# Christmas Services

Christmas Eve 10:00pm Carols 10:30pm Choral Eucharist



St. Mark's Episcopal Church, Berkeley, California Christmas Eve; Year C December 24, 2021, 10:30pm

#### Welcome to St. Mark's!

This Christmastide, we invite you to share in our joy at the dawn of salvation, the invitation to a new start for the whole world in the birth of Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh. Wherever you may find yourself this Christmas, whether at peace or in need of peace, healthy or in need of healing, clear of conscience or in need of forgiveness, know that this holiday is for you; this Child, and the light which shines from his face, is for you. As we receive him afresh, let our joy be a sign to the world that the Light still "shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it." - (John 1:5)



## Today's service music

New Plainsong Setting David Hurd (b. 1950)

## Music in Celebration of Christ's Nativity

¶The congregation is invited to remain seated for the carol service

Organ Es ist ein Ros

Johannes Brahms (1833-1897)

**Hymn 81** Lo, how a Rose e'er blooming

Es ist ein Ros

Hymn 89 It came upon a midnight clear

Carol



3 Here betwixt rose and lily white, Sleep, sleep, sleep, my son to-night.

4 On this fair night of holy joy, Sleep, sleep, sleep, my little boy.

Řefrain

Refrain

# Hymn 104 A stable lamp is lighted, Andújar

# Carol All my heart this night rejoices, Ebeling



4 Thee, dear Lord, with heed I'll cherish;

Live to thee Faithfully:

Dying, never perish;

But abide in life eternal

Where with thee

I shall be

Filled with joy supernal.

Words: Paulus Gearhardt, 1656.

Music: Johann Georg Eberling (1666)

Tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1858, alt.

Carol What is this stupendous stranger?

Ann McChesney-Young



Where is this stupendous stranger? Prophets, shepherds, kings, advise. Lead me to my Master's manger, show me where my Savior lies. *Refrain* 

O Most Mighty, O Most Holy: Far beyond the seraph's thought: Art thou then so weak and lowly as unheeded prophets taught? *Refrain* 

O the magnitude of meekness! Worth from worth immortal sprung; O the strength of infant weakness, if eternal is so young! *Refrain* 

God all-bounteous, all creative, whom no ills from good dissuade, Is incarnate, and a native of the very world he made.

verse text by Christopher Smart (1722-1771) refrain text by Ann McChesney-Young

Hymn 80 From heaven above to earth I come, Vom Himmel Hoch

**Organ Carol** From heaven above to earth I come Richard Proulx (1937-2010)

# Opening Hymn 83, O come, all ye faithful

Adeste fideles

The first stanza is sung in Latin as noted below followed by stanzas 1 and 2 sung in English. During the hymn the procession moves to the crèche where the figure of the Christ Child is placed in the manger.

Adeste fideles laeti triumphantes, Venite, venite in Bethlehem. Natum videte Regem angelorum. Venite adoremus, Venite adoremus, Venite adoremus Dominum

¶At the arrival to the Crèche, the following versicle and response is offered and the Crèche is blessed.

Celebrant: The Word was made flesh and dwelt among us.

People: And we beheld his glory.

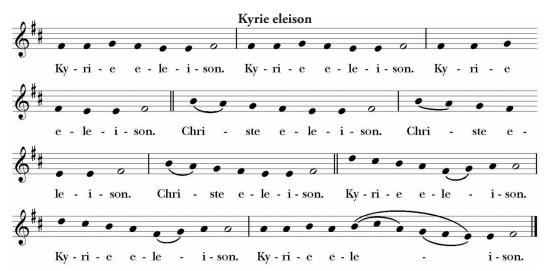
Celebrant: Let us pray:

Most merciful and loving God, you have made this night holy by the incarnation of your Son Jesus Christ: Bless this Crèche that we your people may enter with joy into the celebration of this festival, and may also rejoice for ever as your adopted sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

¶The procession continues, and the Hymn resumes with stanzas 3-6.

## **Collect for Purity**

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. *Amen*.



