



First Sunday after Christmas
Holy Eucharist Rite II
December 27, 2020 - 10:30 am

The Word of God

Prelude-Cradle Song- M. Archer

Wendi Gustafson- Organ

Opening Hymn- Hark! the herald angels sing (v. 1&3)

H87

1 Hark! the her-ald an - gels sing glo - ry to the new-born King!
2 Christ, by high-est heaven a - dored; Christ, the ev - er - last - ing Lord;
3 Mild he lays his glo - ry by, born that we no more may die,

Peace on earth and mer - cy mild, God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled!
late in time be - hold him come, off - spring of the Vir - gin's womb.
born to raise us from the earth, born to give us sec - ond birth.

Joy - ful, all ye na - tions, rise, join the tri - umph of the skies;
Veiled in flesh the God - head see; hail the in - car - nate De - i - ty.
Risen with heal - ing in his wings, light and life to all he brings,

with the an - gel - ic host pro - claim Christ is born in Beth - le - hem!
Pleased as man with us to dwell; Je - sus, our Em - man - u - el!
hail, the Sun of Right - eous - ness! hail, the heaven-born Prince of Peace!

Refrain

Hark! the her - ald an - gels sing glo - ry to the new-born King!

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

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

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.

Gloria- *Angels We Have Heard on High (v. 1&3)*

Hymnal 96

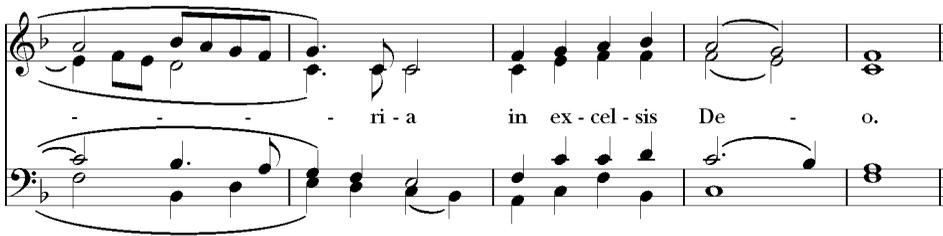
1 An - gels we have heard on high, sing - ing sweet - ly through the night,
2 Shep - herds, why this ju - bi - lee? Why these songs of hap - py cheer?
3 Come to Beth - le - hem and see him whose birth the an - gels sing;
4 See him in a man - ger laid whom the an - gels praise a - bove;

and the moun - tains in re - ply ech - o - ing their brave de - light.
What great bright - ness did you see? What glad tid - ings did you hear?
come, a - dore on bend - ed knee Christ, the Lord, the new - born King.
Ma - ry, Jo - seph, lend your aid, while we raise our hearts in love.

Refrain

Glo - - - - - ri - a

in ex - cel - sis De - o. Glo - - - - -



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The Collect of the Day

BCP p. 236

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

Almighty God, you have poured upon us the new light of your incarnate Word: Grant that this light, enkindled in our hearts, may shine forth in our lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

All are seated.

The Lessons

The First Lesson

Reader A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah (61:10-62:3)

I will greatly rejoice in the Lord, my whole being shall exult in my God; for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation, he has covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels. For as the earth brings forth its shoots, and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up, so the Lord God will cause righteousness and praise to spring up before all the nations. For Zion's sake I will not keep silent, and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest, until her vindication shines out like the dawn, and her salvation like a burning torch. The nations shall see your vindication, and all the kings your glory; and you shall be called by a new name that the mouth of the Lord will give. You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the Lord, and a royal diadem in the hand of your God.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

The Psalm Appointed

Reader The Psalm appointed for today is Psalm 147. Let us read in unison.

