



**THE NATIVITY
OF OUR LORD
JESUS CHRIST**

December 24, 2024

The Holy Eucharist
at 4:00 PM

THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE EPIPHANY
ATLANTA, GEORGIA

MERRY CHRISTMAS!

We are so glad you are here to celebrate this moment with us at The Church of the Epiphany. Tonight, we are here for a very special reason. It is the night we celebrate the birth of baby Jesus in a manger in a stable on a hillside in Bethlehem some 2000 years ago. And yet, God is so near to us. Right here. Right now.

Please accept our very warm welcome from Epiphany to you to be fully engaged with us this night.

Be with us in this celebration. Let the musical offerings wash over you this night. Dip your finger in the font, whether you are already baptized, or just beginning to feel God's tug. Join us at God's table for Eucharist, or come for a blessing, or sit quietly in your seat. You are welcome. God is near.

Please let the clergy or staff know if there is anything we can do to support you on your journey.

Merry Christmas! From our Epiphany family, to yours.

WELCOME TO THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE EPIPHANY

Whether you just stopped in to visit, or you are looking for a place of belonging, we welcome you. In our worship, formation, fellowship, and community engagement work, we strive for justice and peace and to honor the dignity of every human being. Whoever you are and wherever you are on your journey, we are glad you are here. We believe God loves you—no exceptions!

For the latest news and events at Epiphany, visit our website at epiphany.org or subscribe to our weekly newsletter. There are newcomer cards available in the pew in front of you and on the newcomer page of our website. We hope that you will fill one out while you're here and hand it to one of the clergy so we can welcome you personally.

Children of all ages are invited to participate fully in our liturgy. We welcome wiggles and giggles as signs of life and understand that sometimes children need to move about during worship. Children's bulletins and activity bags are available. Ask an usher to help you locate those near the entrance to the worship space.

If you do not have a nametag, please sign up on the clipboard on the welcome table in the Gallery. For today, there are stick-on nametags available.



We are passing the plate, but if you would prefer to virtually pass the plate today, use your phone's camera to scan this QR code. Visit epiphany.org/ways-to-give to learn about other ways to give to our parish or to make a pledge. You'll also find more information about Realm, our secure online community.

Recording/Livestreaming May Be In Progress: Liturgies and meetings at Church of the Epiphany may be live-streamed and/or recorded so that we may include those who cannot be with us physically. If you prefer to sit in a location where you will be less visible to the camera, please let an usher, clergy, or staff person know.

THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE EPIPHANY, founded in 1898, is a parish in the Episcopal Diocese of Atlanta, The Right Rev. Robert C. Wright, Bishop.

Clergy: The Rev. Amy Dills-Wright, *Rector*; The Rev. Carmie McDonald, *Associate Rector*

Staff: Julie P. Ryder, *Organist & Choirmaster*; L. Shea McNutt, *Parish Administrator*; Taylor Irwin, *Director of Children & Youth Ministries and Seminarian*; Susie Boyko, *Bookkeeper*; Jason Sullivan, *Facilities Manager*; Anna Democko, *Childcare Worker*; Saffie Coker-Robinson, *Childcare Worker*

Assisting Priests: The Rev. Barbara Ryder, The Rev. Bobbi Patterson, The Rev. Caroline Peacock

Wardens: Kaylie Gibbs, *Senior Warden*; Andrea Strahan, *Junior Warden*



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THE MUSIC AND DECORATIONS WHICH GRACE OUR WORSHIP ARE GIVEN TO THE GLORY OF GOD AND...

