

The Christ Mass



SAINT GEORGE'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

ST GEORGE'S CHURCH
in the heart of the historic stockade district

The Reverend Thomas J. Pettigrew, *Rector*
The Reverend Abigail Bee, *Parish Deacon*
Dr. Brian J. Taylor AAGO, *Organist & Choirmaster*

A GREETING FROM THE RECTOR

It's a great joy for all Christians to celebrate the birth of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. On this night, in the crisp midnight air, beneath the stars, the quiet of the night was broken by the birth of a child. The arrival of the Prince of Peace shattered the quietness of that night, and indeed, the world as it had been. The great and powerful God who revealed himself in splendor to his people throughout the Scriptures, the great "I Am," humbly entered into the world and was held in the arms of his mother. He who needed nothing, became as one who needed everything; he became just like you and I. We rejoice this night, along with all the Christians of the world, for the wonderful gift which we found that first Christmas morning, the very presence of God himself.

If you are a visitor with us this night, then on behalf of the Wardens, Vestry, and People of Saint George's Church, I welcome you to our Christmas worship. May God bless you and may our worship together this night glorify God, who fills us with hope and gives us his peace.



PRE-SERVICE CAROL CONCERT
beginning at 9:30 p.m.

HYMN 102	Once in royal David's city	Irby
<i>The choir alone sings stanzas 1 & 2, the congregation joins the choir for stanzas 3-6</i>		
CHORAL CAROL	Sussex Carol,	English Traditional Carol, <i>arr. David Willcocks (1919-2015)</i>
HYMN 112, <i>sung by all</i>	In the bleak midwinter	Cranham
CHORAL CAROL	Infant Holy, Infant Lowly - Polish Carol,	<i>arr. David Willcocks (1919-2015)</i>
HYMN 89, <i>sung by all</i>	It came upon a midnight clear	Carol
CHORAL CAROL	See amid the winter's snow	<i>John Gross (1800-1880), arr. David Willcocks</i>

Mass will begin at 10:00 p.m.

OPENING VOLUNTARY:	Weihnachten (Opus 145, no.3)	Max Reger (1873-1916)
MASS SETTING:	Missa Marialis	Rev'd Canon Charles Winfred Douglas (1867-1944)

THE CHRIST MASS: THE MIDNIGHT MASS OF THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST

THE PREPARATION

HYMN: *God Rest You Merry*

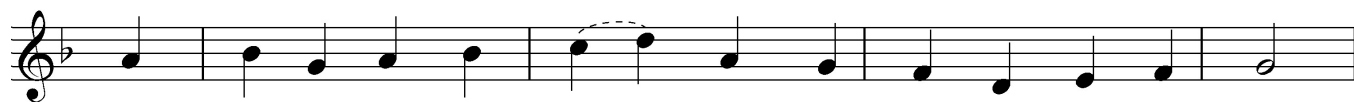
Sung by all, standing



1 God rest you mer - ry, gen - tle-men, let noth - ing you dis - may;
2 From God our heaven - ly Fa - ther a bless - ed an - gel came
3 "Fear not, then," said the an - gel, "Let noth - ing you af - fright;
4 Now to the Lord sing prais - es, all you with - in this place,



re - mem - ber Christ our Sa - vior was born on Christ-mas Day,
and un - to cer - tain shep - herds brought tid - ings of the same:
this day is born a Sa - vior of a pure vir - gin bright,
and with true love and char - i - ty each o - ther now em - brace;



to save us all from Sa - tan's power when we were gone a - stray.
how that in Beth - le - hem was born the Son of God by name.
to free all those who trust in him from Sa - tan's power and might."
this ho - ly tide of Christ - mas doth bring re - deem - ing grace.



O tid - ings of com - fort and joy, com-fort and



joy; O tid - ings of com - fort and joy!

STATION AT THE CRECHE

Remain Standing

V. Alleluia. The word was made flesh and dwelt among us:

R. And we beheld his glory, Alleluia.

Let us pray.

