



A Christmastide Service of Lessons and Carols

St. George's Episcopal Church, Glenn Dale
January 1, 2023

Welcome to St. George's! We are glad to see you this morning, whether in person or virtually. Zoom participants are encouraged to leave your video camera; at certain points during the service participants in the sanctuary will see the gallery view of those taking part in the service via Zoom.

Prelude: *Deck the Halls* played in four hands by Ria Yang and Tim Dangel

Welcome and Introduction

Processional Hymn: Hymnal 1982 #92 *On This Day, Earth Shall Ring*

Words: *Piae Cantiones*, 1582 Translated by Jane M. Joseph (1894-1929). Music: *Personent hodie* from *Piae Cantiones*, 1582.
Hymns reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-701323



On this day earth shall ring with the song chil-dren sing to the Lord,
His the doom, ours the mirth; when he came down to earth Beth - le - hem
God's bright star, ov'er his head, Wise Men three to him led; kneel they low
On this day an - gels sing; with their song earth shall ring, prais - ing Christ,



Christ our King, born on earth to save us; him the Fa - ther gave us.
saw his birth; ox and ass be - side him from the cold would hide him.
by his bed, lay their gifts be - for him, praise him and a - dore him.
hea - ven's King, born on earth to save us; peace and love he gave us.



Id-e-o - o-o, Id-e-o - o-o, Id-e-o glo-ri-a in ex-cel-sis De-o!

Celebrant: Blessed are you, holy and living One.

People: **Glory to God Forever and ever. Amen.**

All pray together

Almighty God, you have poured upon us the new light of your incarnate Word: Grant that this light, enkindled in our hearts, may shine forth in our lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

The First Lesson: Isaiah 60:18 – 20, 61: 1-4

No longer will violence be heard in your land, nor ruin or destruction within your borders, but you will call your walls Salvation and your gates Praise.

The sun will no more be your light by day, nor will the brightness of the moon shine on you, for the LORD will be your everlasting light, and your God will be your glory.

Your sun will never set again, and your moon will wane no more;

the LORD will be your everlasting light, and your days of sorrow will end.

The Spirit of the Sovereign LORD is on me, because the LORD has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted,

to proclaim freedom for the captives and release from darkness for the prisoners,

to proclaim the year of the LORD's favor and the day of vengeance of our God,

to comfort all who mourn, and provide for those who grieve in Zion—

to bestow on them a crown of beauty instead of ashes, the oil of joy

instead of mourning, and a garment of praise instead of a spirit of despair.

They will be called oaks of righteousness, a planting of the LORD for the display of his splendor.

They will rebuild the ancient ruins and restore the places long devastated;

they will renew the ruined cities that have been devastated for generations.

The Word of the Lord. People: **Thanks be to God.**

FIRST COMING

He did not wait till the world was ready,

Till men and nations were at peace,

He came when the Heavens were unsteady,

And prisoners cried out for release,

He did not wait for the perfect time.

He came when the need was deep and great,

He dined with sinners in all their grime,

Turned water into wine.

He did not wait till hearts were pure.

In joy he came to a tarnished world of sin and doubt.

To a world like ours, of anguished shame

He came, and his Light would not go out.

He came to a world which did not mesh,

To heal its tangles, shield its scorn.

In the mystery of the Word made Flesh

The Maker of the stars was born.

We cannot wait till the world is sane

To raise our songs with joyful voice,

For to share our grief, to touch our pain,

He came with Love: Rejoice! Rejoice!

Madeline L'Engle

Hymn: Hymnal #114 'Twas in the moon of wintertime

Words: Jesse Edgar Middleton (1872-1960). Music: *Une jeune pucele*, French folk melody Hymns reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-701323



'Twas in the moon of win - ter time, when all the birds had fled,
With - in a lodge of bro - ken bark the ten - der babe was found,
The ear - liest moon of win - ter time is not so round and fair
O chil - dren of the for - rest free, the an - gel song is true;



that God the Lord of all the earth sent an - gel - choirs in - stead;
a rag - ged robe of rab - bit skin en - wrapped his beau - ty round;
as was the ring of glo - ry on the help - less in - fant there.
the ho - ly child of earth and heaven is born toi - day for you.



be - fore their light the stars grew dim, and won - dering hunt - ers heard the hymn:
but as the hunt - er braves drew night, the an - gel - song rang loud and high:
The chiefs from far be - fore him knelt with gifts of fox and bea - ver pelt.
Come kneel be - fore the ra - diant boy, who brings you beau - ty, peace and joy.



