

The Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ

Christmas Day

Holy Communion: Rite II

Dec. 25, 2020 • 10:00 AM



Episcopal Church of the

GOOD

SHEPHERD

639 Edgewater Drive • Dunedin, FL 34698

(727) 733-4125 • www.COGSDunedin.com • info@cogsdunedin.com

Services: Sat. at 5 PM • Sunday at 8 and 10 AM • Wed. at 10 AM

During this time of social distancing: Please sit in one of the spaces in a pew marked with a piece of white masking tape. People in the same household may sit together, but everyone else should sit 6 feet apart.

Restrooms: Handicap-accessible restrooms are located to the right as you go up the ramp through the archway across from the doors of the sanctuary.

Hymnals, Prayer Books and Bibles are in a bookcase in the back of the church. If you would like to use one, please take one and return it in the box after the service.

Humming or simply listening to hymns is appropriate.

We have gluten-free wafers available: Please tell us when you come to the altar rail.

Symbols in the Bulletin: **P** Priest **D** Deacon **L** Leader **C** Congregation **All** Everyone

Standing, sitting, and kneeling: Throughout the bulletin there are invitations to stand, sit or kneel, as you choose. You are free to be seated at any time when that is best for you.

A gentle reminder: please silence your mobile phone before the service.

GATHERING FOR WORSHIP

PRELUDE

Noel X

Louis-Claude Daquin

LIGHTING THE WREATH

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

56, vs. 1,7

[Please stand.]

***O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel,
that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!***

- Ⓟ Hallelujah! For unto us a Child is born, unto us a Son is given,
and the government shall be upon his shoulders.
- Ⓞ **His name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, the Mighty God,
the Everlasting Father, the Prince of Peace.
Glory to God in the highest, and on earth, peace
and good will to the people of all the nations. Hallelujah! Hallelujah!**
- Ⓟ We light all the Christmas candles in our wreath this joyful morning!

***O come, Desire of nations, bind in one the hearts of all mankind;
bid thou our sad divisions cease, and be thyself our King of Peace.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!***

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

O Come, All Ye Faithful

83, vs. 1,2

***O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant,
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;
come, and behold him, born the King of angels;***

Refrain ***O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him, Christ, the Lord.***

***God from God, Light from Light eternal,
lo! he abhors not the Virgin's womb;
only begotten Son of the Father;***

Refrain

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING ACCLAMATION

- Ⓟ Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
- Ⓞ **And blessed be his kingdom, now and forever. Amen.**

COLLECT FOR PURITY

A 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 OF PRAISE

Angels We Have Heard on High

96, vs. 1

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

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

G And also with you.

P 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.

G Amen.

WORD OF GOD

READINGS: Isaiah 9:2-7, Psalm 96, Titus 3: 4-7, Luke 2:1-20

[Please be seated.]

The First Lesson

L *The first lesson is from Isaiah:*

The people walking in darkness have seen a great light. On those living in a pitch-dark land, light has dawned. You have made the nation great; you have increased its joy. They rejoiced before you as with joy at the harvest, as those who divide plunder rejoice. As on the day of Midian, you've shattered the yoke that burdened them, the staff on their shoulders, and the rod of their oppressor. Because every boot of the thundering warriors, and every garment rolled in blood will be burned, fuel for the fire.

A child is born to us, a son is given to us, and authority will be on his shoulders. He will be named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Eternal Father, Prince of Peace. There will be vast authority and endless peace for David's throne and for his kingdom, establishing and sustaining it with justice and righteousness now and forever.

The zeal of the Lord of heavenly forces will do this.

L The Word of the Lord.

G Thanks be to God.

***Sing to the Lord new songs of praise; Let all the earth sing to the Lord.
Sing out and praise God's holy Name; Proclaim good news with one accord.***

***Declare God's glory far and wide, God's wondrous acts and holy law;
For God is greatly to be praised And then beheld with greatest awe.***

***Magnificent God's presence here, With splendid courts in glorious light;
Ascribe to God all peoples, tongues; Ascribe to God all power and might.***

The Second Lesson:

☐ *The second lesson is from Titus:*

But when the kindness and love of God our Savior appeared, he saved us, not because of righteous things we had done, but because of his mercy. He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit, whom he poured out on us generously through Jesus Christ our Savior, so that, having been justified by his grace, we might become heirs having the hope of eternal life.

☐ The Word of the Lord.

☑ **Thanks be to God.**

ACCLAMATION

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

[Please stand.]

***Hark! the herald angels sing glory to the newborn King!
Peace on earth and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!
Joyful, all ye nations, rise, join the triumph of the skies;
with the angelic hosts proclaim Christ is born in Bethlehem!***

Refrain: Hark! the herald angels sing, glory to the newborn King!

