CHRISTMAS EVE

Celebration of Holy Eucharist and Pageant

DECEMBER 24, 2018

4:00 P.M.

Disciples making Disciples for Jesus Christ: By Encountering God, Equipping God's People, and Extending God's Kingdom





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WELCOME!

Thank you for joining us for Christmas at Christ Church. We are a Christ-centered, joy-filled community and we are blessed by your presence. Be assured that no matter who you are or where you are in your journey of faith, you can find a home here.

If you are visiting, please fill out a Visitor Card and give it to an usher or clergy member. Our regular Sunday worship is at 8 am, 9:15 am Joy!, and 10 am. There is a time of fellowship following each service, which is a great time to meet others and the clergy.

Sunday School for grades K-12 begins at 10:00 a.m. Moms and Dads of preschoolers meet at 9:45 a.m., on the playground if weather permits. Nursery Care is offered Sundays from 9:30 a.m. till 11:30 a.m. Adult education begins at 9 a.m. Sundays in the Guilds Room, just down the hall from the Church.

By joining us this day, and each week, you give witness to the continued truth of Christ's presence in the world. Together we can proclaim the Good News that the Christ is born anew in the hearts and lives of those who follow him.

Merry Christmas!

Special thanks to Julie Sebastian who is coordinating the Pageant for the first time!

PRELUDE:

"Carol of the Bells"

M. Leontovich

Performed by the Christ Church Hand Chime Ensemble

PROCESSIONAL HYMN 83 (STANZAS 1-3) "O come all ye faithful" Adeste fideles



OPENING ACCLAMATION

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

People And blessed be God's reign now and forever. Amen.

THE COLLECT FOR PURITY

Celebrant

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.*



THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Let us pray.

O God, you make us glad by the yearly festival of the birth of your only Son Jesus Christ: Grant that we, who joyfully receive him as our Redeemer, may with sure confidence behold him when he comes to be our Judge; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

THE PAGEANT

Please be seated during the entire duration of the pageant.

Please help sing hymns printed below.

Please hold photos until the end.

HYMN

"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.

THE FIRST READING FROM LUKE'S GOSPEL

Reader

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. Everyone went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph went from the town of Nazareth to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child.

As Mary and Joseph enter, we sing:

HYMN

"Once in Royal David's City"

Irby

Once in royal David's city stood a lowly cattle shed, where a mother laid her baby in a manger for his bed: Mary was that mother mild, Jesus Christ her little child.

THE SECOND READING FROM LUKE'S GOSPEL

Reader

While they were there, the time came for Mary 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.

As an Angel brings the Baby Jesus to Mary, we sing:

HYMN

"Away in a Manger"

Cradle Song

Away in a manger, no crib for a bed, the little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head. The stars in the sky looked down where he lay, the little Lord Jesus asleep in 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 bed until morning is nigh.

Reader The animals living in the stable wanted to welcome the baby with their song.

As the cows enter, we sing:

HYMN "Friendly Beasts" Traditional

Mary Eggers, Olivia Eggers, Will Eggers, Lulu Macy, and the Joy! children Lara Ziccardi, ukelele

Jesus, our Brother, kind and good, Was humbly born in a stable rude And the friendly beasts around him stood. Jesus, our Brother, kind and good

Reader The first to welcome the baby were the cows.

"I", said the cow, all white and red, "I gave him my manger for a bed.

"I gave him my hay to pillow his head,

"I," said the cow, all white and red.

Reader Then the sheep welcomed the baby.

As the sheep enter, we sing:

"I", said the sheep with curly horn,

"I gave him my wool for a blanket warm.

"He wore my coat on Christmas morn,

"I," said the sheep with the curly horn.

Reader Then the donkeys welcomed the baby with their noisy song.

As the donkeys enter, we sing:

"I", said the donkey, shaggy and brown,

"I carried his mother uphill and down.

"I carried his mother to Bethlehem town,

"I," said the donkey, shaggy and brown.

Reader Then a dove flew in and welcomed the baby.

As the dove enters, we sing:

"I," said the dove from the rafters high,
"I cooed him to sleep so he would not cry,
We cooed him to sleep, my mate and I,
I," said the dove from the rafters high.

Reader Then the animals snuggled close and kept the baby warm.

THE THIRD READING FROM LUKE'S GOSPEL

Reader 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,

Angel 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.