Je - sus your King is born, Je - sus is born, in ex - cel - sis - glo - ri - a

The Second Lesson: Matthew 1:18 - 25

This is how the birth of Jesus the Messiah came about: His mother Mary was pledged to be married to Joseph, but before they came together, she was found to be pregnant through the Holy Spirit. Because Joseph her husband was faithful to the law, and yet did not want to expose her to public disgrace, he had in mind to divorce her quietly.

But after he had considered this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because what is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins."

All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet: "The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel" (which means "God with us").

When Joseph woke up, he did what the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took Mary home as his wife. But he did not consummate their marriage until she gave birth to a son. And he gave him the name Jesus.

The Word of the Lord. **People: Thanks be to God.**

from spiraling ecstatically this
proud nowhere on earth's most prodigious night
blossoms a newborn babe: around him, eyes
-gifted with every keener appetite
than mere unmiracle can quite appease-
humbly in their imagined bodies kneel
(over time space doom dream while floats the whole
perhapsless mystery of paradise)
mind without soul may blast some universe
to might have been, and stop ten thousand stars
but not one heartbeat of this child; nor shall
even prevail a million questionings
against the silence of his mother's smile
-whose only secret all creation sings

e.e cummings

Hymn: Cherry Tree Carol – A traditional English Carol sung by emma hadley

*When Joseph was an old man, and old man was he,
he courted Virgin Mary, the Queen of Galilee, ...
When Joseph and Mary walked through an orchard green,
there were berries and cherries as thick as might be seen ...
When Mary spoke to Joseph, so meek and so mild.
"Joseph gather me some cherries for I am with child, ..."
Then Joseph flew in anger, in anger flew he,
"Let the father of your baby gather cherries for thee,"
Then upspoke baby Jesus from in Mary's womb
"Bend down the tallest tree that my mother might have some, ..."
Then bent down the tallest tree till it touched Mary's hand,
Mary cried, "Oh look thou, Joseph, I have cherries by command, ..."
When Joseph was an old man, an old man was he
he married Virgin Mary, the Queen of Galilee, ...*

The Third Lesson: Luke 2: 15 – 21

When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let's go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about."

So they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby, who was lying in the manger. When they had seen him, they spread the word concerning what had been told them about this child, and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds said to them. But Mary treasured up all these things and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things they had heard and seen, which were just as they had been told. On the eighth day, when it was time to circumcise the child, he was named Jesus, the name the angel had given him before he was conceived.

