



*Worship Booklet for Christmas Day*  
*Friday, December 25, 2020, 10:00 am*  
*=== Christmas Day Service with Full Eucharist, via Facebook ===*  
**THE ORDER OF SERVICE**

**Introduction** – Rev. Dr. Lois Williams

**The Word of God**

**Opening Hymn** – Hymnal #83, "O Come All Ye Faithful," v. 1 & 6

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

Verse 6:

Yea, Lord, we greet thee,  
born this happy morning;  
Jesus, to thee be  
glory given;  
Word of the Father,  
now in flesh appearing;  
O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him,  
Christ, the Lord.

**Opening Acclamation**

Presider      Blessed be God: Creator, Redeemer, and Holy Spirit.  
*People*      ***And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.***

Presider      I bring you good news of great joy for all people; to you is born this day in the  
city of David a Savior, Christ the Lord.      *Luke 2:10-11*

**Advent Wreath Candle Lighting Liturgy** *From Discipleship Ministries, United Methodist Church*  
For Christmas Day – The Christ Candle

*Reader:*      Advent hope moves us . . .  
Advent love leads us . . .  
Advent joy stirs us . . .  
Advent peace stills us, that we might affirm our King Jesus.  
It is time we set flame to this Advent affirmation by lighting the Christ Candle.  
Let us say together:

**All**            **We believe that Jesus is the Son of God. He was born of the Virgin Mary in  
Bethlehem of Judea. He was the long-awaited Messiah whose coming was  
prophesied. The same Jesus lives today in our hearts. He deserves our  
highest loyalty and total commitment. In Jesus Christ our hope is fulfilled;  
our love is consummated; our joy is complete; and our peace is sealed.**

*Reader:*      Rejoice, a Savior is born!

**All**            **A Savior is born, indeed! Joy to the world!**

**The Collect of the Day**    *From Planning for Rites and Rituals 2020-2021*

Presider        Let us pray together:

**Almighty God, you have given your only-begotten Son to take our nature upon him, and to be born this day of a pure virgin: Grant that we, who have been born again and made your children by adoption and grace, may daily be renewed by your Holy Spirit; through our Lord Jesus Christ, to whom with you and the same Spirit be honor and glory, now and forever. Amen.**

**The Lessons**

The First Reading: The Old Testament – Isaiah 52:7-10

*Reader:*

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 Spirit is saying to God's people.

***People        Thanks be to God.***

Psalm: Psalm 98    *Cantate Domino*

*Reader:*

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: The Epistle – Hebrews 1:1-4

*Reader:*

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.

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

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

**\*Gradual -- Celtic Alleluia**

*After a brief introduction, sing two times through*

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!  
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Text: Fintan O'Carroll and Christopher Walker  
Music: Fintan O'Carroll and Christopher Walker  
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**The Gospel – John 1:1-14**

Presider The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to John.

**People** *Glory to you, O 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.

Presider        The Gospel of our Savior.

*People        Praise to you, O Christ.*

**The Sermon** – Rev. Lois

**The Nicene Creed**    *From the Book of Common Prayer*

**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 of 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 and the Son.  
With the Father and the Son he is worshipped 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 forward to the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

**Prayers of the People for Christmastide** – *From www.rickmorley.com; The Reverend Rick Morley is rector at St. Mark's Episcopal Church in Basking Ridge, NJ.*

*Reader:* Let us pray to God, who came among us in the birth of Jesus:

Gracious God, as a star rose, and drew people from great distances to Bethlehem that they might greet the Christ-child; Draw us, your Church, and all of your people to you – that we might be the Church and the People who you call us to be.

Lord, in your mercy,

**People** *Hear our prayer.*

*Reader:* As you gave Mary your Holy Spirit, filling her with the delight of your Presence; Fill us with your Spirit, and renew our lives.

Lord, in your mercy,

**People** *Hear our prayer.*

*Reader:* As Gentiles streamed to Jesus' Light, and Kings to the brightness of his rising; Draw our nation, our President, and all in authority, to His brightness.

Lord, in your mercy,

**People** *Hear our prayer.*

*Reader:* As angels sang 'glorias' to you and proclaimed peace on earth, and goodwill among all peoples; Bring us your peace, and bring an end to all terror and strife.

Lord, in your mercy,

**People** *Hear our prayer.*

*Reader:* As shepherds were drawn away from their flocks by night; Draw those who do not know you yet to the knowledge and love of you.

Lord, in your mercy,

**People** *Hear our prayer.*

*Reader:* As Jesus was born in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn; Be especially present with those who have nowhere to lay their head, those who are vulnerable, and those who are hungry.

