THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST



SAINT PETER'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

CHATTANOOGA, IN THE DIOCESE OF EAST TENNESSEE

DECEMBER 24, 2023 – 4:30 P.M.

Welcome to worship at St. Peter's Episcopal Church!

We are glad that you are here.

Prayer for Our Clergy Search

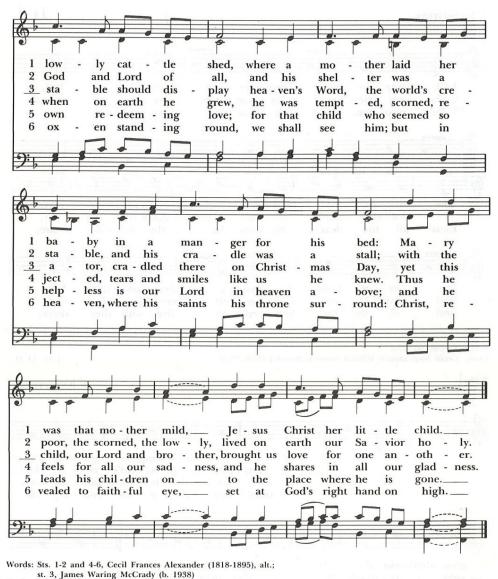
Almighty God, you know the needs of your Church in every place: Look graciously upon us and grant us the guidance of your Holy Spirit as we seek a new priest for this parish. Give us discernment, wisdom, and confidence in your timing. Guide the members of our Vestry, as they labor to be faithful in seeking your will. We pray for the life of our parish that we may continue in our mission to proclaim not ourselves, but Jesus Christ as Lord, and ourselves as your servants for Christ's sake. Amen.

THE WORD OF GOD

Please stand and join in singing the hymn.

OPENING HYMN: "Once in Royal David's City" (Hymn 102)





Music: Irby, melody Henry John Gauntlett (1805-1876); harm. Arthur Henry Mann (1850-1929) 87. 87. 77

Please remain standing.

Priest Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People And blessed be his kingdom, now and forever. Amen.

THE GLORIA: "Angels We Have Heard on High" (Hymn 96, v 1)



Music: Gloria, French carol; arr. Edward Shippen Barnes (1887-1958)

77. 77 with Refrain

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Priest The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

- Priest 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.
- People Amen.

Please be seated.



THE CHRISTMAS PAGEANT CAST

Narrator: Riley Davis Angel Gabriel: Colette Crowe

Holy Family: Jessie Long (Mary), Parker Thompson (Joseph), Augusta Beckham and Carson Schmidt present the Baby Jesus. Augusta will sing "Twinkle, Twinkle, Christmas Star."

Shepherds: Zander Giannotti, William Spurlock, Ophelia Schmonsees, Benny Weeks
 Magi: Hadley Weeks, Lucy Davis, Bennett Wells; Sheep: Elliot Wells
 Angels & Stable Animals: Westley Wilson, Sofia Brooks, Annika Crowe,
 Alex Adams, and other children of the parish

Stage Manager: Viola Wiberley Directors: Morgan Giannotti, Shanda Schmidt, and Bonnie Rodgers Accompanist: Tim Hinck

The congregation is asked to please join the children in song, as directed.

"Silent Night"

Verse 1: Zander Giannotti; Verse 2: Congregation

Verse 2 Silent night, holy night, Son of God, love's pure lightRadiant beams from thy holy face, with the dawn of redeeming grace,Jesus, Lord at thy birth. Jesus, Lord at thy birth.

"What Child Is This?"

Verse 2 So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh, come, peasant, king to own him; The King of kings salvation brings, let loving hearts enthrone him. This, this is Christ the King, whom shepherds guard and angels sing; haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mary.

"Away in a Manger"

All Away in a manger, no crib for a bed, the little Lord Jesus lay down his sweet head. The stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay, the little lord Jesus asleep on the hay.

