

*Christmas Eve*  
The Holy Eucharist: Rite II



*The Episcopal Church of The Holy Innocents  
in the Borough of Beach Haven, New Jersey*

*24 December, 2020 ~ 4:00 PM*

**Prelude:** *Voluntary*

## THE WORD OF GOD

**Hymn #83** *O Come, All Ye Faithful* (vs. 1-3&6)

ADESTE FIDELIS

### STATION AT THE CRECHE

*(The children carry the Christ Child and Nativity figures into the church during the Processional Hymn and place them in the Creche.)*

*Celebrant:* The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light.

*People:* **For to us a child is born, to us a Son is given.**

*Celebrant:* His name will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,

*People:* **The Everlasting Father, the Prince of Peace.**

*Celebrant:* The word became flesh and dwells among us.

*People:* **Glory to God in the highest and peace to God's people on earth.**

*\*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 for Christmas Eve**

BCP, p. 212

*Celebrant:* The Lord be with you.

*People:* **And also with you**

*Celebrant:* Let us pray. O God, you have caused this holy night to shine with the brightness of the true Light: Grant that we, who have known the mystery of that Light on earth, may also enjoy him perfectly in heaven; where with you and the Holy Spirit he lives and reigns, one God, in glory everlasting.

*All: Amen. (All are seated)*

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.

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.

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.

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

For 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.

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 onward and forevermore.

The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

*Reader:* The Word of the Lord.

*All:* **Thanks be to God.**

**The Gradual: Psalm 96**

- 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 Epistle

**Titus 2:11-14**

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

*Reader:* The Word of the Lord.

*All:* **Thanks be to God.**

**Sequence Hymn #109** *The First Nowell* (vs. 1,2&6)

THE FIRST NOWELL

**\*The Holy Gospel**

**Luke 2:1-20**

*Deacon:* 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."

*Deacon:* 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.

### **Litany for Christmas Eve** (*The people may stand or kneel*)

*Deacon:* In peace let us pray for the church and the world.

*Silence*

*Leader:* Creator God, on this holy night your Son our Savior was born  
in human flesh. Renew your Church as the Body of Christ. Holy God,

*People:* **Hear our prayer.**

*Leader:* 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,

*People:* **Hear our prayer.**

*Leader:* Your Christ came as a light shining in the darkness. Bring comfort to all who suffer in our world. Holy God,

*People:* **Hear our prayer.**

*Leader:* Herod's rage brought weeping and lamentation to Bethlehem. Rid our world of violence and comfort those mourning lives lost to violence in our city and across the world. Holy God,

*People:* **Hear our prayer.**

*Leader:* The angels sang, 'Peace to God's people on earth.' Strengthen those who work for peace and justice in the all the world. Holy God,

*People:* **Hear our prayer.**

*Leader:* Shepherds in the field heard good tidings of joy. Give each of us grace to preach the gospel of Christ's love. Holy God,

*People:* **Hear our prayer.**

*Leader:* Strangers found the Holy Family and saw the baby lying in a manger. Bless our homes and all whom we love. Holy God,

*People:* **Hear our prayer.**

*Leader:* In this holy night, heaven is come down to earth, and earth is raised to heaven. Hold in your hand all those who have passed through death in the hope of your coming kingdom. Holy God,

*People:* **Hear our prayer.**

*Leader:* Holy God, angels and shepherds worshiped at your manger. 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.

*People:* **Amen.**

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

*Celebrant:* The peace of Christ be always with you.

*People:* **And also with you.**

## **The Parish Notices**

## **THE HOLY COMMUNION**

### **Offertory**

Anthem: *That Boy Child of Mary*

Traditional Malawi Melody

**\*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. For by water and the Holy Spirit you have made us a new people in Jesus Christ our Lord, to show forth your glory in all the world. 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 and Benedictus (All)***

*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 welcome to receive Holy Communion. Currently, our diocesan guidelines allow us to offer the Holy Sacraments in one kind only. The Bread will be offered and Wine will be placed on the altar for adoration.)*

## **The Prayer of Spiritual Communion**

### **Music During Communion**

*O Holy Night*     Barbara Wheeler, violin     Adolph Adam

**Postcommunion Prayer** (*Stand or kneel*)     BCP, p. 365

**All:** Loving God, we give you thanks for restoring us in your image and nourishing us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of Christ's Body and Blood. Now send us forth a people forgiven, healed, renewed; that we may proclaim your love to the world and continue in the risen life of Christ our Savior. *Amen.*

**The Carol of the Holy Night #111**     STILLE NACHT

*(No congregational singing is allowed, however, you may hum)*

### **\*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.*

**\*Hymn #21 (LEVAS)** *Go Tell It on the Mountain*

GO TELL IT ON THE MOUNTAIN

**\*Dismissal**

BCP, p. 366

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

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

## **Postlude**

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### **Musicians:**

*Barbara Wheeler*

*Ellen Kehr*

*Joan Melega*

## **Parish Prayer List - December 24, 2020**

Barry	Beth C.	Bob
Cathy Bentivegna	Cathy, Claire	Charles
Corey	Theresa Bray	Marie Bregler
Rich & Rosemarie Cattrano	Joan Connolly	Joan Cunningham
Judy Contreras	Joe Corbin	Mary Ann Crewdson
Michael Reed Davis	Dennis	Carol Dobbins
Meg Dougher	Elizabeth Ann	Emma
Faye & Ed	Fran	Frank
Katy Gallaher	Hinderliter Family	Timothy Michael Hoit
Janet	Jeanne, John & Caitlyn	Jeannine
Karen & DJ	Warren Lamon	Larry
Lauren & Ed	Diane Lee	Lily
Locke Family	Cecily Lovas	Maryann
Mary Jane	Kurt Martin	Scott Mitchell
Evelyn Nancy	Virginia Nicholas	Jeannette Peterson
Lucien Picard	Suzette Reese	Carol Ann Renzland
Kathy Rice	Ronnie & Harry	Rosemary
Gregory & Ray Schwartz	Lara Sparks	Jerry South
Robert Thomas	Javy Vargas	Colin Walker
Peter Wall	Ann White	Kate White
Ruth Wolf		

### **Those serving in the military and other dangerous professions:**

Andrew Wall, Brandan White, Joseph Alexander, Zachary Arlin,  
Paul Bailey, Justin A. Dumhart, Danny Melega

### **WEEKLY ONLINE CALENDAR December 25<sup>th</sup>**

25 – Friday	<i>Parish Office Closed</i>	
	<b>Christmas Day Service</b>	<b>10:00 AM</b>
	Kids Korner	7:00 PM

**PASTORAL CARE** - Please call Mother Caroline+ at 504-390-5331  
and Deacon Judy Krom at (732) 330-4949



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## **THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE HOLY INNOCENTS**

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**OFFICE HOURS – Monday through Thursday 9 AM to 2 PM**