

A COMMUNITY OF CHRIST'S SERVANTS
WHO SEEK TO —
WORSHIP GOD WITH JOY AND WONDER,
LEARN AND GROW TOGETHER, AND
RADIATE GOD'S LOVE TO ALL.



CHRISTMAS EVE
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 24th, 2022
5:00 pm



Clergy & Staff

The Reverend Dr. Steven J. Pankey, Rector steve@cecbg.com cell 270-599-4575
The Very Reverend Rebecca Kello, Associate Rector becca@cecbg.com cell 270-421-3432
The Venerable Kellie Mysinger, Deacon kellie@cecbg.com
The Reverend Dr. Ken Casey, Deacon kencasey@cecbg.com
C. Kenneth Stein, Director of Music and Organist ken@cecbg.com
Karen Crabtree, Director of Youth and Online Communications karen@cecbg.com
Kate Cline, Director of Children's Faith Formation kate@cecbg.com
Vonda Garringer, Parish Administrator vonda@cecbg.com

Church Office Hours

Monday – Wednesday 9:00 AM – 4:30 PM | Thursday 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM | Closed Friday

Special thanks to Guen Petty, age 9, for our Bulletin cover art

The Holy Eucharist Rite II

Notes referencing posture – stand, kneel, sit – should be assumed to be optional. BCP is the black Book of Common Prayer and H is the red Hymnal 1982, located in the pews.

Organ Prelude

Variations on "In Dulci Jubilo"

Denis Bédard

Processional Hymn Standing

O come, all ye faithful (verses 1-3)

H 83

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, O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him, Christ, the Lord.

God from God, Light from Light eternal,
lo! he abhors not the Virgin's womb;
only begotten Son of God the Father;
O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him,
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;
O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him, Christ, the Lord.

Blessing of the Crèche

- V. The Word was made flesh and dwelt among us.
- R. And we beheld Christ's glory.

Almighty and everliving God, you have given us a new revelation of your loving providence in the Coming of your Son Jesus Christ to be born of the Virgin Mary. Grant that as Christ shared our mortality, so we may share his eternity in the glory of your kingdom; where you live and reign for ever and ever. *Amen.*

Processional Hymn

O come, all ye faithful (verses 4-6)

H 83

See how the shepherds, summoned to his cradle, leaving their flocks, draw nigh to gaze; we too will thither bend our joyful footsteps; O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him, Christ, the Lord.

Child, for us sinners poor and in the manger, we would embrace thee, with love and awe; who would not love thee, loving us so dearly?

O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him, Christ, the Lord.

Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning;
Jesus, 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.

Celebrant

Good news and great joy to all the world: today our Savior is born in Bethlehem.

People O come let us adore him!

Collect for Purity BCP 355

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

BCP 212

Celebrant The Lord be with you. **People**And also with you.

Celebrant 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*.

Please remain standing for the reading of the Gospel.

The Gospel Luke 2:1-20

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

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

And it came to pass in those days, that there went out a decree from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be taxed. (And this taxing was first made when Cyrenius was governor of Syria.) And all went to be taxed, every one into his own city. And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth into Judaea, unto the city of David which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and lineage of David, to be taxed with Mary his espoused wife, being great with child. And so it was, that, while they were there, the days were accomplished that she should be delivered. And she brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn. And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid. And the angel said unto them, "Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord. And this shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, 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, and on earth peace, good will toward men." And it came to pass, as the angels were gone away from them into heaven, the shepherds said one to another, "Let us now go even unto Bethlehem, and see this thing which is come to pass, which the Lord hath made known unto us." And they came with haste, and found Mary, and Joseph, and the babe lying in a manger. And when they had seen it, they made known abroad the saying which was told them concerning this child. And all they that heard it wondered at those things which were told them by the shepherds. But Mary kept all these things, and pondered them in her heart. And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things that they had heard and seen, as it was told unto them.

Deacon The Gospel of the Lord. **People** *Praise to you, Lord Christ.*

The Children's Christmas Eve Liturgy

Please remain seated for the entirety of the pageant including the singing of hymns.

