

**Kim and Betty Miller**

In Honor of: *Our children and grandchildren*

**Amy and Mark Murphy**

In Honor of: *Hansen, Christina, Sarah, Brendan, Chris, Tabatha, Sam, Ben and Caleb*

**Wendell and Laura Overby**

In Memory of: *Don and Sandra Faggart*

**Lex, Laura and John Patterson**

In Memory of: *Alex and Jane Patterson, Jeanne Cooper, SK and Mary Patterson*

**Al and Dee Pieschel**

In Honor of: *The Birth of our Lord Jesus!*

**Lori, Charlie, Jason, Noah and Riece Pittard**

In Honor of: *Kim and Betty Miller*

In Memory of: *Nancy and JB Pittard and our grandparents*

**Glenda D. Poole**

In Honor of: *Greg, Derek, James Poole*

In Memory of: *Jerry Poole*

**Joyce Smith**

In Memory of: *David Smith and Jake Whitaker*

**Jim Steel**

In Memory of: *Harry and Annemarie Steel*

**Todd and Gretchen Walker**

In Memory of: *Our parents, Susan Murray and Gene Walker*

**Cheryl Webb**

In Memory of: *Charles Wesley Webb*

**Nic, Amy, Logan, and Collins Whisnant**

In Memory of: *Tyler Young, Ruth Whisnant*

**Margaret Garrison and the Whittecar Family**

In Memory of: *The Rev. Dr. and Mrs. George Whittecar*

# The NATIVITY of our LORD

## December 24, 2023

### Holy Communion



**Saint James Lutheran Church**  
**104 Union Street South**  
**PO Box 684**  
**Concord, North Carolina**  
**(704) 786 – 0166**

## Welcome Home to St. James

**Thank you for joining the work of the people as we celebrate the Nativity of our Lord.** Ushers are available in the Narthex during the liturgy should you have any questions or concerns. Please be sure and sign the guestbook located in the Narthex and introduce yourself to the Pastor or to an usher so that we can extend to you a warm welcome. **Restrooms are available** on the first and second floors of the Education Building. **The First Aid Kit and the Automatic External Defibrillator (AED)** are located outside the church office door, immediately behind the Sanctuary. Fire extinguishers are located in the Sacristy and in the Narthex.

### ASSISTING IN WORSHIP

Lector/Intercessor:	Mark Murphy
Communion Assistant	Elizabeth Hurley
Acolyte/Crucifer	Parker and Finley Stephens, Jason and Noah Pittard
Ushers	Wendell Overby, Frank Irvin, Tony Folino, Nick Lovelace, and Jason Pittard
Videographer	Ann Blackwelder

### THE ALTAR FLOWERS ...

are given to the Glory of God by Janell Eng, Kelley Carpenter, and Kim Haberman in honor of Pastor Bill Ridenhour and the families of St. James Lutheran Church.

### PRAYER LIST

Patsy Black	Tom Ridenhour
Tom Grady	Jerry Kiser (nephew of the Marlows)
Linda & Paul Jones (family members of Barbara & Dale Merrell)	
Noah, Eddie, Amy Clifton and Robert and Debbie Davis	

### SAINT JAMES STAFF

**Rev. William C. Ridenhour**, Senior Pastor [prbill@sjnc.net](mailto:prbill@sjnc.net)  
**Debbie Wilkinson**, Interim Parish Administrator [info@sjnc.net](mailto:info@sjnc.net)  
**Jill Irvin**, Finance Administrator [jill@sjnc.net](mailto:jill@sjnc.net)  
**Scott F. Foppiano**, Organist / Director of Music [scott@sjnc.net](mailto:scott@sjnc.net)  
**Teresa Honeycutt**, Custodian [lunch995065@aol.com](mailto:lunch995065@aol.com)  
**Kathryn Radcliffe**, Nursery Coordinator [krad3700@gmail.com](mailto:krad3700@gmail.com)

### **Tony and Anne Eury**

In Honor of:

*To the glory of God and in honor of our children John, Margaret and Rev and our granddaughter Claire and our uncle Joe Grady and father Tom Grady*

In Memory of:

*To the glory of God and in memory of our parents, Carole Grady and Joel and Carolyn Eury*

### **Keith and Margaret Fink**

In Honor of:

*Our Children*

In Memory of:

