



ST. THOMAS
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

CHRISTMAS EVE

DECEMBER 24, 2022

Holy Eucharist
8:00pm

*The Word was made flesh; full of grace and truth, he lived among us. From his fullness
we all have received gift upon gift of his love, alleluia.*

-Morning prayer, Roman rite.



*Merry Christmas!
Welcome to St. Thomas Episcopal Church!*

Whether you are joining us for the first time or have been a member for decades, you are welcome here. Whether you find yourself full of faith or questioning, you are welcome here. Whether your partner or parent dragged you to church, or you dragged your kids or partner back to church with you, you are welcome here. Whether you worship virtually or in person, you are welcome here. Whether you've come with a crying baby finding her voice or find yourself an empty nester, you are welcome here. Sinner and Saint, rich and poor, binary and non-binary, churchgoer and golfer, you are welcome here!

We are grateful that you chose to join us to celebrate the Nativity of our Lord Jesus Christ! The story of Christmas is God's great love story for you and for me. It is a story about a God who creates us out of and for love, and never gives up on us, even when we turn away from God's love. It is a story about a God who will continue to pursue the human family, risking it all, until we are found by God's love through the wonder of a newborn King.

On this holy night, "when the soul felt its worth," may you would feel cherished by the One who makes this grand gesture just for you. May you be swept up into God's unfolding story of salvation, and see how all things are being made possible through the coming of this newborn King.

*Come, let us go to Bethlehem to behold this newborn King!
Come, let us behold this newborn Savior, and be held by His love for us!
Come, let us go, and adore Him!*

PRELUDE

Christmas Fantasy for Organ & Brass
O Holy Night

Joel Raney
Adolphe Adam

At the sound of the bell, all rise as able and sing.

HYMN AT THE PROCESSION

1 O come, all ye faith - ful, joy - ful and tri - um - phant, O
 2 God from God, Light from Light e - ter - nal,
 3 Sing, choirs of an - gels, sing in ex - ul - ta - tion,
 *4 See how the shep - herds, sum - moned to his cra - dle,
 *5 Child, for us sin - ners poor and in the man - ger,

1 come ye, O come ye to Beth - le - hem;
 2 lo! he ab - hors not the Vir - gin's womb;
 3 sing, all ye ci - ti - zens of heaven a - bove;
 4 leav - ing their flocks, draw nigh to gaze;
 5 we would em - brace thee, with love and awe;

1 come, and be - hold him, born the King of an - gels;
 2 on - ly - be - got - ten Son of the Fa - ther;
 3 glo - ry to God, glo - ry in the high - est;
 4 we too will thith - er bend our joy - ful foot - steps;
 5 who would not love thee, lov - ing us so dear - ly?

Refrain

O come, let us a - dore him, O come, let us a -
 dore him, O come, let us a - dore him, Christ the Lord.

6 Yea, Lord, we greet thee,
 born this happy morning;
 Jesus, to thee be glory given;
 Word of the Father,
 now in flesh appearing;

Refrain

The Hymnal 1982, 83, John Francis Wade (1711-1786); tr. Frederick Oakeley (1802-1880) and others; Adeste fideles



OPENING ACCLAMATION

Presider Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
All And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever.

SONG OF PRAISE

1 Joy to the world! the Lord is come: let earth re -
 2 Joy to the world! the Sa - vior reigns; let us our
 *3 No more let sins and sor - rows grow, nor thorns in -
 4 He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the

ceive her King; let ev - ery heart pre - pare him room, and
 songs em - ploy, while fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains, re -
 fest the ground; he comes to make his bless - ings flow far
 na - tions prove the glo - ries of his right - eous - ness, and

heaven and na - ture sing, and heaven and na - ture
 peat the sound - ing joy, re - peat the sound - ing
 as the curse is found, far as the curse is
 won - ders of his love, and won - ders of his

1 and heaven and na - ture sing, and
 2 re - peat the sound - ing joy, re -
 3 far as the curse is found, far
 4 and won - ders of his love, and

sing, and heaven, and heaven and na - ture sing.
 joy, re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.
 found, far as, far as the curse is found.
 love, and won - ders, won - ders of his love.

heaven and na - ture sing,
 peat the sound - ing joy,
 as the curse is found,
 won - ders of his love,

COLLECT OF THE DAY

Presider The Lord be with you.

