



Christmas Eve Eucharist
December 24, 2024
8:00pm

Altar Flowers given in memory of Penny, Shirley, Rose & Helen.

7:45PM CHRISTMAS PRELUDES

In Dulci Jubilo Johann Michael Bach (1745-1820) *Formerly attributed to J.S> Bach as BWV 751* (c)St. James Music Press, 2016. Licenced Permission #10216

Ding Dong! Merrily On High! (Clarinet: Rochelle Gracilla) *16th c. French folk tune* Arranged by MOLLY ILAMES (c)Copyright 2020 by Beckenhorst Press, Inc.

The Holly and the Ivy *traditional English* setting by Richard Shephard (c)St. James Muic Press, 2010 Licensed permission #10216

What Child Is This? William Chatterton Dix (1837-1898) *Traditional* arr Malcolm Archer. (c)St. James Music Press. Licensed permission #10216

On Christmas Night *The Sussex Carol* arr. Ralph Vaughan Williams (c)St. James Music Press, 2018 Licensed permission #10216

Hark! The herald angels Sing H87 - Choir & Congregation

Ding, Dong Merrily On High *Traditional* arr. by Barbara Wallace (c)St. James Muisc Press, 2010 Licensed permission #10216

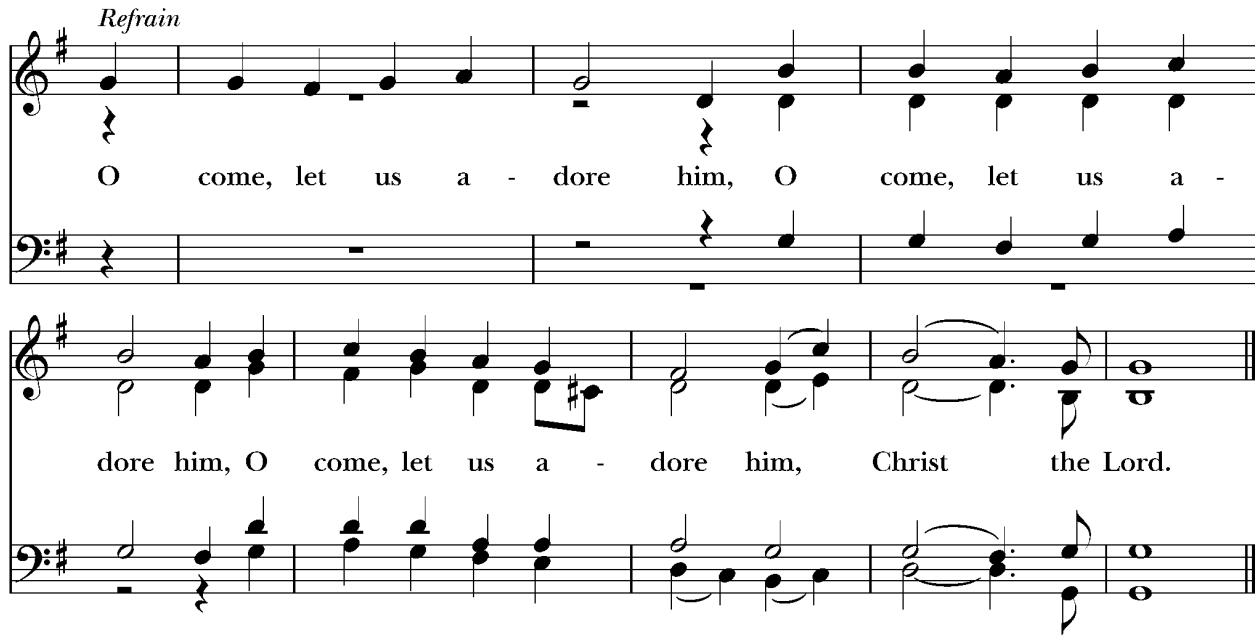
ENTRANCE HYMN *O come, all ye faithful (Adeste fideles)* (H 83)

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

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

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

SONG OF PRAISE *Angels we have heard on high*(H 96)

**Angels we have heard on high,
 singing sweetly through the night,
 and the mountains in reply
 echoing their brave delight.
 Gloria in excelsis Deo.**