***Hallelujah! How good it is to sing praises to our God! *
how pleasant it is to honor him with praise!***

***The Lord rebuilds Jerusalem; *
he gathers the exiles of Israel.***

*He heals the brokenhearted *
and binds up their wounds.*

*He counts the number of the stars *
and calls them all by their names.*

*Great is our Lord and mighty in power; *
there is no limit to his wisdom.*

*The Lord lifts up the lowly, *
but casts the wicked to the ground.*

*Sing to the Lord with thanksgiving; *
make music to our God upon the harp.*

*He covers the heavens with clouds *
and prepares rain for the earth;*

*He makes grass to grow upon the mountains *
and green plants to serve mankind.*

*He provides food for flocks and herds *
and for the young ravens when they cry.*

*He is not impressed by the might of a horse; *
he has no pleasure in the strength of a man;*

*But the Lord has pleasure in those who fear him, *
in those who await his gracious favor.*

*Worship the Lord, O Jerusalem; *
praise your God, O Zion;*

*For he has strengthened the bars of your gates; *
he has blessed your children within you.*

*He has established peace on your borders; *
he satisfies you with the finest wheat.*

*He sends out his command to the earth, *
and his word runs very swiftly.*

*He gives snow like wool; *
he scatters hoarfrost like ashes.*

*He scatters his hail like bread crumbs; *
who can stand against his cold?*

*He sends forth his word and melts them; *
he blows with his wind, and the waters flow.*

*He declares his word to Jacob, **

his statutes and his judgments to Israel.

*He has not done so to any other nation; **

to them he has not revealed his judgments. Hallelujah!

The Epistle

Reader A reading from Paul's letter to the Galatians (3:23-25; 4:4-7)

Now before faith came, we were imprisoned and guarded under the law until faith would be revealed. Therefore the law was our disciplinarian until Christ came, so that we might be justified by faith. But now that faith has come, we are no longer subject to a disciplinarian. But when the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, in order to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as children. And because you are children, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" So you are no longer a slave but a child, and if a child then also an heir, through God.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Sequence Hymn *Joy to the world! (v. 1)*

Hymnal 100

1 Joy to the world! the Lord is come: let earth re -
2 Joy to the world! the Sa - vior reigns; let us our
*3 No more let sins and sor - rows grow, nor thorns in -
4 He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the
ceive her King; let ev - ery heart pre - pare him room, and
songs em - ploy, while fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains, re -
fest the ground; he comes to make his bless - ings flow far
na - tions prove the glo - ries of his right - eous - ness, and

heaven and na - ture sing, and heaven and na - ture
 peat the sound - ing joy, re - peat the sound - ing
 as the curse is found, far as the curse is
 won - ders of his love, and won - ders of his

1 and heaven and na - ture sing, and
 2 re - peat the sound - ing joy, re -
 3 far as the curse is found, far
 4 and won - ders of his love, and

sing, and heaven, and heaven and na - ture sing.
 joy, re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.
 found, far as, far as the curse is found.
 love, and won - ders, won - ders of his love.

heaven and na - ture sing,
 peat the sound - ing joy,
 as the curse is found,
 won - ders of his love,

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All stand

The Gospel

Celebrant The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John (1:1-18).

People *Glory to you, Lord Christ.*

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. (John testified to him and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks ahead of me because he was before me.'") From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. No one has ever seen God. It is God the only Son, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known.

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

Sermon

Fr. Stephen Shortess

Nicene Creed

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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 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.*

After the Creed: You may sit, kneel, or remain standing for the Prayers.

Prayers of the People: Form IV

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Reader Let us pray for the Church and for the world; especially for Messiah, Gonzales; St. Stephen's, Wimberley; St. Stephen's, San Antonio; and for our Vestry and staff. For all the bishops and other ministers especially Justin, Archbishop of Canterbury and his wife Caroline; for Michael our Presiding Bishop and his wife, Sharon; for David our bishop and his wife, Patti; and for Stephen our rector and his wife, Jennifer. Grant, Almighty God, that all who confess your Name may be united in your truth, live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world. Lord, in your mercy

People *Hear our prayer.*

Reader Guide the people of this land, and all the nations, in the ways of justice and peace; that we may honor one another and serve the common good. Especially Donald, our President; Greg, our Governor; and Donna our Mayor, for the men and women of our armed forces at home and abroad, and for Seguin Pregnancy Center and its work in our community. Lord, in your mercy

