



BETHESDA EPISCOPAL CHURCH
Washington Street near Broadway
Saratoga Springs, New York 12866

THE PARISH STAFF

The Very Reverend Marshall J. Vang
The Reverend Paul F. Evans
Priest
Mr. Landon M. Moore
Mr. Farrell Goehring
Dr. Kathleen Slezak
Mrs. Barbara Latzko
Mr. Robert Bullock

Interim Rector
Assisting

Postulant for Holy Orders
Organist & Director of Music
Choral Director
Parish Administrative Assistant
Verger



THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST
CHRISTMAS EVE at 10:00 P.M.
24 DECEMBER 2016

Parish Telephone: 518-584-5980
<https://www.facebook.com/bethesdaepiscopalchurch>
bethesdachurch.org

Music of the Nativity at 10:00 p.m.

Please switch off all cellular telephones, Blackberries, and other electronic devices. Thank you.

Organ – *A Joyous Carol based on Quittez Pasteurs* Léon Roques (1839-1923)

Carol – *Mary's Lullaby*

See the child that Mary bore
On her lap so softly sleeping,
In a stable cold and poor
Ox and ass their vigil keeping.

Sing lullaby, sing lullaby
My own dear son, my child.
Lullaby, sing lullaby
Lullaby, my little baby.

Flights of angels round his head
Sing him joyful hymns of greeting
Peace on earth, goodwill to men
Each to each the song repeating.

Shepherds kneeling by his bed
Offer homage without measure.
Wise men, by a bright star led
Bring him gifts of richest treasure

Words & Music: John Rutter (b.1945)

Carol – *Come leave your sheep*

Come leave your sheep,
Your ewes with lambs a feeding,
O shepherds, hear
Our message of good cheer;
No longer weep;
The angel tidings heeding,
To Bethlehem haste away!
Our Lord is born this happy day.

He lieth there
within a lowly manger;
An infant poor
He languisheth full sore.

THIS WEEK AT BETHESDA

December 26 - January 1

Monday <i>SAINT STEPHEN, DEACON & MARTYR</i>	<i>Parish Offices will be closed.</i>
Tuesday <i>SAINT JOHN, APOSTLE & EVANGELIST</i>	6:30 p.m. - Holy Eucharist <i>High Altar</i>
Wednesday <i>THE HOLY INNOCENTS</i>	12:10 p.m. - Holy Eucharist with Healing <i>Transcept Altar</i>
Thursday <i>Thomas Becket</i>	
Friday <i>Christmas Weekday</i>	
Saturday <i>Sylvester, Bishop</i>	
Sunday <i>THE HOLY NAME OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST</i>	8:30 a.m. - Morning Prayer <i>Transcept Altar</i> 9:00 a.m. - Holy Eucharist with Hymns <i>High Altar</i>

Given By:

Anne Van Acker

Karen & Craig Walton

*Harry Weinhagen
Nan & David Wilder*

Mary Withington

In Loving Memory Of:

*Robert & Elizabeth Newbury
Alfred & Frances Phillips*

Michael Stockman

*Margaret, Harry & Amanda Weinhagen
Virginia & David Wilder
Lillian & Edward O'Boyle*

*The Rev'd Robert & Kathleen Withington
Betty Withington, Diana Mobley
Frances & Dorothy Wendelglass
Philip & Doris Kautzman*

God's loving care
Hath saved us all from danger
And brought us to his fold;
Now own His faithful love revealed of old.

Ye sages three
Arrayed in royal splendor,
Your homage pay;
a king is born this day.
The star ye see
Its radiance must surrender
Before our Sun most bright;
Your gifts are precious in his sight.

Come Holy Ghost,
Of blessings source eternal,
Our souls aspire
with thy celestial fire;
The heavenly host
Praise the Lord supernal
And sing the peace on earth
God gives us by his holy birth.

Words: Traditional French Carol, English words by John Rutter
Music: John Rutter (b. 1945)

Carol – Angels' Carol

Have you heard the sound of the angel voices
Ringing out so sweetly, ringing out so clear?
Have you seen the star shining out so brightly
As a sign from God that Christ the Lord is here?
Have you heard the news that they bring from heaven
To the humble shepherds who have waited long?

Gloria in excelsis Deo!
Hear the Angels sing their joyful song.

