



GRACE CHAPEL

ROCKVILLE
WADMALAW ISLAND
SOUTH CAROLINA
THE DIOCESE OF SOUTH CAROLINA



THE FEAST OF THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD
CHRISTMAS EVE
DECEMBER 24, 2022
4:00 P.M.

Grace Chapel

Holy Eucharist, Rite I

Welcome to Grace Chapel Rockville, SC,

Page numbers on the right side of this leaflet refer to the Book of Common Prayer. Hymn numbers are on the left side; numbers preceded by 'S' are from the Service Music at the front of the Hymnal.

Prelude

Breakforth, O Beauteous Heav'ly Light

J.S. Bach

Aria (from the Christmas Oratorio)

J.S. Bach

The Shepherd's Farewell Hector Berlioz arr. by D.W. Solomons

Behold, a Rose is Blooming J. Brahms arr. by M. Mericharek

O Come, O Come, Immanuel arr. by W. Ryden

Rise Up, Shepherd, And Follow arr. by W. Ryden

Processional Hymn

O come, all ye faithful

Adeste Fideles

1. O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant,
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;
come and behold him, born the King of angels;

Refrain

O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him,
Christ the Lord.

2. God from God, Light from Light eternal,
lo! he abhors not the Virgin's womb;
only begotten Son of the Father;

(Refrain)

3. Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,
sing, all ye citizens of heav'n above;
glory to God, glory 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 WORD OF GOD

Please stand

The Acclamation and Response

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

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

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

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

Celebrant: The glory of the Lord has been revealed:

People: *And all flesh shall see the salvation of our God.*

Gloria

Angels we have heard on high

1. Angels we have heard on high,
sweetly singing o'er the plains,
and the mountains in reply
echoing their joyous strains.

Refrain:

Gloria in excelsis Deo,
gloria in excelsis Deo.

2. Shepherds, why this jubilee?
Why your joyous strains prolong?
What the gladsome tidings be
which inspire your heav'nly song? **(Refrain)**

3. Come to Bethlehem and see
him whose birth the angels sing;
come, adore on bended knee
Christ the Lord, the newborn King. **(Refrain)**

4. See him in a manger laid,
whom the angels praise above;
Mary, Joseph, lend your aid,
while we raise our hearts in love. **(Refrain)**

Please be seated.

The Collect for The Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: *And with thy spirit.*

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 thee and the Holy Spirit he liveth and reigneth, one God, in glory everlasting. *Amen.*

The First Reading: Isaiah 9:2-7

Reader: A reading from the Prophet Isaiah.

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.

People: *Thanks be to God.*

Hymn

O Little town of Bethlehem

St. Louis

1. O little town of Bethlehem,
how still we see thee lie!
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep
the silent stars go by;
yet in thy dark streets shineth
the everlasting Light;
the hopes and fears of all the years
are met in thee tonight.

2. How silently, how silently,
the wondrous Gift is given!
So God imparts to human hearts
the blessings of his heaven.
No ear may hear his coming,
but in this world of sin,
where meek souls will receive him, still
the dear Christ enters in.

3. O holy Child of Bethlehem,
descend to us, we pray;
cast out our sin and enter in,
be born in us today.
We hear the Christmas angels
the great glad tidings tell;
O come to us, abide with us,
our Lord Emmanuel!

The Second Reading: Titus 2:11-14

Reader: A reading from the letter to Titus.

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.

People: *Thanks be to God.*

Please stand.

- | | |
|---|---|
| <p>1. Joy to the world! the Lord is come:
let earth receive her King;
let every heart prepare him room,
and heaven and nature sing,
and heaven and nature sing,
and heaven, and heaven and nature sing.</p> | <p>2. Joy to the world! the Savior reigns;
let us our songs employ,
while fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains
repeat the sounding joy,
repeat the sounding joy,
repeat, repeat the sounding joy.</p> |
| <p>3. 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.</p> | |

The Holy Gospel: Luke 2:1-20

Celebrant: 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.

Celebrant: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: *Praise to you, Lord Christ.*

Please be seated.

The Sermon

A period of silent reflection is kept.

Please stand.

The Nicene Creed

The Prayers of the People

Confession of Sin and Absolution

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Celebrant: Let us humbly confess our sins unto Almighty God.

Celebrant and People:

Almighty God,
Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
maker of all things, judge of all men:
We acknowledge and bewail our manifold sins and wickedness,
which we from time to time most grievously have committed,
by thought, word, and deed, against thy divine Majesty,
provoking most justly thy wrath and indignation against us.
We do earnestly repent,
and are heartily sorry for these our misdoings;
the remembrance of them is grievous unto us,
the burden of them is intolerable.
Have mercy upon us,
have mercy upon us, most merciful Father;
for thy Son our Lord Jesus Christ's sake,
forgive us all that is past;
and grant that we may ever hereafter
serve and please thee in newness of life,
to the honor and glory of thy Name;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

The Peace

Celebrant: The Peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: *And with thy spirit.*

THE HOLY COMMUNION

Offertory

The Coventry Carol

Traditional English

The Great Thanksgiving

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Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: *And with thy spirit.*

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

People: *We lift them up unto the Lord.*

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

People: *It is meet and right so to do.*

Sanctus

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The people kneel or stand.

