



*Midnight Mass*

December 24, 2023 11:00 PM

Cover Art:  
"The Madonna of Humility"  
c. 1430  
Fra Angelico (painter) Florentine  
c. 1395 - 1455  
National Gallery of Art  
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## 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 CEREMONY OF CAROLS  
Benjamin Britten (1913-1976)

The Women of the Choir  
Amy Camie – Harp

## Processional

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

Today Christ is born:  
Today the Saviour has appeared:  
Today angels sing on earth:  
Archangels rejoice:  
Today the righteous exult, saying:  
Glory to God in the highest.  
Alleluia!

## Wolcum Yole! (Anon. 14th Century)

Wolcum, Wolcum, Wolcum be thou hevenè king,  
Wolcum Yole! Wolcum, born in one morning,  
Wolcum for whom we sall sing!  
Wolcum be ye, Stevene and Jon,  
Wolcum, Innocentes every one,  
Wolcum, Thomas marter one,  
Wolcum be ye, good Newe Yere,  
Wolcum, Twelfthe Day both in fere,  
Wolcum, seintes lefe and dere,  
Wolcum Yole, Wolcum Yole, Wolcum!  
Candelmesse, Quene of bliss,  
Wolcum bothe to more and lesse.  
Wolcum, Wolcum, Wolcum be ye that are here,  
Wolcum Yole, Wolcum alle and make good cheer,  
Wolcum alle another yere, Wolcum Yole, Wolcum!

Wolcum = Welcome; hevenè = heavenly  
Yole = Yule (the midwinter festival)  
sall = shall

marter = martyr

fere = fear  
seintes lefe and dere = saints left and dear

Candelmesse = Candlemas

### **There is no Rose (Anon. 14th Century)**

There is no rose of such vertu as is the rose that bare Jesu.  
Alleluia, alleluia.  
For in this rose containèd was heaven and earth in litel space,  
Res miranda, res miranda.  
By that rose we may well see there be one God in persons three,  
Pares forma, pares forma,  
The aungels sungen the shepherds to:  
Gloria in excelsis,  
Gloria in excelsis Deo.  
Gaudeamus, gaudeamus.  
Leave we all this werldly mirth, and follow we this joyful birth.  
Transeamus, transeamus, transeamus.  
Alleluia, res miranda, pares forma, gaudeamus,  
Transeamus, transeamus, transeamus.

vertu = virtue

litel = little

res miranda = miraculous thing

pares forma = in the parent's image

the aungels sungen = the angels sang

gaudeamus = we rejoice

werldly = worldly

transeamus = we follow

### **That Yongë Childe and Bulalow**

**(Anon. 14th Century . . . James, John & Robert Wedderburn, 16th Century)**

That yongë child when it gan weep with song she lulled him asleep:  
That was so sweet a melody it passèd alle minstrelsy.  
The nightingalë sang also: Her song is hoarse . . . and nought  
thereto:  
Whoso attendeth to her song and leaveth the first . . . then doth he  
wrong.

yongë = young; gan weep = began to weep  
passèd = surpassed

whoso = whoever

. . .

O my deare hert, young Jesu sweit, Prepare thy creddil in my spreit,  
And I sall rock thee to my hert, And never mair from thee depart.  
But I sall praise thee evermoir With sanges sweit unto thy gloir;  
The knees of my hert sall I bow, And sing that richt Balulalow.

hert = heart; sweit = sweet; creddil = cradle;  
spreit = spirit; sall = shall; mair = more;  
evermoir = evermore; sanges = songs;  
sweit = sweet; richt = right; gloir = glory;  
Balulalow = Lullaby.

### **As Dew in Aprille (Anon. c. 1400)**

I sing of a maiden that is makèles:  
King of all kings to her son she ches.  
He came also stille there his moder was  
As dew in Aprille that falleth on the grass.  
He came also stille to his moder's bour  
As dew in Aprille that falleth on the flour.  
He came also stille there his moder lay  
As dew in Aprille that falleth on the spray.  
Moder and maiden was never none but she:  
Well may such a lady Goddes moder be.