Reader And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly

host, praising God and saying,

People Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those

whom God favors!

During the following hymn, the Angels enter, and we sing:

HYMN "Angels We Have Heard On High" Gloria

Angels we have heard on high, sweetly singing o'er the plains and the mountains in reply echoing their joyous strains. Gloria, in excelsis Deo! Gloria, in excelsis Deo!

THE FOURTH READING FROM LUKE'S GOSPEL

Reader When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds

said to one another,

Shepherd Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place,

which the Lord has made known to us.

Reader So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child

lying in the manger.

Reader 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.

Shepherds come forward, we sing:

HYMN "The First Nowell"

The First Nowell the angel did say was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay; in fields as they lay, keeping their sheep, on a cold winter's night that was so deep. Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell,

born is the King of Israel.

THE FIFTH READING FROM LUKE'S GOSPEL

Reader When Jesus was born in Bethlehem in the days of Herod the King,

wise men from the East came to Jerusalem. For they had seen his star

in the East and had come to worship him.

Star I am the star you see from afar. When it is night, I shine so bright.

Come follow me; a king you will see. He was just born this very morn.

Reader The star which they had seen in the East went before them, until it

came to rest over the place where the child was. When they saw the star

they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy.

During the following hymn, the procession of kings follows the star up the center aisle to the creche. We sing:

HYMN

"We Three Kings of Orient Are"

We three kings of Orient are, bearing gifts we traverse afar, field and fountain, moor and mountain, following yonder star.

O star of wonder, star of night, star with royal beauty bright; westward leading, still proceeding, guide us to thy perfect light!

THE SIXTH READING FROM MATTHEW'S AND LUKE'S GOSPELS

Reader Going into the house where Iesus was, the wise men saw the young child

with Mary his mother and they fell down and worshipped him. Then

opening their treasures they offered him gifts:

King Hail, newborn king of the Jews! We offer you these gifts of gold,

frankincense and myrrh.

Reader Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart.

Reader And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they

had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

After the singing of the next carol, you are invited to take photos of the pageant.

HYMN

"Hark! The Herald Angels Sing"

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!
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!

Children return to parents in costume while set is removed. Please return costumes when leaving.

HYMN

"Go Tell It On The Mountain!"

The congregation joins in singing the refrain.

The Soloists sing the stanzas.



Stanza 1
While shepherds kept their watching o'er silent flocks by night,
Behold throughout the heavens there shown a holy light.

Refrain

Stanza 2
The shepherds feared and trembled, when lo! above the earth,
Rang out the angel chorus that hailed the Savior's birth.

Refrain

Stanza 3
Down in a lowly manger
the humble Christ was born,
And God sent us salvation
that blessed Christmas morn.

Refrain

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

The Leader and People pray responsively

Intercessor In joy and wonder, we pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's

creation.

A brief silence.

Intercessor Increase the joy of your people who gather this day to celebrate the arrival

of your Anointed One. Send us out to announce all that you have done for

your people.

People Hear us, O God.

Intercessor Raise our voices in the song of all creation. With earth and heavens, seas,

fields, and trees, lead us in proclaiming your salvation and declaring your

glory throughout the world.

People Hear us, O God.

Intercessor Bring glad tidings of peace to every nation. Break the rod of the oppressor.

Cover the global community in the compassionate authority of your Son,

our Sovereign.

People Hear us, O God.

Intercessor Give birth to hope in the lives of those who are lost or helpless.

Send your Spirit of healing and comfort to all who are in need, especially all

those on our Prayer Intentions List.

People Hear us, O God.

Intercessor As you made yourself manifest in Christ, our Savior, make your salvation

known also through us, his body. Shape us into a people who are zealous

for good and righteous deeds.

People Hear us, O God.

Intercessor All the saints rejoice in the eternal light of your salvation. Inspire us to rejoice

in all things, trusting your promises fulfilled, until you come among your

people again.

People Hear us, O God.

Celebrant Almighty God, we entrust to you all for whom we pray, confident that in

your love and abiding presence, and your promises made through Christ

our Savior and Lord.

People Amen.

REFLECTION

The Reverend Thomas E. Mathews Jr.