**Come to Bethlehem and see
 him whose birth the angels sing;
 come, adore on bended knee
 Christ, the Lord, the newborn King.
 Gloria in excelsis Deo.**

**Shepherds, why this jubilee?
 Why these songs of happy cheer?
 What great brightness did you see?
 What glad tidings did you hear?
 Gloria in excelsis Deo.**

**See him in a manger laid
 whom the angels praise above;
 Mary, Joseph, lend your aid,
 while we raise our hearts in love.
 Gloria in excelsis Deo.**

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **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. **Amen.**

Isaiah 9:2-7

A Reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah.

²The people who walked in darkness
 have seen a great light;
those who lived in a land of deep darkness—
 on them light has shined.

³You have multiplied the nation,
 you have increased its joy;
they rejoice before you
 as with joy at the harvest,
 as people exult when dividing plunder.

⁴For the yoke of their burden,
 and the bar across their shoulders,
 the rod of their oppressor,
 you have broken as on the day of Midian.

⁵For all the boots of the tramping warriors
 and all the garments rolled in blood
 shall be burned as fuel for the fire.

⁶For a child has been born for us,
 a son given to us;
authority rests upon his shoulders;
 and he is named

Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
 Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

⁷His authority shall grow continually,
 and there shall be endless peace
for the throne of David and his kingdom.

 He will establish and uphold it
with justice and with righteousness
 from this time onward and forevermore.

The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 96

- ¹Sing 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.
- ³Declare 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.
- ⁵As 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!
- ⁷Ascribe 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.
- ⁹Worship 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.”
- ¹¹Let 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.
- ¹³He will judge the world with righteousness *
and the peoples with his truth.

Titus 2:11-14

A Reading from Paul's letter to Titus.

¹¹The grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all, ¹²training us to renounce impiety and worldly passions, and in the present age to live lives that are self-controlled, upright, and godly, ¹³while we wait for the blessed hope and the manifestation of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ. ¹⁴He it is who gave himself for us that he might redeem us from all iniquity and purify for himself a people of his own who are zealous for good deeds.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL: Luke 2:1-20

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

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

¹In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. ²This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. ³All went to their own towns to be registered. ⁴Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. ⁵He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. ⁶While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. ⁷And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

⁸In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. ⁹Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. ¹⁰But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: ¹¹to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. ¹²This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.” ¹³And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying,

¹⁴“Glory to God in the highest heaven,
and on earth peace among those whom he favors!”

¹⁵When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.” ¹⁶So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. ¹⁷When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; ¹⁸and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. ¹⁹But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. ²⁰The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

The Gospel of the Lord.

People **Praise to you, Lord 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

With all our heart, mind, soul and strength, let us pray to the Lord, saying, “Lord have mercy.”

For the church and all its ministers, and for St. John’s and its mission and ministry, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For our nation and all those in authority, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For peace throughout the world, especially in Gaza, Israel, Palestine, and Ukraine, and an end to all terrorism and violence, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For all those in our armed forces at home and abroad, especially those from our families and community, and for all first responders, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For all those infected with or at risk from the COVID virus, and for all health care and other front-line workers, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For the poor and the oppressed, the unemployed and the destitute, for refugees, prisoners and captives, for victims of natural disasters, and for all who have asked for our prayers, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

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, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy**

For those who have died in the hope of the resurrection, and for all the departed, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

THE PEACE

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

The Holy Communion

OFFERTORY SENTENCE

OFFERTORY ANTHEM: "Breath of Heaven (Mary's Song)" Soloist: Julia Trambley
Words and Music by CHRIS EATON and AMY GRANT (c)Copyright 1992, SGO Music Publishing, ltd. (BMI) OneLicense #A-725816

*I have traveled many moonless nights
Cold and weary with a babe inside
And I wonder what I've done
Holy father, you have come
And chosen me now to carry your son*

*I am waiting in a silent prayer
I am frightened by the load I bear
In a world as cold as stone
Must I walk this path alone?
Be with me now, be with me now
Breath of heaven, hold me together
Be forever near me, breath of heaven
Breath of heaven, lighten my darkness
Pour over me your holiness for you are holy
Breath of heaven*

