

St. Barnabas EPISCOPAL PARISH

The Holy Eucharist

December 15, 2024

A Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols

A bell tolls.

We invite you to quiet your hearts and minds as we prepare for worship.

Please stand in body or spirit.

THE PROCESSIONAL HYMN

Pax Sefton sings the first verse, and the congregation joins for the remaining verses.

Once in Royal David's City H-102

Once in roy - al Da - vid's ci - ty stood a low - ly cat - tle
 He came down to earth from hea - ven, who is God and Lord of
 We, like Ma - ry, rest con - found - ed that a sta - ble should dis -
 For he is our life - long pat - tern; dai - ly, when on earth he
 And our eyes at last shall see him, through his own re - deem - ing

shed, where a mo - ther laid her ba - by in a man - ger for his
 all, and his shel - ter was a sta - ble, and his cra - dle was a
 play hea - ven's Word, the world's cre - a - tor, cra - dled there on Christ - mas
 grew, he was temp - ted, scorned, re - ject - ed, tears and smiles like us he
 love; for that child who seemed so help - less is our Lord in heaven a -

bed: Ma - ry was that mo - ther mild, Je - sus Christ her lit - tle child
 stall; with the poor, the scorned, the low - ly, lived on earth our Sa - vior ho - ly.
 Day, yet this child, our Lord and bro - ther, brought us love for one an - oth - er.
 knew. Thus he feels for all our sad - ness, and he shares in all our glad ness.
 bove; and he leads his chil - dren on to the place where he is gone.

THE BIDDING PRAYER

Dear People of God: In this Christmas Season, let it be our duty and delight to hear once more the message of the Angels, to go to Bethlehem and see the Son of God lying in a manger.

Let us hear and heed in Holy Scripture the story of God's loving purpose from the time of our rebellion until the glorious redemption brought to us by his holy Child Jesus, and let us make this place glad with our carols of praise.

But first, let us pray for the needs of the whole world, for peace and justice on earth, for the unity and mission of the Church for which Christ died, and especially for his Church in our country and in this city.

And because he particularly loves them, let us remember the poor and helpless, the cold, the hungry and the oppressed, the sick and those who mourn, the lonely and unloved, the aged and little children, as well as all those who do not know and love the Lord Jesus Christ.

Finally, let us remember before God his pure and lowly Mother, and that whole multitude which no one can number, whose hope was in the Word made flesh, and with whom, in Jesus, we are one for evermore.

The Almighty God bless us with grace; Christ give us the joys of everlasting life; and to the fellowship of the citizens above, may the King of Angels bring us all. **Amen.**

Please sit.

THE FIRST LESSON

Genesis 2:4b-9, 15-25

God creates man and woman to live in obedience to him in the Garden of Eden.

The reading is introduced:

A reading from the book of Genesis.

In the day that the LORD God made the earth and the heavens, when no plant of the field was yet in the earth and no herb of the field had yet sprung up—for the LORD God had not caused it to rain upon the earth, and there was no one to till the ground; but a stream would rise from the earth, and water the whole face of the ground—then the LORD God formed man from the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and the man became a living being. And the LORD God planted a garden in Eden, in the east; and there he put the man whom he had formed. Out of the ground the LORD God made to grow every tree that is pleasant to the sight and good for food, the tree of life also in the midst of the garden, and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.

The LORD God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to till it and keep it. And the LORD God commanded the man, 'You may freely eat of every tree of the garden; but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall die.'

Then the LORD God said, 'It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him a helper as his partner.' So out of the ground the LORD God formed every animal of the field and every bird of the air, and brought them to the man to see what he would call them; and whatever the man called each living creature, that was its name. The man gave names to all cattle, and to the birds of the air, and to every animal of the field; but for the man there was not found a helper as his partner. So the LORD God caused a deep sleep to fall upon the man, and he slept; then he took one of his ribs and closed up its place with flesh. And the rib that the LORD God had taken from the man he made into a woman and brought her to the man. Then the man said, 'This at last is bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; this one shall be called Woman, for out of Man this one was taken.'

Therefore a man leaves his father and his mother and clings to his wife, and they become one flesh. And the man and his wife were both naked, and were not ashamed.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people

A brief silence, then:

Thanks be to God.

THE CAROL

Adam Lay Abounden

Peter Warlock

Barb Mattison, soprano

THE SECOND LESSON

Genesis 3:1-21

Adam and Eve rebel against God and are cast out of the Garden of Eden.