O GOD, who hast enlightened this most holy night with the beams of thy one true Light: Grant, we beseech thee, that we, who have known the mystery of his Light on earth, may also attain the fruition of his joys in heaven; where with thee and the Holy Spirit he liveth and reigneth, one God, in glory ever lasting. **Amen.**

The congregation is seated while the choir sings the Nativity Carol

Born in a stable so bare	Far away, silent he lay	Love in that stable was born
Born so long ago	Born today, your homage pay	Into our hearts to flow
Born 'neath light of star	For Christ is born for aye	Innocent dreaming babe
He who loved us so	Born on Christmas Day	Make me thy love to know
Cradled by mother so fair	Wise men from distant far land	Far away, silent he lay
Tender her lullaby	Sheperds from starry hills	Born today, your homage pay
Over her son so dear	Worship this babe so rare	For Christ is born for aye
Angel hosts fill the sky	Hearts with his warmth he fills	Born on Christmas Day...

THE BIDDING PRAYER

BELOVED IN CHRIST, let it be our care and delight this Christmas-tide to hear again the message of the Angels, and in heart and mind to go even unto Bethlehem and see this thing which is come to pass, and with the Magi adore the Babe lying in the arms of his holy Mother. Let us celebrate the Holy Eucharist, giving thanks for the glorious Redemption brought us by this Holy Child and receiving Him in the Blessed Sacrament. And let us make this church ring with our carols of praise.

BUT FIRST I PRAY AND BESEECH YOU, as many as are here present, to accompany me with a pure heart and humble voice, unto the throne of heavenly grace, asking for ourselves and for others, those things that are necessary for our life and our salvation.

The people kneel

LET US PRAY FOR THE NEEDS OF HIS WHOLE WORLD; for peace and goodwill over all the earth; for unity and brotherhood within the Church He came to build, and especially in this our City of Schenectady.

V. Lord, in thy mercy **R. Hear our Prayer**

AND BECAUSE THIS WOULD REJOICE HIS HEART, let us remember in his name, the poor and the helpless, the cold, the hungry, and the oppressed; the sick in body and mind and them that morn, the lonely and the unloved, the aged and the little children; and all who know not the Lord Jesus.

V. Lord, in thy mercy **R. Hear our Prayer**

LET US REMEMBER BEFORE GOD, His pure and lowly Mother, and all those who rejoice with us but upon another shore, and in a greater light, that multitude which no one can number, whose hope was in the Word made flesh, and with whom in this Lord Jesus we are one for evermore.

V. Lord, in thy Mercy **R. Hear our Prayer**

LASTLY, let us humbly confess our sins unto Almighty God.

Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against thee in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved thee with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we earnestly repent. For the sake of thy Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in thy will, and walk in thy ways, to the glory of thy Name. Amen.

The celebrant gives the Absolution:

THE ALMIGHTY AND MERCIFUL LORD grant you absolution of your sins, true repentance, amendment of life, and the grace and consolation of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

THE ALMIGHTY LORD bless us with his Grace, Christ give us the joys of everlasting life, and unto the fellowship of the citizens above may the King of Angels bring us all. **Amen.**

1 An - gels we have heard on high, sing - ing sweet - ly through the night,
2 Shep - herds, why this ju - bi - lee? Why these songs of hap - py cheer?
3 Come to Beth - le - hem and see him whose birth the an - gels sing;
4 See him in a man - ger laid whom the an - gels praise a - bove;

and the moun - tains in re - ply ech - o - ing their brave de - light.
What great bright - ness did you see? What glad tid - ings did you hear?
come, a - dore on bend - ed knee Christ, the Lord, the new - born King.
Ma - ry, Jo - seph, lend your aid, while we raise our hearts in love.