The Christmas Gospel

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

☑ **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

☐ In those days Caesar Augustus declared that everyone throughout the empire should be enrolled in the tax lists. This first enrollment occurred when Quirinius governed Syria. Everyone went to their own cities to be enrolled. Since Joseph belonged to David's house and family line, he went up from the city of Nazareth in Galilee to David's city, called Bethlehem, in Judea. He went to be enrolled together with Mary, who was promised to him in marriage and who was pregnant. While they were there, the time came for Mary to have her baby. She gave birth to her firstborn

child, a son, wrapped him snugly, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the guestroom.

Nearby shepherds were living in the fields, guarding their sheep at night. The Lord's angel stood before them, the Lord's glory shone around them, and they were terrified.

The angel said, "Don't be afraid! Look! I bring good news to you—wonderful, joyous news for all people. Your savior is born today in David's city. He is Christ the Lord. This is a sign for you: you will find a newborn baby wrapped snugly and lying in a manger." Suddenly a great assembly of the heavenly forces was with the angel praising God. They said, "Glory to God in heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors."

When the angels returned to heaven, the shepherds said to each other, "Let's go right now to Bethlehem and see what's happened. Let's confirm what the Lord has revealed to us." They went quickly and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying in the manger. When they saw this, they reported what they had been told about this child. Everyone who heard it was amazed at what the shepherds told them. Mary committed these things to memory and considered them carefully. The shepherds returned home, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen. Everything happened just as they had been told.

▯ The Gospel of the Lord.

🔊 **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

SERMON

The Rev. Michael Durning

[Please be seated.]

THE NICENE 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.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

[Please sit, stand, or kneel, as you prefer]

- ☐ Let us pray for all humanity, all creation, and all times and places.

- ☐ God of everlasting light, you have brought together the hopes and fears of all the years in Jesus, the Word made flesh. May his grace and truth resound in us and through us. O come to us, abide with us,
- ☑ **our Lord Emmanuel.**
- ☐ Angels proclaimed the peace of your unconquered Son of righteousness. Strengthen all who work for peace and justice. O come to us, abide with us,
- ☑ **our Lord Emmanuel.**
- ☐ You came to us in a child cradled in a borrowed bed of straw as there was no room in the inn. Open our hearts to the needs of the homeless and the hungry. O come to us, abide with us,
- ☑ **our Lord Emmanuel.**
- ☐ Shepherds and outcasts heard your good news. Give us grace to spread your gospel of joy and liberation to all people, even those who differ from us. O come to us, abide with us,
- ☑ **our Lord Emmanuel.**
- ☐ We rejoice in this season of family, renewal, and reconciliation. Be with those who travel, enrich our rejoicing, and strengthen the bonds between us. O come to us, abide with us,
- ☑ **our Lord Emmanuel.**
- ☐ Christians throughout the world are celebrating your birth. Unite us in one family, that we may shine with the one light that scatters all our darkness. O come to us, abide with us,
- ☑ **our Lord Emmanuel.**
- ☐ Shed your light on all who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death. We pray especially for *[read names from notebook.]* Give strength and peace to all who suffer in body, mind, or spirit. I invite you to name those for whom you pray, either aloud or in the silence of your heart. *[Leave time for names.]* O come to us, abide with us,
- ☑ **our Lord Emmanuel.**
- ☐ Your grace lets us inherit the hope of eternal life. Fulfill in your love all who have gone before us in the faith, especially *[read names from notebook]*. I invite you to lift up the names of those whose absence you particularly feel at this time. *[Leave time for names.]* May we, like them, live in your eternal light. O come to us, abide with us,
- ☑ **our Lord Emmanuel.**

Ⓔ Hear these prayers we bring to you, and impart to our hearts the blessings of your heaven.

☞ **Amen.**

THE GREETING OF PEACE

*Please stand. **During this time of social distancing**, a wave or bow, accompanied by a smile and “the Peace of the Lord be with you,” will do nicely.]*

Ⓔ Peace be with those whom God favors.

☞ **And also with you.** [*Please greet one another in the name of the Lord.*]

THE HOLY COMMUNION

OFFERING SENTENCE

[Please be seated.]

Ⓔ Let us with gladness bring the offerings and oblations of our life and labor to the Lord.

OFFERTORY

He Shall Feed His Flock (Messiah)

G. F. Handel
Judy Warner, soloist

PRESENTATION

*[Please be seated. **The offering plates are on stands in the front and the back of the church. If you wish, you may place an offering there.**]*

Ⓔ We gladly present the fruits of our lives to the God who creates us, redeems us and sustains us. May we have the grace to use them to heal God’s world.