He is come in peace in the winter's stillness,
Like a gentle snowfall in the gentle night;
He is come in joy like the sun at morning
Filling the world with radiance and light.
He is come in love as the child of Mary;
In a simple stable we have seen his birth.

Gloria in excelsis Deo!
Hear the Angels singing 'Christ is born'.

He will bring new light to a world in darkness,
Like a bright star shining in the skies above;
He will bring new hope to the waiting nations
When he comes to reign in purity and love.
Let the earth rejoice at the Savior's coming;
Let the heavens answer with the joyful morn.

Gloria in excelsis Deo!
Hear the Angels singing 'Christ is born'.

Words & Music: John Rutter (b.1945)

Carol – In the Bleak Midwinter

In the bleak midwinter,
frosty wind made moan,
earth stood hard as iron,
water like a stone;
snow had fallen, snow on snow,
snow on snow,
in the bleak midwinter,
long ago.

Enough for him, whom cherubim,
worship night and day,
a breast full of milk,
and a manger full of hay,
Enough for him, who angels,
fall down before,
the ox and ass and camel,
which adore.

Given By:

Janet Longe

Marcia MacDonald

Audrey & Paul Parobeck

Lynne Priestley

Carol Simek

Holly & Robert Sofarelli

Eleanor & Cliff Stevens

Shauna M. Sutton

Barbara Tasso

In Loving Memory Of:

*Frederick Longe, Fanny Longe,
Beatrice Longe, Patrick Longe,
Ida Crawford, Percy Crawford,
Sandra Miles, Michal Matthews*

Henry "Jerry" MacDonald

*Arthur & Dorothy Pfeiffer
Paul & Anna Parobeck*

*Ray Priestley
Madeline Stewart
John & Emilie Becher
Raymond & Anna Priestley
Tom Connor*

David J. Simek

*Joe & Francis Sofarelli
John & Wanda Walter*

*George & Helen Duval
Kenneth & Ethel Wilcox*

*William H. Sutton, Sr.
Cornelia May Sutton
Minna Jane Sutton
William H. Sutton, Jr.
Muriel Armer Sutton
George Hodgson, Sr.
May Sutton Hodgson
Fred H. Hodgson
Rod O. Sutton
Albert M. & Elizabeth M. Chandler*

*Anthony Tasso
Nell & Gene Tasso
Julia & Andrew Tykwinski*

CHRISTMAS COMMEMORATIONS 2016

In Thanksgiving for
The Incarnation of Our Lord
and for
The People of Bethesda Church
by The Very Rev'd Marshall J. Vang
Daryle Dinal

The Aumbrey Candle is given in memory of
Ray Priestley
and
Madeline Stewart

Given By:

Jane Agee

Kathleen & Mark Anspach

Audrey J. Ball

Sharon & Gordon Boyd

Helen & Lewis Bruce

Anita E. Harding

Nancy Hawthorne
David Hawthorne

Pam Houde

Jean Huber

In Loving Memory Of:

William Hugh Agee

Loved Ones

Edward Ball

Alfred & Etheldreda Boyd
Lewis Midgley Walker

Nickolas Sciartelli
Nellie B. Bruce

Margaret & Roy Funderburk

Grace & John Hawthorne

Gary Houde ,Clarence Pickard
Laura Pickard, Lance Pickard
James Norton

Adelaide Peters

Our God, heaven cannot hold him
nor earth sustain;
heaven and earth shall flee away
when he comes to reign:
in the bleak midwinter
a stable place sufficed
the Lord God incarnate,
Jesus Christ.

Words: Christiana Rossetti (1872)
Music: Harold Darke (1888-1976)

Carol – *What Sweeter Music*

What sweeter musick can we bring
Than a Caroll, for to sing
The Birth of this our heavenly King?
Awake the Voice! Awake the String!

Dark and dull night, flie hence away,
And give the honour to this Day,
That sees December turn'd to May.

We see Him come, and know him ours,
Who with His Sunshine, and His showers.
Turnes all the patient ground to flowers.

The Darling of the world is come,
And fit it is, we find a roome
To welcome Him. The nobler part
Of all the house here, is the heart,

Words: John Herrick (1591-1674)
Music: John Rutter (b.1945)

What can I give him,
poor as I am?
If I were a shepherd,
I would bring a lamb;
if I were a wise man,
I would do my part;
yet what I can I give him,
give my heart .

