

# The Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ

December 24th, 2019, 4:00 p.m.



## The Word of God

*Prelude: Christmas Pastorale*

*Please STAND as able, and join in singing,*

The Processional Hymn

**O Come All Ye Faithful**

**Hymn #83**

**O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant,  
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;  
come, and behold him, born the King of angels;**

*Refrain:*

*O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him,  
Christ the Lord.*

**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 of the Day

**Celebrant** The Lord be with you.

**People** **And also with you.**

**Celebrant** 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.**

*Please be seated, and remain seated throughout the Nativity play. Please join in singing the carols.*

## The Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ



**Narrator:** "...a sheep is nearby asleep. All is quiet and still."

**Hymn #79, vs 1**

**O little town of Bethlehem,  
how still we see thee lie!  
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep  
the silent stars go by;  
yet in thy dark streets shineth  
the everlasting Light;  
the hopes and fears of all the years  
are met in thee tonight.**

**Narrator:** "...There is no room at the inn, but the innkeeper lets them sleep in his stable with the animals. A lowly place for the birth of Jesus."

**Hymn #102, vs 1**

Once in royal David's city  
stood a lowly cattle shed,  
where a mother laid her baby  
in a manger for his bed:  
Mary was that mother mild,  
Jesus Christ her little child.



**Narrator:** "...Mary wraps the child gently in a blanket and lays him in the manger, which Joseph has filled with straw."

Away in a manger, no crib for his bed,  
the little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head.  
The stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay,  
the little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.

**Narrator:** "...Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace, goodwill to all people everywhere."

**Hymn #96, vs 1**

Angels we have heard on high  
Sweetly singing o'er the plains,  
And the mountains in reply  
Echoing their joyous strains.

*Refrain*

*Gloria, in excelsis Deo!*

*Gloria, in excelsis Deo!*

**Narrator:** "...They find the Holy Family there, and creep forward, overwhelmed with mystery, to find Nativity itself in the center of all that love."

**Hymn #109, v 1**

The first Nowell the angel did say  
was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay;  
in fields as they lay, keeping their sheep,  
on a cold winter's night that was so deep.

*Refrain:*

*Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell,*

*born is the King of Israel.*



**Narrator:** "...They fall to their knees and give him bright gold, sweet-smelling frankincense, and bitter myrrh, brought so far with so much love.

**Hymn #115, v1**

**What child is this, who laid to rest,  
on Mary's lap is sleeping?  
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet,  
while shepherds watch are keeping?**

*Refrain:*

*This, this is Christ the King,  
whom shepherds guard and angels sing;  
haste, haste to bring him laud,  
the babe, the son of Mary.*

**Narrator:** So now we have come, following the star, to find God-with-us. We come, as people have come all through the ages, to bring our hearts as gifts to this Child, God's gift to us.

*We invite any children who are not already up here  
to come join us for the children's message as we sing.*

**Hymn #111, vv 1 & 2**

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|---|---|
| <p>1. <b>Silent night, holy night,<br/>all is calm, all is bright<br/>round yon virgin mother and child.<br/>Holy Infant, so tender and mild,<br/>sleep in heavenly peace.<br/>Sleep in heavenly peace.</b></p> | <p>2. <b>Silent night, holy night,<br/>shepherds quake at the sight,<br/>glories stream from heaven afar,<br/>heavenly hosts sing alleluia;<br/>Christ, the Savior, is born!<br/>Christ, the Savior, is born!</b></p> |
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**Children's Sermon**

Mrs. Suzanne Gatlin  
*Sunday School and Family Ministries' Coordinator*

**Hymn #107, v 1**    **Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart and soul and voice;  
Give the 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!**

*All STAND, as able, for*

**The Peace**

**Celebrant** May the Peace of Christ be always with you.

**People**    **And also with you.**

*The Ministers and People share with one another signs of Christ's peace.*

Welcome and Announcements



# The Holy Communion

Offertory Anthem

*The Friendly Beasts*

*Traditional*

*Jesus, our brother, kind and good, was humbly born in a stable rude, and the friendly beasts around him stood.  
Jesus, our brother, kind and good.*

*(Olivia Ako, solo) "I," said the donkey, all shaggy and brown, "I carried his mother up hill and down.  
I carried his mother to Bethlehem town. I;" said the donkey, shaggy and brown.*

*(Sofia Ako, solo) "I," said the cow, all white and red, "I gave him my manger for his bed.  
I gave him hay to pillow his head. I," said the cow, all white and red.*

*(Mario Valladores, solo) "I," said the sheep with curly horn, "I gave him my wool for his blanket warm.  
He wore my coat on Christmas morn. I," said the sheep, with curly horn.*

*(Finley Roberts and Alice Coloman, solos) "I," said the dove from the rafters high,  
"I cooed him to sleep so he would not cry. We cooed him to sleep, my mate and I. I," said the dove from the rafters high.  
Thus every beast, by some good spell, in a stable dark was glad to tell of the gifts they gave Emmanuel.*

*Please STAND, as able, and join in singing,*

Offertory Hymn

**Hark! The Herald Angels Sing**

**Hymn #87 v 1**

**Hark, the herald-angels sing  
glory to the new-born King,  
peace on earth, and mercy mild,  
God and sinners reconciled.  
Joyful, all ye nations, rise,  
join the triumph of the skies;  
with the angelic host proclaim,  
'Christ is born in Bethlehem.'**

***Hark, the herald-angels sing  
glory to the new-born King.***



*Please remain standing as able for*

The Offertory Prayers

**Celebrant** Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation; through your goodness we have this bread and wine to offer, which the earth has given and human hands have made.  
It will become for us the Bread of Heaven and the Cup of Salvation.