The Word of the Lord. **People: Thanks be to God.**

IN THE DAYS OF CAESER

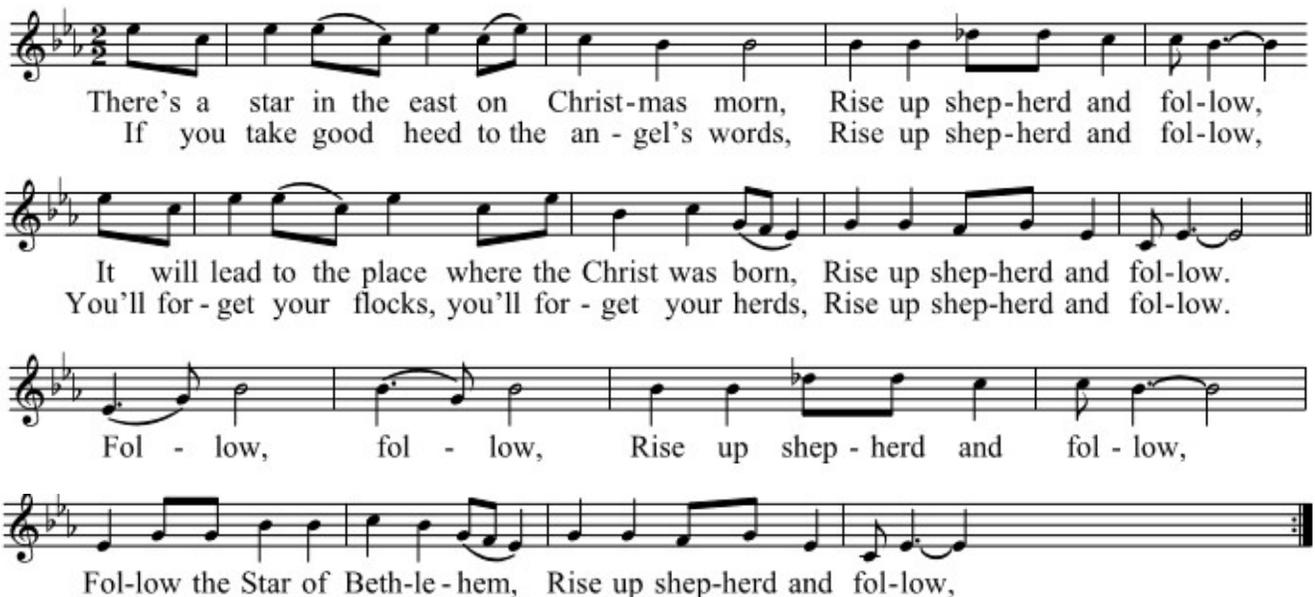
In the days of Caesar, when his subjects went to be reckoned,
There was a poem made, too dark for him (naïve with power) to read.
It was a bunch of shepherds who discovered
In Bethlehem of Judah, the great music beyond reason and reckoning:
Shepherds, the sort of folk who leave the ninety-nine behind
So as to bring the stray back home, they heard it clear,
The subtle assonances of the day, dawning toward cock-crow
The birthday of the Lamb of God, shepherd of mortals.

Well, little people, and my little nation, can you see
The secret buried in you, that no Caesar ever captures in his lists?
Will not the shepherd come to fetch us in our desert,
Gathering us in to give us birth again, weaving us into one
In a song heard in the sky over Bethlehem?
He seeks us out as wordhoard for his workmanship, the laureate of heaven.

Waldo Williams, translated from the Welsh by Rowan Williams

Hymn: Hymn: LEVAS #24 *Rise up Shepherd*

Words and Music: Traditional. Hymns reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-701323



The musical score is written in G major (one sharp) and 2/2 time. It consists of four staves of music with lyrics underneath. The lyrics are: "There's a star in the east on Christ-mas morn, Rise up shep-herd and fol-low, If you take good heed to the an-gel's words, Rise up shep-herd and fol-low, It will lead to the place where the Christ was born, Rise up shep-herd and fol-low. You'll for-get your flocks, you'll for-get your herds, Rise up shep-herd and fol-low. Fol-low, fol-low, Rise up shep-herd and fol-low, Fol-low the Star of Beth-le-hem, Rise up shep-herd and fol-low,"

The Fourth Lesson: Luke 2: 25 – 35

Now there was a man in Jerusalem called Simeon, who was righteous and devout. He was waiting for the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was on him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not die before he had seen the Lord's Messiah. Moved by the Spirit, he went into the temple courts. When the parents brought in the child Jesus to do for him what the custom of the Law required, Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying:

“Sovereign Lord, as you have promised,
you may now dismiss your servant in peace.
For my eyes have seen your salvation,
which you have prepared in the sight of all nations:
a light for revelation to the Gentiles,
and the glory of your people Israel.”

The child’s father and mother marveled at what was said about him. Then Simeon blessed them and said to Mary, his mother: “This child is destined to cause the falling and rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be spoken against, so that the thoughts of many hearts will be revealed. And a sword will pierce your own soul too.”

The Word of the Lord. **People: Thanks be to God.**

“Mary’s Song”

Blue homespun and the bend of my breast
keep warm this small hot naked star
fallen to my arms. (Rest ...
you who have had so far to come.)
Now nearness satisfies
the body of God sweetly. Quiet he lies
whose vigor hurled a universe. He sleeps
whose eyelids have not closed before.
His breath (so slight it seems
no breath at all) once ruffled the dark deeps
to sprout a world. Charmed by doves' voices,
the whisper of straw, he dreams,
hearing no music from his other spheres.
Breath, mouth, ears, eyes
he is curtailed who overflowed all skies,
all years. Older than eternity, now he
is new. Now native to earth as I am, nailed
to my poor planet, caught
that I might be free, blind in my womb
to know my darkness ended,
brought to this birth for me to be new-born,
and for him to see me mended
I must see him torn.

