

Full of grace and truth
JOHN 1:14

ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
Christmas Day *The Feast of the Holy Nativity*

Holy Eucharist, Rite II

December 25, 2024 · 10 am

All are welcome to worship God in this place.

Bold type indicates all the people shall read aloud.

PRELUDE Noel vosgien

Jean Bouvard

OPENING HYMN Once in Royal David's City (st. 1,2,4,6)

Hymnal - 102

THE WORD OF GOD

OPENING & COLLECT FOR PURITY

Book of Common Prayer 355

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

All **And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

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.**

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS

Hymnal S - 280

Robert Powell

All **Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth.**

Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father,

we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God,

you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us;

you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer.

For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High,

Jesus Christ,

with the Holy Spirit,

in the glory of God the Father.

Amen.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

All **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

O God, you make us glad by the yearly festival of the birth of your only Son Jesus Christ: Grant that we, who joyfully receive him as our Redeemer, may with sure confidence behold him when he comes to be our Judge; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

All **Amen.**

THE FIRST LESSON

Isaiah 62:6-12

Lector A reading from the prophet Isaiah.

Upon your walls, O Jerusalem, I have posted sentinels; all day and all night they shall never be silent. You who remind the LORD, take no rest, and give him no rest until he establishes Jerusalem and makes it renowned throughout the earth.

The LORD has sworn by his right hand and by his mighty arm: I will not again give your grain to be food for your enemies, and foreigners shall not drink the wine for which you have labored; but those who garner it shall eat it and praise the LORD, and those who gather it shall drink it in my holy courts. Go through, go through the gates, prepare the way for the people; build up, build up the highway, clear it of stones, lift up an ensign over the peoples.

The LORD has proclaimed to the end of the earth: Say to daughter Zion, "See, your salvation comes; his reward is with him, and his recompense before him." They shall be called, "The Holy People, The Redeemed of the LORD"; and you shall be called, "Sought Out, A City Not Forsaken."

Lector The Word of the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God.**

THE PSALM 96

Cantate Domino

We will read the Psalm responsively by full verse beginning with the reader.

1 Sing to the LORD a new song; * sing to the LORD, all the whole earth.

2 Sing to the LORD and bless his Name; *

proclaim the good news of his salvation from day to day.

3 Declare his glory among the nations * and his wonders among all peoples.

4 For great is the LORD and greatly to be praised; *

he is more to be feared than all gods.

5 As for all the gods of the nations, they are but idols; *

but it is the LORD who made the heavens.

6 Oh, the majesty and magnificence of his presence! *

Oh, the power and the splendor of his sanctuary!

7 Ascribe to the LORD, you families of the peoples; *

ascribe to the LORD honor and power.

8 Ascribe to the LORD the honor due his Name; *

bring offerings and come into his courts.

9 Worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness; *

let the whole earth tremble before him.

10 Tell it out among the nations: "The LORD is King! * he has made the world so firm that it cannot be moved; he will judge the peoples with equity."

11 Let the heavens rejoice, and let the earth be glad; let the sea thunder and all that is in it; * let the field be joyful and all that is therein.

12 Then shall all the trees of the wood shout for joy before the LORD when he comes, * when he comes to judge the earth.

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

THE SECOND LESSON

Titus 3:4-7

Lector A reading from Paul's letter to Titus.

When the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared, he saved us, not because of any works of righteousness that we had done, but according to his mercy, through the water of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit. This Spirit he poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior, so that, having been justified by his grace, we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God.**

HYMN Go Tell It on the Mountain Hymnal - 99

Refrain

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!

1 While shep - herds kept their
2 The shep - herds feared and
3 Down in a low - ly

watch - ing o'er si - lent flocks by night, be -
trem - bled when lo! a - bove the earth rang
man - ger the hum - ble Christ was born, and
hold, through - out the hea - vens there shone a ho - ly light.
out the an - gel cho - rus that hailed our Sa - vior's birth.
God sent us sal - va - tion that bless - ed Christ - mas morn.

THE HOLY GOSPEL

John 1:1-14

The Gospeller introduces the Gospel, saying

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

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

Gospeller 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 Gospeller continues

The Gospel of the Lord.

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

THE SERMON

The Rev. Abraham Allende

THE NICENE CREED

Book of Common Prayer 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.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Intercessions for the Christian People:

The people remain standing.

The Nativity of Our Lord 1A

edited by Gail Ramshaw

Lector My sisters and brothers in the peace of God, all the gifts we shall give and receive in these days are but small tokens of the gift that shines forth in God's Word made flesh. From grateful hearts let us intercede for all who find themselves longing for this deepest, truest gift, saying: "Lord, hear our prayer."

