

ST. MARK'S EPISCOPAL ANGLICAN CHURCH

Fairland Parish



Christmas Eve 2021

5:30 pm Family Eucharist

Rev. Dr. Christopher I. Wilkins
Priest-In-Charge

12621 Old Columbia Pike, Silver Spring, MD

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Family Holy Eucharist, Rite II

The Nativity of Our Lord

Carols and Organ Prelude

The Celebrate and LEM lead the procession

Opening Hymn: Once in Royal David's City, vv.1,2,6

Hymn #102

1. Once in royal David's city
stood a lowly cattle shed,
where a mother laid her Baby
in a manger for his bed:
Mary was that mother mild,
Jesus Christ her little child.

2. 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 and meek and lowly
lived on earth our Saviour holy.

6. Not in that poor lowly stable,
with the oxen standing round,
we shall see him; but in heaven,
where his saints his throne surround:

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Christ, revealed to faithful eye,
set at God's right hand on high.

Opening Rites and Collect

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

People: And blessed be God's kingdom, now and forever.

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, vs.1,3 Hymn #96

1. Angels we have heard on high,
singing sweetly through the night,
and the mountains in reply
Echoing their brave delight.

Refrain:

Gloria in excelsis Deo!

Gloria in excelsis Deo!

3. Come to Bethlehem and see
him whose birth the angels sing;
come, adore on bended knee,
Christ, the Lord, the newborn King. (Refrain)

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant: The Lord be with you,

People: *And also with you.*

Celebrant: *Let us pray.*

The Celebrant prays:

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 Old Testament Lesson

Isaiah 9:2-7

- ² The people who walked in darkness
have seen a great light;
those who lived in a land of deep darkness—
on them light has shined.

- ³ You have multiplied the nation,
you have increased its joy;
they rejoice before you
as with joy at the harvest,
as people exult when dividing plunder.
- ⁴ For the yoke of their burden,
and the bar across their shoulders,
the rod of their oppressor,
you have broken as on the day of Midian.
- ⁵ For all the boots of the tramping warriors
and all the garments rolled in blood
shall be burned as fuel for the fire.
- ⁶ For a child has been born for us,
a son given to us;
authority rests upon his shoulders;
and he is named
Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.
- ⁷ His authority shall grow continually,
and there shall be endless peace

for the throne of David and his kingdom.
He will establish and uphold it
with justice and with righteousness
from this time onward and forevermore.
The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

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

Gradual Hymn: Good Christian Friends, Rejoice, vv.1,3

Hymn #107

1. Good Christian friends, rejoice
with heart and soul and voice;
give ye heed to what we say:
Jesus Christ is born today;
ox and ass before him bow,
and he is in the manger now.
Christ is born today!
Christ is born today!

3. Good Christian friends, rejoice
with heart and soul and voice;
now ye need not fear the grave:
Jesus Christ was born to save!
Calls you one and calls you all
to gain his everlasting hall.
Christ was born to save!
Christ was born to save!

The Gospel

Luke 2:1-20

Then, all standing, the Deacon or a Priest reads the Gospel, first saying

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

People: *Glory to you, Lord Christ.*

¹ In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be enrolled. ² This was the first registration taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. ³ All went to their own towns to be enrolled. ⁴ Joseph went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and lineage of David. ⁵ He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was betrothed and who was with child. ⁶ While they were there, her time came. ⁷ And she brought forth her firstborn son and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

⁸ In that region there were shepherds abiding in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. ⁹ Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were sore afraid. ¹⁰ But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid; for see—I bring you good tidings of great joy for all the people: ¹¹ to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ, the Lord. ¹² This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a manger.” ¹³ And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying,

¹⁴ “Glory to God in the highest,
and on earth peace to whom he favors!”

¹⁵ When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.” ¹⁶ So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. ¹⁷ When they saw this, they made known what had been told them; ¹⁸ and all who heard it were amazed. ¹⁹ Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. ²⁰ The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

Priest: The Gospel of the Lord.

Reader: *Praise to you, Lord Christ.*

Homily: For a Child Has Been Born

The Peace

Celebrant: The Christmas Peace of the Lord be always with you,

People: *And also with you.*

The Ministers and People greet one another, keeping physical distance and sharing the Christmas blessings:

**Feliz Navidad. Buon natale. Heri ya
Krismasi. Happy Christmas. Eku Odun
keresi. Joyeux Noël. Melkam Genna.
Fröhliche Weihnachten. Merry Christmas!**

**Offertory Anthem: While shepherds watched their flocks by night
Nahum Tate/McNeil Robinson II**

*The Celebrant prepares the altar for the Eucharist.
The People make ready their gifts of bread and wine.
The Celebrant continues*

The Holy Eucharist: The Great Thanksgiving

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 God thanks and praise.*

Then, facing the Holy Table, 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 pure flesh of the Virgin Mary his mother; so that we might be delivered from sin and death, and receive power to become your children.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the host of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to the glory of your Name:

The People, led by the LEM, say

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed are they who come in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

The people stand or kneel. The People hold forth their gifts. 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 your Word made flesh: Jesus, your Son. For in the fullness of time you sent him among us to live and die as one of us, the Savior and the Redeemer of the world. In him you deliver us from evil, and make us worthy to stand before you. In him, you bring us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, and out of death into life.

