

Christ Church Cathedral



THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD CHRISTMAS EVE

December 24, 2020

900 Broadway
Nashville, Tennessee

Cathedral Parish of the Diocese of Tennessee (Episcopal)

Proclaim. Seek. Serve.

The Nativity of Our Lord II Christmas Eve

MUSICAL PRELUDE

CHORALE PRELUDE on *From heaven above to earth I come*

Johann Pachelbel [1'37"]
(1653-1706)

CAROL

Old German Tune [1'52"]
arr. Reginald Jacques
(1894-1969)

The Linden Tree Carol

There stood in heaven a linden tree,
but tho' t'was honey-laden,
all angels cried, 'No bloom shall be
like that of one fair maiden.'

'Hail Mary!' quoth the angel mild,
'of woman-kind the fairest.
The Virgin ay shalt thou be styled,
a babe although thou bearest.'

Sped Gabriel on winged feet,
and passed through bolted portals
in Nazareth, a maid to greet,
blest o'er all other mortals.

'So be it!' God's handmaiden cried,
'according to thy telling.'
Whereon the angel smartly hied
up homeward to his dwelling.

This tidings filled his mates with glee.
'Twas passed from one to other,
that 'twas Mary, and none but she,
and God would call her Mother.

G.R. Woodward

HYMN

Adeste fideles [2'56"]

O come, all ye faithful

You are invited to sing along at home

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

Sing, choirs of angels,
sing in exultation,
sing, all ye citizens of heaven above;
glory to God,
glory in the highest;
*O come, let us adore him,
Christ the Lord.*

Yea, Lord, we greet thee,
born this happy morning;
Jesus, to thee be glory given;
Word of the Father,
now in flesh appearing;
*O come, let us adore him,
Christ the Lord.*

John Francis Wade

CHORALE PRELUDE on *Lo, how a rose e'er blooming*

Johannes Brahms [4'04"]
(1833-1897)

CAROL

Bohemian Traditional Carol [1'43"]
arr. C. H. Trevor
(1895-1976)

The Angels and the Shepherds

Shepherds, O hark ye, glad tidings we bring,
Peace and good-will to the world now we sing;
See in a manger Christ the Anointed,
Whom for your Savior God hath appointed.
Alleluia.

In yonder manger behold now he lies,
Whom angel voices fore-told from the skies.
Seeking thy mercy, we kneel before thee,
Singing thy praises, humbly adore thee.
Alleluia.

Still through the ages the song doth resound,
Peace and good-will on the earth shall abound;
Bear we the tidings to every nation,
Born is the Christ Child for man's salvation.
Alleluia.

PRELUDE on *In the bleak midwinter*

Allen Orton Gibbs [4'00"]
(1910-1996)

HYMN

Stille Nacht [3'27"]

Silent night

You are invited to sing along at home

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.

Silent night, holy night
shepherds quake at the sight,
glories stream from heaven afar,
heavenly hosts sing alleluia;
Christ, the Savior, is born!

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.

Joseph Mohr

CAROL

Traditional Carol [2'08"]
arr. Charles Wood
(1866-1926)

Past three a clock

*Past three a clock, and a cold frosty morning:
past three a clock; good morrow, masters all!*

Born is a baby, gentle as may be,
Son of the eternal Father supernal.

Seraph quire singeth, angel bell ringeth:
hark how they rime it, time it, and chime it.

Light out of star-land leadeth from far land.
Princes, to meet him, worship and greet him.

Myrrh from full coffer, incense they offer:
nor is the golden nugget withholden.

Thus they: I pray you, up, sirs, nor stay you
till ye confess him likewise, and bless him.

G.R. Woodward

CHORALE PRELUDE *In dulci jubilo* BWV 729

Johann Sebastian Bach [2'14"]
(1685-1750)

A SOLEMN HOLY EUCHARIST, RITE II

At their entry into the church for the celebration of the Holy Eucharist, the Celebrant and other ministers make a station at a Christmas Creche. The figure of the Christ Child is carried in the procession and placed in the Creche.

A CHRISTMAS GREETING FROM THE DEAN

A versicle is said, and the prayer that follows.

V. The glory of the Lord has been revealed:

R. **And all flesh shall see the salvation of our God.**

Let us pray.

O God our Creator, to restore our fallen race you spoke the effectual word, and the Eternal Word became flesh in the womb of the Blessed Virgin Mary: Mercifully grant that as he humbled himself to be clothed with our humanity, so we may be found worthy, in him, to be clothed with his divinity; who lives and reigns for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The Word of God

OPENING ACCLAMATION

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

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

SONG OF PRAISE

Gloria [1'42"]

Angels we have heard on high
You are invited to sing along at home

Angels we have heard on high,
singing sweetly through the night,
and the mountains in reply
echoing their brave delight.
Gloria in excelsis Deo.

Come to Bethlehem and see
him whose birth the angels sing;
come, adore on bended knee
Christ, the Lord, the newborn King.
Gloria in excelsis Deo.