PRESENTATION SONG

The First Noel

***The first Noel the angel did say was to certain poor shepherds
in fields as they lay; in fields where they lay,
keeping their sheep, on a cold winter’s night
that was so deep. Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel!
Born is the King of Israel.***

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING: Eucharistic Prayer B

Ⓔ The Lord be with you.

☞ **And also with you.**

Ⓔ Lift up your hearts.

☞ **We lift them to the Lord.**

Ⓔ Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

☞ **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

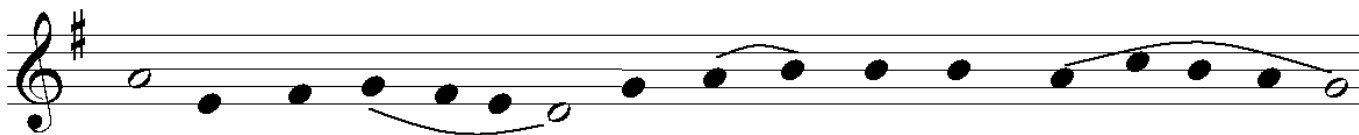
Ⓔ It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. Because you gave Jesus Christ, your

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:



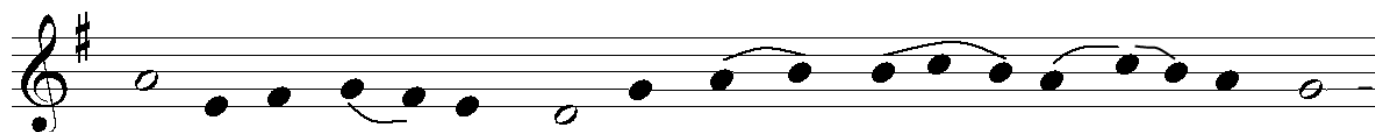
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and God of might.



Hea-ven and earth are full of your glo - ry.



Ho-san-na in the high - est, ho-san-na in the high - est.



Bles-sed is he who comes in the name o - f the Lord.



Ho-san-na in the high - est, ho-san-na in the high - est.

[Please stand or kneel as you prefer.]

☐ 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."

INVITATION

- Ⓟ The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

[PLEASE FOLLOW THESE NEW PROCEDURES: **To ensure social distancing, please go forward to receive Holy Communion one at a time**, following the directions of the usher, who will let you know when it's your turn. Two people will stand in front of the altar to distribute the consecrated wafers. **Please keep your mask on**, receive the wafer, and return to your seat by the side aisle. After returning to your seat, you may remove your mask to consume your wafer.]

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

[Stand or kneel, as you prefer.]

- Ⓟ Let us pray...
- Ⓞ **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.**

CHRISTMAS BLESSING

[Please stand.]

- Ⓟ In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.
- Ⓞ **The Word became flesh and lived among us, full of grace and truth, and we have seen his glory.**
- Ⓟ In him was life, and that life was the light of all.
- Ⓞ **The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has never been able to extinguish it.**
- Ⓟ The light and life of God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, bless you and keep you close in the days and nights unfolding before us.
- Ⓞ **Amen.**

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

DISMISSAL

P Alleluia, alleluia! Behold, unto us a Savior is born. Let us go into the world proclaiming this good news of great joy.

G **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia!**

POSTLUDE*This Day So Joyful*

J. S. Bach

SERVING US TODAY

Celebrant & Preacher	Michael Durning
Deacon	Cindy Roehl
Organist	Robert Moncrief
Acolyte	Michelle Schombs
Lectors	Butch Niford
	Judy Warner
Prayers of the People	Diane Niford
Ushers	Butch & Diane Niford
Building and Grounds	Butch Niford



CHRISTMAS DEDICATIONS

Christmas Flowers and Garland

We gratefully acknowledge the following gifts given in thanksgiving for the Birth of our Lord Jesus Christ and for the adornment of the Church and the festal music of the Christmas Season.

In Loving Memory or in Honor of:

Ethel Hall

Amy Tangen, my darling niece

Bette Ann Kern & Anni Pongracz

Our Family & Our Blessings

Beloved Mere and Daddy

Our Family members who are no longer with us

*Thankful for all the blessings of this life,
and for our dear friends and family*

Given By:

Joseph Hall

Diane & Butch Niford

Judy Kern-Bertram & Heinz Bertram

Marc & Mary Ann Wigmore

Carolyn Hughes

Jay & Sharon Ozbun

Frank & Sandy Kneen



Christmas Music



In Loving Memory or in Honor of:

Ethel Hall

In Honor of my Family

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