



GOOD SHEPHERD

EPISCOPAL CHURCH & SCHOOL

TEQUESTA, FLORIDA

Morning Prayer – Rite Two

Thursday | December 25, 2025

The Feast of the Nativity of Our Lord: Christmas Day

*Join us at 9:00 AM as we pray together.
Or use this Order of Service for your own devotional time each day.*

Opening Sentence

Officiant says the following verse of Holy Scripture.

Behold, I bring you good news of a great joy, which will come to all the people; for unto you is born this day in the city of David, a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. - *Luke 2:10, 11*

The Invitatory and Psalter

Officiant Lord, open our lips.
People **And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.**

Officiant and People

**Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen. Alleluia.**

Officiant Alleluia. To us a child is born:
People **Come let us adore him. Alleluia.**

Venite *Said in unison*

Come, let us sing to the Lord; *
let us shout for joy to the Rock of our salvation.
Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving *
and raise a loud shout to him with psalms.

For the Lord is a great God, *
and a great King above all gods.
In his hand are the caverns of the earth, *
and the heights of the hills are his also.
The sea is his, for he made it, *
and his hands have molded the dry land.

Come, let us bow down, and bend the knee, *
and kneel before the Lord our Maker.
For he is our God,
and we are the people of his pasture and the sheep of his hand. *
Oh, that today you would hearken to his voice!

<i>Officiant</i>	Alleluia. To us a child is born:
<i>People</i>	Come let us adore him. Alleluia.

Psalms 2 and 85 *Said in unison*

2 *Quare fremuerunt gentes?*

- 1 Why are the nations in an uproar? *
 Why do the peoples mutter empty threats?
- 2 Why do the kings of the earth rise up in revolt,
 and the princes plot together, *
 against the LORD and against his Anointed?
- 3 "Let us break their yoke," they say; *
 "let us cast off their bonds from us."
- 4 He whose throne is in heaven is laughing; *
 the Lord has them in derision.
- 5 Then he speaks to them in his wrath, *
 and his rage fills them with terror.
- 6 "I myself have set my king *
 upon my holy hill of Zion."
- 7 Let me announce the decree of the LORD: *
 he said to me, "You are my Son;
 this day have I begotten you.
- 8 Ask of me, and I will give you the nations for
 your inheritance *
 and the ends of the earth for your possession.
- 9 You shall crush them with an iron rod *
 and shatter them like a piece of pottery."
- 10 And now, you kings, be wise; *
 be warned, you rulers of the earth.

- 11 Submit to the LORD with fear, *
and with trembling bow before him;
- 12 Lest he be angry and you perish; *
for his wrath is quickly kindled.
- 13 Happy are they all *
who take refuge in him!

85 *Benedixisti, Domine*

- 1 You have been gracious to your land, O LORD, *
you have restored the good fortune of Jacob.
- 2 You have forgiven the iniquity of your people *
and blotted out all their sins.
- 3 You have withdrawn all your fury *
and turned yourself from your wrathful indignation.
- 4 Restore us then, O God our Savior; *
let your anger depart from us.
- 5 Will you be displeased with us for ever? *
will you prolong your anger from age to age?
- 6 Will you not give us life again, *
that your people may rejoice in you?
- 7 Show us your mercy, O LORD, *
and grant us your salvation.
- 8 I will listen to what the LORD God is saying, *
for he is speaking peace to his faithful people
and to those who turn their hearts to him.
- 9 Truly, his salvation is very near to those who fear him, *
that his glory may dwell in our land.
- 10 Mercy and truth have met together; *
righteousness and peace have kissed each other.
- 11 Truth shall spring up from the earth, *
and righteousness shall look down from heaven.
- 12 The LORD will indeed grant prosperity, *
and our land will yield its increase.
- 13 Righteousness shall go before him, *
and peace shall be a pathway for his feet.

**Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: *
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

First Lesson

Zechariah 2:10-13

Sing and rejoice, O daughter Zion! For lo, I will come and dwell in your midst, says the Lord. Many nations shall join themselves to the Lord on that day, and shall be my people; and I will dwell in your midst. And you shall know that the Lord of hosts has sent me to you. The Lord

will inherit Judah as his portion in the holy land, and will again choose Jerusalem.

Be silent, all people, before the Lord; for he has roused himself from his holy dwelling.

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

The Third Song of Isaiah *Said in unison*

Arise, shine, for your light has come, *
and the glory of the Lord has dawned upon you.
For behold, darkness covers the land; *
deep gloom enshrouds the peoples.
But over you the Lord will rise, *
and his glory will appear upon you.
Nations will stream to your light, *
and kings to the brightness of your dawning.
Your gates will always be open; *
by day or night they will never be shut.
They will call you, The City of the Lord, *
The Zion of the Holy One of Israel.
Violence will no more be heard in your land, *
ruin or destruction within your borders.
You will call your walls, Salvation, *
and all your portals, Praise.
The sun will no more be your light by day; *
by night you will not need the brightness of the moon.
The Lord will be your everlasting light, *
and your God will be your glory.
Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: *
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

Second Lesson

John 3:31-36

The one who comes from above is above all; the one who is of the earth belongs to the earth and speaks about earthly things. The one who comes from heaven is above all. He testifies to what he has seen and heard, yet no one accepts his testimony. Whoever has accepted his testimony has certified this, that God is true.

He whom God has sent speaks the words of God, for he gives the Spirit without measure. The Father loves the Son and has placed all things in his hands. Whoever believes in the Son has eternal life; whoever disobeys the Son will not see life, but must endure God's wrath.

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

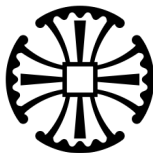
The Song of Mary *Said in unison*

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,
my spirit rejoices in God my Savior; *
 for he has looked with favor on his lowly servant.
From this day all generations will call me blessed: *
 the Almighty has done great things for me,
 and holy is his Name.
He has mercy on those who fear him *
 in every generation.
He has shown the strength of his arm, *
 he has scattered the proud in their conceit.
He has cast down the mighty from their thrones, *
 and has lifted up the lowly.
He has filled the hungry with good things, *
 and the rich he has sent away empty.
He has come to the help of his servant Israel, *
 for he has remembered his promise of mercy,
The promise he made to our fathers, *
 to Abraham and his children for ever.
Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: *
 as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

The Apostles' Creed

Officiant and People

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
 creator of heaven and earth;
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
 He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
 and born of the Virgin Mary.
 He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
 was crucified, died, and was buried.
 He descended to the dead.
 On the third day he rose again.
 He ascended into heaven,
 and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
 He will come again to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
 the holy catholic Church,
 the communion of saints,
 the forgiveness of sins,
 the resurrection of the body,
 and the life everlasting. Amen.



The Prayers

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

Officiant and People

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.

Suffrages A

V. Show us your mercy, O Lord;
R. And grant us your salvation.
V. Clothe your ministers with righteousness;
R. Let your people sing with joy.
V. Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;
R. For only in you can we live in safety.
V. Lord, keep this nation under your care;
R. And guide us in the way of justice and truth.
V. Let your way be known upon earth;
R. Your saving health among all nations.
V. Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;
R. Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.
V. Create in us clean hearts, O God;
R. And sustain us with your Holy Spirit.

