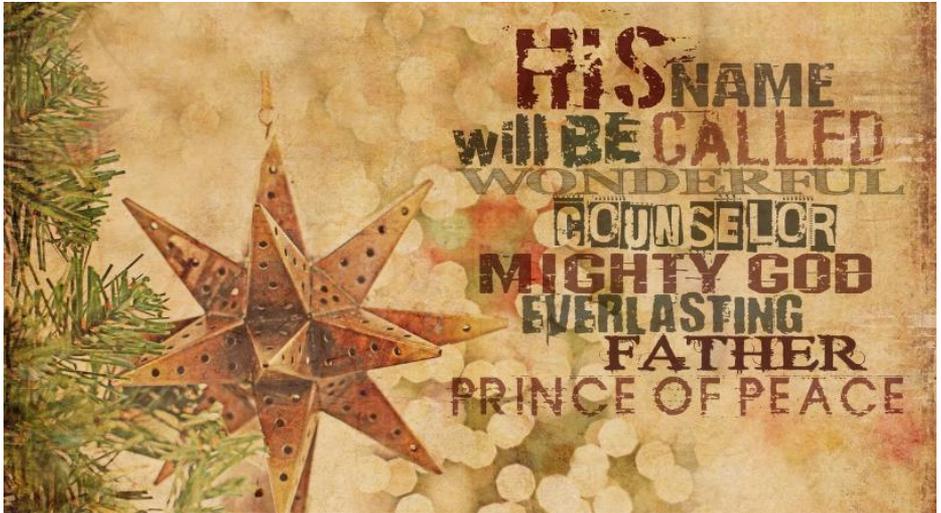


The Holy Eucharist: Rite II

*The First Sunday  
of  
Christmas*



*The Episcopal Church of The Holy Innocents  
in the Borough of Beach Haven, New Jersey  
27 December, 2020 ~ 9:30 AM*

**Prelude** *Voluntary*

**THE WORD OF GOD**

**Hymn #23 (LEVAS)** *Jesus Came to Earth from Glory* Doreen Potter

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

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

*Celebrant:* Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. *All: Amen.*

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

**\*The Collect of the Day:**

*Celebrant:* The Lord be with you.

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

*Celebrant:* Let us pray.

Almighty God, you have poured upon us the new light of your incarnate Word: Grant that this light, enkindled in our hearts, may shine forth in our lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *All: Amen.*

**The Lesson**

**Isaiah 61:10-62:3**

I will greatly rejoice in the LORD,  
my whole being shall exult in my God;  
for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation,  
he has covered me with the robe of righteousness,  
as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland,  
and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.  
For as the earth brings forth its shoots,  
and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up,  
so the Lord GOD will cause righteousness and praise  
to spring up before all the nations.

For Zion's sake I will not keep silent,  
and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest,  
until her vindication shines out like the dawn,  
and her salvation like a burning torch.

The nations shall see your vindication,  
and all the kings your glory;  
and you shall be called by a new name  
that the mouth of the LORD will give.

You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the LORD,  
and a royal diadem in the hand of your God.

*Reader:* The Word of the Lord.

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

**The Gradual: Psalm 147:13-21** (*To be read alternating by whole verse*)

13 Worship the LORD, O Jerusalem; \*  
praise your God, O Zion;

14 For he has strengthened the bars of your gates; \*  
he has blessed your children within you.

15 He has established peace on your borders; \*  
he satisfies you with the finest wheat.

16 He sends out his command to the earth, \*  
and his word runs very swiftly.

17 He gives snow like wool; \*  
he scatters hoarfrost like ashes.

18 He scatters his hail like bread crumbs; \*  
who can stand against his cold?

19 He sends forth his word and melts them; \*  
he blows with his wind, and the waters flow.

20 He declares his word to Jacob, \*  
his statutes and his judgments to Israel.

21 He has not done so to any other nation; \*  
to them he has not revealed his judgments.  
Hallelujah!

## The Epistle

Galatians 3:23-25; 4:4-7

Now before faith came, we were imprisoned and guarded under the law until faith would be revealed. Therefore the law was our disciplinarian until Christ came, so that we might be justified by faith. But now that faith has come, we are no longer subject to a disciplinarian. But when the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, in order to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as children. And because you are children, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" So you are no longer a slave but a child, and if a child then also an heir, through God.

