St. Timothy's Episcopal Church

Holy Eucharist: Rite Two



The First Sunday after Christmas

December 31, 2023 | 9:00am

The Reverend Karen Swanson, Celebrant and Preacher

Prelude

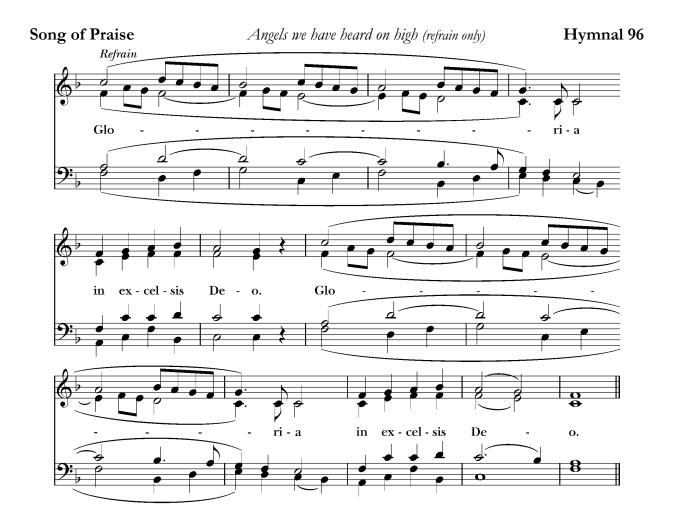
Sanctus bell is rung, please stand as you are able



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

Almighty God, you have poured upon us the new light of your incarnate Word: Grant that this light, enkindled in our hearts, may shine forth in our lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *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 (61:10-62:3)

I will greatly rejoice in the LORD, my whole being shall exult in my God; for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation, he has covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels. For as the earth brings forth its shoots, and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up, so the Lord GOD will cause righteousness and praise to spring up before all the nations.

For Zion's sake I will not keep silent, and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest, until her vindication shines out like the dawn, and her salvation like a burning torch. The nations shall see your vindication, and all the kings your glory; and you shall be called by a new name that the mouth of the LORD will give. You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the LORD, and a royal diadem in the hand of your God.

After the Reading, the Reader says

Reader The Word of the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 147:13-21 Laudate Dominum



- Worship the LORD, O Jerusalem; * praise your God, O **Zion**;
- For he has strengthened the bars of your *gates*; * he has blessed your children with *in you*.
- He has established peace on your *borders*; * he satisfies you with the finest *wheat*.
- He sends out his command to the *earth*, * and his word runs very *swiftly*.
- 17 He gives snow like *wool*; * he scatters hoarfrost like *ashes*.

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- He scatters his hail like *bread crumbs*; * who can stand against his *cold*?
- 19 He sends forth his word and *melts them;* * he blows with his wind, and the waters *flow*.
- 20 He declares his word to *Jacob*, * his statutes and his judgments to *Israel*.
- 21 He has not done so to any other *nation*; * to them he has not revealed his judgments. Hallelu*jah!*

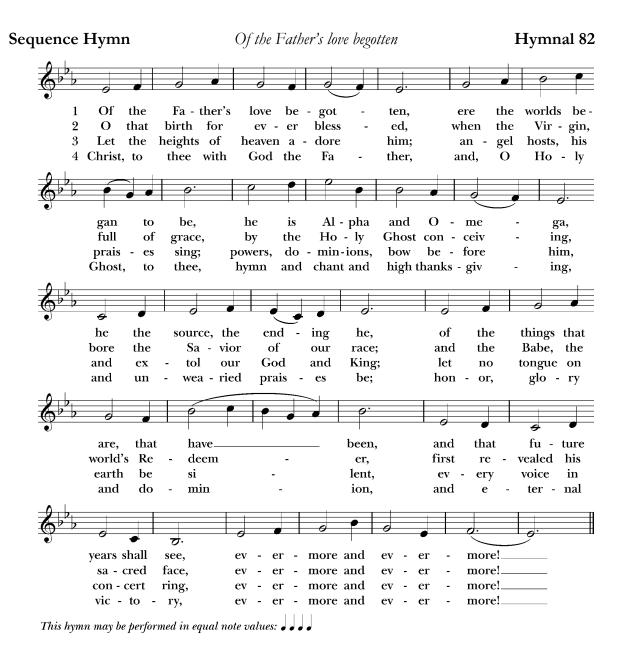
A reading from Paul's letter to the Galatians (3:23-25; 4:4-7)

