

# CHRIST & GRACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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[www.christandgrace.org](http://www.christandgrace.org)



The Nativity of our Lord  
December 24, 2018

## 8:30 P.M. A PRELUDE OF MUSIC FOR CHRISTMAS

<i>How lovely are the messengers</i>	Felix Mendelssohn
<i>Ave Maria</i>	Franz Schubert
<i>Gesù Bambino</i>	Pietro Yon
<i>Ding Dong Merrily on High</i>	French carol, arr. Charles Wood
<i>Cantique de Noël</i>	Adolphe Adam
<i>Sussex Carol</i>	English carol, arr. David Willcocks
<i>Angelus</i>	Henriette Renié

The Choir of Christ and Grace

William Owen *Organist – Choirmaster*

Matthew Little *Assistant Organist*

Laraine Smith *Soprano*

Cody Davis-Meadows *Bass*

Elizabeth Dechent *Harp*

**9:00 P.M. CHRISTMAS EVE HOLY EUCHARIST**

**THE WORD OF GOD**

**HYMN 83** *O come all ye faithful*

Adeste fideles, arr. Willcocks

**Opening Acclamation** *standing*

Book of Common Prayer p. 355

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

*People* **And blessed be his kingdom, now and forever. Amen.**

**Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

**Hymn 96** *Angels we have heard on high*

Gloria

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

**The Collect of the Day**

O God, you have caused this holy night to shine with the brightness of the true Light: Grant that we, who have known the mystery of that Light on earth, may also enjoy him perfectly in heaven; where with you and the Holy Spirit he lives and reigns, one God, in glory everlasting. **Amen.**

**First Reading: Isaiah 9:2-7**

*sitting*

*see scripture insert*

*Reader* The Word of the Lord.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

**Psalm 96** (sung by choir)

**Second Reading: Titus 2:11-14**

*Reader* The Word of the Lord.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

**SEQUENCE HYMN 79** *O Little Town of Bethlehem* (stanzas 1-3)

St. Louis

**Gospel:** *standing*

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

*People* **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

**Luke 2:1-20**

*Celebrant* The Gospel of the Lord.

*People* **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

**SEQUENCE HYMN 79** *O Little Town of Bethlehem* (stanzas 4-5)

St. Louis

**The Sermon**

Robin Teasley

**The Nicene Creed**      standing (p. 358)  
We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the Prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

**Prayers of the People**      *standing or kneeling* (p. 387)

- Intercessor*    Let us pray to God, who came among us in the birth of Jesus:  
Gracious God, as a star rose, and drew people from great distances to Bethlehem that they might greet the Christ child. Draw your Church, and all people to you.
- All*                **Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.**
- Intercessor*    As you gave Mary your Holy Spirit, filling her with the delight of your presence: Fill us with your Spirit, and renew our lives.
- All*                **Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.**
- Intercessor*    As Gentiles streamed to the light of Christ and kings to the brightness of his rising: Draw all nations, and all in authority, to your brightness.
- All*                **Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.**
- Intercessor*    As angels sang proclaiming peace on earth and goodwill among all peoples: Bring us your peace, and bring an end to terror and strife.
- All*                **Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.**
- Intercessor*    As Jesus was born in a manger, because there was no room in the inn: Be especially present with those who have nowhere to lay their heads, those who are vulnerable, and those who are hungry.
- All*                **Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.**
- Intercessor*    As the Holy Family gathered together in Bethlehem, and traveled together to far off lands: Bless all families, especially the families of our parish, and protect those who travel.
- All*                **Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.**
- Intercessor*    As your Son came to proclaim the forgiveness of sins, and the gift of life eternal: Give to the departed eternal rest and let light perpetual shine upon them.
- All*                **Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.**

*Presider* O Lord our God, may the light and hope of this night, and of your Son's Incarnation, reassure our hearts that you are among us, that you hear our prayer, and that you will be with us always, even to the end of the age. In the name of Jesus the Christ we pray. **Amen.**

**The Peace** *standing*

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

*People* **And also with you.**

### **Greeting and Announcements**

### **Offertory Sentence**

### **The Holy Communion**

**The Offertory Anthem:** *See amid the winter's snow*

John Goss, arr. David Willcocks

**At the Presentation Hymn 112** *In the bleak mid-winter* (vs. 4)

Cranham

*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.*

**The Great Thanksgiving, Eucharistic Prayer B** *standing*

(p. 367)

*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 him thanks and praise.**

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. Because you gave Jesus Christ, your only Son, to be born for us; who, by the mighty power of the Holy Spirit, was made perfect Man of the flesh of the Virgin Mary his mother; so that we might be delivered from the bondage of sin, and receive power to become your children.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

**Hymn S-130** *Holy, holy, holy Lord*

Schubert

*Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,*

*Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,*

*heaven and earth are full, full of your glory.*

*Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.*

*Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.*

*Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.*

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,  
**We remember his death,**  
**We proclaim his resurrection,**  
**We await his coming in glory;**

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

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

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say, (p. 364)

