



Christmas Eve

Service of Holy Eucharist
9 PM – Rite III
December 24, 2021

Voluntary

Jesu Bambino
Dan Montgomery, soloist

Pietro Yor

Welcome

Opening Hymn

Once in Royal David's City
Soloist – Verse 1, Choir – Verse 2, Congregation – Verse 3-4

Hymnal 102

Verse 3

**We, like Mary, rest confounded that a stable should display
Heaven's Word, the world's creator, cradled there on Christmas Day,
Yet this child, our Lord and brother, brought us love for one another.**

Verse 4

**For he is our life-long pattern; daily, when on earth he grew,
He was tempted, scorned, rejected, tears and smiles like us he knew.
Thus he feels for all our sadness, and he shares in all our gladness.**

Liturgical Greeting

Blessed be the One, holy and living God.
Glory to God for ever and ever. Amen.

Call to Worship

An unmarried teenage girl was invited—
to carry Christ into this world.
An ordinary carpenter was invited—
to be a father to a child unlike any other.
The shepherds were invited—
outcast and isolated, included at the manger.
The Magi were invited—
foreigners and seekers, included at the manger.
And if she was invited, and he was invited, and they were invited—
then we can trust that we too are invited.
This story is for us.
This love is for us.
Family of faith, this is our invitation. Welcome home.
Amen.

Candle Lighting Liturgy | The Christ Candle

In God's house, there is hope—

For God loves us too much to leave us just as we are.

Light the candle of hope.

In God's house, there is peace—

For all that separates us from God falls away.

Light the candle of peace.

In God's house, there is joy—

Because God created music, and coffee, and dance floors, and laughter that is contagious, and endless rounds of peek-a-boos with babies; and if those things have God's fingerprints, then God's house surely exudes joy.

Light the candle of joy.

In God's house, there is love—

Because God is love, from start to finish, and that love exists for us all.

Light the candle of love.

And in the center of our hope,

In the center of our peace,

In the center of our joy,

In the center of our love, is God—who came to this earth to dwell among us.

So tonight we light the Christ candle, for God's love just could not stay away.

Welcome home. Amen.

Song of Praise

Angels We Have Heard on High

Hymnal 96

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!

Shepherds, why this jubilee?
Why your joyous strains prolong?
What the gladsome tidings be
Which inspire your heavenly song?

Refrain

Come to Bethlehem and see
Christ whose birth the angels sing;
Come, adore on bended knee,
Christ the Lord, the newborn King.

Refrain

See Him in a manger laid,
Whom the choirs of angels praise;
Mary, Joseph, lend your aid,
While our hearts in love we raise.

Refrain

The Collect for Christmas

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Together let us pray.

Holy God, We've heard this story a million times— Mary and Joseph, the angels, the shepherds. We've heard it a million times, but we want to hear it like it's the first. So move among us. Circle back. Draw close. Crack open our hearts and fill them with your goodness. Help us to hear what it is you might be saying to us with curiosity, joy, and hope. This is an invitation. Come be here with us. Gratefully we pray, amen.

The Liturgy of the Word

The Old Testament Lesson

Isaiah 9:2-7

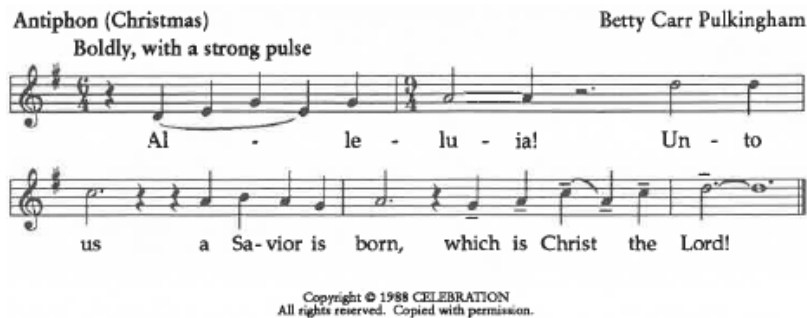
The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness-- on them light has shined. You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder. For the yoke of their 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 forevermore. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 96

BCP 725



Sing to the LORD a new song; *

sing to the LORD, all the whole earth.