The reading is introduced:

A reading from the book of Genesis.

Now the serpent was more crafty than any other wild animal that the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, 'Did God say, "You shall not eat from any tree in the garden"?' The woman said to the serpent, 'We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden; but God said, "You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the middle of the garden, nor shall you touch it, or you shall die."' But the serpent said to the woman, 'You will not die; for God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.' So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate; and she also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate. Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made loincloths for themselves.

They heard the sound of the LORD God walking in the garden at the time of the evening breeze, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God among the trees of the garden. But the LORD God called to the man, and said to him, 'Where are you?' He said, 'I heard the sound of you in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked; and I hid myself.' He said, 'Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?' The man said, 'The woman whom you gave to be with me, she gave me fruit from the tree, and I ate.' Then the LORD God said to the woman, 'What is this that you have done?' The woman said, 'The serpent tricked me, and I ate.' The LORD God said to the serpent,

'Because you have done this,
cursed are you among all animals
and among all wild creatures;
upon your belly you shall go,
and dust you shall eat
all the days of your life.

I will put enmity between you and the woman,
and between your offspring and hers;
he will strike your head,
and you will strike his heel.'

To the woman he said,
'I will greatly increase your pangs in childbearing;
in pain you shall bring forth children,
yet your desire shall be for your husband,
and he shall rule over you.'

And to the man he said,
'Because you have listened to the voice of your wife,

and have eaten of the tree
about which I commanded you,
“You shall not eat of it”,
cursed is the ground because of you;
in toil you shall eat of it all the days of your life;
thorns and thistles it shall bring forth for you;
and you shall eat the plants of the field.
By the sweat of your face
you shall eat bread
until you return to the ground,
for out of it you were taken;
you are dust,
and to dust you shall return.’

The man named his wife Eve, because she was the mother of all who live. And the LORD God made garments of skins for the man and for his wife, and clothed them.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God’s people

A brief silence, then:

Thanks be to God.

THE CAROL

The Truth Sent from Above

Ralph Vaughan Williams

Rachel Sefton, mezzo-soprano

THE THIRD LESSON

Isaiah 40:1-11

God comforts his people and calls on them to prepare for redemption.

The reading is introduced:

A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah.

Comfort, O comfort my people,
says your God.
Speak tenderly to Jerusalem,
and cry to her
that she has served her term,
that her penalty is paid,
that she has received from the LORD’s hand
double for all her sins.
A voice cries out:
‘In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD,
make straight in the desert a highway for our God.
Every valley shall be lifted up,
and every mountain and hill be made low;
the uneven ground shall become level,
and the rough places a plain.
Then the glory of the LORD shall be revealed,

and all people shall see it together,
for the mouth of the LORD has spoken.'

A voice says, 'Cry out!'

And I said, 'What shall I cry?'

All people are grass,

their constancy is like the flower of the field.

The grass withers, the flower fades,

when the breath of the LORD blows upon it;

surely the people are grass.

The grass withers, the flower fades;

but the word of our God will stand for ever.

Get you up to a high mountain,

O Zion, herald of good tidings;

lift up your voice with strength,

O Jerusalem, herald of good tidings,

lift it up, do not fear;

say to the cities of Judah,

'Here is your God!'

See, the Lord GOD comes with might,

and his arm rules for him;

his reward is with him,

and his recompense before him.

He will feed his flock like a shepherd;

he will gather the lambs in his arms,

and carry them in his bosom,

and gently lead the mother sheep.

Hear what the spirit is saying to God's people.

A brief silence, then:

Thanks be to God.

Please stand in body or spirit.

THE CAROL

Lo, How a Rose E're Blooming H-81

Lo, how a Rose e'er bloom - ing from ten - der stem hath sprung!
I - sa - iah 'twas fore - told it, the Rose I have in mind,
O Flower, whose fra-grance ten - der with sweet-ness fills the air,

Of Jes - se's lin - eage com - ing as seers of old have sung.
with Ma - ry we be - hold it, the Vir - gin Mo - ther kind.
dis - pel in glo - rious splen - dor the dark - ness ev - ery-where;

It came, a blos-som bright, a - mid the cold of win - ter, when half spent was the night.
To show God's love a - right, she bore to us a Sa - vior, when half spent was the night.
true man, yet ve - ry God, from sin and death now save us, and share our ev - ery load.