Lector That the peace proclaimed by angels in the shepherds' field might be realized on every field of war and on every street of violence, let us pray to the Lord.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Lector That the child born to us might find in our hearts warm welcome by our openness to the needs of the homeless and the hungry, let us pray to the Lord.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Lector That in this time of gift giving we might become more responsive to the abandoned, the despairing and the mourning, let us pray to the Lord.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Lector That our rejoicing might be the bond leading us to true communion of life and worship, let us pray to the Lord.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Lector That the joy and consolation of the Wonderful Counselor might enliven all who are struck down by disease and illness, let us pray to the Lord.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Lector That the blessed hope we celebrate might be the fulfillment of all who have gone before us in faith, let us pray to the Lord.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Celebrant God of darkness and silence, you have pierced the quiet by the utterance of your word in our flesh. May our words of praise and petition be strong echoes of your Christmas word, so that all might come to the peace you promise in Jesus, who is Lord and God today and forever.

People **Amen.**

THE PEACE

Book of Common Prayer 360

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

All **And also with you.**

The congregation greets one another in the name of Christ.

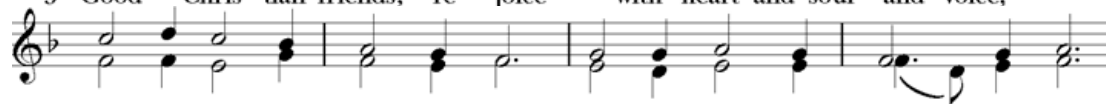
Please place offering in appropriate Christmas envelope in the pew.

OFFERTORY HYMN Good Christian Friends, Rejoice

Hymnal 107



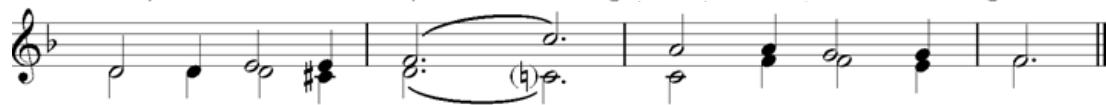
1 Good Chris - tian friends, re - joice with heart and soul and voice;
2 Good Chris - tian friends, re - joice with heart and soul and voice;
3 Good Chris - tian friends, re - joice with heart and soul and voice;



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!

OFFERTORY SENTENCE

All **All things come of thee, O Lord, and of thine own have we given thee.**

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,

Celebrant and People

**We remember his death,
We proclaim his resurrection,
We await his coming in glory;**

The Celebrant continues

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.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Celebrant And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

All praying together

**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.

FRACTION ANTHEM Lamb of God

Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sins of the world: have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you
take a - way the sins of the world: have mer - cy on us.
Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world: grant us peace.

THE INVITATION

The celebrant invites the congregation to receive Holy Communion with these or similar words
The Gifts of God for the People of God.

THE HOLY COMMUNION

THE PRAYER FOR SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

In union, O Lord with the faithful at every altar of Thy Church, where the Holy Eucharist is now being celebrated, I desire to offer You praise and thanksgiving. I present to You my soul and body with the earnest wish that I may always be united to You. And since I can not now receive You sacramentally, I beseech You to come spiritually into my heart. I unite myself to You, and embrace You with all the affections of my soul. Let nothing ever separate You from me. May I live and die in Your love. **Amen.**

Spend a few moments in meditation upon the fact that God so loved you that He sent His Only-Begotten Son into the world for you.

THE POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER

Book of Common

Prayer 366

Celebrant Let us pray.

All **Almighty and everliving God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.**

THE BLESSING

Celebrant The blessing of God Almighty, the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever.

People **Amen.**

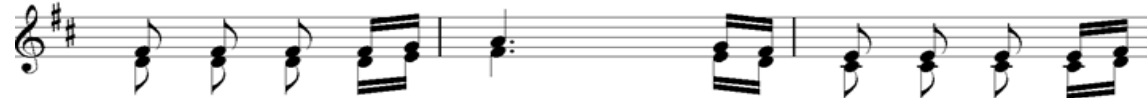
CLOS-



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



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



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.

