



ST. JOHN'S CHURCH

IN THE EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF SOUTHWEST FLORIDA



CHRISTMAS EVE

Holy Eucharist Rite II - 6:00pm
December 24, 2021

SUNDAY SERVICES

8:00 Holy Eucharist Rite I
10:00 Holy Eucharist Rite II

*Be thoughtful, be silent, be reverent, for this is the house of God.
Before the service speak to the Lord;
during the service let the Lord speak to you;
after the service speak to one another.*

VOLUNTARY *The Holy Boy*

John Ireland

PROCESSIONAL HYMN 83

Adeste fideles

The people stand

PROPER ACCLAMATION

Celebrant Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

THE COLLECT FOR PURITY

The Celebrant may say

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

HYMN 96

Gloria

THE COLLECT FOR CHRISTMAS

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant 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 LESSON

Isaiah 9:2-7

The people sit

Lector A Reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah.

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.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

GRADUAL MOTET *In the bleak mid-winter*

Harold Darke

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. Our God, heav'n cannot hold Him, nor earth sustain—heav'n and earth shall flee away, when He comes to reign. In the bleak midwinter, a stable place sufficed, the Lord God Almighty, Jesus Christ. Enough for Him, whom cherubim, worship night and day, a heart full of mirth, and a manger full of hay. Enough for Him, whom angels, fall down before, the ox and ass and camel, which adore. 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 I can I give Him, give my heart.

THE EPISTLE

Titus 2:11-14

Lector A Reading from the Letter of Paul to Titus.

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.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

The people stand

SEQUENCE HYMN 93*Regent Square***THE GOSPEL**

Luke 2:1-14

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!"

Deacon The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

THE SERMON

Father Robinson

The people sit

THE NICENE CREED

Officiant and People together, all standing

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 (Form IV)

The people kneel

Deacon or other leader Let us pray for the Church and for the world.

Grant, Almighty God, that all who confess your Name may be united in your truth, live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Guide the people of this land, and of all the nations, in the ways of justice and peace; that we may honor one another and serve the common good.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Give us all a reverence for the earth as your own creation, that we may use its resources rightly in the service of others and to your honor and glory.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, and grant that we may serve Christ in them, and love one another as he loves us.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit; give them courage and hope in their troubles, and bring them the joy of your salvation.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

We commend to your mercy all who have died, that your will for them may be fulfilled; and we pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect

CONFESSION OF SIN AND ABSOLUTION

Deacon Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence may be kept

Minister and People

Most merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us and forgive us;
that we may delight in your will,
and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your Name. Amen.

The Bishop, when present, or the Priest, stands and says

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life.
Amen.

THE PEACE

All stand

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you.

The people sit

GREETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Offertory Sentence

Offertory Anthem *A child is born in Bethlehem*

Philip Stopford

A child is born in Bethlehem, Alleluia. And joy is in Jerusalem, Alleluia. Rejoice, sing high, sing low, Alleluia. Benedicamus Domino, Alleluia. To thee O Lord be glory paid. Alleluia. Thou Son of Mary, Mother maid, Alleluia. To Holy Trinity give praise, Alleluia. With Deo gracias always. Alleluia.

HYMN 94 Stanza 6

Winchester Old

The people stand

The Great Thanksgiving *Eucharistic Prayer B*

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People We lift them to the Lord.

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People It is right to give him thanks and praise.

Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. Because you gave Jesus Christ, your only Son, to be born for us; who, by the mighty power of the Holy Spirit, was made perfect Man of the flesh of the Virgin Mary his mother; so that we might be delivered from the bondage of sin, and receive power to become your children.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Sanctus and Benedictus *S128*

William Mathias

The people kneel

Then the Celebrant continues

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

At the following words concerning the bread, the Celebrant is to hold it, or lay a hand upon it; and at the words concerning the cup, to hold or place a hand upon the cup and any other vessel containing wine to be consecrated.

On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

Celebrant and People

We remember his death,
We proclaim his resurrection,
We await his coming in glory;

The Celebrant continues

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with the ever Blessed Virgin Mary, Blessed John, and all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. AMEN.

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

People and Celebrant

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,
forever and ever. Amen.

WE BREAK BREAD AND SHARE THE GIFTS OF GOD

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread.

Fraction Anthem S169

Ray Urwin

My flesh is food indeed, and my blood is drink indeed, says the Lord.
Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood dwell in me, and I in them.
My flesh is food indeed, and my blood is drink indeed, says the Lord.

Facing the people, the Celebrant says the following Invitation

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

and may add

Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

All baptized Christians are welcome to receive Holy Communion at the Lord's Table. If you are not receiving, you are invited to come forward for a blessing (indicated by crossing your arms over your chest). If you have not been baptized, and find yourself drawn to Jesus Christ and life in him, please let one of our clergy know. We would be honored to have a conversation with you about the possibility of baptism, or any other questions. Baptism and life in the Body of Christ is open to all.

