteousness \* and the peoples with his truth. [ANT.]

The Epistle Titus 2:11-14

For 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.

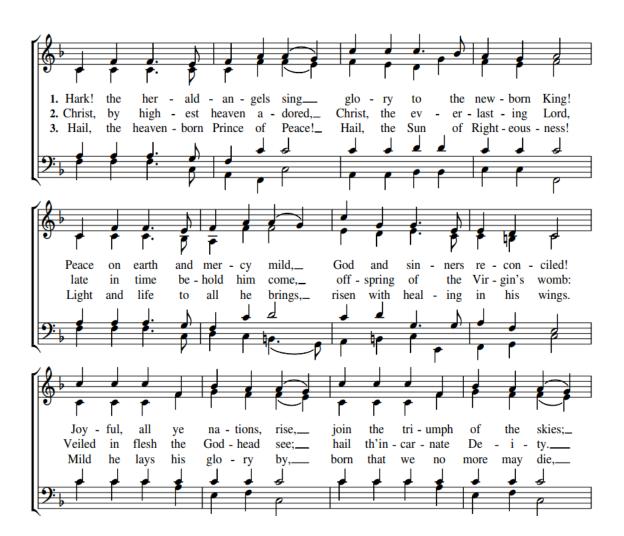
Reader The Word of the Lord

People Thanks be to God

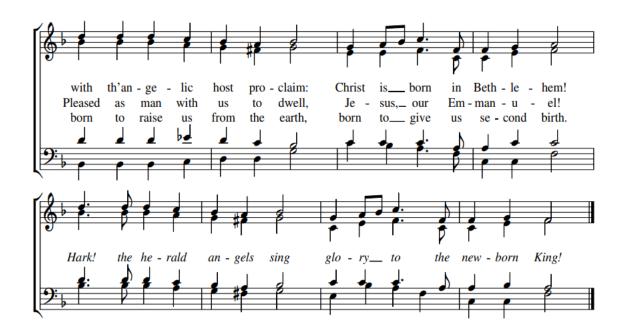
\*Sequence Hymn

"Hark! the herald angels sing" Vs. 1: all, Vs. 2: choir only, Vs. 3: all

(Congregation please stand as able)



Hymn continued on next page



**+The Holy Gospel** Luke 2:1-20

(Congregation please remain standing and face the Celebrant)

Celebrant The Holy Gospel of our Lord according to Luke

People Glory to you Lord Christ

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

#### +The Nicene Creed

(Congregation please stand as able)

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.

The Leader and People pray responsively

Sisters and Brothers, on this most holy night as we celebrate the feast of our Savior's birth, let us pray for all those in need and for ourselves, saying:

# Loving God, hear our prayer.

For the Universal Church in all places, that it may faithfully proclaim the good news of salvation and offer care for our neighbors in need in all corners of the world, we pray to you, O God.

# Loving God, hear our prayer.

For peace in our troubled world, especially in Israel/Palestine and in those places in our nation where violence and pain are felt daily, that the darkness of injustice and violence may be replaced by the light of your righteousness and peace, we pray to you, O God.

# Loving God, hear our prayer.

For all those in any need or trouble: the homeless; the unemployed; the hungry and those in prison; that they may know God's love and our care, we pray to you, O God.

# Loving God, hear our prayer.

For the sick and all those who care for them, that illness may be turned into health and wisdom and skill conquer disease and disability, we pray to you O God.

# Loving God, hear our prayer.

For those who labor this night on behalf of others: emergency responders and medical personnel; police officers and firefighters, for servicemen and women deployed far from home, and all those whose work prevents them from sharing this evening with those they love, we pray to you, O God.

# Loving God, hear our prayer.

For the Leaders of the Church throughout the world, especially those in Jerusalem and Canterbury; for Michael our Presiding Bishop and Santosh our Bishop; for Mark, our Rector; and most especially the congregation of Christ Church Parish that we may do justice, love mercy and walk humbly with God, we pray to you, O God.

# Loving God, hear our prayer.

For those who have gone before us in the faith, especially those in whose memory the Christmas Flowers are given, that the light of God's eternal glory may shine on them, we pray to you, O God.

# Loving God, hear our prayer.

Creative and Merciful God, you loved the world so much that you gave us your Beloved Son, hear the prayers of the people you have chosen as your own. Give us zeal for your mission and joy in our service, through Jesus Christ our Brother and Friend. **Amen.** 

#### Confession of Sin

The Celebrant says

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence may be kept.

Leader 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 Celebrant stands and says

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

All stand. The Celebrant says to the people

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.

