

Trinity on the Hill Episcopal Church

The Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ



Wednesday, December 24, 2025

5:00 pm

Family Service with Holy Eucharist

The Nativity of our Lord Jesus Christ

Organ Prelude

Opening Hymn: “O come, all ye faithful”

Hymnal 83

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

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

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 (*sung together*) “Angels we have heard on high”

Angels we have heard on high,
Singing sweetly through the night,
And the mountains in reply
Echoing their brave delight.
Gloria in excelsis Deo.

Come to Bethlehem and see
Him whose birth the angels sing;
Come, adore on bended knee
Christ, the Lord, the newborn King.
Gloria in excelsis Deo.

The Celebrant says to the people

The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

O God, you make us glad by the yearly festival of the birth of your only Son Jesus Christ: Grant that we, who joyfully receive him as our Redeemer, may with sure confidence behold him when he comes to be our Judge; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Old Testament Reading: Isaiah 9:2-7

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

Sequence Hymn: “O little town of Bethlehem”

Hymnal 78

The Holy Gospel: Luke 2:1-20 (from the King James Bible)

Reader: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to Luke. **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

And it came to pass in those days, that there went out a decree from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be taxed. (And this taxing was first made when Cyrenius was governor of Syria.) And all went to be taxed, every one into his own city. And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth,

into Judaea, unto the city of David, which is called Bethlehem; (because he was of the house and lineage of David:) to be taxed with Mary his espoused wife, being great with child.

And so it was, that, while they were there, the days were accomplished that she should be delivered. And she brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn.

And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid. And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord. And this shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, 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, and on earth peace, good will toward men.

And it came to pass, as the angels were gone away from them into heaven, the shepherds said one to another, Let us now go even unto Bethlehem, and see this thing which is come to pass, which the Lord hath made known unto us. And they came with haste, and found Mary, and Joseph, and the babe lying in a manger. And when they had seen it, they made known abroad the saying which was told them concerning this child. And all they that heard it wondered at those things which were told them by the shepherds. But Mary kept all these things, and pondered them in her heart. And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things that they had heard and seen, as it was told unto them.

Reader: The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

“THE LIGHT OF GOD”

John Singleton

Scene 1: Nazareth;

Song: Long ago, prophets knew

Long ago, prophets knew Christ would come, born a Jew;
Come to make all things new, bear his people's burden,
Freely love and pardon.
Ring bells, ring, ring, ring! Sing choirs, sing, sing, sing!
When He comes, when He comes, who will make Him welcome?

God in time, God in men, this is God's timeless plan;
He will come, as a man, born himself of woman,
God divinely human.
Ring bells, ring, ring, ring! Sing choirs, sing, sing, sing!
When He comes, when He comes, who will make Him welcome?

CENTURION: People of Nazareth, gather around for a very important announcement. *(Clears throat.)* Caesar Augustus has decreed that there will be a census in nine months' time for the purpose of taxation.

TOWNSPEOPLE: Census, census, what's a census?

CENTURION: A census is where we ask you how many people are in your family, what jobs you do, how many goats, chickens, and sheep you have in your hovel, and so on.

OBED: You mean that you'll count us?

CENTURION: Yeeees. That's the idea.

TOWNSPEOPLE: OOOOH.

OBED: That means trouble, you know. We had a census in King David's time. That's only 983 years ago.

JOSEPH: We remember it like yesterday.

OBED: Oh yes, and the anger of the Lord was kindled up against Israel... and there was a plague of locusts.

JOSEPH: No, no, it was boils.

OBED: Er, maybe not locusts. I know! It was a river of blood.

JOSEPH: No! I'm sure it was boils....., or maybe giant cockroaches.

OBED: I remember now, it was smiting; there was a lot of smiting. Anyway, there was big trouble.

CENTURION: Will you lunatics be quiet and let me get on with my announcement about taxes? You must go to your ancestral towns..

JOSEPH: You mean we have to travel?

CENTURION: Yes, you have to travel.

OBED: Oh no. *We'll* have to go to Shechem; it's nearly five miles away. Last time it took hours. The kids were like, "are we there yet?" All the time.

CENTURION: If you miserable peasants won't shut up, then I must force you to listen to this.

