



CHRISTMAS EVE



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Sunday Services at 8 and 10 AM • Wednesday at 6 PM

Our 10:00 AM Sunday service is livestreamed

WELCOME TO GOOD SHEPHERD

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.

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

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.

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A gentle Reminder: Please enter the Nave Quietly and reverently and silence your phones.

THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST
CHRISTMAS EVE FESTIVAL COMMUNION: RITE II DEC. 24, 2023 • 9:00 PM

GATHERING FOR WORSHIP

PRE-SERVICE MUSIC (beginning at 8:30 PM)

In dulci jubilo J.S. Bach
(1685-1750)

Joseph est bien Marié Claude Balbastre
(1727-1799)

Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring arr. Douglas E. Wagner
Bells of Hope and Organ

I Wonder As I Wander John Jacob Niles
Jen Renfroe, Soloist

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing arr. Michael R. Keller
Bells of Hope

An Advent/Christmas Suite Alfred V. Fedak
God Rest Ye Merry, Gentlemen
From Heaven Above
Bring a Torch, Jeannette, Isabella
Silent Night

[During the Pre-Service, please prepare for worship by observing attentive silence.]

INTROIT I Look from Afar Giovanni Pierluigi da Palestrina

I look from afar: and lo, I see the power of God coming, and a cloud covering the whole earth

Go ye out to meet him and say, tell us:

art thou he that should come to reign over thy people Israel?

High and low, rich and poor, one with another. Go ye out to meet him and say:

Hear O thou Shepherd of Israel, thou that leadest Joseph like a sheep.

Tell us, art thou he that should come?

Stir up thy strength, O Lord and come to reign over thy people Israel.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost.

I look from afar: and lo, I see the power of God coming, and a cloud cov'ring the whole earth.

Go ye out to meet him and say:

Tell us, art thou he that should come to reign over thy people Israel?

(stanzas 1,2,3)

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)

Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation;
 sing, all ye citizens of heaven above;
 glory to God, glory in the highest; (Refrain)

THE OPENING ACCLAMATION

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

People **And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. AMEN.**

HYMN OF PRAISE H-96

Angels We Have Heard on High

GLORIA

(stanzas 1,3,4)

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

See him in a manger laid, whom the angels praise above;
 Mary, Joseph, lend your aid, while we raise our hearts in love. (Refrain)

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray... 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.

All **AMEN.**

THE WORD OF GOD

The people sit.

THE FIRST READING

Isaiah 9:2-7

Lector *The First Reading is taken from Isaiah chapter 9...*

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness--on them light has shined. You 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. For 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. For all the boots of the tramping warriors and all the garments rolled in blood shall be burned as fuel for the fire. For 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. His 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.

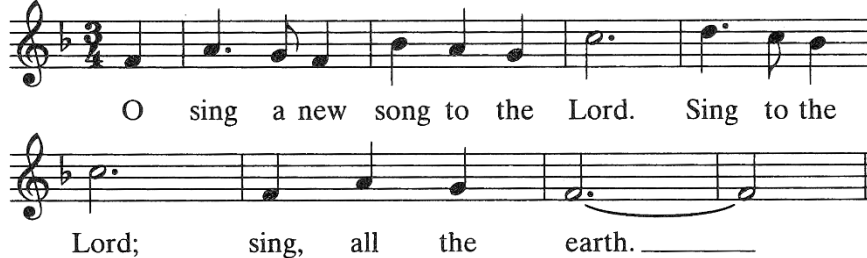
Lector The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

THE PSALM 96

Hal H. Hopson

(all sing this refrain, the soloist sings the verses)



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O sing to the Lord a new song: sing to the Lord all the earth.

Sing, and give praise to God's name: tell the glad news of salvation from day to day.

Proclaim God's glory to the nations: God's marvelous deeds to all the peoples. **(Refrain)**

For you O Lord are great and highly to be praised: more to be feared than all the gods.

The gods of the nations are no more than idols: but you O Lord are the one who made the heavens.

Glory and majesty attend you: strength and beauty are in your sanctuary. **(Refrain)**

THE SECOND READING

Titus 2:11-14

Lector *The Second Reading is taken from Titus chapter 2...*

For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all, training us to renounce impiety and worldly passions, and in the present age to live lives that are self-controlled, upright, and godly, while we wait for the blessed hope and the manifestation of the glory of our great God

and Savior, Jesus Christ. He 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

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

[Please stand.]

THE GOSPEL ACCLAMATION H-93 Angels from the Realms of Glory REGENT SQUARE
(*stanza 1*)

**Angels, from the realms of glory, wing your flight o'er all the earth;
ye, who sang creation's story, now proclaim Messiah's birth:
come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ, the newborn King.**

THE GOSPEL

Luke 2:1-20

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

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

Deacon In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph 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. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And 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. In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see-- I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!" When 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." So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

Deacon The Gospel of the Lord.