*Reader:* The Word of the Lord.

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

**Sequence Hymn #672** *O Very God, of Very God* (vs. 1,2&5)

BANGOR

**\*The Holy Gospel**

**John 1:1-18**

*Deacon:* 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. (John testified to him and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks ahead of me because he was before me.'") From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. No one has ever seen God. It is God the only Son, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known.

*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.

*Deacon:* In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

*Silence*

*Leader:* Father, we pray for your holy catholic Church;

*People:* **That we all may be one.**

*Leader:* Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;

*People:* **That your Name may be glorified by all people.**

*Leader:* In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer we pray for Christians in other denominations and the work of the ecumenical movement His Holiness Pope Francis, Bishop of Rome; His All Holiness Archbishop Bartholomew of Constantinople, New Rome & Ecumenical Patriarch; The General Secretary of the World Council of Churches, Bishop Ivan Abrahams; the General Secretary of the World Methodist Council, The Reverend Chris Ferguson; and the General Secretary of the World Communion of Reformed Churches. We pray for Justin, the Archbishop of Canterbury; for Michael, our Presiding Bishop; for William our Bishop; for Judith our Deacon, for Caroline, our Rector. We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons;

*People:* **That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.**

*Leader:* For Nancy our Mayor, Philip our Governor, Donald our President, and Joe our Preident-elect; We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;

*People:* **That there may be justice and peace on the earth.**

*Leader:* Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;

*People:* **That our works may find favor in your sight.**

*Leader:* We pray for the special needs and concerns of this congregation, especially remembering all victims of climate change, and for the poor. We also remember all those mentioned in our Parish Prayer List: the sick, the shut in, and the grieving; those serving in the military and other dangerous professions, and for our enemies, that all hearts may be turned to peace. Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;

*People:* **That they may be delivered from their distress.**

*Leader:* Give to the departed eternal rest.

*People:* **Let light perpetual shine upon them.**

*Leader:* We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;

*People:* **May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.**

*Leader:* Let us pray for our own needs and those of others. (*The People may add their own petitions.*)

*Celebrant:* Almighty and eternal God, ruler of all things in heaven and earth: Mercifully accept the prayers of your people, and strengthen us to do your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

*Deacon:* 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 Parish Notices**

## **THE HOLY COMMUNION**

### **Offertory**

**\*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.

*All:* **And also with you.**

*Celebrant:* Lift up your hearts.

*All:*       **We lift them to the Lord.**

*Celebrant:* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

*All:*       **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.**

### **The Prayer of Spiritual Communion**

*(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.)*

**Postcommunion Prayer** (*Stand or kneel*)

Almighty and everliving God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

**\*Blessing**

**\*Hymn #105** *God Rest You Merry Gentlemen* (vs. 1&4)

GOD REST YOU MERRY

**\*Dismissal**

BCP, p. 366

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

*People:* **Thanks be to God.**

**Postlude**

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**Parish Prayer List - December 27, 2020**

***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 30<sup>th</sup>.***

Barry	Beth C.	Bob
Cathy Bentivegna	Cathy, Claire	Charles
Corey	Theresa Bray	Marie Bregler
Rich & Rosemarie Catrano	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

**Birthdays:** Carol Hammond (12/29)

**Altar Flowers:** Today's Altar Flowers are given in memory of Marcella and Frank Gallo for Christmas 2020, from their children and grandchildren and to the Glory of God.

**WEEKLY ONLINE CALENDAR December 28<sup>th</sup> – January 1<sup>st</sup>**

28 – Monday	Morning Prayer	9:00 AM
	Compline	9:00 PM
29 – Tuesday	Evening Prayer for Thomas Becket	6:00 PM
31– Thursday	<i>Parish Office Closed~ New Year's Eve</i>	
01 – Friday	<i>Parish Office Closed ~ New Year's Day</i>	

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED** to wipe down pews and items after the 9:30 service.

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



## *Use Our Mobile App Over the Holidays*



Holy Innocents' uses a free mobile app that makes it simple to make your gift, connect with other members and check virtual and in-person events.

Download the free "Vanco Mobile" app and search for Holy Innocents' Episcopal Church.

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

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

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