



Tuesday, December 24, 2024 at 9pm
St. Timothy's Episcopal Church
West Des Moines, Iowa

Liturgy of the Word

Prelude

Gesu Bambino
Soloist, Dan Montgomery

Martens

Welcome

Please stand as you are able.

Opening Carol

Once in Royal David's City

Hymnal 102

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, the scorned, the lowly
Lived on earth our Savior holy.*
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.*
4. *And our eyes at last shall see him,
through his own redeeming love;
For that child who seemed so helpless
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 62:6-12

Upon your walls, O Jerusalem,
 I have posted sentinels;
 all day and all night they shall never be silent.
 You who remind the Lord,
 take no rest, and give him no rest
 until he establishes Jerusalem
 and makes it renowned throughout the earth.
 The Lord has sworn by his right hand
 and by his mighty arm:
 I will not again give your grain
 to be food for your enemies,
 and foreigners shall not drink the wine
 for which you have labored;

but those who garner it shall eat it
 and praise the Lord, and those who gather it
 shall drink it in my holy courts.
 Go through, go through the gates,
 prepare the way for the people;
 build up, build up the highway, clear it of stones,
 lift up an ensign over the peoples.
 The Lord has proclaimed to the end of the earth:
 Say to daughter Zion, "See, your salvation comes;
 his reward is with him,
 and his recompense before him."
 They shall be called, "The Holy People,
 The Redeemed of the Lord"; and you shall be
 called, "Sought Out, A City Not Forsaken."

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

Psalm 97

1 The Lord is King; let the earth rejoice; *
 let the multitude of the isles be glad.
 2 Clouds and darkness are round about him, *
 righteousness and justice are the
 foundations of his throne.
 3 A fire goes before him *
 and burns up his enemies on every side.
 4 His lightnings light up the world; *
 the earth sees it and is afraid.
 5 The mountains melt like wax at the
 presence of the Lord, *
 at the presence of the Lord of the
 whole earth.
 6 The heavens declare his righteousness, *
 and all the peoples see his glory.
 7 Confounded be all who worship
 carved images and delight in false gods! *
 Bow down before him, all you gods.

8 Zion hears and is glad, and the cities of
 Judah rejoice, *
 because of your judgments, O Lord.
 9 For you are the Lord,
 most high over all the earth; *
 you are exalted far above all gods.
 10 The Lord loves those who hate evil; *
 he preserves the lives of his saints
 and delivers them from the hand of the
 wicked.
 11 Light has sprung up for the righteous, *
 and joyful gladness for those who are
 truehearted.
 12 Rejoice in the Lord, you righteous, *
 and give thanks to his holy Name.

The Second Reading

Titus 3:4-7

When the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared, he saved us, not because of any works of righteousness that we had done, but according to his mercy, through the water of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit. This Spirit he poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior, so that, having been justified by his grace, we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life.

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

Please stand as you are able.

Gospel Carol

Angels from the Realms of Glory

Hymnal 93

v. 1-2 before the Gospel; v. 3-4 following

1. **Angels, from the realms of glory,
Wing your flight o'er all the earth;
Ye, who sang creation's story,
Now proclaim Messiah's birth:**

Refrain: **come and worship,
come and worship,
worship Christ, the newborn King.**

2. **Shepherds in the field abiding,
watching o'er your flocks by night,
God with you is now residing;
yonder shines the infant Light:**

Refrain

3. **Sages, leave your contemplations;
brighter visions beam afar:
seek the great desire of nations;
ye have seen his natal star:**

Refrain

4. **Saints before the altar bending,
watching long in hope and fear,
suddenly the Lord, descending,
in his temple shall appear:**

Refrain

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

"The Power of the Story"
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

Arise, Shine, For Thy Light Has Come

Willan

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

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.

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.

Music at Communion

O, Holy Night

arr. Wetzler

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.