*Peggy Fink, Keith Troxler*

### **The Haberman Family**

In Honor of:

*Jo Eng*

In Memory of:

*Don Eng*

### **Samantha Hillegass**

In Honor of:

*My wonderful family Robert, Carolyn, Ally and Kristen Hillegass*

In Memory of:

*sister Elsie Hill and brother Floyd Hangey, Jr.*

### **Elizabeth P. Hurley**

In Memory of:

*Catherine and Sam Petrea*

### **J. Sam Hurley**

In Honor of:

*Elizabeth Hurley*

In Memory of:

*Neta B. Helms, Catherine B. Petrea, David A. Hurley, Barry Hough*

### **Ashleigh and Trevor Matthews**

In Honor of:

*Evelina Matthews*

In Memory of:

*Martha and Dan Matthews*

*Jacob "Mickey" McGee, Jr.*

### **Martha and Dan Matthews**

In Memory of:

*JW (Mickey) McGee, Helen L. McGee and Jake McGee*

*Faye and Dub Matthews*

### **The McEachern Family**

In Memory of:

*Lyn McEachern*

### **Dale and Barbara Merrell**

In Honor of:

*Our children*

### **Jeff Miller and Halena Le**

In Honor of:

*Susan Miller, Ralph Barnhardt*

P Go in peace. Serve the Lord.  
C Thanks be to God.

## Closing Voluntary

Bring a Torch, Jeanette Isabella

Keith Chapmen



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### Christmas Gifts – 2023



#### Given by:

##### **Ralph Barnhardt**

In Honor of: *Jon and Leeann Miller, Avery Miller, Hollis and Rebecca Miller*  
In Memory of: *Sandra Barnhardt, Alex Barnhardt*

##### **Fuller and Jean Beasley**

In Honor of: *Ann Blackwelder, Cheryl Webb, Samantha Hillegass*  
In Memory of: *Dr. and Mrs. Joseph N. Fries*  
*Mr. and Mrs. Fisher Jones Beasley*

##### **Alfred M. Brown, Jr.**

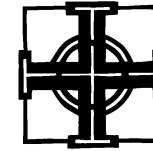
In Memory of: *Mary Baker Brown, Alfred M. Brown*

##### **Kelley and Jeff Carpenter**

In Honor of: *Jo Eng*  
In Memory of: *Don Eng*  
In Memory of: *Grady and Isolee Carpenter*

##### **Sylvia H. Corl**

In Honor of: *Brent, Michelle and Mason Corl*  
In Memory of: *Madge and Byron Harrison, Jake Whitaker, David Smith, and Marc Sloop*



## THE HOLY COMMUNION

### Gathering



## PRELUDE

*The congregation is invited to sing the carols using the green LBW hymnal.*

#### **Organ Solo**

Corde Natus Est Parentis

#### **Carol**

#42 Of the Father's Love Begotten

*Divine Mysterium*

#### **Anthem**

See Amid the Winter Snow

*John Goss*

#### **Carol**

#41 O Little Town of Bethlehem

*St. Louis*

#### **Organ Solo**

Greensleeves

*Richard Purvis*

#### **Carol**

#40 What Child is This?

*Greensleeves*

#### **Anthem**

Shepherd's Pipe Carol

*John Rutter*

#### **Carol**

#67 Away in a Manger

*Luther's Cradle Carol*

#### **Anthem**

And the Glory of the Lord

*George F. Handel*

#### **Carol**

#54 It Came Upon the Midnight Clear

*Carol*

#### **Musicians:**

St. James Parish Choir  
Rachel Leonard, Trumpet  
Tanner Morrison, Trumpet  
Jason Wise, Trombone  
Matthew Wise, Trombone  
Graham Johnson, Timpani  
Scott F. Foppiano, Organist and Director of Music

## Opening Voluntary

Puer Natus Est

Everett Titcomb

*Please stand.*

## THE INVOCATION

P In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

## THE PROCLAMATION OF THE BIRTH OF CHRIST

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## THE ENTRANCE HYMN

#45 O Come, All Ye Faithful

*Adeste Fideles*

1 Oh, come, all ye faithful,  
Joyful and triumphant!  
Oh, come ye, oh, come ye to Bethlehem;  
Come and behold him  
Born the king of angels:

*Refrain:*

*Oh, come, let us adore him,  
Oh, come, let us adore him,  
Oh, come, let us adore him,  
Christ the Lord!*

2 The highest, most holy,  
Light of Light eternal,  
Born of a virgin, a mortal he comes;  
Son of the Father  
Now in flesh appearing! [Refrain]

3 Sing, choirs of angels,  
Sing in exultation,

## THE BENEDICTION

P Almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

C Amen

## THE SENDING HYMN:

#56 The First Noel

1 The first Noel the angel did say,  
Was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay;  
In fields where they lay, keeping their sheep,  
On a cold winter's night that was so deep.

