



THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD:  
CHRISTMAS DAY  
DECEMBER 25, 2021 - 9:00 A.M.

*Celebrant* ✠ Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

*People* And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

Almighty God, unto whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of thy Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love thee, and worthily magnify thy holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Hear what our Lord Jesus Christ saith: Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it: Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself. On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

**Christ, have mercy upon us.**

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Glory be to God on high, and on earth peace, good will towards men.

We praise thee, we bless thee, we worship thee, we glorify thee, we give thanks to thee for thy great glory, O Lord God, heavenly King, God the Father Almighty.

O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ; O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us. Thou that takest away the sins of the world, receive our prayer. Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy upon us.

For thou only art holy; thou only art the Lord; thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost, ✠ art most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

*People* And with thy spirit.

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

Almighty God, who hast given us thy only-begotten Son to take our nature upon him and as at this time to be born of a pure virgin: Grant that we, being regenerate and made thy children by adoption and grace, may daily be renewed by thy Holy Spirit; through the same our Lord Jesus Christ, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the same Spirit ever, one God, world without end. Amen.

### Lesson: Isaiah 52:7-10

How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of the messenger who announces peace, who brings good news, who announces salvation, who says to Zion, "Your God reigns." Listen! Your sentinels lift up their voices, together they sing for joy; for in plain sight they see the return of the Lord to Zion. Break forth together into singing, you ruins of Jerusalem; for the Lord has comforted his people, he has redeemed Jerusalem. The Lord has bared his holy arm before the eyes of all the nations; and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.

*Minister*      The Word of the Lord.

*People*        Thanks be to God.

### Psalm: Psalm 98, *responsively by whole verse (Lector then the Congregation)*

- 1 Sing to the Lord a new song, \* for he has done marvelous things.
- 2 **With his right hand and his holy arm \* has he won for himself the victory.**
- 3 The Lord has made known his victory; \* his righteousness has he openly shown in the sight of the nations.
- 4 **He remembers his mercy and faithfulness to the house of Israel, \* and all the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.**
- 5 Shout with joy to the Lord, all you lands; \* lift up your voice, rejoice, and sing.
- 6 **Sing to the Lord with the harp, \* with the harp and the voice of song.**
- 7 With trumpets and the sound of the horn \* shout with joy before the King, the Lord.
- 8 **Let the sea make a noise and all that is in it, \* the lands and those who dwell therein.**
- 9 Let the rivers clap their hands, \* and let the hills ring out with joy before the Lord, when he comes to judge the earth.
- 10 **In righteousness shall he judge the world \* and the peoples with equity.**

### Epistle: Hebrews 1:1-12

Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets, but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, through whom he also

created the worlds. He is the reflection of God's glory and the exact imprint of God's very being, and he sustains all things by his powerful word. When he had made purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs. For to which of the angels did God ever say, "You are my Son; today I have begotten you"? Or again, "I will be his Father, and he will be my Son"? And again, when he brings the firstborn into the world, he says, "Let all God's angels worship him." Of the angels he says, "He makes his angels winds, and his servants flames of fire." But of the Son he says, "Your throne, O God, is forever and ever, and the righteous scepter is the scepter of your kingdom. You have loved righteousness and hated wickedness; therefore God, your God, has anointed you with the oil of gladness beyond your companions." And, "In the beginning, Lord, you founded the earth, and the heavens are the work of your hands; they will perish, but you remain; they will all wear out like clothing; like a cloak you will roll them up, and like clothing they will be changed. But you are the same, and your years will never end."

*Minister*      The Word of the Lord.

*People*        Thanks be to God.

## **Gospel: John 1:1-14**

*Minister*    ✠ The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

*People*        Glory be to thee, O Lord.

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it. There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God. And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

*Minister*      The Gospel of the Lord.

*People*        Praise be to thee, O Christ.

## **The Sermon**

## The Nicene Creed

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

Let us pray for the whole state of Christ's Church and the world.

Almighty and everliving God, who in thy holy Word hast taught us to make prayers, and supplications, and to give thanks for all men: Receive these our prayers which we offer unto thy divine Majesty, beseeching thee to inspire continually the Universal Church with the spirit of truth, unity, and concord, especially:

- + the Anglican Communion and the Church of Nigeria
- + the Episcopal Church
- + the Diocese of Springfield and St. Andrew's
- + the Dioceses of Tabora and Peru

and grant that all those who do confess thy holy Name may agree in the truth of thy holy Word, and live in unity and godly love.

Give grace, O heavenly Father, to all bishops and other ministers, especially:

- + Justin, Archbishop of Canterbury
- + Michael, our Presiding Bishop;
- + Daniel, our Retired Bishop; and Paul, our Assisting Bishop
- + Elias and Jorge, our companion bishops
- + Brian, our Bishop-Elect,
- + Ben, our priest

that they may, both by their life and doctrine, set forth thy true and lively Word, and rightly and duly administer thy holy Sacraments.