On This Night Narrator: Georgie Tabor

This night is like no other night. It is a time to dream and sing our way to Bethlehem. And little children shall lead us. The little town we seek sits in the hill country some ten miles south of Jerusalem. For thousands of years the houses have gathered there on the hilltop like a family breaking bread. "Bethlehem" means "House of Bread." In the center of the village is a small inn. On this night it is overflowing with people seeking sleep and a place to eat. Behind the inn is a dark stable. A gray donkey chews his barley and broken straw while a weary cow leans and rests after the day's plowing in the valley. A sheep nearby is nearly asleep. All is still and quiet in the little town.

Hymn O little town of Bethlehem **H 79**

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. How silently, how silently, the wondrous gift is given! So God imparts to human hearts the blessings of his heaven. No ear may hear his coming, but in this world of sin, where meek souls will receive him, still the dear Christ enters in.

O holy Child of Bethlehem, descend to us, we pray; cast out our sin and enter in, be born in us today. We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell; O come to us, abide with us, our Lord Emmanuel!

Joseph and Mary Narrator: Markus Bridges

As night gathers, the last two travelers come slowly up the road. Look, there is a young woman about to be a mother. She is walking with her husband. They are Joseph and Mary from Nazareth! They have walked for six days to come to this city where King David was born, so long ago. They have come, like so many others, because the Roman emperor wants to count each one, so he can take their money as a tax. But it is late, and Mary is so weary. Where will they sleep? The innkeeper says, There is no room in the inn. They decide to sleep with the animals.

Hymn Once in royal David's city **H 102**

First Verse: Solo by Jocelyn Smith

He came down to earth from heaven, who is God and Lord of all, and his shelter was a stable, and his cradle was a stall; with the poor, the scorned, the lowly, lived on earth our Savior holy.

Not in that poor lowly stable, with the oxen standing round, we shall see him; but in heaven, where his saints his throne surround: Christ, revealed to faithful eye, set at God's right hand on high.

Jesus Is Born Narrator: Eliza Pankey

Stars brighten slowly in the sky. All creation holds its breath. Suddenly, from the stable, comes the cry of a newborn child! Mary gently wraps the baby in a blanket and lays him in the feed box that his father has filled with straw.

Hymn Away in a manger H 101

First Verse: Children's Ensemble

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 side until morning is nigh.

Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask thee to stay close by me for ever, 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 Shepherds Narrator: Virginia Neill Caudill

In the hills outside Bethlehem, shepherds watch their shadowy sheep. All at once, the dark is lost in light, and in the midst of the light is something even brighter: the faces of angels. The fearful shepherds then hear music in the sky and a voice says clearly, "Do not be afraid. Listen, I bring you news of great joy, a joy to be shared by all people. Today in the City of David a Savior is born! He is Christ, the Lord." Then more angels appear, a whole heavenly host of them, praising God and singing: "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth, peace, good will to all people, everywhere." The shepherds run with joy across the fields to Bethlehem to the barn behind the inn. There they find the Holy Family and creep forward, overwhelmed with mystery, to find love itself in a manger full of straw.

Hymn The first Nowell H 109

First Verse: Children's Ensemble

They looked up and saw a star shining in the east beyond them far, and to the earth it gave great light, and so it continued both day and night. Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, born is the King of Israel.

Then let us all with one accord sing praises to our heavenly Lord; that hath made heaven and earth of nought, and with his blood our life hath bought. Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, born is the King of Israel.

The Magi Narrator: Benjamin Chaffin

Three camels plod up the road to Bethlehem. They have come from the East, far beyond the Arabian Desert, perhaps from as far as the Caspian Sea. The camels carry three kings, the wise ones, the Magi. They are following the star of wonder, following its light wherever it goes, leading them to the true Brightness of the everliving Father in heaven.

Hymn We three kings H128

First Verse: Children's Ensemble

Glorious now behold him arise, King and God and Sacrifice; heaven sings alleluia: alleluia the earth replies.

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

The Gifts Narrator: Kal-El Cline

The kings' journey ends with a new kind of king. Their restlessness rests at last. They fall to their knees and give him bright gold, sweet-smelling frankincense, and bitter myrrh, brought so far with so much love. So now we all come, following the star, to find God-with-us. We come, as people have come all through the ages, to bring our own gifts to this Child, God's gift to us.

Hymn Joy to the world H 100

First Verse: Children's Ensemble

Joy to the world! the Savior reigns; let us our songs employ, while fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains, repeat the sounding joy...

