







## A Christmas Greeting to Our Visitors



Welcome to the Church of St. Michael & St. George and to our celebration of the birth of Jesus Christ. As we keep this holy day with traditional songs, readings, and the Sacrament of Holy Communion, we invite you to share in our joy at the dawn of salvation, the promise of a new start for the whole world. Wherever you may find yourself this Christmas, whether at peace or in need of peace, healthy or in need of healing, having a clear conscience or in need of forgiveness, know that you are in the right place, that there is room at Jesus' crib for you. Tonight as we ponder afresh the mystery of his Incarnation let our prayers, and above all our joy, be a sign to one another and to the world that "the Light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it." (*John 1:5*)

# The Eve of the Nativity of our Lord Jesus Christ

## A Carol Service of Preparation and Praise at 10:30 PM

*¶ The Congregation may remain seated for the singing of congregational carols*

### Congregational Carol

*¶ Verse 1 is sung by the Choir alone; all join in singing on verse 2*



1 Once in roy - al Da - vid's ci - ty stood a  
2 He came down to earth from hea - ven, who is  
\*3 We, like Ma - ry, rest con - found - ed that a  
4 For he is our life - long pat - tern; dai - ly,  
\*5 And our eyes at last shall see him, through his  
6 Not in that poor low - ly sta - ble, with the



1 low - ly cat - tle shed, where a mo - ther laid her  
2 God and Lord of all, and his shel - ter was a  
3 sta - ble should dis - play hea - ven's Word, the world's cre -  
4 when on earth he grew, he was tempt - ed, scorned, re -  
5 own re - deem - ing love; for that child who seemed so  
6 ox - en stand - ing round, we shall see him; but in

1 ba - by in a man - ger for his bed: Ma - ry  
 2 sta - ble, and his cra - dle was a stall; with the  
 3 a - tor, cra - dled there on Christ - mas Day, yet this  
 4 ject - ed, tears and smiles like us he knew. Thus he  
 5 help - less is our Lord in heaven a - bove; and he  
 6 hea - ven, where his saints his throne sur - round: Christ, re -

1 was that mo - ther mild, — Je - sus Christ her lit - tle child. —  
 2 poor, the scorned, the low - ly, lived on earth our Sa - vior ho - ly.  
 3 child, our Lord and bro - ther, brought us love for one an - oth - er.  
 4 feels for all our sad - ness, and he shares in all our glad - ness.  
 5 leads his chil - dren on — to the place where he is gone. —  
 6 vealed to faith - ful eye, — set at God's right hand on high. —

Words: Cecil Frances Alexander (1818-1895) and James McCrady (b. 1938)  
 Music: IRBY; John Gauntlett (1805-1876)

**Carol** *g Sung by the Choir*

On Christmas night all Christians sing  
 to hear the news the angels bring.  
 News of great joy news of great mirth.  
 News of our merciful King's birth.

Then why should men on earth be so sad  
 since our Redeemer made us glad.  
 When from our sins he set us free.  
 All for to gain our liberty.

When sin departs before his grace  
 then life and health come in its place.  
 Angels and men with joy may sing.  
 All for to see the newborn King.

All out of darkness we have light  
 which makes the Angels sing this night.  
 Glory to God and peace to men.  
 Now and forevermore, Amen.

Words: Traditional English  
 Music: David Willcocks (1919-2015)

## Congregational Carol

1 Lo, how a Rose e'er bloom-ing from ten - der stem hath sprung!  
 2 I - sa - iah 'twas fore - told it, the Rose I have in mind,  
 \* 3 O Flower, whose fra - grance ten - der with sweet - ness fills the air,

Of Jes - se's lin - eage com - ing as seers of old have sung.  
 with Ma - ry we be - hold it, the Vir - gin Mo - ther kind.  
 dis - pel in glo - rious splen - dor the dark - ness ev - ery - where;

It came, a blos - som bright, a - mid the  
 To show God's love a - right, she bore to  
 true man, yet ve - ry God, from sin and

cold of win - ter, when half spent was the night.  
 us a Sa - vior, when half spent was the night.  
 death now save us, and share our ev - ery load.

Words: St. 1-2, German, 15th cent.; tr. Theodore Baker (1851-1934). st. 3, Friedrich Layritz (1808-1859); tr. Harriet Reynolds Krauth Spaeth (1845-1925); ver. HYMNAL 1940

Music: ES IST EIN ROS, melody from ALTE CATHOLISCHE GEISTLICHE KIRCHENGESÄNG, 1599; harm. Michael Praetorius (1571-1621)

Carol ¶ *Sung by the Choir*

In the bleak midwinter,  
Frosty wind made moan,  
Eearth stood hard as iron,  
Water like a stone.  
Snow had fallen snow on snow,  
In the bleak midwinter long ago.