I sing of a maiden that is matchless:  
King of all kings for her son she chose.  
He came as silently where his mother was  
As dew in April that falls on the grass.  
He came as silently to his mother's bower  
As dew in April that falls on the flower.  
He came as silently where his mother lay  
As dew in April that falls on the spray.  
Mother and maiden was never none but she:  
Well may such a lady God's mother be.

### **This Little Babe (Robert Southwell, d. 1595)**

This little Babe so few days old, is come to rifle Satan's  
fold;  
All hell doth at his presence quake, though he himself  
for cold do shake;  
For in this weak unarmed wise the gates of hell he will  
surprise.  
With tears he fights and wins the field, His naked  
breast stands for a shield;  
His battering shot are babish cries, His arrows looks  
of weeping eyes,  
His martial ensigns Cold and Need, and feeble Flesh  
his warrior's steed.  
His camp is pitched in a stall, His bulwark but a  
broken wall;  
The crib his trench, haystalks his stakes; of shepherds  
he his muster makes;  
And thus, as sure his foe to wound, the angels' trumps  
alarum sound.  
My soul, with Christ join thou in fight; stick to the  
tents that he hath pight.  
Within his crib is surest ward; this little Babe will be  
thy guard.  
If thou wilt foil thy foes with joy, then flit not from  
this heavenly Boy.

rifle = plunder; fold = enclosure

for cold = with cold

wise = way, manner

muster = troops

trumps = trumpets; alarum = alarm

pight = set

ward = protection

flit = move away

### **In Freezing Winter Night (Robert Southwell, d. 1595)**

Behold, a silly tender babe, in freezing winter night,  
In homely manger trembling lies. Alas, a piteous sight!  
The inns are full; no man will yield this little pilgrim  
bed.  
But forced he is with silly beasts in crib to shroud his  
head.  
This stable is a Prince's court, this crib his chair of  
State;

silly = humble

The beasts are parcel of his pomp, the wooden dish his plate.  
The persons in that poor attire his royal liveries wear;  
The Prince himself is come from heaven; this pomp is prized  
there.  
With joy approach, O Christian wight, do homage to thy King,  
And highly praise his humble pomp, wich he from Heaven doth  
bring.

parcel = part, portion

wight = creature  
wich = which

### **Spring Carol (William Cornish, d. 1523)**

Pleasure it is to hear iwis, the Birdes sing,  
The deer in the dale, the sheep in the vale, the corn springing.  
God's purveyance for sustenance, It is for man, it is for man.  
Then we always to give him praise, And thank him than.

iwis = certainly

### **Deo Gracias (Anon. 15th Century)**

Deo gracias! Deo gracias!  
Adam lay ibounden, bounden in a bond;  
Four thousand winter thought he not to long.  
Deo gracias! Deo gracias!  
And all was for an appil, an appil that he tok,  
As clerkes finden written in their book.  
Deo gracias! Deo gracias!  
Ne had the appil take ben, the appil take ben,  
Ne hadde never our lady a ben hevене quene.  
Blessed be the time that appil take was.  
Therefore we moun singen.  
Deo gracias! Deo gracias! Deo gracias! Deo gracias!

Thanks be to God!  
Adam was bound in sin for four thousand  
winters, which he thought not too long.  
Thanks be to God!  
And it was all for an apple that he took,  
as clerics find written in their book.  
Thanks be to God!  
Had the apple not been taken, then our Lady  
would not have been heavenly queen.  
Blessed be the time that the apple was taken.  
Therefore we must sing:  
Thanks be to God! etc, etc

### **Recessional**

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

Today Christ is born: the Saviour has appeared:  
Today angels sing on earth: Archangels rejoice:  
Today the righteous exult, saying:  
Glory to God in the highest. Alleluia!

## The Festal Procession

**T**he Festal Procession, 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

¶ All stand as the Clergy and other Ministers enter

### Choral Introit

All this time this song is best:  
'Verbum caro factum est.'  
This night there is a child yborn  
That sprang out of Jesse's thorn;  
We must sing and say therefor,  
All this time...

Jesus is the childes name,  
And Mary mild is his dame;  
All our sorrow shall turn to game:  
All this time...

It fell upon high midnight:  
The starres shone both fair and bright;  
The angels sang with all their might,  
All this time...