In Thanksgiving for

Nancy Thompson, Brittany Allen and Chris, Reid and Ripley Prikkel, by Lisa Carlson & Johanna Hinman

John & Laura Keys, The Pastoral Care Committee, and Community of Hope, by David Draper

The Rev. Carmie McDonald, by Amanda & Herndon Inge

Sharon, Buddy, Graydon, and Maddie, by Richard & Sheila Ferrell

Archie T. Miller, by Ron Hutcheson & Chris Miller

Julie and all the choirs whose beautiful music makes each service more meaningful, by Terri Lawrence

Our family and friends; and Julie Ryder and the Epiphany Choir, by Rod & Michele MacLeod

Julie P. Ryder, Organist & Choirmaster, and the Epiphany Choir, by Sally E. McClintock

Linda & Steve, Julie & Terri, Rachel & Matt, Epiphany family, small group, and Ann Fowler, by Barbara Ryder

The Epiphany Choir, The Epiphany Ringers & The Hildegard Ensemble, The Epiphany Junior Choir, and the
Beginning Choristers, by Julie Ryder

Julie and all of her musical gifts, by Linda Ryder-Wolf & Steve Wolf

Julie and the Choirs' wonderful gifts, by Diane and Jackie Tate

Brittany, Chris, Reid, Ripley, Lisa, Johanna, Jessica, Will, Ella and Adalyn, by Nancy Thompson

Our grandchildren: Addy, Gwen, Margot, Billie and Keeva, by Loren & Susan Williams

In Memory of

Kitty O'Shea, mother of Kathleen Rinehart, by Epiphany's Altar Guild

Vicki Bolton, by Phil Bolton

Martha Fernandez, Consuelo Solorzano Altan, Miguel Fernandez, Carlos Giron, and Joe Burns,
by the Burns Family

Dorothy Joan Council, by George Council

Richard & Vivian Knox, Foster & Bertha Toney, and Floyd Parker, by David Draper

B.G. & Deta Ferrell, R.W. & Lillian White, and C.L. & Alberta Smith, by Richard & Sheila Ferrell

Leland Graves III and Florrie Johnson, by Bill & Pat Graves

Catherine Miller, by Ron Hutcheson & Chris Miller

Bill & Val Lawrence, by Julie Ryder & Terri Lawrence

Alice & Earl Folsom, Elaine & Clarence McCarrison, Eric Schwaab, Audrey & Neil Banfield,
and Alex & Annie MacLeod, by Michele & Rod MacLeod

Ellery McClintock, Peggy & Dick Ehrmann, Emily White, and John Maclachlan, by Sally E. McClintock

Anne Glenn Stanton Bowling and Margaret Patterson, by Joe & Bobbi Patterson

Craig Ryder, Audrey Banfield and Shirley Sugden, by Barbara Ryder

Nancy Goodyear, Louise Sadler, Audrey Banfield, Elsie Gore, Pam Allen, and Silvia Etheridge,
by Nancy Thompson,

Our parents: Charlie, Lois, Loren & Sarah, by Loren & Susan Williams

Voluntary—Keep your lamps trimmed and burning
Epiphany Ringers

Traditional Spiritual,
arr. Michael Glasgow

Introit—Jesus came down
Epiphany Beginning Choristers

Traditional Cameroonian Song,
arr. John Bell

Jesus came down that we may have love; he came down that we may have love; he came down that we may have love; Hallelujah for evermore. Jesus came down that we may have hope; he came down that we may have peace; he came down that we may have joy; Hallelujah for evermore.

Processional Hymn—O come, all ye faithful

Adeste Fideles


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; Jesu, to thee be glory given;
 Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing:
 O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord.

Opening Acclamation

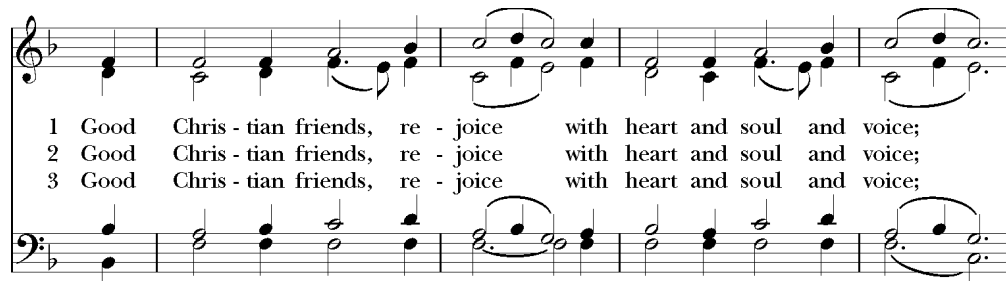
Celebrant Blessed be the one holy and living God.
People Glory to God for ever and ever. Amen.