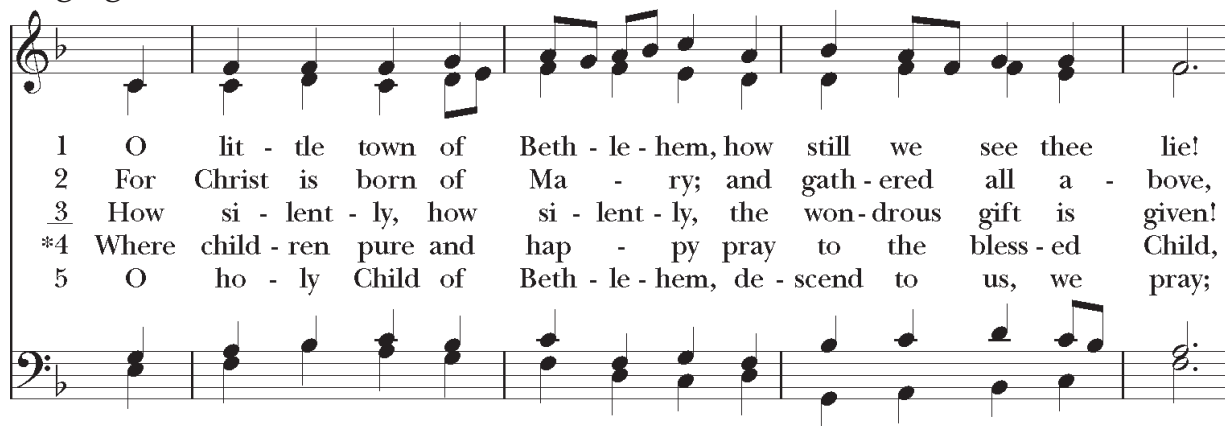
Our God, Heaven cannot hold Him,  
Nor earth sustain  
Heaven and earth shall flee away,  
When He comes to reign.  
In the bleak midwinter,  
A stable place sufficed  
The Lord God Almighty Jesus Christ.

Enough for Him, whom cherubim,  
Worship night and day,  
A breast full of milk,  
And a manger-full of hay.  
Enough for Him, whom angels,  
Fall down before,  
He ox and ass and camel,  
Which adore.

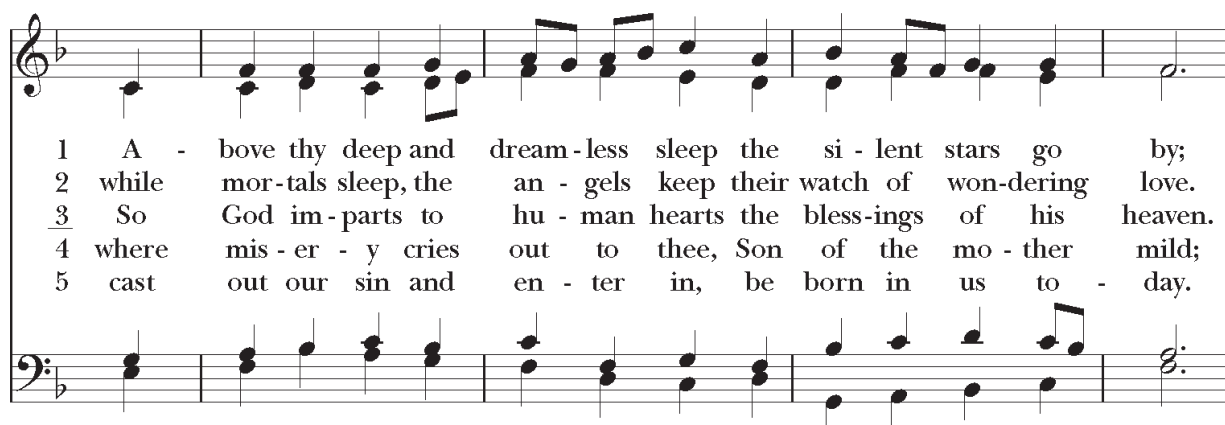
What can I give Him,  
Poor as I am?  
If I were a shepherd,  
I would bring a lamb.  
If I were a wise man,  
I would do my part,  
Yet what I can I give Him,  
Give my heart.

