

CHRISTMAS DAY

Monday, December 25, 2023 at 10:30 a.m.

Holy Eucharist: Rite Two

St. Stephen's Episcopal Church ☪️ Richmond, Virginia

Opening Voluntary Improvisation on *Puer natus est*

Everett Titcomb

The Word of God

Hymn 83 O come, all ye faithful, vs. 1-3, 6 *Sung by all, standing as able.* *Adeste fidelis*

Opening Acclamation

Enriching Our Worship 1, page 50

Celebrant Blessed are you, holy and living One.

People **You come to your people and set them free.**

The Collect for Purity

Said by all.

Prayer Book, page 355

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.

Hymn 96 Angels we have heard on high *Sung by all, standing as able.*

Gloria

The Collect of the Day

Prayer Book, page 212

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray. *Silence is held.*

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. **Amen.**

The Lesson Isaiah 9:2-4, 6-7 *Please sit.*

King James Version

Reader 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 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 The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.** *A period of silence is held.*

Psalm 96 *Sung by the choir on behalf of the congregation.*

arr. Gerre Hancock

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.

Silence is kept.

Hymn 115 What child is this? *Sung by all, standing as able.*

Greensleeves

The Gospel John 1:1-14 *Please remain standing and face the reader of the Gospel.*

Deacon The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

Deacon The Gospel of the Lord.

People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

The Sermon The Rev. John W. A. Jenkins *Please sit.*

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, Form III

Celebrant Let us pray for the church and the world.

You may stand or kneel. The Leader and the People pray responsively.

Leader Father, we pray for your holy Catholic Church;
People **That we all may be one.**

Leader Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;
People **That your Name may be glorified by all people.**

Leader We pray for all bishops, priests, and Celebrants;
People **That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.**

Leader We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;
People **That there may be justice and peace on the earth.**

Leader Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;
 People **That our works may find favor in your sight.**

Leader Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble, remembering especially those who suffer in the Holy Land, Eastern Europe, and all places of conflict;
 People **That they may be delivered from their distress.**

Leader We pray for those who have died [especially ____]. Give to the departed eternal rest.
 People **Let light perpetual shine upon them.**

Leader We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;
 People **May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.**

Leader [We pray/give thanks for ____.] Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.

The People may add their own petitions.

Celebrant Almighty God, you have poured upon us the new light of your incarnate Word: Grant that this light, enkindled in our hearts, may shine forth in our lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Peace *Please stand.* Prayer Book, page 360

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.
 People **And also with you.**

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

Welcome and Announcements

The Holy Communion


Offertory Anthem The quiet heart *Sung by the choir.* June Collin

'Twas in the stillness of the night that Jesus came;
 No blare of trumpets heralded his birth
 Nor broke the wonted silence of the earth;
 No clang of bells or blantant hue and cry
 Disturbed the calm beneath the Bethlehem sky.
 When Jesus came 'twas night,
 And the world was still.

'Tis to the quiet heart he loves to come:
 Not often 'midst the tumult of the day,
 When we can find small time to think or pray,
 Or when, confused by agitating care,
 We find no secret place for him to share.
 We must be still if we his voice would hear.
 'Tis to the quiet heart he loves to come.

At the Presentation *Sung by all, standing.* Cranham

The fruits of our labor are presented to God, along with gifts for our food ministry.



What_ can I give him, poor_ as I am? If I were a shep - herd,
 I would bring a lamb; if I were a wise man, I would do my
 part; yet what I can I give him, give_ my_ heart.

The people remain standing.

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 God thanks and praise.**

Celebrant It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. *Here a proper preface is said.*

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

Sung by all.

William Trafka

Ho-ly, ho-ly, ho-ly Lord, God of power and might,
 heav-en and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho-san-na, ho-san-na, ho-
 san-na in the high-est. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the
 Lord. Ho-san-na, ho-san-na, ho-san-na in the high-est.

Please kneel as you are able.

Celebrant

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;

Celebrant

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 blessed Stephen, the Blessed Virgin Mary, 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. **AMEN.**

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

Celebrant and People

Prayer Book, page 364

**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 Breaking of the Bread

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated bread. A period of silence is held.

William Trafka

Cantor: Je - sus, Lamb of God, have mer - cy on us.

Je - sus, bear - er of our sins, have mer - cy on us.

Je - sus, Re - deem - er, re - deem - er of the world, *All:* do - na no - bis

pa - cem, do - na no - bis pa - cem, do - na no - bis pa - cem.

Celebrant The gifts of God for the people of God.

At the Communion of the People

All are welcome at the altar in this place. Communion is distributed at the base of the chancel steps. The altar also extends to your pew if you need us to bring the sacrament to you; just let an usher know. To receive Communion, place your hands together, palms up. You may consume the bread and then drink from the wine in the larger chalice. If you prefer to "intinct" or touch the edge of your bread to the wine, please use one of the smaller cups, available at all stations. Gluten-free wafers are available upon request. If you prefer to receive a blessing, cross your arms against your chest.

Music at Communion

O magnum mysterium

Sung by the choir.

