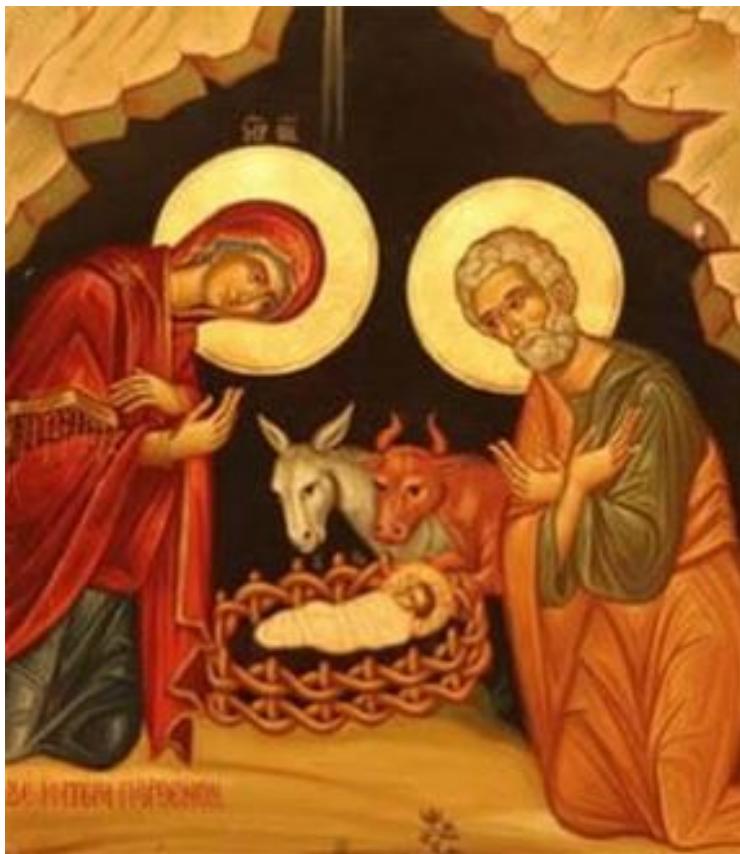


**BETHESDA EPISCOPAL CHURCH**  
**Washington Street near Broadway**  
**Saratoga Springs, New York 12866**



**THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST  
CHRISTMAS EVE at 4:00 P.M.  
24 DECEMBER 2019**

# Family Eucharist

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**Organ** —*Noël Provençal*

Pierre-Joseph Candeille (1800-1862)

## The Entrance Rite

*As the Procession enters the church, all stand and sing this*

### Hymn

Once in royal David's city  
stood a lowly cattle shed,  
where a mother laid her baby  
in a manger for his bed:  
Mary was that mother mild,  
Jesus Christ her little child.

He came down to earth from heaven,  
who is God and Lord of all,  
and his shelter was a stable,  
and his cradle was a stall;  
with the poor, and scorned, and lowly,  
lived on earth our Savior holy.

And our eyes at last shall see him,  
through his own redeeming love;  
for that Child who seemed so helpless  
is our Lord in heaven above;  
and he leads his children on  
to the place where he is gone.

Words: Cecil Frances Alexander (1818-1895), 1848

Music: Irby (Henry John Gauntlett, 1805-1876)

*The Celebrant greets the people as follows*

Welcome all wonders in one night!  
Eternity shut in a span.  
Summer in winter, day in night,  
heaven to earth and God in man.  
Great little one whose all-embracing birth  
Brings earth to heaven, stoops heaven to earth.

*All now sing this*

## Hymn

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!*

Words: Traditional French carol; trans. James Chadwick, 1862.

Music: *Gloria*

## 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 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.

*All now stand and sing the*

**Sequence: Hymn**

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.

*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.

*All now sing the*

**Response: Hymn**

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!

Words: Charles Wesley, alt. (1739)

Music: Mendelssohn; adopted from a chorus by Felix Mendelssohn (1840)

**The Sermon**

Dean Vang

*The Children now gather before the Rood Screen to learn of the Savior's birth.*

**The Blessing of the Crèche**

*Celebrant*

Dear friends, as we gather to celebrate the birth of Christ, let us pray that God will bless this crèche, that all who worship his Son, born of the Virgin Mary, may come to share his glory.

God our Father, on this night your Son Jesus Christ was born of the Virgin Mary for us and for our salvation: bless this crèche, which we have prepared to celebrate that holy birth;

may all who see it be strengthened in faith and receive the fullness of life he came to bring,  
who lives and reigns for ever and ever. *Amen.*

*The Children now rejoin their family.*

### **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

*Celebrant* Let us pray to our Incarnate Lord, who has brought us out of darkness and into his own marvelous light.

*All kneel. The Deacon continues*

Christ born for us, Son of God given for us: help us to know you, to worship you, and to serve you.

Lord, in your mercy,  
*hear our prayer.*

Wonderful Counselor, you order all things with your wisdom: help the Church to reveal the mystery of your love and fill her with the Spirit of truth.

