

St. John's Episcopal Church

The Eve of the Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ

December 24, 2013



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Holy Eucharist

The Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ

Tuesday, December 24, 2013

Celebrant Our season of waiting is over, and the Savior of the world is here!

People *As we light the Christ Candle, we join our voices with all the saints to praise the holy name of the Lord.*

Reader O sing to the Lord a new song; sing to the Lord, all the earth. Sing to the Lord, bless his name; tell of his salvation from day to day. Declare his glory among the nations, his marvelous works among all the peoples. For great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised; he is to be revered above all gods. (Psalm 96:1-4)

People *God is worthy of our praise, this day and everyday; together, we will worship Emmanuel – God With Us!*

Celebrant Blessed Messiah, Son of God, you have come to redeem your people and set us free by your amazing love. As we praise your holy name, may the light of your love guide us – and may we rejoice in letting the light of your love shine in all the world. Amen.

Liturgy of the Word

Hymn

O come, all ye faithful

Hymnal 83

All standing, the Celebrant says

People Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever.
Amen.

The Celebrant says

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 following is sung, all standing

Opening Anthem

S 280

- 1 Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to his people on earth.
- 2 Lord God, heavenly King,
almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.
- 3 Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
- 4 you take away the sin of the world;
have mercy on us;
- 5 you are seated at the right hand of the Father;
receive our prayer.
- 6 For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
- 7 you alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.
People And also with you.
Celebrant Let us pray.

Almighty God, you have given your only-begotten Son to take our nature upon him, and to be born this day of a pure virgin: Grant that we, who have been born again and made your children by adoption and grace, may daily be renewed by your Holy Spirit; through our Lord Jesus Christ, to whom with you and the same Spirit be honor and glory, now and for ever. *Amen.*

First Reading

Isaiah 9:2-7

All sit.

A Reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Psalm

Remain seated.

Psalm 96

BCP p. 725

Cantate Domino

- 1 Sing to the LORD a new song; *
sing to the LORD, all the whole earth.
- 2 Sing to the LORD and bless his Name; *
proclaim the good news of his salvation from day to day.
- 3 Declare his glory among the nations *
and his wonders among all peoples.
- 4 For great is the LORD and greatly to be praised; *
he is more to be feared than all gods.

- 5 As for all the gods of the nations, they are but idols; *
but it is the LORD who made the heavens.
- 6 Oh, the majesty and magnificence of his presence! *
Oh, the power and the splendor of his sanctuary!
- 7 Ascribe to the LORD, you families of the peoples; *
ascribe to the LORD honor and power.
- 8 Ascribe to the LORD the honor due his Name; *
bring offerings and come into his courts.
- 9 Worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness; *
let the whole earth tremble before him.
- 10 Tell it out among the nations: “The LORD is King! *
he has made the world so firm that it cannot be moved;
he will judge the peoples with equity.”
- 11 Let the heavens rejoice, and let the earth be glad;
let the sea thunder and all that is in it; *
let the field be joyful and all that is therein.
- 12 Then shall all the trees of the wood shout for joy
before the LORD when he comes, *
when he comes to judge the earth.
- 13 He will judge the world with righteousness *
and the peoples with his truth.

Second Reading

Titus 3:4-7

A Reading from Paul’s letter to Titus.

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

Sequence

All stand.

Away in a Manger (7:00 pm service)

LEVAS 27

Angels we have heard on high (11:00 pm service)

Hymnal 96

1. A - way in a man-ger, no crib for a bed, The lit - tle Lord
2. The cat - tle are low - ing the Ba - by a - wakes, But lit - tle Lord
3. Be near me, Lord Je - sus, I ask thee to stay Close by me for

1. Je - sus laid down His sweet head. The stars in the sky— looked
2. Je - sus, no cry - ing He makes, I love thee, Lord Je - sus! Look
3. ev - er, and love me, I pray. Bless all the dear chil - dren in

1. down where He lay. The lit - tle Lord Je - sus a - sleep on the hay.
2. down from the sky, And stay by my cra - dle till morn - ing is nigh.
3. thy ten - der care, And fit us for heav - en to live with thee there.