The Collects

Prayed by Officiant

The Collect for the Feast of the Nativity of Our Lord: Christmas Day

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.**

A Collect for the Renewal of Life

O God, the King eternal, whose light divides the day from the night and turns the shadow of death into the morning: Drive far from us all wrong desires, incline our hearts to keep your law, and guide our feet into the way of peace; that, having done your will with cheerfulness during the day, we may, when night comes, rejoice to give you thanks; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

A Prayer attributed to St. Francis

Lord, make us instruments of your peace. Where there is hatred, let us sow love; where there is injury, pardon; where there is discord, union; where there is doubt, faith; where there is despair, hope; where there is darkness, light; where there is sadness, joy. Grant that we may not so much seek to be consoled as to console; to be understood as to understand; to be loved as to love. For it is in giving that we receive; it is in pardoning that we are pardoned; and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life. **Amen.**

We pray for our brothers and sisters in Christ, and particularly those throughout the Anglican communion, remembering today especially:

The Diocese of Sapele (Nigeria) The Rt Revd Dr Blessing A. Erifeta, Bishop.
On this Christmas Day, we pray for the Peace of Jerusalem and the People of Bethlehem. We pray also for our Diocese of Southeast Florida and our Bishop, The Rt Revd Peter Eaton; and our companion dioceses, remembering today especially the Diocese of Toliara (Madagascar), the Rt Rev Dr Samitiana Jhonson Razafindralambo, Bishop.

A Prayer for Mission

O God, you have made of one blood all the peoples of the earth, and sent your blessed Son to preach peace to those who are far off and to those who are near: Grant that people everywhere may seek after you and find you; bring the nations into your fold; pour out your Spirit upon all flesh; and hasten the coming of your kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

We pray for our own parish family, and those dear to them, remembering today especially:

Shirley, Barbara, Nina, Paul, Kristen, Jim and Jerre, Nancy and Patrick, Nancy, Taylor, Lori, Dona, and Joann.

We pray also today for our Serve ministries, remembering especially:

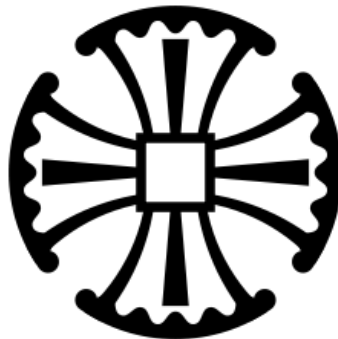
Pennies for Heaven, that our Thrift Shop may bless the lives of both those who work and those who shop there, while raising funds to advance the mission of Good Shepherd; and

Knitting for Seafarers, that those who earn their living amid the dangers of seafaring life may know the love of their neighbors through physical warmth during their work.

A Prayer for Clergy and People

Almighty and everlasting God, from whom comes every good and perfect gift: Send down upon our bishops, and other clergy, and upon the congregations committed to their charge, the healthful Spirit of your grace: and, that they may truly please you, pour upon them the continual dew of your blessing. Grant this, O Lord, for the honor of our Advocate and Mediator, Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

At this time, we invite your prayers of petition, intercession and thanksgiving, either shared with all or held in the silence of your hearts.



A Litany of Thanksgiving

Let us give thanks to God our Father for all his gifts so freely bestowed upon us.

For the beauty and wonder of your creation, in earth and sky and sea.
We thank you, Lord.

For all that is gracious in the lives of men and women, revealing the image of Christ,
We thank you, Lord.

For our daily food and drink, our homes and families, and our friends,
We thank you, Lord.

For minds to think, and hearts to love, and hands to serve,
We thank you, Lord.

For health and strength to work, and leisure to rest and play,
We thank you, Lord.

For the brave and courageous, who are patient in suffering and faithful in adversity,
We thank you, Lord.

For all valiant seekers after truth, liberty, and justice,
We thank you, Lord.

For the communion of saints, in all times and places,
We thank you, Lord.

Above all, we give you thanks for the great mercies and promises given to us in Christ Jesus our Lord;
To him be praise and glory, with you, O Father, and the Holy Spirit, now and for ever. Amen.

A Prayer of St. Chrysostom

Prayed by Officiant

Almighty God, you have given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplication to you; and you have promised through your well-beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name you will be in the midst of them: Fulfill now, O Lord, our desires and petitions as may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of your truth, and in the age to come life everlasting. **Amen.**

<i>Officiant</i>	Let us bless the Lord.
<i>People</i>	Thanks be to God.

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all evermore. **Amen.** 2 Corinthians 13:14