*Refrain:*

*Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel!  
Born is the King of Israel.*

2 They looked up and saw a star  
Shining in the east beyond them far;  
And to the earth it gave great light,  
And so it continued both day and night. [Refrain]

3 And by the light of that same star  
Three Wise Men came from country far;  
To seek for a king was their intent,  
And to follow the star wherever it went. [Refrain]

4 This star drew nigh to the northwest,  
O'er Bethlehem it took its rest;  
And there it did both stop and stay  
Right over the place where Jesus lay. [Refrain]

5 Then entered in those Wise Men three,  
Full rev'rently upon their knee,  
And offered there in his presence  
Their gold, and myrrh, and frankincense. [Refrain]

## THE DISMISSAL

## THE CANDLE LIGHTING with SINGING OF SILENT NIGHT (#65)

*A light is taken from the Christ candle and shared with the acolytes and assistants who then take the light to the people to light their candles. Please hold your candle upright to avoid dripping the wax. Once the sanctuary is filled with candle light, the people sing the carol.*

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,  
Heav'nly 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 your holy face,  
With the dawn of redeeming grace,  
Jesus, Lord, at your birth,  
Jesus, Lord, at your birth.

*Silence for reflection.*

**Sending**



Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!  
Glory to God  
In the highest: [Refrain]

4 Yea, Lord, we greet thee,  
Born this happy morning;  
Jesus, to Thee be glory giv'n!  
Word of the Father,  
Now in flesh appearing: [Refrain]

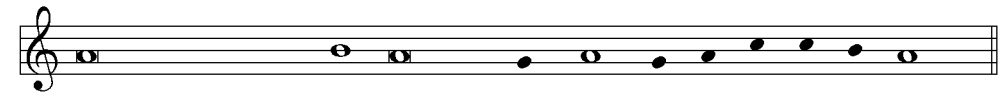
## THE APOSLOTIC GREETING

P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.  
C **And also with you.**

## THE KYRIE



Ⓐ In peace, let us pray to the Lord.    Ⓑ Lord, have mer - cy.



Ⓐ For the peace from a-bove, and for our sal-vation, let us pray to the Lord.



Ⓑ Lord, have mer - cy.



Ⓐ For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



and for the u - ni - ty of all, let us pray to the Lord.

**C** Lord, have mer - cy.

**A** For this holy house, and for all who offer here their wor - ship and praise,

let us pray to the Lord. **C** Lord, have mer - cy.

**A** Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra-cious Lord. **C** A - men

## THE GLORIA IN EXCLESIS DEO

**A** Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to his peo-ple on earth.

**C** Lord God, heav - en - ly king, al - might - y God and Fa - ther:

We wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.

Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God:

You take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us.

**Q:** What is the benefit of such eating and drinking?

**A:** We are told in the words “for you” and “for the forgiveness of sins.” By these words the forgiveness of sins, life, and salvation are given to us in the sacrament, for where there is forgiveness of sins, there are also life and salvation.

*-Luther’s Small Catechism Part V*

*Jesus bids all the baptized to feast at his table. Please come by way of the center aisle and return by the side aisle. If you need help figuring out where to and when to go, an usher or fellow worshiper will help you. At one time we too were confused. For those unable to partake of wine, white grape juice is available. If you are unable to come to the altar, the pastor will bring communion to you at your seat. Please advise an usher.*