Refrain

Glo - - - - - ri - a

in ex - cel - sis De - o. Glo - - - - -

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

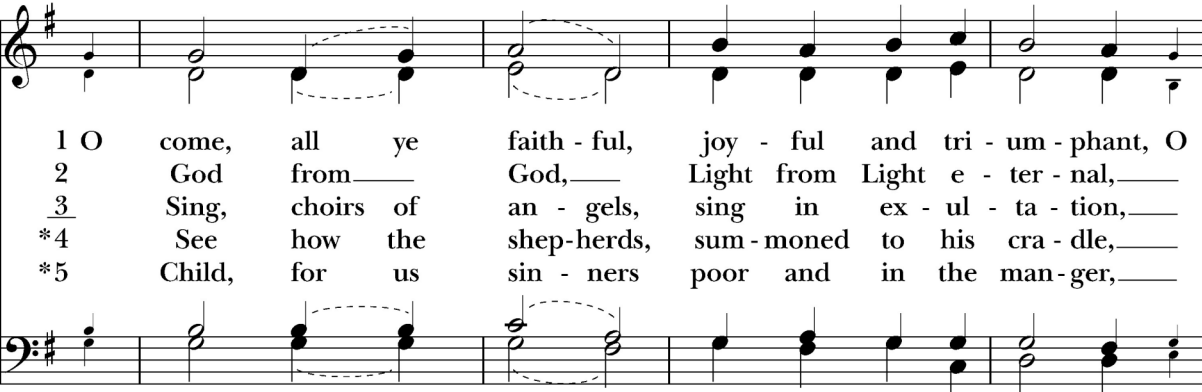
THE PROCESSION

V. Alleluia. Let us go forth in peace.

R. In the name of Christ. Alleluia!

HYMN: *Adeste fideles*

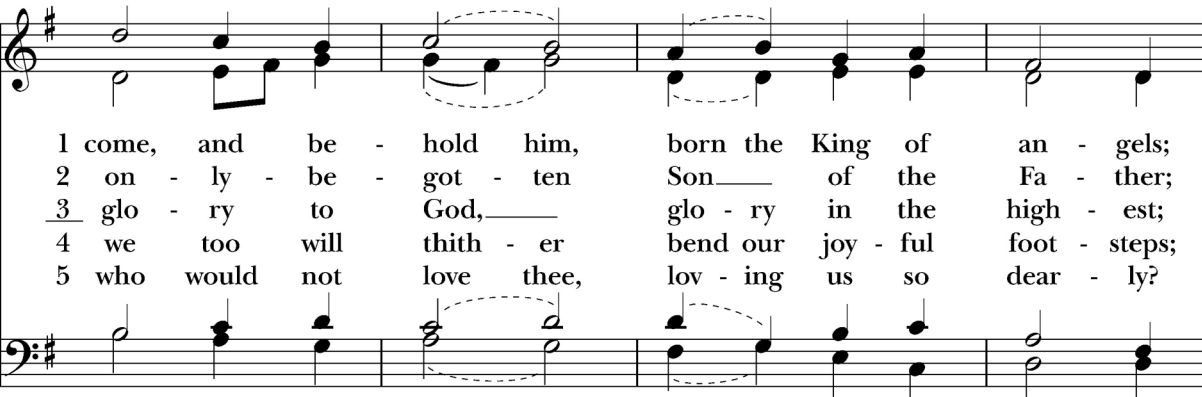
Sung by all



1 O come, all ye faith - ful, joy - ful and tri - um - phant, O
 2 God from — God, — Light from Light e - ter - nal, —
 3 Sing, choirs of an - gels, sing in ex - ul - ta - tion, —
 *4 See how the shep - herds, sum - moned to his cra - dle, —
 *5 Child, for us sin - ners poor and in the man - ger, —



1 come ye, O come — ye to Beth - le - hem;
 2 lo! he ab - hors — not the Vir - gin's womb;
 3 sing, all ye ci - ti - zens of heaven a - bove;
 4 leav - ing their flocks, — draw — nigh to gaze;
 5 we would em - brace — thee, with love and awe;



1 come, and be - hold him, born the King of an - gels;
 2 on - ly - be - got - ten Son — of the Fa - ther;
 3 glo - ry to God, — glo - ry in the high - est;
 4 we too will thith - er bend our joy - ful foot - steps;
 5 who would not love thee, lov - ing us so dear - ly?

Refrain

O come, let us a - dore him, O come, let us a -

dore him, O come, let us a - dore him, Christ the Lord.

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

THE COLLECT FOR PURITY

Almighty God, unto whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of thy Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love thee and worthily magnify thy holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE INTROIT, *Sung by the Choir*

The Lord spake, and said unto me: Thou art my Son, this day have I begotten thee. Why do the Nations so furiously rage together? And why do the people imagine a vain thing? Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost. As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. The Lord spake and said unto me: Thou art my Son, this day have I begotten Thee.

THE SUMMARY OF THE LAW

Hear what our Lord Jesus Christ saith: Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it: Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself. On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets.

THE KYRIE ELEISON, *sung by the choir*

(people kneel)

THE GLORIA IN EXCELSIS, *sung by the choir*

(people stand)

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Christmas I

V. The Lord be with you.

R. And with thy spirit.

Let us pray.