French Carol

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

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 62:6-12

Upon your walls, O Jerusalem,
I have posted sentinels;
all day and all night
they shall never be silent.
You who remind the Lord,
take no rest,
and give him no rest
until he establishes Jerusalem
and makes it renowned throughout the earth.
The LORD has sworn by his right hand
and by his mighty arm:
I will not again give your grain
to be food for your enemies,
and foreigners shall not drink the wine
for which you have labored;
but those who garner it shall eat it
and praise the Lord,
and those who gather it shall drink it
in my holy courts.
Go through, go through the gates,
prepare the way for the people;
build up, build up the highway,
clear it of stones,
lift up an ensign over the peoples.
The LORD has proclaimed
to the end of the earth:
Say to daughter Zion,
“See, your salvation comes;
his reward is with him,
and his recompense before him.”
They shall be called, “The Holy People,
The Redeemed of the Lord”;
and you shall be called, “Sought Out,
A City Not Forsaken.”

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 97

- 1 The LORD is King;
let the earth rejoice; *
let the multitude of the isles be glad.
- 2 Clouds and darkness are round about him, *
righteousness and justice are the foundations of his throne.
- 3 A fire goes before him *
and burns up his enemies on every side.
- 4 His lightnings light up the world; *
the earth sees it and is afraid.
- 5 The mountains melt like wax at the presence of the LORD, *
at the presence of the LORD of the whole earth.
- 6 The heavens declare his righteousness, *
and all the peoples see his glory.
- 7 Confounded be all who worship carved images
and delight in false gods! *
Bow down before him, all you gods.
- 8 Zion hears and is glad, and the cities of Judah rejoice, *
because of your judgments, O LORD.
- 9 For you are the LORD,
most high over all the earth; *
you are exalted far above all gods.
- 10 The LORD loves those who hate evil; *
he preserves the lives of his saints
and delivers them from the hand of the wicked.
- 11 Light has sprung up for the righteous, *
and joyful gladness for those who are truehearted.
- 12 Rejoice in the LORD, you righteous, *
and give thanks to his holy Name.

THE NEW TESTAMENT LESSON – Titus 3:4-7

When the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared, he saved us, not because of any works of righteousness that we had done, but according to his mercy, through the water of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit. This Spirit he poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior, so that, having been justified by his grace, we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

THE GOSPEL LESSON – Luke 2:1-20

Gospeller The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke. †††
People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and 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 heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!”

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.” So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

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

SERMON – The Right Reverend John C. Bauerschmidt

A moment of silence and reflection follows the sermon.

THE NICENE CREED

**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.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

In peace let us pray to the Lord.

Gracious God, in this holy night, your Son our Savior was born in human flesh. Renew your Church as the Body of Christ. Remember Justin, Archbishop of Canterbury; Michael, Presiding Bishop, for John, Bishop of Tennessee, and all who minister in your Church.

Holy God, **hear our prayer.**

In this holy night, there was no room for your Son in the inn. Protect with your love those who have no home and all who live in poverty.

Holy God, **hear our prayer.**

In this holy night, Mary, in the pain of labor, brought your Son to birth. Holy in your hand Susan, Patti, Tom, Rachel, Laura, John, Tallu, Madeline, Paul, Marion, Joe, Faxon, Bill, Russell, David, Holly, Kay, Wesley, Ronnie, John, Lauren, Luke, Sarah, Parker, Ed, Glenda, Bill, Joyce, Butch, Tom, and all who are in pain or distress.

Holy God, **hear our prayer.**

In this holy night, your Christ came as a light shining in the darkness. Bring comfort to all who suffer in the sadness of our world.

Holy God, **hear our prayer.**

In this holy night, the angels sang, 'Peace to God's people on earth.' Strengthen those who work for peace and justice in all the world.

Holy God, **hear our prayer.**

In this holy night, strangers found the Holy Family, and saw the baby lying in the manger. Bless our homes and all whom we love.

Holy God, **hear our prayer.**

In this holy night, heaven is come down to earth, and earth is raised to heaven. Hold in your hand especially Kirk Martin, and all those who passed through death † in the hope of your coming kingdom.

Holy God, **hear our prayer.**

In this holy night Christians the world over celebrate Christ's birth. Open our hearts that he may be born in us today.

Holy God, **hear our prayer.**

Celebrant:

Gracious God, in this holy night angels and shepherds worship at the manger throne. Receive the worship we offer in fellowship with Mary, Joseph and the saints Through him who is your Word made flesh, our Savior Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

THE ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE HOLY COMMUNION

THE OFFERTORY



*Touch or scan the QR code above to leave your tithe and offering this morning.
You may also text "CCCNash" to 73256 to give using your mobile phone.*

On the recommendation of the Grants Committee, the Vestry and Dean have designated the Episcopal School at Boc Banique, Haiti as the recipient of Christ Church Cathedral's 2020 Christmas offering. Your gift will help St. Andre's Episcopal Church in Hinche complete the building of the school house for the children of Boc Banique.

CAROL

Traditional English Tune [3'11"]
adapt. Arthur Sullivan
(1842-1900)

It came upon the midnight clear

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.