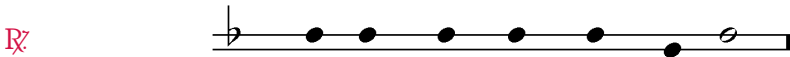
Now kneel we down on our knee,  
And pray we to the Trinity  
Our help, our succour for to be;  
All this time...

Words: 16th Century  
Music: William Walton  
(1902-1983)

¶ The Procession is bid with this Versicle and Response



Let us go forth in peace.



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

✠ The Word was made flesh and dwelt among us:  
 ✠ 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 Choir


Missa O magnum mysterium G. P. Palestrina (1525-1594)

Gloria in excelsis Deo.  
Et in terra pax hominibus bonae voluntatis.  
Laudamus te. Benedicimus te.  
Adoramus te. Glorificamus te.  
Gratias agimus tibi propter magnam gloriam tuam.  
Domine Deus, Rex caelestis, Deus Pater omnipotens.  
Domine Fili unigenite, Iesu Christe.  
Domine Deus, Agnus Dei, Filius Patris.  
Qui tollis peccata mundi, miserere nobis.  
Qui tollis peccata mundi, suscipe deprecationem nostram.  
Qui sedes ad dexteram Patris, miserere nobis.  
Quoniam tu solus Sanctus. Tu solus Dominus.  
Tu solus Altissimus, Iesu Christe.  
Cum Sancto Spiritu, in gloria Dei Patris.  
Amen.

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

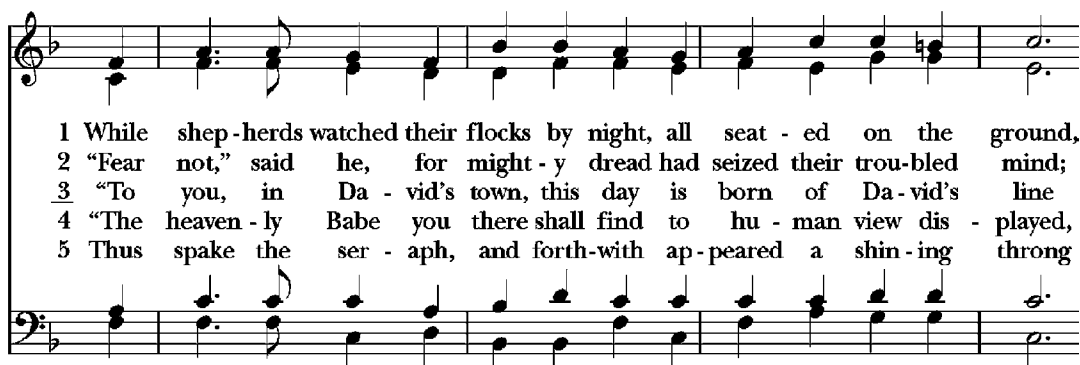
**F**or the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men, teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world; Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ; 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.

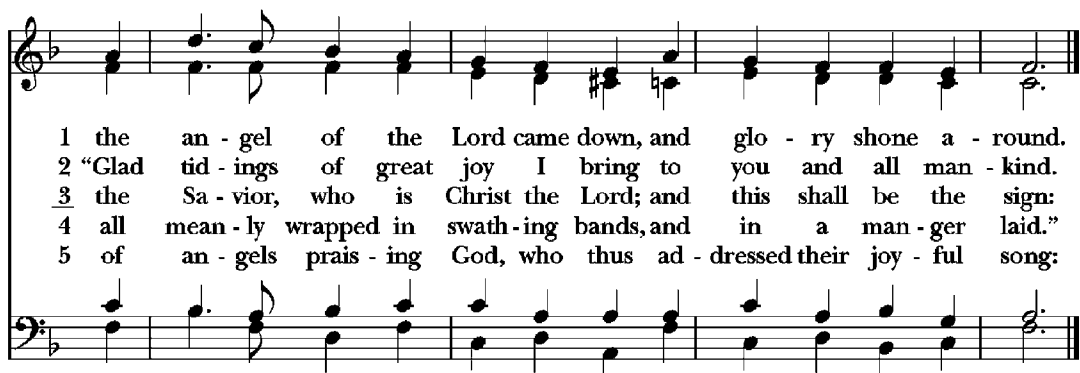
**People** Thanks be to God.