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

The people sit.

SERMON

The Rev. Whitney Burton

All stand as able.

THE NICENE CREED

People

**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 choose.]*

Deacon

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

Lector

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,

People

our Lord Emmanuel.

Lector

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,

People

our Lord Emmanuel.

Lector 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,

People **our Lord Emmanuel.**

Lector 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,

People **our Lord Emmanuel.**

Lector 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,

People **our Lord Emmanuel.**

Lector 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,

People **our Lord Emmanuel.**

Lector 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,

People **our Lord Emmanuel.**

Lector 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,

People **our Lord Emmanuel.**

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

People **Amen.**

The Celebrant adds a concluding collect.

THE GREETING OF PEACE

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

All may greet one another in the name of the Lord.

THE HOLY COMMUNION

OFFERTORY SENTENCE

OFFERTORY

The Beautiful Impossible

Joseph M. Martin
Choir

All stand as able.

THE PRESENTATION

Deacon 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 HYMN

THE FIRST NOWELL

D Bm A A⁷ D/F# G D A⁷ D A⁷

Praise God from whom all bless - ings flow. Praise God, all

7 D G A⁷ D A⁷ D A⁷ Bm A A⁷

crea - tures here be - low. Praise God a - bove, ye

12 D/F# G D A⁷ D A⁷ D G A⁷ D A⁷ D

heaven - ly host. Praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost.

18 A⁷ D Bm F#m D G A⁷ D A

No - el, No - el, No - el, No - el,

22 Bm D/A G D A⁷/E D/F# D/A A⁷ D

born is the King of Is - ra - el.

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 [_____ 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

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

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated bread. A period of silence is kept.

FRACTION ANTHEM

GREENSLEEVES

Gently [In One] *The St. James Christmas Service*

O Lamb of God, O Ho - ly
Child, who takes the sin of the world a - way; Have
mer - cy on us, lamb so mild, the babe, the
son of Ma - ry. This, this is your bo - dy
giv'n, Your pre - cious blood, the gift of heav'n.
Take, eat, for we are one in the babe, the
son of Ma - ry.

Celebrant The Gifts of God for the People of God.

All are invited to receive the Sacrament.

If you desire a blessing instead, cross your arms over your chest.

COMMUNION SOLO

Lullaby

John Ness Beck
Cindy Huffman, Soloist

COMMUNION HYMN

Away in a Manger

MUELLER

Away in a manger, no crib for his bed,
the little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head.
The stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay,
the little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.

The cattle are lowing, the baby awakes,
but little Lord Jesus, no crying he makes.
I love thee, Lord Jesus! Look down from the sky,
and stay by my side until morning is nigh.

Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask thee to stay
close by me forever, and love me I pray.
Bless all the dear children in thy tender care,
and fit us for heaven to live with thee there.

COMMUNION HYMN H-79

O Little Town of Bethlehem

ST LOUIS

(stanzas 1,2,3,5)

O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie!
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by;
yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting Light;
the hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.

For Christ is born of Mary; and gathered all above,
while mortals sleep, the angels keep their watch of wondering love.

O morning stars, together proclaim the holy birth!
and praises sing to God the King, and peace to men on earth.

How silently, how silently, the wondrous Gift is given!
So God imparts to human hearts the blessings of his heaven.
No ear may hear his coming, but in this world of sin,
where meek souls will receive him, still the dear Christ enters in.

O holy Child of Bethlehem, descend to us, we pray;
cast out our sin and enter in, be born in us today.
We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell;
O come to us, abide with us, our Lord Emmanuel!

THE PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

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.

LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES

All stand as able.

HYMN H-111

Silent Night

STILLE NACHT

Silent night, holy night, all is calm, all is bright
round yon virgin mother and child. Holy infant, so tender and mild,
sleep in heavenly peace. Sleep in heavenly peace.

Silent night, holy night, shepherds quake at the sight,
glories stream from heaven afar, heavenly hosts sing alleluia;
Christ, the Savior, is born! Christ, the Savior, is born!

Silent night, holy night, Son of God, love's pure light
radiant beams from thy holy face, with the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord, at thy birth. Jesus, Lord, at thy birth.

THE BLESSING

THE SENDING HYMN H-87

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

MENDELSSOHN

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

Christ, by highest heaven adored; Christ, the everlasting Lord;
late in time behold him come, offspring of the Virgin's womb.
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see; hail the incarnate Deity.
Pleased as man with us to dwell; Jesus, our Emmanuel!
Hark! the herald angels sing, glory to the newborn King!

