



THE EVE OF THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD



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Trinity Episcopal Church

December 23, 2020 7:00pm and 9:00pm

December 24, 2020 4:00pm, 7:00pm and 9:00pm

*Cover art is a gift from Tim Trapolin.

Prelude

It came upon the midnight clear CAROL, R.S. WILLIS

God rest you merry, gentleman God Rest You Merry, melody from Little Book of Christmas Carols (ca. 1850)

> **Once in royal David's city** *Irby*, melody H. J. Gauntlett; harm. A. H. Mann



THE EVE OF THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD THE HOLY EUCHARIST: RITE TWO

At the Procession, O come all ye faithful

Adeste fidelis, Arr. J. F. Wade; HARM. THE ENGLISH HYMNAL (1906)

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; O come let us adore him, Christ, the Lord!

Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation, Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above; Glory to God, glory in the highest; Co come let us adore him, Christ, the Lord!

∞ The Acclamation

The People standing, the Celebrant says

Celebrant	The people who walked in darkness,
People	have seen a great light.
Celebrant	For to us a Child is born,
People	to us a Son is given.
Celebrant	His Name will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
People	the Everlasting Father, the Prince of Peace.
Celebrant	The Lord be with you.
People	And also with you.
Celebrant	Let us pray.

∞ The Collect of the Day

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 for ever. **Amen.**

Hymn of Praise Angels we have heard on high

GLORIA, FRENCH CAROL; ARR. E. S. BARNES

Angels we have heard on high, Singing sweetly through the night, And the mountains in reply Echoing their brave delight. Gloria in excelsis Deo!

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

The Word of God

 ∞ The First Reading *The People sit.*

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.

ReaderThe Word of the Lord.PeopleThanks be to God.

CRADLE SONG, W. J. KIRKPATRICK

The Gradual, Away in a manger

Remain seated.

Away in a manger, no crib for a 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.

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.

 ∞ The Second Reading

TITUS 2:11-14

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.
reopie	Thanks be to Gou.

Sequence, O little town of Bethlehem

ST. LOUIS, LEWIS H. REDNER

Please stand.

O little town of Bethlehem, How still we see thee lie! Above thy deep and dreamless 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.

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

DeaconThe Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.PeopleGlory 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!"

DeaconThe Gospel of the Lord.PeoplePraise to you, Lord Christ.

∞ The Sermon

The Reverend Andrew R. Thayer

 ∞ The Nicene Creed *All stand and say together*

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven:
by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the Prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

∞ The Prayers of the People *The Leader and People pray responsively*

In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

On this holy night your Son our Savior was born in human flesh; renew this Church as the Body of Christ that we may serve others as you have served us. Holy God, **hear our prayer**.

On this holy night you were born a King of kings and Lord of lords; inspire those with power and authority to work toward your kingdom on earth as in heaven. Holy God, **hear our prayer**.

On this holy night you were born in a stable; open our doors and hearts to those who have no home and those who struggle in poverty. Holy God, **hear our prayer**.

On this holy night the angels sang, "Peace to God's people on earth!"; strengthen those who work for peace and justice in New Orleans and in all the world. Holy God, **hear our prayer**.

On this holy night shepherds in the field heard good tidings of joy; give us grace to bring the gospel of Christ's joy to the sick, the naked, prisoners, and those who are hungry. Holy God, **hear our prayer**.

On this holy night heaven is come down to earth, and earth is raised to heaven; hold in your hand all those who have died in the hope of your closer presence. Holy God, **hear our prayer**.

On this holy night Christians the world over celebrate Christ's birth; open our hearts that the Word made flesh may be born in us today. Holy God, **hear our prayer**.

The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.

 ∞ The Peace

CelebrantThe peace of the Lord be always with you.PeopleAnd also with you.

The People greet one another.

 ∞ Welcome and Announcements

The Holy Communion

The Offertory Anthem, Hark! the herald angels sing

Mendelssohn, F. Mendelssohn

Hark! the herald angels sing Glory to the new-born King! Peace on earth and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled! Joyful, all ye nation, 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 new-born 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 new-born King!

∞ The Great Thanksgiving (ркауек в)

Celebrant	The Lord 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.

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: Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts. Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

The People remain standing, the Celebrant 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 the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Celebrant and People

We remember his death, We proclaim his resurrection, We await his coming in glory;

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 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**.

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.

∞ The Invitation

Celebrant The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ was born this night in the city of David, our Savior, Christ the Lord.

∞ The Communion of the People

All are welcome to receive Holy Communion. As you approach the altar area, everyone must use the hand sanitizer station before receiving communion. The consecrated hosts will be in a paper cup on the altar. As you approach the altar, please take one paper cup. Once you have consumed the communion, you will place the paper cup in the receptacle located near the altar.

What child is this?

Philip Stopford

GREENSLEEVES, ENGLISH MELODY; HARM. CHRISTMAS CAROLS, NEW AND OLD (1871)

What child is this, who, laid to rest, On Mary's lap is sleeping? Whom angel's greet with anthems sweet, While shepherds watch are keeping? 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 Christian, fear: for sinners here The silent Word is pleading. This, this is Christ the King, Whom shepherds guard and angels sing; Haste, haste to bring him laud, The babe, the Son of Mary. So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh, Come, peasant, king, to own him: The King of kings salvation brings, Let loving hearts enthrone him. This, this is Christ the King, Whom shepherds guard and angels sing; Haste, haste to bring him laud, The babe, the Son of Mary.