"Noel, Noel"

Children's Choir Anthem

"Go Tell It on the Mountain" Verse 1: William Spurlock; Verse 2: Congregation	
Verse 2	While shepherds kept their watching o'er silent flocks by night, Behold, throughout the heavens there shone a holy light. Go tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere; go tell it on the mountain, that Jesus Christ is born! Christ the Savior is born!

Please stand.

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 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.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE (The people stand or kneel.)

- Intercessor Let us pray to our incarnate Lord, who has brought us out of darkness and into his marvelous light. Christ born for us, Son of God given for us: help us to know you, to worship you, and to serve you. Lord, in your mercy,
- People Hear our prayer.
- Intercessor Wonderful counsellor, you order all things with your wisdom: help the Church to reveal the mystery of your love and fill us with the Spirit of your truth. Lord, in your mercy,
- People Hear our prayer.

BCP 358

Intercessor Mighty God, the government is on your shoulders: guide the leaders of the nations and bring about your kingdom of justice and righteousness. Lord, in your mercy,

People Hear our prayer.

- Intercessor Everlasting Father, you call us to live together in unity: protect by your mercy all your children, bless our families, and renew our communities. Lord, in your mercy,
- People Hear our prayer.
- Intercessor Prince of peace, you bring reconciliation through your birth, life, death, and resurrection: by your healing power give to the departed eternal rest and give to all who suffer your gift of wholeness and peace. Lord, in your mercy,
- People Hear our prayer.

The Priest adds a concluding Collect.

THE PEACE

BCP 360

PriestThe Peace of the Lord be always with you.PeopleAnd also with you.

Please stand to greet one another.

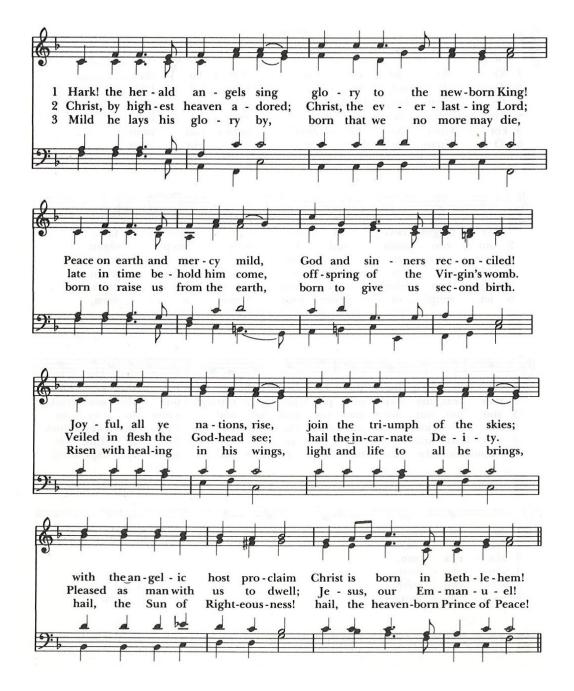
ANNOUNCEMENTS

As the Eucharistic table is set, the ushers collect offerings from the congregation. If you prefer to make an online donation, please use this QR code:



OFFERTORY MUSIC

Please stand and join in singing the hymn. (See following page.)





Words: Charles Wesley (1707-1788), alt.
Music: Mendelssohn, Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847); adapt. William
H. Cummings (1831-1915)

