

**The Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ
Holy Eucharist, Rite II**

24 December 2025 7:30 PM

Hymn #

The Opening Acclamation
Gloria in Excelsis

BCP 355
S280

The Collect of the Day:

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

The Old Testament: **Isaiah 9:2-7**

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.

Psalm 96

Cantate Domino

- 1 Sing to the LORD a new song; *
sing to the LORD, all the whole earth.
- 2 Sing to the LORD and bless his Name; *
proclaim the good news of his salvation from day to day.
- 3 Declare his glory among the nations *
and his wonders among all peoples.
- 4 For great is the LORD and greatly to be praised; *
he is more to be feared than all gods.
- 5 As for all the gods of the nations, they are but idols; *
but it is the LORD who made the heavens.
- 6 Oh, the majesty and magnificence of his presence! *
Oh, the power and the splendor of his sanctuary!

- 7 Ascribe to the LORD, you families of the peoples; *
ascribe to the LORD honor and power.
- 8 Ascribe to the LORD the honor due his Name; *
bring offerings and come into his courts.
- 9 Worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness; *
let the whole earth tremble before him.
- 10 Tell it out among the nations: "The LORD is King! *
he has made the world so firm that it cannot be
moved;
he will judge the peoples with equity."
- 11 Let the heavens rejoice, and let the earth be glad;
let the sea thunder and all that is in it; *
let the field be joyful and all that is therein.
- 12 Then shall all the trees of the wood shout for joy
before the LORD when he comes, *
when he comes to judge the earth.
- 13 He will judge the world with righteousness *
and the peoples with his truth.

The Epistle: Titus 2:11-14

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.

Hymn #

The Gospel: Luke 2:1-14 (15-20)

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.]

The Sermon

The Rev. Nancy L. Threadgill

The Nicene Creed

BCP 358

The Prayers of the People

Discernment Prayer (NEW):

Gracious and loving God, you teach us that things happen in your time. As we continue to wait for clergy candidates, encourage us, the people of St. Francis in the Fields and St. Mark's Episcopal Churches, to grow steadfastly in our ministries to love and serve our neighbors by sharing the Good News in Jesus Christ. Guided by the Holy Spirit, we open our hearts and minds to new opportunities and ideas, following where you lead — knowing that Jesus Christ walks with us each step of the way. As this discernment period evolves, empower the members of our Vestries and Discernment Committees to share their thoughts openly and honestly; to respect the opinions of others; and to encourage humility, patience, and joy. Finally, instill in us a glorious vision of the future: one where we are united in love and ministry in fulfilling the mission of our baptismal vows; through our savior Jesus Christ. Amen.

Confession of Sin

BCP 360

Exchange of the Peace

Offertory Anthem

Choir

THE HOLY COMMUNION

The Great Thanksgiving Sanctus	EP “B”	BCP 367 S128
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The Lord’s Prayer	CP 336
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The Fraction Anthem	S154
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Communion of the People

Communion Hymns

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Post Communion Prayer	BCP 365
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Post Communion Hymn #

The Blessing

Hymn #

The Dismissal

MAY GOD WHO SENT HIS ANGELS TO

PROCLAIM THE GLAD NEWS OF THE

SAVIOR’S BIRTH, FILL YOUR HEARTS WITH

JOY AND PEACE.



From *The Book Of Common Prayer* 1979
Hymns for *The Hymnal* 1982
Psalm for *The Saint Helena Psalter* 2004

For those unable to receive the physical Communion at this time please pray the following:

My Jesus, I believe that you are truly present I the Blessed Sacrament of the Altar. I desire to offer you praise and thanksgiving as I proclaim your resurrection. I love you above all things, and long for you in my soul. Since I cannot receive you in the Sacrament of your Body and Blood, come spiritually into my heart. Cleans and strengthen me with your grace, Lord Jesus. And let me never be separated from you. May I live in you, and you in me, in this life and in the life to come. Amen.