Please sit.

THE FOURTH LESSON

Isaiah 7:10-15

God promises that a child shall be conceived who will be known as "God with us."

The reading is introduced:

A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah.

Again the LORD spoke to Ahaz, saying, Ask a sign of the LORD your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven. But Ahaz said, I will not ask, and I will not put the LORD to the test. Then Isaiah said: 'Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary mortals, that you weary my God also? Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son, and shall name him Immanuel. He shall eat curds and honey by the time he knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people

A brief silence, then:

Thanks be to God.

Please remain seated.

THE CAROL

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

Arr. Patrick Liebergen

Choir with Aaron Sefton, soloist

THE FIFTH LESSON

Luke 1:5-25

An angel announces to Zechariah that his wife Elizabeth will bear a son.

The reading is introduced:

A reading from the Gospel of Luke.

In the days of King Herod of Judea, there was a priest named Zechariah, who belonged to the priestly order of Abijah. His wife was a descendant of Aaron, and her name was Elizabeth. Both of them were righteous before God, living blamelessly according to all the commandments and regulations of the Lord. But they had no children, because Elizabeth was barren, and both were getting on in years.

Once when he was serving as priest before God and his section was on duty, he was chosen by lot, according to the custom of the priesthood, to enter the sanctuary of the Lord and offer incense. Now at the time of the incense-offering, the whole assembly of the people was praying outside. Then there appeared to him an angel of the Lord, standing at the right side of the altar of incense. When Zechariah saw him, he was terrified; and fear overwhelmed him. But the angel said to him, 'Do not be afraid, Zechariah, for your prayer has been heard. Your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and you will name him John. You will have joy and gladness, and many will rejoice at his birth, for he will be great in the sight of the Lord. He must never drink wine or strong drink; even before his birth he will be filled with the Holy Spirit. He will turn many of the people of Israel to the Lord their God. With the spirit and power of Elijah he will go before him, to turn the hearts of parents to their children, and the disobedient to the wisdom of the righteous, to make ready a people prepared for the Lord.' Zechariah said to the angel, 'How will I know that this is so? For I am an old man, and my wife is getting on in years.' The angel replied, 'I am Gabriel. I stand in the presence of God, and I have been sent to speak to you and to bring you this good news. But now, because you did not believe my words, which will be fulfilled in their time, you will become mute, unable to speak, until the day these things occur.'

Meanwhile, the people were waiting for Zechariah, and wondered at his delay in the sanctuary. When he did come out, he could not speak to them, and they realized that he had seen a vision in the sanctuary. He kept motioning to them and remained unable to speak. When his time of service was ended, he went to his home.

After those days his wife Elizabeth conceived, and for five months she remained in seclusion. She said, 'This is what the Lord has done for me when he looked favourably on me and took away the disgrace I have endured among my people.'

Hear what the spirit is saying to God's people

A brief silence, then:

Thanks be to God.

THE CAROL

Shepherds, Rejoice!

Crawford R. Thoburn

Choir

THE SIXTH LESSON

Luke 1:26-38

The Angel Gabriel announces to the Virgin Mary that she will bear the Son of the Most High.

The reading is introduced:

A reading from the Gospel of Luke.

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, 'Greetings, favoured one! The Lord is with you.' But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. The angel said to her, 'Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favour with God. And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his

ancestor David. He will reign over the house of Jacob for ever, and of his kingdom there will be no end.’ Mary said to the angel, ‘How can this be, since I am a virgin?’ The angel said to her, ‘The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. For nothing will be impossible with God.’ Then Mary said, ‘Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word.’ Then the angel departed from her.

Hear what the spirit is saying to God’s people

A brief silence, then:

Thanks be to God.

Please stand in body or spirit.

THE CAROL

Angels We have Heard on High H-96

An - gels we have heard on high, sing - ing sweet - ly through the night,
 Shep - herds, why this ju - bi - lee? Why these songs of hap - py cheer?
 Come to Beth - le - hem and see him whose birth the an - gels sing;
 See him in a man - ger laid whom the an - gels praise a - bove;

and the moun - tains in re - ply ech - o - ing their grave de - light,
 What great bright - ness did you see? What glad tid - ings did you hear?
 come, a - dore on bend - ed knee Christ, the Lord, the new - born King.
 Ma - ry, Jo - seph, lend your aid, while we raise our hearts in love.

Glo - - - - - ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o.