*Words: Christina Rossetti (1830-1894)*  
*Music: Harold Darke (1888-1976)*

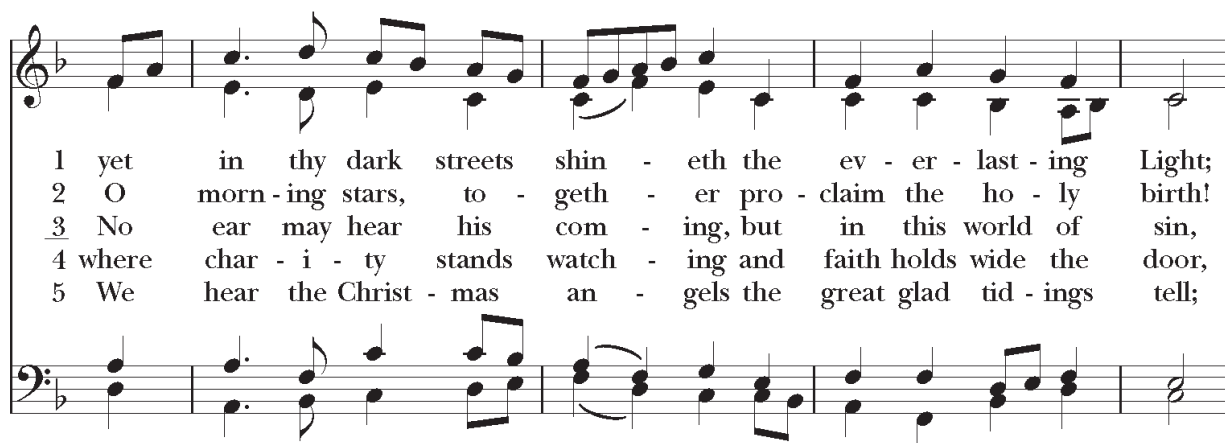
## Congregational Carol



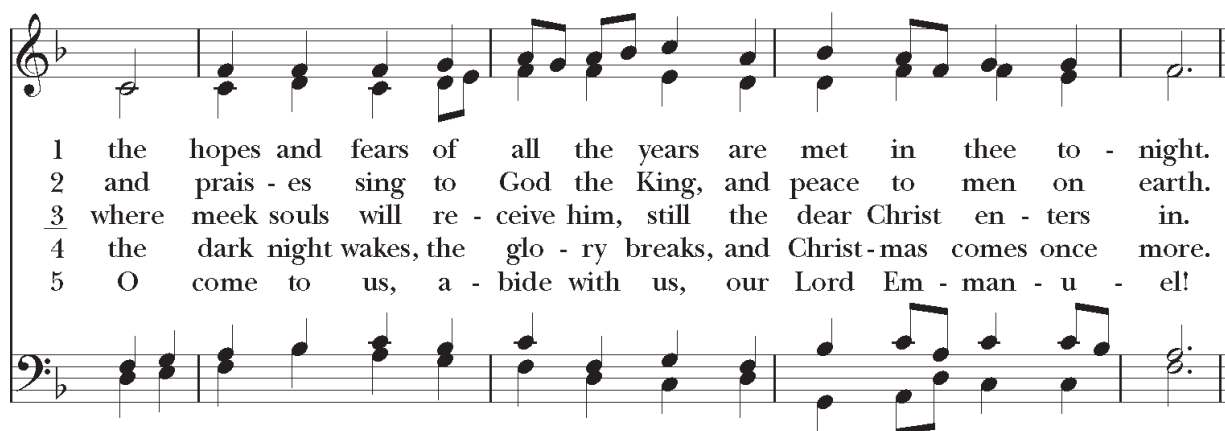
1 O lit - tle town of Beth - le - hem, how still we see thee lie!  
2 For Christ is born of Ma - ry; and gath - ered all a - bove,  
3 How si - lent - ly, how si - lent - ly, the won - drous gift is given!  
\*4 Where child - ren pure and hap - py pray to the bless - ed Child,  
5 O ho - ly Child of Beth - le - hem, de - scend to us, we pray;



1 A - bove thy deep and dream - less sleep the si - lent stars go by;  
2 while mor - tals sleep, the an - gels keep their watch of won - dering love.  
3 So God im - parts to hu - man hearts the bless - ings of his heaven.  
4 where mis - er - y cries out to thee, Son of the mo - ther mild;  
5 cast out our sin and en - ter in, be born in us to - day.



1 yet in thy dark streets shin - eth the ev - er - last - ing Light;  
2 O morn - ing stars, to - geth - er pro - claim the ho - ly birth!  
3 No ear may hear his com - ing, but in this world of sin,  
4 where char - i - ty stands watch - ing and faith holds wide the door,  
5 We hear the Christ - mas an - gels the great glad tid - ings tell;



1 the hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee to - night.  
2 and prais - es sing to God the King, and peace to men on earth.  
3 where meek souls will re - ceive him, still the dear Christ en - ters in.  
4 the dark night wakes, the glo - ry breaks, and Christ - mas comes once more.  
5 O come to us, a - bide with us, our Lord Em - man - u - el!

Words: Philips Brooks (1835-1893)

Music: FOREST GREEN; Traditional English



Carol      *g Sung by the Choir*

The holly and the ivy,  
When they are both full grown,  
Of all the trees that are in the wood,  
The holly bears the crown.

The rising of the sun  
And the running of the deer,  
The playing of the merry organ,  
Sweet singing in the choir.

The holly bears a blossom,  
As white as the lily flower,  
And Mary bore sweet Jesus Christ,  
To be our sweet Saviour.

The holly bears a berry,  
As red as any blood,  
And Mary bore sweet Jesus Christ  
For to do us sinners good.

The holly bears a prickle,  
As sharp as any thorn,  
And Mary bore sweet Jesus Christ  
On Christmas Day in the morn.

The holly bears a bark,  
As bitter as any gall,  
And Mary bore sweet Jesus Christ  
For to redeem us all.