Why does the chilling Winter's morne
Smile, like a field beset with corne?
Or smell like a Meadow newly-shorne,
Thus, on the sudden? Come and see
The cause, why things thus fragrant be:

'Tis He is borne, whose quickning Birth
Gives life and luster public mirth,
To Heaven, and the under-Earth.

Which we will give Him; and bequeath
This Hollie, and this Ivie Wreath,
To do him honour; who's our King,
And Lord of all this Revelling.

Recitative And there were shepherds in the same country,
abiding in the field,
keeping watch by night over their flock.
And lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them,
and the glory of the Lord shone about them,
and they were sore afraid.
And the angel said to them, Be not afraid,
Behold, for I bring good tidings of great joy,
which shall be to all the people.
For unto you this day a Savior is born,
which is Christ the Lord, in the city of David.

All stand as the Sacred Ministers and acolytes enter the church.

Chorale Break forth, O beauteous heavenly light,
And usher in the morning;
Ye shepherds, shrink not with afright,
But hear the angel's warning.
This Child, now weak in infancy,
Our confidence and joy shall be,
The power of Satan breaking,
Our peace eternal making.

Words: *Luke 2:8-11*, Johann Rist (1641)
Music: J.S. Bach (1685-1750)

Hymn [27]

1. Hark, the herald-angels sing
Glory to the new-born 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 new-born King.
2. Christ, by highest heaven adored,
Christ, the everlasting Lord,
Late in time behold him come,
Offspring of the 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 new-born King.
3. 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.
Risen with healing in his wings,
Light and life to all he brings
Hail, the Sun of Righteousness.
Hail, the heaven-born Prince of Peace:
Hark, the herald-angels sing
Glory to the new-born King.

Words: Charles Wesley, alt. (1739)
Music: *Mendelssohn*; adopted from a chorus by Felix Mendelssohn (1840)

Organ – *In Dulci Jubilo*

J.S. Bach (1685-1750)

The Priests of Bethesda would be honored and privileged to bring the Blessed Sacrament to those unable to attend the liturgies of Our Lord's Nativity. Please telephone the Parish Office to make arrangements.

The Concluding Rite

Celebrant Let us pray.

All kneel. The Celebrant continues

God our Father, in this night you have made known to us again the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ: confirm our faith and fix our eyes on him until the day dawns and Christ the Morning Star rises in our hearts. To him be glory both now and for ever. *Amen*

The Celebrant now bestows

The Blessing

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. *Amen.*

All stand.

Deacon Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

All now sing this

Solemn Eucharist *at 10:30 p.m.*

The Entrance Rite: The Great Procession

The Celebrant greets the people as follows

Dear friends: As we gather here to celebrate the birth of Christ, let us pray that God will bless us, that all who worship his Son, born of the Virgin Mary, may come to share his life in glory.

Deacon Let us go forth in peace.

Choir and People In the Name of Christ. *Amen.*

All now sing this

Hymn [12]

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 of God, Light of Light,
Lo! he abhors not the Virgin's womb;
Very God, begotten, not created; *Refrain*
3. Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,
Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above;
Glory to God in the highest; *Refrain*

Station at the Creche

Celebrant The Word was made flesh and dwelt among us:
Choir and People And we beheld his glory.
Celebrant Let us pray.

O God our Creator, to restore our fallen race you spoke the effectual word, and the Eternal Word became flesh in the womb of the Blessed Virgin Mary: Mercifully grant that as he humbled himself to be clothed with our humanity, so we may be found worthy in him, to be clothed with his divinity; who lives and reigns for ever and ever. *Amen.*

Prayers of Penitence

Celebrant

Christ the light of the world has come to dispel the darkness of our hearts. In his light let us examine ourselves and confess our sins.

The people kneel. Silence is kept for a space.

Celebrant God our Father, you sent your Son, full of grace and truth:
forgive our failure to receive him.

Choir and People Lord, have mercy.

Celebrant Jesus our Savior, you were born in poverty and laid in a manger: forgive our greed and rejection of your ways.

Choir and People Christ, have mercy.

Celebrant Spirit of love, your servant Mary responded joyfully to your call: forgive the hardness of our hearts.

Choir and People Lord, have mercy.