# The Holy Communion

#### The Offertory Anthem

"Before the Marvel of This Night" text by Jaroslav J. Vajda

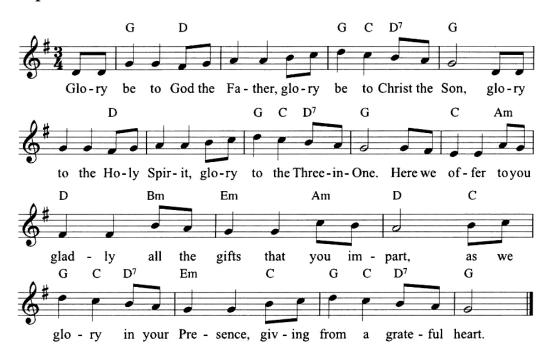
Schalk

Before the marvel of this night, adoring, fold your wings and bow; then tear the sky apart with light, and with your news the world endow. Proclaim the birth of Christ and peace, that fear and death and sorrow cease: sing peace; sing peace; sing gift of peace; sing gift of peace!

Awake the sleeping world with song: this is the day the Lord has made. Assemble here, celestial throng, in royal splendor come arrayed. Give earth a glimpse of heavenly bliss, a teasing taste of what they miss: sing bliss; sing bliss; sing endless bliss; sing endless bliss!

The love that we have always known, our constant joy and endless light, now to the loveless world be shown, now break upon its deathly night. Into one song compress the love that rules our universe above: sing love; sing love; sing God is love!

# +Offertory Response



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# +The Great Thanksgiving

(Congregation please stand as able)

Celebrant The Lord be with you.People And also with you.Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People We lift them to the Lord.

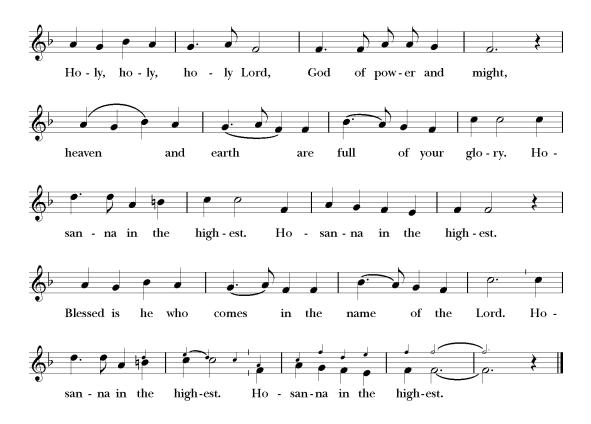
Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People It is right to give God thanks and praise.

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 of the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name.

<sup>+</sup>Please stand as able



The people stand or kneel as 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 this 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.

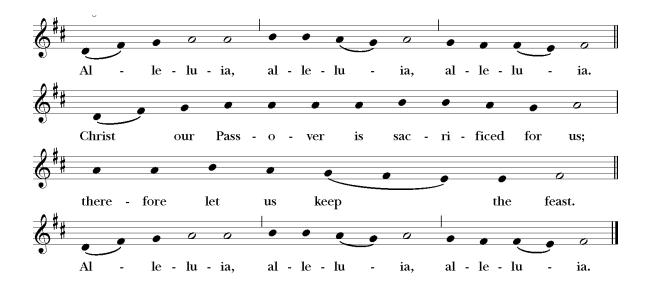
By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **Amen**.

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

Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed by 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.

# <sup>+</sup>The Breaking of the Bread

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept.



<sup>+</sup>Please stand as able



#### **Communion Anthem**

# "O Holy Night" Text by John S. Dwight

A. Adams/arr. J. Behnke

O holy night! The stars are brightly shining; It is the night of our dear Savior's birth. Long lay the world in sin and error pining, Till He appears and the Soul felt its worth.

A thrill of hope the weary world rejoices, For yonder breaks a new and glorious morn! Fall on your knees! O hear the angel voices! O night divine, O night when Christ was born! O night, O holy night, O night divine!

Truly He taught us to love one another; His law is love and His gospel is peace. Chains shall He break, for the slave is our brother, And in His name all oppression shall cease

Sweet hymns of joy in grateful chorus raise we; Let all within us praise His holy name. Christ is the Lord; O praise His name forever! His power and glory evermore proclaim!