People *Hear our prayer.*

Reader Give us all a reverence for the earth as your own creation, that we may use its resources rightly in the service of others and to your honor and glory. Lord, in your mercy

People *Hear our prayer.*

Reader Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, and grant that we may serve Christ in them, and love one another as he loves us. Lord, in your mercy

People *Hear our prayer.*

Reader Sanctify, O Lord, those whom you have called to the study and practice of the arts of healing, and to the prevention of disease and pain. Strengthen them by your life-giving Spirit, that by their ministries, the health of the community may be promoted, and your creation glorified. Lord in your mercy

People *Hear our prayer.*

Reader Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit; for our families, friends, and neighbors; especially for: Whitney Morgan, Russel Gustafson, Carolyn Lehman, Elizabeth Walker, Ralph Boehnke, Susan Neuman, Ardith Perry, Penny Sengler, Theresa Zapata, Jean Norris, and all who suffer from the

effects of the novel coronavirus. For our friends and family who are homebound or residing in care and recovery facilities, especially: Kenneth Minter, Ann Benham, Audrey Herron, Betty Rainey, Judy McClendon, and Patsy Creager. Give them courage and hope in their troubles and bring them the joy of your salvation. Lord, in your mercy

People *Hear our prayer.*

Reader We commend to your mercy all who have died, that your will for them may be fulfilled; and we pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom. Lord, in your mercy

People *Hear our prayer.*

Silence

The Celebrant adds a concluding collect.

Confession of Sin

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Celebrant Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Celebrant 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.

Celebrant 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.***

Peace

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

Birthday & Anniversary Prayers

Birthdays

Celebrant and People

O God, our times are in your hand: Look with favor, we pray, on your servants Janet Alcede, KT Cockerell, Londyn Gonzales, Kiersten Gustafson, Lauren Muenchow, Gaye Slomka, and Wyatt Smith, as they begin another year. Grant that they may grow in wisdom and grace, and strengthen their trust in your goodness all the days of their lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Anniversaries

Celebrant and People

O God, you have so consecrated the covenant of marriage that in it is represented the spiritual unity between Christ and his Church: Send therefore your blessing upon your servants, Brad & Judy McClendon, that they may so love, honor, and cherish each other in faithfulness and patience, in wisdom and true godliness, that their home may be a haven of blessing and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

Holy Communion

Offertory Hymn—*It came upon the midnight clear*

Hymnal 89

The musical score is written for four voices (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) and piano accompaniment. It is in the key of B-flat major and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with a clear four-part setting. The lyrics are printed below the vocal staves.

1 It came up - on the mid - night clear, that
2 Still through the clov - en skies they come with
3 Yet with the woes of sin and strife the
4 For lo! the days are haste - ning on, by

glo - rious song of old, from an - gels bend - ing
peace - ful wings un - furled, and still their heaven - ly
world has suf - fered long; be - neath the heaven - ly
pro - phets seen of old, when with the ev - er -

near the earth to touch their harps of gold:
 mu - sic floats o'er all the wea - ry world;
 hymn have rolled two thou - sand years of wrong;
 cir - cling years shall come the time fore - told,

"Peace on the earth, good will to men, from
 a - bove its sad and low - ly plains they
 and war - ring hu - man - kind hears not the
 when peace shall o - ver all the earth its

heaven's all - gra - cious King." The world in sol - emn
 bend on hov - ering wing, and ev - er o'er its
 tid - ings which they bring; O hush the noise and
 an - cient splen - dors fling, and all the world give

still - ness lay to hear the an - gels sing.
 Ba - bel - sounds the bless - ed an - gels sing.
 cease your strife and hear the an - gels sing!
 back the song which now the an - gels sing.

**The Great Thanksgiving
 Eucharistic Prayer A**

Sursum Corda-

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.

Celebrant Because you sent your beloved Son to redeem us from sin and death, and to make us heirs in him of everlasting life; that when he shall come again in power and great triumph to judge the world, we may without shame or fear rejoice to behold his appearing.