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.**

Hymn of Praise—Good Christian friends, rejoice

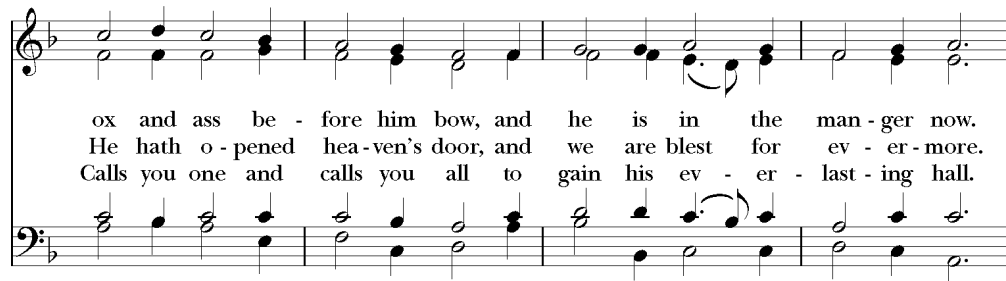
In dulci jubilo



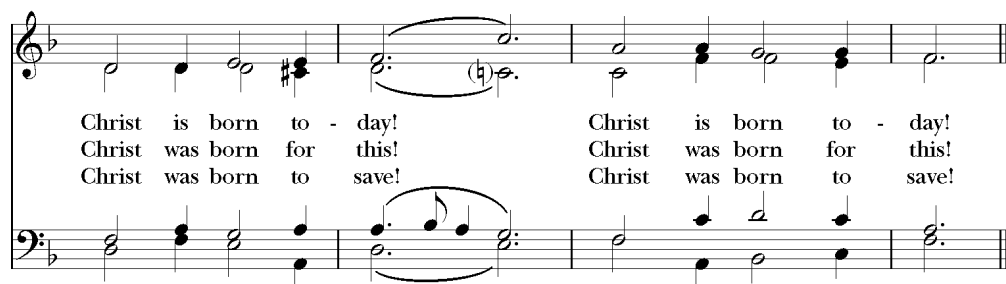
1 Good Chris - tian friends, re - joice with heart and soul and voice;
 2 Good Chris - tian friends, re - joice with heart and soul and voice;
 3 Good Chris - tian friends, re - joice with heart and soul and voice;



give ye heed to what we say: Je - sus Christ is born to - day;
 now ye hear of end - less bliss; Je - sus Christ was born for this!
 now ye need not fear the grave: Je - sus Christ was born to save!



ox and ass be - fore him bow, and he is in the man - ger now.
 He hath o - pened hea - ven's door, and we are blest for ev - er - more.
 Calls you one and calls you all to gain his ev - er - last - ing hall.



Christ is born to - day! Christ is born to - day!
 Christ was born for this! Christ was born for this!
 Christ was born to save! Christ was born to save!

The Collect for The Nativity of Our Lord

Celebrant God be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Together, 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. Amen.

The First Lesson

Isaiah 9:2-7

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.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Response Carol—A winter night

John Erickson

Junior Choir and Beginning Choristers

A winter night, a star so bright, the sky is filled with heavenly light. A winter night, a Babe is born, the night is turned to brightest morn. A winter night, a stable bare, but Mary cares for Jesus there. A winter night, the shepherds hear the sound of angels bright and clear. A winter night, the angels sing, glory to the newborn King! Sing Noel, Noel, Noel, sing Noel, Alleluia!