Angel hosts proclaim his glory,
Shepherds humble tribute bring;
Wise men open wide their treasures,
Treasures for an infant king. *Refrain*

Born to be a king forever,
Born to reign on David's throne;
But for now a child most helpless,
Needing comfort, warmth and home. *Refrain*

Words & Music: Cyril Johnston (b.1945)

After the ministration of Communion, all kneel and sing this

Hymn [33]

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.

Words: Josef Möhr (1792-1848)

Music: Stille Nacht (Franz Xaver Gruber (1787-1863)

Carol — *Nativity Carol*

Born in a stable so bare,
Born so long ago:
Born 'neath light of star,
He who loved us so.

*Refrain: Far away silent lay
Born to day, you homage pay,
For Christ is born for aye,
Born on Christmas Day.*

Cradled by mother so fair, Wise men from distant far land,
Tender her lullaby; Shepherds from starry hills
Over her son so dear Worship this babe so rare,
Angel hosts fill the sky. *Refrain* Hearts with his warmth he fills. *Refrain*

Love in that stable was born
Into our hearts to flow;
Innocent dreaming babe,
Make me thy love to know. *Refrain*

Words & Music: John Rutter (b.1945)

Carol — *Manger Lullaby*

Mary, look, your baby's sleeping,
Sleeping on his bed of hay;
Mary, look, our Savior's resting,
Resting for another day.

*Refrain: Rock him gently, keep him warm,
Sheltered from the wind and storm;
Mary, look, our Savior's lying
Helpless on his bed of hay.*

Celebrant May the God of all healing and forgiveness draw you to
himself, that you may behold the glory of his Son, the
Word made flesh, and be cleansed from all your sins,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Choir and People *Amen.*

The people stand and the Procession continues, all singing this

Hymn [12]

4. See how the shepherds, summoned to his cradle,
Leaving their flocks, draw nigh to gaze;
We too will thither bend our joyful footsteps; *Refrain*
5. Child, for us sinners poor and in the manger,
We would embrace thee, with love and awe;
Who would not love thee, loving us so dearly? *Refrain*
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*

Words: John Francis Wade (1711-1786), circa 1743;
stanzas 1-3 & 6 trans. Frederick Oakeley (1802-1880), 1841;
stanzas 4 & 6 trans. William Thomas Brooke (1848-1917).
Music: *Adeste fideles* (18th century melody, probably John Francis Wade, 1711-
1786); harmony mainly by William Henry Monk (1823-1889)

The choir now sings

Kyrie eleison

Kyrie eleison. Christe eleison. Kyrie eleison.
Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

Gloria in excelsis

Glória in excelsis Deo
et in terra pax
homínibus bonae voluntátis.
Laudámus te,
benedícimus te,
adorámus te,
glorificámus te,
grátias ágimus tibi
propter magnam glóriam tuam,
Dómine Deus, Rex cæléstis,
Deus Pater omnipotens.
Dómine Fili Unigénite,
Iesu Christe,
Dómine Deus, Agnus Dei,
Fílius Patris,
qui tollis peccáta mundi,
miserére nobis;
qui tollis
peccáta mundi,
súscipe deprecatióem nostram.
Qui sedes
ad dexteram Patris,
miserére nobis.
Quóniam tu solus Sanctus,
tu solus Dóminus,
tu solus Altíssimus,
Iesu Christe,
cum Sancto Spíritu:
in glória Dei Patris.
Amen.

*Glory be to God on high,
and on earth peace,
good will towards men.
We praise thee,
we bless thee,
we worship thee,
we glorify thee,
we give thanks to thee
for thy great glory,
O Lord God, heavenly King,
God the Father Almighty.
O Lord, the only-begotten Son,
Jesus Christ;
O Lord God, Lamb of God,
Son of the Father,
that takest away the sins of the world,
have mercy upon us.
Thou that takes away
the sins of the world,
receive our prayer.
Thou that sittest
at the right hand of God the Father,
have mercy upon us.
For thou only art holy;
thou only art the Lord;
thou only, O Christ,
with the Holy Ghost,
art most high
in the glory of God the Father.
Amen.*

Words: Traditional

Music: *Miss brevis "Rorate coeli desuper"* - Joseph Haydn (1732-1809)

Facing the people, the Celebrant says the following Invitation

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

The Sacred Ministers receive the Sacrament in both kinds, and then immediately deliver it to the people

The Bread and the Cup are given to the communicants with these words

The Body of Christ, the bread of heaven. *Amen.*

The Blood of Christ, the cup of salvation. *Amen.*

During the ministration of Communion, the choir sings the following

Agnus Dei

Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi, miserere nobis.