Luci Shaw

Hymn: Hymnal 1982 #110 *The Snow Lay on the Ground*

Words: Source unknown, Music: *Venite adoremus*, melody adapted by Charles Winfred Douglas (1867-1944)

Hymns reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-701323



The snow lay on the ground, the stars shone bright when Christ our Lord was born on
Twas Ma - ry, daugh-ter pure of ho - ly Anne, that brought in - to this world the
Saint Jo - seph, too, was by to tend the child; to guard him, and pro - tect his
And thus that man - ger poor be - came a throne; for he whom Ma - ry bore was



Christ-mas night. Ve - ni - te a - do - re - mus Do - mi - num. Ve - ni - te a - do -
God made man. She laid him in a stall at Beth - le - hem; the ass and ox - en
mo - ther mild; the an - gels hov-ered round, and sang this song, Ve - ni - te a - do -
God the Son. O come, then, let us join the heaven-ly host; to praise the Fa-ther,



- re - mus Do - mi - num. Ve-ni-te a-do - re-mus Do-mi-num. Ve-ni-te a-do - re-mus Do-mi - num.
shared the roof with them.
- re - mus Do - mi - num.
Son, and Ho - ly Ghost.

The Fifth Lesson: Matthew 2: 1-12

After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the time of King Herod, Magi from the east came to Jerusalem and asked, “Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews? We saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him.”

When King Herod heard this he was disturbed, and all Jerusalem with him. When he had called together all the people’s chief priests and teachers of the law, he asked them where the Messiah was to be born. “In Bethlehem in Judea,” they replied, “for this is what the prophet has written:

“But you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,
are by no means least among the rulers of Judah;
for out of you will come a ruler
who will shepherd my people Israel.”

Then Herod called the Magi secretly and found out from them the exact time the star had appeared. He sent them to Bethlehem and said, “Go and search carefully for the child. As soon as you find him, report to me, so that I too may go and worship him.”

After they had heard the king, they went on their way, and the star they had seen when it rose went ahead of them until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw the star, they were overjoyed. On coming to the house, they saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped him. Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to go back to Herod, they returned to their country by another route.

The Word of the Lord. **People: Thanks be to God.**

"For the Time Being" Excerpt

The Wise Men

Led by the light of an unusual star,
We hunted high and low.
 Have traveled far,
For many days, a little group alone
With doubts, reproaches,
boredom, the unknown.
Through stifling gorges.
 Over level lakes,
Tundras intense and irresponsive seas.
In vacant crowds and humming silences,
By ruined arches and past modern shops,
Counting the miles,
 And the absurd mistakes.
O here and now our endless journey stops.

The Shepherds

We never left the place where we were born,
Have lived only one day, but every day,
Have walked a thousand miles yet only worn
The grass between our work and home away.
Lonely we were though never left alone.
The solitude familiar to the poor
Is feeling that the family next door,
The way it talks, eats, dresses, loves, and hates,
Is indistinguishable from one's own.
To-night for the first time the prison gates have opened.
 Music and sudden light
Have interrupted our routine tonight,
And swept the filth of habit from our hearts.
O here and now our endless journey starts.

W.H. Auden

Hymnal 1982 #128 *We Three Kings of Orient Verses 1-4*

Words and Music: *Three Kings of Orient* John Henry Hopkins, Jr. (1820-1891.) Hymns reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-701323



We three kings of O - ri - ent are, bear - ing gifts we tra - verse a - far,
Born a King on Beth - le - hem's plain, gold I bring to crown him a - gain
Frank - in - cense to of - fer have I: in - cense owns a De - i - ty nigh;
Myrrh is mine; its bit - ter per - fume breathes a life of gath - er - ing gloom;



field and foun - tain, moor and moun - tain, fol - low - ing yon - der star.,
King for - ev - er ceas - ing nev - er o - ver us all to reign.
prayer and prais - ing, glad - ly rais - ing, wor - ship him, God Most High
sor - rowing, sigh - ing, bleed - ing, dy - ing, sealed in the stone cold tomb.



O star of won - der, star of night, star with roy - al beau - ty bright;



west - ward lead - ing, still pro - ceed - ing, guide us to thy per - fect light!