The Celebrant continues.

The Lord's Prayer *(said together)*

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The Breaking of the Bread

Celebrant: Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

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

Prayer of Humble Access

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Invitation to Communion

The Communion of the People

The congregation is invited to sing the Communion Hymns.

Communion Hymn

Charles Towe Flute Quartet

I wonder as I wander

J.J. Niles arr. by C. Bissett

Communion Hymn

Away in a manger

Cradle Song

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

2. The cattle are lowing,
the baby awakes,
the little Lord Jesus
no crying he makes,
I love thee, Lord Jesus!
Look down from the sky,
and stay by my side
until morning is nigh.

3. Be near me, Lord Jesus,
I ask thee to stay,
close by me for ever,
and love me I pray.
Bless all the dear children
in thy tender care,
and fit us for heaven
to live with thee there.

The Postcommunion Prayer

Hymn

Silent night

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Stille Nacht

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,
heavenly 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 thy holy face,
with the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord at thy birth.
Jesus, Lord, at thy birth.

The Christmas Blessing

Recessional Hymn

Hark! the herald angels sing

Mendelssohn

1. Hark! the herald angels sing
Glory to the newborn King;
Peace on earth and mercy mild,
God and sinners reconciled:
Joyful all ye nations rise,
Join the triumph of the skies,
With the angelic host proclaim,
Christ is born in Bethlehem.
Hark! the herald angels sing
Glory to the newborn 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 the incarnate Deity!
Pleased as man with man
to dwell,
Jesus, our Emmanuel.
Hark! the herald angels sing
Glory to the newborn King.

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 man no more may die,
Born to raise the sons of earth,
Born to give them second birth.
Hark! the herald angels sing
Glory to the newborn King.

The Dismissal

Celebrant: Go in peace to love and serve the newborn Christ.

People: *Thanks be to God.*

Postlude

Ding Dong Merrily on High

arr. by K. Agioritis

Service Participants

Celebrant

The Reverend Canon Calhoun Walpole

Readers

Mike McShane

Zach Hyleman

Chalice Bearers

Ryan Stonaker

Rebecca Hyleman

Music

Anne Warf

The Charles Towne Flute Quartet

Elaine Caine

Susan Farrell

Carley Lewis

Richard Show

Ushers

Riley Bradham

David Maybank

A CHRISTMAS NOTE FROM THE VICAR

And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us...full of grace and truth."

Merry Christmas!

Christmas is more than a feeling. Christmas is reality and security to which we can grasp all year long—

in darkness or in sunlight,
in cold and dampness or in heat and humidity,
in happy times as well as sad,
in the good and in the bad,
in an unsteady and confusing world of change and calamity,
even and especially when we might vainly clamor for certainty. Through it all, our God is with us.

Christ is born to Mary. God becomes flesh of our flesh, bone of our bone, rendering us never to be alone. God our Creator and Redeemer is with us, Jesus Christ our Savior—who comes to us as a little child, a baby born in a stable with the animals and laid in a manger.

May we become like that little child we, too, once were, so close to God and heaven; may our wonder be restored and renewed as we receive anew Christ our Lord.

In the words of Christina Rossetti:

*Christmas hath darkness
Brighter than the blazing noon,
Christmas hath a chillness
Warmer than the heat of June,
Christmas hath a beauty
Lovelier than the world can show:
For Christmas bringeth Jesus,
Brought for us so low.*

Yours,
Callie

"Christ comes now, in his Nativity, as a Little One. The gifts he brings are not little. The treasures he bestows are not little. Christ our Lord is a fountain that can never be exhausted."

-Bernard of Clairvaux

"God not only created matter; in Incarnation, God became material."

-Will Willimon

"God's way to draw us back to the real aim of our existence is a strange way. He comes to live with us, as one of us, in utter humility...This humility is to be the source of our new life. Our nourishment lies in the animal trough. This is the bread of life."

-Jane Williams

The Episcopal Church Welcomes You.



ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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The Reverend Canon Calhoun Walpole, Vicar
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David H. Maybank, Jr., Senior Warden
Michael G. McShane, Junior Warden
Anne-Clark Cromwell, Parish Administrator

Thank you for your gifts.
Please make checks payable to St. John's Episcopal Church.

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A Place of Peace,
A Place of Prayer,
A Place of Care,
A Place for All.

ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
REGULAR SERVICE TIMES:
SUNDAYS - 8:00 AM & 10:30 AM
TUESDAYS - 12:00 PM

YOUR CONTACT INFORMATION

Please be sure that we have your contact information, either by providing it here and placing it in the alms basin or contacting the office at 843-974-5593.

Name _____ D.O.B. _____

Address: _____

Email Address: _____ Phone: _____