

WELCOME TO SAINT ANDREW'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

CHRISTMAS EVE

December 24, 2025



VIGIL FOR CHRISTMAS EVE
THE HOLY EUCHARIST: RITE II

8:00 PM

The Rev. Daryl T. Hay, Rector
Dr. Linda Patterson, Director of Music
Vigil for Christmas Eve
Wednesday, December 24, 2025

The Rev. Benjamin Sánchez, Church Planter
The Rev. Michael Thompson, Deacon
The Holy Eucharist: Rite Two
8:00 PM

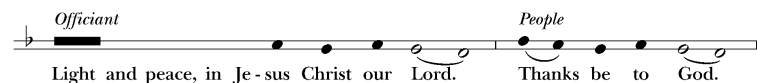
The Service of Light

OPENING VOLUNTARY: Saint Andrew's Handbell Trebles
Ding, Dong, Merrily on High
The Holly and the Ivy

SILENT PROCESSION

GREETING

All stand, and the Officiant greets the people with these words



In Lent and in Easter Season, the Opening Acclamations S 78-S 83 are used instead.

"Again Jesus spoke to them, saying, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness but will have the light of life." *John 8:12*

The Officiant then says

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 candles at the Altar are now lighted, as are other candles.
The People Sit*

HYMN 60 Creator of the Stars of Night
Sung by the Choir

The Service of Lessons

Let us hear the record of God's saving deeds in history, how he saved his people in ages past; and let us pray that our God will bring each of us to the fullness of redemption.

LESSON 1: Genesis 2:4b-9, 15-25

⁴These are the generations of the heavens and the earth when they were created.
In the day that the Lord GOD made the earth and the heavens, ⁵when no plant of the

field was yet in the earth and no herb of the field had yet sprung up — for the Lord GOD had not caused it to rain upon the earth, and there was no one to till the ground; ⁶but a stream would rise from the earth, and water the whole face of the ground — ⁷then the Lord GOD formed man from the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and the man became a living being. ⁸And the Lord GOD planted a garden in Eden, in the east; and there he put the man whom he had formed. ⁹Out of the ground the Lord GOD made to grow every tree that is pleasant to the sight and good for food, the tree of life also in the midst of the garden, and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.

¹⁵The Lord GOD took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to till it and keep it. ¹⁶And the Lord GOD commanded the man, "You may freely eat of every tree of the garden; ¹⁷but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall die."

¹⁸Then the Lord GOD said, "It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him a helper as his partner." ¹⁹So out of the ground the Lord GOD formed every animal of the field and every bird of the air, and brought them to the man to see what he would call them; and whatever the man called every living creature, that was its name. ²⁰The man gave names to all cattle, and to the birds of the air, and to every animal of the field; but for the man there was not found a helper as his partner. ²¹So the Lord GOD caused a deep sleep to fall upon the man, and he slept; then he took one of his ribs and closed up its place with flesh. ²²And the rib that the Lord GOD had taken from the man he made into a woman and brought her to the man. ²³Then the man said,

"This at last is bone of my bones
and flesh of my flesh;
this one shall be called Woman,
for out of Man this one was taken."

²⁴Therefore a man leaves his father and his mother and clings to his wife, and they become one flesh. ²⁵And the man and his wife were both naked, and were not ashamed.

HYMN 324 Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence (verse 1)

LESSON 2: Genesis 3:1-23

¹Now the serpent was more crafty than any other wild animal that the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, "Did God say, 'You shall not eat from any tree in the garden'?" ²The woman said to the serpent, "We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden; ³but God said, 'You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the middle of the garden, nor shall you touch it, or you shall die.'" ⁴But the serpent said to the woman, "You will not die; ⁵for God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil." ⁶So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be

desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate; and she also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate. ⁷Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made loincloths for themselves.