All **And also with you.**

Presider 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 may be seated.

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

THE FIRST READING

A Reading from the Prophet Isaiah (9:2-7)

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 Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

All **Thanks be to God.**

CAROL

1 An - gels we have heard on high, sing - ing sweet - ly through the night,
 2 Shep - herds, why this ju - bi - lee? Why these songs of hap - py cheer?
 3 Come to Beth - le - hem and see him whose birth the an - gels sing;
 4 See him in a man - ger laid whom the an - gels praise a - bove;

and the moun - tains in re - ply ech - o - ing their brave de - light.
 What great bright - ness did you see? What glad tid - ings did you hear?
 come, a - dore on bend - ed knee Christ, the Lord, the new - born King.
 Ma - ry, Jo - seph, lend your aid, while we raise our hearts in love.

Refrain

Glo - - - - - ri - a

in ex - cel - sis De - o. Glo - - - - -

- - - - - ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o.

The Hymnal 1982, 96; © Edward Shippen Barnes; Sources: French carol; tr. James Chadwick (1813-1882), alt. Tune Name: Gloria

THE SECOND READING

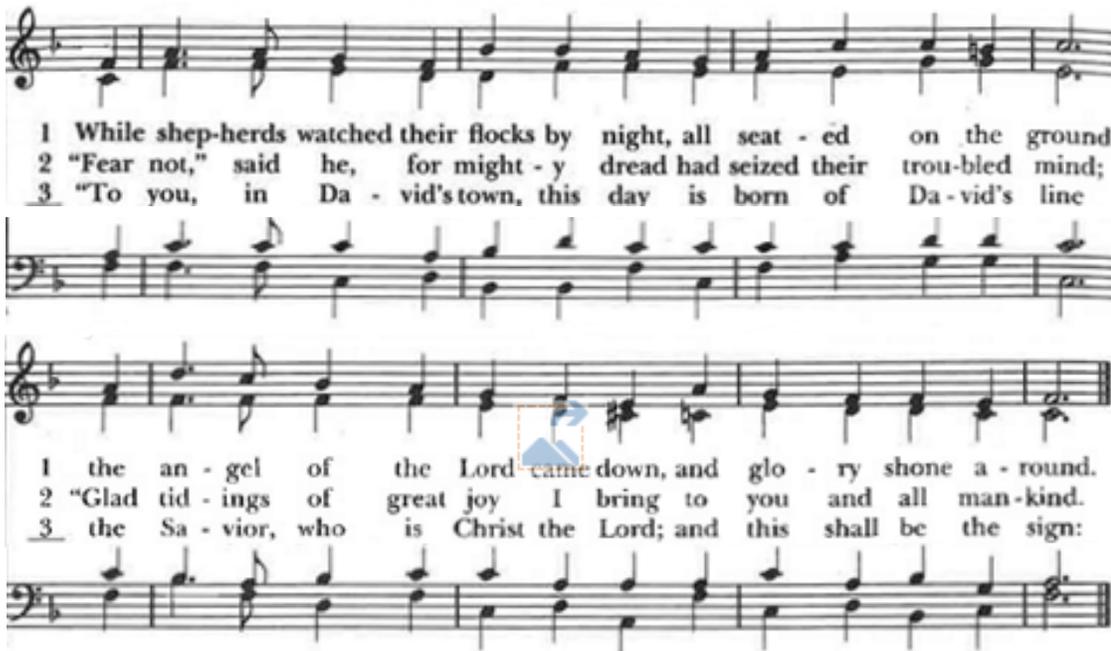
A Reading from the Book of Titus (3:4-7)

When the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared, he saved us, not because of any works of righteousness that we had done, but according to his mercy, through the water of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit. This Spirit he poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior, so that, having been justified by his grace, we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life.

