

# The Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ

## Christmas Day

25 December 2023 · 10:15 AM

*The* **Chapel** *of the* **Good Shepherd**  
ST. JOHN'S LAFAYETTE



## The Holy Eucharist

Feel free to greet those around you prior to the voluntary. Once the music begins, please observe prayerful silence and be sure all cell phones and other electronic devices are silenced.

**Voluntary** Prelude on *Of the Father's Love Begotten*

Wilbur Held

**Hymn 100**

*Antioch*

**The Opening Sentences & Collect for Purity**

*Book of Common Prayer 355*

**The Gloria**

*Book of Common Prayer 356*

### The Collect of the Day

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us pray.

O God, you make us glad by the yearly festival of the birth of your only Son Jesus Christ: Grant that we, who joyfully receive him as our Redeemer, may with sure confidence behold him when he comes to be our Judge; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

## The Word of God

### First Reading

Isaiah 52:7-10

How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of the messenger who announces peace, who brings good news, who announces salvation, who says to Zion, "Your God reigns." Listen! Your sentinels lift up their voices, together they sing for joy; for in plain sight they see the return of the Lord to Zion. Break forth together into singing, you ruins of Jerusalem; for the Lord has comforted his people, he has redeemed Jerusalem. The Lord has bared his holy arm before the eyes of all the nations; and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.

*Reader* The Word of the Lord.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

### The Psalm 98

*Cantate Domino*

*Read as directed.*

1. Sing to the Lord a new song,  
for he has done marvelous things.
2. With his right hand and his holy arm  
has he won for himself the victory.
3. The Lord has made known his victory;  
his righteousness has he openly shown in the sight of the nations.
4. He remembers his mercy and faithfulness to the house of Israel,  
and all the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.
5. Shout with joy to the Lord, all you lands;  
lift up your voice, rejoice, and sing.
6. Sing to the Lord with the harp,  
with the harp and the voice of song.
7. With trumpets and the sound of the horn  
shout with joy before the King, the Lord.

8. Let the sea make a noise and all that is in it,  
the lands and those who dwell therein.
9. Let the rivers clap their hands,  
and let the hills ring out with joy before the Lord,  
when he comes to judge the earth.
10. In righteousness shall he judge the world  
and the peoples with equity.

## Second Reading

Hebrews 1:1-12

Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets, but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, through whom he also created the worlds. He is the reflection of God's glory and the exact imprint of God's very being, and he sustains all things by his powerful word. When he had made purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs. [For to which of the angels did God ever say, "You are my Son; today I have begotten you"? Or again, "I will be his Father, and he will be my Son"? And again, when he brings the firstborn into the world, he says, "Let all God's angels worship him." Of the angels he says, "He makes his angels winds, and his servants flames of fire." But of the Son he says, "Your throne, O God, is forever and ever, and the righteous scepter is the scepter of your kingdom. You have loved righteousness and hated wickedness; therefore God, your God, has anointed you with the oil of gladness beyond your companions." And, "In the beginning, Lord, you founded the earth, and the heavens are the work of your hands; they will perish, but you remain; they will all wear out like clothing; like a cloak you will roll them up, and like clothing they will be changed. But you are the same, and your years will never end."]

*Reader* The Word of the Lord.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

## Hymn 94

*Winchester Old*

## The Gospel

John 1:1-14

*Gospeller* The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

*People* **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

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.

*Gospeller* The Gospel of the Lord.

*People* **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

## The Sermon

### The Nicene Creed

*Book of Common Prayer 358*

### The Prayers of the People

*The minister begins by saying*

Let us pray to our incarnate Lord, who has brought us out of darkness and into his own marvelous light.

