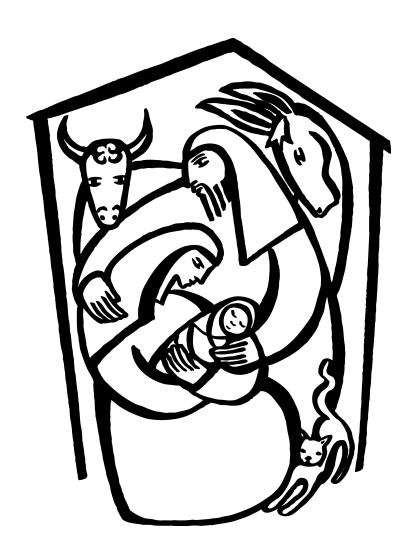
St. Timothy's Episcopal Church

Holy Eucharist: Rite Two



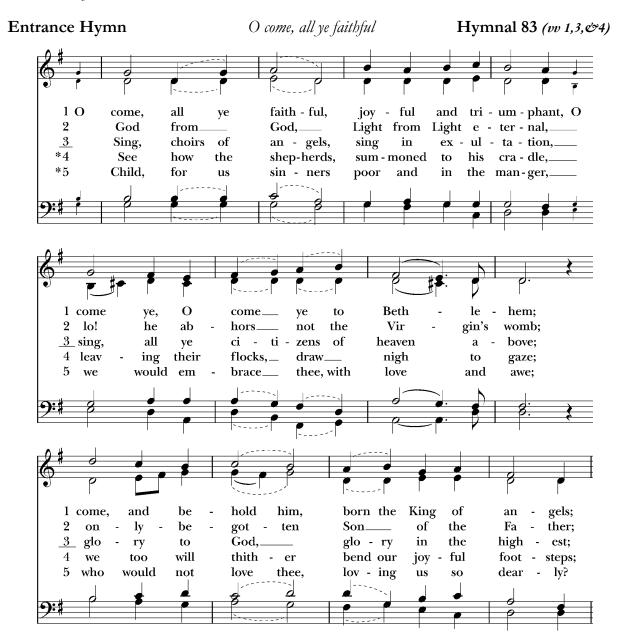
The Nativity of our Lord Jesus Christ Family Pageant

December 24, 2023 | 4:00pm

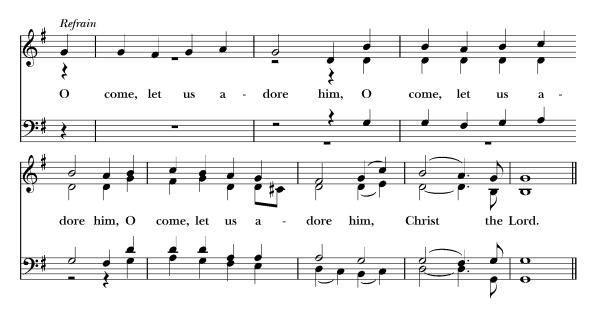
The Reverend Karen Swanson, Celebrant and Preacher

Prelude

Please stand as you are able



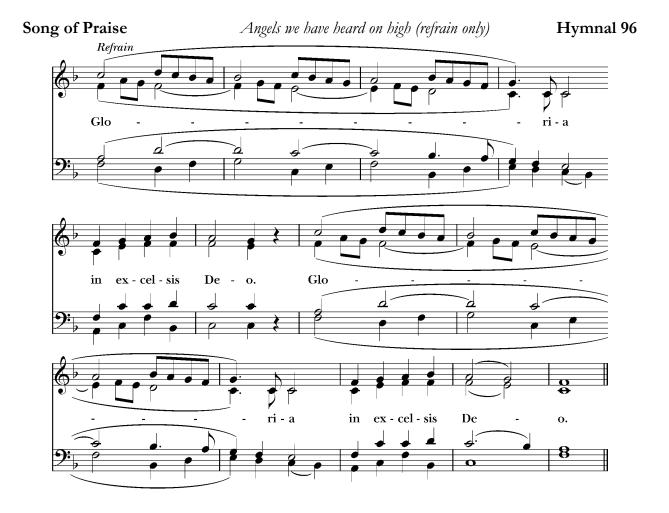
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Opening Acclamation

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

People And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.



The Collect of the Day

The Celebrant says to the people

God be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Let us pray.