Mild he lays his glory by, born that we no more may die,
born to raise us from the earth, born to give us second birth.
Risen with healing in his wings, Light and life to all he brings,
hail, the Sun of Righteousness! hail, the heaven-born Prince of Peace!
Hark! the herald angels sing, glory to the newborn King!

THE DISMISSAL

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

VOLUNTARY

O Come, All Ye Faithful arr. David Cherwien

SERVING US TODAY

Celebrant	The Rev. Whitney Burton
Assisting Priest	The Rev. Kathleen Walter
Deacon	The Rev. Cindy Roehl
Organist/Choirmaster	Tom Huffman
Crucifer/Server	Gerry Boone
Torch/Chalicians	Brettan Dickie & Carey Cherivtch
Lectors	Sheila Scott & Linda Corliss
Prayers of the People	Judith Auger
Ushers	Bob Roehl & Alan Mackey
Building & Grounds	Robin Megel
Guest Vocalist	Jen Renfroe

Prayers are requested for:

The Week of Dec 17 – Ray S, Butch N, Roseanne M, Breanna B, Olivia C, David Q, Liz N, David B & family, Sharon G, June R, Billy B, Maureen B, Dede, Phil & family, Ainsley & family, Paul H, Bill GW, Raymond R, Bonnie L, Colette S, Heather S, Bob S, Milly L, Olena & family, Deborah B, Christopher J, Carol H & family, Suzy, Jeanne, Garry, Arlene, Ruthe F, Jason C, Betsy D, Cindy & Ron D, Jim W, Carol, Maggie, Julie L, Jay O, Adrianna P, Lou W, Debra M, Kipling, Carol B.

Celebrations this week: Birthdays - Nancy Fisher, Diane Linton, Sally Wakefield, Lisa Little, Donna Brotherhood, Jim Ratliff, and Bob DeStefano.

Anniversaries - Jerald & Janet Ozbun, and Joseph Nixon & Miriam Benitez-Nixon.



CHRISTMAS DEDICATIONS

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.

Christmas Flowers

In Loving Memory or in Honor of:

Bob & Pat Walton, John & Marylou Toohey

Mary & Edward Dvorshock

My Family & Friends

In memory of her parents Thomas & Joan Crook

John & Marcia Burdick

*Frederick R. Warner Jr., Josephine R. Warner
Reuben & Nora Moen*

Bette Ann Kern, Anni Pongratz

Mom and Father

*In thanksgiving for Sloan Vivienne Punch and in
loving memory of Nicholas Albert Punch*

Dennis "Bunzie" Rezabek, Pat Lloveras, Mary Barzee

*Cam Boothe, Eva Boothe, Doreen Boothe, Mary &
Don Spratt, Joanne & Dave Searles*

*Greg Zahn, Pete Zahn, Reuben Zahn,
Jason Zahn, Jeanette Statler, Elroy Depies*

Paul & Mary Boone, Lothar Walter

Our Parents

Parents, Family, & Friends

Sophia & Andrew Lipinski, Anita & Clark Corliss

Marjorie Travis, Whitney Travis, Murray Rosenberg

*In thanksgiving for the many people that have supported
Gene*

Geraldine & Ezra Ahrens

In thanksgiving for our family & friends

In thanksgiving for all God's blessings

Given By:

Laurie Toohey

Mary & Bill Lasko

Nancy Belfsky

Michelle Crook

Gail Griffin

Judy Warner

Judy & Heinz Bertram

Billy Greene

Anne Punch

Mike & Lynn Lloveras

Sherry Boothe

Dan Depies & Andrea Zahn

Gerry Boone & Rev. Kathleen Walter

Marc & MaryAnn Wigmore

John Alisandrelli & MaryEllen Tauriello

Linda Corliss

Elizabeth & Kurt Heitmann

Maureen Belote

Shirl Ahrens

James & Elena Goletz

Phil & Carol Beauchamp



Christmas Music



In Loving Memory or in Honor of:

In memory of her parents Thomas & Joan Crook

My Family & Friends

Cam Boothe, Eva Boothe, Doreen Boothe, Mary & Don Spratt, Joanne & Dave Searles

*Frederick R. Warner, Josephine R. Warner
Reuben & Nora Moen*

C. Sargent Wakefield & Hank Fowler

*In thanksgiving for Sloan Vivienne Punch and in
Loving memory of Nicholas Albert Punch*

Our Parents

Thanksgiving for my family

Brian Levy

*In thanksgiving for the many people that have supported
Gene & me*

Vicki Bosi

Given By:

Michelle Crook

Nancy Belfsky

Sherry Boothe

Judy Warner

Sally Wakefield

Anne Punch

Marc & MaryAnn Wigmore

Heather Elder

Mildred Levy

Maureen Belote

Anonymous