Celebrant 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

Hymnal S 130

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and

might, Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord,

God of power and might, hea - ven and earth are

full, full of your glo - ry. Ho -

san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na

in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes

in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na

in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

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After the Sanctus: You may kneel or remain standing for the rest of the Eucharistic Prayer.

Celebrant Holy and gracious Father: 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 Father of all. He stretched out his arms upon the

cross, and offered himself in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

Celebrant On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, 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."

Celebrant 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 we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Celebrant and People ***Christ has died.***
 Christ is risen.
 Christ will come again.

Celebrant We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his 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 him. 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 your Son Jesus Christ. 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.***

Celebrant And now as our Savior BCP p. 364
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

Hymnal S154

The congregation sings the entire anthem.

This setting is not used in Lent.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.
 Christ our Pass - o - ver is sac - ri - ficed for us;
 there - fore let us keep the feast.
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

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All baptized Christians of any tradition are welcome to receive Communion. If you are not baptized, we invite you to come forward to receive a blessing. Simply cross your arms over your chest and the priest will know to give you a blessing. If you would like to be baptized, please speak with Fr. Stephen!

Communion Hymn 1- *The First Nowell*

Hymnal 109

1 The first No - well the an - gel did say
 2 They look - ed up and saw a star
 3 And by the light of that same star
 4 This star drew nigh to the north - west,
 5 Then en - tered in those wise men three

1 was to cer - tain poor shep - herds in fields as they lay;
 2 shin - ing in the east be - yond them far,
 3 three wise men came from coun - try far;
 4 o'er Beth - le - hem it took its rest,
 5 full re - v - erent - ly up - on their knee,

1 in fields as they lay, keep - ing their sheep,
 2 and to the earth it gave great light,
 3 to seek for a king was their in - tent,
 4 and there it did both stop and stay
 5 and of - fered there in his pres - ence

1 on a cold win - ter's night that was so deep.
 2 and so it con - tin - ued both day and night.
 3 and to fol - low the star wher - ev - er it went.
 4 right o - ver the place where Je - sus lay.
 5 their gold, and myrrh, and frank - in - cense.

Refrain

No - well, No - well, No - well, No - well,

born is the King of Is - ra - el.

6 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.

Refrain

*Alternative Refrain
Descant (others unison)*

No - well, No - well, No - well, No - well,
born is the King of Is - ra - el.

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Postcommunion Prayer

Celebrant Let us pray.

All

***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.***

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Blessing

Postcommunion Hymn- Go tell it on the mountain (v. 1&2)

Hymnal 99

Refrain
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!

1 While shep - herds kept their
 2 The shep - herds feared and
 3 Down in a low - ly

watch - ing o'er si - lent flocks by night, be -
 trem - bled when lo! a - bove the earth rang
 man - ger the hum - ble Christ was born, and

Repeat Refrain

hold, through - out the hea - vens there shone a ho - ly light.
 out the an - gel cho - rus that hailed our Sa - vior's birth.
 God sent us sal - va - tion that bless - ed Christ - mas morn.

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Dismissal

BCP p. 366

Celebrant Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God. Alleluia.**

Postlude-*Vom Himmel Hoch-* arr. W. Held

Wendi Gustafson- Organ



Altar flowers are given to the glory of God in loving memory of Margaret Bock Cutcher Muckelroy "Honey" by Roger and Renee Cutcher.

Ministers in the Lord's Service

Celebrant- Fr. Stephen Shortess

Lay Reader- Susan Rinn

Altar Guild- Betty Anderson, Mozzelle Dempster, Sandy Merrell

Ushers- Pam & Wayne Roitsch

Offertory Tellers- Jeanene Smith & Anne Galaway

Musicians- Leo Garcia- Choir Director/Cantor

Wendi Gustafson- Music Director/Organ

Cameramen/Technicians- Aaryn Perry, Gil Merkle, Jack Merrell, Betty Anderson,
Warren Wundt

Sound- Jim Anderson

Announcements

In observance of New Year's Day, **the church office will be closed from noon on Thursday, December 31st to Friday, January 1st. We hope you all have a Happy New Year!**

The Annual Meeting is scheduled for January 17th.