



*Welcome to Christ Church
Christmas Eve 4:30 p.m.
December 24, 2014*

Service Notes: Hymns are in the larger blue books. **Welcome materials** are on the back table. Thanks to 4:30 service participants-Lectors: Teens Chalicists & Acolytes: S. Adams, B. Anderson, Molly Landis, Fiona Rigney Altar Guild: D. Crawford Usher: B. Bastow

- Prelude** NOEL Louis Claude Daquin (1694-1772)
- 83** Processional Carol *O Come, all ye faithful* (in the Blue Book) (vss. 1-3)
Celebrant: I bring you good news of great joy:
People: **A Savior has been born to you. Alleluia**
Celebrant: Unto us a child is born,
People: **Unto us a Son is given. Alleluia.**
Celebrant: Blessed be the one, holy and living God.
People: **Glory to God, forever and ever.**
(and together) **Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

87 *Hark the herald angels sing*

The Collect for Christmas *Celebrant:* God be with you.
People: **And also with you.**
Celebrant: Let us pray

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

Our First Lesson is from the Book of Isaiah (9:2-4, 6-7) *read by Lauren Semancik*

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 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: Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people
People: **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 96:1-4, 11-12 *(reader reads to asterisk, congregation responds after)* *read by Tristan Monahan*

- 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.

Our Second Lesson is from the Letter of Titus (3:4- 7) read by Nathalie Paul

When the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared, he saved us, not because of any works that we had done, but according to his mercy, through the water of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit. This Spirit he poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior, so that, having been justified by his grace, we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life.

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people
People **Thanks be to God.**

115 Sequence Carol *What child is this (vss. 1,2 then 3)*

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke (KJV) People: Glory to you, Lord Christ

And it came to pass in those days, that there went out a decree from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be taxed. (And this taxing was first made when Cyrenius was governor of Syria.) And all went to be taxed, every one into his own city. And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judaea, unto the city of David, which is called Bethlehem; (because he was of the house and lineage of David:) To be taxed with Mary his espoused wife, being great with child. And so it was, that, while they were there, the days were accomplished that she should be delivered. And she brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn. And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid. And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord. And this shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, 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, and on earth peace, good will toward men. And it came to pass, as the angels were gone away from them into heaven, the shepherds said one to another, Let us now go even unto Bethlehem, and see this thing which is come to pass, which the Lord hath made known unto us. And they came with haste, and found Mary, and Joseph, and the babe lying in a manger. And when they had seen it, they made known abroad the saying which was told them concerning this child. And all they that heard it wondered at those things which were told them by the shepherds. But Mary kept all these things, and pondered them in her heart. And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things that they had heard and seen, as it was told unto them.

Celebrant: The Gospel of the Lord
People: **Praise to you, Lord Christ**

Homily Fr. Dave

Prayers of the People (Church of England) *led by Emily Watling*

In peace let us pray to the Lord. *Silent Space*

O God, on this holy night, your Son, our Savior was born in human flesh. Renew us to be his Body in the world. Holy God. **Hear our prayer.**

On this night there was no room for your Son at the inn. Protect with your love those who have no home and all who live in poverty. Holy God. **Hear our prayer.**

On this night Mary, in the pain of labor, brought your Son to birth. Hold in your hand all who are in pain or distress.... Especially..... *(see intercessions list)*.... Holy God. **Hear our prayer.**

On this night, your Christ came as a light shining in the darkness. Bring comfort to all who suffer in the sadness of our world. Holy God. **Hear our prayer.**

On this night the shepherds in the field heard the good tidings of joy. Give us grace to bring the Gospel of Christ's redemption into the world. Holy God. **Hear our prayer.**

On this night strangers found the Holy Family and saw the baby lying in the manger. Bless our homes and all whom we love. Bless those celebrating birthdays: *Miranda, Nicole, Chris and Bill* (and from the intercession sheet under birthdays)

And bless those *celebrating anniversaries* (see intercessions as needed).

We also pray for those far from home, especially those in the Armed Forces: *Angela, Dan, Jeff, Ken, Tom, Jotham, Doug, Joel, Jed, Micah, Bill, Colin, Tim and Jay* (*and intercessions*) Holy God..... **Hear our prayer.**

On this night heaven is come down to earth, and earth is raised to heaven.

Hold in your hand all who have passed through death in the hope of your coming kingdom but especially *Robin, David, Patricia, Arthur, Loring, Emma, Newell, Helen, George, Gertrude, Sterl, Ted, Howard, Gen, Donna and Robert* whose memorial it is.

And those loved ones we remember this evening: (*from intercessions list*) Holy God. **Hear our prayer.**

On this night Christians the world over celebrate Christ's birth. Open our hearts that he may be born in us today. Holy God. **Hear our prayer**

Celebrant: O God, angels and shepherds worshiped at the manger throne. Receive our prayers that we offer in fellowship with Mary, Joseph and all who gathered there, through him who is your Word made flesh.

Amen

Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: **And also with you**

105 Offertory Carol *God rest you merry* (*the ushers pass the collection plates*)

Presentation Verse **Good Christian friends, rejoice, with heart and soul and voice; give ye heed to what we say: Jesus Christ is born today; ox and ass before him bow, and he is in the manger now. Christ is born today! Christ is born today!** (Hymn #107)

The Holy Eucharist

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

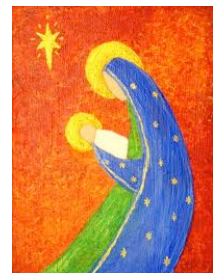
People: **And also with you.**

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

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

Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**



The Celebrant continues..... Holy One, we thank you for this most sacred feast, in which we celebrate who you are and who we are becoming. As your Word spoke the Creation into being, so we lift our voices to say:

Said Together.....

***Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.***
(please remain standing if you are able)

