

The Feast of the Nativity
Christmas Eve December 24, 2020



Christ Church Cathedral

Worship Leaders

Presiders

The Rt. Rev. Ian T. Douglas, Bishop Diocesan
The Very Rev. Miguelina Howell, Cathedral Dean

Preacher

The Rt. Rev. Ian T. Douglas, Bishop Diocesan

Assisting

The Rev. Canon Jorge Pallares, Canon for Congregational Life
The Rev. Bonnie Matthews, Cathedral Deacon

Cathedral Intern

Roxanna Videla Olivares

Director of Music

Marianne Vogel

Intercessor

Jilda Aliotta

First Lector

Tom Smith

Second Lector

Evelyn Diaz

The Cathedral Choir and The ECCT Virtual Gospel Choir

Sharon Andoh, St. Luke's, New Haven
Martine Bruno, UConn/Yale Divinity School
Kevin de Benedictis, Christ Church Cathedral
Mary C. Freeman, St. Luke's, New Haven
Kelley Elizabeth Kelly, Christ Church Cathedral
Lisabeth Miller, Guest Singer
Sandra Montes, Guest Singer
Gloria Rogers, St. Luke's, New Haven
Shaina Stanley, St. Luke's, New Haven
Valarie Stanley, St. Luke's, New Haven
Jermaine Woodard, Jr., guest singer
Lisa W. Yarbor, St. Luke's, New Haven

String Quartet

Lu Sun Friedman, violin
Marianne Vogel, violin
Kevin Bishop, viola
Samuel DeCaprio, cello

Donations have been given to the Glory of God
and to our Church Street Eats program to assist in
their mission, in memory of:

Alfred Jordan
Angelo Purdas
Anne Barnard
Arthur E. Johnson
Arthur F. Johnson
Audrey Edwards
Barbara Nawrocki
Connolly Family
Coretta Smith
Douglas Bain
Donna M. Grote
Dorothy A. Johnson
Earle M. Grote
Eagen Family
Ellen C. Wallace
Eugene S. Johnson
Eugene Nawrocki
Fichera Family
Hawkins Family
James Bain
James Purdas
Jeff Hodapp
Jeffrey Palmer

J. Finton Wallace
Julia Espinal
Kay Hodapp
Luz M. De la Cruz
Marglino Felix
Maria Cid
Marjorie M. Johnson
Marjorie A. Jordan
Mary Sullivan
Nyger D. Francois
Richard A. Johnson
Robert E. Grote
Seltzer Family
Steven E. Grote
Thanksgiving for Family
To the glory of God and in
memory of Brian Dieckman
Thomas Smith
Violet M. Grote
Vivienne Stankye
William Stankye
Walter Sullivan
Zoe Purdas



The Christmas Service with Spiritual Communion

Prelude - Fantasia on Greensleeves

Ralph Vaughan Williams

Hymn - 1982 Hymnal # 82 Of the Father's love begotten

Divinum Mysterium

Presider Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People **And blessed be God's kingdom, now and forever. Amen.**

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.**

Gloria - 1982 Hymnal # 96 Angels we have heard on high

Gloria

The Collect

Presider The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Presider Let us pray.

O God, you have caused this holy night to shine with the brightness of the true Light: Grant that we, who have known the mystery of that Light on earth, may also enjoy him perfectly in heaven; where with you and the Holy Spirit he lives and reigns, one God, in glory everlasting. **Amen.**

The First Reading - Isaiah 9:2-7

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, son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onward and forevermore. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 96 *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.

5 As for all the gods of the nations, they are but idols; *
but it is the Lord who made the heavens.

6 Oh, the majesty and magnificence of his presence! *
Oh, the power and the splendor of his sanctuary!

7 Ascribe to the Lord, you families of the peoples; *
ascribe to the Lord honor and power.

8 Ascribe to the Lord the honor due his Name; *
bring offerings and come into his courts.

9 Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness; *
let the whole earth tremble before him.

10 Tell it out among the nations: "The Lord is King! *
he has made the world so firm that it cannot be moved;
he will judge the peoples with equity."

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.

13 He will judge the world with righteousness *
and the peoples with his truth.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: * as it was in the beginning,
is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

The Second Reading - Tito/Titus 2:11-14

Pues Dios ha mostrado su bondad, al ofrecer la salvación a toda la humanidad. Esa bondad de Dios nos enseña a renunciar a la maldad y a los deseos mundanos, y a llevar en el tiempo presente una vida de buen juicio, rectitud y piedad, mientras llega el feliz cumplimiento de nuestra esperanza: el regreso glorioso de nuestro gran Dios y Salvador Jesucristo. Él se entregó a la muerte por nosotros, para rescatarnos de toda maldad y limpiarnos completamente, haciendo de nosotros el pueblo de su propiedad, empeñados en hacer el bien.

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.

Lector: Palabra del Señor.
Pueblo: Demos gracias a Dios.

Reader The Word of the Lord.
People Thanks be to God.

Gradual - Dichosa Tierra / Joy to the world

The Holy Gospel - Luke 2:1-20

Priest The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.
People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

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.

Priest The Gospel of the Lord.
People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

The Sermon

The Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the Prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

The Prayers of the People

Let us pray to our incarnate Lord who has come to be among us, to be one of us, to be a light to shine in the darkness of our world.

We pray that the church will be a beacon of light and hope throughout the world. We pray especially for Justin, Archbishop of Canterbury, Michael, our Presiding Bishop, Ian and Laura our Bishops, Lina our Dean, Jorge, our Canon for Congregational Life, Bonnie, our Deacon, Tim, Jay and Lee Ann, our Associate Clergy, Roxanna, our Cathedral Intern, and for the Congregations Committee and Ministry Teams. We also pray for our sister Diocese of Aberdeen and Orkney, and particularly for their bishop, Anne.

Christ, light of the world,
Hear our prayer.

We pray that your light may shine in our dark and troubled world and especially upon the leaders of the nations that they will govern with integrity, compassion and wisdom.

Christ, light of the world,
Hear our prayer.

We pray for those who live in darkness, the sick, the lonely, the abandoned; that your light will comfort them and bring them hope and peace. We especially for those who are suffering due to Covid-19.

Christ, the light of the world,
Hear our prayer.

We pray for all the saints who have shone as a light in our world, especially our friends and loved ones who have enriched our lives and are now departed from us.

Christ, light of the world,
Hear our prayer.

Presider:

O God, you have pierced the darkness and silence of this night by the utterance of your word made flesh. May we shine forth in your light to proclaim to all the peace and promise in Jesus, who is Lord and God this night and forever. **Amen.**

The Peace

Presider The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

The People greet one another in the name of the Lord.

Offertory Sentence

Offertory Anthem - Go, tell it on the Mountain

arr. Donald Moore

The Holy Communion

Eucharistic Prayer -A

Presider The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Presider Lift up your hearts.

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

Presider Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and every-where to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

Because you gave Jesus Christ, your only Son, to be born for us; who, by the mighty power of the Holy Spirit, was made perfect Man of the flesh of the Virgin Mary his mother; so that we might be delivered from the bondage of sin, and receive power to become your children.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Sanctus by David Hurd EOW 1 #12

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself, and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all. He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ: By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **Amen.**

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

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,
forever and ever. Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread

Presider Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

People Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

Presider The Gifts of God for the people of God.

Act of Spiritual Communion

God of love and grace, of justice and peace, we give you thanks that in the Sacrament of the altar you assure us of your presence within us and within the body of Christ, the faithful through all the generations; grant that we who have witnessed anew these holy mysteries, though unable to receive the physical elements of the Sacrament, may be moved by your indwelling Spirit ever more fully to embody your holy and life-giving presence, reshaping in your likeness the world around us, until we are gathered at last into the fullness of your glorious and eternal presence; through Christ our Risen Lord, Amen.

Communion Hymn - 1982 Hymnal #104 A stable lamp is lighted

Andújar

Postcommunion Prayer

Presider Let us pray

Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Christmas Carol - 1982 Hymnal # 111 Silent Night

Stille nacht

Christmas Season Blessing

Presider My brothers and sisters, may you be filled with the wonder of Mary, the obedience of Joseph, the joy of the angels, the eagerness of the shepherds, the determination of the magi and the peace of the Christ child. And may the Blessing of God Almighty, the Creator, the Christ and the Spirit be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Recessional Hymn - 1982 Hymnal # 87 Hark! the herald angels sing

Mendelssohn

The Dismissal

Deacon Let us go forth into the world rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.

People Thanks be to God.

Postlude - Joy to the World

arr. Daniel Powers

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CHRIST CHURCH CATHEDRAL
CONNECTICUT'S CATHEDRAL

WELCOME TO CHRIST CHURCH CATHEDRAL An Episcopal Church within the Anglican Communion

All faithful lay people and clergy of the Episcopal Church in Connecticut
The Rt. Rev. Ian T. Douglas, Bishop Diocesan
The Rt. Rev. Laura J. Ahrens, Bishop Suffragan
The Very Rev. Miguelina Howell, Cathedral Dean
The Rev. Canon Jorge Pallares, Canon for Congregational Life
The Rev. Bonnie Matthews, Cathedral Deacon
The Rev. Canon Timothy Hodapp, Priest Associate, Canon for Mission Collaboration, ECCT
The Rev. Canon Lee Ann Tolzmann, Priest Associate, Canon for Mission Leadership, ECCT
The Rev. Jay Cooke, Priest Associate

Since 1762, this Christian community has gathered for worship. To learn more about the ministries we share in this place, you are invited to speak to clergy or parishioners after the service.

THE CATHEDRAL STAFF

Katherine Frisoli, Assistant to the Dean	John Scott, Sacristan
Cindy Hursty, Accountant & Office Manager	Pedro Cirilo Coral, Spanish Music Coordinator
David Borawski, Building Manager	Nelson Mena, Spanish Music Coordinator
Marianne Vogel, Director of Music	Pedro Cirilo Coral, Custodian

MUSIC NOTES

We are grateful for the choir and instrumentalists and give thanks for the joy they bring to tonight's service.

The picture on the front cover, Mother Mary with Jesus by Anthony VanArsdale, used with permission from The National Black Catholic Congress.