O GOD, who makest us glad with the yearly remembrance of the birth of thy only Son Jesus Christ: Grant that as we joyfully receive him for our Redeemer, so we may with sure confidence behold him when he shall come to be our Judge; who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, one God, world without end. **Amen.**

A Reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah

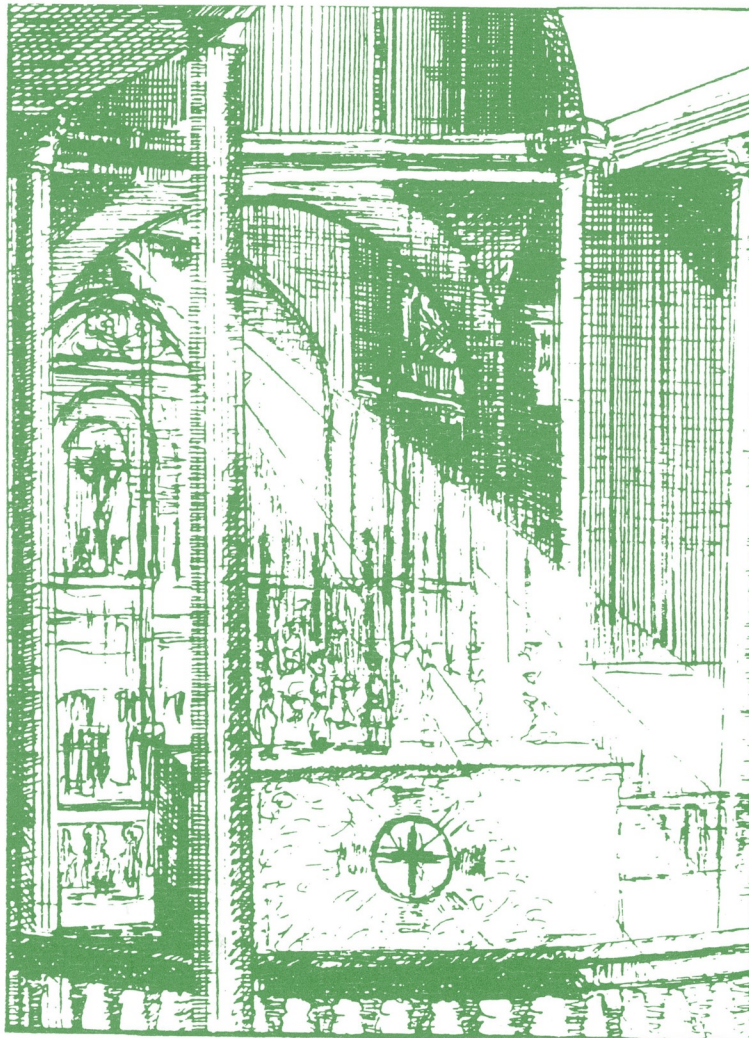
THE PEOPLE who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness~ on them light has shined. You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder. For the yoke of their 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.

V. The Word of the Lord

R. Thanks be to God

THE GRADUAL, *sung by the choir*

In the day of thy power shall the people offer thee free-will offerings with an holy worship: the dew of thy birth is of the womb of the morning. The Lord said unto my Lord: Sit thou on my right hand until I make thine enemies thy footstool.



A READING from the Epistle of Blessed Paul the Apostle 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.

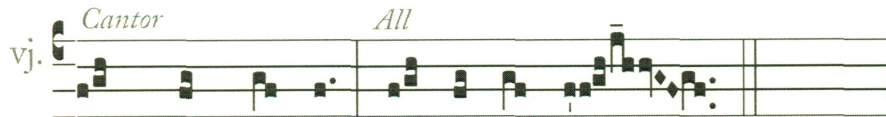
V. The Word of the Lord

R. Thanks be to God

THE ALLELUIA VERSE

Sung by cantor & Congregation

(People Stand)



AL - LE - LU - IA. Al - le - lu - ia.

Alleluia. Alleluia. The Lord said unto me: Thou art my Son; this day have I begotten thee. Alleluia.

THE HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 2. 1-20

THE HOLY GOSPEL OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST ACCORDING TO SAINT LUKE

R. 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!" When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us." So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

V. The Gospel of the Lord.

R. Praise be to thee, O Christ.

THE SERMON

The Rector

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 PEACE

Celebrant: Our Savior, Jesus Christ, is the Prince of Peace. Of the increase of his government and peace there shall be no end. We meet in his name and share his peace.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

R. And with thy spirit.

THE OFFERTORY SENTENCE

Sung by the Cantor & Choir

Let the heavens rejoice; and let the earth be glad: before the Lord for he is come.