The Sixth Lesson: John 1:1-14

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it. There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God. And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

The Word of the Lord. **People: Thanks be to God.**

On the Mystery of the Incarnation

It's when we face for a moment
the worst our kind can do, and shudder to know
the taint in our own selves, that awe
cracks the mind's shell and enters the heart:
not to a flower, not to a dolphin,
to no innocent form
but to this creature vainly sure
it and no other is god-like, God
(out of compassion for our ugly
failure to evolve) entrusts,
as guest, as brother,
the Word.

Denise Levertov

Hymnal 1982 #82 *Our Creator's Love Begotten*

Marcus Aurelius Clemens Prudentius (348-410) tr. John Mason Neale (1818-1866) Music: *Divinum mysterium*, Sanctus trope, 11th Century; adapted *Piae Cantiones*. Hymns reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-701323



Our Cre - a - tor's love be - got - ten, ere the worlds be - gan to
O that birth for ev - er bless - ed, when the Vir - gin, full of
Let the heights of heaven a - dore him; an - gel hosts, his prais - es



be, Christ is Al - pha and O - me - ga, Christ the source, the end - ing
grace, by the Ho - ly Ghost con - ceiv - ing, bore the Sa - vior of our
sing; powers, do - min - ions, bow be - fore him, and ex - tol our God and



be, of the things that are, that have been, and that fu - ture
race; and the Babe, the world's Re - deem - er, first re - vealed his
King; let no tongue on earth be si - lent, ev - ery voice in



years shall see, ev - er - more and ev - er - more!
sa - cred face, ev - er - more and ev - er - more!
con - cert ring, ev - er - more and ev - er - more!

The Peace

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

People: **And also with you.**

Blessings for Birthdays & Anniversaries

O God, our times are in your hand: Look with favor, we pray, on your servant(s) and anyone celebrating their birthday or anniversary this week as they begin another year. Grant that they may grow in wisdom and grace, and strengthen their trust in your goodness all the days of their lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Offertory

Walk in love as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering holy and acceptable to God.

Many thanks for your financial support of St. George's. We encourage you to give electronically wherever possible. Text stgeodragon to 72356. Or just use your web browser to go to www.onrealm.org/StGeorgesChurch/Give. You may also donate via Zelle to donations@stgeorgesglendale.org. Baskets at the doors of the Sanctuary may be used for donations of checks or cash.

Offertory Hymn: Hymnal 1982 # 84 *Love Came Down at Christmas*

Words: Christina Rossetti (1830-1894) Music: Gartan from *Petrie Collection of Irish Melodies, Part II, 1902*
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Love came down at Christ-mas, love all love - ly, love di - vine;
Wor - ship we the God - head, love in - car - nate, love di - vine;
Love shall be our to - ken; love be yours and love be mine,

love was born at Christ-mas: star and an - gels gave the sign.
wor-ship we our Je - sus, but where-with for sa-cred signs?
love to God and neigh-bor, love for plea and gift and sign.

The Great Thanksgiving

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

People: **We lift them to the Lord.**

Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

The Celebrant continues:

Holy God, our Source and Ending, Alpha and Omega, we give thanks to you! You have called all creation into being, setting the earth on its foundations. You have spread out the heavens like a tent, and set a boundary to the seas, you have filled the world with your creatures and called all things good. The heavenly beings are your messengers night and day, and with them we sing and give glory to you:

Sanctus: Hymnal 1982 #S 125 *Holy, holy, holy Lord*

Setting from *A Community Mass*; Richard Proulx (b. 1937) Hymns reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-701323



Ho-ly, ho-ly, ho-ly Lord, God of pow-er and might. heaven and earth are full of your



glo-ry. Ho-san-na in the high-est. Ho-san-na in the high-est. Bless-ed is the one who comes in the



name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high-est. Ho-san-na in the high-est

The Celebrant continues:

In these latter days, God leaned toward the earth and spoke to us by a Son, Jesus the Beloved. Born of our sister Mary and the Holy Spirit, guarded by our brother Joseph with fatherly care, Jesus came among us as a baby, humbly born, cradled beside the beasts and warmed by their breath, human as we are, in need of human love.