⁸They heard the sound of the Lord GOD walking in the garden at the time of the evening breeze, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the Lord GOD among the trees of the garden. ⁹But the Lord GOD called to the man, and said to him, "Where are you?" ¹⁰He said, "I heard the sound of you in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked; and I hid myself." ¹¹He said, "Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?" ¹²The man said, "The woman whom you gave to be with me, she gave me fruit from the tree, and I ate." ¹³Then the Lord GOD said to the woman, "What is this that you have done?" The woman said, "The serpent tricked me, and I ate." ¹⁴The Lord GOD said to the serpent,

"Because you have done this, cursed are you among all animals and among all wild creatures; upon your belly you shall go, and dust you shall eat all the days of your life. ¹⁵I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; he will strike your head, and you will strike his heel." ¹⁶To the woman he said, "I will greatly increase your pangs in childbearing; in pain you shall bring forth children, yet your desire shall be for your husband, and he shall rule over you." ¹⁷And to the man he said, "Because you have listened to the voice of your wife, and have eaten of the tree about which I commanded you, 'You shall not eat of it,' cursed is the ground because of you; in toil you shall eat of it all the days of your life; ¹⁸thorns and thistles it shall bring forth for you; and you shall eat the plants of the field. ¹⁹By the sweat of your face you shall eat bread until you return to the ground, for out of it you were taken; you are dust, and to dust you shall return."

²⁰The man named his wife Eve, because she was the mother of all living. ²¹And the Lord GOD made garments of skins for the man and for his wife, and clothed them.

²²Then the Lord GOD said, "See, the man has become like one of us, knowing good and evil; and now, he might reach out his hand and take also from the tree of life, and eat, and live forever" — ²³therefore the Lord GOD sent him forth from the garden of Eden, to till the ground from which he was taken.

HYMN 324 Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence (verse 2)

LESSON 3: Isaiah 40:1-11

¹Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God. ²Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that she has served her term, that her penalty is paid, that she has received from the LORD's hand double for all her sins. ³A voice cries out: "In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD, make straight in the desert a highway for our God. ⁴Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain. ⁵Then the glory of the LORD shall be

revealed, and all people shall see it together, for the mouth of the LORD has spoken."

⁶A voice says, "Cry out!" And I said, "What shall I cry?" All people are grass, their constancy is like the flower of the field. ⁷The grass withers, the flower fades, when the breath of the LORD blows upon it; surely the people are grass. ⁸The grass withers, the flower fades; but the word of our God will stand forever. ⁹Get you up to a high mountain, O Zion, herald of good tidings; lift up your voice with strength, O Jerusalem, herald of good tidings, lift it up, do not fear; say to the cities of Judah, "Here is your God!" ¹⁰See, the Lord GOD comes with might, and his arm rules for him; his reward is with him, and his recompense before him. ¹¹He will feed his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms, and carry them in his bosom, and gently lead the mother sheep.

HYMN 324 Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence (verse 3)

LESSON 4: Isaiah 35:1-10

¹The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad, the desert shall rejoice and blossom; like the crocus ²it shall blossom abundantly, and rejoice with joy and singing. The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it, the majesty of Carmel and Sharon. They shall see the glory of the LORD, the majesty of our God. ³Strengthen the weak hands, and make firm the feeble knees. ⁴Say to those who are of a fearful heart, "Be strong, do not fear! Here is your God. He will come with vengeance, with terrible recompense. He will come and save you." ⁵Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped; ⁶then the lame shall leap like a deer, and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy. For waters shall break forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert; ⁷the burning sand shall become a pool, and the thirsty ground springs of water; the haunt of jackals shall become a swamp, the grass shall become reeds and rushes. ⁸A highway shall be there, and it shall be called the Holy Way; the unclean shall not travel on it, but it shall be for God's people; no traveler, not even fools, shall go astray. ⁹No lion shall be there, nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it; they shall not be found there, but the redeemed shall walk there. ¹⁰And the ransomed of the LORD shall return, and come to Zion with singing; everlasting joy shall be upon their heads; they shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

HYMN 324 Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence (verse 4)

LESSON 5: LUKE 1:26-58

²⁶In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, ²⁷to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. ²⁸And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you." ²⁹But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. ³⁰The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. ³¹And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. ³²He will be great, and will be called the Son of the

Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. ³³He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." ³⁴Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?" ³⁵The angel said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. ³⁶And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. ³⁷For nothing will be impossible with God." ³⁸Then Mary said, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her.