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

All Thanks be to God.

THE SEQUENCE HYMN



1 While shep-herds watched their flocks by night, all seat - ed on the ground
2 "Fear not," said he, for might - y dread had seized their trou-bled mind;
3 "To you, in Da - vid's town, this day is born of Da - vid's line

1 the an - gel of the Lord came down, and glo - ry shone a - round.
2 "Glad tid - ings of great joy I bring to you and all man-kind.
3 the Sa - vior, who is Christ the Lord; and this shall be the sign:

Hymnal 1982, 9; Music: Descant by permission of Novello and Company Limited. Words: © Hymns Ancient and Modern; Craig Stellar; Nahum Tate (1625-1715)



THE GOSPEL

Reader The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke (2:1-20):

All **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.

Reader The Gospel of the Lord.

All **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

All are seated.

All rise, as able.

THE NICENE CREED

All 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 PEACE

Presider The peace of the Lord be always with you.

All And also with you.

Then the Ministers and People may greet one another in the name of the Lord.

All are seated.

ANNOUNCEMENTS



THE LITURGY OF THE TABLE

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Unto Us a Child is Born

David Willcocks



All rise as able and sing.

THE PRESENTATION HYMN

1 An - gels, from the realms of glo - ry, wing your flight o'er
2 Shep - herds in the field a - bid - ing, watch - ing o'er your
3 Sa - ges, leave your con - tem - pla - tions; bright - er vi - sions
4 Saints be - fore the al - tar bend - ing, watch - ing long in

all the earth; ye, who sang cre - a - tion's sto - ry,
flocks by night, God with you is now re - sid - ing;
beam a - far; seek the great De - sire of na - tions;
hope and fear, sud - den - ly the Lord, de - scend - ing,

Refrain
now pro - claim Mes - si - ah's birth:
yon - der shines the in - fant Light: come and wor - ship,
ye have seen his na - tal star:
in his tem - ple shall ap - pear:

come and wor - ship, wor - ship Christ, the new - born King.

The Hymnal 1982, 93; Source: James Montgomery (1771-1854), alt. Regent Square.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Presider The Lord be with you.

All And also with you.

Presider Lift up your hearts.

All We lift them to the Lord.

Presider Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All It is right to give God thanks and praise.

Presider

It is truly right to glorify you, Father, and to give you thanks; for you alone are God, living and true, dwelling in light inaccessible from before time and for ever.

Fountain of life and source of all goodness, you made all things and fill them with your blessing; you created them to rejoice in the splendor of your radiance.

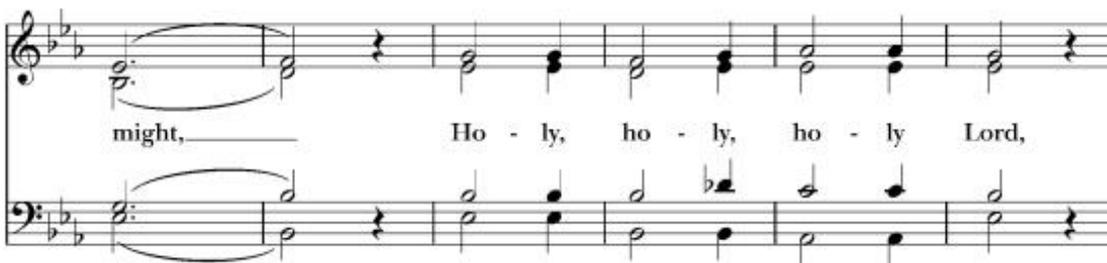
Countless throngs of angels stand before you to serve you night and day; and, beholding the glory of your presence, they offer you unceasing praise. Joining with them, and giving voice to every creature under heaven, we acclaim you, and glorify your Name, as we sing:

All sing.