77. 77. D with Refrain

BCP 367

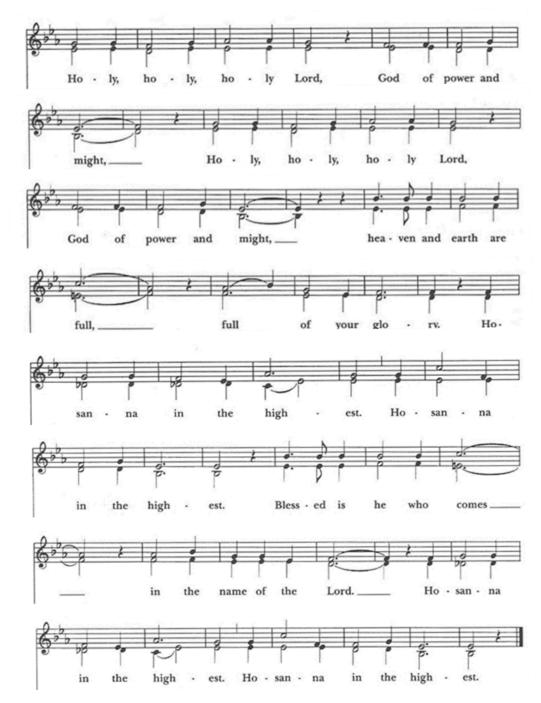
THE HOLY COMMUNION

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Celebrant People Sursum Corda (8-120) And al - so with you. The Lord be with you. Celebrant People Lift up your hearts. We lift them the Lord. to Celebrant to the Lord our God. Let us give thanks People -0 to give him thanks and praise. It is right

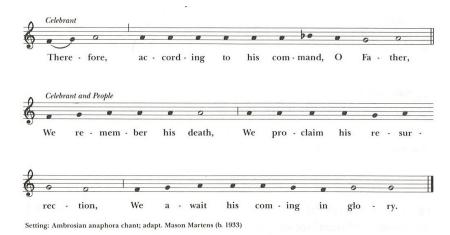
Priest It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. Because you gave Jesus Christ, your only Son, to be born for us; who, by the mighty power of the Holy Spirit, was made perfect Man of the flesh of the Virgin Mary 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:

THE SANCTUS (S-130)



Priest *(The people stand or kneel.)* 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."



The Memorial Acclamation (§-136)

Priest 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 the blessed Virgin Mary, St. Peter, and 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. **Amen.**

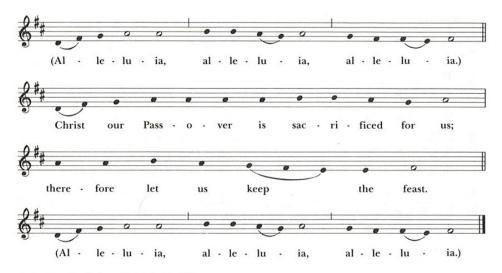
Priest And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

All 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

BCP 364

The Priest breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept.



Fraction Anthem (S-154)

Setting: From New Plainsong; David Hurd (b. 1950)

THE AGNUS DEI (S-164)



Setting: From Deutsche Messe; Franz Peter Schubert (1797-1828); arr. Richard Proulx (b. 1937)

Priest The Gifts of God for the People of God.

All baptized Christians, regardless of age or denomination, are invited to receive the bread and wine. Come up the center aisle to receive the Eucharist at the altar rail. Return to your pew using the side aisle. If you prefer to receive a blessing, please let the clergy know by crossing your arms in front of you at the altar. The chalice will be offered to all. If you prefer not to receive, you may choose to reverently acknowledge the presence of Christ in the wine, while the minister says, "The blood of Christ, the cup of salvation."

MUSIC AT COMMUNION

"Ode to Peace" St. Peter's Children's Choir Based on the finale from Beethoven's Ninth Symphony in D minor, Opus 125; original words and melody by Jill Gallina

"The Little Drummer Boy"

St. Peter's Children's Choir

COMMUNION HYMN: "The First Nowell" (Hymn 109)



