

Children's Christmas Pageant



Sunday, December 24, 2023 at 10:15 am
St. Timothy's Episcopal Church
West Des Moines, Iowa

Prelude

Welcome

Please stand as you are able.

Opening Carol

O Come, All Ye Faithful

Gather #357

1. 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!
2. Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,
Sing, all ye citizens of heav'n above!
Glory to God, all glory in the highest;
O come, let us adore him...
3. Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy
morning,
Jesus, to thee be all glory giv'n;
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing;
O come, let us adore him...

Please be seated.

The Christmas Pageant

New Star

Based on "New Star" by Sharon Kay Chatwell, © 2015.sunday-school-center.com

Carols During the Pageant

O Little Town of Bethlehem

Gather #359

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 the dark streets shineth
The everlasting Light;
The hopes and fears of all the years
Are met in thee tonight.
2. For Christ is born of Mary,
And gathered all above,
While mortals sleep, the angels keep
Their watch of wond'ring love.
O morning stars, together
Proclaim the holy birth!
And praises sing to God the King,
And peace to all on earth.

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

Gather #356

1. Hark! the herald angels sing,
Glory to the newborn King!
Peace on earth, and mercy mild
God and sinners reconciled!
Joyful, all you 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 newborn King!'
2. Christ, by highest heav'n adored,
Christ the everlasting Lord:
Late in time behold him come,
Offspring of the Virgin's womb.
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see:
Hail the incarnate Deity,
Pleased as man with us to dwell,
Jesus, our Emmanuel.
Hark! the herald angels sing,
'Glory to the newborn King!'

Angels We Have Heard on High

Gather #361

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.*
2. *Shepherds, why this jubilee?
Why your joyous strains prolong?
Say what may the tidings be,
Which inspire your heav'nly song.
Gloria in excelsis Deo.
Gloria in excelsis Deo.*

We Three Kings

Gather #382

1. *We three kings of Orient are,
Bearing gifts we traverse afar
Field and fountain,
Moor and mountain,
Following yonder star.
O star of wonder, star of night,
Star with royal beauty bright,
Westward leading, still proceeding,
Guide us to the perfect Light.*
2. *Glorious now behold him rise,
King and God and sacrifice:
Heav'n sings, 'Hallelujah!'
'Hallelujah!' earth replies.
O star of wonder, star of night,
Star with royal beauty bright,
Westward leading, still proceeding,
Guide us to the perfect Light.*

Please stand for the singing of "Joy to the World" as the pageant participants depart and rejoin their families in the congregation.

Joy to the World

Gather #353

1. *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.*
2. *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.*
3. *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.*

The Peace

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

Liturgy of the Table

Offertory

He Shall Feed His Flock
Organist, Don Agee

Handel

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.

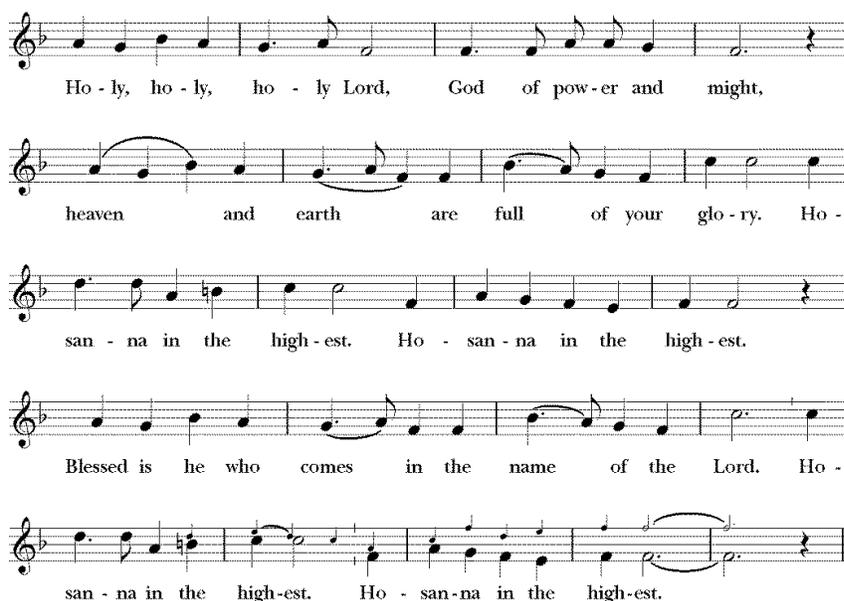
Celebrant

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.

Carols at Communion

Infant Holy, Infant Lowly

Gather #377

1. *Infant holy, Infant lowly,
For his bed a cattle stall;
Oxen lowing, Little knowing
Christ the babe is lord of all.
Swift are winging, Angels singing
Noels ringing, Tidings bringing
Christ the babe is Lord of all.*
2. *Flocks were sleeping: Shepherds keeping
Vigil till the morning new
Saw the glory, Heard the story,
Tidings of a gospel true.
Thus rejoicing, Free from sorrow,
Praises voicing Greet the morrow;
Christ the babe was born for you.*

In the Bleak Midwinter

Hymnal 112

1. *In the bleak midwinter,
Frosty wind made moan,
Earth stood hard as iron,
Water like a stone;
Snow had fallen, snow on snow,
In the bleak midwinter, long ago.*
2. *Our God, heaven cannot hold him
Nor earth sustain;
Heaven and earth shall flee away
When he comes to reign;
In the bleak midwinter
A stable place sufficed
The Lord God incarnate,
Jesus Christ.*
3. *Angels and archangels
May have gathered there,
Cherubim and seraphim thronged in the air;
But his mother only, in her maiden bliss,
Worshiped the beloved
With a kiss.*
4. *What can I give him,
Poor as I am?
If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb;
If I were a wise man, I would do my part;
Yet what can I give him
Give my heart.*

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.

