

Grace Episcopal Church
The First Sunday After Christmas Day
December 27, 2020
Morning Prayer, Rite 2

Book of Common Prayer

GREETING

PRELUDE

Variations on "Infant Holy, Infant Lowly" – D. Lasky

OPENING SENTENCE

Behold, I bring you good news of great joy which will come to all the people: for to you is born this day in the city of David, a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. ~Luke 2:10,1

INVITATORY AND PSALTER

Pg. 80

Officiant Lord open our lips.
People **And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.**

GLORIA (All) **Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.**

ANTIPHON Alleluia. To us a child is born:
Come let us adore Him.

JUBILATE (*In Unison*) **Pg. 82**

ANTIPHON Alleluia. To us a child is born:
Come let us adore Him.

MUSICAL MEDITATION

Joy to the World – D. Lasky

PSALM 147

Pg. 804

¹ Hallelujah!
How good it is to sing praises to our God!
how pleasant it is to honor him with praise!

² **The LORD rebuilds Jerusalem;
he gathers the exiles of Israel.**

³ He heals the brokenhearted
and binds up their wounds.

⁴ **He counts the number of the stars
and calls them all by their names.**

⁵ Great is our LORD and mighty in power;
there is no limit to his wisdom.

⁶ **The LORD lifts up the lowly,
but casts the wicked to the ground.**

⁷ Sing to the LORD with thanksgiving;
make music to our God upon the harp.

⁸ **He covers the heavens with clouds
and prepares rain for the earth;**

⁹ He makes grass to grow upon the mountains
and green plants to serve mankind.

¹⁰ **He provides food for flocks and herds
and for the young ravens when they cry.**

¹¹ He is not impressed by the might of a horse;
he has no pleasure in the strength of a man;

¹² **But the LORD has pleasure in those who
fear him,
in those who await his gracious favor.**

13 Worship the LORD, O Jerusalem;
praise your God, O Zion;

14 **For he has strengthened the bars of your gates;
he has blessed your children within you.**

15 He has established peace on your borders;
he satisfies you with the finest wheat.

16 **He sends out his command to the earth,
and his word runs very swiftly.**

17 He gives snow like wool;
he scatters hoarfrost like ashes.

18 **He scatters his hail like bread crumbs;
who can stand against his cold?**

19 He sends forth his word and melts them;
he blows with his wind, and the waters flow.

20 **He declares his word to Jacob,
his statutes and his judgments to Israel.**

21 He has not done so to any other nation;
to them he has not revealed his judgments.

**ALL: Hallelujah! Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever . Amen.**

A READING FROM GALATIANS 3:23-25; 4:4-7

Now before faith came, we were imprisoned and guarded under the law until faith would be revealed. Therefore the law was our disciplinarian until Christ came, so that we might be justified by faith. But now that faith has come, we are no longer subject to a disciplinarian.

But when the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, in order to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as children. And because you are children, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" So you are no longer a slave but a child, and if a child then also an heir, through God.

Hear what the Holy Spirit is saying to the Church: **Thanks be to God.**

CANTICLE 11 ~ *The Third Song of Isaiah* (In Unison)

Pg. 87

MUSICAL MEDITATION

Good Christian Friends, Rejoice and Sing - D. Lasky

READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF JOHN 1:1-18

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth. (John testified to him and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks ahead of me because he was before me.'") From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. No one has ever seen God. It is God the only Son, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known.

The Word of The LORD: **Thanks be to God.**

CANTICLE 21 ~ *You Are God* *(In Unison)* **Pg. 95**

THE HOMILY *Fr. M. Alton Plummer*

A TIME OF SILENCE - *A bell will sound three times.*

THE APOSTLE'S CREED **Pg. 96**

THE LORD'S PRAYER *traditional* **Pg. 97**

SUFFRAGES "A" **Pg. 97**

THE COLLECT FOR THE DAY

Almighty God, you have poured upon us the new light of your incarnate Word: Grant that this light, enkindled in our hearts, may shine forth in our lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