Christ born for us, Son of God given for us: help us to know you, to worship and to serve you. Lord, in your mercy

**hear our prayer.**

Wonderful counselor, you order all things with your wisdom: help the Church to reveal the mystery of your love and fill her with the Spirit of truth. Lord, in your mercy

**hear our prayer.**

Mighty God, the governments of this and every land are on your shoulders: guide the leaders of the nations and bring in your kingdom of justice and righteousness. Lord, in your mercy

**hear our prayer.**

Everlasting father, you call us to live together in unity: protect by your mercy all your children, bless our families, and renew our communities. Lord, in your mercy

**hear our prayer.**

Prince of peace, you bring reconciliation through the cross and open everlasting life through the empty tomb: give to those who suffer wholeness and peace and give to the dead new life in you. Lord, in your mercy

**hear our prayer.**

Lord Jesus Christ, Son of the Father, full of the Spirit,

**hear our prayer, receive our praises, and fill our lives. Amen.**

*The presider continues*

Holy Child of Bethlehem, you were born into our world, that we might be reborn into eternal life. May we daily live as children of God through your love, as you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

**Amen.**

### The Peace

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

**And also with you.**

*Then the people may greet one another in the name of Christ.*

### Welcome and Announcements

## The Great Thanksgiving

*Unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given, and his name shall be called the Prince of Peace.*

*-Isaiah 9.6*

*Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace to all in whom he delights. -Luke 2.14*

**Offertory** *What Is This Lovely Fragrance*

Paul Manz

**The Holy Eucharist** *Eucharistic Prayer B*

*Book of Common Prayer 367*

**The Lord's Prayer**

*Book of Common Prayer 364*

**The Breaking of the Bread**

*Book of Common Prayer 364*

### The Invitation

*The presider invites the congregation to Communion with these or similar words.*

The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

### Communion of the People – please read

*The consecrated Bread and Wine are living signs of the presence of Christ in this gathering. All Baptized Christians are welcome to receive Communion; however, no one who comes forward will be refused. If you would like a gluten-free wafer, please ask when you come forward.*

*Please kneel or stand for*

**The Prayer after Communion**

*Book of Common Prayer 365*

### Christmas Blessing

May Almighty God, who sent his Son to take our nature upon him, bless you in this holy season, scatter the darkness of sin, and brighten your heart with the light of his holiness. And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever.

**Amen.**

**Hymn 87**

*Mendelssohn*

### Dismissal

*A member of the clergy dismisses the people. The people respond*

**Thanks be to God.**

**Voluntary** *Good Christian Friends, Rejoice, BWV 729*

J.S. Bach

## **Advent Greens and Christmas Flowers**

The Advent greens, Christmas arrangements, and pillar candles in the side windows are provided in part by thank offerings from

Cindy Gerlach & Gary Mueller in memory of Russel Gerlach

Arlene Kusek in memory of Gerald Kusek

Jim and Carolyn Roth in memory of their daughter Marie Roth Henderson

Marilyn Howland Ross in memory of Kaye Kleine-Ahlbrandt

Marilyn Leigh in memory of her parents, Floyd and Pearl Fetter

Jack Sullivan in memory of Patsy Roderick

The Elder Pace Family in memory of Linda Meyer

Lisa Zimmerman in memory of Jim Zimmerman

Joe Venable in memory of Jane and Betsy Venable

Alyce Dressler & Mara Fox

The Mascarenhas Family

Jim & Sandy Bodenmiller

Nancy Dandrow

Camp & Comfort Gordinier



The staff and clergy of  
*the* **Chapel of the Good Shepherd** and  
**ST. JOHN'S LAFAYETTE**  
wish you and your family a joyous Christmas season.



### **The First Sunday after Christmas, December 31**

8:00 a.m. (at St. John's), 9:00 *via Zoom*,  
10:00 a.m. (at Good Shepherd) & 10:15 a.m. (at St. John's)

### **The Feast of the Epiphany, Sunday, January 7**

Baptism & Holy Eucharist 10:00 a.m. (at Good Shepherd)  
Epiphany Pageant & Holy Eucharist 10:15 a.m. (at St. John's)