Good Christian friends, rejoice

In dulci jubilo, German carol, 14th cent; harm. C. W. Douglas

Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart and soul and voice; Give ye heed to what we say: Jesus Christ is born today; Ox an ass before him bow, and he is in the manger now. Christ is born today! Christ is born today!

Good Christian friends rejoice with heart and soul and voice; Now ye hear of endless bliss; Jesus Christ was born for this! He hath open heaven's door, and we are blest for evermore. Christ is born today! Christ is born today!

Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart and soul and voice; No ye need not fear the grave: Jesus Christ was born to save! Calls you one and calls you all to gain his everlasting hall. Christ is born today! Christ is born today!

∞ The Post-Communion Prayer *All stand*.

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.

Stille NACHT, MELODY F. X. GRUBER; HARM. C. H. REINECKE

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.

(continues on next page)

Silent night, holy night, Shepherds quake at the sight, glorious stream from heaven afar, heavenly host 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 Christmas Blessing

∞ The Dismissal

DeaconAlleluia, alleluia, alleluia. Let us go forth in the name of Christ.People**Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

Postlude, In dulci jubilo, BWV 729

J.S. BACH

WORSHIP LEADERS

	December 23, 7:00 pm	
Preacher:	The Reverend Andrew R. Thayer	
Celebrant:	The Reverend E. Gary Taylor	
Organist:	Dr. Paul Weber	
	December 23, 9:00 pm	
Preacher:	The Reverend Andrew R. Thayer	
Celebrant:	The Reverend John M. Pitzer	
Organist:	Dr. Paul Weber	
	December 24, 4:00 pm	
PREACHER:	The Reverend Andrew R. Thayer	
Celebrant:	The Reverend John M. Pitzer	
Organist:	Dr. Paul Weber	
	December 24, 7:00 pm	
PREACHER:	The Reverend Andrew R. Thayer	
Celebrant:	The Reverend John M. Pitzer	
Organist:	Dr. Paul Weber	
December 24, 9:00 pm		
PREACHER:	The Reverend Andrew R. Thayer	
Celebrant:	The Reverend Jane-Allison Wiggin-Nettles	
Organist:	Dr. Paul Weber	

Christmas Flowers and Music Memorials Given to the Glory of God and in Honor or in Loving Memory of:

Herschel Lee Abbott Albert Lyle Aschaffenburg Mr. and Mrs. Bruce Baird, Sr. Mr. and Mrs. Bruce Baird, Jr. Bruce Baird III Russell Miller Baird Gayle and Bernice Barrios Mr. and Mrs. George William Blair Eric Bonney John G. Boyd Sr. Mr. and Mrs. Benjamin T. Brown Ranell Bules Brown Mr. and Mrs. Warren Henderson Buchanan Mr. James M. Burlingame, III Albert Peyton Bush, Jr. Capt. and Mrs. Samuel Chesser, USN Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Edward Clay Gordon Edward Clay, Jr. William Barret Conway Dennis Cannon Crawford Alice Kerrigan McCausland Desporte Mr. and Mrs. John Detgen Dr. and Mrs. Walter P. Diaz Sarah Richards Doerries Brooke H. Duncan Karen Cooney Duncan Katherine Foster Duncan Ada Lewis Sohlberg Eason Thaddeus Winston Eason Mr. and Mrs. Tom Ellis John R. Fitz-Hugh Nancy Santos Geraci Mr. Andrew Thompson Goodyear Mr. Charles Goodyear, Jr. Marlis Perlis Robert Gonce Robert Griggs Mr. and Mrs. Herschel L. Haag III Dr. Judith A. Harris Florence Minor Hausey

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Christmas Flowers and Music Memorials Given to the Glory of God and in Honor or in Loving Memory of:

Augusta Pipes Vaughey David Francis Waller Helen Vajda Waller Joy and Arthur Waters Mr. and Mrs. Arthur C. Waters Arthur Waters, III Mr. and Mrs. H. Harcourt Waters John Giffen Weinmann Mary Victoria Mills Weinmann Rudolph John Weinmann Isabel Werlein Gloria Wilkinson Gloria and Hugh Wilkinson Mary Lou and Esmar Williamson The Wirth-Lawson Family Randolph Symonds Wrighton Mathilde Villere Young

Altar Memorials

The flowers on the altar in the church are given in loving memory of: Mr. Robert James Whann, III, Mr. and Mrs. Robert J. Whann, Jr., Mr. and Mrs. William T. Walshe, and Mr. Michael Q. Walshe.

The flowers on the lectern are given in loving memory of: Mary Alpaugh McIlhenny, Douglas McIlhenny, Paul Westfeldt McIlhenny, Gustaf Westfeldt McIlhenny, Barbara McIlhenny Nixon, Paul Carr Polk McIlhenny, Edmund McIlhenny, and Virginia Smart McIlhenny.

> The garland is given in loving memory of: Mary and William B. Wisdom and Edward B. Benjamin, Jr.

The flowers in the narthex are given in loving memory of: Lawrence Noel Johnson, Mr. and Mrs. Martin Macdiarmid, Mr. and Mrs. William N. Adams, Mr. and Mrs. George Macdiarmid, and Dr. and Mrs. Chapman Gordon Johnson.

The star that shines in the church is a reminder that the wise men followed a star and brought gifts to the Christ Child. It is a gift from Jane Fox.

Inspired by Christ, Trinity Episcopal Church strives to love our neighbors, do justice, and walk humbly with God.



Trinity Episcopal Church New Orleans

for trinityepiscopalnola



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