

CHRIST CHURCH *Cathedral*



Photo by Tim Hamilton

The Nativity and Incarnation
of Our Lord
The Celebration of The Holy Eucharist
25 December 2021
11:00 a.m.

Be Here, Be You, Be Loved

Welcome to Christ Church Cathedral!
A Blessed and Joyous Christmas to all.

We welcome congregational singing! Please remain masked and sing!

Land Acknowledgment from the Diocese of Missouri

We respectfully recognize and acknowledge that we are on traditional, ancestral lands of the Osage Nation. The process of acknowledging the land we stand on is a way of accepting our complicity in a process of colonization that removed the Osage people from their ancestral lands. We also make this acknowledgment to affirm our commitment to stand with indigenous communities today as they seek justice and resist continued threats to their sovereignty and humanity.

We are also cognizant that we cannot separate the history of the Episcopal Church from the history of colonialism and slavery in the United States. Four hundred plus years ago, the first enslaved Africans were brought to the Americas. We acknowledge the legacy of slavery in this area, and the blood, sweat, and tears of enslaved people that soak the earth beneath our feet in Missouri. This legacy persists today as we continue to work towards racial justice, equity, liberation, and community, here in Missouri and across the Episcopal Church.

The Celebration of the HOLY EUCHARIST

Opening Voluntary

PROCESSIONALHYMN 107 *please stand as you are able*

In dulci jubilo

1 Good Chris - tian friends, re - joice with heart and soul and voice;
 2 Good Chris - tian friends, re - joice with heart and soul and voice;
 3 Good Chris - tian friends, re - joice with heart and soul and voice;

give ye heed to what we say: Je - sus Christ is born to - day;
 now ye hear of end - less bliss; Je - sus Christ was born for this!
 now ye need not fear the grave: Je - sus Christ was born to save!

ox and ass be - fore him bow, and he is in the man - ger now.
 He hath o - pened hea - ven's door, and we are blest for ev - er - more.
 Calls you one and calls you all to gain his ev - er - last - ing hall.

Christ is born to - day! Christ is born to - day!
 Christ was born for this! Christ was born for this!
 Christ was born to save! Christ was born to save!

Words: John Mason Neale (1818-1866), alt. Music: *In dulci jubilo*, German carol, 14th cent.; harm. Charles Winfred Douglas (1867-1944) Copyright © The Church Pension Fund. All rights reserved. Used with permission.

THE OPENING ACCLAMATION

Officiant Behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy which shall be to all people.
For to you is born this day in the city of David, a Savior, which is Christ the Lord.

People: Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Collect for Purity

Officiant Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid:

People Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, so that we may truly love you, and worthily praise your holy name; through our Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.

THE SONG OF PRAISE: 96, v. 1

Gloria

1 An - gels we have heard on high, sing - ing sweet - ly through the night,
and the moun-tains in re - ply ech - o - ing their brave de - light.

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

The musical score is written for voice and piano. It features a key signature of one flat (B-flat) and a common time signature. The score is divided into several systems, each with a vocal line and a piano accompaniment line. The lyrics are placed below the vocal line. The first system contains the opening lines of the song. The second system continues the lyrics. The third system is marked 'Refrain' and features a melodic line with a long note value for the word 'Gloria'. The fourth and fifth systems continue the refrain and conclude with the words 'in excelsis Deo'.

Officiant God is with you.

People: And also with you.

Officiant Let us pray.

Collect of the Day

Radiant God, with our eyes we have seen your salvation, and in this meal we have feasted on your grace. May your Word take flesh in us, so that we may be your holy people, revealing your glory made known to us in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen. *Evangelical Lutheran Worship (2006) alt.*

We HEAR the SACRED STORIES

THE FIRST READING

Please be seated.

Isaiah 52:7-10

How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of the messenger who announces peace, who brings good news, who announces salvation, who says to Zion, "Your God reigns." Listen! Your sentinels lift up their voices, together they sing for joy; for in plain sight they see the return of the Lord to Zion. Break forth together into singing, you ruins of Jerusalem; for the Lord has comforted his people, he has redeemed Jerusalem. The Lord has bared his holy arm before the eyes of all the nations; and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.

