



Sunday, December 24, 2023 at 7pm  
St. Timothy's Episcopal Church  
West Des Moines, Iowa

# Liturgy of the Word

Prelude

Welcome

*Please stand as you are able.*

Opening Carol

*Once in Royal David's City*

*Gather #380*

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.*
2. *He came down to earth from heaven  
Who is God and Lord of all,  
And his shelter was a stable,  
And his cradle was a stall.  
With the poor and mean and lowly  
Lived on earth our Savior holy.*
3. *And our eyes at last shall see him,  
through his own redeeming love;  
For that child so dear and gentle  
Is our Lord in heav'n above:  
And he leads his children on  
To the place where he has gone.*

Liturgical Greeting

Priest      Blessed be the one, holy, and living God.  
People      **Glory to God for ever and ever. Amen.**

Gloria

*Angels We Have Heard on High*

*Gather # 361, v.1*

*Angels we have heard on high, sweetly singing o'er the plains,  
And the mountains in reply echo back their joyous strains.  
Gloria in excelsis Deo, Gloria in excelsis Deo.*

Collect of the Day

The Lord be with you.  
**And also with you.**  
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.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

## Psalm 96

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.**

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.

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.**

## The Second Reading

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 as you are able.*

## Gospel Anthem

**For Unto Us a Child is Born**

**Handel**

## Gospel

**Luke 2:1-20**

Deacon            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.

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

## Sermon

"Unto Us a Child Is Born"  
The Rev. Kyle Carswell

## 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,  
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the  
Virgin Mary and became truly human.  
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,  
who with the Father and the Son is  
worshiped and glorified,  
who 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

On this holy night in which God joins heaven and earth, let us offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all those in need.

For the church around the world, as it celebrates the birth of Christ. Lord, in your mercy.

**Hear our prayer.**

For the nations of the earth, that as kings were drawn by a star to worship the infant Jesus, all peoples may stream to your light. Lord, in your mercy.

**Hear our prayer.**

For those who live surrounded by conflict and violence, that the angels' proclamation of peace on earth among all people might be realized among us today. Lord, in your mercy.

**Hear our prayer.**

For the weak and the vulnerable, the sick and the suffering, the homeless, the cold, the hungry; for all who, like Mary and Joseph, find no room to spend the night. Lord, in your mercy.

**Hear our prayer.**

For all those who travel this Christmas season, that you would watch over them as you watched over the Holy Family as they traveled to Bethlehem, and to foreign lands. Lord, in your mercy.

**Hear our prayer.**

For all the departed, and for those who grieve, that they may experience the loving presence of Emmanuel, "God with us." Lord, in your mercy.

**Hear our prayer.**

*Deacon*

O God, we bring before you this night our prayers for those who are close and whom we love; we also bring before you this night our prayers for those far from us whom we don't know and don't love. As we celebrate the birth of your son, help us to be ever more like him, to learn to love as he loves, and to do our work to bring about your kingdom. **Amen.**

## The Peace

Priest     The Peace of Christ be always with you.  
People     **And also with you.**

# Liturgy of the Table

## Offertory

### *The Christmas Gift*

Chopin

*Soloist, Mike McGill*

*Please stand as you are able.*

## Doxology

### **Good Christian Friends Rejoice**

Gather #367, v. 1

**Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart and soul and voice;  
O give 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 Great Thanksgiving

Priest     The Lord be with you.  
People     **And also with you.**  
Priest     Lift up your hearts.  
People     **We lift them to the Lord.**  
Priest     Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
People     **It is right to give our 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. You created light out of darkness and brought forth life on the earth. You formed us in your image and breathed into us the breath of life. When we turned away, and our love failed, your love remained steadfast. You delivered us from captivity, made covenant to be our sovereign God, and spoke to us through your prophets.

In the fullness of time you gave your only Son Jesus Christ to be our Savior, and at his birth the angels sang glory to you in the highest and peace to your people on earth. And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

## Sanctus

Hymnal #S125

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

*The Celebrant continues*

Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ. As Mary and Joseph went from Galilee to Bethlehem and there found no room, so Jesus went from Galilee to Jerusalem and was despised and rejected. As in the poverty of a stable Jesus was born, so by the baptism of his suffering, death, and resurrection you gave birth to your Church, delivered us from slavery to sin and death, and made with us a new covenant by water and the Spirit.