Sing to the LORD and bless his Name; *

proclaim the good news of his salvation from day to day.

Declare his glory among the nations *

and his wonders among all peoples.

For great is the LORD and greatly to be praised; *

he is more to be feared than all gods.

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.

Then shall all the trees of the wood shout for joy before the LORD when he comes, *

when he comes to judge the earth.

The New Testament 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.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

(Please stand for the singing of the hymn and reading of the Gospel.)

Gospel Hymn

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

Hymnal 87

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

**Christ, by highest heaven adored; Christ, the everlasting Lord;
late in time behold him come, offspring of the virgin's womb.
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see; hail th' incarnate Deity,
pleased with us in flesh to dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel.
Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King!"**

**Mild he lays his glory by, born that we no more may die,
born to raise us from the earth, born to give us second birth.
Risen with healing in his wings, light and life to all he brings,
hail, the sun of Righteousness! hail, the heaven-born Prince of Peace!
Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King!"**

The Holy Gospel

Luke 2:1-14

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

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!"

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Christ

The Homily

The Rev. Canon Mary Cole-Duvall

Nicene Creed *(Please stand as you are able.)*

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

Deacon

God of shepherds and angels,
God of starlight and seekers,
God of mangers and unwed teenage mothers:
It is almost Christmas. It's almost here.
We are close to home.

It feels like we have been waiting so long for this night.

Amidst the hustle and bustle of this busy season, we have been waiting for a quiet, a calm, a stillness. We have been waiting for good news that changes us and for the undeniable sense that you are near.

So in this moment, surrounded by community,
in the presence of candle light and hallelujahs,
we bow our heads and give thanks:

Thank you, God, for the places and people that feel like home.

Thank you for the hope on the horizon which carries us through.

Thank you for moments of worship that break open our hearts.

Thank you for the joy of children on this night, which reminds us of love.

And thank you for the stars in the sky which remind us of you.

We have so much to be grateful for.

However, even amidst our prayers of gratitude and joy, we also bring you prayers of concern. For when the music is quiet and the clouds clear, we can finally hear our own thoughts and see sky above us, and that is when there is enough space for hurt to float to the surface.

We know we are close to home, God, but we also know we are not home yet and that truth aches in us. So many of us are still seeking, still looking for a place to belong, still searching for a faith that feels like home.

We are closer to home, but we're not there yet.

We are only truly home when we are with you.

So God of starlight and angel choruses, on this Christmas Eve, as you come dwell among us, we pray that you would bring us closer to home. Scoop us up. Draw us in. Build the world you have in mind for us. Hover here. Hear our prayers. Take this grief and pain off of our shoulders and hold our hands as we walk through the dark.

It is almost Christmas.

It's almost here. We can feel it—we are close to home. Amen.

The Peace

The Peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

Let us offer each other a sign of God's peace.

(We greet each other in the name of the Lord.)

The Liturgy of the Table

The Offertory

Offertory Anthem

Gloria He is Born!

Patrick Liebergen

(Please stand as you are able.)

Doxology

O Come, All Ye Faithful

Hymnal 83, v. 3

Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,

Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above;

Glory to God, glory in the highest

O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him,

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

The Great Thanksgiving

God be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to God.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Blessed are you, Breath of peace, Giver of all life, Source of love that knows no boundaries. Your song of wisdom rang out before the world began; throughout the ages, your song of liberation has filled us with your hope for a world where: those considered last and least are first and most; violence is overcome by the power of your ancient love; and all siblings work together for peace. You bring our longings to birth, and send prophets to awaken us.

We thank you for those who,

like Mary, have the strength and courage to give birth to your love in the world;

like the shepherds, dare to seek out the Child of Bethlehem;

like the wise ones, actively challenge violent and oppressive powers.

We praise you that your everlasting light is shown to us in womb and tomb, in cradle and cross, in tenderness and compassion.

And, as we give thanks for your coming among us, we proclaim your goodness by singing:

**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;
O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him, Christ, the Lord!**

God of hope, make this bread the means of our rebuilding,
this wine the medium of our transformation,
this table the foundation of our renewal,
and this community the place of our rebirth.

We remember Jesus, who on the night before he died, took a loaf of bread, gave you thanks, broke it, and said, "Take and eat; whenever you do this, remember me."