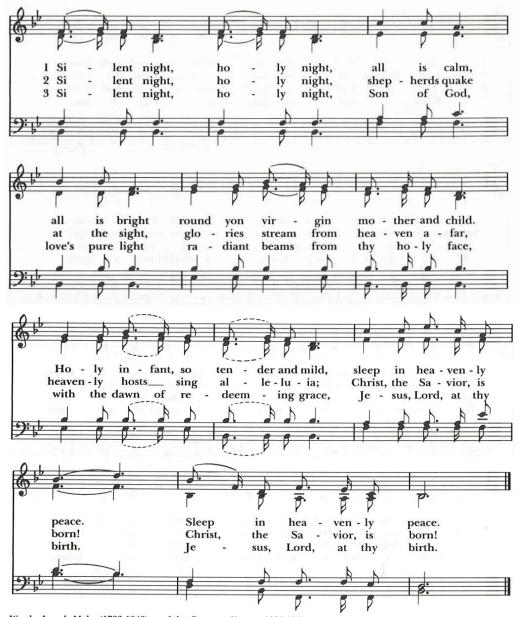


Music: The First Nowell, English carol, 17th cent.; harm. John Stainer (1840-1901)

Irr. with Refrain

The lights dim. The People light their candles as they return to their pews for the singing of "Silent Night."





Words: Joseph Mohr (1792-1848); tr. John Freeman Young (1820-1885) Music: *Stille Nacht*, melody Franz Xaver Gruber (1787-1863); harm. Carl H. Reinecke (1824-1910)

Irr.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

All 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.

THE CHRISTMAS BLESSING

May Almighty God, who sent his Son to take our nature upon him, bless you in this holy season, scatter the darkness of sin, and brighten your heart with the light of his holiness. **Amen.**

May God, who sent his angels to proclaim the glad news of the Savior's birth, fill you with joy, and make you heralds of the Gospel. **Amen.**

May God, who in the Word made flesh joined heaven to earth and earth to heaven, give you his peace and favor. Amen.

And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever. **Amen.**

Please stand.

CLOSING HYMN: "Joy to the World!" (Hymn 100)



Words: Isaac Watts (1674-1748), alt. Music: Antioch, George Frideric Handel (1685-1759); adapt. and arr. Lowell Mason (1792-1872) CM with Repeat

THE DISMISSAL

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

People Thanks be to God.

Intercessor: Mark Colbert Lay Eucharistic Ministers: Kim Kilgore, Kelsey Aebi Livestream / Audio: John Trieber Acolytes: Eleanor Crowe, Madison Wolford, Lillian Wolford Ushers: Aaron Wells, William Spurlock

The Open Offering is for the Mission & Ministry of St. Peter's Church.

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The flowers on the Altar are given to the Glory of God

And in Loving Memory of

Conde & Jamie Alday by Kathy Alday The Rev. Dr. Ralph L. Carnes by The Rev. Dr. Valerie Carnes The Rev. & Hon. Sam Payne by The Rev. Dr. Valerie Carnes The Rev. Walter JRR Thomas by The Rev. Dr. Valerie Carnes John W. Edde by Jeanne Edde John William Batterham Lindsey and Jimme Lee Lindsey by Pete & Anne Garland Alexander Bonnyman Garland and Willetta Ball Garland by Pete & Anne Garland Alice "Dallie" Pinegar by Pete & Anne Garland Pamela Kaye Greene by James & June Glass Chief Justice Muecke Barker by Tom & Kathy Greenholtz Max Bahner by Tom & Kathy Greenholtz Ray Hannah by the Hannah Family Dr. Sue C. Cox by Jaye & Susan Harris Glen Harris, Sr. by Jaye & Susan Harris Jim & Jackie Hunt by Jaye & Susan Harris Tucker Hunt by Jaye & Susan Harris Tami Collier by Fonda & Patty Harwell John E. & Neely Harwell by Fonda & Patty Harwell Jack & Sara Payne by Fonda & Patty Harwell Edward S. James by Bill James Clarence & Loretta Kazmier by Fred & Joani Koch Priscilla Koch by Fred & Joani Koch My loving nephew, John Sellman, by Mary Alice Northern Marie Middleton Orman by Jack Shannon Orman Ralph Cox by Jenks & Harriett Parker Nola Kennedy by Jenks & Harriett Parker William Mabry by Jenks & Harriett Parker Alice Parker by Jenks & Harriett Parker Mr. & Mrs. Fain Parker by Jenks & Harriett Parker John Parker by Jenks & Harriett Parker Ann Swafford by Jenks & Harriett Parker Cathey Lowe Higgins by Carolyn Payne Frances Lowe by Carolyn Payne Richard Lowe by Carolyn Payne Ernestine Cunningham Payne by Carolyn Payne The Rev. Sam Payne by Carolyn Payne