**Anthem**

O Holy Night

*Adolph Adam*

*Please stand.*

## THE POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

**P** The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

**C** Amen

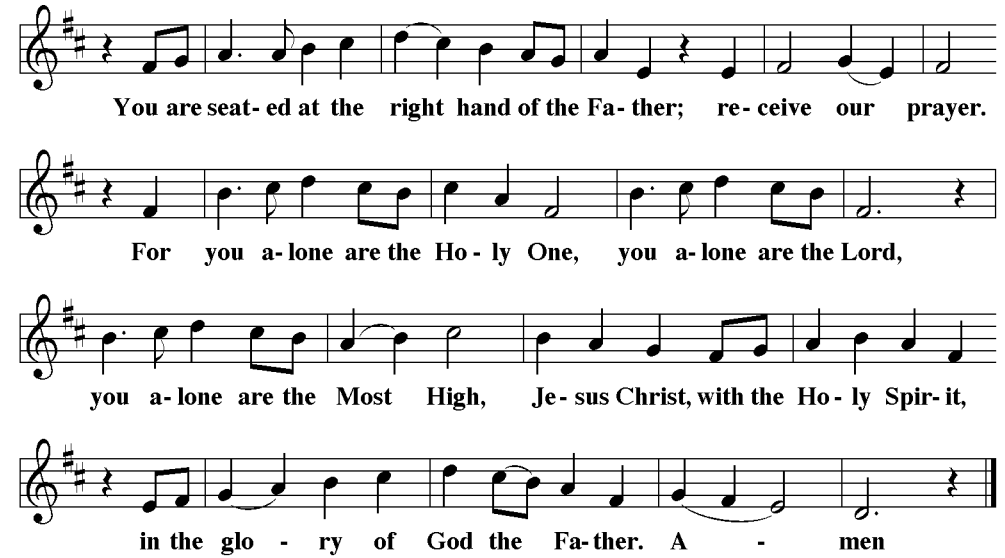
## THE POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

**P** Let us pray,

**P** Almighty God, you gave your Son both as a sacrifice for sin and a model of the godly life. Enable us to receive him always with thanksgiving, and to conform our lives to his; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord.

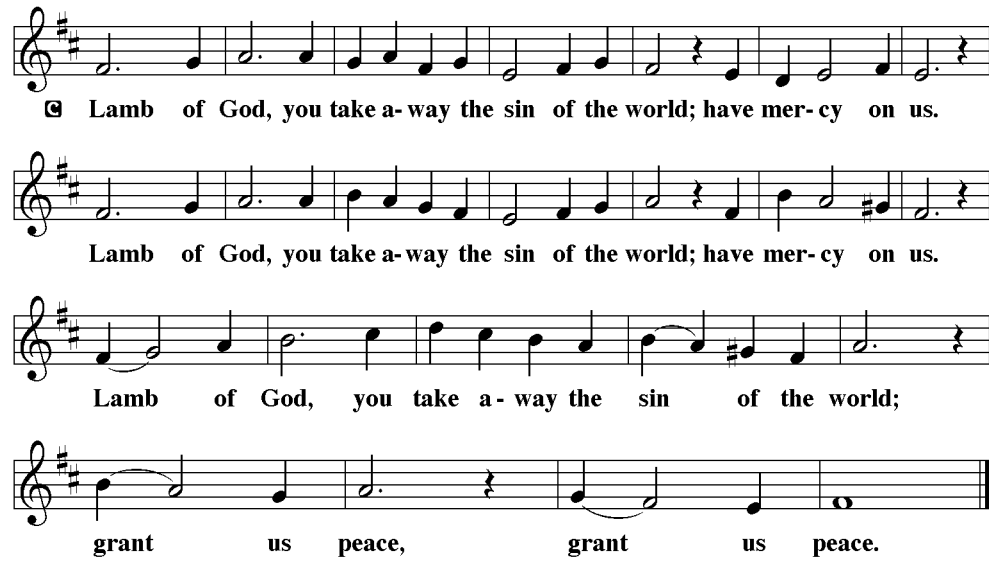
**C** Amen

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,  
 forever and ever. Amen.



You are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa-ther; re-ceive our prayer.  
 For you a-lone are the Ho-ly One, you a-lone are the Lord,  
 you a-lone are the Most High, Je-sus Christ, with the Ho-ly Spir-it,  
 in the glo-ry of God the Fa-ther. A-men

**THE AGNUS DEI**



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.  
 Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.  
 Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world;  
 grant us peace, grant us peace.

*Please sit.*

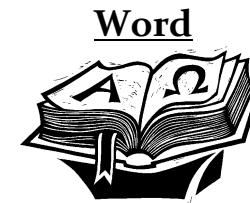
**THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION**

Q: What is the Sacrament of the Altar?  
 A: Instituted by Christ himself, it is the true body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ under the bread and wine, given to us Christians to eat and to drink.