OFFERTORY ANTHEM: Verbum caro factum est

Anthony St. Pierre (b. 1956)

THE OFFERTORY HYMN, HYMN 94

While shepherds kept their watch by night

Winchester Old

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The musical notation consists of four staves, each with a key signature of one flat (B-flat) and a common time signature (C). The lyrics are as follows:

- Staff 1:** Celebrant: The Lord be with you. People: And with thy spi - rit.
- Staff 2:** Celebrant: Lift up your hearts. People: We lift them up un - to the Lord.
- Staff 3:** Celebrant: Let us give thanks un - to our Lord God.
- Staff 4:** People: It is meet and right so to do.

The Celebrant sings the Proper Preface of the Incarnation

THE SANCTUS & BENEDICTUS QUI VENIT, *Sung by the Choir*

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 GLORY BE TO THEE, Almighty God, our heavenly Father, for that thou, of thy tender mercy, didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption; who made there, by his one oblation of himself once offered, a full, perfect, and sufficient sacrifice, oblation, and satisfaction, for the sins of 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, he brake 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 ye all of this; for this is my Blood of the New Testament, 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, according to the institution of thy dearly beloved Son our Savior Jesus Christ, we, thy humble servants, do celebrate and make here before thy divine Majesty, 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; rendering unto thee most hearty thanks for the innumerable benefits procured unto us by the same.

And we most humbly beseech thee, O merciful Father, to hear us; and, of thy almighty goodness, vouchsafe to bless and sanctify, with thy Word and Holy Spirit, these thy gifts and creatures of bread and wine; that we, receiving them according to thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ's holy institution, in remembrance of his death and passion, may be partakers of his most blessed Body and Blood.

And we earnestly desire thy fatherly goodness mercifully to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving; most humbly beseeching thee to grant that, by the merits and death of thy Son Jesus Christ, and through faith in his blood, we, and all thy whole Church, may obtain remission of our sins, and all other benefits of his passion.

And here we offer and present unto thee, O Lord, ourselves, our souls and bodies, to be a reasonable, holy, and living sacrifice unto thee; humbly beseeching thee that we, and all others who shall be partakers of this Holy Communion, may worthily receive the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son Jesus Christ, be filled with thy ✠

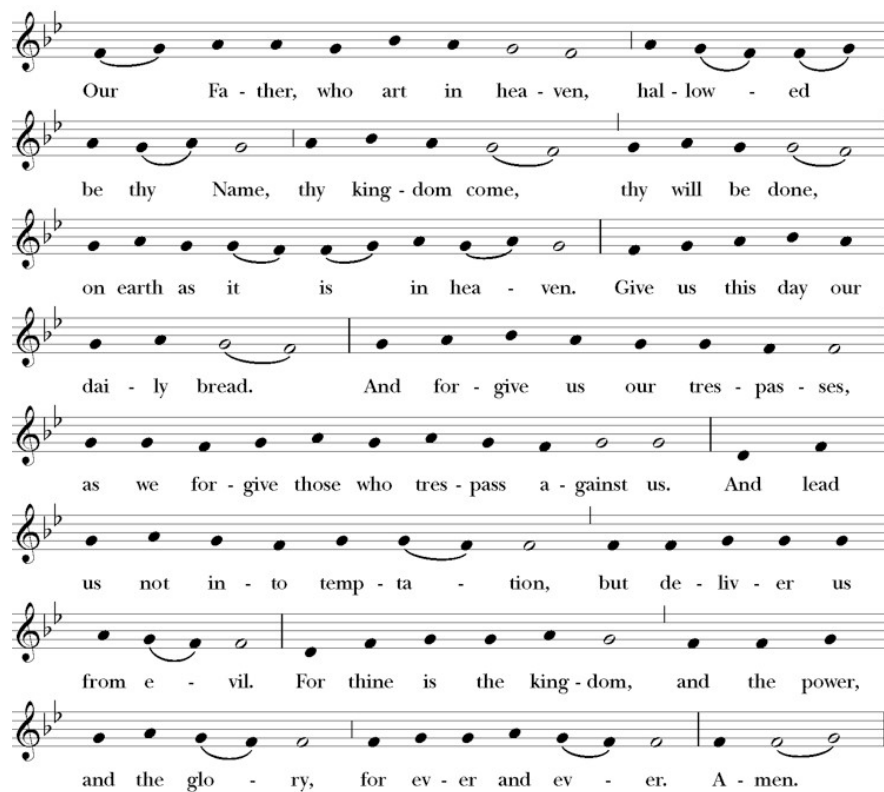
grace and heavenly benediction, and made one body with him, that he may dwell in us, and we in him.

