

**8:00am Sunday, December 29, 2024**

First Sunday after Christmas

Flowers given in memory of Earl W. Baker.

**GUEST MUSICIAN:** *Kirk Kupensky - Harpist*

**PRELUDE:** Lo, He Comes with Clouds Descending/Adeste Fideles. (J.B. Chatterton)

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

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

Almighty 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. ***Amen.***

Hear what our Lord Jesus Christ saith:

Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind.

This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it: Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself. On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets.

**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.**

*Celebrant*      The Lord be with you.

*People*          **And with thy spirit.**

*Celebrant*      Let us pray.

Almighty God, who hast poured upon us the new light of thine incarnate Word: Grant that the same light, enkindled in our hearts, may shine forth in our lives; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

### **Isaiah 61:10--62:3**

A Reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah.

<sup>10</sup>I will greatly rejoice in the LORD,  
my whole being shall exult in my God;  
for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation,  
he has covered me with the robe of righteousness,  
as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland,  
and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.

<sup>11</sup>For as the earth brings forth its shoots,  
and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up,  
so the Lord GOD will cause righteousness and praise  
to spring up before all the nations.

<sup>62:1</sup>For Zion's sake I will not keep silent,  
and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest,  
until her vindication shines out like the dawn,  
and her salvation like a burning torch.

<sup>2</sup>The nations shall see your vindication,  
and all the kings your glory;  
and you shall be called by a new name  
that the mouth of the LORD will give.

<sup>3</sup>You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the LORD,  
and a royal diadem in the hand of your God.

*Reader*           The Word of the Lord.

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

### **Psalm 147**

<sup>1</sup>Hallelujah!

How good it is to sing praises to our God! \*  
how pleasant it is to honor him with praise!

<sup>2</sup>**The LORD rebuilds Jerusalem; \***  
**he gathers the exiles of Israel.**

<sup>3</sup>He heals the brokenhearted \*  
and binds up their wounds.

<sup>4</sup>**He counts the number of the stars \***  
**and calls them all by their names.**

<sup>5</sup>Great is our LORD and mighty in power; \*  
there is no limit to his wisdom.

<sup>6</sup>**The LORD lifts up the lowly, \***  
**but casts the wicked to the ground.**

<sup>7</sup>Sing to the LORD with thanksgiving; \*  
 make music to our God upon the harp.

<sup>8</sup>**He covers the heavens with clouds \*  
 and prepares rain for the earth;**

<sup>9</sup>He makes grass to grow upon the mountains \*  
 and green plants to serve mankind.

<sup>10</sup>**He provides food for flocks and herds \*  
 and for the young ravens when they cry.**

<sup>11</sup>He is not impressed by the might of a horse; \*  
 he has no pleasure in the strength of a man;

<sup>12</sup>**But the LORD has pleasure in those who fear him, \*  
 in those who await his gracious favor.**

<sup>13</sup>Worship the LORD, O Jerusalem; \*  
 praise your God, O Zion;

<sup>14</sup>**For he has strengthened the bars of your gates; \*  
 he has blessed your children within you.**

<sup>15</sup>He has established peace on your borders; \*  
 he satisfies you with the finest wheat.

<sup>16</sup>**He sends out his command to the earth, \*  
 and his word runs very swiftly.**

<sup>17</sup>He gives snow like wool; \*  
 he scatters hoarfrost like ashes.

<sup>18</sup>**He scatters his hail like bread crumbs; \*  
 who can stand against his cold?**

<sup>19</sup>He sends forth his word and melts them; \*  
 he blows with his wind, and the waters flow.

<sup>20</sup>**He declares his word to Jacob, \*  
 his statutes and his judgments to Israel.**

<sup>21</sup>He has not done so to any other nation; \*  
 to them he has not revealed his judgments.  
 Hallelujah!

### **Galatians 3:23-25; 4:4-7**

A Reading from Paul's letter to the Church in Galatia.

<sup>23</sup>Now before faith came, we were imprisoned and guarded under the law until faith would be revealed. <sup>24</sup>Therefore the law was our disciplinarian until Christ came, so that we might be justified by faith. <sup>25</sup>But now that faith has come, we are no longer subject to a disciplinarian.

<sup>4:4</sup>But when the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, <sup>5</sup>in order to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as children. <sup>6</sup>And because you are children, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" <sup>7</sup>So you are no longer a slave but a child, and if a child then also an heir, through God.

*Reader*           The Word of the Lord.