**THE PRAYER OF THE DAY**

P The Lord be with you.  
 C **And also with you.**  
 P Almighty God, you made this holy night shine with the brightness of the true Light. Grant that here on earth we may walk in the light of Jesus' presence and in the last day wake to the brightness of his glory; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.  
 C **Amen**

*Please sit.*



**THE FIRST READING:** Isaiah 9:2-7

<sup>2</sup> 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.  
<sup>3</sup> 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.  
<sup>4</sup> 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.  
<sup>5</sup> For all the boots of the tramping warriors  
and all the garments rolled in blood  
shall be burned as fuel for the fire.  
<sup>6</sup> For a child has been born for us,  
a son given to us;  
authority rests upon his shoulders;  
and he is named  
Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God,  
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.  
<sup>7</sup> 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 onwards and for evermore.  
The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.

A The Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

**ATHEMN** Christmas Hymn  
*Sung by Bella Voce*

*Jungst, arr.*

He is your Word, inseparable from you. Through him you created all things, and in him you take delight. He is your Word, sent from heaven to a virgin's womb. He there took on our nature and our lot and shown forth as your Son, born of the Holy Spirit and of the virgin Mary. It is he, our Lord Jesus, who fulfilled all your will and won for you a holy people; he stretched out his hands in suffering in order to free from suffering those who trust you.

It is he who, handed over to a death he freely accepted, in order to destroy death, to break the bonds of the evil one, to crush hell underfoot, to give light to the righteous, to establish his covenant, and to show forth the resurrection, taking bread and giving thanks to you, said; Take and eat; this is my body, broken for you. Do this for the remembrance of me. In the same way he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink saying: This is my blood poured out for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, then, his death and resurrection, we lift this bread and cup before you, giving you thanks that you have made us worthy to stand before you and to serve you as your priestly people.

And we ask you: Send your Spirit upon these gifts of your Church; gather into one all who share this bread and wine; fill us with your Holy Spirit to establish our faith in truth, that we may praise and glorify you through your Son Jesus Christ.

Through him all glory and honor is yours, Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy Church, both now and forever.

C **Amen**

**THE LORD'S PRAYER**

P Lord, remember us in your Kingdom and teach us to pray:

C **Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name,  
thy kingdom come,  
thy will be done,  
on earth as it is in heaven.**



P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

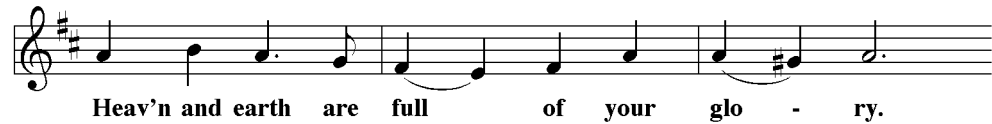
C **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

P It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times  
and in all places offer thanks and praise to you,  
O Lord, holy Father, through Christ our Lord.

In the wonder and mystery of the Word made flesh  
you have opened the eyes of faith  
to a new and radiant vision of your glory;  
that, beholding the God made visible,  
we may be drawn to love the God whom we cannot see.

And so, with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven,  
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

## THE SANCTUS



P We give you thanks, Father, through Jesus Christ, your beloved Son, whom you sent in this the end of the ages to save and redeem us and to proclaim to us your will.

## THE SECOND READING: Titus 2:11-14

<sup>11</sup> For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all, <sup>12</sup>training us to renounce impiety and worldly passions, and in the present age to live lives that are self-controlled, upright, and godly, <sup>13</sup>while we wait for the blessed hope and the manifestation of the glory of our great God and Saviour, Jesus Christ. <sup>14</sup>He 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.

A The Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

*Please stand.*

## THE GOSPEL PROCESSION: #39 Joy to the World, v. 1-2

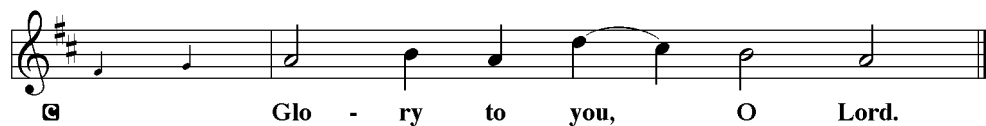
*Antioch*

1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come!  
Let earth receive its King;  
Let ev'ry heart prepare him room  
And heav'n and nature sing,  
And heav'n and nature sing,  
And heav'n, and heav'n and nature sing.