Julia Reilly Fields by Mary Jane Reilly George & Jean Riefler by Rachel Riefler Gladys Riefler by Rachel Riefler Jack & Marion McDaniel by Rachel Riefler Wanda Sharp and Roy Van Allen by Bonnie Rodgers Bob & Judy Boehme, Papa Cody & Eloise Smith, and Tom Toussaint by Josh & Cyndie Smith Charles & Shirley Topping by their sons and their families A.J. & Louisa, Bernard & Flossie, Charlie & Dot, Charlie & Marylynn, Jack & Margaret The Rev. Hallie D. Warren, Jr.

And in Honor of

Alexandra, Madison, and Mason Bixler by David Bixler Our family by John & Debbie Bonner Duncan by Jaye & Susan Harris Jack & Victoria by Jaye & Susan Harris Riley, Melissa, Aaron, Jaxx, Aurora, Piper and Lillie by Jaye & Susan Harris Carter Paden by Fonda & Patty Harwell Nancy Cope James by Bill James Ryan, Betsy, Emily, and Caroline Gentzler by Frank & Gail Pinchak Sathish & Katie Chandra by Frank & Gail Pinchak The Rev. F. Quinn Parman IV by Frank & Gail Pinchak Sharilyn Toussaint by Josh & Cyndie Smith Jaclynn, Mac, and Trey & Bridget Dixie Warren

And in Thanksgiving for

Augusta, Hartley, Odin, and Oliver by Betsy Beckham The people of St. Peter's Church by Allen & Tina Chambers James & June Glass by Tom & Kathy Greenholtz St. Peter's Church staff by Jaye & Susan Harris Our children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren by Fonda & Patty Harwell Bill Kazmier by Fred & Joani Koch My children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren by Jack Shannon Orman Our grandchildren by William & Sarah Orman The Very Rev. John H. Bonner III by Jenks & Harriett Parker My children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren by Carolyn Payne St. Peter's Episcopal School by Frank Pinchak Carly, Will, and Hollis Berry; Cody, Blair, and Eloise Smith by Josh & Cyndie Smith

The wreaths in the Nave are given to the Glory of God

And in Loving Memory of

My mother, Janet Fassinger, by Susan Crawford John William Batterham Lindsey & wife, Jimmie Lee Lindsey, by Pete & Anne Garland Jack & Sara Payne and John & Neely Harwell by Fonda & Patty Harwell Tami Collier by Fonda & Patty Harwell Jimmy & Susie Lynch and Arthur & Alma Dutton by Alan Baird & Cassandra Lynch Calvin Baird and Wanda Ingalls by Alan Baird & Cassandra Lynch Mapes Painter and Betty Painter Radford by Barbara Painter James L. "Bucky" Wolford by Diane Wolford

And in Honor of

Lois Baird by Alan Baird & Cassandra Lynch

And in Thanksgiving for

Hank and Jessie Long by Kirt & Chassie Long Our grandchildren by Bill & Sarah Orman My family by Jack Shannon Orman The people of St. Peter's Episcopal Church & School by the Parman Family The St. Peter's Altar Guild and Flower Guild by Sarah Poole Our family by Chip & Rena Stansbury

> The Nativity pieces displayed at the Altar and in the Narthex are a gift to the glory of God from Jack Shannon Orman.

We wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!