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
they bend on hovering wing,
and ever o'er its Babel sounds
the blessed angels sing.

Yet with the woes of sin and strife
the world has suffered long;
beneath the heavenly hymn have rolled
two thousand years of wrong;
and warring human kind hears not
the tidings which they bring;
O hush the noise and cease your strife
and hear the angels sing!

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 all the world give back
the song which now the angels sing.

Edmund H. Sears

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 him thanks and praise.**

Then, facing the Holy Table, 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:

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.**

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.

At the following words concerning the bread, the Celebrant is to hold it, or lay a hand upon it, and at the words concerning the cup, to hold or place a hand upon the cup and any other vessel containing wine to be consecrated.

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." †

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 the ever-Blessed Virgin Mary, the Holy Family, and 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.**

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to 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 Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread.

A period of silence is kept

Then may be said

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

Facing the people, the Celebrant says the following invitation

The Gifts of God for the People of God. † Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

The Sacrament is distributed.

CAROL

W. J. Kirkpatrick [2^d21st]
(1838-1921)
arr. David Willcocks
(1919-2015)

Away in a manger

Away in a manger, no crib for his bed,
the little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head.
The stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay,
the little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.

The cattle are lowing, the baby awakes,
but little Lord Jesus no crying he makes.
I love, thee, Lord Jesus! Look down from the sky,
and stay by my side until morning is nigh.

Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask thee to stay
close by me for ever, and love me I pray.
Bless all the dear children in thy tender care,
and fit us for heaven to live with thee there.

Traditional Carol

THE POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray.

Celebrant and People

**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.**

THE BLESSING

May Christ, who by his Incarnation gathered into one things earthly and heavenly, fill you with his joy and peace; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

HYMN

Antioch
[1'37"]

Joy to the world!
You are invited to sing along at home

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

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

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

Isaac Watts

DISMISSAL

Deacon Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.

People **Thanks be to God.**

VOLUNTARY

Prelude on *Adeste Fideles*
O come, all ye faithful

Herbert Sumsion [4'16"]
(1899-1995)

Gifts for Christmas music have been given to the glory of God and

in celebration of the birth of Stephen Ellis Molinar, by Mike, Amanda, and Ryman Molinar
in memory of Sally Frierson Cook, by Charlie Cook and Lawrence Blank-Cook
in thanksgiving for the life of his best friend, Rusty Jones, by Jere Lane
in memory of her parents, William and Luella Carter, by Billy and Rose Ballard
in thanksgiving for music, by George and Mavis Allen
in memory of Jean Gray Litterer, by Elizabeth and Donnie Nichols, Mamie and Carl Murphy,
and Gray Murphy
in thanksgiving for the Cathedral Music Program, by Marjorie Proctor
in honor of her children Charles, Gabrielle, and Nicoya, grandchildren Chioh, Rena, Mars, and Juupter;
and friend Ronnie, by Anzora Lee-Starks
in appreciation of Dr. Velting, Youth leaders and Cathedral ministers, by Thomas, Tara and Clark Steffen

The flowers in the chancel are given to the glory of God and

in loving memory of Fred H Harris and Elizabeth Ann Harris Cumming, and Novice Irene Sellers; husband,
daughter, and mother of Patti Harris
in loving memory of his parents, Jessie Bradshaw Lane and Herman King Lane, and his brother,
Ernie Conrad Lane, by Jere Lane
in honor of their children Mark, Beth, Andrew and Denise, by George and Mavis Allen
in loving memory of David B. Graves and in honor of the family he loved, by Gloria Watson Graves
in loving memory of his parents Percy and Mattie Rachel Ballard, by Billy and Rose Ballard
in loving memory of her mother, Marian Bosley Lee Moore; her father, David W. Lee, Jr.; her stepfather Willie
Moore; her nephew, James Quinton Turner, and grandniece Janiyah Love Smith, by Anzora Lee-Starks
in loving memory of David Andrew Grimes, by his daughters Anna Grimes Noser, Marie Gerrity, Betsy Tiggs
and Julie Dolci

CELEBRANT

The Very Reverend Timothy E. Kimbrough, *Dean and Rector*

PREACHER

The Right Reverend John C. Bauerschmidt, *Bishop of Tennessee*

DEACON

The Venerable Roger Saterstrom, *Archdeacon*

ASSISTING

The Reverend Lissa Smith, *Associate for Pastoral Care and Cathedral Life*
The Reverend Matthew W. Lewis, *Associate for Evangelism and Christian Formation*

MUSICIANS

Canon Dr. Michael Velting, *Organist and Choirmaster*
The Cathedral Choir Section Leaders

Soprano

Callie Emery
Marlayna Maynard
Sophia Meyer

Alto

Holli Harrison
Julian Ledford

Tenor

John Manson
Robert Richardson
Matthew Youngblood

Bass

Jason Peterson
Eric Wiuff

LECTORS

Christopher Peake, Bill Hooper, Jill Meese

TECHNICAL DIRECTOR

Roger Rhoads