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

## **John 1:1-18**

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

*People*           **Glory be to thee, O Lord.**

<sup>1</sup>In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. <sup>2</sup>He was in the beginning with God. <sup>3</sup>All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being <sup>4</sup>in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. <sup>5</sup>The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

<sup>6</sup>There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. <sup>7</sup>He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. <sup>8</sup>He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. <sup>9</sup>The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

<sup>10</sup>He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. <sup>11</sup>He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. <sup>12</sup>But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, <sup>13</sup>who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

<sup>14</sup>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. <sup>15</sup>(John testified to him and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks ahead of me because he was before me.'") <sup>16</sup>From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. <sup>17</sup>The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. <sup>18</sup>No one has ever seen God. It is God the only Son, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known.

The Gospel of the Lord.

*People*           **Praise be to thee, O Christ.**

## **THE SERMON**

### **THE CREED**

**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**

Let us pray for the whole state of Christ's Church and the world.

Almighty 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 [especially \_\_\_\_\_], 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 [especially \_\_\_\_\_], that they may be led to wise decisions and right actions for the welfare and peace of the world. For peace in Israel, Palestine, Gaza and Ukraine.

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 [\_\_\_\_\_ and] all those who, in this transitory life, are in trouble, sorrow, need, sickness, or any other adversity.

Good and gracious God, you invite us to recognize and reverence your divine image and likeness in our neighbor. We have promised that with your help we will strive for justice and peace among all people and will respect the dignity of every human being. Enable us to see the reality of racism and free us to challenge and uproot discrimination from our church, our society, our world and ourselves.

And we also bless thy holy Name for all thy servants departed this life in thy faith and fear [especially \_\_\_\_\_], beseeching thee to grant them continual growth in thy love and service; and to grant us grace so to follow the good examples of St. John 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.  
*Amen.*

### **CONFESSION OF SIN (BCP p. 330)**

Let us humbly confess our sins unto Almighty God.

**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.**

Almighty 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 us, pardon and deliver us from all your sins, confirm and strengthen us in all goodness, and bring us to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

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*

*Celebrant*            The peace of the Lord be always with you.  
*People*                **And with thy spirit.**

## The Holy Communion

### OFFERTORY SENTENCE

**OFFERTORY INTERLUDE HARP:** Noel Proença (Marcel Grandjany)

*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 to the Lord our God.  
*People*            **It is meet and right so to do.**

It 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,

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

All glory be to thee, O Lord our God, for that thou didst create heaven and earth, and didst make us in thine own image; and, of thy tender mercy, didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to take our nature upon him, and to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption. He made there a full and perfect sacrifice for 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 to thee, he broke 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 this, all of you; for this is my Blood of the New Covenant, 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, we thy people do celebrate and make, 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; and looking for his coming again with power and great glory.

And we most humbly beseech thee, O merciful Father, to hear us, and, with thy Word and Holy Spirit, to bless and sanctify these gifts of bread and wine, that they may be unto us the Body and Blood of thy dearly-beloved Son Jesus Christ.

And we earnestly desire thy fatherly goodness to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, whereby we offer and present unto thee, O Lord, our selves, our souls and bodies. Grant, we beseech thee, that all who partake of this Holy Communion may worthily receive the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son Jesus Christ, and be filled with thy grace and heavenly benediction; and also that we and all thy whole Church may be made one body with him, that he may dwell in us, and we in him; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord;

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

### **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

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

**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,  
forever and ever. Amen.**

## **The Breaking of the Bread**

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: **have mercy on us.**

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: **have mercy on us.**

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: **grant us peace.**

**We 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.**

### **INVITATION TO COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION**

**COMMUNION MUSIC HARP:** Noel Nouvelet (Kathryn Cater)



Let us pray.

Almighty 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.*

## **BLESSING**

*People*                    Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Alleluia, alleluia.  
                                  Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.

## **POSTLUDE HARP**

He is Born (Frank Voltz)

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## ***Announcements***

**Annual Meeting:** Our Annual Meeting will be held at 9:00am on Sunday, February 2. If you are interested in running for vestry or to be a deputy to diocesan convention, please talk to Father Adam or a vestry member. If you have a report to include in the Annual Report, please submit them to Father Adam by Sunday, February 19.

## **Vestry Members**

*Senior Warden:* John Kachursky

*Junior Warden:* Barb Sudzina

*Clerk:* Becky Yoho

*Treasurer:* Mark Perfilio

*Members:* Angie Lindsay, Heidi Marshall, Dick Steingrabe, Shane White.