**People** **Blessed be God forever.**

**Celebrant** Receive, O Lord, these gifts presented by your holy people for the work of your holy Church.

**People** **Blessed be God forever.**

**Celebrant** Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation. You have blessed us with the joy and care of children. May the knowledge of you dawn on them, may the love of you grow in them this Christmas, and may the grace of your Spirit draw them to you.

**People** **Blessed be God forever.**

*Remain standing for,*

The Great Thanksgiving

*A Children's Eucharist*

**Celebrant** The Lord be with you.

**People** **And also with you.**

**Celebrant** Lift up your hearts.

**People** **We lift them up unto the Lord.**

**Celebrant** Let us give thanks to the God of all Creation.

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

Celebrant

O God, you made all things, and you blessed them. You gave us the earth to feed us, the sky to open our hearts, the water for us to drink. You blessed all those who came before us, and you bless us, also. When it was time, you sent angels to Mary and Joseph to tell them about having a child, whom they would call Jesus. Jesus would be the Savior of the world. And so we praise you with all the angels as we sing:

*Please join in singing,*

Sanctus

**"Gloria in excelsis Deo!"** (*Glory to God in the Highest!*)

**Refrain from Hymn #96**

**Gloria in excelsis Deo!**

**Gloria in excelsis Deo!**

*All kneel or stand as the Celebrant continues. The People read the words in **Bold**.*

Jesus was born in a manger in Bethlehem. He was surrounded by those who loved him, and those who believed that God would send a Savior.

**When he grew up he gathered others around him and told them stories, healed those who were sick, and brought all kinds of people the Good News that God loves them.**

On the night before he died, Jesus sat at a table with his friends and shared a meal. Christ took bread and said, "This is my body, **eat it in my remembrance.**" And he took a cup of wine and said, "This is my blood, **drink it in my remembrance.**"

As we do this, we remember Jesus who lives among us even now. This is what Christ has done for us.

**All Christ has died! Christ is risen! Christ will come again!**

*The Celebrant continues*

We offer you these gifts, because we are thankful, O God. Bless them by your Holy Spirit that they may be the body and blood of Christ for us.

Bless us also that we might always be your people doing your work in the world.

**Remember all those we love — our families, our neighbors, and our friends; give them peace and love this day.**

**Remember all those who are sick or hungry or far away from those they love. Comfort them, Lord.**

**Remember all those who were near to us, but who have died, and keep them safely with you.**

**Remember all of us here, that we might see Christ in each other and honor you in all we do.**

And so we offer all of this and ourselves to you, through Christ, with Christ, and in Christ.

**All AMEN.**

Celebrant And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, let us say,

**All 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.*

## The Fraction Anthem

"Good Christian Friends, Rejoice"

Hymn #107 vs 1

**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!**

## The Communion of the People

*All are invited to receive Holy Communion. Please follow the directions of the ushers. If you do not wish to share in Communion, we encourage you to come forward to receive a blessing. Simply fold your hands across your chest when you come forward. Gluten-free Communion wafers are now carried alongside regular wafers at Holy Communion. If you require one of these, simply ask at the Altar rail.*

*The clergy will carry Communion to anyone in the congregation who is unable to come forward. Please notify an usher if you wish to be served in your seat.*



## Communion Music

*Who's That Baby?*

*Ruth Elaine Schram  
and Aren Newell Williams*

*Who's that baby lying quietly at night in a manger of hay, bathed in heavenly light? Who's that baby?*

*Let us run to Bethlehem! We will follow the star, it will lead us to him.*

*And the legions of angels break forth in joyous singing: Gloria! Gloria!*

*Who's that baby? Is he sent from heaven above, bringing joy to our hearts in this season of love? Who's that baby?*

*Let us run to Bethlehem! We will follow the star; it will lead us to him.*

*And the legions of angels break forth in joyous singing: Gloria! Gloria!*



*Please stand or kneel as able for,*

## The Post-Communion Prayer

Celebrant Let us pray.

**All God our Father, tonight you have made known to us again the blessing and power of the coming of Christ; may this Holy Communion confirm our faith and fix our eyes on him until the day dawns and he is born again and forever in our hearts. To him be all glory, now and for ever. Amen.**

## The Christmas Blessings

Celebrant Gift-giving God of angels and stars, shepherds and magi, promise and hope;  
God, who calls and sends, blesses and guides:  
God of ancient love that is always new;  
God of Christmas, bless us now and always, in the name of the Father,  
the Son and the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Please *STAND* as able for,  
The Closing Hymn

### Joy to the World

Hymnal #100 vv 1 & 2

Joy to the world! the Lord is come:  
let earth receive her King;  
let every heart prepare him room,  
and heaven and nature sing,  
and heaven and nature sing,  
and heaven, and heaven and nature sing.

Joy to the world! the Savior reigns;  
let us our songs employ,  
while fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains  
repeat the sounding joy,  
repeat the sounding joy,  
repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

### The Sending Forth

Deacon Let us go forth in Christmas joy and peace to love and serve the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Postlude: "Adeste Fidelis" variations



**Celebrant:** The Very Rev. Paula Vukmanic

**Deacon:** The Rev. Jude Lyons

**Preacher:** Mrs. Suzanne Gatlin, *Sunday School and Family Ministries' Coordinator*

Thank you to all those who helped with our Nativity Play this year!!

Narrators	Reese Fenske-Lynch and Olivia Ako
Mary	Sophia Ako
Joseph	Rowan Klein
Baby Jesus	Victor Ako
Angel Gabriel	Camryn Klein

3 Magi – Isaura Marianne Aguilar Valladares, Mario Manuel de Jesus Aguilar Valladares, Maria Fernanda Aguilar Valladares