He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the nations prove the glories of his righteousness, and wonders of his love...

The Prayers of the People Standing

Written by the Youth of Christ Episcopal Church

Almighty God, you are holy. We pray for those who are dedicated to bringing your holy worship into our lives. Bless Bishop Terry, Father Steve, Mother Becca, Archdeacon Kellie, Deacon Ken, and all bishops, ministers, and laypeople in your church around the world.

Help us minister to your people everywhere.

Almighty God, you are powerful. We pray for those in power and those who serve in government, that they may have the strength to create and uphold laws that provide for all your people.

Help them to lead us according to your word.

Almighty God, you are gracious. You blessed us with a marvelous creation that we do not care for as we should. *Help us to cherish our one and only home.*

Almighty God, you are comforting. Share your loving-kindness with those who are in need. Be with the poor and those who do not know security and peace.

Help us always to be mindful of the needs of others.

Almighty God, you are our healer. We pray for those who are sick or in need, especially all those on our Parish Prayer List.

Help them to feel your peace and presence.

Almighty God, you are forgiving. Show your mercy to those who struggle with addiction or are in trouble. Guide those who have wandered astray back to your loving care.

Help us be a welcoming community for all your children.

Almighty God, you are eternal. We pray for those who have departed, especially... that they may know the joy of your resurrection.

Help us always to strive for your Kingdom.

Almighty God, you are the Light of the World.

Help us spread your light into all the dark places in this life.

The Peace Standing

Celebrant The peace of Christ be always with you.

People And also with you.

All greet one another in the name of the Lord.

Welcome and Announcements

The Holy Communion

Music at the Offertory

A Hymn of Thanksgiving H 380

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise him, all creatures here below; Praise him above, ye heavenly host: Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

Eucharistic Prayer A BCP 361

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 our thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Almighty God, Creator of heaven and earth...

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:

H S129

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might,

heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

Holy and gracious God: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Maker of all.

Jesus stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, 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 shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died. H S135

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, Almighty God, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling Christ's death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in Christ. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through our Savior Jesus Christ. 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 BCP 364

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.

Fraction Anthem Lamb of God H S163

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: grant us peace.

Celebrant The Gifts of God for the People of God.

All persons baptized in any denomination are invited to receive Holy Communion. Our clergy and Eucharistic Ministers will provide you with instructions if you need them.

Communion Hymn What child is this H 115

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?

Refrain: 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. *Refrain*

So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh, come, peasant, king, to own him; the King of kings salvation brings, let loving hearts enthrone him. *Refrain*

Communion Hymn Go Tell It On The Mountain H 99

Refrain: Go tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere; Go tell it on the mountain, that Jesus Christ is born!

While shepherds kept their watching o'er silent flocks by night, Behold, throughout the heavens there shone a holy light. *Refrain*

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

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

Post Communion Prayer Standing or kneeling

BCP 366

Celebrant

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 our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of Christ, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Savior. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

Lighting of the Candles

The acolyte will assist in lighting candles for the singing of Silent Night. Please help by sharing the light of Christ with your neighbors.

Hymn Silent night H 111

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 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 Blessing

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

Candles may be extinguished at this time.

Please deposit your candles in the receptacles at the door as you leave the Nave.

Closing Hymn

Hark! the herald angels sing

H 87

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!

Christ, by highest heaven adored; Christ, the everlasting Lord; late in time behold him come, offspring of the Virgin's womb. Veiled in flesh the Godhead see; hail the incarnate Deity. Pleased as man with man to dwell; Jesus, our Emmanuel! 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 newborn King!

The Dismissal

The people respond

Thanks be to God.

The greenery is given in thanksgiving for their children, grandchildren and great-grandchild by Mike and Ellen Buchanon.

Ministers of the Service

Celebrant The Rev. Dr. Steve Pankey
Associate Rector The Very Rev. Becca Kello
Deacon The Ven. Kellie Mysinger
Deacon The Rev. Dr. Ken Casey

Altar Party Will Derryberry, Roman Tabor, Landon Sigler, LaJuana Wilcher,

Pageant Directors Kate Cline, Brittany Whitlow

Pageant Lectors Georgie Tabor, Markus Bridges, Eliza Pankey, Virginia Neill

Caudill, Benjamin Chaffin, Kal-El Cline

Intercessor Maggie Stewart

Children's Ensemble Adrian, Ava, Bennett, Camden, Christopher, Davis, Dean, Ellie,

Elyse, Frankie, Guen, Hatcher, Henry, Indie, Jace, Jacob, Jocelyn, Jovani, Lainey, Lucian, Maya, Merrin, Merritt, Myers, Rita, Ryder,

Wyatt.