Glo - - - - - ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o.

Please sit.

THE SEVENTH LESSON

Luke 1:39-56

The Virgin Mary is greeted by Elizabeth and proclaims her joy.

The reading is introduced:

A reading from the Gospel of Luke.

In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. When Elizabeth heard Mary’s greeting, the child leapt in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit and exclaimed with a loud cry, ‘Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me? For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leapt for joy. And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her by the Lord.’

And Mary said,
'My soul magnifies the Lord,
and my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour,
for he has looked with favour on the lowliness of his servant.
Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed;
for the Mighty One has done great things for me,
and holy is his name.
His mercy is for those who fear him
from generation to generation.
He has shown strength with his arm;
he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts.
He has brought down the powerful from their thrones,
and lifted up the lowly;
he has filled the hungry with good things,
and sent the rich away empty.
He has helped his servant Israel,
in remembrance of his mercy,
according to the promise he made to our ancestors,
to Abraham and to his descendants for ever.'

And Mary remained with her for about three months and then returned to her home.

Hear what the spirit is saying to God's people

A brief silence, then:

Thanks be to God.

Please stand in body or spirit.

THE CAROL

Canticle of the Turning ELW-723



My soul cries out with a joy - ful shout that the God of my heart is
Though I am small, my God, my all, you work great things in
From the halls of pow'r to the for - tress tow'r, not a stone will be left on
Though the na - tions rage from age to age, we re - mem - ber who holds us



great, and my spir - it sings of the won - drous things that you bring to the ones who
me, and your mer - cy will last from the depths of the past to the end of the age to
stone. Let the king be - ware for your jus - tice tears ev - 'ry ty - rant from his
fast: God's mer - cy must de - liv - er us from the con - quer - or's crush - ing



wait. You fixed your sight on your ser - vant's plight, and my weak - ness you did not
be. Your ver - y name puts the proud to shame, and to those who would for you
throne. The hun - gry poor shall weep no more, for the food they can nev - er
grasp. This sav - ing word that our fore - bears heard is the prom - ise which holds us



spurn, so from east to west shall my name be blest. Could the world be a - bout to
yearn, you will show your might, put the strong to flight, for the world is a - bout to
earn; there are ta - bles spread, ev - 'ry mouth be fed, for the world is a - bout to
bound, till the spear and rod can be crushed by God, who is turn - ing the world a -



turn? My heart shall sing of the day you bring. Let the fires of your jus - tice
turn.
turn.
round.



burn. Wipe a - way all tears, for the dawn draws near, and the world is a - bout to turn.

THE EIGHTH LESSON

Luke 2:1-20

Jesus is born at Bethlehem and is worshiped by angels and Shepherds.

The reading is introduced:

A reading from the Gospel of Luke.

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 Saviour, 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 favours!’

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.

Hear what the spirit is saying to God’s people

A brief silence, then:

Thanks be to God.

THE OFFERTORY

The Offertory Sentence

Please sit.

The Presentation of the Bread and Wine

OFFERTORY MUSIC

The Midwife’s Carol Brent Sanders Barb Mattison, soprano; Brent Sanders, guitar; Aaron Sefton, mandolin

Please stand in body or spirit.

The Presentation of the Gifts

The Offertory Hymn*

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel ELW-257

O come, O key of Da - vid, come, and o - pen wide our heav' - nly home;
O come, O Day - spring, come and cheer; O Sun of jus - tice, now draw near

make safe the way that leads on high, and close the path to mis - er - y.
Dis - perse the gloom - y clouds of night, and death's dark sha - dow put to flight.

Re - joice! Re - joice! Em - man - u - el shall come to you, O Is - ra - el.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING The Preface and Proper Preface

Enriching Our Worship 2

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

We praise you and we bless you, holy and gracious God, source of life abundant. From before time you made ready the creation. Your Spirit moved over the deep and brought all things into being: sun, moon, and stars; earth, winds, and waters; and every living thing. You made us in your image, and taught us to walk in your ways. But we rebelled against you, and wandered far away; and yet, as a mother cares for her children, you would not forget us. Time and again you called us to live in the fullness of your love. And so this day we join with Saints and Angels in the chorus of praise that rings through eternity, lifting our voices to magnify you as we sing.