THE PEACE

Celebrant The Peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE HOLY COMMUNION

THE OFFERTORY AND PRESENTATION

We are called to give, and we thank you for giving generously to the mission and ministry of Christ Church. Our parish and our mission are funded by parishioners and friends.

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

"Oh, Come, Little Children"

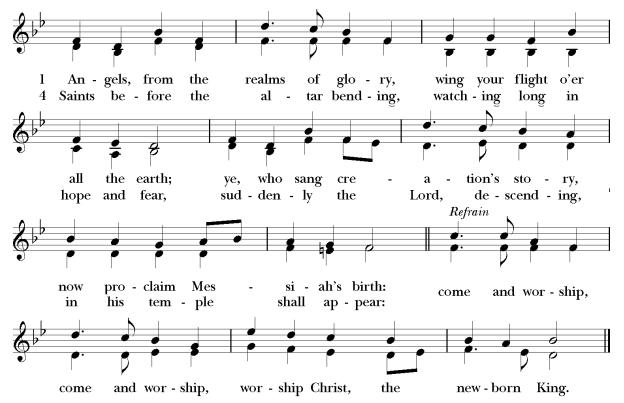
Johann Schulz

Jared Auriemma, Collin Williams, handchimes; Lara Ziccardi, woodblock; Ryan Auriemma, djembe; Ryan Syz, finger cymbals

PRESENTATION HYMN 93:

"Angels, from the realms of Glory"

The financial offering is brought forward by the ushers in the *beginning* of the hymn.



THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Eucharistic Prayer B

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People We life them to the Lord.

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

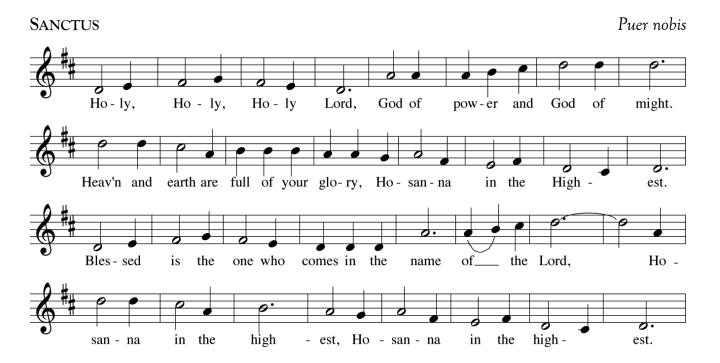
People It is right to give him thanks and praise.

Celebrant 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.

Celebrant

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:



Celebrant

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 Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

Celebrant and People

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

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 the ever blessed Virgin Mary, blessed Joseph, and all your saints, we may enter the ever lasting 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.

All Amen.

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

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

People Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Celebrant The Gifts of God for the People of God.

AT THE COMMUNION

All who desire to receive the sacrament of the Body and Blood of Christ are welcome. Receive the bread (wafer) in the palm of your outstretched hands. (Gluten-free wafers are available; tell the Celebrant if you require that.) Receive the wine which follows, either by drinking from the chalice as it is extended to you, or by touching the wafer lightly to the wine. If you do not wish to receive Communion, please come to receive a blessing. You may indicate your desire for a blessing by crossing your arms over the chest when you come to the rail. When you return to your seats, please take a few moments to reflect on the gifts you have received.

The Bread and the Cup are given to the communicants with these words

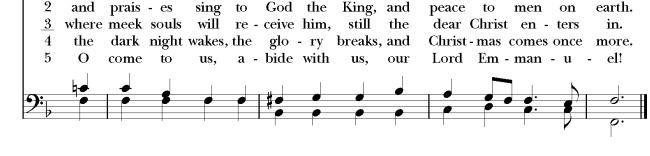
The Body of Christ, the bread of heaven. [Amen.] The Blood of Christ, the cup of salvation. [Amen.]