♩ 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 heav-en-ly Babe you there shall find to hu-man view dis-played,  
 5 Thus spake the ser-aph, and forth-with ap-appeared 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-rior, 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: Giovanni Pierluigi da Palestrina (1525-1594)

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

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

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.

heaven and na - ture sing,  
 peat the sound - ing joy,  
 as the curse is found,  
 won - ders of his love,

Words: Isaac Watts (1674-1748), alt.

Music: George Frideric Handel (1685-1759); adapt. and arr. Lowell Mason (1792-1872)

## 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.

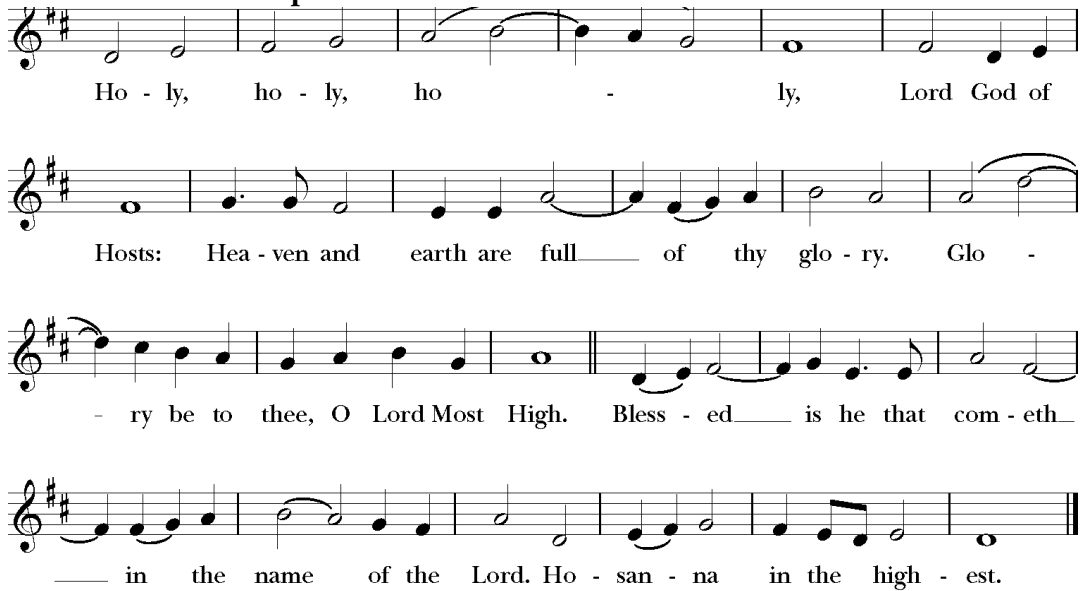
¶ Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds

**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



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, Lord God of  
Hosts: Hea - ven and earth are full of thy glo - ry. Glo -  
- ry be to thee, O Lord Most High. Bless - ed is he that com - eth  
— in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

☞ The People kneel. Then the Celebrant continues with the Eucharistic Prayer

All 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, then is sung

## Agnus Dei


O Lamb of God, that ta - kest a -  
way the sins of the world, have mer - cy up -  
on us. O Lamb of God, that  
ta - kest a - way the sins of the world, have  
mer - cy up - on us. O Lamb of  
God, that ta - kest a - way the sins of the



## 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.

## Carols at The Communion

*Ding dong! merrily on high in heav'n the bells are ringing;  
Ding dong! verily the sky is riv'n with angel singing.  
Gloria, Hosanna in excelsis!*

*E'en so here below, below, let steeple bells be swungen,  
And io, io, io, by priest and people sungen.  
Gloria, Hosanna in excelsis!*

*Pray you dutifully prime your matin chime, ye ringers;  
May you beautifully rime your evetime song, ye singers.  
Gloria, Hosanna in excelsis*