Likewise, after supper, he took the cup, saying, "This is the new covenant; remember me."

Gracious God, Breath of peace, source of love, we pray for your Spirit.

Make us, while many, one. Make us, though broken, whole.

And so we pray

Come, Holy Spirit, come. AMEN.

And so we join with our siblings around the world in the prayer of Jesus:

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

We break this bread to share in the Body of Christ.

We who are many are one body, for we all share in the one bread.

Invitation to Communion

The Table is set. Come you seekers and you holy ones. Come you lost and you lonely ones. Come you faithful and you doubtful ones. Come take your place and receive God's hospitality. Come receive the goodness of our Lord, then share it with your neighbors, family, friends, and strangers.

We come to the Table to share in God's gifts for us.

Communion

All who seek God and a deeper life in Christ are welcome to receive communion.

The usher will guide you to the communion rail. To receive the bread, place one open hand on top of the other.

To receive the wine, you are welcome to dip the wafer into the vessel.

Gluten-free wafers are available upon request – please ask the clergy.

Communion Hymn*O Come, All Ye Faithful**Hymnal 83 v. 1, 2, 5*

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:

God from God, Light from Light eternal,
Lo! he abhors not the Virgin's womb;
Only begotten son of the Father!

Refrain

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

Refrain

Child, for us sinners poor and in the manger,
We would embrace thee, with love and awe:
Who would not love thee, loving us so dearly?

Refrain**Lighting of the Candles***(Please kneel as you are able.)***Prayer of Thanksgiving**

God of great joy, we praise and thank you for you have not left us alone. Each year you come to us, Emmanuel, God with us in a manger. Each time you come to us in the bread broken and the cup shared. May we, for whom the heavens have opened to proclaim that God is with us, go out to be Children of Light bringing the Good News of your Son's redeeming love to the world. Amen.

Hymn *(continue kneeling)**Silent Night, Holy Night**Hymnal 111*

Silent night, holy night, all is calm, all is bright.
Round yon virgin mother and child,
Holy infant, so tender and mild,
sleep in heavenly peace. Sleep in heavenly peace.

Silent night, holy night, shepherds quake at the sight.
Glories stream from heaven afar,
heavenly hosts sing alleluia;
Christ, the Savior, is born! Christ, the Savior, is born!

Silent night, holy night, Son of God, love's pure light,
radiant beams from thy holy face,
with the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord, at thy birth. Jesus, Lord, at thy birth.

Blessing

Go now, and join your voices with the song of joy in all creation.
Announce peace. Herald salvation. Let the earth know that God reigns.

And may God sustain you and those you love.
May Christ Jesus be born as Savior within you.
And may the Spirit reveal to you the glory
of the Christ Child, full of grace and truth. **Amen.**

Benedictus*A Blessing of Light**J. Martin*

(Please extinguish your candle and stand as you are able.)

Closing Hymn

Joy to the World

Hymnal 100

Joy to the world, the Lord is come!
Let earth receive her King;
Let ev'ry heart prepare him room
and heav'n and nature sing,
And heav'n and nature sing.
And heav'n, and heav'n, and nature sing.

He rules the world with truth and grace
and makes the nations prove
The glories of his righteousness,
And wonders of his love,
And wonders of his love.
And wonders, wonders of his love.

Joy to the world, the Savior reigns!
Let all their songs employ.
While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains
repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat the sounding joy.
Repeat, repeat, the sounding joy!

Dismissal

Tonight we invited a familiar story home -- Mary and Joseph, the angels, the shepherds.
We heard this tale of miracle and promise for the first time -- again. And so we go out our doors into
God's beloved world. Let us take this story and the hope, peace, joy and love we feel here in this
home into the world. Alleluia! Alleluia!
We will with God's Help. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Voluntaries

COMING SERVICES

Christmas 1 - December 26, 10:15 AM

***Rebroadcast of A Service of Lessons & Carols on YouTube
Drive up communion available for 30 minutes following the service.***