On the night before he was betrayed unto death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread. Giving thanks to you, he broke it, and shared it with his disciples, saying:

“Take, eat: This is my Body which is given for you. Do this in memory of me.” †

As supper was ending, Jesus took the cup, gave thanks, and shared it with them, saying:

“Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this in memory of me.” †

Therefore, according to his command, O Lord,

The People, led by the LEM, say

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, fruit of the vine and the work of human hands. Send your Holy Spirit upon them 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 to live as Christ’s Body in the world. Bring us to that heavenly country where, with [N.] and all your saints, we may enter into the everlasting heritage of all your children, through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the church, and the author of our salvation.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor, glory, and praise, now and forever. *AMEN.* ††

Now, as Christ taught us, we are bold to say,

The People, led by the LEM, 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

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread, and then keeps a period of silence. The Celebrant continues

Celebrant: Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

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

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

The People come forward to retrieve their gifts, maintaining social distance.

Communion Music: What Child is This? Hymnal #115

1. 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. (Refrain)

2. Why lies he in such mean estate
where ox and ass are feeding?
Good Christians, fear: for sinners here
the silent Word is pleading. (Refrain)

3. 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)

After Communion, the Celebrant says

Let us pray. *The Celebrant prays*

Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

As the lights are dimmed, the Choristers lead the People in singing

Meditative Carol: Silent Night

Hymn #111

1. 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.

2. 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!

3. 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.

Blessing and Dismissal

The Celebrant says

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you.

The Lord be with you, this day and always, and give you peace.

The lights are lit. As the Celebrant and LEM depart, the Choristers lead the People in singing:

Withdrawal Hymn: Joy to the World, vv.1,2,4 Hymn #100

1. Joy to the world! the Lord is come:
let earth receive her King;
let every heart prepare him room,

and heaven and nature sing,
and heaven and nature sing,
and heaven, and heaven and nature sing.

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

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

The LEM says

Let us go forth, in peace, to love and serve the Lord.
Alleluia! Alleluia!

Postlude

St. Mark's Fairland Choristers – Christmas 2021

Sopranos

Janis Smith

Rosanne Tingley

Beth Walton

Juliana Anywanu

Altos

Lee Mericle

Gail Soulea

Tenors

Todd Hines

Ray Lee

Chuck Smith

Baritone

Brian Lehman



Greening Contributions/Donations – 2021

- Given by: Pamela Gibson – In Thanksgiving for Brianna
Rebecca Gibson.
In Memory of Dorothe Dow, Daniel R. Gibson III,
Helen Gibson.
- Given by: Don & Ann Hague – In Thanksgiving for Matthew,
Chelsea, Katie, Luci, Randall, Bruce, Beau, Lowell Ann
Kathleen.
- Given by: Laura Robey – In Thanksgiving for my family and
Friends.
In Memory of my loved ones with us in Spirit.
- Given by: Jeff Schwaderer – In Memory of Betty J. Schwaderer,
Cynthia A. Schwaderer.
- Given by: Jo & Pete Gale - In Memory of Addie Ellin.
- Given by: Paul & Beth Walton - In Thanksgiving for this congregation.
- Given by: Raymond & Olivia Lee - In Thanksgiving for
- Given by: Gail Soulea - In Memory of Wayne Soulea, Trudy Fish.
- Given by: Muriel Afamefune & Family - In Memory of Mother – Muriel
Langley.

Given by: Anthony & Muriel Homer - In Memory of Our Dear Beloved Grandmother - Mrs. Muriel Ayo Langley.

Given by: Rosanne Tingley and Brian Lehman - In Memory of Harold Gregory Martin.

Given by: In Memory of Rev. and Mrs. Paul E. Mericle.



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Don Hague, Director of Music

Joyce Walker, Administrative Assistant

Lee Mericle, Senior Warden * Rosanne Tingley, Junior Warden

For information about St. Mark's, please visit our website:

www.stmarksfairland.org * www.stmarks-silverspring.org

We hope that today's service has been a blessing to you.

We are here to serve you, and hope to see you again.

Please feel free to call us, email us, or visit us online.

Art Photo Cover: <http://www.theworkofgodchildren.org/collaboration/images/thumb/f/f3/Jesus-asking-His-disciples-whom-people-say-He-is-001.jpg/432px:Jesus-asking-His-disciples-whom-people-say-He-is-001.jpg>