Now before faith came, we were imprisoned and guarded under the law until faith would be revealed. Therefore the law was our disciplinarian until Christ came, so that we might be justified by faith. But now that faith has come, we are no longer subject to a disciplinarian.

But when the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, in order to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as children. And because you are children, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" So you are no longer a slave but a child, and if a child then also an heir, through God.

After the Reading, the Reader says

Reader The Word of the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**



The Gospel

Then, all standing, the Deacon or a Priest reads the Gospel, first saying

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John. (1:1-18)

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. (John testified to him and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks ahead of me because he was before me.") From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. No one has ever seen God. It is God the only Son, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known.

After the Gospel, the Reader says

The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Sermon

The Rev. Karen Swanson

Nicene Creed

The Celebrant and People then say the Nicene Creed 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 Pilater

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

The First Sunday after Christmas

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

Celebrant In Christ God's Word has become flesh dwelling among us, full of grace and truth. Let us pray to the true light which enlightens the world, that from the fullness of God all creation may receive grace upon grace, saying: What has come into being in Christ was life, and the life was the light of all people.

Leader Clothe your Church with the garments of salvation and cover her with robes of righteousness, O Gracious One, that we may be your witnesses to testify to the light. The congregation is invited to add their thanksgivings and petitions, followed by silence.

Leader What has come into being in Christ was life.

People and the life was the light of all people.

Inspire the leaders of our nation and all in authority in the ways of grace and truth, that we may no longer be a people enslaved under the law but may know ourselves to be heirs, adopted as God's children. The congregation is invited to add their thanksgivings and petitions, followed by silence.

What has come into being in Christ was life.

and the life was the light of all people.

Be our light in the darkness for all the world, that the fullness of your heart may be made known for the healing of the earth. *The congregation is invited to add their thanksgivings, followed by silence.*

What has come into being in Christ was life.

and the life was the light of all people.

Live among us, O Word made flesh, and reconcile this community to your light. The congregation is invited to add their thanksgivings and petitions, followed by silence.

What has come into being in Christ was life.

and the life was the light of all people.

May your people be a crown of beauty and a royal diadem in your hand, as we pray in faith for . . .

Hear our gratitude for your glory manifest among us, especially for . . .

Receive those who have died as heirs of eternal life, especially . . . The congregation is invited to add their thanksgivings and petitions, followed by silence.

What has come into being in Christ was life.

and the life was the light of all people.

The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect

Loving and gracious Creator, from the beginning you have brightened our darkness with the light of your life: Let your vindication shine out like the dawn, and your salvation like a burning torch, that your Word made flesh may bring grace upon grace to all the earth, in the power of your Holy Spirit, through Jesus Christ our Savior. *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.

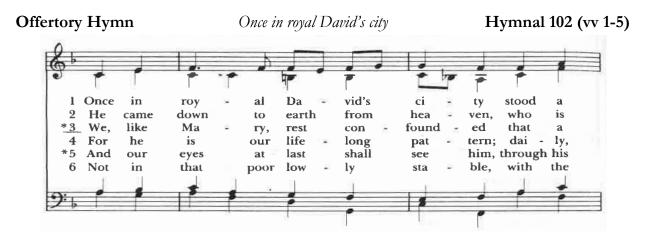
Anniversary prayer: Most gracious God, by the power of your Holy Spirit, pour out the abundance of your blessing upon this couple. Defend them from every enemy. Lead them into all peace. Let their love for each other be a seal upon their hearts, a mantle about their shoulders, and a crown upon their 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.