The Celebrant says the collect

Son of God, Child of Mary, born in the stable at Bethlehem, be born again in us this day that we may know the wonder of your love. *Amen.*

The Lessons

The people sit. One or two Lessons, as appointed, are read, the Reader first saying

A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah (9:2-7)

- Reader 1: The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light:
- Reader 2: those who lived in a land of deep darkness on them light has shined.
- Reader 1: You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy;
- Reader 2: they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder.
- Reader 1: For the yoke of their burden, and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor,
- Reader 2: you have broken as on the day of Midian
- Reader 1: For all the boots of the tramping warriors and all the garments rolled in blood
- Reader 2: shall be burned as fuel for the fire.
- Reader 1: For a child has been born for us, a son given to us;
- Reader 2: authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named
- Reader 1: Wonderful Counselor
- Reader 2: Mighty God
- Reader 1: Everlasting Father
- Reader 2: Prince of Peace.
- Reader 1: His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom.
- Reader 2: He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onward and forevermore.
- Readers 1 and 2: The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.

After the Reading, the Reader says

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.



The Gospel

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke. (2:1-20)

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

The Gospel reading is included here for your convenience. The Gospel will be proclaimed in the form of a family pageant. The congregation may be seated.

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.

After the Gospel, the Reader says

The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Sermon

The Rev. Karen Swanson

The Prayers of the People

Christmas Eve

In the silence that follows each bidding, intercessions may be offered silently, or aloud.

Celebrant Gracious and Loving God, in Jesus you have filled all humanity with your divine life: Hear our prayers of joy and thanksgiving as we offer our supplications to you, saying: Glory to God in the highest heaven, and peace to God's people on earth.

Leader You have entrusted the Church with good news of great joy for all people: Inspire our witness that we may spread the light of Jesus' love to all humanity. The congregation is invited to add their thanksgivings and petitions, followed by silence.

Leader Glory to God in the highest heaven,

People and peace to God's people on earth.

Let your power and compassion guide those who exercise authority on earth, that they may be servants of peace, bringing comfort and security to all who are vulnerable. The congregation is invited to add their thanksgivings and petitions, followed by silence.

Glory to God in the highest heaven,

and peace to God's people on earth.

Embrace with your eternal protection all who are poor: refugees and the displaced, those threatened by violence, and families with no place to call their home. *The congregation is invited to add their thanksgivings, followed by silence.*

Glory to God in the highest heaven,

and peace to God's people on earth.

Fill this community with hospitality and generosity, that we may care for one another and celebrate the joy of your presence in our humanity. The congregation is invited to add their thanksgivings and petitions, followed by silence.

Glory to God in the highest heaven,

and peace to God's people on earth.

We entrust to your divine grace all for whom we pray, especially . . .

We give thanks for shepherds and all the vigilant who work while others sleep. Hear our grateful thanksgiving for all the gifts and blessings in our lives, especially . . .

We entrust into your eternal arms those who have died, especially . . . The congregation is invited to add their thanksgivings and petitions, followed by silence.

Glory to God in the highest heaven,

and peace to God's people on earth.

The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect

Loving God, the joyful message of the angels fills us with gladness as we celebrate the coming of the Christ child to live among us in vulnerable humility: Let your divine light so dwell within us, that we may treasure your words, ponder them in our hearts, and continue the work of Christ's incarnation in our day, through Jesus our Savior, to whom with you and the Holy Spirit be honor and glory, now and for ever. *Amen.*

The Peace

All stand. The Celebrant says to the people

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you.

Then the Ministers and People may greet one another in the name of the Lord.

Prayers for special occasions

Birthday prayer: Watch over thy *child*, O Lord, as *his* days increase; bless and guide *him* wherever *he* may be. Strengthen *him* when *he* stands; comfort *him* when discouraged or sorrowful; raise *him* up if *he* fall; and in *his* heart may thy peace which passeth understanding abide all the days of *his* life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

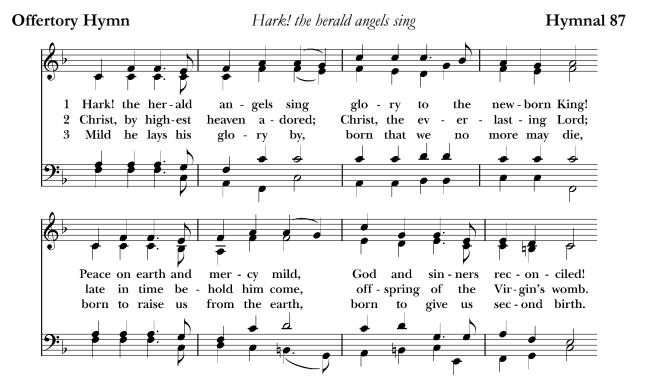
Anniversary prayer: Most gracious God, by the power of your Holy Spirit, pour out the abundance of your blessing upon this couple. Defend them from every enemy. Lead them into all peace. Let their love for each other be a seal upon their hearts, a mantle about their shoulders, and a crown upon their foreheads. Bless them in their work and in the companionship; in their sleeping and in their waking; in their joys and in their sorrows; and in their life and in their death. Amen.

The Announcements

The Holy Communion

The Celebrant begins the Offertory with a sentence of Scripture.