Lord, in your mercy,

**People** *Hear our prayer.*

*Reader:* As the Holy Family gathered together in Bethlehem, and traveled together to far off lands; Bless all families, especially the families of our parish, and protect those who travel.

Lord, in your mercy,

***People*** ***Hear our prayer.***

*Reader:* As your Son came to proclaim the forgiveness of sins, and the gift of Life Eternal; Give to the departed eternal rest and let light perpetual shine on them.

Lord, in your mercy,

***People*** ***Hear our prayer.***

*Reader:* Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.

*We observe silence during the service at this time so you may add your individual prayers. Know that they are heard spiritually by all, as whenever two or more are gathered, even virtually, God is present.*

*Celebrant:* O Lord our God, may the Light and Hope of this season, and of your Son's Incarnation, reassure our hearts that you are among us, that you hear our prayer, and that you will be with us always, even to the end of the age. In the name of Jesus of Nazareth we pray. ***Amen.***

## **Invitation to The Holy Communion**

### **The Offertory Sentence**

*Presider* Yours, Jesus Christ, is the greatness, the power, the glory, the victory, and the majesty. For everything in heaven and on earth is yours. Let us with gladness make our offerings.

### **The Doxology**

**All** **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. Amen.**

*Reader:* Holy God, you call us to be made holy, to be made in your image. We trust in your generosity, and so are free to be generous ourselves, opening our hearts and sharing our treasure freely. Bless the gifts that have been made in support of Christ the Lord Church and our community, thereby giving to the work of your church in our world. ***Amen.***

### **Eucharistic Prayer** *From the Australian Prayer Book*

*Presider* The Lord be with you.

***People*** ***And also with you.***

*Presider* Lift up your hearts.

***People*** ***We lift them to the Lord.***

Presider Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
*People It is right to give God thanks and praise.*

Presider It is right to praise you, faithful God, always and everywhere,  
for with your only begotten Son and life-giving Spirit,  
You are the one true God from everlasting to everlasting.

At the dawn of time you wrought from nothing a universe of beauty and splendor,  
bringing light from darkness and order from chaos. You formed us, male and  
female, in your image, and endowed us with creative power. We turned away  
from You but you did not abandon us. You called us by name and searched us  
out, making a covenant of mercy, giving the law and teaching justice by the  
prophets.

And so we praise you, joining with your faithful people of every time and place,  
speaking the eternal song:

**\*Sanctus**

**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.**

Presider When the fullness of time was come, you sent your Son to be born of Mary.  
Bright image of your glory, he learnt obedience to you in all things, even to death  
on a cross, breaking the power of evil, freeing us from sin, and putting death to  
flight. You raised him from death, exalting him to glory, and the new day  
dawned.

On the night he was betrayed your Son Jesus Christ shared food with his friends,  
his companions on the way. While at table he took bread, blessed, and broke it,  
and giving it to them, said: "Take, eat: this is my body."

He took a cup of wine and giving thanks, he gave it to them and said, "This is my  
blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many. Do this in remembrance of  
me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died.  
Christ is risen.  
Christ will come again.**

Therefore, living God, as we obey his command, we remember his life of  
obedience to you, his suffering and death, his resurrection and exaltation, and his  
promise to be with us for ever and ever. With this bread and this cup we celebrate  
his saving death until he comes again.

Accept we pray, our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, and send your Holy  
Spirit upon us and our celebration that all who eat and drink at this table may be  
strengthened by Christ's body and blood to serve you in the world.

As one body and one holy people, may we proclaim the everlasting gospel of Jesus Christ our Lord, through whom, with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all glory is yours, eternal God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

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

*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** *After a short silence, the following is said:*

Presider Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

**People** *Therefore, let us keep the feast.*

Presider The gifts of God for the people of God.

You may participate at home by taking your prepared hosts at this time if you so desire.

**Prayer of Thanksgiving** *The Presider and People pray together*

**God of heaven, dwelling among us,  
we thank you for feeding us with this holy food.  
By your grace keep us ever faithful  
to your Word made flesh  
that, as his body in the world,  
we may bring your presence to all people. Amen.**

**Presider Blessing**

May Christ the Son of God, born of Mary, fill you with his grace and allow you to trust in his promises and bring forth peace for all people, in the Name of the Creator, Redeemer, and Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

**Closing Hymn** – Hymnal #100, "Joy to the World," v. 1 & 4

Verse 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.

Verse 4:

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.



**Dismissal**

Priest  
People

Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit!  
*Thanks be to God! Merry Christmas!*