On the night in which he gave himself up for us, he took bread, gave thanks to you, broke the bread, gave it to his disciples, and said: "Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

When the supper was over he took the cup, gave thanks to you, gave it to his disciples, and said: "Drink from this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ, we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering for us, as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

**Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.**

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here, and on these gifts of bread and wine. Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ, that we may be for the world the body of Christ, redeemed by his blood.

By your Spirit make us one with Christ, one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world, until Christ comes in final victory, and we feast at his heavenly banquet.

Through your Son Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in your holy Church, all honor and glory is yours, almighty Father, now and for ever. **Amen.**

### **The Lord's Prayer**

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,**

**for ever and ever. Amen.**

### **Breaking of the Bread**

God of promise, you have prepared a banquet for us.

**Happy are those who are called to the Supper of the Lamb.**

### **Communion**

*You do not need to be a member of this church or of any church to receive communion.*

*To receive the sacrament, come forward and stand or kneel at the rail. The wine is received by intinction, by dipping the wafer into the chalice. Please let the clergy know if you require a **gluten-free wafer**; to indicate that you would prefer a **blessing only**, cross your arms across your chest.*

*If you are unable to come forward, please notify an usher and the sacrament will be brought to you.*

**Sussex Carol**

Soloist, Dan Montgomery

arr. Hayes

*Please stand as you are able.***Prayer after Communion**

Loving God, we give you thanks for restoring us in your image and nourishing us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of Christ's Body and Blood. Now send us forth a people, forgiven, healed, renewed; that we may proclaim your love to the world and continue in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.

**Carol by Candlelight****Silent Night**

Gather #371

*The candles will be lit along the aisles. Please pass on the light to your neighbor.*

1. *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.*
2. *Silent night, holy night,  
Shepherds quake at the sight;  
Glories stream from heaven afar,  
Heav'nly hosts sing alleluia;  
Christ, the Savior, is born!  
Christ, the Savior, is born!*
3. *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****Closing Carol****The First Nowell**

Gather #388

1. *The first Nowell, the angel did say,  
Was to certain poor shepherds in fields as  
they lay;  
In fields where 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.*
2. *They look-ed up and saw a star  
Shining in the east, beyond them far,  
And to the earth it gave great light,  
And so it continued both day and night.  
Refrain*
3. *And by the light of that same star  
Three wise men came from country far;  
And seek for a king was their intent,  
And to follow the star wherever it went.  
Refrain*
4. *Then let us all with one accord  
Sing praises to our heav'nly Lord;  
Who with the Father we adore  
And Spirit blest forever more.  
Refrain*

**Dismissal**

Deacon Alleluia! Alleluia! As we celebrate the birth of Jesus, let us go out into the world every day being more and more like him.

People Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!!

**Postlude**



# MINISTERS OF THE SERVICE

## Presider/Preacher

The Rev. Kyle Carswell

## Deacon

The Rev. Jeanie Smith

## Music Director

Don Agee

## Acolytes

Caitlin McManus, Lillie McManus, Ashlyn Rounceville

## Lector/Litanists

Annie Waskom, Lexi Faber, Dan Montgomery

## Chalice Bearer

McB McManus, Annie Waskom

## Oblation Bearers

Maggie McGill, Sandra Marshall

## Ushers

Larry Shea, Mark Marshall

## Altar Guild

Sandra Marshall

## Livestream Coordinator

Neil Guy

## Vestry Representative

Dave Leigh

---

*Merry Christmas!*

Whether you are a longtime parishioner at St. Timothy's, a newcomer, or a friend or family member visiting from out of town, we are delighted that you are celebrating the miracle of Christ's birth with us tonight.

Our worship tonight is full of joyous carols, familiar readings, and candles glowing in the night. All of it calls us to remember the incredible gift God has given us in the birth of Jesus, our Prince of Peace. And all is made that much more special by your presence.