Lord, in your mercy,  
*hear our prayer.*

Mighty God, the government is on your shoulders: guide the leaders of the nations, especially Donald, our President, and bring in your kingdom of justice and righteousness.

Lord, in your mercy,  
*hear our prayer.*

Everlasting Father, you call us to live together in unity: protect by your mercy all your children, bless our families and renew our communities.

Lord, in your mercy,  
*hear our prayer.*

Prince of Peace, you bring reconciliation through the cross: by your healing power give to all who suffer your gift of wholeness and peace.

Lord, in your mercy,  
*hear our prayer.*

*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.*

## 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.”

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

*All may exchange a sign of Christ's peace.*

## The Liturgy of the Eucharist

*The Celebrant begins the Offertory with a sentence of Scripture.*

*Then all sing this*

### Hymn

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.*

God from God, Light from Light,  
lo! he abhors not the Virgin's womb;  
only begotten Son of the Father; *Refrain*

Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,  
sing, all ye citizens of heaven above;  
glory to God, in the highest; *Refrain*

See how the shepherds, summoned to his cradle,  
leaving their flocks, draw nigh to gaze;  
we too will thither bend our joyful footsteps; *Refrain*

Words: John Francis Wade (1711-1786), circa 1743;  
stanzas 1-3 trans. Frederick Oakeley (1802-1880), 1841;  
stanzas 4 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)

## 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.

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 JesusChrist.

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 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.*

*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.*

*All who are baptized are invited to receive the Body and Blood of Christ.*

*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.*

*After the ministration of Communion, all kneel and sing the following*

### **Hymn**

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.

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)

# 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*

## **Hymn**

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.

Joy to the world! the Savior reigns;  
let us their songs employ,  
while fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains  
repeat the sounding joy,  
repeat the sounding joy,  
repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

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.

Words: Isaac Watts (1674-1748), 1719

Music: *Antioch* (George Frederick Handel, ( 1685-1759),  
arranged Lowell Mason, 1792-1872)

**Organ – *Praise of Christ's Nativity***

Andrew Gant (b. 1963)

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## CHRISTMAS COMMEMORATIONS 2019

In Thanksgiving for  
*The Incarnation of Our Lord*  
*and for*  
*The Bethesda Family*  
*by*  
*The Very Rev'd Marshall J. Vang*

The Aumbry Candle is given in memory of  
***Ray Priestley and Madeline Stewart***  
*by Lynne Priestley*

### Given By:

*Jane Agee*

*Mark & Kathleen Anspach*

*Audrey J. Ball*

*Sharon & Gordon Boyd*

### In Loving Memory Of:

*William Hugh Agee*

*Mark W. Anspach, Ruth S. Anspach  
Wanda M. Gilliatt, Clayton E. Gilliatt  
Carol Jeanne Frazier*

*Edward Ball*

*Rev. John Kettlewell, Liz Hood  
Garrett Smith*

<i>Johanna Brackett</i>	<i>Jack Brackett</i>
<i>Laurie Brenenstuhl</i>	<i>John &amp; Emily Capano</i>
<i>Chris &amp; Wendy Hayes</i>	<i>Kyleigh Hayes</i>
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<i>Jean Huber</i>	<i>Adelaide Peters</i>
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<i>Mildred Meeker</i>	<i>Robert C. Meeker, John Hoyle Lottie Hoyle</i>
<i>Lynne Priestley</i>	<i>Ray Priestley, Madeline Stewart Emilie &amp; John Becher, Anna &amp; Raymond Priestley, Tom Connor</i>
<i>Carol Simek</i>	<i>David J. Simek</i>
<i>Shauna M. Sutton</i>	<i>William H. Sutton, Sr. &amp; Cornelia May Sutton, William H. Sutton, Jr. &amp; Muriel Armer Sutton, George Hodgson Sr. &amp; May Sutton Hodgson Fred H. Hodgson, Minna Jane Sutton Rod O. Sutton, Albert M. &amp; Elizabeth M. Chandler</i>

<i>Barbara Tasso</i>	<i>Anthony Tasso Gene &amp; Nellie Tasso. Andrew &amp; Julia Tykwienski, Gene Tasso</i>
<i>June B. Tessier</i>	<i>Russell Tessier, David &amp; Anna Tessier</i>
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<i>Karen &amp; Craig Walton</i>	<i>Michael Stockman</i>
<i>David &amp; Nancy Wilder</i>	<i>Lillian &amp; Edward O'Boyle Mary Virginia &amp; David Danforth Wilder</i>
<i>Mary Withington</i>	<i>The Rev'd Robert W. &amp; Kathleen Dodge Withington, Betty Withington, Diana Mobley, Frances &amp; Dorothy Wendelglass, William Quinn, Philip &amp; Doris Kautzman</i>

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## MINISTERS OF THE LITURGY

The Very Reverend Marshall J. Vang  
 The Reverend Paul F. Evans  
 Robert E. Bullock, Catherine Berheide  
 Farrell Goehring

*Celebrant  
Assisting Priest  
Eucharistic Ministers  
Organist & Director of Music*