

Christmas Day



*The Episcopal Church of The Holy Innocents
in the Borough of Beach Haven, New Jersey
25 December, 2022 ~ 10:00 AM*

Welcome! In The Episcopal Church all baptized Christians are welcomed to receive Holy Communion. BCP means The Book of Common Prayer (Red Book).

** Indicates to stand as you are able*

Prelude

THE WORD OF GOD

***Hymn #92** *On This Day Earth Shall Ring* PERSONENT HODIE

Celebrant The Word was made flesh and dwelt among us;

People **And we have seen his glory.**

Celebrant Let us pray. Almighty and everliving God, you have given us a new revelation of your loving providence in the coming of your Son Jesus Christ to be born of the Virgin Mary: Grant that as he shared our mortality, so we may share his eternity in the glory of your kingdom; where he lives and reigns for ever and ever. *All Amen.*

Song of Praise #96 (vs. 1&4) *Angels We Have Heard on High* GLORIA

***The Collect of the Day:** BCP, p. 160

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. *All Amen.*

The Lesson

Isaiah 52:7-10

How beautiful upon the mountains
are the feet of the messenger who announces peace,
who brings good news,
who announces salvation,
who says to Zion, "Your God reigns."
Listen! Your sentinels lift up their voices,
together they sing for joy;
for in plain sight they see
the return of the LORD to Zion.

Break forth together into singing,
you ruins of Jerusalem;
for the LORD has comforted his people,
he has redeemed Jerusalem.
The LORD has bared his holy arm
before the eyes of all the nations;
and all the ends of the earth shall see
the salvation of our God.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God.**

The Gradual Psalm 98 (*Alternating by whole verse*)

BCP p. 727

- 1 Sing to the LORD a new song, *
for he has done marvelous things.
- 2 With his right hand and his holy arm *
has he won for himself the victory.
- 3 The LORD has made known his victory; *
his righteousness has he openly shown in the sight of the nations.
- 4 He remembers his mercy and faithfulness to the house of Israel, *
and all the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.
- 5 Shout with joy to the LORD, all you lands; *
lift up your voice, rejoice, and sing.
- 6 Sing to the LORD with the harp, *
with the harp and the voice of song.
- 7 With trumpets and the sound of the horn *
shout with joy before the King, the LORD.
- 8 Let the sea make a noise and all that is in it, *
the lands and those who dwell therein.
- 9 Let the rivers clap their hands, *
and let the hills ring out with joy before the LORD,
when he comes to judge the earth.
- 10 In righteousness shall he judge the world *
and the peoples with equity.

The Epistle

Hebrews 1:1-4,(5-12)

Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets, but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son,

whom he appointed heir of all things, through whom he also created the worlds. He is the reflection of God's glory and the exact imprint of God's very being, and he sustains all things by his powerful word. When he had made purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs.

For to which of the angels did God ever say,

"You are my Son; today I have begotten you"?

Or again, "I will be his Father, and he will be my Son"? And again, when he brings the firstborn into the world, he says,

"Let all God's angels worship him."

Of the angels he says,

"He makes his angels winds, and his servants flames of fire."

But of the Son he says, "Your throne, O God, is forever and ever, and the righteous scepter is the scepter of your kingdom.

You have loved righteousness and hated wickedness; therefore God, your God, has anointed you the oil of gladness beyond your companions."

And, "In the beginning, Lord, you founded the earth, and the heavens are the work of your hands; they will perish, but you remain; they will all wear out like clothing; like a cloak you will roll them up, and like clothing they will be changed.

But you are the same, and your years will never end."

Reader The Word of the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God.**

The Sequence Hymn #98 *Unto Us a Boy is Born!* PUER NOBIS NASCITUR

***The Holy Gospel**

John 1:1-14

Celebrant The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John
People **Glory to you, Lord Christ**

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the

light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

Celebrant The Gospel of the Lord.

People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.** (*All are seated*)

The Sermon

The Rev. Dr. Caroline Carson+

***The Nicene Creed**

BCP, p. 358

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.

Prayers of the People: *In This Small Place Made Glorious

Leader God of unimaginable love, on the first Christmas
You became one of us.