## Gloria in Excelsis



## Collect of the Day

O God, you have caused this holy night to shine with the brightness of the true Light: Grant that we, who have known the mystery of that Light on earth, may also enjoy him perfectly in heaven; where with you and the Holy Spirit he lives and reigns, one God, in glory everlasting. Amen.

¶All sit for the Lessons.

## First Reading Isaiah 62:6-12

Upon your walls, O Jerusalem, I have posted sentinels; all day and all night they shall never be silent. You who remind the Lord, take no rest, and give him no rest until he establishes Jerusalem and makes it renowned throughout the earth. The Lord has sworn by his right hand and by his mighty arm: I will not again give your grain to be food for your enemies, and foreigners shall not drink the wine for which you have labored; but those who garner it shall eat it and praise the Lord, and those who gather it shall drink it in my holy courts. Go through, go through the gates, prepare the way for the people; build up, build up the highway, clear it of stones, lift up an ensign over the peoples. The Lord has proclaimed to the end of the earth: Say to daughter Zion, "See, your salvation comes; his reward is with him, and his recompense before him." They shall be called, "The Holy People, the Redeemed of the Lord"; and you shall be called, "Sought Out, a City Not Forsaken."

Lector: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.



- 1 The LORD is King; let the / earth rejoice;\* let the multitude / of the / isles be glad.
- 2 Clouds and darkness are round a/bout him,\* righteousness and justice are the foun/dations / of his throne.
- 3 A fire goes be/fore him\* and burns up his ene/mies on / every side.
- 4 His lightnings light / up the world;\* the earth sees / it and / is afraid.
- 5 The mountains melt like wax at the presence of the / LORD,\* at the presence of the / Lord of the / whole earth.
- 6 The heavens declare his / righteousness,\* and all the peoples / see his / glory.
- 7 Confounded be all who worship carved images and delight in / false gods!\* Bow down be/fore him, / all you gods.
- 8 Zion hears and is glad, and the cities of Judah re/joice,\* because of your / judgments, / O LORD.
- 9 For you are the LORD, most high over / all the earth;\* you are exalted / far a/bove all gods.
- 10 The LORD loves those who hate / evil;\*
  he preserves the lives of his saints
  and delivers them from the / hand of the / wicked.
- 11 Light has sprung up for the / righteous,\* and joyful gladness for those who / are true/hearted.
- 12 Rejoice in the LORD, you / righteous,\* and give thanks / to his / holy Name.

# Epistle Titus 3:4-7

When the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared, he saved us, not because of any works of righteousness that we had done, but according to his mercy, through the water of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit. This Spirit he poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior, so that, having been justified by his grace, we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life.

Lector: The Word of the Lord. People: Thanks be to God.

¶All stand to sing.

Sequence Hymn 94, While shepherds watched their flocks

The Gospel Luke 2:1-20

The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke:

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

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 Gospel of the Lord. *Praise to you, Lord Christ.* 

The Homily The Rev. Blake Sawicky

¶A brief silence follows the Homily.

People:

#### Credo

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 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.

Prayers of the People

Leader: Let us pray to our incarnate Lord, who has brought us out of

darkness and into his own marvellous light.

Leader: 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,

People: Hear our prayer.

Leader: Wonderful counsellor, 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,

People: Hear our prayer.

Leader: Mighty God, the government is on your shoulders: guide the

leaders of the nations and bring in your kingdom of justice and

righteousness. Lord, in your mercy,

People: Hear our prayer.

Leader: Everlasting Father, you call us to live together in unity: protect by

your mercy all your children, bless our families, renew our

communities and keep our departed loved ones. Lord, in your mercy,

People: *Hear our prayer.* 

Leader: Prince of peace, you bring reconciliation through the cross: by

your healing power give to all who suffer your gift of wholeness

and peace. Lord, in your mercy,

People: Hear our prayer.

Leader: Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.

[The People are invited to offer their own petitions]

Leader: Lord, in your mercy:

People: Hear our prayer.

Celebrant: Lord Jesus Christ, Son of the Father, full of the Spirit, hear our

prayer, receive our praises, fill our lives.

All: Amen.

The Peace

Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: And also with you.

¶All exchange a sign of Peace.

