

Christmas Eve

4:30PM, December 24, 2021

Welcome! This bulletin will guide you through our worship. Text **in bold** is spoken by everyone. Slides in our worship will help you follow along.

The Liturgy of the Word

Gathering Hymn: *O Come, all ye faithful*

Hymnal #83, verses 1 & 3

**I 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.**

**3. Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation!
O sing, all ye citizens of heav'n above;
Glory to God, all glory in the highest;
O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord.**

Opening Acclamation

Officiant 'Do I not fill heaven and earth?' says the Lord.
All **Now the Word is made flesh and laid in a narrow manger.**
Officiant From eternity to eternity you are God,
All **and now we see you as a newborn child.**

Lighting of the Advent & Christmas Candles

The four Advent candles and the Christmas candle are lit during these words.

Reader People of God: shout and sing! Tell the good news of peace on earth.
God, bring us today into Christ's peace. All God's people say, **Amen!**

Reader Angels dance and the bright star shines. All creation bows to the Lord of all.
God, bring us today into Christ's light. All God's people say, **Amen!**

Reader One with us, yet born to save, this child will show us the way to God.
God, bring us today into Christ's love. All God's people say, **Amen!**

Reader The God who came among us as a baby, weak and small, will come again in power and glory to save and redeem. God, bring us today into Christ's hope.
All God's people say, **Amen!**

Celebrant God of all ages, in your birth at Bethlehem your boundless love for all people shattered the power of death. Be born in us with that same love and light, that our song may blend with all the choirs of heaven and earth, as we glorify your holy name. **Amen.**

Song of Praise: "Angels we have heard on high"

Hymnal #96, v. 1 & 3

**Angels we have heard on high, singing sweetly through the night,
And the mountains in reply echoing their brave delight.
Gloria, in excelsis Deo! Gloria, in excelsis Deo!**

**Come to Bethlehem and see Christ whose birth the angels sing;
Come, adore on bended knee, Christ the Lord, the newborn King.
Gloria, in excelsis Deo! Gloria, in excelsis Deo!**

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

All **And also with you.**

Celebrant 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. **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.**

Gospel Hymn: "What child is this"

Hymnal #115

**1. What child is this, who, laid to rest, on Mary's lap is sleeping?
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet, while shepherds watch are keeping?
This, this is Christ the King, whom shepherds guard and angels sing;
Haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mary.**

**3. 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.**

The Christmas Gospel

Prepared by some of the children and youth of St. Dunstan's

Hymn: "Silent Night"

**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,
Heav'nly hosts sing Alleluia;
Christ, the Savior is born! Christ, the Savior is born!**

Homily

The Rev. Miranda Hassett

Anthem: "Lo, How a Rose"

The Prayers

Officiant We now enter a time of prayer. You may wish to bow your head, open your hands, or prepare your body for prayer in some other way.

Officiant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Officiant Now, let us pray as God's beloved children, using the prayer Jesus taught us.

Contemporary language:

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your Name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those
who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial,
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and for ever. Amen.**

Traditional language:

**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.**

Gender-neutral (New Zealand, adapted):

**Loving God, may your name be held holy, your
reign spread among us, and your will be done
well.
With the bread we need for today, feed us.
From all the binds and burdens us,
free us and help us free others.
In times of temptation and test, strengthen us.
From trials too sharp to endure, spare us.
From the grip of all that is evil, save us.
For you reign in the glory of the power that is
love, now and forever. Amen.**

Spanish version:

**Padre nuestro que estás en el cielo, santificado sea tu
Nombre,
Venga tu reino, Hágase tu voluntad,
En la tierra como en el cielo.
Danos hoy nuestro pan de cada día.
Perdona nuestras ofensas,
como también nosotros perdonamos a los que
nos ofenden.
No nos dejes caer en tentación y líbranos del mal.
Porque tuyo es el reino, tuyo es el
poder, y tuyo es la gloria,
Ahora y por siempre. Amén.**

The Prayers of the People

The people respond with the text in bold.

Officiant In peace let us pray to the Lord.

In this holy night there was no room for your Son in the inn.

Protect with your love those who have no home, and all who live in poverty.

Holy God,

People **hear our prayer.**

Officiant In this holy night your Christ came as a light shining in the darkness.
Bring comfort to all who suffer in the sadness of our world,
especially those whom we name now, out loud or in our hearts:
The people may name those who are suffering.

Officiant Holy God,
People **hear our prayer.**

Officiant In this holy night the angels sang, 'Peace to God's people on earth.'
Strengthen those who work for peace and justice in our nation and the world.
Holy God,
People **hear our prayer.**

Officiant In this holy night strangers welcomed the Holy Family. Bless our homes and all
those with whom we share our lives, and help us show kindness whenever we can.
Holy God,
People **hear our prayer.**

Officiant In this holy night heaven is come down to earth, and earth is raised to heaven.
Hold in your hand all those who have passed through death in the hope of your
coming kingdom, especially those whom we miss tonight:
The people may name their beloved dead.

Officiant Holy God,
People **hear our prayer.**

Officiant In this holy night Christians the world over celebrate Christ's birth.
Open our hearts that God may be born in us today.
Holy God,
People **hear our prayer.**

Celebrant Loving God, in this holy night angels and shepherds worshipped the newborn
King. Receive the worship we offer in fellowship with Mary, Joseph and the
saints through the One who is your Word made flesh, our Savior Jesus Christ.
Amen.

The Peace

Celebrant Unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given, and his name shall be called the
Prince of Peace. The peace of the Lord be always with you!

All **And also with you!**

Announcements

The Blessing

Celebrant May the joy of the angels, the eagerness of the shepherds, the perseverance of the wise ones, the willingness of Joseph and Mary, and the peace of the Christ-child be yours this Christmas; and the blessing of God the holy and undivided Trinity, the One who creates, befriends, and inspires, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Dismissal

Officiant Go in peace to love and serve the Lord!
People **Thanks be to God!**

Sending Hymn: "Joy To the World" v. 1 & 4

Hymnal #100

**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.**

**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.**