Song: Count your many taxes

Centurion:

Citizens of this great empire, here are the distressing facts;
It's your patriotic duty; time has come to pay the tax.

Villagers and sheep:

Citizens of this great empire, though we've paid a lot before,
It's our patriotic duty; time has come to pay some more.

All:

Count your taxes, name them one by one.
Count your many taxes and be glad when you are done.

Rappers:

Taxes on our shoes and boots, veg'tables and juicy fruits,
Ev'ry meal that we prepare, all the clothing that we wear.
Taxes on a loaf of bread, on the roof above our head,
Meat and cheese and apple pie, ev'ry single thing we buy!

All:

Count your taxes, name them one by one.
Count your many taxes and be glad when you are done.
Citizens of this great empire, this is just the way it is;
It's our patriotic duty; give to Caesar what is his.
It's our patriotic duty; give to Caesar what is his!

JOSEPH: Huh! Those Romans, taxing us all the time, eating all the best fish, and tearing round town in their pimped-up chariots....

OBED: Don't worry; they won't stay for long. You should remember what the Prophet Isaiah foretold.

TOWNSPEOPLE: And what *did* Isaiah say?

ISAIAH: Sinful nation, a people laden with iniquity, a seed of evildoers, children that are corrupters: you have forsaken the LORD, you have provoked the Holy One of Israel unto anger, you are gone away backward. From the sole of the foot even unto the head there is no soundness in it; but wounds, and bruises, and putrifying sores.

OBED: No, no, no, Mr Isaiah, it wasn't *that* prophecy. It was the other one.

ISAIAH: What, you mean? Bring no more vain sacrifices and oblations; incense is an abomination unto me; Your

new moons and your appointed feasts my soul hateth: they are a trouble unto me; I am weary to bear them,

OBED: Stop, stop, stop. Not that one either. It was the one about the light..... light, you know?

ISAIAH: Er, let me see.... it's been a very long time.... Ah, Yes! The people walking in darkness have seen a great light. On those living in the land of the shadow of death a light has dawned. To us, a child is born. To us a son is given. And he will be called Wonderful, Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Of the increase of his government and peace there shall be no end.

TOWNSPEOPLE: Cheers, Hurray, Huzzah, Rad, Cool, Yo!, etc.

Song: there's a great light

All:

There's a great light, and it's coming our way!
There's a great light, and it's coming our way!
And the pitch-black night will vanish away,
When the great light comes, we shall have a great day!
There's a great light, and it's coming our way!
There's a great light, and it's coming our way!
And the mighty God will be born as a boy;
When the baby's born we'll be dancing for joy,
Dancing for joy, dancing for joy, dancing for joy!

Small group:

Prince of peace, everlasting Father and a wonderful Counsellor!
Of his government there will never be an end;
He will reign in David's kingdom with justice,
With justice and righteousness for ever and ever,
For evermore.

All:

There's a great light, and it's coming our way!
There's a great light, and it's coming our way!
And the pitch-black night will vanish away,
When the great light comes, we shall have a great day!
There's a great light, and it's coming our way!
There's a great light, and it's coming our way!
And the mighty God will be born as a boy;
When the baby's born we'll be dancing for joy,
Dancing for joy, dancing for joy, dancing for joy,
Dancing for joy!

Scene 2: Mary's house.

JOSEPH: Mary, Mary! I've got some awesome news!

MARY: Joseph, I've got some really awesome news!

JOSEPH: I bet my news is awesomer than yours.

MARY: I bet it isn't.

JOSEPH/MARY: Tis, Tisn't, Tis, Tisn't etc.

JOSEPH: OK, I'll give you my news first. Whoever has the less awesome news gets to clean out my donkey's stable. Deal? Here we go. There's going to be a census for taxation. I have to travel to Bethlehem to be enrolled. Isn't that awesome?

MARY: Here's my news. A 10 foot high angel of the Lord who was glowing brighter than the Sun visited me this morning and said "Fear not. You are with child, and will give birth to a son, and his name will be JESUS. He will be great, and will be called The Son of The Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his father David, and his kingdom will never end."

JOSEPH: You win. Where's the shovel?