Organist & Choir Master C. Kenneth Stein

Ushers Becky & Larry McCraney, Judy & Gary Reimer

Audio Visual Team Linda & Rick Mitchell

The Christmas flowers and music contributions are given to the glory of God and...

In memory of Bob Adams
In thanksgiving for my friends and family
by Karen Adams

In memory of Bobby Cash, Billy Adams, Ferris Van Meter, and Vickie Cash by Penny Adams

In memory of Estella & Earle Curry and Louise Ardrey
In thanksgiving for Chanceton Ardrey

by Saundra & William Ardrey

In memory of Marilyn Morgan, and Ed Peach by Ruth Anne and Billy Bell

In memory of Evelyn Banks Bohannon by the Jimmy Bohannon Family

and at the bottom under Fairchild: by George & Gretchen Niva

In memory of Sabina Antic by Goldie Brekalo

In honor of clergy, staff, and volunteers of CEC by Gretchen Broderick

In thanksgiving for our children and grandchildren By Gail & Kevin Brooks

The Christmas flowers and music contributions are given to the glory of God and...

In memory of Trevor Brown by James & Ann Brown

In memory of Laura Briggs Buckberry by Ray Buckberry

In memory of Belinda McGinley Jefferson by Ray Buckberry

In memory of William Telford Myers by Neill, Gray, Virginia Neill, and Myers Caudill

In thanksgiving for her church family by Susan Cook

In thanksgiving for the health of Jessie Wolfe In memory of Thomas Wolfe and Michael Crabtree, Sr by Karen & Mikey Crabtree

In thanksgiving for our children & grandchildren by Margie & Pete Dotson

In thanksgiving for children and grandchildren by Leonard & Sue Edwards

In memory of Joe Cheek and Bill McKenzie by Harry Ford

In thanksgiving of the Christ Church Office Volunteers by Vonda Garringer

In thanksgiving for our family by Don & Lou Goidel

In memory of Linda Surface
In honor of Kate Cline
In thanksgiving for Gretchen Broderick
by Hatcher, Merritt, and Brody Hale

In memory of David P. Hall by Dawn Hall, Dee Powell, Jason Heflin, Lucian Hall-Heflin and Janice Hall

In thanksgiving for our family and friends by Mike & Leigh Harper

In memory of Robert Gordon Gatland by Bob & Marti Harrison

In memory of Arnold, Rosa, and Nitza Wesche, and Ray and Donna Knauft by Terry & Miliska Knauft

In memory of Pamela Crowell by Jennifer Lindsey

The Christmas flowers and music contributions are given to the glory of God and...

In thanksgiving for Austin, S.G., Kristen, and Dan by Greg & Paula Lyons

In memory of Doris & Revon Johnson, Loreta & Albert Pedrin by Becky & Larry McCraney

In memory of Dr. Dennis O. Minix by Chris & Sarah Minix, and Nancy Minix,

In thanksgiving for our children, Drew, Katie, Jon, and our grandson, Mickey by Rick & Linda Mitchell

In memory of Charles Moore, Jr., and Patricia Moore Bollinger by Shelby Moore and family

In thanksgiving for our family and friends by Sue Wilson & John Parker

In memory of Patricia Waddington by Shanna Paul

In thanksgiving for our grandchildren, Will, Brady, Avery, Charlotte, and soon to be Brooks by Bill & Melinda Riedel

In memory of Bill Schlicht by his family

In thanksgiving for tornado recovery by the Siewers Family

In memory of our parents, Eugene Edge and Marianna Stiles by Josh & Crystal Stiles

In memory of Linda Surface by Craig Taylor

In memory of Penny & Brent Travelsted by Carroll Travelsted

In memory of Linda Surface by Sharon Valk & Lynn Wirth

In memory of Thomas Wimp by Portia Wimp, Kellie and Paul Mysinger

by James Fairchild & Douglas Sherman

by George & Gretchen Niva

by LaJuana Wilcher & Ed Tivol