Blessing

1. *It came upon the midnight clear,
That glorious song of old,
From angels bending near the earth
To touch their harps of gold:
'Peace on the earth, good will to all
From heaven's all gracious King';
The world in solemn stillness lay,
To hear the angels sing.*
2. *Still through the cloven skies they come,
With peaceful wings unfurled,
And still their heav'nly music floats
O'er all the weary world:
Above its sad and lowly plains
They bend on hov'ring wing,
And ever o'er its Babel sounds
The blessed angels sing.*
3. *Yet with the woes of sin and strife,
The world has suffered long;
Beneath the heav'nly hymn have rolled
Two thousand years of wrong;
And warring humankind hears not
The tidings which they bring;
O hush the noise and cease your strife
And hear the angels sing.*
4. *For, lo, the days are hastening on,
By prophets seen of old,
When with the evercircling years
Shall come the time foretold,
When peace shall over all the earth
Its ancient splendors fling,
And all the world give back the song
Which now the angels sing.*

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

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 this morning.

Today's pageant, narrated by two "stars," tells again that old familiar story, but perhaps in a new light (pun intended). As we watch the children reenact this story, may it be a reminder to us of the Light that came into the world two millennia ago and that continues to illumine our lives even today.

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

MINISTERS OF THE SERVICE

Presider

The Rev. Kyle Carswell

Deacon

The Rev. Jeanie Smith

Organist

Don Agee

Acolyte

Sophia Halbrook

Chalice Bearer

Susan Vande Haar, Dale Vande Haar

Oblation Bearers

Bev Blaha, David Blaha

Ushers

Br. Stephen Arnold, Bill Smith

Altar Guild

Amy Rech, Lynn Pettit

Livestream Coordinator

Beth Arnold

Vestry Representative

Wava Shirbroun

Pageant Cast

Old Star

McB McManus

New Star

Izzy Arnold

Mary

Mary McGill

Joseph

James Halbrook

Gabriel

James Halbrook

Angels

Sophia Halbrook
Charlotte Blondino
Annie Leemkuil
Marie Crann

Shepherd

Will Mertens

Shepherdess

Kayla Crann

Wise Men

Joseph Crann
Thomas Leemkuil

Kings

Caitlin McManus
Thomas Leemkuil
Joseph Crann

Animals

Henry Mertens
Elizabeth Crann

Thank you to Sarah Bunch and all of the adults who had a hand in creating and producing our pageant!

2nd OFFERING PARTNER



The Angel Tree & St. Timothy's Faith & Food Fund

Thanks to all who shopped, wrapped, and brought their gifts for the ten families we “adopted” in our community.

Financial gifts will help fund this effort and our Faith & Food Fund, which allows us to assist individuals with immediate needs throughout the year. If you would like to help support this ministry financially, you can do so at: sttimothyiowa.org/donate

DIRECTORY UPDATES

WE NEED YOUR FAMILY PHOTOS!



We hope you are enjoying the convenience of having the church directory on your phone! Whether you have an iPhone or Android, contacting parish members has never been easier!

While you've been doing a great job of updating your contact and family information, WE NEED YOUR PICTURES! Is there a better time than Christmas to grab a quick photo?! So, while you are gathered, please take a quick photo with your phone and upload it through the app!

If you haven't yet taken a moment to upload the app, qr codes below will take you to either the app store for your phone or use the link below the code.

Please contact the office if you have questions.



bit.ly/ICDAppStore
Apple

bit.ly/ICDGPApp
Google Play



Instructions for Directory Access

1. Search for “Instant Church Directory” in your App Store, such as Google Play or the Apple App Store, and download the free app.
2. Open the app and click the Create Login button.
3. Enter your email address that is in the directory.
4. Create a password and confirm it.
5. Click Create Login.
6. Check your email inbox for a message to verify your email address.
7. Click Sign In to see the directory.

COMING UP

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24 | 7 PM

We will ring in the joy of Christmas with carols led by a full choir and instrumentalists, the reading of the Christmas story from Luke's Gospel, communion, and concluding with the traditional singing of "Silent Night" by candlelight.

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.

****Services at St. Timothy's will be live-streamed. Visit our YouTube channel for all of our streamed worship!**
[@StTimothyslowa](#)**

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.

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!

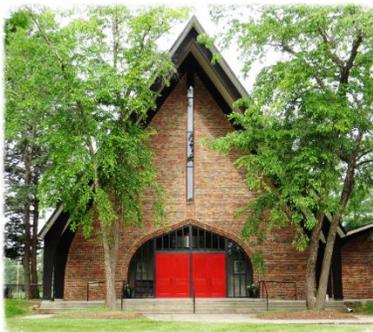
CONFIRMATION PREP FOR 2024



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.



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 24th Street + West Des Moines, IA 50266
515.225.2020 / office@sttimothyiowa.org
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 Ndobe

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