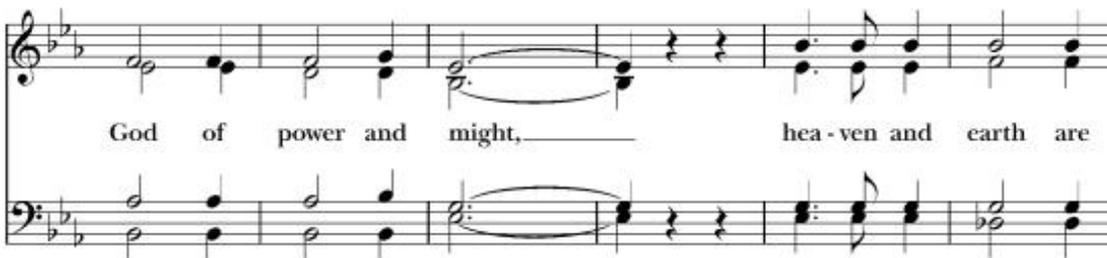
SANCTUS & BENEDICTUS



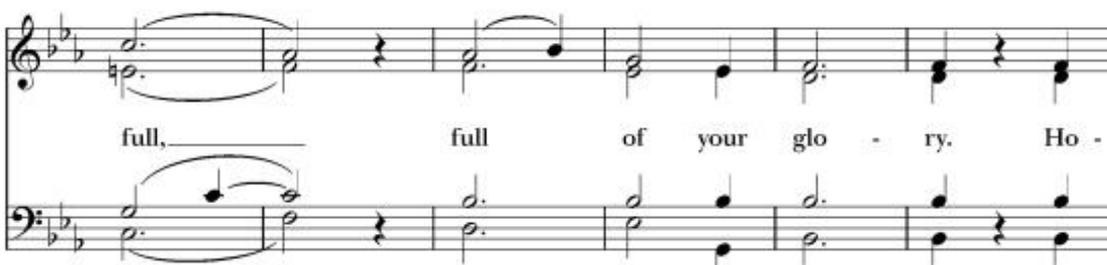
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and



might, Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord,



God of power and might, hea - ven and earth are



full, full of your glo - ry. Ho -

san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na
in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes
in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na
in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Hymnal 1982, S 130, Music: Robert Powell (b. 1932) Copyright: Setting: Copyright © Church Publishing, Inc.

Presider

We acclaim you, holy Lord, glorious in power. Your mighty works reveal your wisdom and love. You formed us in your own image, giving the whole world into our care, so that, in obedience to you, our Creator, we might rule and serve all your creatures. When our disobedience took us far from you, you did not abandon us to the power of death. In your mercy you came to our help, so that in seeking you we might find you. Again and again you called us into covenant with you, and through the prophets you taught us to hope for salvation.

God, you loved the world so much that in the fullness of time, you sent your only Son to be our Savior. Incarnate by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, he lived as one of us, yet without sin. To the poor he proclaimed the good news of salvation; to prisoners, freedom; to the sorrowful, joy. To fulfill your purpose he gave himself up to death; and rising from the grave, destroyed death, and made the whole creation new.

And, that we might live no longer for ourselves, but for him who died and rose for us, he sent the Holy Spirit, his own first gift for those who believe, to complete his work in the world, and to bring to fulfillment the sanctification of all.

When the hour had come for him to be glorified by you, his heavenly Father, having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end; at supper with them he 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."

Father, we now celebrate the memorial of our redemption. Recalling Christ's death and his descent among the dead, proclaiming his resurrection and ascension to your right hand; awaiting his coming in glory; and offering to you, from the gifts you have given us, this bread and this cup, we praise you and we bless you.

All **We praise you, we bless you,
we give thanks to you,
and we pray to you, Lord our God.**

Presider Lord, we pray that in your goodness and mercy your Holy Spirit may descend upon us, and upon these gifts, sanctifying them and showing them to be holy gifts for your holy people, the bread of life and the cup of salvation, the Body and Blood of your Son Jesus Christ.

Grant that all who share this bread and cup may become one body and one spirit, a living sacrifice in Christ, to the praise of your Name.