Prayers for a New Priest

Almighty God, the giver of all good gifts, we humbly ask you to supply your grace to all priests who are called to the ministry of your peoples. Fill them with the Holy Spirit, the truth of your doctrine, and clothe them with piety so that they may faithfully serve where they are called. Open their hearts to the possibility and consideration of a new path whereby they may serve you. We beseech you to guide to us, the pastor you would have shepherd your people at St. Francis in the Fields and St. Mark's. Open the hearts of these parish families to acceptance of your choice for us, so that together, we may increase our faith, devotion , and obedience, and be prepared to readily do the good works you have planned for us to do. We ask these things in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior. Amen.

O Lord our God, accept the fervent prayers of your people; in the multitude of your mercies, look with compassion upon us and all who turn to you for help; for you are gracious, O lover of souls and to you we give glory, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and for ever. Amen

Remember Today In Your Prayers:

Carol Adams, Louise Mead, Susan Kelly & Mike Teore,
Catherine McCloskey, Rick McKinley, Rick McKinley, Bill &
Doris Horner, Maryann Marchl, David Wertz & Rebecca Church,
Stacy Moskal, Betty Burdge, Ardean Kreasko.

Continue to Remember In Your Personal Prayers:

Donovan Pendell, Bonnie Murray, Vince & Irene Joyce,
Richard Burkert, Regina Hoover, Shawn & Tyler McKinley,
Cynthia Greig.

Pledge Cards

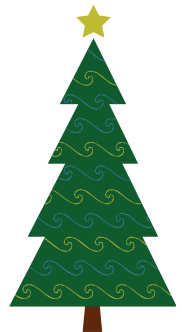
Please take time during this busy holiday to fill out your pledge card and return it to the office. If you have misplaced it, please call the office and we will mail you a new card. Cards will also be available in the Church Hall. Thank you for your promptness.

Church Envelopes

If anyone needs Church envelopes for 2026, please call the Office.

Carols & Lessons

Please join us next Sunday, December 28th for Christmas Carols and Lessons at the 10:00 am Service.



If you are unable to read or usher on the day you are scheduled, please find a substitute or let Mother

Nancy know so a sub can be found in a timely manner. Thank you.

Readers and Greeters — December 2025 & January 2026

If you are unable to read on the day you are scheduled, please find a substitute or let Mother Nancy know so a sub can be found in a timely manner. Thank you.

Sunday Readers

December 24 Pam Hysong & Tina Grata

December 28 Lessons & Carols

January 4 Richard Burkert and Tina Grata

January 11 Donovan Pendell & Pam Hysong

January 18 Lisa Bell-Loncella & Colleen Curry

January 25 Richard Burkert and Tina Grata

Sunday Greeters

December 28 Sam & Heidi Buchan

January 4 Jane & Gerry Strittmatter

January 11 Tina Grata & Joann Lacko

January 18 Melisa Babalonis & Aiden

January 25 Melissa Babalonis & Aiden

Welcome, Yule!

We warmly welcome all who will come this Christmas Season to celebrate the glorious feast of the Messiah's birth. We welcome the stranger, the traveler, and the guest.

We welcome our students home from college for a good winter's rest. We welcome all who have not been active of late in their faith. We hope they will find new hope and inspiration this Christmas to come back again and again!

We welcome our faithful parishioners, loyal and true; may the Lord bless you for all you do!

May our gathering this Christmas gladden our hearts and deepen our bonds

We are after all, one People of God –redeemed by the Light. May we walk by the Light and live by the Light—together in the mercy and favor of Christ.



Sunday: The First Sunday after Christmas Day

Sunday Dec. 28th 10:00 am
Christmas Lessons and Carols

| Tuesday__ Dec. 31st New Year’s Eve

Wednesday Jan. 1st HAPPY NEW YEAR

Thursday Jan. 2nd OFFICE CLOSED

Next Sunday: The First Sunday After The Epiphany

Sunday Jan. 4th 10:00 am Holy Eucharist Rite II

Thursday Jan. 8th 10:00 am to 1:00 pm
PET FOOD PANTRY