CHRISTMAS EVE

Candlelight Eucharist with Musical Prelude

DECEMBER 24, 2018

10:00 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!

Please observe silence during the Prelude.

PRELUDE:

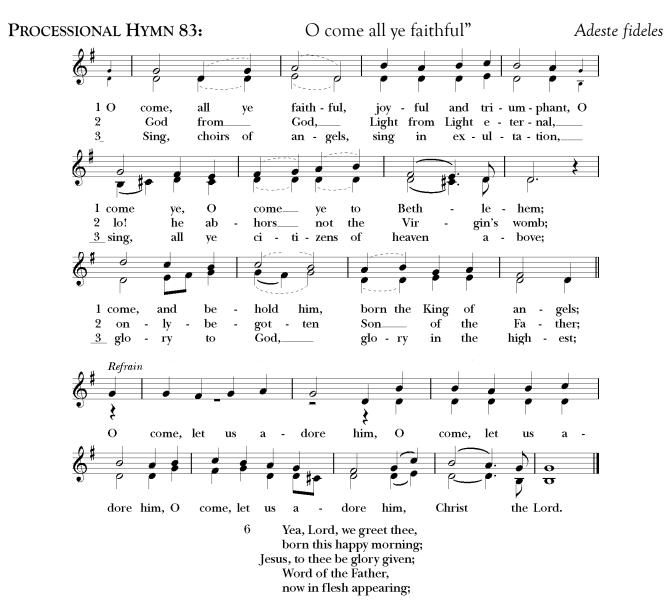
Pastorale, Op. 19

Violin Sonata III ("The Nativity of Christ)

Fantasia on "Greensleeves"

César Franck Heinrich Ignaz Franz Biber Ralph Vaughan Williams

Rick Dolan, Violinist William K. Trafka, Organist



Refrain

OPENING ACCLAMATION

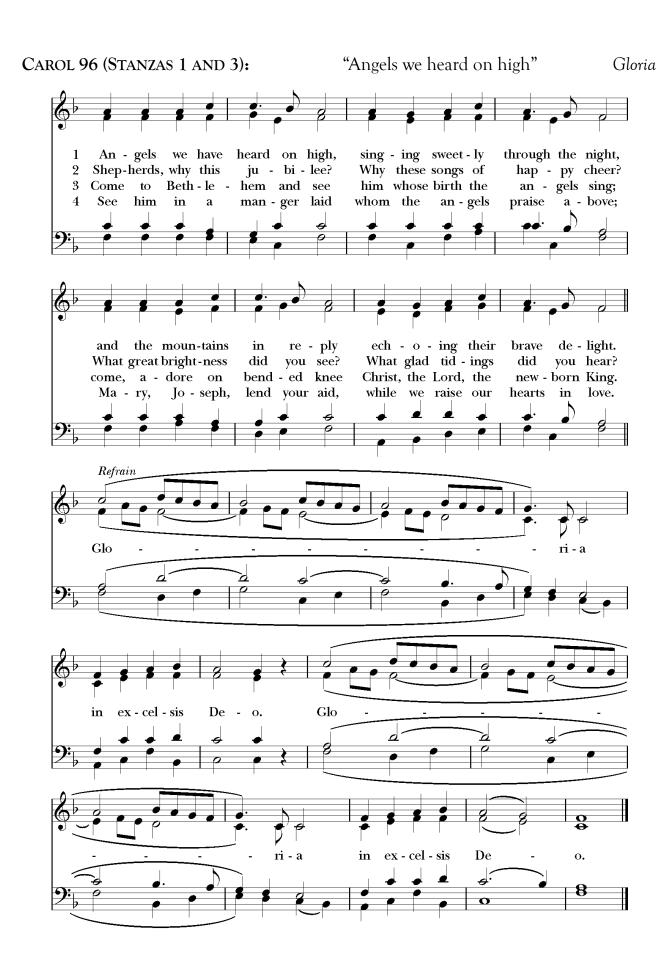
Celebrant Blessed be God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

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.* 3



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.