# +Post-Communion Prayer

(Congregation please stand as able)

Celebrant and People

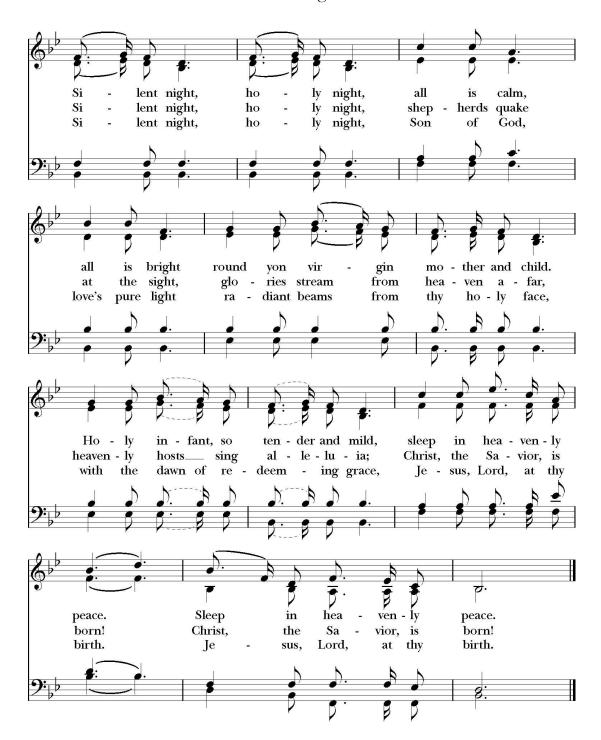
Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

The lights will be dimmed as the acolytes light the candles in the congregation. (9 p.m. only)

All kneel or sit for the singing of "Silent Night"

# Hymn of Meditation

# "Silent Night"



# +The Blessing

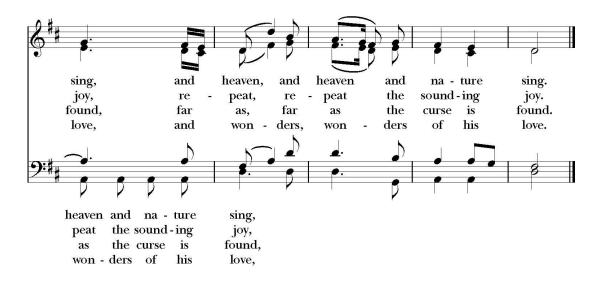
May Christ, who by his Incarnation gathered into one things earthly and heavenly, fill you with his joy and peace; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen**. (Please extinguish candles)

# <sup>+</sup>Recessional Hymn

"Joy to the World"



Hymn continued on next page



#### +The Dismissal

Celebrant Alleluia, Alleluia. Let us go forth in peace,

rejoicing that God has come to dwell among us.

People Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia.

\*Postlude "Postlude on 'Gloria" Payne

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# Serving Tonight 4:00 PM

Celebrant & Preacher: The Very Rev. Mark S. Delcuze

Deacon: The Rev. Melody Sutherland

Musicians: Gary Van Essen (director), Dave Hasek (organ)

Eucharistic Ministers: Keith Fulmer, Lois Vanderbok

**Lectors:** Becky Myers, Patrick Herlihy

Ushers: Bernie Gast

# Serving Tonight 9:00 PM

Tonight's service will be Live Streamed on YouTube

Celebrant & Preacher: The Very Rev. Mark S. Delcuze

Musicians: Gary Van Essen (director), Dave Hasek (organ), Elise Parks (cantor)

Eucharistic Ministers: Liza Hamill, Juanita Dombkowski

Lectors: Cathy Smith, Charlie Mead

Ushers: Maria Jones, Tom Christensen

Counters: Bob Thompson, Dottie Wilson

Video Tech: Steve Dombkowski



# **Christmas Memorials**



Given by: In Memory of:

Beverly E. Cooper (Gon) Gary T. Cooper (Husband), & Matthew B. Cooper (Son)

Dorothy Deren Dick Deren & Donald Didden

Steven & Juanita Dombkowski Jackson D. Wright

Dave & Helen Ellwood Our Parents
Nancy & Stan Link Our Parents

Judy & Al Peppel Departed Loved Ones

Bud & Lynne Shand Loved Ones

Betsy Sipes Allan Sipes, Thelma Boffen

Anneliese Jones & Cathy Smith Elbert, Eddie, Dorothy, Albert, Patrick

Anne K Tyler Departed Loved Ones Gary & Emily Van Essen Our Grandparents

Goldey & Helen Vansant Marie Vansant, Goldey Vansant, Sr., Arthur & Helen Perkins,

Stanley & Pearl Vansant, Loved Ones

Given by: In Honor of:

Caroline & Tim Aland Andrew, Emma, George, Tim & Katie, David, Mary & Hunter

Mark & Mimi Delcuze Our Grandchildren
Bud & Lynne Shand Our Children

Gary & Emily Van Essen The CCPKI Choir & Praise Band

Rev Ken & Cheryl Valentine Aria Kendall Amin

Goldey & Helen Vansant Our Grandchildren, Gavreel & River Vansant

Please join us for these Upcoming Events

December 25th—10:00 am Worship Service January 1st—10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist ||

May you all have a blessed Christmas and a very Healthy and Happy New Year!