*Words: Traditional Carol*  
*Music: Matthew Owens (b.1971)*

# Congregational Carol



- All* 1. See a - mid the win - ter's snow, Born for us on  
*Men* 2. Lo, with - in a man - ger lies He who built the  
*Women* 3. Say, ye ho - ly shep - herds, say What your joy - ful  
*Men* 4. 'As we watch'd at dead of night, Lo, we saw a  
*Women* 5. Sa - cred in - fant, all di - vine, What a ten - der  
*All* 6. Teach, O teach us, Ho - ly Child, By thy face so



1. earth be - low; See the ten - der Lamb ap - pears,  
 2. star - ry skies; He who, throned in height sub - lime,  
 3. news to - day; Where - fore have ye left your sheep  
 4. won - drous light: An - gels sing - ing "Peace on earth"  
 5. love was thine, Thus to come from high - est bliss  
 6. meek and mild, Teach us to re - sem - ble thee,



1. Pro - mis'd from e - ter - nal years:  
 2. Sits a - mid the che - ru - bim:  
 3. On the lone - ly moun - tain steep?  
 4. told us of the Sa - viour's birth:  
 5. Down to such a world as this:  
 6. In thy sweet hu - mi - li - ty:

*Hail, thou ev - er - bless - ed morn: Hail, re - demp - tion's hap - py dawn;*

*Sing through all Je - ru - sa - lem, Christ is born in Beth - le - hem.*

Words: Edward Caswall (1814-1878)  
 Music: Humility; John Goss (1800-1880)



## The Festal Procession

**T**HE FESTAL PROCESSION, beginning and concluding at the Altar, dates from the very earliest days of Christian worship. The use of the liturgical procession was widely developed in the Middle Ages in the Sarum Use – the worship of the English Church in Salisbury, England. The Procession symbolizes the journey to find the Christ Child lying in a manger, ultimately culminating in the Station at the Crèche, and the return home “by another way” (Matthew 2:12). Through this procession, we join the Shepherds, the Magi, and all those today and in times to come who seek the Saviour of the World.

## The Use of Incense

**T**HE USE OF INCENSE in the liturgical rites of the Church has its origins in antiquity. Deeply imbued with mystic symbolism, the practice of offering incense in liturgical worship dates from the Old Testament before the time of the Second Temple. It is symbolic of the prayers of the faithful rising to heaven: “Let my prayer be set forth in thy sight as the incense, and let the lifting up of my hands be an evening sacrifice” (Psalm 141:2). On this Feast of the Nativity of Christ, we look also to the Gospel of Matthew (2:11) and the precious offerings of the Wise Men: “...And going into the house they saw the child with Mary his mother, and they fell down and worshipped him. Then, opening their treasures, they offered him gifts, gold and frankincense and myrrh.” Christian worship is fully sensory and, through the offering of incense at this Solemn Eucharist of the Incarnation, we join our prayers with those of the whole communion of saints in worship of the Christ Child and we offer an additional dimension to our worship with our entire being.

# THE EVE OF THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST

## Choral Eucharist

at 11:00 PM



*¶ The service follows the Order for Holy Eucharist  
beginning on page 323 of The Book of Common Prayer*

*¶ The choral setting of the Mass Ordinary is the  
Missa ad Praesepe of George Malcolm*

*¶ All stand as the Clergy and other Ministers enter*

### Choral Introit

Hodie Christus natus est  
Hodie Salvator apparuit  
Hodie in terra canunt angeli laetantur archangeli  
Hodie exsultant justi dicentes  
Gloria in excelsis Deo. Alleluia.

*Words: Introit for Christmas Day  
Music: Benjamin Britten (1913-1976)*

*¶ The Procession is bid with this Versicle and Response*

V. 

Let us go forth in peace.

R. 

In the name of Christ. A-men.

# Hymn at the Procession

1 O come, all ye faith - ful, joy - ful and tri - um - phant, O  
 2 God from God, Light from Light e - ter - nal,  
 3 Sing, choirs of an - gels, sing in ex - ul - ta - tion,  
 4 See how the shep - herds, sum - moned to his cra - dle,  
 5 Child, for us sin - ners poor and in the man - ger,

1 come ye, O come ye to Beth - le - hem;  
 2 lo! he ab - hors not the Vir - gin's womb;  
 3 sing, all ye ci - ti - zens of heaven a - bove;  
 4 leav - ing their flocks, draw nigh to gaze;  
 5 we would em - brace thee, with love and awe;

1 come, and be - hold him, born the King of an - gels;  
 2 on - ly - be - got - ten Son of the Fa - ther;  
 3 glo - ry to God, glo - ry in the high - est;  
 4 we too will thith - er bend our joy - ful foot - steps;  
 5 who would not love thee, lov - ing us so dear - ly?

## Refrain

O come, let us a - dore him, O come, let us a -

dore him, O come, let us a - dore him, Christ the Lord.

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

*Refrain*

*Words: John Francis Wade (1711-1786)*

*Music: ADESTE FIDELES; attr. John Francis Wade*

### Station at the Creche

*V.* The Word was made flesh and dwelt among us:

*R.* And we beheld his glory, full of grace and truth.

Let us pray.

