

Christmas Day

Holy Eucharist Rite II ~ 10:00 a.m.

December 25, 2020



Saint Theodore's Episcopal Church
Bella Vista, Arkansas

The Right Reverend Larry R. Benfield,
Bishop of Arkansas

All of the following service can be found in the
1979 Book of Common Prayer
Scripture lessons are taken from the
Revised Common Lectionary (RCL) for Year B and are
from the New Revised Standard Version of the Bible
The Gospel reading is from the King James Version



There will be selected Christmas carols played
throughout this service. The music for these carols
has been attached to the weekly email sent to the
congregation to be sung at home or wherever you
may be on Christmas morning.



Prelude & Processional

O come, all ye faithful

Hymn 83

The people standing, the celebrant says

Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.

People

His mercy endures for ever.

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.*

Glory to God

Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to his people on earth.

Lord God, heavenly King,
almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:
receive our prayer.

For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. *Amen.*

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People *And also with you.*

Celebrant Let us pray. (*Remain standing as able*)

Collect of the Day

Celebrant **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 Lessons (*Sit and remain seated until the Gospel hymn.*)

FIRST READING: 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.

Reader The Word of the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 98

- 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.

SECOND READING: 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.”

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Gradual *Angels we have heard on high* **Hymn 96**

The Holy Gospel Luke 2:1-20 (KJV)

Celebrant The Holy Gospel of our Lord and Savior
 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.

Celebrant The Gospel of the Lord.

People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

Gospel Response *It came upon the midnight clear* **Hymn 89**

Sermon (*Sit*)

Fr. Grisham

The Nicene Creed (*Stand as able*)

(BCP 358)

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

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: *And also with you.*

Celebrant: Let us pray. (*Kneel as able*)

Celebrant: Gracious and Loving God, in Jesus you have filled all humanity with your divine life: Hear our prayers of joy and thanksgiving as we offer our supplications to you, saying: Glory to God in the highest heaven, and peace to God's people on earth.

Litanist: You have entrusted the Church with good news of great joy for all people: Inspire our witness that we may spread the light of Jesus' love to all humanity.

Glory to God in the highest heaven,

People: and peace to God's people on earth.

Litanist: Let your power and compassion guide those who exercise authority on earth, that they may be servants of peace, bringing comfort and security to all who are vulnerable.

Glory to God in the highest heaven,

People: and peace to God's people on earth.

Litanist: Embrace with your eternal protection all who are poor: refugees and the displaced, those threatened by violence or illness, and families with no place to call their home.

Glory to God in the highest heaven,

People: and peace to God's people on earth.

Litanist: Fill this community with hospitality and generosity, that we may care for one another and celebrate the joy of your presence in our humanity.

Glory to God in the highest heaven,

People: and peace to God's people on earth.

Litanist: We entrust to your divine grace all for whom we pray, especially Don, Rose, Julia, Mike, Amanda, Ben, Becky, Phyllis, Karen Kay, Valerie, Mary, Sue, Mary, the Rector Search Committee and all those who have contracted Covid-19 and all who care for them. *(Pause)*

We give thanks for shepherds and all the vigilant who work while others sleep. Hear our grateful thanksgiving for all the gifts and blessings in our lives, especially for Michael, our presiding bishop; Larry, our bishop; Lowell, our interim supply priest; and Chris, our Candidate for Holy Orders. In the diocesan cycle of prayer for St. Barnabas', Foreman; St. Augustine's, Fort Smith; and the Camp Mitchell board and staff. And we give thanks for all those in our parish family celebrating birthdays or anniversaries this week.

We entrust into your eternal arms those who have died, especially all those who have succumbed to the Corona virus. *(Pause)*

Glory to God in the highest heaven,

People: and peace to God's people on earth.

Celebrant: *Loving God, the joyful message of the angels fills us with gladness as we celebrate the coming of the Christ child to live among us in vulnerable humility: Let your divine light so dwell within us, that we may treasure your words, ponder them in our hearts, and continue the work of Christ's incarnation in our day, through Jesus our Savior, to whom with you and the Holy Spirit be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.*

Celebrant

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbors.

Leader and People

**Most merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us and forgive us;
that we may delight in your will,
and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your Name. Amen.**

The Celebrant says

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life.
Amen.

All stand and the Celebrant says

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

Holy Eucharist Rite II

The Great Thanksgiving - Eucharistic Prayer B

What child is this?

Hymn 115

*After the Table has been prepared, the People stand
and the Celebrant says:*

All things come of thee, O Lord

People: And of thine own have we given thee.

The people remain standing. The Celebrant faces them and says

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 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.

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 and People

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

Hosanna in the highest.

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

Hosanna in the highest.

The people stand or kneel as able.

The Celebrant continues

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."

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 Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread, and says

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

People: Therefore, let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

Celebrant says: The Gifts of God for the People of God

Communion is received by the Celebrant

A spiritual communion is a personal devotional that anyone can pray at any time to express their desire to receive Holy Communion at that moment, but in which circumstances impede them from actually receiving Holy Communion.

Celebrant says

Let us pray.

Celebrant and People

**Beloved Jesus,
I believe that you are present
in the Blessed Sacrament of the Altar.**

I love you above all things,
and I desire to receive you into my soul.
Since I cannot at this moment receive you
in the Sacrament of your Body and Blood,
come spiritually into my heart.
I embrace you and unite myself entirely to you.
Let me never be separated from you
in this life or in the life to come. Amen.

Closing Prayer

Celebrant says

Let us pray

Celebrant and People

(BCP 366)

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

May you rejoice and be glad for the goodness and love
of our God.

May you welcome the good news of great joy for all people, the news of the Savior who is Messiah, the Lord.

May you be filled with the Spirit and join the heavenly song, "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace and goodwill toward all."

And the blessing of our wonderful God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit be with you and grow in you, now and always. Amen.

Dismissal

The Celebrant says the words of dismissal

People respond: **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude

Hark! the herald angels sing

Hymn 87

Participants in the Service

Celebrant The Reverend Lowell Grisham

Organist Bill Myers

Acolyte Lana McDonald

Readers Lana McDonald, Colleen Whitney