**Yet kings bowed down before him bringing gifts, and emperors were troubled by his reign
- this Child in whom all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell.**

This Word of God made flesh and full of grace was sent to deliver us from our sin, from the power of evil and the fear of death. As a servant, Jesus emptied himself of might upon the cross, and as the risen Anointed One is enthroned at God's right hand to bring mercy and justice to all the earth at the end of days. And so, rejoicing in all God has done for us, we proclaim the mystery of our faith:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again!

Holy God, as you visited us in the birth of Jesus, visit us now by the power of your Spirit in these creatures of bread and wine, making them for us the Body and Blood of Christ, the banquet of heaven here on earth, as we remember how Jesus took bread and blessed and broke it and gave it to his friends, saying, "Take, eat, This is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me;" and after supper, took a cup of wine and blessed and gave it to them, saying: "Drink this, all of you. This cup is the new covenant in my blood, poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me."

Blessed God, shed your grace brighter than starlight on us that we may bear your good tidings to all and renew the weary world in your name: the name of Emmanuel – God-With-Us, to whom we give honor and glory in joy, now and for ever. Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Celebrant: And now, in the spirit of Christ, we pray:

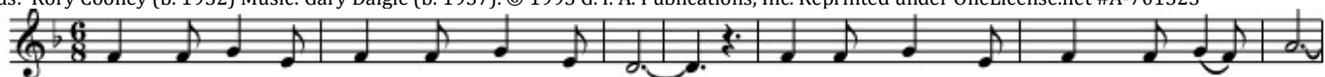
**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy Name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power,
and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.**

The Breaking of the Bread

The bread is broken and silence is kept

Fraction Anthem: Gather #247 May We Be One

Words: Rory Cooney (b. 1952) Music: Gary Daigle (b. 1957). © 1993 G. I. A. Publications, Inc. Reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-701323



When we eat this bread and drink this cup we pro-claim your death, Lord Je - sus.



So as we share this feast may we be come, heal-ing and light and peace. May we be one.

The Celebrant says

Mindful that not all are present physically to receive the sacrament, we pray with those who receive spiritual Holy Communion this day:

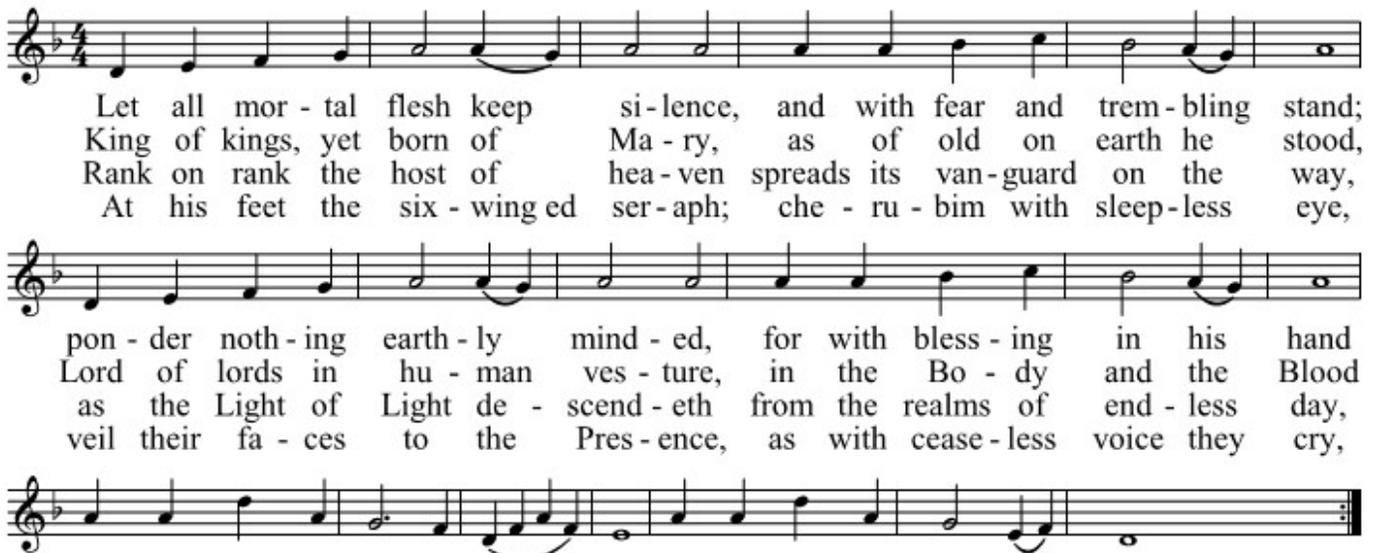
Lord Jesus, in union with your faithful people, we offer to you our praise and thanks. Since we cannot receive you today in the Sacrament of your Body and Blood, we pray that you come spiritually into our hearts. Strengthen us with your grace, O Lord, and let us never be separated from you. May we live in you, and you in us, in this life and in the life to come. Amen.

