

St. James' Episcopal Church
Hyde Park, New York



Christmas Eve 10:00 pm
December 24, 2022

Welcome to St. James' Church!

We are honored by your presence with us as we
welcome the Christ child.

Tonight's liturgy is a Celebration of the Holy Eucharist, also known as Holy Communion, according to the Episcopal Church's *Book of Common Prayer*. This service leaflet will guide you through the service. Words in *italics* are rubrics (directions) for worship. Words in **bold font** are responses to be said by you, the People. If you are worshipping in person, you will also need *The Hymnal 1982*, the blue book found in your pew.

Thank you for joining us in praise, prayer, word,
sacrament, and joy!

The Word of God

Lights are dimmed in the church as the service begins. Please stand (as able) for the opening procession.

Presider Light and peace, in Jesus Christ our Savior.

People **Thanks be to God.**

The Advent Wreath is lighted in silence. Then the Presider says

Let us pray.

Almighty God, you have poured upon us the new light of your incarnate Word: Grant that this light, enkindled in our hearts, may shine forth in our lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Acolytes will light candles as the congregation sings:

HYMN #83 O come, all ye faithful verses 1, 2 & 3

Please stand (as able).

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*

ACCLAMATION

Presider Blessed be the one, holy, and living God.

People **Glory to God for ever and ever.**

COLLECT FOR PURITY

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 HYMN #96 Angels we have heard on high verses 1 & 3

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
Christ whose birth the angels sing;
Come, adore on bended knee,
Christ the Lord, the newborn King. *Refrain*

COLLECT FOR THE DAY

Presider God be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Presider Let us pray.

Continued

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. **Amen.**

FIRST LESSON

Isaiah 9:2-7

Lector A Reading from the Prophet Isaiah

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.**

PSALM 96 *St. Helena Psalter*

Sing to God a new song; *
sing to God all the whole earth.

Sing and bless God's holy Name; *
proclaim the good news of salvation from day to day.

Declare God's glory among the nations, *
God's wonders among all peoples.

For God is great and greatly to be praised, *
more to be feared than all gods.

As for all the gods of the nations, they are but idols, *
but it is God who made the heavens.

Oh, the majesty and magnificence of God's presence! *
Oh, the power and the splendor of God's sanctuary!

Ascribe to God, you families of the peoples, *
ascribe to God honor and power.

Continued

Ascribe due honor to God's holy Name; *
bring offerings and come into the courts of praise.

Worship the Most High in the beauty of holiness; *
may the whole earth stand in awe.

Tell it out among the nations that God reigns! *
God has made the world so firm that it cannot be moved;
God will judge the peoples with equity.

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.

Then shall all the trees of the wood shout for joy
before God, who will come, *
who will come to judge the earth.

God will judge the world with righteousness *
and the peoples with truth.

SECOND LESSON

Titus 2:11-14

Lector A Reading from a letter to Titus

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.**

SEQUENCE HYMN #87 Hark! the herald angels sing verses 1 & 2
Please stand (as able).

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 host 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!

Deacon The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.
People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

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.**

HYMN #87 Hark! the herald angels sing verse 3

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 Son of Righteousness!
Hail, the heaven-born Prince of Peace!
Hark! the herald angels sing
Glory to the newborn King!

SERMON

The Rev. Meredith Kadet Sanderson

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

After the prayers, the Presider says a Concluding Collect.

THE PEACE

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

The Holy Eucharist

GREETINGS FROM THE CLERGY

OFFERTORY SENTENCE

OFFERTORY HYMN #100 Joy to the world!
Please stand (as able).

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.

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,
 far as the curse is found,
 far as, 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,
 and wonders of his love,
 and wonders, wonders of his love.

DOXOLOGY HYMN #380 v. 3

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
 praise him, all creatures here below;
 praise him above, ye heavenly host;
 praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER B

Sursum Corda HYMN #S-120

The image shows four lines of musical notation for the Eucharistic Prayer B. Each line consists of a staff with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The lyrics are written below the notes. The first line is for the Celebrant and the People. The second line is for the Celebrant and the People. The third line is for the Celebrant. The fourth line is for the People. The lyrics are: "The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.", "Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.", "Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.", and "It is right to give him thanks and praise."

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 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:

Sanctus HYMN #S-124

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.

Setting: From *New Plainsong*; David Hurd (b. 1950)

Then the Presider continues

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 Blessed 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 Savior 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 a new Covenant, which is shed for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, according to his command, O God,

Memorial Acclamation

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

The Presider continues

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O God 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, reconcile all things through your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with Blessed Mary the Godbearer, Saint James, 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 or ever. **Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**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 Presider breaks the consecrated Bread. Silence is kept, after which all sing:

THE FRACTION ANTHEM

HYMN #S-154

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Christ our Pass - o - ver is sac - ri - ficed for us;

there - fore let us keep the feast.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Setting: From *New Plainsong*; David Hurd (b. 1950)

THE INVITATION

Presider The bread we break is a sharing in the body of Christ.