³⁹In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, ⁴⁰where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. ⁴¹When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit ⁴²and exclaimed with a loud cry, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. ⁴³And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me? ⁴⁴For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leaped for joy. ⁴⁵And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her by the Lord."

⁴⁶And Mary said,

"My soul magnifies the Lord,
⁴⁷and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,
⁴⁸for he has looked with favor on the lowliness of his servant.
Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed;
⁴⁹for the Mighty One has done great things for me,
and holy is his name.
⁵⁰His mercy is for those who fear him
from generation to generation.
⁵¹He has shown strength with his arm;
he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts.
⁵²He has brought down the powerful from their thrones,
and lifted up the lowly;
⁵³he has filled the hungry with good things,
and sent the rich away empty.
⁵⁴He has helped his servant Israel,
in remembrance of his mercy,
⁵⁵according to the promise he made to our ancestors,
to Abraham and to his descendants forever."

⁵⁶And Mary remained with her about three months and then returned to her home.
⁵⁷Now the time came for Elizabeth to give birth, and she bore a son. ⁵⁸Her neighbors and relatives heard that the Lord had shown his great mercy to her, and they rejoiced with her.

Silence

THE PROCLAMATION OF THE BIRTH OF CHRIST

Tonight, unknown ages from the time when God created the heavens and the earth and then formed humanity in his own image; Several thousand years after the flood, when God made the rainbow shine forth as a sign of the covenant; Twenty-one centuries from the time of Abraham and Sarah; thirteen centuries after Moses led the people of Israel out of Egypt; Eleven hundred years from the time of Ruth and the Judges; one thousand years from the anointing of David as king; in the sixty-fifth week according to the prophecy of Daniel; In the one hundred and ninety-fourth Olympiad; the seven hundred fifty-second year from the foundation of the city of Rome; The forty-second year of the reign of Octavian Augustus; the whole world being at peace, Jesus Christ, eternal God and Son of the eternal Father, desiring to sanctify the world by his most merciful coming, being conceived by the Holy Spirit, and nine months having passed since his conception was born in Bethlehem of Judea of the Virgin Mary. This holy night is the Nativity of our Lord Jesus Christ according to the flesh.

PROCESSION AND OPENING HYMN 83 O Come, All Ye Faithful

The people stand.