*Words: G. R. Woodward  
Music: 16th c. French, arr. Charles Wood  
(1866-1926)*

*Infant holy, infant lowly, for his bed a cattle stall;  
Oxen lowing, little knowing Christ the Babe is Lord of all.  
Swift are winging, angels singing, Nowells ringing, tidings bringing,  
Christ the Babe is Lord of all.*

*Flocks were sleeping, shepherds keeping vigil till the morning new;  
Saw the glory, heard the story, tidings of the gospel true.  
Thus rejoicing, free from sorrow, praises voicing, greet the morrow,  
Christ the Babe was born for you!*

*Words: Tr. Edith M. Reed  
Music: Polish Carol arr. David Willcocks (1919-2015)*

*Away in a manger, no crib for a bed,  
The little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head.  
The stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay,  
The little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.*

*The cattle are lowing, the baby awakes,  
But little Lord Jesus no crying he makes.  
I love thee, Lord Jesus! Look down from the sky,  
And stay by my side until morning is nigh.*

*Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask thee to stay  
Close by me for ever, and love me, I pray.  
Bless all the dear children in thy tender care,  
And fit us for heaven to live with thee there.*

*Words: Anonymous*

*Music: W. J. Kirkpatrick, arr. David Willcocks (1919-2015)*

# Hymn at the Communion

♩ 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. 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)  
 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*

## Postlude

Noel Suisse

Louis Claude Daquin (1694-1772)

1 Hark! the her-ald an - gels sing glo - ry to the new-born King!  
 2 Christ, by high-est heav - en 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!

# CHRISTMAS MEMORIAL AND THANK OFFERINGS

## GREENS AND DECORATION

The Rev. Andrew J. Archie  
Margot & Ken Bean

The Heil Family  
Bill Jenkins

Guy & Peggy McClellan

### IN MEMORY OF:

Bocky & Fern Allizan by Jeanne Allison  
Daisy Archie by Mary Forsythe  
Daisy Archie Wayne Norwood  
Daisy Archie by Marty & Will Chapman  
Daisy Archie by the Mcpherson Moore family  
Daisy Archie by her Thursday walking group  
Bob & Janet Belt by Rick & Peggy Strelinger  
Dr. Walter F. Ballinger by Mary Randolph Ballinger  
Jane Bertelson, Kitty Horrell Holmes by Liza Streett  
Mr. & Mrs. Karl Daenner by Barbara & Matt Carswell  
Nicholas, Anne, & Lida Franchot by their family  
Brandon Hsueh by his family  
Barbara & Ray Kelsey by Anne Kelsey  
Mary & Oliver Langenberg by the William Lee Polk, Jr. family  
Ann Luedinghaus Case by JoAnn & Marc Vorih  
Laura Hinkson Luker, Antonio Carlos de Souza, Mr. & Mrs. F. Doyle Luker, Mr & Mrs H. H. Hinkson  
by Jeffrey Luker & Grasio de Souza  
John & Sharon McCoy by Linda McCoy & family  
Margaret & Pat Patterson by Marty & Will Chapman & family  
Our dear loved ones by Dr. Henry & Marcia Ollinger  
Janie Luedde by the Mcpherson Moore family  
Jeff & Dotty Miller by Jeff Miller & Abby Castle  
Our parents, Marcella & James H. Rollins, M.D. by Melanie, Jeff & Hadley Altwater  
Parents, family & close friends by Sherry Leeds  
Darlene Roscrow by her family, Dave, Laurie, Will & Lily Brown  
Julie Stephenson by her loving family  
Carroll Stribling by Lulu Stribling & Andrew Robsham  
Ken Teasdale by his family  
Joan C. Tyler, by her husband John R. Tyler  
Elizabeth Upthgrove Cheek by her sister, Linn Wells  
Ruth & Harold Van Luven by Barbara & Bill Van Luven  
Jean & Frank Walker by the Fisher family