Tomas Luis de Victoria

*O magnum mysterium,
et admirabile sacramentum,
ut animalia viderent Dominum natum,
jacentem in praeseptio!
O Beata Virgo, cujus viscera
meruerunt portare
Dominum Jesum Christum.
Alleluia!*

O great mystery,
and wonderful sacrament,
that animals should see the newborn Lord,
lying in a manger!
Blessed is the virgin whose womb
was worthy to bear
the Lord, Jesus Christ.
Alleluia!

Hymn 79 O little town of Bethlehem

Sung by all, seated.

St. Louis

Hymn 81 Lo, how a Rose e'er blooming

Sung by all, seated.

Es ist ein Ros

After Communion, the Celebrant says

Let us pray. *Please kneel as able.*

All

**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.**

Prayer Book, page 366

The Blessing

The Celebrant blesses the people.

Hymn 100 Joy to the world!

Sung by all, standing as able.

Antioch

Dismissal

Deacon Let us go forth bearing tidings of great joy to all people.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Closing Voluntary Fantasy on *In dulci jubilo*, BWV 729

J.S. Bach



Participants

CELEBRANT: The Rev. Cate Anthony; DEACON AND PREACHER: The Rev. John W.A. Jenkins; LAY READER/

INTERCESSOR: Tony Anthony; SUBDEACON: Kathy Brock; MUSICIANS: Sanctuary, Brent te Velde, *director and organ*

CHRISTMAS MEMORIALS

The arrangements in the church are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of

Mr. & Mrs. Harold E. Ambler	The Rev. D. Donald Dunn III	Sorrel M. McElroy	David Smith
Mr. & Mrs. M. Henry Ambler	Bruce Evans	Timothy C. McCoy, Sr.	Deborah Dibble Smith
The Rev. David T. Anderson	Nancy & Gordon Fauntleroy	Noel & Bubby McKissick	Lt. James A. Smith III
John Anderson	Linda Fisher	Maryann & Floyd McLean	James L. Smith
Mildred & Howard Anderson	Adelaide & Garland Flippen	Keith McMullin	Elizabeth Spalding
Barbara Ransone Andrews	Mary Craigie Flowers	Jeffrey Forbes Meadows	William Spell
T. Coleman Andrews, Jr.	Bernard & Marie Franko	Anna & Gene Miller	Laurie Spratley
Charles Hitchcock Anthony	Patrick Franko	Rosalind Miller	David Stagg
Wilson Palmer Anthony	The Rev. Dr. Reginald H. Fuller	George V. Moncure, Jr.	William Astor Stanley
Billy Armfield	Carroll C. Gathright, Jr.	Maggie Belle & Cabell Moore	William Penn Stanley
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Mr. & Mrs. William H. Borum	Louis Gustini	Christopher Flippen Nash	Anne Bell Turnbull
Linda Hart Bouquet	Virginia Gustini	Dorothy Lipps Nelson	Mr. & Mrs. B. Walton Turnbull
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Joe Davila Broadhurst	Mary Virginia Harwood	Mr. & Mrs. James H. Newell	Mary Ann Ulmer
John Bruck	Florence G. Hedrick	Mr. & Mrs. John Franklyn Newsom	Mary Christine Ulmer
Betsy Butcher	The Rev. John E. Hedrick	Ted & Lillian Notides	Katherine Rogers Wade
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Cora Louise & George Cary	Henry Shields Hewitt	Marianne Owens	Seaborn McDonald Wade
Dixon & Kate Roy Christian	Lelia Holtzman Holloway	Mary Lily Palmer	Holly Walsh
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Harrison Coble	Beverley Howarth	Janet W. Price	Carroll Edward Waters
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Marie Gravel Dempsey	Harry G. Lee	Fil & Snow Sanford	Mary Anderson Winn
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Dale Robert Dibble	John Lewis Low IV	V. R. Shackelford III	Stuart Wyeth
Megan Elizabeth Dibble	Angus H. Macaulay	Asma Shahda	Elton & Jo Ellen Yates
Mary Southgate Hearon Dickson	Jake MacNelly	Dr. Donald K. Sharpes	IN THANKSGIVING
Bruce Holley Downes	Doris A. Marshall	David Sherman	FOR THE MARRIAGE OF
Mr. & Mrs. Vachel A. Downes	Ann Goins & Billy H. Martin	Mr. & Mrs. Pendleton M. Shiflett, Jr.	Mary Anne Burke & Philip Hart
Mr. & Mrs. Vachel A. Downes, Jr.	Mr. & Mrs. Alexander Hamilton Mason	Nellie Wingo Short	AND FOR
William Harvey Downes	Dr. & Mrs. James Dunn Mason, Jr.	Mary Frances Siersema	Megan Michelle Coffey
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Carl A. Dull, Jr.	Teresa & Joe Massie	Samuel P. Simpson IV	Elliott David Hodge
Sue & Dick Duncan	Robert J. McCormack	Ann Douglas Smith	James McDowell Hodge

The wreaths are given in loving memory of R. Lowndes Burke and William E. Hardy.

The pine roping is given in loving memory of L. Anthony Austin, M.D., and Walker W. Scott.

St. Stephen's Episcopal Church 📍 6000 Grove Avenue Richmond, Virginia 23226 📞 804.288.2867 🌐 ststephensRVA.org