ISAIAH: Nine months later, all of David's descendants made their way to Bethlehem. Just as I once said, "But you Bethlehem Ephrathah..."

OBED: You didn't say that, it was the prophet Micah.

ISAIAH: Ahem, yes, er, well, as my colleague Micah said "But you Bethlehem, though you are small among the clans of Judah, out of you will come one who will be ruler over Israel, whose origins are from ancient times. He will stand and shepherd his flock in the strength of the Lord, in the majesty of the name of the Lord his God. And they will live securely. His greatness will reach to the ends of the earth."

Song: Long ago, prophets knew, part II

Mary hail! Though afraid, she believed, she obeyed;
In her womb, God is laid, till the time expected,
Nurtured and protected.
Ring bells, ring, ring, ring! Sing choirs, sing, sing, sing!
When He comes, when He comes, who will make Him welcome?

Journey ends! Where afar Beth'lem shines like a star;
Stable door stands ajar; unborn son of Mary,
Saviour do not tarry!
Ring bells, ring, ring, ring! Sing choirs, sing, sing, sing!
Jesus comes, Jesus comes, we will make Him welcome.

Scene 3. A mountain near Bethlehem.

MESHECH: Here's a good place to camp, Jehosophat.

JEHOSOPHAT: The sheep are unsettled tonight, Meshech.

SHEEP: Ba, ba, ba, ba, baaah.

MESHECH: They're excited by that big new star up there.

JEHOSOPHAT: I know what to do, Let's sing a song. That'll calm them.

MESHECH: You and your poetry and songs. Oh, go on then.

Song: The hills are bare

Jehosophat (Meshech may harmonize):

The hills are bare at Bethlehem,
No future for the world they show;
Yet here new life begins to grow;
From Earth's old dust a greenwood stem.

JEHOSOPHAT: How was that?

SHEEP: Ba, ba, ba, baaaah, ba.

MESHECH: They're upset now. All that "bare hills"... it's kind of distressing for them, like saying "no grass". And "no future"? Well, you might as well shout "lamb chops" and be done with it.

JEHOSOPHAT: It's poetry. Can't you see that it's a metaphor? It's inspiring. Let's try another verse.

Song: The hills are bare II

Jehosophat (Meshech may harmonize):

The stars are cold at Bethlehem,
No warmth for those beneath the sky;
Yet here new life begins to grow;
From Earth's old dust a greenwood stem.

SHEEP: Ba, ba, ba, baaaaaaaah, bah, baaaaaah.

MESHECH: Now look what you've done. "Cold stars"? They're not going to sleep after all that depressing stuff about freezing to death. Here, let me try the traditional sheep farmer's approach. IF YOU'RE NOT ASLEEP IN 30 SECONDS YOU'LL BE GROUNDED!

JEHOSOPHAT: Well, that seems to have done it. You sleep, I'll take first watch.

MESHECH: Good night, Jehosophat.

GABRIEL: OK Choir, listen carefully. We've been asked to provide the background music for a very special announcement to the humans; God's Son has been born on Earth.

ANGELS: Wow! Cool, Awesome, rad, sick, etc.

GABRIEL: I guess we're going to make the announcement to someone important, like King Herod, or Quirinius the Governor or Caesar Augustus. So I've found this quiet place to have a quick practice. We want to make sure the music's really perfect.

ANGELS: Practice? Groan, Moan.

GABRIEL: OK, everyone, let's do one of our warm-up exercises.

AN ANGEL: Can I go to the bathroom?

GABRIEL: OK. Next time, remember to go *before* you come to practice.

ARIEL: Can I get a drink of water?

GABRIEL: OK, but wait until (s)he's come back from the bathroom. OK everyone, back to the warm-ups. Raphael, Uriel, stop that. Ariel: cell phone bucket. Everyone: phones in the bucket.

GABRIEL: OK. *Finally*, can we get back to warm ups? Good. OK. Sing a scale of D to "oo". (to pianist) D please. (To Angels) After 4. 1, 2, 3, 4.

ANGELS: Oo (etc.).