I wish you a Merry Christmas from St. Timothy's, and may God bless you and keep you in the New Year.

Peace,



The Rev. Kyle Carswell, Rector

# COMING UP

## CHURCH OFFICES WILL BE CLOSED FROM DECEMBER 25 THROUGH JANUARY 1.

Calls and emails will be monitored for pastoral care needs.  
All others will be returned when the office re-opens on January 2.



## CHRISTMAS DAY SERVICE AT ST. PAUL'S CATHEDRAL MONDAY, DECEMBER 25 | 10 AM

We will not hold a Christmas Day service at St. Timothy's this year. Instead, we encourage those interested in attending a service on the 25th to attend worship at St. Paul's, Des Moines (815 High Street).

---

## FIRST SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS

**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 30 | 5 PM**  
**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 31 | 10:15 AM**

On the weekend after Christmas, we will conduct our service using the Book of Common Prayer rather than a bulletin. We will also invite those present on Sunday to choose their favorite Christmas carol from our hymnal to sing together during the service.

---

## THE COMING WEEK

### Wednesday, December 27

11:30 am Men's Lunch at Palmer's on Ingersoll

### Friday, December 29

10 am BBB

### Saturday, December 30

9 am Centering Prayer  
5 pm Holy Eucharist

### Sunday, December 31

9:45 am Childcare Available

10:15 am Holy Eucharist

**NO FORMATION – We resume January 7.**



## EPIPHANY CELEBRATION SUNDAY, JANUARY 7 | 9 AM

Kick off 2024 by celebrating the Feast of the Epiphany! At 9 am we will gather for our First Sunday Breakfast and in place of our regular Children’s Formation, there will be Epiphany-related activities for kids! Count on crafts, cookie decorating, and chalking the door!

---

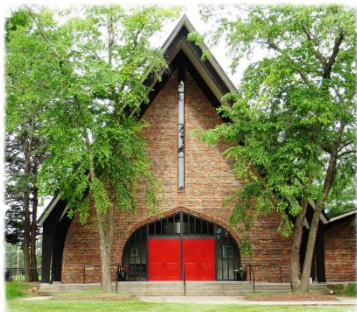
## CONFIRMATION PREP FOR 2024



On Sunday, April 28, 2024, Bishop Betsey Monnot will make her regular visitation to St. Timothy’s. In addition to welcoming the bishop to our parish, the visitation is also a chance for us to celebrate the Confirmation or Reception of youth and of members new to the Episcopal Church.

Confirmation (or Reception for adults who have been confirmed in another tradition) is the process for becoming a “full-fledged, card-carrying” Episcopalian. Those interested in being confirmed or received will prepare for the rite by participating in the Discovery Class, which invites parishioners to explore the worship, history, and teachings of the Episcopal Church as a way of strengthening our spiritual walk with Christ. Dates and times for the Discovery Class will be set based on interest.

If you or your child is interested in being confirmed or received, please contact Kyle at [rector@sttimothyiowa.org](mailto:rector@sttimothyiowa.org).



---

## ST. TIMOTHY’S DAY & ANNUAL GATHERING SUNDAY, JANUARY 28

Following our 10:15 am service, we’ll share a meal in the Parish Hall, hear reports from ministry leaders and elect our newest vestry members.

Please join us as we celebrate what was 2023 and look forward to 2024.



WE ARE CHRIST’S HANDS • FEET • VOICE IN THE WORLD

1020 24<sup>th</sup> Street + West Des Moines, IA 50266  
515.225.2020 / [office@sttimothyiowa.org](mailto:office@sttimothyiowa.org)  
[www.sttimothyiowa.org](http://www.sttimothyiowa.org)



# Thank You



To all who donated to support our Christmas flowers and greens!