**M**OST MERCIFUL AND LOVING GOD, who hast made this day holy by the incarnation of thy Son Jesus Christ, and by the child-bearing of the Blessed Virgin Mary: Grant that we thy people may enter with joy into the celebration of this day, and may also rejoice for ever as thine adopted sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *¶ People Amen.*

*¶ The Processional Hymn continues following the Station*

### The Collect for Purity

*¶ Said by the Celebrant*

**A**LMIGHTY GOD, unto whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of thy Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love thee, and worthily magnify thy holy Name; through Christ our Lord. *¶ People Amen.*

**Gloria in excelsis**    *¶ Sung by all, S-202*

Glory be to God on high,  
and on earth peace, good will towards men.  
We praise thee, we bless thee,  
we worship thee,  
we glorify thee,  
we give thanks to thee for thy great glory,  
O Lord God, heavenly King, God the Father Almighty.  
O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ;  
O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,  
that takest away the sins of the world,  
have mercy upon us.  
Thou that takest away the sins of the world,  
receive our prayer.  
Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father,  
have mercy upon us.  
For thou only art holy;  
thou only art the Lord;  
thou only, O Christ,  
with the Holy Ghost,  
art most high in the glory ✠ of God the Father. Amen.

**The Collect of the Day**

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

*People* And with thy spirit.

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

**O** GOD, WHO HAST CAUSED THIS HOLY NIGHT to shine with the illumination of the true Light: Grant us, we beseech thee, that as we have known the mystery of that Light upon earth, so may we also perfectly enjoy him in heaven; where with thee and the Holy Spirit he liveth and reigneth, one God, in glory everlasting.    *¶ People* Amen.

*¶ Then all are seated*



# ✠ The Word of God ✠

## The Lesson

ISAIAH 9:2-7

**T**HE PEOPLE THAT WALKED IN DARKNESS have seen a great light: they that dwell in the land of the shadow of death, upon them hath the light shined. Thou hast multiplied the nation, and not increased the joy: they joy before thee according to the joy in harvest, and as men rejoice when they divide the spoil. For thou hast broken the yoke of his burden, and the staff of his shoulder, the rod of his oppressor, as in the day of Midian. For every battle of the warrior is with confused noise, and garments rolled in blood; but this shall be with burning and fuel of fire. For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace. Of the increase of his government and peace there shall be no end, upon the throne of David, and upon his kingdom, to order it, and to establish it with judgment and with justice from henceforth even for ever. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will perform this.

*Reader* The Word of the Lord.

*People* Thanks be to God.

¶ *All stand for the singing of the Gradual Hymn*

# Hymn at the Gradual

1 Good Chris - tian friends, re - jice with heart and soul and voice;  
 2 Good Chris - tian friends, re - jice with heart and soul and voice;  
 3 Good Chris - tian friends, re - jice with heart and soul and voice;

give ye heed to what we say: Je - sus Christ is born to - day;  
 now ye hear of end - less bliss; Je - sus Christ was born for this!  
 now ye need not fear the grave: Je - sus Christ was born to save!

ox and ass be - fore him bow, and he is in the man - ger now.  
 He hath o - pened hea - ven's door, and we are blest for ev - er - more.  
 Calls you one and calls you all to gain his ev - er - last - ing hall.

Christ is born to - day! Christ is born to - day!  
 Christ was born for this! Christ was born for this!  
 Christ was born to save! Christ was born to save!

Words: John Mason Neale (1818-1866)  
 Music: IN DULCI JUBILO; 14th-c. German

*♩ All are seated at the conclusion of the Hymn*

**F**OR THE GRACE OF GOD THAT BRINGETH SALVATION hath appeared to all men, teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world; Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ; Who gave himself for us, that he might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify unto himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works.

*Reader* The Word of the Lord.

*People* Thanks be to God.

*¶ All stand for the singing of the Hymn and Gospel Procession*

Hymn at the Sequence

1 While shep-herds watched their flocks by night, all seat-ed on the ground,  
 2 "Fear not," said he, for might-y dread had seized their trou-bled mind;  
 3 "To you, in Da-vid's town, this day is born of Da-vid's line  
 4 "The heaven-ly Babe you there shall find to hu-man view dis-played,  
 5 Thus spake the ser-aph, and forth-with ap-peared a shin-ing throng

1 the an-gel of the Lord came down, and glo-ry shone a-round.  
 2 "Glad tid-ings of great joy I bring to you and all man-kind.  
 3 the Sa-vior, who is Christ the Lord; and this shall be the sign:  
 4 all mean-ly wrapped in swath-ing bands, and in a man-ger laid."  
 5 of an-gels prais-ing God, who thus ad-dressed their joy-ful song:

6 "All glory be to God on high  
 and on the earth be peace;  
 good will henceforth from heaven to men  
 begin and never cease."

Words: Nahum Tate (1625-1715)

Music: WINCHESTER OLD; *The Whole Booke of Psalmes*, 1592

*Gospeler* ✠ The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

*People* Glory be to thee, O Lord.

**A**ND 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.

*Gospeler* The Gospel of the Lord.

*People* Praise be to thee, O Christ.