"What child is this" Soloist, Alexandra Harris

Soloist sings stanza 1

Congregation joins in singing stanzas 2 and 3





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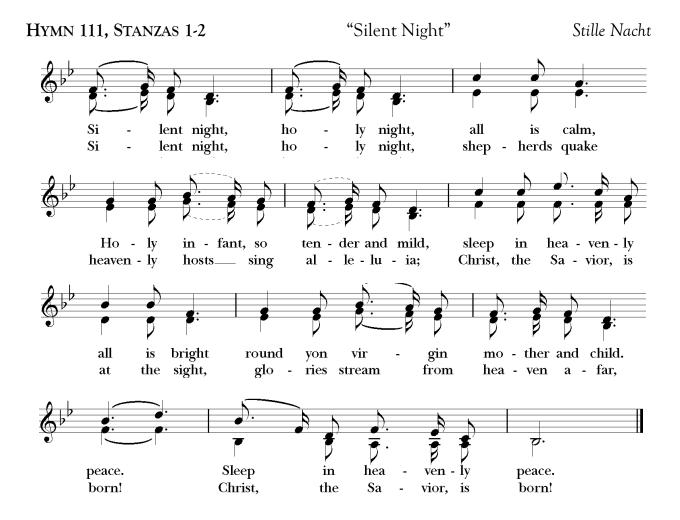
night.

earth.

POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER (stand as you are able)

Celebrant Let us pray.

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.



THE BLESSING

Celebrant May Christ, who by his Incarnation gathered into one, things earthly and heavenly, fill you with his joy and peace; and may the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**



THE DISMISSAL

Celebrant Let us go forth in the name of Christ, our newborn King, Alleluia,

Alleluia.

People Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia!

ORGAN: "In dulci jubilo" Leo Sowerby

ASSISTING IN WORSHIP

Celebrant & Preacher: The Reverend Thomas E. Mathews Jr.

Organist: William K. Trafka

Pageant Director: Julie Sebastian

Youth Choir & Arts Director: Marlene Whittemore

Assistant Pageant Director: Kristen Lee

Ushers: Matt Bodino, Laura D'Alessio, Dave Williams

Acolytes: Ainsley Goot, Lara Ziccardi, Read Hamon, Cole Hamon

Altar Guild: Linda Duane, Kelly Duane, Pauline Burt, Callie Campbell, Pam Canali, Pat Kortjohn, Linda Larson, Tanya Mathews, Dorothy Meyers, Doris Singlevich, Patty Smith, Linhua Sun, Jenny Talbot, Nancy Zabriskie

Perennials: Thanks to the entire Perennials Team

Trumpet: Evan Pillow

French Horn: Juliet Corless

The Jubilation Choir:

Jared Auriemma, Ryan Auriemma, Mary Eggers, Andrew Freeborn, Grace Freeborn, Cole Hamon, Read Hamon, Alexandra Harris, Matthew Harris, Elyse Mathews, Josie Meserole, Cami Miller, Julia Miller, Ryan Syz, Collin Williams, Lara Ziccardi

Christ Church Hand Chime Choir:

Jared Auriemma, Mary Eggers, Andrew Freeborn, Grace Freeborn, Cole Hamon, Alexandra Harris, Matthew Harris, Cami Miller, Julia Miller, Ryan Syz, Collin Williams, Lara Ziccardi

PAGEANT PARTICIPANTS

Narrators: Lily Sebastian, Delia Lohan

Mary: Mia Sebastian

Joseph: Thomas Clark

Jesus: Charlotte Priddy

Lead Angel: Hayley Killeen

Lead Shepherd: Addison Stewart

Star: Mary Eggers

Lead King: Brady Killeen

Kings: Collin Williams John Clark

Camel: Hayden Blair

Nathan Loquet

Prayers of the People: Cole Hamon

Read Hamon

December 25

Christmas Day Eucharist & Carols at 10:00 A.M.

December 30

Lessons & Carols at 8:00 & 10:00 A.M.

Joy! at 9:15 A.M.

Wear your ugly sweaters!

January 6

Feast of Epiphany at 8:00 & 10:00 A.M. Joy! at 9:15 A.M.

Clergy & Staff

The Rev. Thomas Mathews, Rector: rector@christchurchridgewood.org
The Rev. William Coats, Assistant Priest for Adult Formation:
wcoats@verizon.net

William K. Trafka, Organist & Adult Choir Director:

organist@christchurchridgewood.org

Louise Rode, Parish Administrator: parishadmin@christchurchridgewood.org Kristen Lee, Youth & Family Ministries Director: klee@christchurchridgewood.org

Marlene Whittemore, Youth Choir & Arts Director:

mwhittemore@christchurchridgewood.org

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Wardens: Lucy Di Maulo (ldimaulo4@gmail.com) &

Thomas Martin (tmartin@putneylaw.com)