2 Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns!  
Let all their songs employ,  
While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains  
Repeat the sounding joy,  
Repeat the sounding joy,  
Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

## THE GOSPEL: Luke 2:1-20

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 2<sup>nd</sup> Chapter



In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. <sup>2</sup>This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. <sup>3</sup>All went to their own towns to be registered. <sup>4</sup>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. <sup>5</sup>He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. <sup>6</sup>While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. <sup>7</sup>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.

<sup>8</sup>In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. <sup>9</sup>Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. <sup>10</sup>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: <sup>11</sup>to you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, who is the Messiah, the Lord. <sup>12</sup>This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.’ <sup>13</sup>And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying,

<sup>14</sup> ‘Glory to God in the highest heaven,  
and on earth peace among those whom he favours!’

<sup>15</sup> 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.’ <sup>16</sup>So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. <sup>17</sup>When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; <sup>18</sup>and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. <sup>19</sup>But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. <sup>20</sup>The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

P The Gospel of the Lord.

## THE PEACE

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.  
C And also with you.

*Please sit.*

## THE ANTHEM

Candlelight Carol

*John Rutter*

### Table



*Please stand.*

## THE OFFERTORY PRAYER

A Let us pray.  
A Blessed are you,  
C **O Lord our God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts. With them we offer ourselves to your service and dedicate our lives to the care and redemption of all that you have made, for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

P The Lord be with you.  
C And also with you.  
P Lift up your hearts.  
C We lift them to the Lord.

In peace, let us pray to the Lord.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

For all people in their daily life and work, for families, friends and neighbors  
and for those who are alone, let us pray to the Lord.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

For this community, the nation and the world. For all who work for freedom,  
justice, and peace, let us pray to the Lord.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

For the just and proper use of God's creation, for the victims of poverty, fear,  
injustice and oppression, let us pray to the Lord.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

For the peace and unity of the Church of God, for all who proclaim the gospel,  
and all who seek the truth, let us pray to the Lord.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

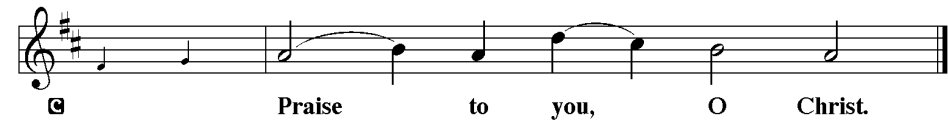
For all people who are in danger, sorrow or any kind of trouble, for those who  
minister to the sick, the friendless and the needy, let us pray to the Lord.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation and the prayers of our  
hearts for all in need, let us pray to the Lord.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

For the faithful who have gone before us and are at rest, let us pray to the Lord.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

P Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your  
mercy, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.  
C **Amen**

*Please stand.*



### **THE GOSPEL RECESSIO:** #39 Joy to the World, v. 3-4

3 No more let sin and sorrow grow  
Nor thorns infest the ground;  
He comes to make his blessings flow  
Far as the curse is found,  
Far as the curse is found,  
Far as, far as the curse is found.

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.

*Please sit.*

### **THE SERMON**

*Please stand.*

### **THE HYMN OF THE DAY:** #60 Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

1 Hark! The herald angels sing,  
"Glory to the new-born king;  
Peace on earth, and mercy mild,  
God and sinners reconciled."

Joyful, all you 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 new-born king!"*

2 Christ, by highest heav'n adored,  
Christ, the everlasting Lord,  
Late in time behold him come,  
Offspring of a virgin's womb.  
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see!  
Hail, incarnate deity!  
Pleased as man with us to dwell,  
Jesus, our Immanuel! [Refrain]

3 Hail, the heav'n-born Prince of Peace!  
Hail the sun of righteousness!  
Light and life to all he brings,  
Ris'n with healing in his wings.  
Mild He lays his glory by,  
Born that we no more may die,  
Born to raise each child of earth,  
Born to give us second birth. [Refrain]

## **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 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.**

*Please sit or kneel, as able.*

## **THE PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH**

**A** With the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, let us pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation.