

Preceding 4:30 pm Holy Eucharist (4:00 pm)
Children's pageant: A Shepherd's Story

Preceding 10:30 pm Holy Eucharist (10:00 pm)
Choral Prelude—An English and Irish Christmas

Congregational Carol: "God rest you merry, gentlemen"--Hymnal #105
(English carol)

"What Child Is This" (English carol, Arr. Frederick H. Candlyn)
Chancel Choir, Organ

"Somerset Carol" (English carol, Arr. Cecil J. Sharp)
Men's Chorus, Organ

"What Is This Lovely Fragrance" (Healey Willan)
Chancel Choir, Organ

"On This Day Earth Shall Ring" (Arr. Gustav Holst)
Chancel Choir, Organ

"Wexford Carol" (Irish Carol, Arr. John Rutter)
Katy Hinson, Soloist; Mark Leach, Irish Whistle

"O Little Town of Bethlehem" (Walford Davies)
Chancel Choir, Organ

Congregational Carol: "Hark! The herald angels sing" —Hymnal #87

The Holy Eucharist: Rite Two

The Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ

December 24, 2008 • 4:30 pm & 10:30 pm

The service begins on p. 355 in the red Book of Common Prayer.
Hymnal "S" numbers are at the front of The Hymnal 1982.

Please observe silence: before the service begins
following the Scripture lessons
before the Confession of Sin
at the breaking of the consecrated Bread

The Word of God

We sing a hymn, all standing

"O come, all ye faithful" *Adeste fideles*

Hymnal #83

The people standing, the Celebrant says

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

People And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

The Celebrant says the Collect for Purity.

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.

People Amen.

The following song of praise is sung, all standing

4:30--Glory to God *Gloria in excelsis*—Setting by Robert Powell

Hymnal #S280

10:30--Glory to God *Gloria in excelsis*—Setting by William Mathias

Hymnal #S278

The Celebrant says to the people

The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Let us pray.

The Celebrant says the Collect for the Day.

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.

People Amen.

The people sit. The Lessons, as appointed, are read.

First Lesson: 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,
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 forever more.
The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

A period of silence is kept.

*We join the choir in singing the Psalm.
Psalm 96.1-4,11-12 Cantate Domino*

Print antiphon here—based on *Venite adoremus*

- 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. *Antiphon*
- 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. *Antiphon*
- 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. *Antiphon*
- 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 be/fore him. *Antiphon*
- 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 there/in. *Antiphon*
- 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. *Antiphon*

Second Lesson: Titus 2.11-14

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.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

A period of silence is kept.

The following hymn is sung, all standing

 "Angels we have heard on high" *Gloria*

Hymnal #96, vv. 1-2

Then, all standing, a Priest reads the Gospel, first saying

 The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke (2.1-20).

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.

After the Gospel, the Priest says

 The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

All sing "Angels we have heard on high" *Gloria*

Hymnal #96, vv. 3-4

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

After each petition, the reader says Lord, in your mercy

The people respond Hear our prayer.

The person appointed then begins the Prayers of the People

Let us pray for the Church and for the world.

The people kneel.

Grant, Almighty God, that all who confess your Name may be united in your truth,
live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world. We remember
especially Rowan, Archbishop of Canterbury; Bartholomew, Patriarch of
Constantinople; Benedict, Bishop of Rome; the bishops, moderators, and presidents
of the Protestant Churches throughout the world; for Katharine, Presiding Bishop of
the Episcopal Church; and for Dorsey, our Bishop in Upper South Carolina.

Silence

Guide the people of this land, and of all the nations, in the ways of justice and peace; that we may honor one another and serve the common good. We remember especially George, our President; all leaders of the nations of the world; members of our armed forces; our local and state government officials.

Silence

Give us all a reverence for the earth as your own creation, that we may use its resources rightly in the service of others and to your honor and glory.

Silence

Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, and grant that we may serve Christ in them, and love one another as he loves us.

Silence

Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit; give them courage and hope in their troubles, and bring them the joy of your salvation.

Silence

We commend to your mercy all who have died, that your will for them may be fulfilled; and we pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom.

Silence

The Celebrant adds the concluding Collect.

O God, you make us glad by the yearly festival of the birth of your only Son Jesus Christ: Grant that we, who joyfully receive him as our Redeemer, may with sure confidence behold him when he comes to be our Judge; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

People Amen.

One of the ministers then leads the General Confession

Priest Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Minister and People

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

The Celebrant stands and says

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life.

People Amen.

All stand. The Celebrant says to the people

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you.

Then the Ministers and People may greet one another in the name of the Lord.

The Holy Communion

The Celebrant may begin the offertory with a sentence of Scripture.

At the Offertory:

4:30—“Snowy Flakes Are Falling Softly”

Healey Willan

10:30—“Candlelight Carol”

John Rutter

The people stand while the offerings are presented. Then all sing

“Praise God, from whom all blessings flow”

Hymnal #380, v. 3

Old 100th

The people remain standing. The Celebrant faces them and sings or says

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.

Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere 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:

Celebrant and People

Holy, holy, holy Lord *Sanctus*—Setting by Robert Powell

Hymnal #S129

The people stand or kneel.

Then the Celebrant continues the prayer of Consecration

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, 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, according to his command, O Father,

Celebrant and People

We remember his death, We proclaim his resurrection, We await his coming in glory;

The Celebrant continues

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with the Blessed Virgin Mary, Blessed John, and all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

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.

People Amen.

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

People and Celebrant

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 all sing

Fraction Anthem: Lamb of God *Agnus Dei*—Setting by David Hurd

Hymnal #S161

Facing the people, the Celebrant says the following 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.

All baptized people are invited to come for Communion, receiving the bread in their hands, consuming the bread, and then guiding the cup to their lips for a sip of wine. Unbaptized persons and young children may come for a blessing, presenting themselves to the ministers with arms crossed over their chests. During the ministrations of Communion, the following carols are sung:

- 4:30: Hymnal #79: "O little town of Bethlehem" *St. Louis*
Hymnal #89: "It came upon the midnight clear" *Carol*
Hymnal #87: "Hark! The herald angels sing" *Mendelssohn*
Hymnal #115: "What child is this" *Greensleeves*
Hymnal #102: "Once in royal David's city" *Irby*
(*The people kneel*) Hymnal #111: "Silent night" *Stille Nacht*
- 10:30: Hymnal #79: "O little town of Bethlehem" *St. Louis*
Hymnal #89: "It came upon the midnight clear" *Carol*
Hymnal #93: "Angels, from the realms of glory" *Regent Square*
Hymnal #102: "Once in royal David's city" *Irby*
(*The people kneel*) Hymnal #111: "Silent night" *Stille Nacht*

After Communion, the Celebrant says
Let us pray.

Celebrant and People

Almighty and everliving God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

A priest blesses the people
People Amen.

Then follows a hymn, all standing

"Joy to the world! The Lord is come" *Antioch*

Hymnal #100

One of the ministers dismisses the people with these words

Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.
People Thanks be to God.

Musicians at 4:30: St. John's Singers and Friends;

Clarissa Gold and Austin Lewis, Head Choristers and Soloists;

Dick Goodwin and Charles Polk, Trumpets; Campbell Freeman, Percussion

Musicians at 10:30: Chancel Choir; Donald Cockrell, Accompanist; Campbell Freeman, Percussion;

Mark Leach, Irish Whistle; Dick Goodwin and Charles Polk, Trumpets

Celia Tolar-Bane, Director of Music/Organist

**The Holy Eucharist: Rite One
Christmas Day 10:30 am**

The Word of God

At the Procession: "Angels, from the realms of glory" <i>Regent Square</i>	Hymnal #93
Acclamation and Collect for Purity, Summary of the Law	BCP 323
Song of Praise: <i>Gloria in excelsis</i> – Robert Powell	Hymnal #S280
The Collect of the Day - Christmas Day	BCP 161
The Lessons: Isaiah 62.6-12	Bible 682
Psalm 97	BCP 726
Titus 3.4-7	Bible 1357
At the Sequence: "Hark! The herald angels sing" <i>Mendelssohn</i>	Hymnal #87
The Gospel: Luke 2.1-20	Bible 1203
The Sermon	
The Nicene Creed	BCP 327
The Prayers of the People	Service Leaflet p. 4
Confession of Sin	BCP 330
The Peace	

The Holy Communion

Offertory	
Presentation Hymn: "Praise God, from whom all blessings flow"	Hymnal #380, v. 1
The Great Thanksgiving: Eucharistic Prayer II	BCP 340
The Breaking of Bread & Communion of the People	
Hymns at the Communion of the People:	
<i>"What child is this" Greensleeves</i>	Hymnal #115
Postcommunion Prayer	BCP 339
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.	
<i>People Amen.</i>	
At the Procession: "Go tell it on the mountain" <i>Go Tell It on the Mountain</i>	Hymnal #99
The Dismissal	

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Polly Watts, Organist