



THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF SAINT JAMES
UPPER MONTCLAIR, NJ

A CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION WITH CAROLS

DECEMBER 24, 2021
3:00 P.M.



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Voluntary

O Holy Night
Sung by Noël McCormick, soprano

Adolphe Adam
(1803-1856)

Congregation Stands

Opening Hymn

O come, all ye faithful

The Word of God

Opening Acclamation

Celebrant Alleluia! The Son of God is born one of us!
People The Lord is born for us! Alleluia!

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.**

Song of Praise

Once in Royal David's City

Collect of Christmas Eve

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.**

Leader: Behold! Listen!

Congregation: **This is important!**

Collect for the Community (*Read together in unison*)

Gracious God, strengthen in us the two values that we hold central as a Christian Community. These values are inspired by Jesus' two great commandments. First, we love God or something greater than ourselves with all our hearts and mind, and second we commit to loving our neighbor as we love ourselves. There is no boundary or condition to our love and commitment to God or to our neighbor, no matter who they may be. All are welcome in this place. **Amen.**

Following the reading of each part of the Gospel, the Cantor and congregation will sing a verse of each carol

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

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.

**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.**

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.

**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?
This, this is Christ the King, whom shepherds guard and angels sing;
haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mary.**

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.

**While shepherds watched their flocks by night, all seated on the ground,
the angel of the Lord came down, and glory shone around.**

This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger."

**Away in a manger, no crib for his 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.**

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!"

**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!**

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.

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Nicene Creed (*Said by All*)

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 human. 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

Presider or deacon

As we join the angels and celebrate with joy the birth of the Son of God, let us offer prayers to God who gives new birth to sons and daughters in every place.

Deacon or other leader

By the birth of the timeless Son of God through the Virgin Mary.

Glory and praise to you, O living God.

For Carlye our bishop and the presbyters, for the deacons and all who minister in Christ, and for all the holy people of God. **Glory and praise to you, O living God.**

For all believers who put their trust in the incarnate Son of God.

Glory and praise to you, O living God.

For the leaders of the nations and all in authority, and for peace and justice.

Glory and praise to you, O living God.

For travelers, for the sick and the suffering, especially those whom we now name for the hungry and the oppressed, for those in prison, and for the dying and the dead.

Glory and praise to you, O living God.

For our deliverance from all affliction, strife, and need and the courage and will to help our brothers and sisters in need. **Glory and praise to you, O living God.**

Remembering our most glorious and blessed Mary, James, and all the saints, let us offer ourselves and one another to the living God through Christ. **To you, O Lord.**

Presider

Source of light and gladness, accept the prayers we offer on this joyful feast. May we grow in Jesus Christ who unites our lives to yours and who is Lord for all eternity; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Sharing of God's Peace

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

Announcements and Welcome

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.**

Invitation to Receiving Sacrament

A Prayer for Spiritual Communion

Almighty God, we believe that you are truly present in this Holy Sacrament. Whether we can be at your table or not, we unite ourselves with you and embrace you with all our hearts, our souls, and our minds. Let nothing separate us from you; let us serve you in this life until, by your grace, we come to your glorious kingdom and unending peace. Amen.

Post-Communion Prayer (*kneeling or standing*)

Let us pray.

Almighty and everliving God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

The Blessing of Christmas

May Christ, who by his Incarnation gathered into one all things earthly and heavenly, fill you with his joy and peace; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever. Amen.

Reflection Hymn

Silent Night

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 Saviour, is born! Christ the Saviour, 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.

Closing Hymn

Joy to the World

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 Saviour 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.

Dismissal

Carol

We wish you a Merry Christmas

Led by Caleb Laidlaw, trumpet

2021
THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF ST. JAMES
CHRISTMAS FLOWER MEMORIALS AND THANKSGIVINGS

Donor

Lee Boveroux

Cancelosi-Bassford Family

Cindy and Eric Dungan

Gilruth Family

Pat and Bill Kopp

Justin, Megan, & Penelope
Mannato

Pat Piermatti

Maggie Rothman

Isobel Wayrick

In Loving Memory of:

Eleanor T. Boveroux

Jo & Tony Cancelosi, Phil Bassford, Jr.
Dolores Pierce and Mike Pierce

Harmon Allen Dungan, Jr. and Kathleen Veal
Dungan (parents of Eric Dungan)
James Jesse Vanderhoeven, Jr. and Cherie
Martin Vanderhoeven parents of Cindy Dungan

George Gilruth and Geordie Gilruth

Loved ones and recently Mimi, Rick, and Pam

Dominic "Popsie" Mannato

My parents, Louis & Lillian Piermatti

Isa Allersmeyer

Connie Hayton

Donor

Pat Colagiuri

Pat and Bill Kopp

Tara and Andrew Lewis

Pat Piermatti

Maggie Rothman

In Thanksgiving for:

Donna, Marilyn, Craig, Elizabeth, Connor

Our extended families, our community, and
Julie, Lexie, Brianna, and Brittney

Our children, Emma, Henry, and Luke and
their Pop-Pop, Walter Lewis

Family and all my friends

My fine family