**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**

**Fraction Hymn S-154 Alleluia**

Hurd

**Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;**  
**therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.**

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

**Hymn S-164 Jesus, Lamb of God**

Schubert

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

*All baptized persons, regardless of denomination or church membership, are welcome to come forward and receive the Holy Bread and Wine. A larger chalice for drinking or a small chalice for intincting (dipping) are available at the altar rail. If you wish to intinct, please hold your wafer up so chalice bearers can see it. If you would like Communion brought to you in the pew, please tell an usher.*

**Communion Music:**

**Hymn 81** *Lo, how a rose e'er blooming*

**Hymn 82** *Of the Father's love begotten*

**Hymn 101** *Away in a manger*

Es ist ein Ros  
Divinum mysterium  
Cradle Song

**Prayer of Thanksgiving** *standing or kneeling*

(p. 365)

Let us pray.

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

*At this time the acolytes will light candles for the singing of Silent Night. As you share the flame with the person next to you, keep lighted candles upright, turning the candle to be lighted sideways, to prevent wax from dripping.*

**Hymn 111** *Silent Night* *please kneel as you are able*

Stille Nacht, Descant Gerre Hancock

**The Blessing**

*You may extinguish your candle after The Blessing*

**Hymn 87** *Hark! the herald angels sing*

Mendelssohn, arr. Willcocks

**Dismissal**

*People* **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.**

**Postlude** *In dulci jubilo*

J S Bach

Lay Readers: Samantha Ellis, Martha Burton, Liz Richardson, Nancy Rawlings

Acolytes: Lexie Ellis, Samuel Gates, Ray Ellis, Tripp Matthews, Jackson Matthews, Ann Morgan Matthews

Ushers: Marwee Walsh, Andy Gates Audio: Jim Donnelly

Robin Teasley, Rector

**Tomorrow, Christmas Day**, Holy Communion Rite II with Carols at 10:30 a.m.

**Sunday, December 30**, 8:00 a.m. Morning Prayer, 10:30 a.m. Christmas Lessons and Carols.

**Sunday School** will resume on Sunday, January 6. Adults/Youth at 9:30 a.m. Children ages 2-11 at 10:30 a.m.

**The Church Office** will be closed, Tuesday, December 25, through Tuesday, January 1. If you have a pastoral emergency, please call Robin Teasley (338-0698).

**To all our members and visitors, may you have a beautiful Christmas and a New Year filled with God's blessings.**

The Christmas floral display is given to the glory of God and in loving memory of:



**Our parents** by the Talmage family.

**Joe L. Jones** by his family.

**Jeremy Ross Bowles** by his family.

**Ed & Pidgy Betts** by their family.

**Polly Davies, Kathleen Kirkpatrick, Barbara Ragsdale, and Daphne Spurlock** by the 10 O'clock Circle.

**Carolyn B. Ross** by Gene Ross and family.

**Alice Virginia Wright Flory Wallace** from Mary and Dean Hutson.

**Kathie Elder** by her family.

**J.T. Morriss, V, and Mr. & Mrs. J.T. Morriss, IV,** by their little angels.

**Ellsworth Spain** by Kay Spain and family.

**Dr. and Mrs. William M. Turner and William M. Turner, Jr.** by their family.

**William Norvel Walsh, Jr.** by his family.

**My parents, Harold & Mabel Minetree, and my grandmother, Evelyn P. Coley** by Laraine Smith.

**The Rev. Dr. Stephen P. Cowardin** by Robin Teasley.

**Mr. and Mrs. Cyril J. Porter, and Albert L. Seward, Jr.** by Sally Seward.

**Clyde W. Vick, Jr.,** by his family.

**Phillip H. McClure, and Lorraine & Neal Fitzpatrick** by Maureen McClure and family.

**Barbara Ragsdale** by Randy Ragsdale and family.

**Mildred & J. Newell Williamson, Sr., Caroline & Julian H. Moore, and Linda Sue Moore** by their family.

**Joe Grossman** by his family.

**Mary Weisiger Grossman McNeer** by her family.

**Pete & Patsy Adams, and Frank Miller** by Lee Adams & Bill Miller.

**Dr. Bob & Boots Holden, and Mr. and Mrs. Clayton Kniffen** by Nancy Holden.

**Our parents Mr. & Mrs. J. Lee Thacker, Sr., Mrs. Katherine Munt Tompkins, and Mr. Thomas A. Munt, III** by Carolyn & Jimmy Thacker.

**Thomas Preston Trigg Roper, Sr., Emma Thompson Roper and Thomas Preston Trigg Roper, Jr.** by their family.

**Lt. Col. Raleigh C. Powell, Jr., and Mary B. Powell Rosenstock** by their family.

And in thanksgiving for:

**My son, Harry Smith,** by Laraine Smith.

**The People of Christ and Grace** by Robin Teasley.

**Our children, grandchildren and great grandchildren** by Larry & Betty Ann Tucker.

**Althea Miller** by Lee Adams & Bill Miller.

**The Choir of Christ and Grace and Matthew Little** by William Owen.