All **We celebrate Your love for every person in every place and time.**

Leader God of all humanity, You offered Your Peace to anyone
who would be satisfied with Your presence.

All **We celebrate Your Peace in Your Church and accept Your
commission to share it in all the world.**

Leader God of the shepherds, You announced Your arrival among us
to the poorest, the most humble.

All **We celebrate Your good news to each of us and to everyone,
right here where we are.**

Leader God of the manger, You came to us through Your Son in a
small and simple place.

All **We celebrate Your presence with us this day in this small
place made glorious by Your being in it.**

Leader God of deliverance, You came to be one of us in order to
deliver all of us.

All **We celebrate Your protection and mercy toward all who are
sick or in trouble.**

Leader God of birth, when You became as we are, You opened
Yourself to each of us, no matter who or what we are.

All **We celebrate this day Your Kingdom and that we are
welcome in it right now and always. Keep us close, now
and in the life to come. Amen.**

*~ written by Brad Offutt for the 2008 Christmas services at St. Paul's
Episcopal Church in Port Townsend, Washington.*

Leader Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.

(The People may add their own petitions.)

Celebrant Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Confession - Minister and People

Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. *Amen.*

Absolution

BCP, p. 360

***The Peace** *(All stand)*

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

THE HOLY COMMUNION

Offertory

Hymn – *Star Child*

Text: Shirly Erena Murray

***Presentation of the Gifts** *(All stand)*

All things come of thee O Lord, and of thine own have we given thee.

***The Great Thanksgiving: Eucharistic Prayer B**

BCP, p. 367

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.**

Celebrant 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:

Sanctus 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.

(The People may stand or kneel)

Celebrant 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.

On the night before he died for us, 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,

All **We remember his death,
We proclaim his resurrection,
We await his coming in glory;**

Celebrant 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 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. *All: AMEN.*

The Lord's Prayer

BCP, p. 364

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

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

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

(All baptized Christians are welcomed to receive Holy Communion)

Postcommunion Prayer *(Stand or kneel)*

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.*

***A Christmas Blessing**

May the joy of the angels, the eagerness of the shepherds, the perseverance of the wise men, the wonder of Joseph and Mary, and the peace of the Christ child be with you this Christmas; and the

blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. *Amen.*

The Parish Notices

***Hymn #99** *Go Tell It on the Mountain*

GO TELL IT

Dismissal

BCP, p. 366

Celebrant Let us go forth in the name of Christ. *Alleluia, Alleluia!*

People **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia!**

Postlude

Parish Prayer List – December 25, 2022

PLEASE NOTE: This is the last Sunday in December. All names will be removed from the prayer list. If you need to add a name, please contact Lisa Halpin, our Parish Administrator by Wednesday, December 28th.

Alycia Alycia	Ellis Barbieri	Charles Bishop
Kevin B. Campbell	Cynthia Clarke	Joan Connolly
Judy Contreras	Mary Ann Crewdson	Art “Jim” Curtin
Jack DiFeo	Roseann Dolan	Dave Elfreth
Elliott	Faith	Faye
Genevieve	Gordon H.	Adam Houser
Jan	Rick Johnson	Joni
Anne Joyce	Julie	Karen & DJ
Gollihur Family	Erma Green	Karen Grossman
Kathy G.	Kevin	Ryan Koehl
Dave Lamon	Barry Longenbach	Lovas Family
Lucas	Walt Luwenduski	The McLaughlin Family
Pat Meyer	Louise Muth	Nicholas Family
Bill O’Connell	Ollie	Sharon Osborn
Brian O’Sullivan	TJ Patton	Peggy
Lucien Picard	Pat Pritchard	Rhonda Pritchard
Marie R.	Cora Raggucci	Debbie & Joe Reising
Rebecca	Ron & Kenny	Rick Rosenbaum
Elizabeth Mary Schade	The Schemreif Family	Chloe Snyder
Lara Sparks Deitz	Charles Sullivan	Tantum Family
Bill Todd	Tony	Robert Thomas



THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE HOLY INNOCENTS

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The Rev. Dr. Caroline Carson, Rector ~ (504) 390-5331 theparsoncarson@gmail.com

OFFICE HOURS – Monday through Thursday 9 AM to 2 PM