People Amen.

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

The people are seated for the readings.

A READING FROM THE PROPHET 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.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People Amen.

CAROL "Mariä Wiegenlied" ("The Virgin's Slumber Song") Max Reger Marlene Whittemore, Soprano Soloist

Maria sitzt im Rosenhag Amid the roses Mary sits
Und wiegt ihr Jesuskind, And rocks her Jesus-child,
Durch die Blätter leise While amid the treetops

Weht der warme Sommerwind. Sighs the breeze so warm and mild.

Zu ihren Füßen singt
And soft and sweetly sings
Ein buntes Vögelein:
Schlaf, Kindlein, süße,
Ah, baby, dear one,
Schlaf nun ein!
Slumber now!

Hold ist dein Lächeln, Happy is Thy laughter,
Holder deines Schlummers Lust, Holy is Thy silent rest,
Leg dein müdes Köpfchen Lay Thy head in slumber
Fest an deiner Mutter Brust! Fondly on Thy Mother's breast.

Schlaf, Kindlein, süße,
Schlaf nun ein!
Ah, baby, dear one,
Slumber now!

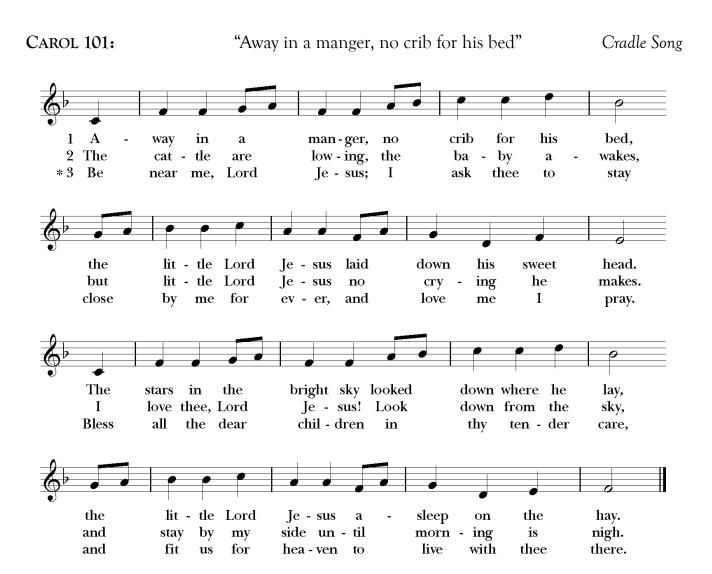
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A READING FROM TITUS (2:11-14)

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.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.



THE GOSPEL remain standing

Gospeller The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke (2:1-20).

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.

THE SERMON

The Reverend Thomas E. Mathews, Jr.



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

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.

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

"Torches"

John Joubert

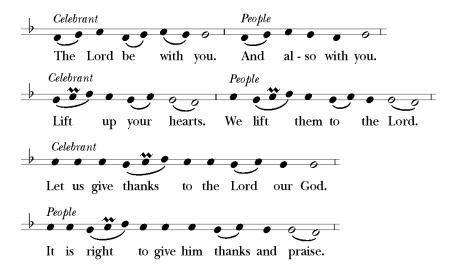
The Choir of Christ Church, Ridgewood

Torches, torches, run with torches All the way to Bethlehem!
Christ is born and now lies sleeping;
Come and sing your song to Him!
Torches, torches, run with torches
All the way to Bethlehem!
Christ is born and now lies sleeping;
Come and sing your song to Him!

Ah, Roro, Roro, my baby, Ah, Roro, my love, Roro; Sleep you well, my heart's own darling, While we sing you our Rorro.

Sing, my friends, and make you merry, Joy and mirth and joy again; Lo, He lives, the King of heaven, Now and evermore. Amen. PRESENTATION HYMN 112 (STANZAS 1 AND 4): "In the bleak midwinter" Cranham Financial offering is brought up by Ushers on Stanza 4.

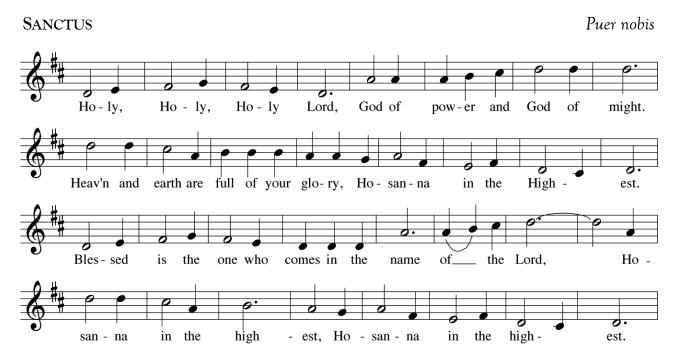




Celebrant

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.

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 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.

People Amen.

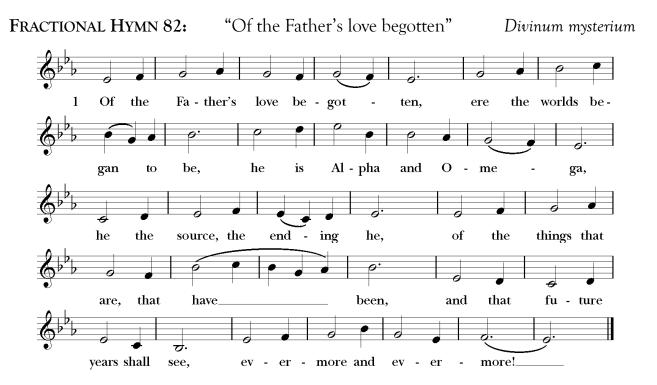
And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

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.]

The acolytes will distribute candles after Communion. They will be lit toward the end of the service.

COMMUNION CAROL:

"Lullay, my liking"
The Choir of Christ Church, Ridgewood

Gustav Holst

Refrain:

Lullay my liking, My dear son, my sweeting; Lullay my dear heart, Mine own dear darling.

I saw a fair maiden Sitten and sing: She lulléd a little child, A sweeté lording. Refrain

That eternal lord is he That made allé thing; Of allé lordés he is Lord Of allé kinges King. Refrain

There was mickle melody
At that childés birth:
Though the songsters were heavenly
They madé mickle mirth.
Refrain

Angels bright they sang that night
And saiden to that child,
"Blessed be thou and so be she
That is both meek and mild."
Refrain

Pray we now to that child,
And to his mother dear,
God grant them all his blessing
That now maken cheer.
Refrain

COMMUNION VOLUNTARY: "Air" (Orchestra Suite in D Major) Johann Sebastian Bach Rick Dolan, Violinist



Acolytes will light the candle of the first person in each pew, please pass along.

POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER (stand as you are able)

Celebrant Let us pray.

People 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 lights in the Church are dimmed at this time.



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: Noël VI Louis-Claude d'Aquin

ASSISTING IN WORSHIP

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

Assisting in Worship: The Reverend William Coats

Organist: William K. Trafka

The Choir of Christ Church, Ridgewood

Soprano: Elaina Richardi, Kelly Sullivan, Marlene Whittemore

Alto: Susan Eggers, Barbara Hemink, Melinda Weber

Tenor: Timothy Berry, Troy Eggers

Bass: William Eggers, Christopher Elliot, Paris Simms

Ushers: Frank Ducoat, Lyle Hatch, Doug Steen

Lay Eucharist Ministers: Callie Campbell, Tom Martin

First Reading: Jamel Shimpfky

Second Reading: Felice Llamas

Intercessor: Pat Kortjohn

Acolytes: Evan Pillow, Charlotte Pillow

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