The Word became flesh and dwelt among us, full of grace and truth; we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father. *John 1:14*



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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

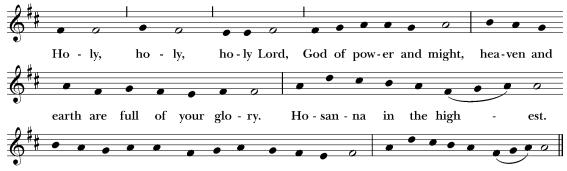
It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

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:

Celebrant and People then sing the Sanctus





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 say the Fraction

Celebrant Be known to us, Lord Jesus, in the breaking of the bread.

People Be known to us, Lord Jesus, in the breaking of the bread.

Celebrant One body are we, alleluia, for though many we share one bread.

People Be known to us, Lord Jesus, in the breaking of the bread.

Facing the people, the Celebrant says the following Invitation

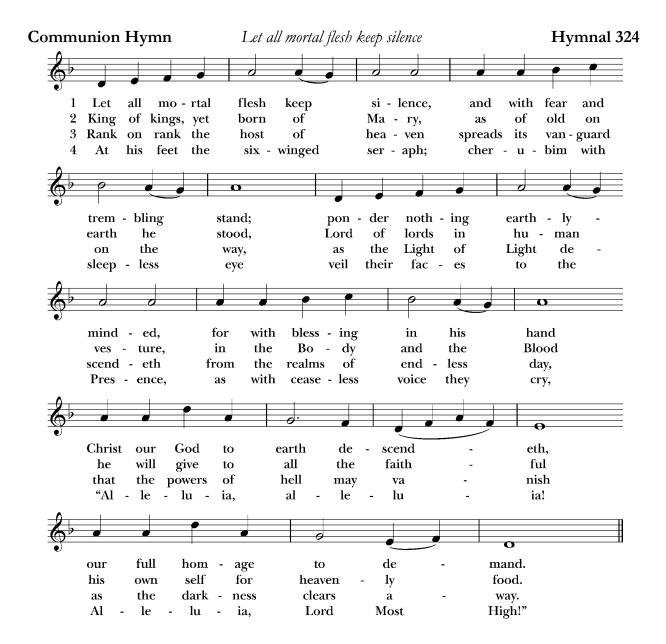
The Gifts of God for the People of God.

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 haptized 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

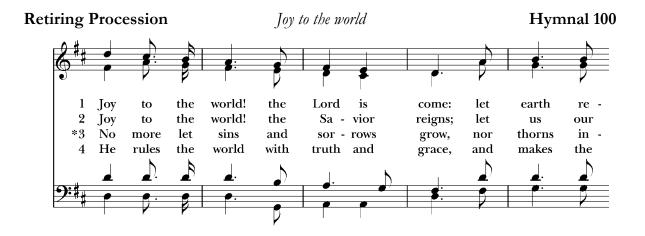
Let us pray.

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 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. May God, who sent his angels to proclaim the glad news of the Savior's birth, fill you with joy, and make you heralds of the Gospel. May God, who in the Word made flesh joined heaven to earth and earth to heaven, give you his peace and favor. And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you forever. **Amen.**

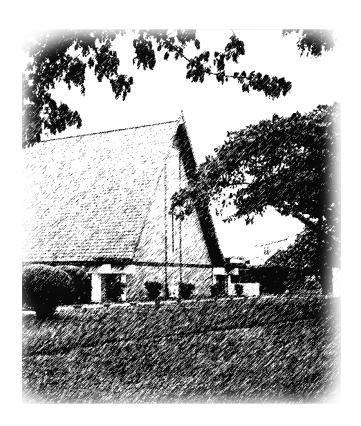


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The Deacon, or the Celebrant, dismisses them with these words

Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit. Alleluia. Alleluia. *People* **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.**



ST. TIMOTHY'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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