## Sermon

The Rev. Andrew John Archie

*¶ Following the Sermon, all stand and say together*

## The Nicene Creed

I believe in one God,  
the Father Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
and of all things visible and invisible;

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,  
the only-begotten Son of God,  
begotten of his Father before all worlds,  
God of God, Light of Light,  
very God of very God,  
begotten, not made,

being of one substance with the Father;  
by whom all things were made;  
who for us men and for our salvation  
came down from heaven,  
and was incarnate by the Holy Ghost of the Virgin Mary,  
and was made man;  
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered and was buried;  
and the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures,  
and ascended into heaven,  
and sitteth on the right hand of the Father;  
and he shall come again, with glory,  
to judge both the quick and the dead;  
whose kingdom shall have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Ghost the Lord, and Giver of Life,  
who proceedeth from the Father and the Son;  
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped  
and glorified;  
who spake by the Prophets.  
And I believe one holy Catholic and Apostolic Church;  
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins;  
and I look for the resurrection of the dead, ✠  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

*¶ The Deacon bids the People to prayer and all kneel*

## Prayers of the People

*¶ The Deacon says these Prayers*

**A**LMIGHTY AND EVERLIVING GOD, who in thy holy Word hast taught us to make prayers, and supplications, and to give thanks for all men: Receive these our prayers which we offer unto thy divine Majesty, beseeching thee to inspire continually the Universal Church with the spirit of truth, unity, and concord; and grant that all those who do confess thy holy Name may agree in the truth of thy holy Word, and live in unity and godly love.

Give grace, O heavenly Father, to all bishops and other ministers, that they may, both by their life and doctrine, set forth thy true and lively Word, and rightly and duly administer thy holy Sacraments.

And to all thy people give thy heavenly grace, and especially to this congregation here present; that, with meek heart and due reverence, they may hear and receive thy holy Word, truly serving thee in holiness and righteousness all the days of their life.

We beseech thee also so to rule the hearts of those who bear the authority of government in this and every land, that they may be led to wise decisions and right actions for the welfare and peace of the world.

Open, O Lord, the eyes of all people to behold thy gracious hand in all thy works, that, rejoicing in thy whole creation, they may honor thee with their substance, and be faithful stewards of thy bounty.

And we most humbly beseech thee, of thy goodness, O Lord, to comfort and succor all those who, in this transitory life, are in trouble, sorrow, need, sickness, or any other adversity.

And we also bless † thy holy Name for all thy servants departed this life in thy faith and fear, beseeching thee to grant them continual growth in thy love and service; and to grant us grace so to follow the good examples of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Blessed Michael and All Angels, Blessed George, and of all thy saints, that with them we may be partakers of thy heavenly kingdom.

Grant these our prayers, O Father, for Jesus Christ's sake, our only Mediator and Advocate. ¶ *People* Amen.

## Confession of Sin

¶ *The Deacon says*

Let us humbly confess our sins unto Almighty God.

¶ *Deacon and People, kneeling*

Almighty God,

Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
maker of all things, judge of all men:

We acknowledge and bewail our manifold sins  
and wickedness,

which we from time to time most grievously have committed,  
by thought, word, and deed, against thy divine Majesty,  
provoking most justly thy wrath and indignation against us.

We do earnestly repent,  
and are heartily sorry for these our misdoings;  
the remembrance of them is grievous unto us,  
the burden of them is intolerable.

Have mercy upon us,

have mercy upon us, most merciful Father;  
for thy Son our Lord Jesus Christ's sake,  
forgive us all that is past;  
and grant that we may ever hereafter  
serve and please thee in newness of life,  
to the honor and glory of thy Name;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*¶ Then the Celebrant stands, pronounces Absolution ✠ and may say the Comfortable Words*

**A**lmighty God, our heavenly Father, who of his great mercy hath promised forgiveness of sins to all those who with hearty repentance and true faith turn unto him, have mercy upon you, ✠ pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and bring you to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
*¶ People Amen.*

*¶ The Celebrant may then say one or more of the following Comfortable Words*

Hear the Word of God to all who truly turn to him.

Come unto me, all ye that travail and are heavy laden, and I will refresh you.  
*Matthew 11:28*

God so loved the world, that he gave his only-begotten Son, to the end that all that believe in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. *John 3:16*

This is a true saying, and worthy of all men to be received, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners. *1 Timothy 1:15*

If any man sin, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous; and he is the perfect offering for our sins, and not for ours only, but for the sins of the whole world. *1 John 2:1-2*

*¶ All stand*

## The Peace

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

*People* And with thy spirit.

*¶ Then the Ministers and People greet one another in the name of the Lord*

## The Rector's Christmas Greeting

*The Church of St. Michael & St. George is grateful for the generosity of all visitors and parishioners who donate as part of the weekly offertory. If you wish, please place your donation in the collection plate or use the QR code below to give online. These gifts are used to support our parish in addition to our annual commitments from our parishioners.*



# ✠ The Holy Communion ✠

## Anthem at the Offertory

O magnum mysterium, et admirabile sacramentum, ut animalia viderent Dominum natum, jacentem in præsepio. Beata Virgo Maria cujus viscera meruerunt portare Dominum Jesum Christum. Alleluia.