GABRIEL: Time's getting on, that'll have to do. Turn to number 65. (To pianist) Intro, please, after 4. 1, 2, 3, 4

Song: Hark! The Herald Angels sing

Hark! the herald angels sing
"Glory to the newborn King!
Peace on earth and mercy mild
God and sinners reconciled"
Joyful, all ye nations rise
Join the triumph of the skies
With angelic host proclaim:
"Christ is born in Bethlehem"
Hark! The herald angels sing
"Glory to the newborn King!"

Angels we have heard on high
Sweetly singing o'er the plains
And the mountains in reply
Echoing their joyous strains
Gloria in excelsis Deo
Gloria in excelsis Deo

GABRIEL: Well, that was sort of OK, but we need a brighter sound on those high notes. What were you doing wrong?

ARIEL: Please Gabriel, were we not opening our mouths wide enough?

GABRIEL: Good answer. I want everyone to put three fingers into your mouth and sing Aaaahh.

ANGELS: Arghhhh.

JEHOSOPHAT: Excuse me, who are you and what are you doing?

GABRIEL: Who are you and why are you interrupting my choir practice?

Oh! now what? Hello? It's already time for the announcement!? Now?! Where?..... Here?! .. To whom?.... Really? Are you shepherds? Yes they are.... Are you abiding in the fields? OK, they say they are.... Are you keeping watch over your flocks by night? Yes they are. You're sure it's to them? OK, OK. Team, apparently we make the announcement to these guys. Ariel; read the prepared statement.

ARIEL: Is this thing on? Testing.. testing.... Can you hear me at the back?

Fear not, for behold I bring you good news of a great joy which will come to all people; for to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. And this will be a sign for you: you will find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a manger.

SHEPHERDS AND SHEEP: A manger?

ARIEL: That's what it says here.

MESHECH: This is great news; our savior is born. The great light has come. Let's all go to Bethlehem to see this wonderful birth.

SHEEP: Can I come too?

MESHECH: Did you just say something?

SHEEP: Ahem. Baa, baa, baaa, baaaaaa?

MESHECH: Yes of course you can come along with us.

JEHOSOPHAT: What a wonderful night! I'm so happy! Let's sing a song.

Song: We are marching

We are marching in the light of God,
We are marching in the light of God.
We are marching in the light of God,
We are marching in the light of God.
We are marching, O o,
We are marching in the light of God
We are marching, O o,
We are marching in the light of God

We are living in the light of God,... (etc.)

Scene 4. The stable at Bethlehem.

ISAIAH: So, did this turn out as you'd expected?

OBED: I wanted a soldier king who would free us Jews from the Romans. But he's just a poor baby. He's just the same as us. And now look, now a foreigner has turned up.

CENTURION: Now, what's all this then? Where's this illegal *gathering* of terrorists I was told about? Oh!

OBED: And I was expecting a King of the Jews. But now there's a darned Roman here too. Is he their King as well?

ISAIAH: Come on, Mr Know-it-all. Remember that I said "Nations will be drawn to your light, and Kings to the dawning of your new day". And as he grows up, you will also remember many other things that I said, like "he was despised and rejected, a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief" and "because of our sins he was wounded". But that is in the future. For now, rejoice, and accept God's glorious gift to the whole world.

GABRIEL AND JEHOSEPHAT: Yes! let's have a *song*!

CENTURION: Can I join in?

GABRIEL: Of course you can!

Final Song: Brightest and best

Brightest and best of the stars of the morning,
Dawn on our darkness and lend us your aid!
Star of the east, the horizon adorning,
Guide where our infant Redeemer is laid.

Say, shall we yield him, in costly devotion,
Fragrance of Edom, and offerings divine?
Gems of the mountain, and pearls of the ocean,
Myrrh from the forest, or gold from the mine?

Vainly we offer each ample oblation;
Vainly with gifts would his favour secure:
Richer by far is the heart's adoration;
Dearer to God are the prayers of the poor.

(Repeat first verse to finish.)