**Colleen, Darin, Logan, Luke, and Paige Krantz** in memory of Dverg Krantz

**Susan Jacobi** in memory of Millie Brewer

**Lyndy & Marty Wells** in memory of Hanna Sahliyah and in thanksgiving for our children & grandchildren

**Maggie, Mike, Molly, Max, and Mary McGill** in memory of William McGill

**Mary Sheldahl** in memory of Tom Sheldahl, Mary & Carl Cacciatore, and Fay & Everett Sheldahl

**John and Julie McKinney** in memory of Jean McKinney and Shirley Hamrick

**Steve A. Halbrook** in memory of Diane Christine Ronning Halbrook

**Mark and Kathy Larson** in memory of Rex & Nan Ryden and Virginia "Ginny" Hunt and in thanksgiving for our family and friends

**Paul and Lee D'Anna** in memory of our parents: Al & BJ D'Anna and Elmo & Joan Guelph

**Bill Wolff** in memory of Lu Wolff

**Marilyn McKinney** in memory of Lyle McKinney

**Dan and Jana Montgomery** in memory of Ralph Lee, Earl & Dorothy Montgomery, Patricia Montgomery, and Kay Montgomery and in thanksgiving for Ned & Lucy

**Erika Baty** in memory of Earnest Baty Jr., Phyllis Cason and Anita Peek and in thanksgiving for Cecil Brewton & Constance Baty-Brewton and Dean Ezekiel Renthrope

**Bob and Lea Hollwager** in thanksgiving for a healthy family

**Bev Donnelly** in memory of John Donnelly

**Suzanne and Pete Graham** in thanksgiving for Katie Graham, Courtney Graham and Jack & Julie Graham

**Susan and Dale Vande Haar** in memory of Helen & MD Vande Haar and Carolyn & Paul Grimes and in thanksgiving for Gabriel, Lukas, and Ella

**Diana Morman & Family** in memory of Denny – a great hubby and a wonderful dad!

**Joanne and James Taylor** in thanksgiving for John Callies and Florence Taylor

**Mel Rambo** in memory of Jacquelyn S. Rambo and in thanksgiving for my two-year-old granddaughter, Hattie Phelps

**Larry Anderson** in memory of Linda Anderson, Bob & Dorothy Anderson, and Ron & Phyllis Hallock and in thanksgiving for Jeff Anderson, Jill Anderson, Steve Anderson, Nick Anderson, and Lauren Anderson

**Janice Dickinson and the Dickinson Family** in memory of Peter Dickinson and Feisal Sayeed

**Marsha and Gary Smith** in memory of Ferne & Chester Morgan, Gus & Edna Smith, and all our loved ones who've passed and in thanksgiving for Laura, Brian, Jackson & Megan Walthart and Meg, Rob, and Zachary Gilland

**Elizabeth & Mark Slocum** in memory of Jerry Harden, Marlene Cowles, John Cowles, and Gary Slocum and in thanksgiving for Ryan & CJ Johnson, Easton Slocum, our children, their spouses, and our families

**Kevin & Kay-Kay Saunders** in memory of John K Webster and Patrick S. Saunders and in thanksgiving for Kate and Elizabeth Saunders

**Marie Lucie Ndobé**

**Mark & Sandra Marshall** in memory of Harvey Seyb, Marvin Marshall, and Ray Swenson and in thanksgiving for Theodore "Teddy" Marshall, Lincoln and Croix Hall, Landon and Logan Marshall, their parents and Nicholas Marshall

**Larry Shea and Kate Bruce** in memory of Kathy Shea and Garrison Bruce

**Tammy and Neil Guy** in memory of Jacqueline & Mort Baker, Ruth & Neil Guy, and Myrna & Luther Dooley and in thanksgiving for our growing family

**Mary and H. Milton Cole-Duvall** in memory of Velma & Harmon Duvall, Diane Duvall Wallweber, Lorraine Duvall Wallweber, Betty & Howard Cole, Nancy Cole-Hairfield, and Luella "Lu" Wolff and in thanksgiving for The Rev'd. Jeanie Douglas Smith, The Rev'd. Kyle Carswell, The Rev'd. Bill Wolff, the Rev'd. Pat Genereux, and Carol & Tom Narak

**Mary Cole-Duvall** in memory of Peter Duvall

**H. Milton Cole-Duvall** in memory of John Leo Tarver, Jr., Richard "Dick" Donlan, Floyd Michael Cole, David Newton Cole, Susan Cole Webb, Verona Anne Cole, and Earl Frederick Smith