And although we are unworthy, through our manifold sins, to offer unto thee any sacrifice, yet we beseech thee to accept this our bounden duty and service, not weighing our merits, but pardoning our offenses, through Jesus Christ our Lord; By whom, and with 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,

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Sung by All



THE FRACTION

Celebrant

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

People

Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

THE AGNUS DEI

Sung by the choir

(people kneel)

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

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

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

THE PRAYER OF HUMBLE ACCESS

Said by All

(people kneel)

WE DO NOT PRESUME to come to this thy Table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in thy manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under thy Table. But thou art the same Lord whose property is always to have mercy. Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of thy dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.

THE INVITATION

The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

THE ADMINISTRATION OF COMMUNION

All baptized Christians may receive communion. If you wish to not receive, you are invited to come forward and cross your arms, indicating that you wish to receive a blessing. Gluten-free hosts are available.

THE COMMUNION SENTENCE

Sung by the Cantor & Choir

The dew of thy birth: is of the womb in the morning.

COMMUNION ANTHEM

Lo, how a rose e'er blooming

Michael Praetorius (1571-1621)

THE COMMUNION HYMN

Of the Father's love begotten

Divinum mysterium



1 Of the Fa - ther's love be - got - ten, ere the worlds be -
 2 O that birth for ev - er bless - ed, when the Vir - gin,
 3 Let the heights of heaven a - dore him; an - gel hosts, his
 4 Christ, to thee with God the Fa - ther, and, O Ho - ly



gan to be, he is Al - pha and O - me - ga,
 full of grace, by the Ho - ly Ghost con - ceiv - ing,
 prais - es sing; powers, do - min - ions, bow be - fore him,
 Ghost, to thee, hymn and chant and high thanks - giv - ing,



he the source, the end - ing he, of the things that
 bore the Sa - vior of our race; and the Babe, the
 and ex - tol our God and King; let no tongue on
 and un - wea - ried prais - es be; hon - or, glo - ry



are, that have _____ been, and that fu - ture
 world's Re - deem - er, first re - vealed his
 earth be si - lent, ev - ery voice in
 and do - min - ion, and e - ter - nal



years shall see, ev - er - more and ev - er - more! _____
 sa - cred face, ev - er - more and ev - er - more! _____
 con - cert ring, ev - er - more and ev - er - more! _____
 vic - to - ry, ev - er - more and ev - er - more! _____

GRANT, we beseech thee, O Lord our God: that we who rejoice to celebrate by these mysteries the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ; may by godly conversation be found worthy to attain to fellowship with him. Who with thee, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, liveth and reigneth God, world without end. Amen.

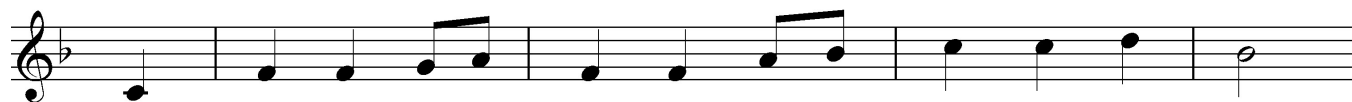
POST COMMUNION DEVOTIONS

sung by all, kneeling

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.

Si - lent night, ho - ly night, all is calm,
 Si - lent night, ho - ly night, shep - herds quake
 Si - lent night, ho - ly night, Son of God,

all is bright round yon vir - gin mo - ther and child.
 at the sight, glo - ries stream from hea - ven a - far,
 love's pure light ra - diant beams from thy ho - ly face,

Ho - ly in - fant, so ten - der and mild, sleep in hea - ven - ly
 heaven - ly hosts— sing al - le - lu - ia; Christ, the Sa - vior, is
 with the dawn of re - deem - ing grace, Je - sus, Lord, at thy

peace. Sleep in hea - ven - ly peace.
 born! Christ, the Sa - vior, is born!
 birth. Je - sus, Lord, at thy birth.