The Host is given to the communicants with these words

The Body of our Lord Jesus Christ keep you in everlasting life. [Amen.]

or with these words

The Body of Christ, the bread of heaven. [Amen.]

Communion Motets

Sing Lullaby

Basque Noel

Sing lullaby! Lullaby baby, now reclining, sing lullaby! Hush, do not wake the Infant King.
Angels are watching, stars are shining over the place where he is lying: sing lullaby! Lullaby baby,
now a sleeping, sing lullaby! Hush do not wake the Infant King. Soon will come sorrow with the
morning, soon will come bitter grief and weeping: sing lullaby! Lullaby baby, now a dozing, sing
lullaby! Hush do not wake the Infant King. Soon comes the cross, the nails, the piercing, then in
the grave at last reposing: sing lullaby! Lullaby! Is the babe awaking? Sing lullaby! Hush, do not
stir the Infant King. Dreaming of Easter, gladsome morning, conquering death, its bondage
breaking: sing lullaby!

I sing of a maiden

Patrick Hadley

I sing of a maiden that is makeless: King of all kings to her son she ches. He came all so still where his mother was, as dew in April that falleth on the grass. He came all so still to his mother's bower, as dew in April that falleth on the flower. He came all so still where his mother lay, as dew in April that falleth on the spray. Mother and maiden was never none but she: well may such a lady God's mother be.

COMMUNION HYMN 78

Forest Green

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Celebrant Let us pray.

Celebrant and People

Eternal God, heavenly Father,
you have graciously accepted us as living members
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ,
and you have fed us with spiritual food
in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood.
Send us now into the world in peace,
and grant us strength and courage
to love and serve you
with gladness and singleness of heart;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.

HYMN 111 *Sung by all, kneeling*

Stille Nacht

THE BLESSING *A Priest gives the Blessing*

THE DISMISSAL *The people stand. The Deacon dismisses the people*

People Thanks be to God.

CLOSING HYMN 87

Mendelssohn

VOLUNTARY *Festival Toccata*

Percy Fletcher

Please leave the church quietly in respect for those who choose to stay for the Voluntary.

*The Clergy and the Staff of St. John's wish you
a blessed Christmas and a healthy and happy New Year.*

ASSISTING IN THE SERVICES

ALTAR GUILD: Mariellen Curtis, Lelia Clewis, Laura Silva

ACOLYTES: Carter French, Katey Coursen, Allison Decelles, Trenten Decelles, Will Swanson

LECTORS: Steve Galloway, Erika Cannon, Donna Gem

VERGERS: Michael Eachon, Tania Wilkes

OBLATION BEARERS: Mother's Meetup

The Parish Offices are closed and reopen on Wednesday, December 29

Christmas Eve—Friday, December 24

6:00 p.m. The Holy Eucharist Rite II

10:30 p.m.—Pre-Service String Quartet

11:00 p.m.—The Holy Eucharist Rite I

The Choir of St. John's Church sings these services.

Christmas Day—Saturday December 25

10:00 a.m.—The Holy Eucharist Rite II with congregational carols

The First Sunday after Christmas Day—Sunday, December 26

8:00 a.m.—The Holy Eucharist Rite I

10:00 a.m.—The Holy Eucharist Rite II

The Feast of St. Stephen, Deacon and Martyr

Monday, December 27

10:00a.m.—The Holy Eucharist Rite II: Chapel

The Feast of St. John, Apostle and Evangelist

Tuesday, December 28

10:00a.m.—The Holy Eucharist Rite II: Chapel

The Feast of The Holy Innocents

Wednesday, December 29

12:15 p.m.—The Holy Eucharist Rite II: Chapel

Thursday, December 30

10:00 a.m. A Public Service of Healing

New Year's Eve—Friday, December 31

The Parish Offices are closed

at noon today and reopen on Tuesday, January 4, 2022

The Holy Name of our Lord—Saturday, January 1, 2022

10:00 a.m.—The Holy Eucharist Rite II

The Second Sunday after Christmas Day—Sunday, January 2, 2022

8:00 a.m.—The Holy Eucharist Rite I

10:00 a.m.—The Holy Eucharist Rite I

11:30a.m.—Kids Against Hunger Packing Event: Parish Hall

Wednesday, January 5, 2022

12:15 p.m.—The Holy Eucharist Rite II: Chapel

The Epiphany of our Lord Jesus Christ—Thursday, January 6, 2022

10:00 a.m.—Holy Eucharist Rite II with Hymns

The Baptism of our Lord Jesus Christ—Sunday, January 9, 2022

8:00 a.m.—The Holy Eucharist Rite I

10:00 a.m.—The Holy Eucharist and Holy Baptism Rite II