



St. Mark's Episcopal Church – Fairland

Christmas Eve 2021

8:00 pm Choral Musical Prelude

8:30 pm Festival Eucharist

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Festival Christmas Holy Eucharist, Rite II

The Nativity of Our Lord

Prelude

The Celebrate and LEM lead the procession

Opening Hymn: O Come, All Ye Faithful vvs.1,3,6

Hymn #83

1. O come, all ye faithful,
joyful and triumphant,
O come ye, O come ye, to Bethlehem;
come, and behold him,
born the King of angels;

Refrain:

O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him,
Christ the Lord.

3. Sing, choirs of angels,
sing in exultation;
sing, all ye citizens of heaven above;
glory to God, glory in the highest; [Refrain]

6. Yea, Lord, we greet thee,
born this happy morning;
Jesus, to thee be glory given;
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing; [Refrain]

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!

2. Shepherds, why this jubilee?
Why this song of happy cheer?
What great brightness did you see?
What glad tidings did you hear? (Refrain)

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 Lessons

The Old Testament Lesson

Isaiah 9:2-7

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

³You 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.

⁴For 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.

⁵For all the boots of the tramping warriors
and all the garments rolled in blood
shall be burned as fuel for the fire.

⁶For 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.

⁷His 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.

Psalm of the Day

Psalm 96

Sung by the Choristers

- 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.

The New Testament Lesson

Titus 2:11-14

¹¹For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all, ¹²training us to renounce impiety and worldly passions, and in the present age to live lives that are self-controlled, upright, and godly, ¹³while we wait for the blessed hope and the manifestation of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ. ¹⁴He it is who gave himself for us that he might redeem us from all iniquity and purify for himself a people of his own who are zealous for good deeds.

Reader: *The Word of the Lord.*

Celebrant: Thanks be to God.

Gradual Hymn: It came upon the midnight clear vs. 1,2,4
Hymn #90

1. It came upon the midnight clear,
that glorious song of old,
from angels bending near the earth,
to touch their harps of gold:
"Peace on the earth, good will to men,
from heaven's all-gracious King."
The world in solemn stillness lay,
to hear the angels sing.

2. Still through the cloven skies they come
with peaceful wings unfurled,
and still their heavenly music floats
o'er all the weary world;
above its sad and lowly plains
bend on hovering wing,
and ever o'er its Babel sounds
the blessed angels sing.

4. For lo! the days are hastening on,
by prophets seen of old,
when with the ever-circling years
shall come the time foretold,

when peace shall over all the earth
its ancient splendors fling,
and the whole world give back the song
which now the angels sing.

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. ¹²This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a manger.” ¹³And 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 on whom he favors!”^[c]

¹⁵When 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.” ¹⁶So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. ¹⁷When they saw this, they made known what had been told them; ¹⁸and all who heard it were amazed. ¹⁹Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. ²⁰The 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.*

Sermon: Mary Treasured

The Creed

The LEM leads the People in saying

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
human.
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

The LEM leads the People in the prayers, saying:

I ask your prayers for all God's people; for our bishops, our clergy,
and this gathering, and for all ministers and people. Pray for the
Church.

Silence

I ask your prayers for peace; for goodwill among nations; and for
the well-being of all. Pray for justice and peace.

Silence

I ask your prayers for the poor, the sick, the hungry, the oppressed,
and those in prison.
Pray for those in any need or trouble.

Silence

I ask your prayers for all who seek God, or a deeper knowledge of
God.
Pray that they may seek, and pray that they might find.

Silence

I ask your prayers for the departed [*especially N.N.*]. Pray for those who have died.

Silence

I ask your prayers for those on the prayer list of this parish, and those whose needs are known to you alone.

Silence

The Celebrant adds a concluding collect.

The Peace

Celebrant: The 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: *Nowel - Randall Thompson*

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 Choristers lead the People in saying or singing:

Hymnal S125

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 them, 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 Choristers lead the People in saying or singing:

LEVAS # 264

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 People, led by the Choristers, sing:

Fraction Anthem: Christ our Passover Hymnal # S155

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

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

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

Communion Hymn: Of the Father's love begotten Hymnal #82

1. Of the Father's love begotten,
ere the worlds began to be,
he is Alpha and Omega,
he the source, the ending he,
of the things that are, that have been,
and that future years shall see,
evermore and evermore!
2. O that birth for ever blessèd,
when the Virgin, full of grace,
by the Holy Ghost conceiving,
bore the Savior of our race;
and the Babe, the world's Redeemer,
first revealed his sacred face,
evermore and evermore!
3. Let the heights of heaven adore him;
angel hosts, his praises sing;
powers, dominions, bow before him,
and extol our God and King;
let no tongue on earth be silent,
every voice in concert ring,
evermore and evermore!
4. Christ, to thee with God the Father,
and, O Holy Ghost, to thee,
hymn and chant and high thanksgiving,
and unwearied praises be;
honor, glory and dominion,
and eternal victory,

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: Hark! The Herald Angels Sing Hymn #87

1. Hark! the herald angels sing
glory to the newborn King!
Peace on earth and mercy mild,
God and sinners reconciled!

Joyful, all ye nations, rise,
join the triumph of the skies;
with the angelic hosts proclaim
Christ is born in Bethlehem!

Refrain:

Hark! the herald angels sing,
glory to the newborn King!

2. Christ, by highest heaven adored;
Christ, the everlasting Lord;
Late in time behold him come,
offspring of the virgin's womb.
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see;
hail the incarnate Deity.
Pleased as man with us to dwell;
Jesus, our Immanuel! (Refrain)

3. Mild he lays his glory by,
born that we no more may die,
born to raise us from the earth,
born to give us second birth.
Risen with healing in his wings,
Light and life to all he brings,
hail, the Sun of Righteousness!
hail, the heaven-born Prince of Peace! (Refrain)

The LEM says

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

People: Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Postlude

St. Mark's Fairland Choristers – Christmas 2021

Sopranos

Baritone

Janis Smith

Brian Lehman

Rosanne Tingley

Beth Walton

Juliana Anywanu

Altos

Lee Mericle

Gail Soulea

Tenors

Todd Hines

Ray Lee

Chuck Smith



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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St. Mark's Episcopal Church, Fairland, MD

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Janis Smith, Parish Administrator

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Don Hague, Musical Director

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.