THE END

Congregational Hymn: "Joy to the world"

Hymnal 100

The Nicene Creed *(said together, please stand as you are able)*

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

Jesus, whose mother was Mary: we pray for our Church Family and for all families. Lord Jesus, **hear our prayer.**

Jesus, cradled in a manger: we pray for all people who are homeless or who are away from home. Lord Jesus, **hear our prayer.**

Jesus, sharing the stable with the animals: we pray for the beautiful world you have given us. Help us to take good care of it. Lord Jesus, **hear our prayer.**

Jesus, worshipped by shepherds and kings: we pray for peace in all the world. For governments to rule wisely and to care for all your children. Lord Jesus, **hear our prayer.**

Jesus, our Emmanuel: we pray for all those who are sick, lonely, or suffering.
 Lord Jesus, **hear our prayer.**

Blessed Jesus, who came among us as the Holy Child of Bethlehem: may the light of faith shine in our hearts and through in our words and deeds; in your name we pray. **Amen.**

The Peace

BCP 360

Announcements

Offertory *(said by the celebrant)*

Walk in love as Christ loved us, and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God.

Offertory Anthem: "In the Bleak Mid-Winter"

Harold Darke

When the offering is presented

Celebrant: All things come of thee O Lord. **And of thine own have we given thee.**

The Holy Communion

Eucharistic Prayer B

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

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 our thanks and praise.**

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:

Sanctus (Holy, Holy, Holy)

Hymnal S 130

(The people kneel or stand)

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 all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

We remember his death,

We proclaim his resurrection,

We await his coming in glory;

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 Virgin Mary, Joseph, Dunstan 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. **Amen.**

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

**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 Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread.

Celebrant: Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us; **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

If you wish to receive communion at the altar rail, please come forward as directed by the Usher. If you are unable to come forward and wish to receive, communion will be brought to you. Gluten-free wafers are available: please let the priest know.

Communion Anthem: “A Boy was born in Bethlehem”

John Palmer

Communion Hymns:

“Once in Royal David’s City”

Hymnal 102 (omit starred verses)

“Away in a manger”

Hymnal 101

Candles will be lit during the singing of this hymn.

Post-Communion Hymn: “Silent Night”

Hymnal 111

Verse 1

Silent night, holy night,
All is calm, all is bright
Round yon virgin, mother and child.
Holy infant, so tender and mild,
Sleep in heavenly peace.
Sleep in heavenly peace.

Verse 2

Silent night, holy night,
Shepherds quake at the sight,
Glories stream from heaven afar,
Heavenly hosts sing alleluia;
Christ, the Savior, is born!
Christ, the Savior, is born!

Verse 3

Silent night, holy night,
Son of God, love's pure light
Radiant beams from thy holy face,
With dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord, at thy birth.
Jesus, Lord, at thy birth.

Sung by candlelight. Please be very careful not to drip wax on the pews. Battery-powered candles are available for young children.

Post-communion Prayer *(please stand as you are able)*

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.

Christmas Blessing

May the joy of the angels, the eagerness of the shepherds, the perseverance of the wise men, the obedience of Joseph and Mary and the peace of the Christ-child be yours this Christmas; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always.
Amen.

Closing hymn: “Hark! the herald angels sing”

Hymnal 87

Dismissal

BCP 366

Postlude

Serving This Evening

Pageant Director and Music Director	Louisa Singleton
Organist	John Singleton
Server	Josh Moore
Crucifer	Anna Moore
Torch Bearers	Angus and Islay Dean
Lay Reader	Rozelle Wright
Lay Eucharistic Ministers	Rozelle Wright, Rob Baran
Prayers	Claire Singleton
Altar Guild	Rozelle and Brad Wright Linda and Andy Light
Usher	Rick Rothrock
Media Team	Rachel Greenwood, Mark Hartman

Christmas and Epiphany Season at TOTH

Christmas Eve	Carol-singing at 10 pm leading into Midnight Mass. Incense will be used.
Christmas Day	Holy Eucharist with hymns, 10 am
New Year's Eve December 31	Party at the Rothrocks' house, with swimming, food, beverages, and Holy Eucharist at 7 pm, led by Fr. Kelly.
Epiphany Tuesday, January 6, 2026	Epiphany Eucharist, 6 pm followed by Middle Eastern-style potluck

2025 Poinsettias

Given by

Wendy Strain

Karen Humphrey

Cathy Walters

In memory of

James and Elise Weed, Ed and Louise Strain

Thanksgiving for Edward J. Humphrey

Wally and Matt Walters

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Nursery Manager: Wendy Strain
Sexton: Wendy Huff