### IN THANKS FOR:

The ministry of Bill Aitken by Ann Scott  
The Church of St. Michael & St. George - the Clergy, Staff and parishioners by Ginny & John Rowe  
The Clergy at CSMSG by Marty & Will Chapman  
The wonderful Clergy of CSMSG by Holly & Jeff Demereth  
The Rector, clergy & Staff of CSMSG by Betsy & Tom Douglass  
All of our families & The Church of St. Michael & St. George by Betsy & Bob Panke  
Our families & The Church of St. Michael & St. George by Chris Barrett  
Marnie by her father  
The Marshall & Mantych families from Jay & Liz Marshall  
TV Church, friends, family & skilled doctors by Sherry Leeds  
Marty Chapman's Ministry by Georgia Streett  
The Children's, Youth & Parent Ministries by Marty & Will Chapman & family  
Lewis Shepley by Carolyn Rhett  
Perrin Elizabeth Zakrzewski by Patience Schock

# CHRISTMAS MEMORIAL AND THANK OFFERINGS

## MUSIC

The Rev. Andrew J. Archie  
The Heil Family

Margot & Ken Bean  
Guy & Peggy McClellan

Sherry Leeds

### IN MEMORY OF:

Our parents, Mary Ann Altvater, Roger A. Altvater & Victoria Mayer Altvater by Melanie, Jeff & Hadley Altvater  
Daisy Archie by Mary Forsythe  
Daisy Archie by Mr. & Mrs. William, Lee Polk, Jr.  
Dr. Walter F. Ballinger by Mary Randolph Ballinger  
Carlisle Vose Brigham by her family  
Alfred & Frances Castle by Jeff Miller & Abby Castle  
Florence & Charles Chapman by Marty & Will Chapman  
Mr. & Mrs. Karl Daenner Barbara & Matt Carswell  
Ruth & John Ehni by Barbara & Bill Van Luven  
Carl Eugene Eichenberger, Junice Sue Selveg by Carl & Frankie Eichenberger  
Ken Greenlaw by his wife Carolyn  
Rosemary & Aubrey Hamilton by their daughters  
Brandon Hsueh by his family  
Jon & Nancy Kirk & Roy Martin by Barry Kirk & Andrew Martin  
Sue Jeffries Marshall by the Marshall family  
Timothy McCoy, Stephen McKee Lewis, Gene & Betty Lewis by Linda McCoy & family  
W. Joseph Miles by wife Carolyn Miles  
Parents, family & close friends by Sherry Leeds  
J. William Roscrow by his family Dave, Laurie, Will & Lily Brown  
Betty & Ned Russell, Marcia Rowe by Ginny & John Rowe  
Hugh & Bebe Scott by the Hugh Scott III family  
Katherine Perkins Stark by Molly Stark Strassner  
Julie Stephenson by her loving family  
Julie Stephenson by Wayne Norwood  
Robert Wells Streett, Arthur Robards Bertelson by Liza Streett  
Penny & Lee Strelinger by Rick & Peggy Strelinger  
Carroll Stribling by Lulu Stribling  
Tom & Alan by their families by their families  
Joan C. Tyler by her husband John R. Tyler

### IN THANKS FOR:

Fr. Tom Albinson by Georgia Streett  
For all of our families & The Church of St. Michael & St. George by Betsy & Bob Panke  
Our Church of St. Michael & St. George, Clergy & Staff by Dr. Henry & Marcia Ollinger  
Our families & The Church of St. Michael & St. George by Chris Barrett  
Clergy & Staff by Gay Einig  
The Clergy at CSMSG by Marty & Will Chapman  
The parish of CSMSG by Holly & Jeff Demerath  
Our children & grandchildren by Betsy & Tom Douglas  
Our five grandchildren: Graham 14, Alex 19, Tyler 8, King & Paddy 6, Ellie Anne 3, Ryan  
by Patricia & Larry Sewell  
John & Selma by Anne Kelsey  
The Mcpherson Moore family  
Kate Pisano by her father  
In loving appreciation for Apareada Santos de Souza & Verlyn L. Luker by Jeffrey Luker & Grasiano de Souza



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





THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL & ST. GEORGE

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The Rev. Peter James Speropulos	<i>Assistant Rector</i>
The Rev. Thomas Roy Albinson	<i>Assistant Rector</i>
The Rev. Dr. Stewart Douglas Clem	<i>Priest Associate; Theologian in Residence</i>
The Rev. Anne Hunter Kelsey	<i>Priest Associate</i>
Mr. S. William Aitken	<i>Interim Organist and Choral Director</i>