*O great mystery and wondrous sacrament, that animals should see the new born Lord lying in a manger. Blessed is the Virgin whose womb was worthy to bear the Lord Jesus Christ. Alleluia.*

Words: Responsory at Matins of Christmas Day

Music: Morten Lauridsen (b.1943)

*Following the singing of the Carol, all stand to sing the following*

## Hymn at the Presentation

1 An - gels we have heard on high, sing - ing sweet - ly through the night,  
2 Shep-herds, why this ju - bi - lee? Why these songs of hap - py cheer?  
3 Come to Beth - le - hem and see him whose birth the an - gels sing;  
4 See him in a man - ger laid whom the an - gels praise a - bove;

and the moun-tains in re - ply ech - o - ing their brave de - light.  
What great bright-ness did you see? What glad tid - ings did you hear?  
come, a - dore on bend - ed knee Christ, the Lord, the new - born King.  
Ma - ry, Jo - seph, lend your aid, while we raise our hearts in love.

*Refrain*  
Glo - - - - - ri - a



in ex - cel - sis De - o. Glo - ri - a

- ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o.

Words: Traditional French  
 Music: GLORIA; Traditional French

## The Great Thanksgiving

- Celebrant* The Lord be with you.
- People* And with thy spirit.
- Celebrant* Lift up your hearts.
- People* We lift them up unto the Lord.
- Celebrant* Let us give thanks unto our Lord God.
- People* It is meet and right so to do.

*¶ Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds*

**I**t is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord, holy Father, almighty, everlasting God.

Because thou didst give Jesus Christ, thine only Son, to be born for us; who, by the mighty power of the Holy Ghost, was made very Man of the substance of the Virgin Mary his mother; that we might be delivered from the bondage of sin, and receive power to become thy children.

Therefore with Angels and Archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious Name; evermore praising thee, and saying,

**Sanctus and Benedictus qui venit**     *¶ Sung by the Choir*

Holy, Holy, Holy,  
Lord God of Hosts:  
Heaven and earth are full of thy glory.  
Glory be to thee, O Lord Most High.  
Blessed † is he that cometh  
in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.

*Sanctus, Sanctus, Sanctus  
Dominus Deus Sabaoth.  
Pleni sunt cæli et terra gloria tua.  
Hosanna in excelsis.  
Benedictus qui venit  
in nomine Domini.  
Hosanna in excelsis.*

*¶ The People kneel. Then the Celebrant continues with the Eucharistic Prayer*

**A**LL GLORY BE TO THEE, ALMIGHTY GOD, our heavenly Father, for that thou, of thy tender mercy, didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption; who made there, by his one oblation of himself once offered, a full, perfect, and sufficient sacrifice, oblation, and satisfaction, for the sins of the whole world; and did institute, and in his holy Gospel command us to continue, a perpetual memory of that his precious death and sacrifice, until his coming again.

For in the night in which he was betrayed, he took bread; and when he had given thanks, he brake it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, “Take, eat, this is my Body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.”

Likewise, after supper, he took the cup; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, “Drink ye all of this; for this is my Blood of the New Testament, which is shed for you, and for many, for the remission of sins. Do this, as oft as ye shall drink it, in remembrance of me.”

Wherefore, O Lord and heavenly Father, according to the institution of thy dearly beloved Son our Savior Jesus Christ, we, thy humble servants, do celebrate and make here before thy divine Majesty, with these thy holy gifts, which we now offer unto thee, the memorial thy Son hath commanded us to make; having in remembrance his blessed passion and precious death, his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension; rendering unto thee most hearty thanks for the innumerable benefits procured unto us by the same.

And we most humbly beseech thee, O merciful Father, to hear us; and, of thy almighty goodness, vouchsafe to bless and sanctify, with thy Word and Holy Spirit, these thy gifts and creatures of bread and wine; that we, receiving them according to thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ’s holy institution, in remembrance of his death and passion, may be partakers of his most blessed Body and Blood.

And we earnestly desire thy fatherly goodness mercifully to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving; most humbly beseeching thee to grant that, by the merits and death of thy Son Jesus Christ, and through faith in his blood, we, and all thy whole Church, may obtain remission of our sins, and all other benefits of his passion.

And here we offer and present unto thee, O Lord, our selves, our souls and bodies, to be a reasonable, holy, and living sacrifice unto thee; humbly beseeching thee that we, and all others who shall be partakers of this Holy Communion, may worthily receive the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son Jesus Christ, be filled † with thy grace and heavenly benediction, and made one body with him, that he may dwell in us, and we in him.

And although we are unworthy, through our manifold sins, to offer unto thee any sacrifice, yet we beseech thee to accept this our bounden duty and service, not weighing our merits, but pardoning our offenses, through Jesus Christ our Lord;

By whom, and with whom, in the unity of the Holy Ghost, all honor and glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, world without end. ¶ *All* AMEN.

## The Lord's Prayer

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 Celebrant breaks the Bread and a period of silence is kept*

## Agnus Dei ¶ *Sung by the Choir*

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,  
have mercy upon us.  
O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,  
have mercy upon us.  
O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,  
grant us thy peace.

*Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi,  
miserere nobis.*

*Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi,  
miserere nobis.*

*Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi,  
dona nobis pacem.*

## The Prayer of Humble Access ¶ *Said by all*

**W**E DO NOT PRESUME TO COME TO THIS THY TABLE, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in thy manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under thy Table. But thou art the same Lord whose property is always to have mercy. Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of thy dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.

## The Invitation and Ministration of Communion

¶ *All Christians baptized with water in the Name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit are welcome to receive Holy Communion. Proceed to the Altar Rail when invited by the Usher. To receive the Bread, extend your palms, crossed and upward; when offered the Chalice, please assist in guiding it. Those who do not wish to receive Holy Communion may come forward for a blessing; please indicate this to the Priest by crossing your arms over your chest.*

## Motet at the Communion

We stood on the hills, Lady,  
Our day's work done,  
Watching the frosted meadows  
That winter had won.

The evening was calm, Lady,  
The air so still,  
Silence more lovely than music  
Folded the hill.

There was a star, Lady,  
Shone in the night,  
Larger than Venus it was  
And bright, so bright.

Oh, a voice from the sky, Lady,  
It seemed to us then  
Telling of God being born  
In the world of men.

And so we have come, Lady,  
Our day's work done,  
Our love, our hopes, ourselves,  
We give to your son.

*Words: Clive Sansom (1910-1981)  
Music: Bob Chilcott (b.1956)*

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*Lully, lulla, By, by. lully, lullay.*

O sisters too how may we do  
for to preserve this day?  
This poor youngling for whom we sing  
By, by, lully, lullay.

Herod, the king, in his raging,  
charged he hath this day.  
His men of might in his own sight  
All young children to slay.

That woe is me,  
 poor Child for Thee,  
 and ever morn and day.  
 For Thy parting neither say nor sing,

Words: Traditional Carol  
 Music: Philip Stopford (2011)

Hymn at the Communion

*g* Sung by all, kneeling

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

Words: Joseph Mohr (1792-1848)  
 Music: STILLE NACHT; Franz Gruber (1787-1863)

## The Postcommunion Prayer

*¶ Said by all, kneeling*

**A**LMIGHTY AND EVERLIVING GOD, we most heartily thank thee for that thou dost feed us, in these holy mysteries, with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and dost assure us thereby of thy favor and goodness towards us; and that we are very members incorporate in the mystical body of thy Son, the blessed company of all faithful people; and are also heirs, through hope, of thy everlasting kingdom. And we humbly beseech thee, O heavenly Father, so to assist us with thy grace, that we may continue in that holy fellowship, and do all such good works as thou hast prepared for us to walk in; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honor and glory, world without end. Amen.

## The Christmas Blessing

**M**AY 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. *¶ People 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. *¶ People Amen.*

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

AND THE BLESSING ✝ OF GOD ALMIGHTY, THE FATHER, THE SON, AND THE HOLY GHOST, BE AMONGST YOU AND ABIDE WITH YOU FOR EVER. *¶ People Amen.*

*¶ All stand*

## The Dismissal

*¶ The Deacon dismisses the People and they respond*

∇. Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

℞. Thanks be to God.

## Hymn at the Retiring Procession

*¶ The Hymn is found on the facing page*

## Organ Voluntary

Fantasia super *In dulci jubilo*

Johann Sebastian Bach  
(1685–1750)

The Rector, Clergy, and Staff of The Church of St. Michael & St. George  
wish you a very blessed and joyous Christmas.



1 Hark! the her-ald an - gels sing glo - ry to the new-born King!  
 2 Christ, by high-est heaven a - dored; Christ, the ev - er - last - ing Lord;  
 3 Mild he lays his glo - ry by, born that we no more may die,

Peace on earth and mer - cy mild, God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled!  
 late in time be - hold him come, off - spring of the Vir - gin's womb.  
 born to raise us from the earth, born to give us sec - ond birth.

Joy - ful, all ye na - tions, rise, join the tri - umph of the skies;  
 Veiled in flesh the God - head see; hail the in - car - nate De - i - ty.  
 Risen with heal - ing in his wings, light and life to all he brings,

with the an - gel - ic host pro - claim Christ is born in Beth - le - hem!  
 Pleased as man with us to dwell; Je - sus, our Em - man - u - el!  
 hail, the Sun of Right - eous - ness! hail, the heaven-born Prince of Peace!

*Refrain*

Hark! the her - ald an - gels sing glo - ry to the new-born King!

Words: Charles Wesley (1707-1788)  
 Music: MENDELSSOHN; Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847)

# Christmas Eve

## Choral Eucharist

December 24, 2022  
11:00 PM

“The Madonna and Child”

c.1510

Giovanni Bellini

Italian, c.1426–1516

High Museum of Art

Atlanta, Georgia

The Rev. Andrew John Archie *Rector*  
The Rev. Peter James Speropulos *Assistant Rector*  
The Rev. Thomas Roy Albinson *Assistant Rector*  
The Rev. Anne Hunter Kelsey *Priest Associate*  
The Rev. Dr. Stewart Douglas Clem *Priest Associate*  
Dr. Nicholas Frazier Bideler *Director of Music*  
Kathleen Guilfooy Beyers *Assistant Director of Music*



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