Remember, Lord, your one holy catholic and apostolic Church, redeemed by the blood of your Christ. Reveal its unity, guard its faith, and preserve it in peace.

Remember, Michael, our Presiding Bishop; Greg our Bishop and all who minister in your Church.

Remember all your people, and those who seek your truth.

Presider

Remember those in need of healing and comfort: **Mary, Laurie Jean, Aaron, John, Roger, Charlie, Jim, John, Mary Jane, Mike, Marella and children, Frank, Ruth, Nancy and David, Kathy, Catherine, Kim, Peter and family, Larry, Rich, Dodie, Bill, Anita, Greg, Jeannie, and Marian.**

Remember all who have died in the peace of Christ, especially **Pete, Jack, Paul, Robin, Ann, Betty, and Clifford.**

And those whose faith is known to you alone; bring them into the place of eternal joy and light. And grant that we may find our inheritance with the Blessed Mary, Blessed Thomas, and all the saints who have found favor with you in ages past. We praise you in union with them and give you glory through your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, all honor and glory are yours, Almighty God and Father, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, for ever and ever.

***All* Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Presider

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.
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 bread is broken.

FRACTION ANTHEM

Je - sus, Lamb of God: have mer - cy on us.

Je - sus, bear - er of our sins: have mer - cy on us.

Je - sus, re - deem - er, re - deem - er of the world:

give us your peace, give us your peace.

The Hymnal 1982, S 164, © Richard Proulx, Music: From Deutsche Messe, Franz Peter Schubert (1797-1828); arr. Richard Proulx (b. 1937)



INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Presider The Gifts of God for the People of God.

All may be seated for the time of Communion. Ushers will invite each row forward to the altar. Bread and wine will be distributed at the three standing stations in front of the altar. If you wish to receive a blessing instead of the Eucharist, please cross your arms in front of your chest. Intinction (dipping the bread in the wine) is not available at this time. If you do not wish to drink from the common cup, please cross your arms in front of your chest as you reverence the chalice, and then return to your seat. The full grace of the sacrament is received with only the bread.

COMMUNION MUSIC

Choral Fantasy on Old Carols

Gustav Holst

Ave Maria

Franz Schubert

Jesus Christ the Apple Tree

Elizabeth Poston

All rise as able.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Presider Let us pray.

***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.**

CANDLE LIGHTING

You are invited to light your candle during Silent Night. An usher will come to your pew and light the first candle in the pew. Help spread the light of Christ by lighting your neighbor's candle. But please, don't spread the light of Christ by lighting your neighbor's hair on fire. Yes, we have seen this happen before!

Si - lent night, ho - ly night, all is calm,
 Si - lent night, ho - ly night, shep - herds quake
 Si - lent night, ho - ly night, Son of God,

all is bright round yon vir - gin mo - ther and child.
 at the sight, glo - ries stream from hea - ven a - far,
 love's pure light ra - diant beams from thy ho - ly face,

Ho - ly in - fant, so ten - der and mild, sleep in hea - ven - ly
 heaven - ly hosts— sing al - le - lu - ia; Christ, the Sa - vior, is
 with the dawn of re - deem - ing grace, Je - sus, Lord, at thy

peace. Sleep in hea - ven - ly peace.
 born! Christ, the Sa - vior, is born!
 birth. Je - sus, Lord, at thy birth.

The Hymnal 1982, 111, © John F. Young, Carl H. Reinecke; Sources: Joseph Mohr (1792-1848); tr. John Freeman Young (1820-1885); Stille Nacht

Please extinguish your candle at the conclusion of the hymn.

THE BLESSING

Presider May Christ, who by his Incarnation gathered into one things earthly and heavenly, fill you with his joy and peace; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always.

All Amen.

All sing.

HYMN AT THE CLOSING

1 Hark! the her - ald an - gels sing glo - ry to the new - born King!
2 Christ, by high - est heaven a - dored; Christ, the ev - er - last - ing Lord;
3 Mild he lays his glo - ry by, born that we no more may die,

Peace on earth and mer - cy mild, God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled!
late in time be - hold him come, off - spring of the Vir - gin's womb.
born to raise us from the earth, born to give us sec - ond birth.