THE BLESSING

(people kneel)

The peace of God, which passeth all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God Almighty, ☩ the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, be upon you and remain with you for ever. **Amen.**

THE DISMISSAL

Deacon: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

THE LAST GOSPEL

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. The same was in the beginning with God. All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made. In him was life; and the life was the light of men. And the light shineth in darkness; and the darkness comprehended it not. There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. The same came for a witness, to bear witness of the Light, that all men through him might believe. He was not that Light, but was sent to bear witness of that Light. That was the true Light, which lighteth every man that cometh into the world. He was in the world, and the world was made by him, and the world knew him not. He came unto his own, and his own received him not. But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name: Which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God. And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth. John bare witness of him, and cried, saying, This was he of whom I spake, He that cometh after me is preferred before me: for he was before me. And of his fulness have all we received, and grace for grace. For the law was given by Moses, but grace and truth came by Jesus Christ.

THE RETIRING PROCESSION, see next page

Hark! The herald angels sing

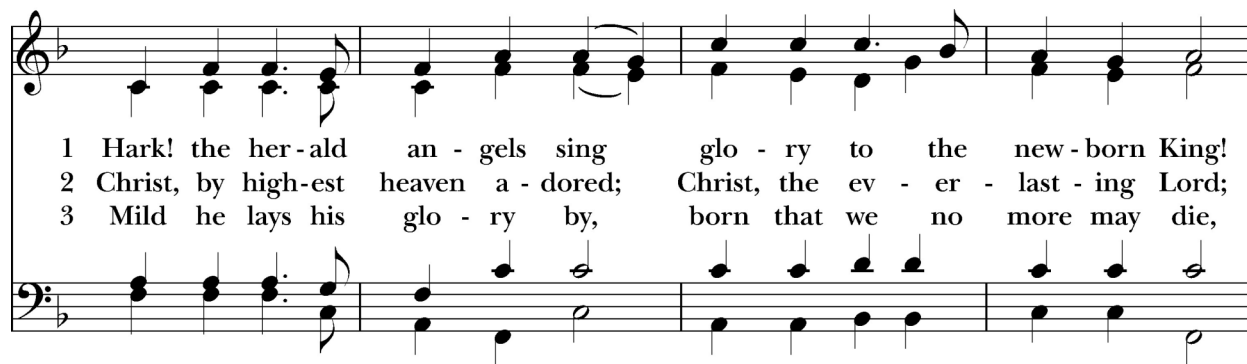
Mendelssohn

CLOSING VOLUNTARY

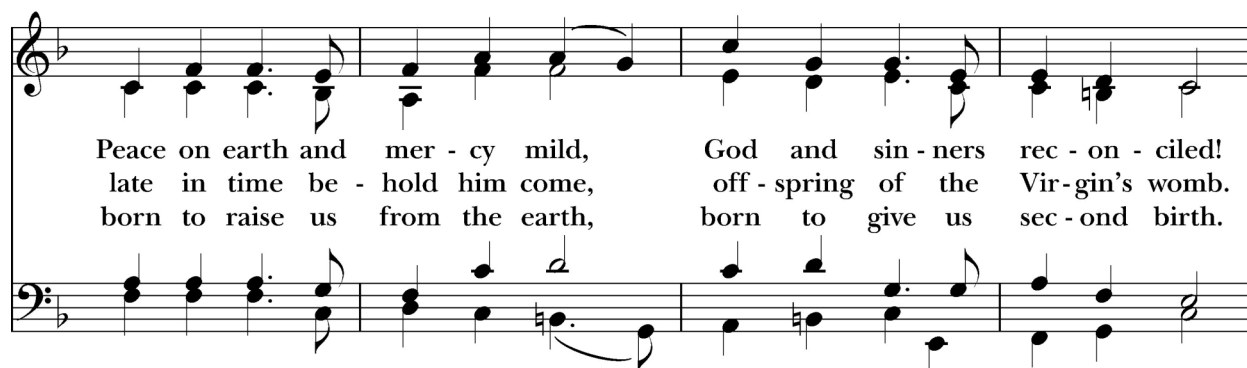
In dulci jubilo (BWV729)