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

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

Gather 356

1. *Hark! the herald angels sing!
"Glory to the new-born 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 new-born King!"*
2. *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 God-head see:
Hail the incarnate Deity,
Pleased as man with us to dwell,
Jesus, our Emmanuel.
Hark! the herald angels sing,
"Glory to the new-born King!"*
3. *Hail the heav'n-born Prince of Peace!
Hail the Sun of Righteousness!
Light and life to all he brings,
Ris'n with healing in his wings.
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.
Hark! the herald angels sing,
"Glory to the new-born King!"*

Dismissal

- Deacon Alleluia! Alleluia! As we once again welcome Christ into our lives, let us remember that we are his hands and feet and voice in this world.
- People **We will with God's help. Alleluia! Alleluia!**

Postlude

MINISTERS OF THE SERVICE

Presider/Preacher

The Rev. Kyle Carswell

Deacon

The Rev. Jeanie Smith

Music Director

Don Agee

Acolytes

Ashlyn Rounceville, OPEN, OPEN

Lector/Litanists

John Wheeler, Dave Leigh

Chalice Bearer

Larry Shea, Amelia Bylund

Oblation Bearers

Bev Blaha, David Blaha

Ushers

OPEN, OPEN

Altar Guild

Annie Waskom, Jennie McKinney

Livestream Coordinator

Colleen Krantz

Vestry Representative

Jacob Nastruz

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

CHURCH OFFICES WILL BE CLOSED FROM DECEMBER 25 THROUGH DECEMBER 30.

Calls and emails will be monitored for pastoral care needs.
All others will be returned when the office re-opens on December 31.



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

Friday, January 3
10 am BBB

Saturday, January 4
9 am Centering Prayer
5 pm Holy Eucharist

Sunday, January 5
1st SUNDAY BREAKFAST
8:45 am Childcare Available
9 am Breakfast
9:15 am Epiphany Activities
10:15 am Holy Eucharist
10: 15 am Children Living the Word

REMEMBERING THE INNOCENTS



SUNDAY, DECEMBER 29 | 2 PM
DES MOINES INTENTIONAL EUCHARISTIC COMMUNITY
3306 UNIVERSITY, DES MOINES

St. Timothy's is a proud sponsor of this prayer service, remembering the slaughter of the innocents in Herod's time and raising prayers to stop violence against innocents everywhere in our own time.

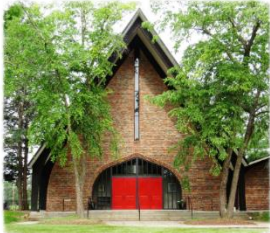
The Service is planned by the Des Moines Faith Committee for Peace, with over 40 co-sponsors. Please join us as we are reminded of this important part of the Christmas story!



EPIPHANY CELEBRATION

SUNDAY, JANUARY 5 | 9 AM

Kick off 2025 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!



ST. TIMOTHY'S DAY & ANNUAL GATHERING

SUNDAY, JANUARY 26

St. Timothy's Day is our yearly chance to celebrate our patron saint and gather as a parish to look back on the previous year and ahead to what's to come.

Following our service, there will be a potluck meal in the Parish Hall, reports from ministry leaders, and the election of our newest vestry members. We hope to see you there!



Thank You



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

Roger Kunz in memory of Sheree Kunz

Jean Lane in memory of Roger Lane

Lyndy & Marty Wells in thanksgiving for family

Mary Sheldahl in memory of Tom Sheldahl, Mary & Carl Cacciatore, and Fay & Everett Sheldahl and in thanksgiving for her grandchildren & great grandchildren

Steve A. Halbrook in memory of Diane Christine Ronning Halbrook

Mark and Kathy Larson in thanksgiving for all their family and friends

Paul and Lee D'Anna in memory of our parents: Elmo & Joan Guelph and Al & BJ D'Anna and in thanksgiving for our children & grandchildren

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Jennie, Mark, Matt, and Mike McKinney in memory of Marilyn & Lyle McKinney, Mildred & Jay McKinney, Larry McKinney, Norma & Ted Hansen, Trudy Peel, and Rod Peel and in thanksgiving for Henry, Louis, Eloise, Margaret, each other and our families

Bill Wolff in memory of Lu Wolff

John and Julie McKinney in memory of Shirley Hamrick and Jean McKinney and in thanksgiving for John McKinney, Jr. and Tom & Janet Hansen