Joy - ful, all ye na - tions, rise, join the tri - umph of the skies;
Veiled in flesh the God - head see; hail the in - car - nate De - i - ty.
Risen with heal - ing in his wings, light and life to all he brings,

with the an - gel - ic host pro - claim Christ is born in Beth - le - hem!
Pleased as man with us to dwell; Je - sus, our Em - man - u - el!
hail, the Sun of Right - eous - ness! hail, the heaven - born Prince of Peace!

Refrain
Hark! the her - ald an - gels sing glo - ry to the new - born King!

THE DISMISSAL

Presider Let us bless the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

The Trumpet Shall Sound

G.F. Handel



2022 Christmas Flowers are given to the glory of God by...

| | |
|-----------------------------|---|
| Robin & Gerda Middleton | <i>In thanksgiving for 60 years of marriage.</i> |
| The Niermeyer Family | <i>In memory of Mary Friedlander & Bruce Niermeyer.</i> |
| Laurie and Jerry Angelo | <i>In thanksgiving for our family and the St. Thomas community.</i> |
| Fred & Molly McConkey | <i>In thanksgiving for our St. Thomas Parish community.</i> |
| Claude, Chris & Kate Rogers | <i>In memory of Anne Rogers.</i> |
| Jerry & Jackie Livingston | <i>In memory of Cindi Livingston Warberg.</i> |
| Gregg & Tera Soelter | <i>To the glory of God.</i> |
| Mary Ann Hooper | <i>In memory of Dr. Donald Hooper.</i> |
| Laura Scheyer | <i>In loving memory of Zelda M. Scheyer.</i> |
| Ruthlyn Stephan | <i>In memory of Marc Stephan.</i> |
| The Katri Family | <i>In thanksgiving for blessings received.</i> |
| Jean Haehl | <i>In loving memory of Russell Haehl.</i> |
| Mary Pneuman | <i>In memory of Fred Pneuman.</i> |



 **ST. THOMAS**
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

COMING UP IN JANUARY

See what we have in store!

Have questions about St. Thomas?
Reach out!

Mother Liz, Liz@stthomasmedina.org (Church Life)
Lisalynn, Lisalynna@stthomasmedina.org (Children's Ministry)
Beret, Beret@stthomasmedina.org (Youth Ministry)
Doug, Dougc@stthomasmedina.org (Choral Arts)

JANUARY 8th **Baptism Day**

Interested in being baptized or having your child baptized? Inquire by emailing Mother Liz (Liz@stthomasmedina.org) to sign-up!

JANUARY 11th **Wonder-full Wednesdays Resume**

Join us for a wonderful evening of worship, dinner, formation and fellowship.

5:30pm Children's Choir
6:00pm Worship
6:15pm Dinner
7:00pm Adult Formation
7:30pm Adult Choir

JANUARY 22nd **Newcomer Welcome**

New to St. Thomas, or ReNewing your engagement? Join us for coffee and fellowship after the 8 and 10 o'clock services (there will be games and PRIZES!) There will also be a special formation hour at 9am to learn more about parish life at St. Thomas and how you can participate. Email office@stthomasmedina.org to RSVP.

JANUARY 22nd **Evensong**

At 4:00pm, we invite you to come and hear the St. Thomas choir sing beautiful choral music including the Magnificat and Nunc dimittis by Charles V. Stanford.

Refreshments will be provided immediately following the service!

SERVING TODAY

The Rev. Elizabeth (Liz) R. Costello

Preaching & Presiding



The Rev. Christie Demura, Episcopalian priest

The Rev. Jonathan Siehl, Presbyterian pastor

Assisting Clergy



Doug Cleveland

Director of Music



Carter Chorlton

Soprano



Charles Robert Stephens

Baritone



St. Thomas Choir



Daniel Baker

Vince Caruso

Charlie Fix

Ian Newhall

Brass Quartet



Jim Blundell

Timpani