The Second Lesson

Titus 2:11-14

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.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Sequence Hymn—It came upon the midnight clear

Carol

1 It came up - on the mid - night clear, that
2 Still through the clov - en skies they come with
3 Yet with the woes of sin and strife the
4 For lo! the days are haste - ning on, by
glo - rious song of old, from an - gels bend - ing
peace - ful wings un - furled, and still their heaven - ly
world has suf - fered long; be - neath the heaven - ly
pro - phets seen of old, when with the ev - er -

near the earth to touch their harps of gold:
 mu - sic floats o'er all the wea - ry world;
 hymn have rolled two thou - sand years of wrong;
 cir - cling years shall come the time fore - told,

 "Peace on the earth, good will to men, from
 a - bove its sad, and low - ly plains they
 and war - ring hu - man - kind hears not the
 when peace shall o - ver all the earth its

 heaven's all - gra - cious King." The world in sol - emn
 bend on hov - ering wing, and ev - er o'er its
 tid - ings which they bring; O hush the noise and
 an - cient splen - dors fling, and all the world give

 still - ness lay to hear the an - gels sing.
 Ba - bel - sounds the bless - ed an - gels sing.
 cease your strife and hear the an - gels sing!
 back the song which now the an - gels sing.

The Gospel

Luke 2:1-20

Gospeller The Holy Gospel of our Savior 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.

Gospeller The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Children and their parents are invited to come to the Chancel steps after the Gospel for a special Christmas message.

Christmas Message

Taylor Irwin

Carol—While shepherd watched their flocks

French-Native Canadian Carol,

Junior Choir

Arr. Catherine McMichael

While shepherds watched their flocks by night, all seated on the ground, the angel of the Lord came down, and glory shone around. "Fear not," said he for mighty dread had seized their troubled mind "glad tidings of great joy I bring to you and humankind. To you, in David's town, this day is born of David's line the Savior, who is Christ the Lord; and this shall be the sign: "The heavenly babe you there shall find to human view displayed, all meanly wrapped in swathing bands and in a manger laid." Thus spoke the angel. Suddenly appeared a shining throng of angels praising God, who thus addressed their joyful song: "All glory be to God on high, and to the earth be peace; to those on whom his favor rests goodwill shall never cease."

The Sermon

The Rev. Carmie McDonald

A period of silence is kept

Carol—The Huron Carol

French-Native Canadian Carol,

Epiphany Ringers

Arr. Catherine McMichael

The Prayers of the People for Christmas—*The People stand*

Let us pray to our incarnate Lord, who in coming to dwell among us has revealed the radiance of God's glory and brought us into marvelous light. Christ born for us, Son of God given for us: help us to know you, to worship and to serve you. Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Wonderful counsellor, you order all things with your wisdom: help the Church to reveal the mystery of your love, and fill it with the Spirit of truth. Guide and inspire your faithful people throughout the world: especially Sean our Presiding Bishop and Rob our bishop. Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Mighty God, the government is on your shoulders: guide the leaders of the nations and bring in your kingdom of justice and righteousness. We pray especially for Joseph our President, Brian our Governor, and Andre our Mayor. Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Everlasting father, eternal mother, you call us to live together in unity: protect by your mercy all your children, bless our families and renew our communities. Be the strength among the people of this parish as we seek to live our core values of faith, integrity, inclusiveness, compassion, social justice, and stewardship. Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Prince of peace, you bring reconciliation through the cross: by your healing power give to those who suffer your gift of wholeness and peace. Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Celebrant's concluding Collect

Lord Jesus Christ, Word made flesh, life of the world; hear our prayer. May we, who like the shepherds have seen in your birth a new kind of love, witness to that love in our lives. **Amen.**

The Peace

Celebrant The peace of Christ be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

The Welcome

Offertory Anthem—Still, still, still

Austrian Carol

Still, still, still, let all the world be still, for Mary lays her son to rest, sings to him softly at her breast, still, still, still, let all the world be still. Sleep, sleep, sleep, my dearest baby, sleep, the angels all rejoice and sing, heaven for your delight shall ring, sleep, sleep, sleep, my dearest baby, sleep. Joy, joy, joy, my heart is filled with joy! The God of love has left his throne, made this humble world his own, joy, joy, joy, my heart is filled with joy!

1 Hark! the her-ald an - gels sing glo - ry to the new-born King!
 2 Christ, by high-est heaven a - dored; Christ, the ev - er - last - ing Lord;
 3 Mild he lays his glo - ry by, born that we no more may die,

Peace on earth and mer - cy mild, God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled!
 late in time be - hold him come, off - spring of the Vir - gin's womb.
 born to raise us from the earth, born to give us sec - ond birth.