Sandra & Mark Marshall in memory of Harvey Seyb, Marvin Marshall, and Raymond Swenson and in thanksgiving for the Marshall/Hall children and grandsons

Mel Rambo in memory of Jacquelyn Rambo

Priscilla Sayeed in memory of Tom Dickinson, Peter Dickinson and Feisal Sayeed, in honor of Janice Dickinson, and in thanksgiving for Hana, Kalen, and Ella Sayeed

Larry Anderson in memory of Linda Anderson, Bob & Dorothy Anderson and Ron & Phylis Hallock and in thanksgiving for Jeff, Jill, Nick and Lauren Anderson, Steve Anderson, and Kelly Brookhart and Mandy Prokupek

Dorothy Wilson in memory of Ed Wilson and Ed & Evelyn Meyers

Dan and Jana Montgomery in memory of Ralph Lee & Lucy Lee-Petersen, Janice Allison, Kay Montgomery, Patricia Montgomery and Earl & Dorothy Montgomery and in thanksgiving for Ned, Lucy, and Lena

Jeanie & Bill Smith in memory of Betty & Jack Douglas, Jeannie & Bill Smith, Mary D. Macy, Susan Macy Jarvinen, and Nola Matthews Douglas Thole and in thanksgiving for our children and grandchildren – Tyson, McB, Marcy, TD, Luke, Gwen, Lillie, Lucy, Eleanor, Caitlin, Maggie, Millie and a new player to be named in June 2025, our children-in-law, Marty Luft, John McManus, Alison Werner Smith, and Juliana Vadala-Smith, the St. Timothys Congregation, and the Ministries of Women at the Well

Bob and Lea Hollwager in thanksgiving for a healthy family

Bev Donnelly in memory of John Donnelly

Barbara Beach in memory of beloved husbands & fathers Robert Vance Blosser and Robert A. Shannon

Diana Morman in memory of Denny – a loving dad and husband – and in thanksgiving for their children and grandchildren

Elizabeth & Mark Slocum in memory of Jerry Harden, Gary Slocum, and Marlene & John Cowles and in thanksgiving for our children, their spouses, our grandchildren Ryan and Carter Johnson and Easton Slocum and extended family

Annie Waskom in memory of and in thanksgiving for the life of Dan Waskom

Ryan & Kelly Pettit in memory of Jeanette & Bob Zeisman, Mary & Jason Cupp, and Frankie & Jack Kirkwood

Dennis & Laurie Mitchell in memory of Gary & Sharon Homan

Colin & Sandy Kavanagh in memory of Mary Lee Upton and Bev Goldman

McB & John McManus in memory of Bill & Jeannie, Jack & Betty, John & Doris, Janet, and Truman and in thanksgiving for Lillie, Caitlin, Luke, Lucy, Maggie, Millie, Gwen, Eleanor, Teddy, Eleanor, and Helena

Mary and H. Milton Cole-Duvall in memory of Earl Frederick Smith, Verona Anne Cole, Floyd Michael Cole, Susan Cole Webb, Nancy Cole Hairfield, Mark Carlton Cole, David Newton Cole, Peter Duvall, Velma Chettle Duvall, Harmon Duvall, Ann Duvall, Diane Duvall Wallweber, Lorraine Duvall Mueller, Pete Pederson, Richard Donlan, David Bond Dwyer, David Eugene Loomis, Howard Milton Cole, Sr., Susie Elizabeth Tucker Cole, Jacqueline Rambo, Mark Bartusek, Lonnie Lashley, Adeline Savage, and Alex Patch and in honor of Jeanie Douglas Smith, Kyle Carswell, Pat Genereux, Bill Wolff, Jennie McKinney, Don Agee, Amy Wachter, Betsey Lockwood Hawley Monnot, Audrey Kennis, Renee Hardman, and Horace Savage

Susan & Art Wittmack in memory of Deacon Muffy Wittmack Harmon, Charles & Elsa Wittmack, and Irva Sullivan

Pat & Sue Genereux in memory of George & Winifred Debenham and Arthur & Bernice Genereux