OPENING ACCLAMATION

The people standing, the Celebrant says

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


People **And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

SONG OF PRAISE

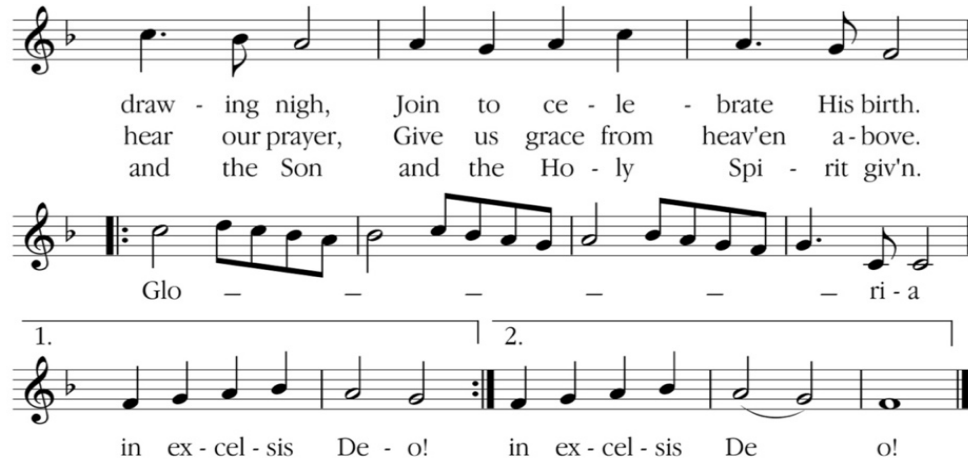
The following is sung, all standing

The St. James Christmas Service

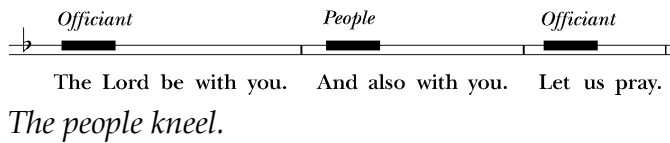
Joyously



Glo - ry be to God on high,
Je - sus Christ, we now de - clare
Prai - ses to the Ho - ly One,
To all peo - ple, peace on earth, An - gels, shep - herds
Lamb of God and Lord of Love. Grant us mer - cy,
Prai - ses sing in high - est heav'n; To the Fath - er



THE 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.**

The Lessons

FIRST READING: Isaiah 62:6-12

The people sit.

A Reading from the Book of Isaiah.

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.

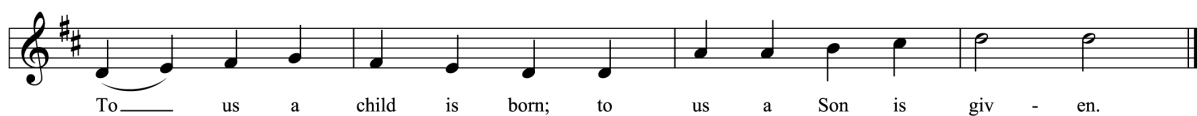
The LORD has sworn by his right hand
and by his mighty arm:

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."

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

PSALM 97
Remain seated.



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- 1 The LORD is King;
 let the earth rejoice; *
 let the multitude of the isles be glad.
- 2 Clouds and darkness are round about him, *
 righteousness and justice are the foundations of his throne. *Antiphon*
- 3 A fire goes before him *
 and burns up his enemies 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.

Antiphon

7 Confounded be all who worship carved images
and delight in false gods! *
Bow down before him, all you gods.

8 Zion hears and is glad, and the cities of Judah rejoice, *
because of your judgments, O LORD.

9 For you are the LORD,
most high over all the earth; *
you are exalted far above all gods.

Antiphon

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 truehearted.

12 Rejoice in the LORD, you righteous, *

Antiphon

SECOND READING: Titus 3:4-7

A Reading from the Letter of Paul to Titus.

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.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

SEQUENCE HYMN 87 Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

GOSPEL: Luke 2:8-20

All stand.

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

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

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.

Priest The Gospel of the Lord.
People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

THE SERMON

The Reverend Daryl T. Hay

THE CREED

All stand.

**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.**

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

The people kneel.

Come let us adore Christ, the Lord. Let us pray, "Glorious Lord, grant us your peace."

Christ the Lord, we humbly adore you: make joyful our hearts. Strengthen your Church with humility and faith that we might triumph over the power of evil.

Glorious Lord, **Grant us your peace.**

Christ the Lord, we humbly adore you: you abhor neither the simple nor the lowly. Shine your light on all the world that the nations may look upon your truth and find their salvation.

Glorious Lord, **Grant us your peace.**

Christ the Lord, we humbly adore you: may all of creation burst forth in songs of praise. May all the works of your hand glorify you.

Glorious Lord, **Grant us your peace.**

Christ the Lord, we humbly adore you: summon the people of the city to yourself. May all of the distractions and heartache of our lives fade away in the joy of your presence.

Glorious Lord, **Grant us your peace.**

Christ the Lord, we humbly adore you: you love us so dearly. Grant your healing grace to sinners, to the poor, to those in need of love. Open your arms to the sick and the lonely.