The Sanctus*

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord S-125

Ho-ly, ho-ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might. Hea - ven 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

Glory and honor and praise to you, holy and living God. To deliver us from the power of sin and death and to reveal the riches of your grace, you looked with favor upon Mary, your willing servant, that she might conceive and bear a son, Jesus the holy child of God. Living among us, Jesus loved us. He broke bread with outcasts and sinners, healed the sick, and proclaimed good news to the poor. He yearned to draw all the world to himself yet we were heedless of his call to walk in love. Then, the time came for him to complete upon the cross the sacrifice of his life, and to be glorified by you.

On the night before he died for us, Jesus was at table with his friends. He took bread, gave thanks to you, broke it, and gave it to them, and said: "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

As supper was ending, Jesus took the cup of wine. Again, he gave thanks to you, gave it to them, and said: "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Now gathered at your table, O God of all creation, and remembering Christ, crucified and risen, who was and is and is to come, we offer to you our gifts of bread and wine, and ourselves, a living sacrifice. Pour out your Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Body and Blood of Christ. Breathe your Spirit over the whole earth and make us your new creation, the Body of Christ given for the world you have made.

In the fullness of time bring us, with the blessed Virgin Mary, blessed Barnabas, blessed George, and all your saints, from every tribe and language and people and nation, to feast at the banquet prepared from the foundation of the world. Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor, glory, and praise, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

It is our custom to hold hands during The Lord's Prayer.

As Jesus has taught us, we pray those words that bind us together:

Our Fa-ther in hea ven, hal-lowed be your Name, your king-dom come, your will be done,
 on earth as in hea-ven. Give us to-day our dai-ly bread. For-give us our sins
 as we for-give those who sin a-against us. Save us from the time of tri-al,
 and de-liv-er us from e-vil. For the king-dom, the power, and the glo-ry are yours,
 now and for-ev-er. A-men.

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD AND FRACTION ANTHEM*

Alleluia S-155

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Christ our Pass-o-ver is
 sac - ri - ficed for us; there-fore let us keep the feast.
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

THE INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Jesus welcomes you to this table. Receive who you are, and become what you receive.

Please sit.

This is the table of God. As Jesus welcomed everyone to his table, and so we at St. Barnabas welcome everyone to this table. Gather around the Altar as you are directed. You may stand or kneel as is your custom. The Celebrant will place a wafer into your hand. Gluten free wafers are available upon request. You have two options to receive the wine. A Chalice Bearer will offer the Common Cup from which you may drink, or you may dip the bread in the wine when a second chalice comes in turn. You may also choose not to partake of the Cup. When you have received the Sacrament, please return to your seat. If you or your children prefer only to receive a blessing, please indicate this by crossing your hands over your chest.

MUSIC DURING COMMUNION

Words of Amber

Ode to Heavenly Joy from Symphony No. 4

Ólafur Arnalds

Gustav Mahler

Please stand in body or spirit.

THE PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray...

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 SENDING OUT OF EUCHARISTIC VISITORS (Occasional)

N., in the name of this congregation, I send you forth bearing these holy gifts that those to whom you go may share with us the communion of Christ's Body and Blood.

We who are many are one Body, because we all share one Bread, one Cup.

THE NINTH LESSON

John 1:1-18

The Word was made flesh and we have seen his glory.

The reading is introduced:

A reading from the Gospel of John.

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.

THE CAROL

O Come, All Ye Faithful H-83

1. O come, all ye faith - ful, joy - ful and tri - um - phant, O
2. God from God, Light from Light e - ter - nal,
3. Sing, choirs of an - gels, sing in ex - ul - ta - tion,
6. Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this hap - py morn - ing;

come ye, O come ye to Beth - le - hem;
lo! he ab - hors not the Vir - gin's womb;
sing, all ye ci - ti - zens of heaven a - bove;
Je - sus, to thee be glo - ry given;

come, and be - hold him, born the King of an - gels; O
on - ly - be - got - ten Son of the Fa - ther;
glo - ry to God, glo - ry in the high - est;
Word of the Fa - ther, now in flesh ap - pear - ing;

come, let us a - dore him, O come, let us a - dore him, O
come, let us a - dore him, Christ, the Lord.

