

The Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ
Christmas Eve 2024

7:00 p.m.



St. Thomas' Episcopal Church
Camden, Maine

The Holy Eucharist Rite Two

Children are always welcome in the church.

Please be sure your cell phone is inaudible.

Carol of the Bells arr. Marlatt
What Child Is This arr. Branici
Angels We Have Heard On High arr. Marchand
Greensleeves arr. Reed
Silent Night arr. Anderson
Christmas Fantasy arr. Raney

Entrance Hymn 83 (vv.1-3) O Come, All Ye Faithful

Adeste fideles

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

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

Collect for Purity

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Hymn 96 (vs. 1) Angels We Have Heard on High

Gloria

1. 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.

The Collect

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.**

A Reading from the Book of the Prophet

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.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

People

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 96 *Cantate Domino*

- 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.
- 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.

- ¹⁰ 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."
- 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.
- ¹³ He will judge the world with righteousness *
and the peoples with his truth.

A Reading from the Letter of Paul to 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.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

People

Thanks be to God.

Sequence Hymn 94 (vv. 1-3)

Winchester Old

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ According to Luke [2:1-20]

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.

The Gospel of Christ.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Sermon

Fr. Briggs

Nicene Creed

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Prayers of the People

from Radiance of His Glory by David Adam

Leader

...King of glory, come to earth.

People's Response

Lift us up into your kingdom.

Confession of Sin and Absolution

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The Peace

The Holy Communion

Offertory Anthem

O holy night

arr. for trumpet and organ

The Great Thanksgiving, Eucharistic Prayer B

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Celebrant *People*
The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Celebrant *People*
Lift up your hearts. 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.

Sanctus

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord

Hymn S130

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might
 Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might
 Heaven and earth are full of your glory
 Hosanna in the highest, Hosanna in the highest

The Lord's Prayer

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The Breaking of the Bread**Fraction Anthem**

Hymn S164

Jesus Lamb of God

Jesus, Lamb of God: have mercy on us.
 Jesus, bearer of our sins: have mercy on us.
 Jesus, redeemer, redeemer of the world:
 Give us your peace, give us your peace

The Communion**Hymn 115**

What Child is This, Who, Laid to Rest

Greensleeves

Once all have received Communion and the people's candles have been lit, all sing seated or kneeling

Hymn 111

Silent Night

*Stille Nacht***Postcommunion Prayer**

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The Blessing

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 87

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

*Mendelssohn***The Dismissal***R/ Thanks be to God*

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Liturgical Ministers

Celebrant & Preacher:

The Rev. Paul Briggs

Deacon:

The Rev. Dr. Rosalee Glass

Organist:

Clarissa Brown, Minister of Music

Readers: Sarah Groman, Haunani Wallace

Eucharistic Minister: Doc Wallace

Prayers of the People: Jeff Conrad

Ushers: Cheryl Reif, Phil Groman

Christmas Flowers, Greens, and Music are given to the glory of God:

In Thanksgiving For:

The life and ministry of the people of St. Thomas'
The loving and faithful People of St. Thomas' Church
For all of our family
Flowers, Greens, Christmas Music
Flowers and Music
Music
Flowers
Flowers

In Memory of:

Ralph Vangel
John and Marjorie Cummings
John Hunter
Terry Jewett
Isabel Ames, Robie and Dorothy Ames
Ron Such and my parents and siblings in Heaven
Russell and Ruth Turner, Frank and Vi Stopper
Rita and Robert Souther

Given By:

Paul and Barbara Briggs
Jeff and Sarah McParland
Susan and Bill Freeman
Benjy Lowry and Shelly Gallender
Robert and Connie Bock
Wallace
SallyAnn Williamson
Ian Cambell

Given By:

Joanne Vangel
John Cummings and Jennifer Gromada
Thomas F. Pike
Edar Jewett
Andrew and Elizabeth Moran
Sue Such
Susan and Dave Stopper
Phyllis Barry

Debbie and Sarah Chittick, Barbara and Edward
Ravscher

Rebecca Vogt

Del Babb

Isa Babb

Bobby and Ann Gabrielson and Mary Probst

Gabrielson

Alfred and Anne Robinson, John and Dorothy
Simson, George and Maisie Robinson, William
and Katheryn Carroll

Robinson

Gwyneth Jones and Carolyn Aller

The Groman Family

The People of Ukraine

Cheryl White

Isabelle and Valerio Mello, Sarah and John
McDermott, Michaelene McDermott, Rev. M.
Joseph Joaquim, Patricia Patrocky

Carlos and Terry Mello

The McAllen and Morelli Families

Eileen Morelli

Helen and Jim Funk
Sandy and Nancy Lyle

Sandy and Jan Lyle

Corallie Murray

Anna Ford

Robert and Susan Snead



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