Celebrant: The gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ lived, died, and rose again for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

*Wherever you are in your journey of faith, you are invited to receive the Holy Communion.
Whatever you believe or don't believe, you are welcome at this table.
For this is Christ's table, and all are welcome.*

Communion Hymn 1: Hymnal 1982 # 324 *Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence*

Words: Liturgy of Saint James para Gerard Moultrie (1829-1885) Music: *Picardy* 17th century French carol Reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-701323



Let all mor - tal flesh keep si - lence, and with fear and trem - bling stand;
King of kings, yet born of Ma - ry, as of old on earth he stood,
Rank on rank the host of hea - ven spreads its van - guard on the way,
At his feet the six - wing ed ser - aph; che - ru - bim with sleep - less eye,
pon - der noth - ing earth - ly mind - ed, for with bless - ing in his hand
Lord of lords in hu - man ves - ture, in the Bo - dy and the Blood
as the Light of Light de - scend - eth from the realms of end - less day,
veil their fa - ces to the Pres - ence, as with cease - less voice they cry,
Christ our God to earth de - scend - eth, our full ho - mage to de - mand.
he will give to all the faith - ful his own self for heaven - ly food.
that the powers of hell may va - nish as the dark - ness clears a - way.
"Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia, Lord Most High!

Communion Hymn 2: Hymnal 1982 #98 *Unto Us a Boy is Born*

Words: Latin carol 15th Century; tr. Percy Dearmer (1867-1936) Music: *Puer nobis nascitur* Melody from *Piae Cantiones*. 1582

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Un - to us a boy is born! The King of all cre - a - tion, came he to a
Cra - dled in a stall was he with sleep - y cows and ass - es; but the ve - ry
He - rod, then with fear was filled "A prince" he said, "in Jew - ry!" All the lit - tle
Now may Ma - ry's son, who came so long a - go to love us, lead us all with
Un - to us a boy is born! The King of all cre - a - tion, came he to a



world for-lorn, the Lord of ev - ery na - tion.
beasts could see that he all men sur - pass - es
boys he killed at Beth-lehem in his fu - ry.
hearts a - flame un - to the joys a - bove us.
world for-lorn, the Lord of ev - ery na - tion.

Post- Communion Prayer

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

Announcements

The Blessing

May the God of the angels who heralded Christ's birth bring joy to your hearts this day and always. **Amen.**

May the God of love, whose only Son to was born for you, fill your life with love and peace. **Amen.**

May Emmanuel, God with us, be with you in all your doings and all your celebrations, until he brings you into his eternal kingdom. **Amen.**

And may God Almighty, God who created us, Christ Jesus who brings us new life, and the Holy Spirit who guides and sustains us, be with you now and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Dismissal Hymn: LEVAS #21 *Go Tell it on the Mountain*

Words: Luke 2: 8-20 adapted by John W. Work, Jr. (1871-1925) Music: Negro Spiritual; adapted and arranged William Parley Smith (b. 1941).
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Go, tell it on the moun-tain, o-ver the hills and ev-ery-where;



go, tell it on the moun-tain, that Je-sus Christ is born.



While shep-herds kept their watch-ing o'er si-lent flocks by night, Be-
The shep-herds feared and trem-bled, when lo! a - bove the earth, Rang
Down in a low - ly man - ger the hum-ble Christ was born, And



- hold through-out the heav-ens there shown a ho - ly light.
out the an-gel chor-us that hailed the Sav - ior's birth.
God sent us sal - va - tion that bless - ed Christ-mas morn.

Celebrant: Let us go forth in the power and the spirit of the Incarnate Word.

People: **Thanks be to God!**

Postlude: *God Rest ye Merry Gentlemen* played in four hands by Ria Yang and Tim Dangel