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.

Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi, miserere nobis.

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.

Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi, dona nobis pacem.

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, grant us thy peace.

Words: Traditional

Music: Haydn

thy Son Jesus Christ, and be filled with thy grace and heavenly benediction; and also that we and all thy whole Church may be made one body with him, that he may dwell in us, and we in him; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord;

By whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Ghost all honor and glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, world without end. *Amen.*

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

Celebrant, Choir, and People

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 Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept.

Then is said

Pascha nostrum

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People *And with thy spirit.*

Celebrant Let us pray.

O God, who hast caused this holy night to shine with the illumination of the true Light: Grant us, we beseech thee, that as we have known the mystery of that Light on earth, so we may also perfectly enjoy him in heaven; where with thee and the Holy Spirit he liveth and reigneth, one God, in glory everlasting. *Amen.*

The Liturgy of the Word

All sit.

The First Lesson – A Reading from the Book of 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. (9:2-7)

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People *Thanks be to God.*

The choir now sings the

Gradual – Cantate Domino

- 1 Sing to the Lord a new song; *
sing to the Lord, all the whole earth.
- 2 Sing to the Lord and bless his Name; *
proclaim the good news of his salvation from day to day.
- 3 Declare his glory among the nations *
and his wonders among all peoples.
- 4 For great is the Lord and greatly to be praised; *
he is more to be feared than all gods.
- 11 Let the heavens rejoice, and let the earth be glad;
let the sea thunder and all that is in it; *
let the field be joyful and all that is therein.
- 12 Then shall all the trees of the wood shout for joy
before the Lord when he comes, *
when he comes to judge the earth.

Words: *Psalm 96:1-4, 11-12*

Music: Anglican Chant, David Hurd (b. 1950)

The Second Lesson – A Reading from the Letter of Paul 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. (2:11-14)

Lector The Word of the Lord.
Choir and People Thanks be to God.

Words: Traditional

Music: Healy Willan (1928)

The people kneel, then the Celebrant continues

All glory be to thee, O Lord our God, for that thou didst create heaven and earth, and didst make us in thine own image; and, of thy tender mercy, didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to take our nature upon him, and to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption. He made there a full and perfect sacrifice for the whole world; and did institute, and in his holy Gospel command us to continue, a perpetual memory of that his precious death and sacrifice, until his coming again.

For in the night in which he was betrayed, he took bread; and when he had given thanks to thee, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take, eat, this is my Body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Likewise, after supper, he took the cup; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, "Drink this, all of you; for this is my Blood of the New Covenant, which is shed for you, and for many, for the remission of sins. Do this, as oft as ye shall drink it, in remembrance of me."

Wherefore, O Lord and heavenly Father, we thy people do celebrate and make, with these thy holy gifts which we now offer unto thee, the memorial thy Son hath commanded us to make; having in remembrance his blessed passion and precious death, his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension; and looking for his coming again with power and great glory.

And we most humbly beseech thee, O merciful Father, to hear us, and, with thy Word and Holy Spirit, to bless and sanctify these gifts of bread and wine, that they may be unto us the Body and Blood of thy dearly-beloved Son Jesus Christ.

And we earnestly desire thy fatherly goodness to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, whereby we offer and present unto thee, O Lord, our selves, our souls and bodies. Grant, we beseech thee, that all who partake of this Holy Communion may worthily receive the most precious Body and Blood of

Eucharistic Prayer II

The people remain standing.

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 unto our Lord God.

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

The Celebrant proceeds

It is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord, holy Father, almighty, everlasting God.

Because thou didst give Jesus Christ, thine only Son, to be born for us; who, by the mighty power of the Holy Ghost, was made very Man of the substance of the Virgin Mary his mother; that we might be delivered from the bondage of sin, and receive power to become thy children.

Therefore with Angels and Archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious Name; evermore praising thee, and saying,

Sanctus & Benedictus qui venit

Celebrant and People

Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Hosts:
Heaven and earth are full of thy glory.
Glory be to thee, O Lord Most High.

Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

All now stand and sing the

Sequence: Hymn [42]

1. Angels we have heard on high
Singing sweetly through the night,
And the mountains in reply
Echoing their brave delight.

Refrain Gloria, in excelsis Deo!
Gloria, in excelsis Deo!