Glorious Lord, **Grant us your peace.**

Christ the Lord, we humbly adore you: all glory be given to you. You blessed our earthly bodies with your birth; and you promise to raise us to new life by your death and resurrection.

Glorious Lord, **Grant us your peace.**

The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect

CONFESSION OF SIN

The Celebrant says

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence may be kept.

Minister and People

**Most merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us and forgive us;
that we may delight in your will,
and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your Name. Amen.**

The Priest stands and says

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

THE PEACE

All stand.

<i>Celebrant</i>	The peace of the Lord be always with you.
<i>People</i>	And also with you.

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

The Holy Communion

OFFERTORY SENTENCE

OFFERTORY ANTHEM: "The Holly and the Ivy"

arr. Boughton

The holly and the ivy, now both are full well grown, of all the trees that are in the wood, the holly bears the crown.

Refrain: *Oh, the rising of the sun and the running of the deer, the playing of the merry organ, sweet singing in the choir.*

*The holly bears a blossom as white as lily flower, and Mary bore sweet Jesus Christ to be our sweet Saviour. **Refrain***

*The holly bears a berry as red as any blood, and Mary bore sweet Jesus Christ for to do us sinners good. **Refrain***

*The holly bears a prickly, as sharp as any thorn, and Mary bore sweet Jesus Christ for to do us sinners good. The holly bears a bark as bitter as any gall, and Mary bore sweet Jesus Christ for to redeem us all. **Refrain***

DOXOLOGY
The people stand.

Hymn 380, verse 3

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING
The Celebrant says

Celebrant *People*

The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Celebrant *People*

Lift up your hearts. 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.

Facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds

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

Here a proper preface is said on all Sundays, and on other occasions as appointed.

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 Holy, holy, holy
Celebrant and People

The St. James Christmas Service

Gently [in One]

Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly Lord,



The people kneel.

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.

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

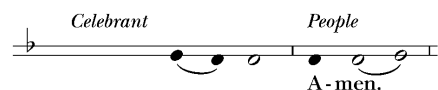
**We remember his death,
 We proclaim his resurrection,
 We await his coming in glory;**

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 Mary, Joseph, Andrew and 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.



THE LORD'S PRAYER

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,
forever and ever. Amen.**

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

FRACTION ANTHEM

The St. James Christmas Service



O Lamb of God, O Ho - ly
 Child, who takes the sin of the world a - way; Have
 mer - cy on us, lamb so mild, the babe, the
 son of Ma - ry. This, this is your bo - dy
 giv'n, Your pre - cious blood, the gift of heav'n.
 Take, eat, for we are one in the babe, the
 son of Ma - ry.

INVITATION

DISTRIBUTION

COMMUNION HYMNS

Duet from *Messiah*: "He Shall Feed His Flock"

Courtney Nagel, Mezzo-Soprano and Patty Creel, Soprano

Mary Creel, Oboe

HYMN 89 It Came Upon the Midnight Clear

HYMN 79 O Little Town of Bethlehem

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

After Communion, the Celebrant says

Let us pray.

Celebrant and People

**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.**

Acolytes will light candles for those seated at the aisle; each person then lights the candle of the person next to them. Please keep your candles lit until the lights come back up.

POST-COMMUNION HYMN 111 Silent Night

(first verse in the original German)

Luther Linder, Soloist

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. **Amen.**

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. **Amen.**

May God, who in the Word made flesh joined heaven to earth and earth to heaven, give you his peace and favor. **Amen.**

And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever. **Amen.**

CLOSING HYMN 100 Joy to the World!

Sung by all, standing

DISMISSAL

CLOSING VOLUNTARY

Postlude on “Bring a Torch, Jeanette, Isabella”

Keith Chapman (1945-1989)

From riteplanning.com.