Holy Gospel

Luke 2:1-20

All stand.

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

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

After the Gospel is read, the people respond as follows:

Priest The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Sermon

The Rev. Rebecca Myers

Nicene Creed

All stand.

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

All remain standing.

God, you desire our praise and worship. We have created many ways to relate to you and in our humanness have often fought and done harm in your name. We have dishonored you. Today in celebrating the birth of your Son, help us rededicate ourselves to the unity of the church, a unity in diversity. O Come All Ye Faithful

People: Come Let Us Adore Him

God, you came to earth to demonstrate how to rule the nations. You called governments and people in authority to care for all and to work for justice and equity. Guide Barack, our President, Steve, our Governor, and Willard, our Mayor and all of those in authority to work for the common good. O Come All Ye Faithful

People: Come Let Us Adore Him

God, you sent Jesus for the salvation of the whole world. You cared for all creation. Yet we continue to create division. We judge who is worthy and who is unworthy. We murder each other and your creation physically, emotionally, and spiritually. As we gaze upon the baby Jesus, move our hearts to work for forgiveness, reconciliation, and peace. Heal all of our divisions and move us to care for all of creation. O Come All Ye Faithful

People: Come Let Us Adore Him

God, over 100 years ago, you created St. John's Church as a community to do your work here in Corbin. The community has people who love this town and love this area. Guide us to address the issues of food security, lack of economic opportunity, poor health and addiction. Help us to be a blessing to Corbin so all of the residents can do the work you need us to do. O Come All Ye Faithful

People: Come Let Us Adore Him

We pray for all who suffer or are in any trouble. We especially pray for Steve, Melanie, Tony, Jeff, Sherron, Barbara, Jerry, Linda, Ethan, June, Calvin, Ruby, Ellen, Tim, Carol, Roy, June, Sheila, Ken, Donna, Rob, Paula and all those we name silently or aloud. (silence) Relieve their suffering. Guide them out of their troubles. Let them feel your arms around them. O Come All Ye Faithful

People: Come Let Us Adore Him

We pray for all who have died, especially those we name now.

(silence)

We mourn the loss of their presence with us on earth, even as we rejoice that they are with you. Help those of us still living to be comforted in our grief and loss and rest in the assurance of eternal life with You. O Come All Ye Faithful

People: Come Let Us Adore Him

The Celebrant continues

Almighty God, to whom our needs are known before we ask; Help us to ask only what accords with your will; and those good things which we dare not, or in our blindness cannot ask, grant us for the sake of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

People: Amen

Peace

All stand.

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you.

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

Announcements

Announcements may be made at this point in the service.

Holy Communion

The Celebrant says

But do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God. *Hebrews 13:15-16*

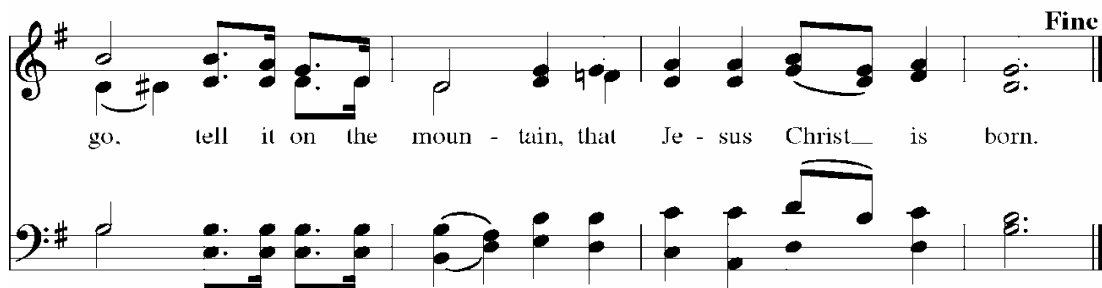
Offertory Hymn

Go, Tell It on the Mountain (7:00 pm service)