2. Shepherds, why this jubilee?
Why these songs of happy cheer?
What great brightness did you see?
Which glad tidings did you hear? *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*

All now face the Book of Gospels.

The Holy Gospel – Luke 2:1-14

Deacon The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.
People *Glory be to thee, O Lord.*

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!"

Deacon The Gospel of the Lord
People Praise be to thee, O Christ.

Response: Hymn [42]

4. See him in a manger laid,
Whom the choirs praise above;
Mary, Joseph, lend your aid,
While we raise hearts in love. *Refrain*

Words: Traditional French Carol; trans. James Chadwick, 1862.
Music: *Gloria*

The Sermon

Dean Vang

Then all stand and sing this

Hymn [21]

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. For Christ is born of Mary;
and gathered all above,
while mortals sleep, the angels keep
their watch of wondering love.
O morning stars, together
proclaim the holy birth!
and praises sing to God the King,
and peace to men on earth.
3. 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.
4. Where children pure and happy
pray to the blessed Child,
where misery cries out to thee,
Son of the Mother mild;
where charity stands watching
and faith holds wide the door,
the dark night wakes, the glory breaks,
and Christmas comes once more.
5. 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!

Words: Phillips Brooks (1867)
Music: *Forest Green*, Ralph Vaughan Williams (1906)

The Peace

All stand.

The Celebrant says

This holy night the angels sang, “Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace to all in whom he delights.”

Choir and People The peace of the Lord be always with you.
 And with thy spirit.

All may exchange a sign of Christ’s peace.

Greetings and necessary announcements are now made.

The Liturgy of the Eucharist

The Celebrant begins the Offertory with a sentence of Scripture.

The choir now sings this

Anthem – *And the Glory of the Lord*

And the glory of the Lord shall be revealed,
and all flesh shall see it together;
the mouth of the Lord hath spoken it.

Words: *Isaiah 40:5*

Music: George Frideric Handel (1685-1759)

The Nicene Creed

All stand and say

I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
and of all things visible and invisible;
And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of his Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father;
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation
came down from heaven,
and was incarnate by the Holy Ghost of the Virgin Mary,
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered and was buried;
and the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures,
and ascended into heaven,
and sitteth on the right hand of the Father;
and he shall come again, with glory,
to judge both the quick and the dead;
whose kingdom shall have no end.
And I believe in the Holy Ghost the Lord, and Giver of Life,
who proceedeth from the Father and the Son;
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped
and glorified;
who spake by the Prophets.
And I believe one holy Catholic and Apostolic Church;
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins;

and I look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

The Prayers of the People

The Celebrant bids the Intentions of the Eucharist, concluding

In peace let us pray to the Lord.

All kneel. The Deacon continues

Father, in this holy night your Son our Savior was born in human flesh. Renew your Church as the Body of Christ.

Mercy and truth have met together;

Righteousness and peace have kissed each other.

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.

Mercy and truth have met together;

Righteousness and peace have kissed each other.

In this holy night Mary, in the pain of labor, brought your Son to birth. Hold in your hand all who are in pain or distress.

Mercy and truth have met together;

Righteousness and peace have kissed each other.

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.

Mercy and truth have met together;

Righteousness and peace have kissed each other.

In this holy night the angels sang, "Peace to God's people on earth." Strengthen those who work for peace and justice.

Mercy and truth have met together;

Righteousness and peace have kissed each other.

In this holy night shepherds in the field heard good tidings of joy. Give us grace to preach the gospel of Christ's redemption.

Mercy and truth have met together;

Righteousness and peace have kissed each other.

In this holy night strangers found the Holy Family, and saw the baby lying in the manger. Bless our homes and all whom we love.

Mercy and truth have met together;

Righteousness and peace have kissed each other.

In this holy night heaven is come 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.

Mercy and truth have met together;

Righteousness and peace have kissed each other.

In this holy night Christians the world over celebrate Christ's birth. Open our hearts that he may be born in us today.

Mercy and truth have met together;

Righteousness and peace have kissed each other.

The Celebrant concludes the Intercessions as follows

Father, in this holy night angels and shepherds worshiped at the manger throne. Receive the worship we offer in fellowship with blessed Mary, Saint Joseph, and all the Saints, through him who is your Word made flesh, our Savior Jesus Christ. *Amen.*