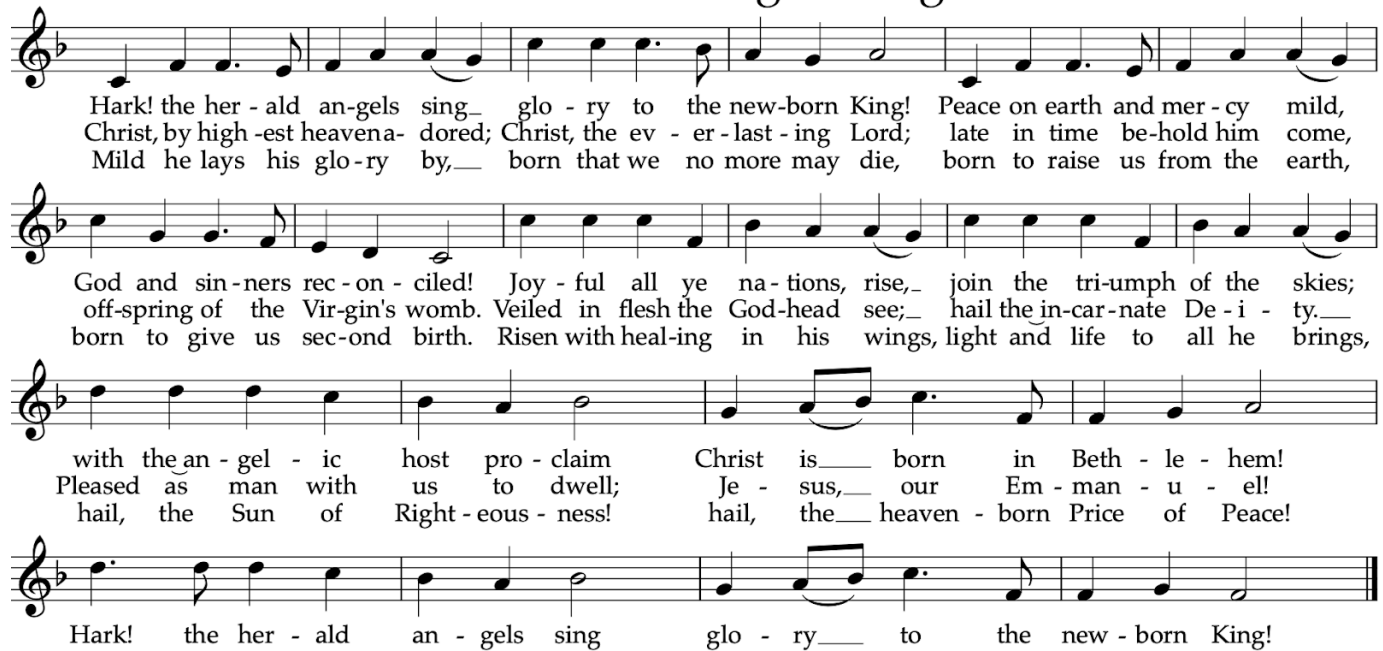
Please remain standing in body or spirit.

THE BLESSING

May Christ, who by his Incarnation gathered into one things earthly and heavenly, fill you with joy and peace; and the blessing of +the most holy, glorious, and undivided Trinity, one God, be upon you and remain with you for ever. **Amen.**

THE RECESSIONAL HYMN

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing H-87



Hark! the her - ald an - gels sing glo - ry to the new-born King! Peace on earth and mer - cy mild,
Christ, by high - est hea - vena - dored; Christ, the ev - er - last - ing Lord; late in time be - hold him come,
Mild he lays his glo - ry by, — born that we no more may die, born to raise us from the earth,

God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled! Joy - ful all ye na - tions, rise, — join the tri - umph of the skies;
off - spring of the Vir - gin's womb. Veiled in flesh the God - head see; — hail the in - car - nate De - i - ty. —
born to give us sec - ond birth. Risen with heal - ing in his wings, light and life to all he brings,

with the an - gel - ic host pro - claim Christ is — born in Beth - le - hem!
Pleased as man with us to dwell; Je - sus, — our Em - man - u - el!
hail, the Sun of Right - eous - ness! hail, the — heaven - born Price of Peace!

Hark! the her - ald an - gels sing glo - ry — to the new - born King!

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Worship Leaders

Officiant: Pastor Stephanie Kopsch

Musicians: The Choir of St. Barnabas Episcopal Parish, Nichole Young, Music Director

Accompanist: Ms. Rebecca Marshall

Lectors: Carol Wier, Steve Barney, The Rev. Diana Whitley, Laszlo Potyondy Stone, Michael Jordan, David Ford, Rachel Sefton, Patti Walter