People **We who are many are one body,
for we all share in the one bread.**

Presider The Gifts of God for the People of God.

About Receiving Communion

Wherever you are in your journey with God, you are welcome to receive communion. If you are in person and wish to receive, simply come forward to the Altar Rail, where you may either stand or kneel, holding forward an open palm. The Priest will place the communion wafer in your hand. Then, the Deacon will bring to you the common cup of wine. You may either drink from the cup, or you may let the Deacon take the wafer from your open palm, dip the wafer into the wine, then place the wafer on your tongue. If you prefer to receive a blessing from the Priest instead of communion, you may also come forward to the Altar Rail and hold your crossed arms over your chest.

A Prayer for Spiritual Communion

Especially if you are worshiping via livestream, you are invited to pray the following Prayer for Spiritual Communion: Most holy Jesus, in you we are made one body and one spirit; may all that is you flow into me this day, that I may grow more fully into your stature, bound to you in love within the communion of all the saints, and may this spiritual communion grant to me, in my earthly pilgrimage, a means of grace and a hope of glory; for your tender mercy's sake. Amen.

COMMUNION HYMN #115 What child is this

What child is this, who, laid to rest,
On Mary's lap is sleeping?
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet,
While shepherds watch are keeping?

Continued

Refrain

This, this is Christ the King,
Whom shepherds guard and angels sing;
Haste, haste to bring Him laud,
The babe, the son of Mary.

Why lies he in such mean estate
Where ox and ass are feeding?
Good Christians, fear: for sinners here
The silent Word is pleading. *Refrain*

So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh,
Come, peasant, king, to own him;
The King of kings salvation brings,
Let loving hearts enthrone him. *Refrain*

COMMUNION HYMN #79 O little town of Bethlehem

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 wond'ring love.
O morning stars, together
proclaim the holy birth!
and praises sing to God the King
and peace to all the 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.

Where children pure and happy pray
to the blessed Child,
Where misery cries out to thee,
Son of the mother mild;
Where charity stands watching
and faith holds wide the door,
the dark night wakes, the glory breaks,
and Christmas comes once more.

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!

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING & COMMISSIONING

Please stand (as able).

Presider Let us pray.

All

**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.**

Lights are dimmed. The Peoples' candles are lit.

HYMN #111 Silent night

Doug Belding, guitar

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.

Lights are raised. Please extinguish your candle.

CHRISTMAS BLESSING

Presider

May Almighty God, who sent his Son to take our nature upon him, bless you in this holy season, scatter the darkness of sin, and brighten your heart with the light of his holiness.

May God, who sent his angels to proclaim the glad news of the Savior's birth, fill you with joy, and make you heralds of the Gospel. May God, who in the Word made flesh joined heaven to earth and earth to heaven, give you his peace and favor.

And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever. **Amen.**

Refrain

Go tell it on the mountain
over the hills and everywhere
go tell it on the mountain
that Jesus Christ is born!

While shepherds kept their watching
o'er silent flocks by night
behold throughout the heavens
there shone a holy light. *Refrain*

The shepherds feared and trembled
when, lo! above the earth
rang out the angel chorus
that hailed our Savior's birth. *Refrain*

Down in a lowly manger
the humble Christ was born,
and God sent us salvation
that blessed Christmas morn. *Refrain*

DISMISSAL

The Deacon dismisses the people.

The People respond **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE



Today's Worship Leaders

The Rev. Meredith Kadet Sanderson
Presider & Preacher

The Rev. Deacon Gail Ganter-Toback
Deacon

Glenn May
Minister of Music

Doug Belding
Guitar

Deb Belding
Wendy Urban-Mead
Readers

Mary Jo Garlo, Janet Bright, Susan Gausepohl
Altar Guild

Maddie & Emily Glancey, Deirdre Mae Micker
Acolytes

Audrey Horne, Mike Glancey
Ushers

Christmas Flowers

In memory of Bonnie Teator Asher

- *Given by Vincent Asher*

In memory of Evelyn & Ernest Mueller, and Luetta & Joseph Slegel

- *Given by Barbara Slegel*

In memory of Angelo Verven

- *Given by Georgia Verven*

In memory of Marilyn & Robert Urban, Jolanda Hejzenbrok, and Jean-Guy Hogya.

- *Given by Russell and Wendy Urban-Mead*

In memory of Candace Vincent

- *Given by the Gausepohl Family*

In memory of Amy McDermott, Anne Meisner, and Doris Meisner

- *Given by Nancy Meisner-Montero*

In memory of Daniel Vousboukis and Alan Muckerheide

- *Given by Irene Kipp*

In memory of Dorothy and Emerson Drake

- *Given by Parry Drake*

In memory of the Babcany Family

- *Given by Eric and Tammy Zavadil*