And to all thy people give thy heavenly grace, and especially to this congregation here present; that, with meek heart and due reverence, they may hear and receive thy holy Word, truly serving thee in holiness and righteousness all the days of their life.

We beseech thee also so to rule the hearts of those who bear the authority of government in this and every land, especially Joseph, J.B., Art, and all executives, legislatures, and courts, that they may be led to wise decisions and right actions for the welfare and peace of the world.

Open, O Lord, the eyes of all people to behold thy gracious hand in all thy works, that, rejoicing in thy whole creation, they may honor thee with their substance, and be faithful stewards of thy bounty.

And we most humbly beseech thee, of thy goodness, O Lord, to comfort and succor:

- + Little Bobby, Laura, Rebecca, Elmer, Joseph, Thomas, Keith, Deborah, Kathy, Trudy, Jay, Linda, Deane, Shirley, Chris, Rhonda, Margaret, Lance, Richard, Mary Jane, JoAnn, Jane, Anita, Denny, Troy, Ben and Family, Lane, Lewis, Sue, John, Sandy, Shelby, Peter,

Keith and Family, Margaret, Carl  
and all those who in this transitory life, are in trouble, sorrow, need, sickness, or any other  
adversity.

I bid the further prayers of the congregation.

*Additional petitions and thanksgivings may be included here.*

And we also bless ✠ thy holy Name for all thy servants departed this life in thy faith and fear,  
especially Bill and Neely, beseeching thee to grant them continual growth in thy love and service;  
and to grant us grace so to follow the good examples of the ever blessed Virgin Mary, blessed  
Andrew, and of all thy saints, that with them we may be partakers of thy heavenly kingdom.

Grant these our prayers, O Father, for Jesus Christ's sake, our only Mediator and Advocate. **Amen.**

**Confession of Sin** - *The Confession of Sin is omitted during Chrismastide*

Hear the Word of God to all who truly turn to him.

Come unto me, all ye that travail and are heavy laden, and I will refresh you. *Matthew 11:28*

God so loved the world, that he gave his only-begotten Son, to the end that all that believe in him  
should not perish, but have everlasting life. *John 3:16*

This is a true saying, and worthy of all men to be received, that Christ Jesus came into the world to  
save sinners. *1 Timothy 1:15*

If any man sin, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous; and he is the  
perfect offering for our sins, and not for ours only, but for the sins of the whole world. *1 John 2:1-2*

**The Peace** - *BCP p. 332; All stand. The Celebrant says to the people*

*Celebrant* The peace of the Lord be always with you.

*People* **And with thy spirit.**

*Then the People may greet one another in the name of the Lord.*

## The Holy Communion

*The Offertory - The Celebrant begins the Offertory with a sentence of Scripture.*

**The Great Thanksgiving** - BCP p. 333; *The people standing.*

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

***People*** And with thy spirit.

*Celebrant* Lift up your hearts.

***People*** We lift them up unto the Lord.

*Celebrant* Let us give thanks unto our Lord God.

***People*** It is meet and right so to do.

*Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds*

It is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord, holy Father, almighty, everlasting God.

Because thou didst give Jesus Christ, thine only Son, to be born for us; who, by the mighty power of the Holy Ghost, was made very Man of the substance of the Virgin Mary his mother; that we might be delivered from the bondage of sin, and receive power to become thy children.

Therefore with Angels and Archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious Name; evermore praising thee, and saying,

*Sanctus - Celebrant and People*

**🔔 Holy, 🔔 holy, 🔔 holy, Lord God of Hosts: Heaven and earth are full of thy Glory. Glory be to thee, O Lord Most High. ✠ Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

*The people kneel or stand. Then the celebrant continues*

All glory be to thee, Almighty God, our heavenly Father, for that thou, of thy tender mercy, didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption; who made there, by his one oblation of himself once offered, a full, perfect, and sufficient sacrifice, oblation, and satisfaction, for the sins of the whole world; and did institute, and in his holy Gospel command us to continue, a perpetual memory of that his precious death and sacrifice, until his coming again. 🔔

*At the following words concerning the bread, the Celebrant is to hold it, or lay a hand upon it; and at the words concerning the cup, to hold or place a hand upon the cup and any other vessel containing wine to be consecrated.*

For in the night in which he was betrayed, he took bread; and when he had given thanks, he brake it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take, eat, this is my Body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me." ✠ 🛎 🛎 🛎

Likewise, after supper, he took the cup; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, "Drink ye all of this; for this is my Blood of the New Testament, which is shed for you, and for many, for the remission of sins. Do this, as oft as ye shall drink it, in remembrance of me." ✠ 🛎 🛎  
🛎

Wherefore, O Lord and heavenly Father, according to the institution of thy dearly beloved Son our Savior Jesus Christ, we, thy humble servants, do celebrate and make here before thy divine Majesty, with these thy holy gifts, which we now offer unto thee, the memorial thy Son hath commanded us to make; having in remembrance his blessed passion and precious death, his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension; rendering unto thee most hearty thanks for the innumerable benefits procured unto us by the same.