*Do you wonder as you watch my face
If a wiser one should have had my place?
But I offer all I am
For the mercy of your plan
Help me be strong, help me be, help me
Breath of heaven, hold me together
Be forever near me, breath of heaven
Breath of heaven, lighten my darkness
Pour over me your holiness for you are holy
Breath of heaven, hold me together
Be forever near me, breath of heaven
Breath of heaven, lighten my darkness
Pour over me your holiness for you are holy
Breath of heaven, breath of heaven
Breath of heaven*

DOXOLOGY *Love came down at Christmas (Gartan) (H 84)*

1 Love came down at Christ-mas, love all love - ly, love di - vine;
2 Wor - ship we the God - head, love in - car - nate, love di - vine;
3 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 sign?
love to God and neigh - bor, love for plea and gift and sign.

Celebrant *People*
The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Celebrant *People*
Lift up your hearts. 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 perfectly human 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:

SANCTUS S 129 *Holy, holy, holy* (Powell) (BCP p. 367)


Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and
might, hea - ven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est._____

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."

Celebrant

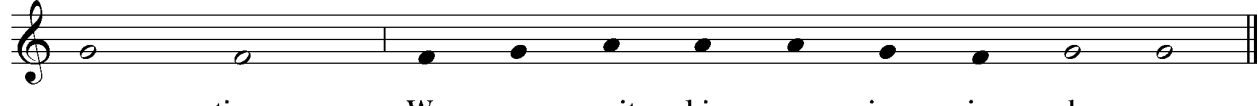


There - fore, ac - cord - ing to his com - mand, O Fa - ther,

Celebrant and People



We re - mem - ber his death, We pro - claim his re - sur -



rec - tion, We a - wait his com - ing in glo - ry.

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 Saint John and 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

And now, as our Savior Christ has 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

FRACTION ANTHEM S 163 *Lamb of God (Powell)*

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.

**INVITATION TO COMMUNION
DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION**

COMMUNION INSTRUMENTAL

Prelude on *Let All Mortal Flesh* - Tune: *Picardy* French Carol, 19th Century. arr. Don Dicie (c)St. James Music press, 2014. Licensed permission #10216

COMMUNION HYMN *Lo, how a Rose e'er blooming (Es ist ein Ros)* (H 81)

1 Lo, how a Rose e'er bloom-ing from ten - der stem hath sprung!
 2 I - sa - iah 'twas fore - told it, the Rose I have in mind,
 * 3 O Flower, whose fra - grance ten - der with sweet - ness fills the air,

Of Jes - se's lin - eage com - ing as seers of old have sung.
 with Ma - ry we be - hold it, the Vir - gin Mo - ther kind.
 dis - pel in glo - rious splen - dor the dark - ness ev - ery - where;

It came, a blos - som bright, a - mid the
 To show God's love a - right, she bore to
 true man, yet ve - ry God, from sin and

cold of win - ter, when half spent was the night.
 us a Sa - vior, when half spent was the night.
 death now save us, and share our ev - ery load.

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.**

SERVICE OF ADORATION

Gospel: John 1:1-14

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

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

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

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

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

¹⁴And 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 Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

ORISON HYMN *Silent night, holy night (Stille Nacht)* (H 111)

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. born! Sleep in hea - ven - ly peace. born!
 birth. Christ, the Sa - vior, is born!
 Je - sus, Lord, at thy birth.

BLESSING

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

POST-COMMUNION HYMN *Joy to the world! the Lord is come (Antioch) (H 100)*

**Joy to the world! the Lord is come:
let earth receive her King;
let every heart prepare him room,
and heaven and nature sing.**

**Joy to the world! the Savior reigns;
let us our songs employ,
while fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains,
repeat the sounding joy.**

**No more let sins and sorrows grow,
nor thorns infest the ground;
he comes to make his blessings flow
far as the curse is found.**

**He rules the world with truth and grace,
and makes the nations prove
the glories of his righteousness,
and wonders of his love.**

POSTLUDE

"Fanfare on In Dulci Jubilo for Organ" by Don Michael Dicie (c)St. James Music Press, 2009.
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