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

People **Thanks be to God.**

THE PSALM OF THE DAY: Psalm 98 *Prayed responsively by half verse*

Sing to the Lord a new song, *

for he has done marvelous things.

With his right hand and his holy arm *

has he won for himself the victory.

The Lord has made known his victory; *

his righteousness has he openly shown in the sight of the nations.

He remembers his mercy and faithfulness to the house of Israel, *

and all the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.

Shout with joy to the Lord, all you lands; *

lift up your voice, rejoice, and sing.

Sing to the Lord with the harp, *

with the harp and the voice of song.

With trumpets and the sound of the horn *

shout with joy before the King, the Lord.

Let the sea make a noise and all that is in it, *

the lands and those who dwell therein.

Let the rivers clap their hands, *

and let the hills ring out with joy before the Lord, when he comes to judge the earth.

In righteousness shall he judge the world *

and the peoples with equity.

THE SECOND READING

Hebrews 1:1-12

Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets, but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, through whom he also created the worlds. He is the reflection of God's glory and the exact imprint of God's very being, and he sustains all things by his powerful word. When he had made purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs. For to which of the angels did God ever say, "You are my Son; today I have begotten you"? Or again, "I will be his Father, and he will be my Son"? And again, when he brings the firstborn into the world, he says, "Let all God's angels worship him." Of the angels he says, "He makes his angels winds, and his servants flames of fire." But of the Son he says, "Your throne, O God, is forever and ever, and the righteous scepter is the scepter of your kingdom. You have loved righteousness and hated wickedness; therefore God, your God, has anointed you with the oil of gladness beyond your companions." And, "In the beginning, Lord, you founded the earth, and the heavens are the work of your hands; they will perish, but you remain; they will all wear out like clothing; like a cloak you will roll them up, and like clothing they will be changed. But you are the same, and your years will never end."

Reader Hear what the Holy Spirit is saying to the Church.

People **Thanks be to God.**

1 It came up - on the mid - night clear, that
 2 Still through the clov - en skies they come with
 3 Yet with the woes of sin and strife the
 4 For lo! the days are haste - ning on, by

glo - rious song of old, from an - gels bend - ing
 peace - ful wings un - furled, and still their heaven - ly
 world has suf - fered long; be - neath the heaven - ly
 pro - phets seen of old, when with the ev - er -

near the earth to touch their harps of gold:
 mu - sic floats o'er all the wea - ry world;
 hymn have rolled two thou - sand years of wrong;
 cir - cling years shall come the time fore - told,

“Peace on the earth, good will to men, from
 a - bove its sad and low - ly plains they
 and war - ring hu - man - kind hears not the
 when peace shall o - ver all the earth its

heaven's all - gra - cious King.” The world in sol - emn
 bend on hov - ering wing, and ev - er o'er its
 tid - ings which they bring; O hush the noise and
 an - cient splen - dors fling, and all the world give

still - ness lay to hear the an - gels sing.
 Ba - bel - sounds the bless - ed an - gels sing.
 cease your strife and hear the an - gels sing!
 back the song which now the an - gels sing.

THE PROCLAMATION OF THE GOSPEL: John 1:1-18

Deacon The Holy Gospel of our Savior 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 our Savior.

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

THE HOMILY

The Very Rev. Kathie Adams-Shepherd, Dean

THE NICENE CREED (Expansive Liturgies, ECUSA) Please *stand*

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:

was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human.

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, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,

who 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

Deacon Let us name before God those for whom we offer our prayers.

The people silently or audibly name those for whom they are interceding.

Leader My sisters, brothers and siblings in the peace of God, all the gifts we shall give and receive in these days are but small tokens of the gift that shines forth in God's word made flesh this day. From grateful hearts let us intercede for all who find themselves longing for the deepest, truest gift, saying: Savior, hear our prayer.

Leader That the peace proclaimed by angels in the shepherds' field might be realized on every field of war and on every street of violence, let us pray to Christ.

People **Savior, hear our prayer**

Leader That the child born to us might find in our hearts warm welcome by our openness to the needs of those experiencing shelter insecurity and the hungry, let us pray to Christ.