And we most humbly beseech thee, O merciful Father, to hear us; and, of thy almighty goodness, vouchsafe to bless and sanctify, with thy Word and Holy Spirit, these thy gifts and creatures of bread and wine; that we, receiving them according to thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ's holy institution, in remembrance of his death and passion, may be partakers of his most blessed Body and Blood.

And we earnestly desire thy fatherly goodness mercifully to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving; most humbly beseeching thee to grant that, by the merits and death of thy Son Jesus Christ, and through faith in his blood, we, and all thy whole Church, may obtain remission of our sins, and all other benefits of his passion.

And here we offer and present unto thee, O Lord, our selves, our souls and bodies, to be a reasonable, holy, and living sacrifice unto thee; humbly beseeching thee that we, and all others who shall be partakers of this Holy Communion, may worthily receive the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son Jesus Christ, be filled with thy grace and heavenly benediction, and made one body with him, that he may dwell in us, and we in him.

And although we are unworthy, through our manifold sins, to offer unto thee any sacrifice, yet we beseech thee to accept this our bounden duty and service, not weighing our merits, but pardoning our offenses, through Jesus Christ our Lord;

By whom, and with whom, in the unity of the Holy Ghost, all honor and glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, world without end. **AMEN.** ✠ 🛎

## The Lord's Prayer - BCP p. 336

And now, as our Savior Christ hath 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 - BCP p. 337

*The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept.*

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;  
**Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, **Have mercy upon us.**  
O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, **Have mercy upon us.**  
O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, **Grant us thy peace.**

**We do not presume to come to this thy Table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in thy manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under thy Table. But thou art the same Lord whose property is always to have mercy. Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of thy dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.**

*Facing the people, the Celebrant may say the following Invitation*

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

*and may add* Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

*Those who wish to receive come forward to the Altar rail. The celebrant will administer both the host and the cup by intinction, distributing the Sacrament into the hand. Neither drinking nor self-intinction are permissible. Should you choose to receive only the host, indicate by crossing a single arm across your chest while extending the other to receive in the hand. As always, both arms across the chest indicates the reception of a blessing instead of Communion. All baptized Christians are welcome to receive.*

[An Act of Spiritual Communion and additional prayers and devotions from the Book of Common Prayer may be found here.](#)

## Post-Communion Prayer - BCP p. 339

*After Communion, the Celebrant says*

Let us pray.

Almighty and everliving God, we most heartily thank thee for that thou dost feed us, in these holy mysteries, with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and dost assure us thereby of thy favor and goodness towards us; and that we are very members incorporate in the mystical body of thy Son, the blessed company of all faithful people; and are also heirs, through hope, of thy everlasting kingdom. And we humbly beseech thee, O heavenly Father, so to assist us with thy grace, that we may continue in that holy fellowship, and do all such good works as thou hast prepared for us to walk in; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honor and glory, world without end. Amen.

*The Bishop when present, or the Priest, gives the blessing*

May Christ, who by his Incarnation gathered into one 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 among you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

*The Deacon, or the Celebrant, may dismiss the People with these words*

*People*            Let us bless the Lord.  
                          Thanks be to God.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR DECEMBER 24, 2021

**Schedule** -*The schedule for other Daily Offices is found on the website.*

Fri., 12/24	9:30 p.m.	Carol Sing
	10:00 p.m.	Christmas Eve Holy Eucharist
Sat., 12/25	9 a.m.	Christmas Day Holy Eucharist
Sun., 12/26	8 a.m.	Holy Eucharist, Rite I
	9:15 a.m.	Morning Prayer, no Church School
	10 a.m.	Lessons and Carols with Holy Communion, Coffee Hour following
Mon., 12/27	5:30 p.m.	Feast of St. Stephen
Tues., 12/28	5:30 p.m.	Feast of St. John
Wed., 12/29	5:30 p.m.	Feast of the Holy Innocents
Sun., 1/2	8 a.m.	Holy Eucharist, Rite I
	9:15 a.m.	Church School and Adult Forum (TBD)
	10 a.m.	Holy Eucharist, Rite II with Coffee Hour following

### Notices

**Feast Days:** The Feasts of St. Stephen, St. John, and the Holy Innocents will be celebrated with services of Holy Eucharist on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, December 27-29, at 5:30 p.m.

**Christmas Offerings:** Forms for special Christmas offerings are located in the Narthex and on the table in hallway leading to Pearson Hall. Please consider a special year-end gift.

Blessed, praised, worshipped, hallowed, and adored be Jesus Christ on his throne of glory in heaven, in the most holy Sacrament of the altar, and in the hearts of his faithful people;  
✠ and may the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

**And may light perpetual shine upon them. Amen.**