Sing to the Lord a new song: sing to the Lord, all the whole earth. Psalm 96:1



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Representatives of the congregation bring the people's offerings of bread and wine, and money or other gifts, to the deacon or celebrant. The people stand while the offerings are presented and placed on the Altar. Once the altar is prepared the following Doxology may be sung



The Great Thanksgiving

Eucharistic Prayer B

The people remain standing. The Celebrant, whether bishop or priest, faces them and says

The Lord be with you.

PeopleAnd also with you.CelebrantLift 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.

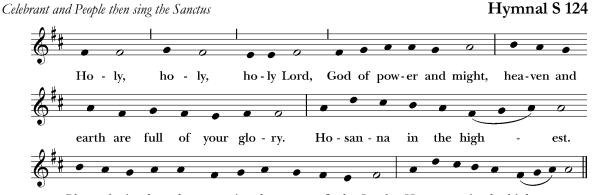
Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds

Preface for the Incarnation

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:



Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high - est.

The people stand or 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 Blessed Virgin Mary, Saint Joseph, Queen Emma, King Kamehameha IV, Queen Lili'uokalani, Saints Damien and Marianne of Moloka'i, our patron Saint Timothy, and with 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.

Celebrant and People then sing the Amen

Hymnal S 143



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

People and Celebrant

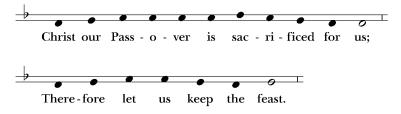
Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy Name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept.

Celebrant and People then sing the Fraction Anthem

Hymnal S 153



Facing the people, the Celebrant says the following Invitation

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

Ministration of Communion

The people are seated. In the Episcopal Church, all baptized persons are welcome to receive the Holy Communion regardless of age or Christian tradition. Anglicans believe in the "Real Presence" where, in the Bread and Wine, Christ is made "real" and "present." The nature of this grace is that Christ received even if one of the elements is received alone. During this time of pandemic as case numbers decline, vaccinations increase, and treatments improve, we are again distributing the Bread and the Wine in Communion. Communing from the common cup is optional, based on your personal judgment. The chalice on your left (facing the altar) will be for intinction; the chalice on the right is for those who wish to drink from the cup. Please refrain if you are not feeling well. Those who are not baptized may receive a blessing; please join in the movement to the altar and cross your arms over your heart; this will alert the Celebrant of your desire to receive a blessing.

Faith @ Home: Prayer/Act of Reception for those who cannot receive the Sacrament (from St. Augustine's Prayer Book, Order of the Holy Cross)

In union, blessed Jesus, with the faithful gathered at every altar of your Church where your blessed Body and Blood are offered this day, I long to offer praise and thanksgiving, for creation and all the blessings of this life, for the redemption won for us by your life, death, and resurrection, for the means of grace and the hope of glory. I believe that you are truly present in the Holy Sacrament, and, since I cannot at this time receive Communion, I pray you to come into my heart. I unite myself with you and embrace you with all my heart, my soul, and my mind. Let nothing separate me from you; let me serve you in this life until, by your grace, I come to your glorious kingdom and unending peace. *Amen.*





Postcommunion Prayer

After Communion, the Celebrant says

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.

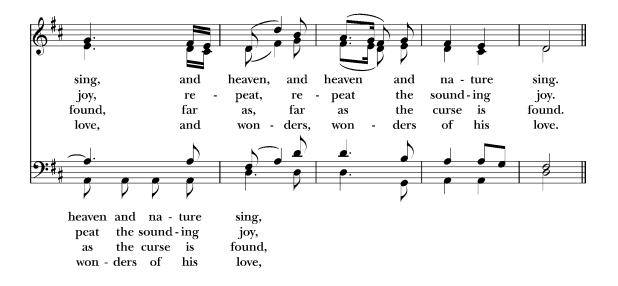


The Priest blesses the people, saying

May Christ our infant savior give you the joy of the Bethlehem shepherds and the humility and love of the Holy Family. And may the blessing of God Almighty: the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit be with you now and remain with you always. *Amen*.



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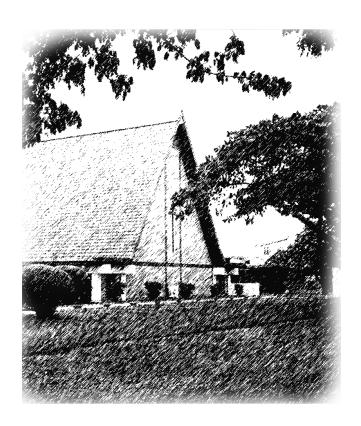


The Deacon, or the Celebrant, dismisses them with these words

Let us bless the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.





ST. TIMOTHY'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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