Epiphany - January 2, 10:15 AM

ONE SERVICE WEEKEND

Links to all services can be found at www.sttimothyiowa.org/worship



Christmas Flowers & Greens

***Thanks to all those who have contributed
flowers and greens to our sanctuary.***



In Memory of

Jacquie & Mort Baker, Myrna & Luther Dooley,
and Neil E. & Ruth Guy by Neil & Tammy Guy

Jeanne Samuleson by Chris & Beth Bice

John Donnelly by Beverly Donnelly

Carl & Mary Cacciatore and Everett & Faye
Sheldahl, by Mary & Tom Sheldahl

Jeannie & Bill Smith, Betty & Jack Douglas, Janet
Douglas Amos, Mary D. Macy, and Wes
Burlingame, by Jeanie & Bill Smith

Jean McKinney & Shirley Hamrick
by John & Julie McKinney

Ralph Lee, Earl & Dorothy Montgomery, Patricia
Montgomery, and Kay Montgomery
by Dan & Jana Montgomery

Lyle McKinney by Marilyn & Jennie McKinney

Harman & Vilma Duvall, Susie & Howard Cole,
Nancy Hairfield, Diane Duvall Wallweber, and
Lorraine Duvall Mueller by Mary & Milton Cole
Duvall

George Eldridge by Karen Peters

Martin R. Curley by Sue Curley

Ed & Shirley Fowler by Sue Fuller

Martin L. Crandell by Mary Crandell & Myron
Peterson

Roger P. Lane by Jean Lane

Billy Bryant by Kathy Bryant

Dottie Carpenter by Tom Carpenter

In Thanksgiving for

Jerry Harden, Gary Slocum, John Cowles and
Marlene Cowles by Mark & Elizabeth Slocum

Dottie Carpenter by Tom Carpenter

Our family, by Tammy & Neil Guy

Maggie Bice by Chris & Beth Bice

Our children & grandchildren, our church family,
and Mary Cole-Duvall by Jeanie & Bill Smith

Tom & Janet Hansen and John McKinney, Jr.
by John & Julie McKinney

Ned & Sammy, Lucy, our families and our friends
by Dan & Jana Montgomery

St. Timothy's Staff, Clergy and Vestry
by Mary Cole Duvall

Family by Karen Peters

Our Children & Grandchildren by Marty & Lyndy
Wells

Cheryl Crandell and Stan & Marlys Peterson by
Mary Crandell & Myron Peterson

Our Family & Friends by Mark & Elizabeth
Slocum

Mary, Dave, Jim, Lynn, Matt, Mabel, Tom & Kate
by Tom Carpenter



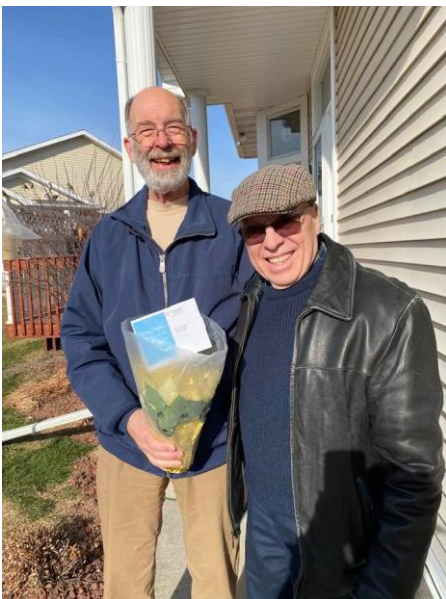
Come on Home

We all know the feeling—
the shaky ground, sinking sand, water-is-rising, sun-is-fading feeling
that makes steady breathing an entire miracle, and holding back tears a marvel in and of itself.

And when those days come, I call my parents.
And I call my church, and I call my friends, and they say in unison
what God has said from the very beginning, which is, “Come on home.”

Is there anything more healing than an open door?
If you’re seeking sanctuary, if the waters are rising—listen.
It may be hard to hear, but God is always saying,
“Come on home.”

Poem by Rev. Sarah (Are) Speed



CLI License #2822170 • 20755226 • OneLicense # A703372
Liturgy & poetry by Sarah Are | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org
Graphic Design by Lauren Wright Pittman | Original photography by Lisle Gwynn Garrity | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org



1020 24th Street • West Des Moines • IA 50266
office@sttimothysiowa.org • sttimothysiowa.org
515-225-2020