Joy - ful, all ye na - tions, rise, join the tri - umph of the skies;
 Veiled in flesh the God - head see; hail the in - car - nate De - i - ty.
 Risen with heal - ing in his wings, light and life to all he brings,

with the an - gel - ic host pro - claim Christ is born in Beth - le - hem!
 Pleased as man with us to dwell; Je - sus, our Em - man - u - el!
 hail, the Sun of Right - eous - ness! hail, the heaven-born Prince of Peace!

Refrain
 Hark! the her - ald an - gels sing glo - ry to the new - born King!

The Great Thanksgiving: Eucharistic Prayer B, Expansive Language

Celebrant God be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them to the Lord.**

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

Celebrant

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Almighty God, 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 S125—Holy, holy, holy Lord

Richard Proulx

The Celebrant and People sing

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.
Blest is the one who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

The people stand or kneel

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 Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh. For in these last days you sent Jesus to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In Christ, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In Christ, 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 Jesus 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 poured out 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 Father,

Celebrant and People

**We remember Christ's death,
We proclaim Christ's resurrection,
We await Christ's coming in glory;**

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Savior 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 in the sacrifice of Jesus Christ, through whom we are acceptable to you, 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 all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your children; through Jesus Christ our Savior, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, now and for ever. AMEN.

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

The Lord's Prayer—*traditional language*

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

A period of silence is kept.

Fraction Anthem—From heaven above to earth I come

Vom Himmel hoch

The Choir and People sing



1 From heaven a - bove to earth I come to bring good
2 to you this night is born a child of Ma - ry,
3 This is the Christ, God's Son most high, who hears your
4 The bless - ing which the Fa - ther planned the Son holds



news to ev - ery - one! Glad tid - ings of great
chos - en vir - gin mild; this new - born child of
sad and bit - ter cry; he will him - self your
in his in - fant hand, that in his king - dom



joy I bring to all the world, and glad - ly sing:
low - ly birth shall be the joy of all the earth.
Sa - vior be and from all sin will set you free.
bright and fair, you may with us his glo - ry share.

The Communion of the People

All God's people are welcome to share in the Holy Eucharist. Communion is received either kneeling or standing at the altar rail or at the standing station on the floor level. At the altar rail you have the option to drink from the chalice, to hand your wafer to the Lay Eucharistic Minister to intinct for you, or to cross your arms after you receive the bread to indicate that you do not wish to receive the chalice. At the floor station, communion is received by intinction by the Priest. If you prefer to receive a blessing instead of Communion, cross your hands across your chest; the priest will bless you. Gluten free wafers are available upon request.

Carol—What child is this

Riley Davis, trumpet

English Carol

Arr. Malcolm Archer

Communion Hymn—Lo, how a Rose e'er blooming

Es ist ein Ros

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.

Postcommunion Prayer—Celebrant and People

Let us pray

Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of 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 Savior. Amen.

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

The Christmas Blessing

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. **Amen.**

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. **Amen.**

May God, who in the Word made flesh joined heaven to earth and earth to heaven, give you his peace and favor. **Amen.**

And the blessing of God almighty, the Holy and undivided Trinity be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

1 Joy to the world! the Lord is come: let earth re -
 2 Joy to the world! the Sa - vior reigns; let us our
 *3 No more let sins and sor - rows grow, nor thorns in -
 4 He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the

ceive her King; let ev - ery heart pre - pare him room, and
 songs em - ploy, while fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains, re -
 fest the ground; he comes to make his bless - ings flow far
 na - tions prove the glo - ries of his right - eous - ness, and

heaven and na - ture sing, and heaven and na - ture
 peat the sound - ing joy, re - peat the sound - ing
 as the curse is found, far as the curse is
 won - ders of his love, and won - ders of his

sing, and heaven, and heaven and na - ture sing.
 joy, re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.
 found, far as, far as the curse is found.
 love, and won - ders, won - ders of his love.

The Dismissal

Celebrant Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People Thanks be to God.

Voluntary—Adeste Fideles

David Schelat

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