COLLECT FOR PEACE **Pg. 815**

Eternal God, in whose perfect kingdom no sword is drawn but the sword of righteousness, no strength known but the strength of love: So mightily spread abroad your Spirit, that all peoples may be gathered under the banner of the Prince of Peace, as children of one Father; to whom be dominion and glory, now and for ever. **Amen.**

COLLECT FOR GUIDANCE **Pg. 100**

Heavenly Father, in you we live and move and have our being: We humbly pray you so to guide and govern us by your Holy Spirit, that in all the cares and occupations of our life we may not forget you, but may remember that we are ever walking in your sight; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

WE CONTINUE TO PRAY FOR ALL OF US WHO HAVE BEEN IMPACTED BY THE COVID-19 VIRUS, THOSE WHO ARE SICK, THOSE WHO'VE DIED, AND THOSE WHO MOURN.

Silence

AND FOR THE FOLKS ON OUR PRAYER LIST ...

for those who are traveling, especially **Josey** Parker and **Cameron** Klass

and those with special needs:

Suzanne Eller, **Mark** Adkins, **Chris** Alexander, **Cora** Alexander, **Bobby** Allgood, **Amanda** Amon, **Ella** Asebes, **Barbara** Beck, **Alice** Brandon & family, **Baylee** Brown, **Andrea** Cain, **Russell** Cinque, **Lynne** Cleckley, **Morgan** Curia, **Barbara** Dixon, **Johanna** Dresser, **Mike** Egan, **Aubrie** Gallen, **Shana** Garland, **Frances** Garner, **Marlon** Gaskins, **Susan** Gibson, **Jan** Greer, **Jane** Grimes, **George** Hanna, **Rob** Hare, **Kristen** Harris, **Elizabeth** Harvey, **Nancy** Hinkle, **Chris and Mike** Hodges, **Will** Holmes, **Jon** Huff, **Nancy** Hutchins, **Brinkley** Johnson, **Anne** King, **Lindsay** Layfield, **Lynn** Mack, **Carol** May, **Kate** McKenzie, **Nicholas** Melomo, **Molly** Michael, **Roan** Mitchell, **O'Lema** Morgan, **Kathie and Scott** Nelson, **Page** Onorato, **Lynn** Parsley, **Gabby** Plott, **Jacklyn** Rojas, **Suzy** Sheets, **Talmadge** Silversides, **Amy** Burkhart Smith, **Dan Griff** Smith, **Martha Ellen** Smith, **Sean** Sullivan, **Clarice and Henry** Surratt, **Robin** Tilley, **Jackie** Touchton, **Toni** Underwood, **Frances** Welch, **Courtney** Weller, **Susan** Whetmore, **Bill** Whitehurst, **Flynn** Williams, and **Charlotte** Young.

✦ *At this time you may offer your prayers in the comments bar on Facebook so that we may pray with you through the week.*

MUSICAL MEDITATION

Love Came Down at Christmas – A. Jordan

A GENERAL THANKSGIVING

Pg. 836

Accept, O Lord, our thanks and praise for all that you have done for us. We thank you for the splendor of the whole creation, for the beauty of this world, for the wonder of life, and for the mystery of love.

We thank you for the blessing of family and friends, and for the loving care which surrounds us on every side.

We thank you for setting us at tasks which demand our best efforts, and for leading us to accomplishments which satisfy and delight us.

We thank you also for those disappointments and failures that lead us to acknowledge our dependence on you alone.

Above all, we thank you for your Son Jesus Christ; for the truth of his Word and the example of his life; for his steadfast obedience, by which he overcame temptation; for his dying, through which he overcame death; and for his rising to life again, in which we are raised to the life of your kingdom.

Grant us the gift of your Spirit, that we may know him and make him known; and through him, at all times and in all places, may give thanks to you in all things. **Amen.**

DISMISSAL Let us bless the Lord. *Thanks be to God!*

Glory to God whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine: Glory to him from generation to generation in the Church, and in Christ Jesus for ever and ever. **Amen.**
~ Ephesians 3:20,21

POSTLUDE

Go Tell It on the Mountain – C. Callahan