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*The flowers are given to the Glory of God in loving memory of Kurt Elmendorf
by Ernest Elmendorf.*

NOTES ABOUT THE MUSIC: Tonight's music includes some less well-known Christmas Carols. "The Holly and the Ivy" is a traditional English Carol, with a melody first collected in 1911. The music that the choir sings from tonight was copyrighted and published in 1920 and has been in our music files for many years. Just as we are celebrating the 100th anniversary of the dedication of our Pilcher pipe organ, it is great to also sing some of the traditional favorites from 1925, such as this anthem. The text uses imagery of the holly and the ivy to illustrate both Christmas and Easter.

Another traditional carol is "Bring a Torch, Jeannette, Isabella," which is the basis for our Closing Voluntary tonight. It is a French carol from Provence, which describes two shepherdesses bringing a torch to the manger in Bethlehem.

We are delighted to have guest musicians, Harmony Smith (violin) and Mary Creel (oboe), with us tonight. Their additions to our worship make the evening even more special.

COVER ART: Putman, Emily. Christmas Eve (2024). Watercolor.

LOOKING AHEAD

To receive "The Line," our weekly e-newsletter, please email: office@standrewsbcs.org

Morning Prayer is offered Tuesday through Friday at 8 AM in the church.

Evening Prayer is offered Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday at 5 PM in the church.

The 10:15 AM Sunday service is live-streamed on Facebook and YouTube as well as found on our website: www.standrewsbcs.org

UPCOMING EVENTS

December 24	Christmas Eve Services with the Holy Eucharist, 4:30 PM & 8 PM
December 25	Christmas Day Service with the Holy Eucharist, 11 AM
December 25-26	Church Office Closed
December 28	Coffee & Conversation, 9:15 AM Guest Preacher, The Rev. Karl Griswold-Kuhn
December 31	Snacks & Game Night, 9 PM Service for New Year's Eve with the Holy Eucharist, 11:15 PM
January 1	Church Office Closed
January 4	Christmas Lessons & Carols, 10:15 AM
January 6	The Epiphany of Our Lord Jesus Christ with the Holy Eucharist, 12:15 PM
January 11	The Baptism of Our Lord Jesus Christ with the Holy Eucharist, 8 & 10:15 AM <i>If you are interested in being baptized, please contact the Church Office</i>
January 18	Fork & Forté Luncheon Group, 11:30 AM Plass Recital Series: Alexander Busby, 2 PM
January 19	Church Office Closed in observance of MLK Jr. Day
January 20	Bach's Lunch, 12:15 PM
January 21	Public Service of Healing with the Holy Eucharist, 5:30 PM Rector's Book Club, 6 PM
January 25	Annual Parish Meeting, 9:15 AM

WEEKLY/MONTHLY MINISTRIES

Sunday – The Holy Eucharist: 8 and 10:15 AM | Faith Formation, 9:15 AM

Monday – Brotherhood of St. Andrew Bible Study, 6 PM (offsite)

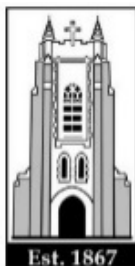
Tuesday – Good Grief Group, 9:30 AM | Youth Café Conversations, 6 PM (offsite)

Wednesday – Choir Practice, 3 & 7 PM | Handbell Rehearsal, time varies (contact Linda for more details) | 20–30 Vision, 6 PM

Thursday – Men’s Breakfast, 7 AM | Ladies Breakfast, 8:30 AM (offsite) | Card Committee (3rd Thursday of the month)

Friday – Music Play with Ms. Patty, 9:30 AM

Saturday – DOK, 9 AM (2nd Saturday of the month) | Flower Guild: Flower Arranging, 10 AM | Brazos Church Pantry Volunteer Day (3rd and 4th Saturday of the month)



Saint Andrew's
Episcopal Church
Bryan, Texas

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Sexton – Jeff Waskom

Let's Get Social:

Website: www.standrewsbcs.org
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Episcopal Church**



**Altar Flower Dedications
Sign-Up**