People **Savior, hear our prayer**

Leader That the joy and consolation of the Wonderful Counselor might enliven all who are touched by illness, danger, or grief, especially those experiencing anxiety and fear, all in this country, those effected by natural and human-caused disasters, Dana, Jeremy, Mark, Jess, John, Lonza, Ramona, Shelley, Scott, Mary, Steve, Karen, Robert, Eagle, Adele, Betsy, Durie, all in prison and their families, all Healthcare professionals and workers including Audrey, Bradley, Ira, Justin, Lauren, Lore, Logan, Phil, Susan; those seeking meaningful employment, all experiencing economic, healthcare, food and shelter insecurity, all those affected by gun violence and violence and oppression in all forms, let us pray to Christ.

People **Savior, hear our prayer**

Leader That the blessed hope we celebrate this day might be the fulfillment of all who have gone before us in faith, especially Rev. Darwood Kesselmeyer, all those lost to gun violence, especially those 224 lives taken by gun violence in St. Louis in 2021 and all who die at the hand of another or by their own hand, and our friends and loved ones in whose loving memory the Christmas flowers have been given and those for whom the Christmas plants and decorations have been offered in honor and thanksgiving, let us pray to Christ.

People **Savior, hear our prayer**

All **God of incarnation and silence, you have pierced the quiet of this day by the utterance of your word in our flesh. May our words of praise and petition be strong echoes of your Christmas word, so that all might come to the peace you promise in Jesus, who is Savior and God this day and forever. Amen.**

THE CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION

Deacon Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor. *Silence is kept.*

All **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.**

Officiant Our loving God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through the grace of Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

THE PEACE

Officiant The peace of Christ be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

WELCOME, ANNOUNCEMENTS & OFFERTORY SENTENCES FROM THE DEAN\

THE OFFERTORY HYMN: 101 *Please stand as you are able.*

Cradle Song



1 A - way in a man-ger, no crib for his bed,
2 The cat - tle are low - ing, the ba - by a - wakes,
* 3 Be near me, Lord Je - sus; I ask thee to stay

the lit - tle Lord Je - sus laid down his sweet head.
but lit - tle Lord Je - sus no cry - ing he makes.
close by me for ev - er, and love me I pray.

The stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay,
I love thee, Lord Je - sus! Look down from the sky,
Bless all the dear chil - dren in thy ten - der care,

the lit - tle Lord Je - sus a - sleep on the hay.
and stay by my side un - til morn - ing is nigh.
and fit us for hea - ven to live with thee there.

Words: Traditional carol Music: *Cradle Song*, melody William James Kirkpatrick (1838-1921); harm. Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958) Copyright © by permission of Oxford University Press. All rights reserved. Used with permission.

Doxology Hymn 380, v.3

Old Hundredth

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God, above, ye heavenly host: praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.*

GATHERING AT CHRIST'S TABLE

THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER: **The Great Thanksgiving** *Prayer B, Expansive text*

Celebrant God is 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 thanks and praise.**

Celebrant: It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Almighty God, 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 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 offer this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Sanctus

Richard Proulx

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Please 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 Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh.

For in these last days you sent Jesus to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In Christ, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In Christ, 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 Savior 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 Jesus 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 all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, according to his command O God:

All **We remember Christ's death,
We proclaim Christ's resurrection,
We await Christ's coming in glory;**

Celebrant And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Savior 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 in the sacrifice of Jesus Christ, through whom we are acceptable to you, 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 children; through Jesus Christ our Savior, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, now and for ever. **AMEN.**

Celebrant And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to pray,

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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

The bread is now broken. Silence is kept.

Celebrant Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

People **Therefore, let us keep the feast! Alleluia!**

Celebrant Behold what you are.

People **May we become what we receive.**

THE INVITATION

Celebrant: The gifts of God for the people of God.

The Celebrant may add:

So come you who have been here often and you who have not been here in a long time. You who are full of faith or full of doubt. You who have tried to follow Jesus and you who have failed. Come, it is Christ who invites us to meet him here.