ING
HYMN

Joy
to the
World!
Hymnal -
100

THE DISMISSAL

Celebrant Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People **Thanks be to God.**

THE POSTLUDE

From Heaven Above to Earth I Come

J.S. Bach



Merry
Christmas!

from

St. John's *Episcopal Church*



Christmas Flowers Given in *Loving Memory of*



Dr. Albert Cinelli

by Suzanne Cinelli & Family

Theodore E. Wynn II, Helen Webb, Mary Halfacre

by Donna Wynn

Jeff Eckinrode

by Sally Oberman

Gary Kirkland, Helen Kirkland, Ray Kirkland, & Germaine DeMarks

by Allen DeMarks

Frank & Delores Yannucci

by Sebastian Bhamra, Iris, Lucca, & Lola Hanni

Daniel N. Slagle Jr., Marilouise & William K. Bonte Jr.

by Marilou, Dewey, & Tom Slagle

Mary A. Burkey

by Judy Graziano

Dr. James D. Birch, Kathryn Birch Ricciuti

by The Ricciuti Family

Paul J. Futkos, Beverly J. Futkos, David P. Futkos

by Karen Eberth

Frank & Delores Yannucci

by Joe DeNiro

Doug Faires

by Barbara Faires

Blair Lewis, Barbara Lewis-Roberts, Dennis & Marie Lewis

by Carolyn Lewis

Neil Franklin, Margaret Franklin, Neil Bruce Franklin & Glenn David Franklin

by The New, Harris, Smith, Hodge, & Franklin Families

John George Sladen

by Joann Sladen

Alfons & Sophia Szamrey, Leslie Szamrey Greenberg, Frank Yannucci, Delores Yannucci

by Karen Szamrey Frank

Bill Elliott, Keith Elliott, May Howard, Mary Sossong

by Ginger Elliott

ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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INTERIM RECTOR

The Rev. Abraham Allende

ORGANIST & CHOIRMASTER

Dr. Richard Konzen

SENIOR WARDEN

Tony Manhollan

JUNIOR WARDEN

Martie Witt

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

Heather Seno

FINANCIAL SECRETARY

Karen Warchol

SEXTON

Adam Sullivan

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please scan this QR Code to be
directed to our website.
Thank you!*



THOSE WHO ARE SERVING TODAY

PRESIDER / PREACHER	<i>The Rev. Abraham Allende</i>
ORGANIST	<i>Dr. Richard Konzen</i>
LECTOR	<i>Eva Sullivan</i>
CHALICE BEARER	<i>Sam Dickey</i>
VIDEOGRAPHER	<i>Tony Manhollan</i>
ALTAR GUILD	<i>Eva Sullivan</i>
USHERS	<i>Cindy Sharish, Tom Simerlink</i>
ACOLYTES	<i>Quin Johnson, Michael Robertson</i>
VERGER	<i>Meg Silver</i>
COUNTER	<i>Judy Graziano</i>
COFFEE HOUR	
THE RED DOOR CAFE	<i>Congregation Obey Beth Sholom</i>

The material in this bulletin is taken from *The Book of Common Prayer*. All copyrighted music is reprinted with permission under RiteSong. Prayers of the People are taken from *Praying the Scriptures* by Jeremiah D. Williamson.

TODAY'S ALTAR FLOWERS are given to the honor and glory of God and in memory of Beverly Futkos, David Futkos, and Paul Futkos by Karen Eberth.

TODAY'S AUMBRY CANDLE is given to the honor and glory of God and in memory of Marion G. Robertson & Earl J. Robertson by Ronald H. Robertson, Jean Misik, and Paul Robertson.

We welcome you to St. John's.

If you are visiting with us, we ask that you sign the guest register located in the hallway.

BOAR'S HEAD TICKET SALES Boar's Head is January 5th! Tickets are for sale in the office or on our website. Please return your casting cards as soon as possible. If you would like to join the cast but are not on the mailing list, please contact the office - we would love to have you!

BOAR'S HEAD CAST & CREW INFORMATION Practice for Boar's Head is Saturday, January 4th.

ST. JOHN'S FEAST DAY Join us Sunday, December 29th as we celebrate the Feast of St. John.

INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS RESOURCE FAIR We have been invited to have an informational table at the International Students Resource Fair on Friday, January 3rd. If you would like to be a greeter at this table, please contact the church office.

BOOK CLUB MEETING All are welcome to join in our book discussion of the novel *The First Ladies* by Marie Benedict & Victoria Christopher Murray on Wednesday, January 8th at 6:00pm. **About the book:** A novel about the extraordinary partnership between First Lady Eleanor Roosevelt and civil rights activist Mary McLeod Bethune - an unlikely friendship that changed the world.

OFFICE CLOSED Our offices will be closed December 26th and 27th, January 1st, and January 6th.

READING AT TAFT Tuesday, January 7th - 9:20am

TAFT STUDENT OF THE MONTH Thursday, January 9th - 12:00pm

TAFT MOBILE PANTRY Tuesday, January 21st - 1:00pm, United Way Volunteer Center

Christmas Season Services

Sunday, January 5th, 10:00am one service only

Sunday, January 5th, Boar's Head performances 1:30pm & 4:00pm