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

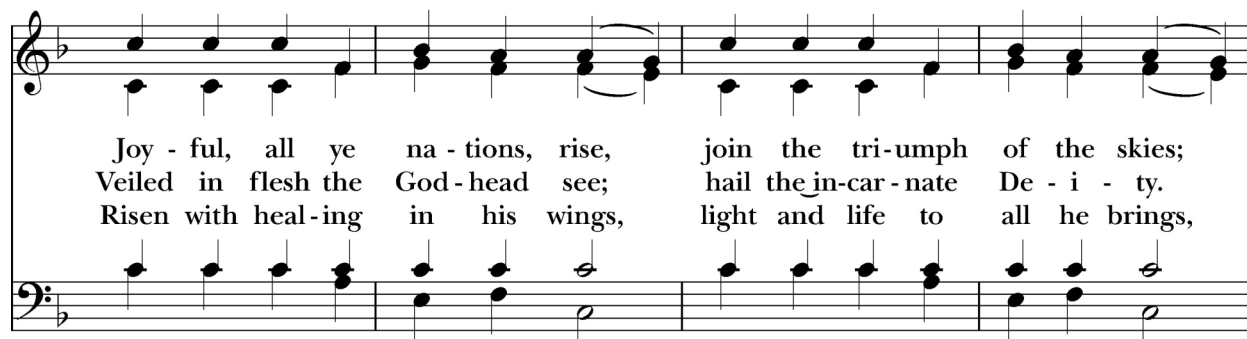
Following the closing voluntary, please join us in the Great Hall for some refreshments and fellowship



1 Hark! the her-ald an - gels sing glo - ry to the new - born King!
 2 Christ, by high-est heaven a - dored; Christ, the ev - er - last - ing Lord;
 3 Mild he lays his glo - ry by, born that we no more may die,



Peace on earth and mer - cy mild, God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled!
 late in time be - hold him come, off - spring of the Vir - gin's womb.
 born to raise us from the earth, born to give us sec - ond birth.



Joy - ful, all ye na - tions, rise, join the tri-umph of the skies;
 Veiled in flesh the God-head see; hail the in-car-nate De - i - ty.
 Risen with heal-ing in his wings, light and life to all he brings,



with the an - gel - ic host pro - claim Christ is born in Beth - le - hem!
 Pleased as man with us to dwell; Je - sus, our Em - man - u - el!
 hail, the Sun of Right-eous-ness! hail, the heaven-born Prince of Peace!

Refrain



Hark! the her - ald an - gels sing glo - ry to the new - born King!

MINISTERS OF TODAY'S LITURGY

Celebrant & Preacher:	The Reverend Thomas J. Pettigrew, <i>Rector</i>
Deacon of the Mass:	The Reverend Abigail Bee, <i>Parish Deacon</i>
Subdeacon:	Mr. David Kennison
Master of Ceremonies:	Dr. Kevin Decker
Organist:	Dr. Brian J. Taylor
Cantor:	Dr. Louisa Carr
Thurifers:	Mr. Chris Henry, Mr. Paul Smigelski
Boat Boy:	Master James Smigelski
Crucifers:	Mr. Ryan Smigelski, Mr. Eric Bassant
Torch Bearers:	Mr. JJ Moran, Mr. Matthew Smigelski
Acolyte:	Mr. Colton Jaquith
Greeter:	Mrs. Carol Gaige
Lector:	Mr Jonathan Pearson
Altar Guild:	Mrs. Wendy Madelone
Sacristan:	David & Anne Kennison

Friday, December 26— 9:00 a.m.— Low Mass for St Stephens Day

Saturday, December 27— 9:00 a.m. — Low Mass for St John the Evangelist

Sunday, December 28—10:00 a.m— Solemn High Mass—The First Sunday of Christmas

Monday, December 29—9:00 a.m.— Low Mass for the Feast of the Holy Innocents

DURING THE TWELVE DAYS OF CHRISTMAS, Father Pettigrew would like to bring communion to those members of our parish family who are shut-in or unable to attend Mass. If you know of anyone who might not be on our list already and would like to received communion during the Christmas Season, please speak to Father Pettigrew or send an email to rector@StGeorgesSchenectady.org

UPCOMING EVENTS AT ST. GEORGE'S

EPIPHANY FEAST OF LIGHTS — On Sunday evening, January 4th join us for “A Feast of Lights for Epiphany.” This service celebrates in lessons and music the light of Christ come into the world, being made manifest through the appearance of the Wise Men, Jesus’ Baptism in the River Jordan, and his first miracle at the wedding in Cana. Much of it is done be candlelight as we prepare to carry the light of Christ into the world. This is a family-friendly service and also one to which we can invite friends and neighbors. Pre-service music begins at 4:45 p.m. The service begins at 5:00 p.m.

Sunday, January 4th — A Feast of Lights for Epiphany — 5:00 p.m. High Altar

Tuesday, January 6th— Solemn Mass for the Feast of Epiphany— 7:00 p.m.— High Altar