 $\P Various \ announcements \ may \ be \ made.$ 

## The Offertory

¶Bread and Wine are offered at the Altar, and the table is set for the Eucharist. A collection is taken for the work of the church and then blessed. Singing by the Choir and the Congregation completes the Offertory: here in this set of actions, the whole assembly brings together our food, our material resources, our spirits, our bodies, our cares, our relationships, and our intentions, in order to present ourselves and our world as completely as possible to God. All of them will be blessed in the Eucharistic action to come, and creation itself will be renewed.

## Offertory Anthem Sleeps Judea Fair

Hugh A. MacKinnon (1891-1981)

Sleeps Judea fair, bides the Christ Child there Shepherds haste ye! Flocks forsaking, swift your way to Him be taking, Babe of Israel's prayer.

Christ from God is come, choosing earthly home, royal pomp and splendor never but with love which naught can sever, He will heal the dumb; Christ from God is come.

Lowly bend the knee, Thou from sin set free: let the Christ Child, meekly smiling, infant wise all woe beguiling, grant His grace to thee!

Hugh A. MacKinnon

¶All stand to sing.

Offertory Hymn 96, Angels we have heard on high Gloria

#### The Sursum Corda

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.
People: And also with you.
Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.
People: We lift them to the Lord.

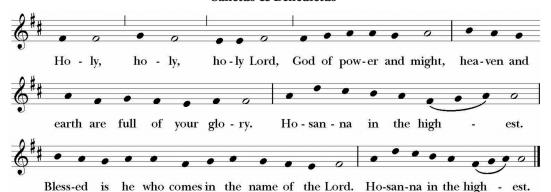
Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. People: *It is right to give God thanks and praise.* 

Here begins the Great Thanksgiving. Eucharistic Prayer B, Book of Common Prayer p. 367

¶The Celebrant begins the Eucharistic Prayer with a preface recalling the season. Then, all join their voices with those of the whole host of heaven as they sing perpetually before the throne of God:

...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:

#### Sanctus & Benedictus



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¶All remain standing, or kneel if desired.

¶Here in the presence of God, the whole host of heaven, the Communion of Saints, and the gathered community of St. Mark's Church, the Celebrant continues the Eucharistic Prayer: recalling Christ's words of institution at the Last Supper the night before he died, and his passion, death, and resurrection; offering the bread and wine to become for us the Sacrament of Christ's Body and Blood; praying for the Holy Spirit to descend upon the gifts we offer and we ourselves, to make us holy and consecrate our lives -- and life itself -- to the good purposes of God.

¶ After the words of institution, the Celebrant invites the people to affirm the Paschal Mystery.

Celebrant: Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

All: We remember his death,

We proclaim his resurrection, We await his coming in glory.

¶The Celebrant continues.

Finally, the Celebrant offers the concluding doxology and the People join in the Great Amen:

Celebrant: [...] 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.

All: AMEN.

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

## ¶All sing the Lord's Prayer



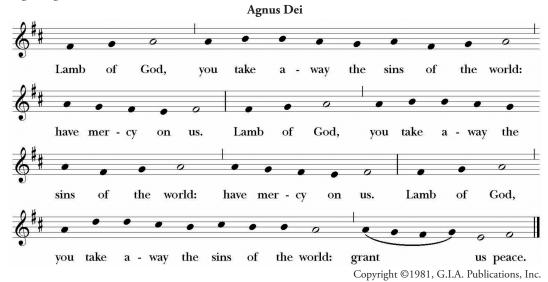
¶The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread.

Music: Rimsky Korsakov (1844-1908)

¶A period of silence is kept.

Celebrant: Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

All: Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.



¶The Celebrant invites the people to make their communions, saying:

Celebrant: Behold, the Lamb of God. Behold him who takes away

the sins of the world.

People: Lord, I am not worthy that you should come under my roof. But

speak the word only, and my soul shall be healed.

¶The Celebrant communicates the Altar party, then the Congregation and the Choir. ¶All are welcome to come forward. To receive the Host, hold out one open palm in the other. (Gluten-free Hosts are always available; just alert the priest, who will extend the pyx for you to take one.) If you would like to receive a blessing instead of communion, simply cross your arms over your chest. For the purposes of Covid safety, communion will be administered in one kind only, standing, at the head of the center aisle. Receive your Host and then move to one of the communion stations at the head of either side aisle before removing your mask and consuming your Host.