Communion is administered at the direction of the Priest

Those participating at home may, if they wish, say this prayer during the time of Communion:

Lord of the Feast, we thank you for gathering us as your people. We call to remembrance the many times we have been fed at your table and we lament our distance now. Be present Lord Jesus as you were present with your disciples, be known to us in the breaking of the bread, and may your Holy Spirit sustain us and all your Church until we can gather together again. We ask this for the sake of your love. Amen.

THE POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER *Please stand.*

Celebrant God is with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

All **Eternal God, Heavenly Creator, 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

Celebrant May the Incarnate One, who sent the Son to take on our nature, bless you in this holy season, scatter the darkness of sin, and brighten your heart with the light of holiness. **Amen.**

May the eternal One, who sent the angels to proclaim the glad news of the Savior's birth, fill you with joy, and make you heralds of the Good News of God's love. **Amen.**

May the Outrageously Loving One, who in the Word made flesh joined heaven to earth and earth to heaven, give you blessed peace and everlasting hope. **Amen.**

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

Refrain

Go tell it on the moun - tain, o - ver the hills and
 ev - ery - where; go tell it on the moun - tain, that
 Je - sus Christ is born! 1 While shep - herds kept their
 2 The shep - herds feared and
 3 Down in a low - ly
 watch - ing o'er si - lent flocks by night, be -
 trem - bled when lo! a - bove the earth rang
 man - ger the hum - ble Christ was born, and
 hold, through - out the hea - vens there shone a ho - ly light.
 out the an - gel cho - rus that hailed our Sa - vior's birth.
 God sent us sal - va - tion that bless - ed Christ - mas morn.

Repeat Refrain

Words: Afro-American spiritual, 19th cent.; adapt. John W. Work (b. 1901) Music: *Go Tell It on the Mountain*, Afro-American spiritual, 19th cent.; arr. Horace Clarence Boyer (b. 1935) Copyright ©1984, Horace Clarence Boyer. All rights reserved. Used with permission.

The Dismissal

Deacon Go in peace. Go in hope. Go in love. Go in the Name of the Incarnate One! Alleluia!
People **Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

Liturgical Ministers

Preacher & Celebrant at the Table: The Very Rev. Kathie Adams-Shepherd, Cathedral Dean

Officiant & Assisting Priest: The Rev. Dave Malek, Curate

Deacon: The Rev. Dcn. Susan Naylor

Head Verger: Laura Rose

Acolyte: Br. Sam Kincade

Lector/Intercessor: Debbie Nelson Linck

Organist & Choirmaster: Canon Precentor William Partridge

Musicians: Lea Zelaya, Patrick Zelaya, Tom Dinan

Digital Moderators: Rob Good, Justin Martin

Altar Guild: Wardwell Buckner

Sunday, December 26

8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist Rite I

10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist Rite II

Merry Christmas!

The Cathedral Christmas decorations have been given

In memory of...

Mary Haracevech and Jennie Rickard, by Pat and Mike Rohan

Elizabeth and John Perchard, Robert and Phyllis Shepherd, Raymond and Hilda Thorne, Benjamin Andrew Wheeler, by Dean Kathie and Shep Adams-Shepherd

Harry and Patty Mayfield, by Jane Mayfield

In honor of...

The Altar Guild, by Wardwell Buckner

Bishop Deon and the Diocesan Staff by the Dean and the CCC Staff

Sarah and Myles Adams-Shepherd, by Dean Kathie and Shep Adams-Shepherd

The tremendous work done by the Cathedral staff. Thanks for all you do. It is appreciated! By Kevin Supple and Eagle Quint

In thanksgiving for...

The clergy, lay staff, Chapter and Congregation of Christ Church Cathedral, by Dean Kathie and Shep Adams-Shepherd

Canon Precentor Pat Partridge's forty years of dedicated service as organist and choirmaster at Christ Church Cathedral, by Tim and Grace Hamilton

Kathie Adams-Shepherd, Alice Stanley, Annette Carr and Christ Church Cathedral, by Jane Mayfield

And by...

Thom and Lore Gross

Rob and Kim Good

Lisa Gould

Earl and Susan Naylor

Mary DeHahn

Cathedral Contact Information

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www.christchurchcathedral.us