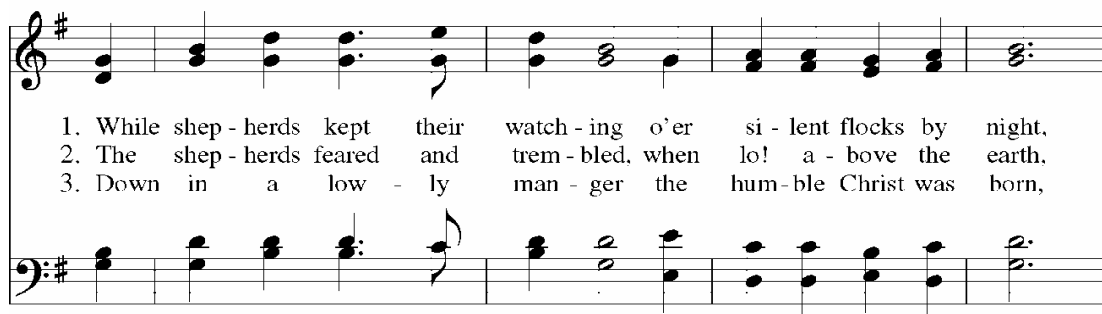
LEVAS 21



Go, tell it on the moun - tain o - ver the hills and ev - ery - where;



go. tell it on the moun - tain, that Je - sus Christ is born. **Fine**



1. While shep - herds kept their watch - ing o'er si - lent flocks by night,
2. The shep - herds feared and trem - bled, when lo! a - bove the earth,
3. Down in a low - ly man - ger the hum - ble Christ was born,



1. Be - hold through - out the heav - ens there shown a ho - ly light.
2. Rang out the an - gel cho - rus that hailed the Sav - ior's birth.
3. And God sent us sal - va - tion that bless - ed Christ - mas morn. **D.C.**

Oh Holy Night (11:00 pm service)

Solo:

O holy night! The stars are brightly shining,
It is the night of our dear Saviour's birth.
Long lay the world in sin and error pining,
'Til He appear'd and the soul felt its worth.
A thrill of hope the weary world rejoices,
For yonder breaks a new and glorious morn.
Fall on your knees! O hear the angel voices!
O night divine, O night when Christ was born;
O night divine, O night, O night Divine.

Led by the light of Faith serenely beaming,
With glowing hearts by His cradle we stand.
So led by light of a star sweetly gleaming,
Here come the wise men from Orient land.
The King of Kings lay thus in lowly manger;
In all our trials born to be our friend.
He knows our need, our weakness is no stranger,
Behold your King! Before Him lowly bend!
Behold your King, Before Him lowly bend!

All:

Truly He taught us to love one another;
His law is love and His gospel is peace.
Chains shall He break for the slave is our brother;
And in His name all oppression shall cease.
Sweet hymns of joy in grateful chorus raise we,
Let all within us praise His holy name.
Christ is the Lord! O praise His Name forever,
His power and glory evermore proclaim.
His power and glory evermore proclaim.

Representatives of the congregation bring the people's offerings of bread and wine, and money or other gifts, to the deacon or celebrant. The people stand while the offerings are presented and placed on the Altar.

Great Thanksgiving

The people remain standing.

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.

The Celebrant proceeds

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:

Sanctus

S 130

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.

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." Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

Celebrant and People

We remember his death,
We proclaim his resurrection,
We await his coming in glory;

The Celebrant continues

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 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. *AMEN.*

The Celebrant then continues

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

People and Celebrant

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.

Breaking of the Bread

A period of silence is kept.

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

The Celebrant says

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

All baptized persons are welcome to receive Holy Communion.

Communion Hymn

The first Nowell the angel did say

Hymnal 109

After Communion, the Celebrant says

Let us pray.

Celebrant and People

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.

Blessing

The priest blesses the people, saying

May the blessing of the God of Abraham and Sarah, and of Jesus Christ born of our sister Mary, and of the Holy Spirit, who broods over the world as a mother over her children, be upon you and remain with you always. *Amen.*

Postcommunion Hymn

Silent night, holy night

Hymnal 111

Dismissal

Celebrant Alleluia, alleluia. Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.

People Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.