## Communion Motet O Magnum Mysterium

Gerald R. Near, (b. 1942)

O magnum mysterium,

et admirabile sacramentum,

jacentem in praesepio!

Beata Virgo Maria,

cujus viscera meruerunt portare Dominum Jesum Christum.

O great mystery and wondrous sacrament,

ut animalia viderent Dominum natum that animals should see the new-born Lord lying in a manger!

Blessed is the Virgin Mary,

whose womb was worthy to bear the Lord Jesus Christ.

Communion Hymn 112, In the bleak midwinter Cranham

# ¶All stand to pray.

# **Postcommunion Prayer**

Almighty and everliving God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

¶All remain standing to sing Silent Night (next page)

Hymn 111 Silent Night, Holy Night Stille Nacht



Words: Joseph Mohr (1792-1848); tr. John Freeman Young (1820-1885)

Music: Stille Nacht, melody Franz Xaver Gruber (1787-1863); harm. Carl H. Reinecke (1824-1910)

¶The Celebrant offers the Christmas Blessing.

Celebrant: 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.

All: Amen.

Celebrant: 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.

All: Amen.

Celebrant: May God, who in the Word made flesh joined heaven to earth and

earth to heaven, give you his peace and favor.

All: Amen.

Celebrant: And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy

Spirit, be upon you and remain with you forever.

All: Amen.

¶The Liturgy concludes with the Dismissal.

Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People: Thanks be to God.

Final Hymn 87, Hark! the herald Angels sing Mendelssohn

## **Closing Voluntary**

Vom Himmel hoch (Hymn 80)

Johann Pachelbel (1653-1706)

A very happy Christmas to you and yours, from everyone here at St. Mark's.

## Christmas

John Betjeman (1906-1984)

The bells of waiting Advent ring,
The Tortoise stove is lit again
And lamp-oil light across the night
Has caught the streaks of winter rain
In many a stained-glass window sheen
From Crimson Lake to Hookers Green.

The holly in the windy hedge
And round the Manor House the yew
Will soon be stripped to deck the ledge,
The altar, font and arch and pew,
So that the villagers can say
'The church looks nice' on Christmas Day.

Provincial Public Houses blaze, Corporation tramcars clang, On lighted tenements I gaze, Where paper decorations hang, And bunting in the red Town Hall Says 'Merry Christmas to you all'.

And London shops on Christmas Eve Are strung with silver bells and flowers As hurrying clerks the City leave To pigeon-haunted classic towers, And marbled clouds go scudding by The many-steepled London sky.

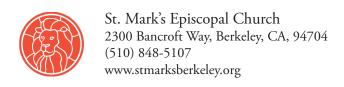
And girls in slacks remember Dad, And oafish louts remember Mum, And sleepless children's hearts are glad. And Christmas-morning bells say 'Come!' Even to shining ones who dwell Safe in the Dorchester Hotel. And is it true,
This most tremendous tale of all,
Seen in a stained-glass window's hue,
A Baby in an ox's stall?
The Maker of the stars and sea
Become a Child on earth for me?

And is it true? For if it is,
No loving fingers tying strings
Around those tissued fripperies,
The sweet and silly Christmas things,
Bath salts and inexpensive scent
And hideous tie so kindly meant,

No love that in a family dwells, No carolling in frosty air, Nor all the steeple-shaking bells Can with this single Truth compare -That God was man in Palestine And lives today in Bread and Wine.



Martin Travers (1886-1948)



Clergy

Rector | The Rev. Blake Sawicky

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Honorary Assisting Clergy | The Rev. Michael Hiller

The Rev. Lizette Larson-Miller The Rev. Kenneth Schmidt The Rev. Jim Stickney

The Rev. Louis Weil

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Kathi Day, Daniel Lee, Marcia Russell, Margo

Strakosch, Anna Weidman, Hildred Yost,

Kevin Zamzow-Pollock