



CHRISTMAS EVE

Nativity Pageant and Holy Eucharist

December 24, 2024 at 4 o'clock in the afternoon

ST PETER'S CHURCH IN ESSEX FELLS

A PARISH OF THE EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF NEWARK

271 Roseland Avenue, Essex Fells, NJ 07102

973.226.6500 • stpetersef.org

HOLY EUCHARIST

VOLUNTARIES

Carols for the Season

Connor Leach, trumpet

Please stand and sing

ENTRANCE HYMN

Hymnal 1982, 102

Text: Cecil Frances Alexander, 1848, alt.

Tune: Henry J. Ganutlett, 1858

- 1 Once in royal David's city
 Stood a lowly cattle shed,
Where a mother laid her baby
 In a manger for his bed:
Mary was that mother mild,
 Jesus Christ her little child.
- 2 He came down to earth from heaven,
 Who is God and Lord of all,
And his shelter was a stable,
 And his cradle was a stall;
With the poor, the scorned and lowly,
 Lived on earth our Savior holy.
- 3 For he is our lifelong pattern;
 Daily, when on earth he grew,
He was tempted, scorned, rejected,
 Tears and smiles like us he knew.
Thus feels for all our sadness,
 And he shares in all our gladness.
- 4 Not in that poor lowly stable,
 With the oxen standing round,
We shall see him; but in heaven,
 Where his saints his throne surround:
Christ, revealed to faithful eye,
 Set at God's right hand on high.

OPENING ACCLAMATION

Presider
People

Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
And blessed be his kingdom, now and forever. Amen.

GLORIA

Robert Powell

1. Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and
 peace to his peo - ple on earth. 2. Lord God, heaven - ly
 King, al - might - y God and Fa - ther, we wor - ship you, we
 give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry. 3. Lord Je - sus
 Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, 4. you
 take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy
 on us; 5. you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re -
 ceive our prayer. 6. For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One,
 you a - lone are the Lord, 7. you a - lone are the Most
 High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spi - rit, in the
 glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

COLLECT OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.
 And also with you.

Presider
People

Presider Let us pray. 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.

People Amen.

Please be seated

THE LESSONS

FIRST LESSON

Isaiah 2:9-7

Reader A reading from the Book of Isaiah. 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.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Please stand and sing

HYMN

Hymnal 1982, 99

Spiritual, adapt. John W. Work, Jr; arr. Horace Boyer

Refrain Go, tell it on the mountain,
Over the hills and everywhere;
Go, tell it on the mountain,
That Jesus Christ is born.

1 While shepherds kept their watching
O'er silent flocks by night,
Behold throughout the heavens
There shown a holy light. *Refrain*

2 The shepherds feared and trembled
When lo! above the earth
Rang out the angel chorus
That hailed our Savior's birth. *Refrain*

3 Down in a lowly manger
The humble Christ was born,
And God sent us salvation
That blessed Christmas morn. *Refrain*

NATIVITY PAGEANT

Luke 2:1-20; Matthew 2:1-12

Please remain seated and sing these carols during the Pageant

CAROL

Hymnal 1982, 79

Text: Philipps Brooks, 1867; Tune: Lewis Redner, 1868

1 O little town of Bethlehem,
How still we see thee lie!
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep
The silent stars go by;
Yet in thy dark streets shineth
The everlasting Light;
The hopes and fears of all the years
Are met in thee to-night.

CAROL

Hymnal 1982, 101

Text: William Kirkpatrick; Tune: Traditional English

1 Away in a manger, no crib for his bed,
The little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head.
The stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay,
The little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.

CAROL

Hymnal 1982, 128

John H. Hopkins Jr., 1857

1 We three kings of Orient are,
Bearing gifts we traverse afar,
Field and fountain,
Moor and mountain,
Following yonder star.
*O star of wonder, star of night,
Star with royal beauty bright;*

*Westward leading,
Still proceeding
Guide us to thy perfect light!*

REFLECTION

The Rector

Please stand

NICENE CREED

ALL

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

Pray for God's people all over the world.

People

Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader

We pray for *N.* and all who minister in your Church.

People

Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader

We pray for peace and goodwill among all nations, especially those in the Middle East.

People

Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader We pray for leaders of every nation and every community throughout the world.

People Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader We pray for *N.*; and for the poor, the sick, the hungry, those who are alone, and all who are in trouble.

People Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader We pray for all prisoners, captives, and refugees.

People Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader We thank you Lord, for this joyful celebration, and for all our blessings, especially for those who celebrate birthdays and anniversaries this week.

People Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader We pray for all who have died.

People Lord, hear our prayer.

Presider 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.

People Amen.

THE PEACE

Presider The peace of the Lord be always with you.
People And also with you.

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

During the offering, please feel free to make a gift and offering in thanksgiving to God. To take advantage of our electronic giving options, please follow the QR code with your electronic device.



THE HOLY COMMUNION

OFFERTORY *Nocturne in C-sharp Minor* *Frédéric Chopin*
Vincent Kornstein, pianist

Please stand

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Eucharistic Prayer B

Presider The Lord be with you.
People And also with you.

Presider
People
Presider
People
Presider

Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give God 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

New Plainsong Mass, David Hurd

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might, heav - en and
earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.
Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Presider

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.”

ALL Therefore, according to his command, O Father,
We remember his death, we proclaim his resurrection, we await his coming in glory.

Presider 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 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.

People AMEN.

LORD'S PRAYER

Presider As our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,
ALL Our Father 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 for ever. Amen.

BREAKING THE BREAD

A period of silence is kept, then all sing

(Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.)
 Christ our Pass - o - ver is sac - ri - ficed for us;
 there - fore let us keep the feast.
 (Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.)

Presider

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

All baptized Christians are welcome to receive the Bread and Cup to be in communion with God and each other. You may receive only the bread by placing your hands together flat in front of you (Gluten-free wafers are available upon request). Afterwards you may drink wine from the chalice. If you would rather have the bread intincted (dipped) in the wine, you may hand the bread to the person administering the chalice and they will intinct and hand it back to you. If you (or your child) would rather not receive the Sacrament, you may come to the altar rail during Communion and cross your arms on your chest for a blessing.

HYMN

Hymnal 1982, 115

Text: William Chatterton Dix, 1865; Tune: Traditional English

- 1 What child is this, who, laid to rest
 On Mary's lap is sleeping?
 Whom angels greet with anthems sweet,
 While shepherds watch are keeping?
 This, this is Christ the King,
 Whom shepherds guard and angels sing:
 Haste, haste to bring him laud,
 The babe, the Son of Mary.
- 2 Why lies he in such mean estate
 Where ox and ass are feeding?
 Good Christian, fear: for sinners here
 The silent Word is pleading.

*This, this is Christ the King,
Whom shepherds guard and angels sing:
Haste, haste to bring him laud,
The babe, the Son of Mary.*

- 3 So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh,
Come, peasant, king, to own him;
The King of kings salvation brings,
Let loving hearts enthrone him.

*This, this is Christ the King,
Whom shepherds guard and angels sing:
Haste, haste to bring him laud,
The babe, the Son of Mary.*

PROLOGUE TO THE GOSPEL OF JOHN

John 1:1-14

The congregation's candles are lit; please kneel or sit as you are able

Reader

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.

Please sing the following carol

HYMN

Hymnal 1982, 111

Text: Joseph Mohr, 1818

Tune: Franz Grüber, 1818, harm. Carl Reinecke

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

POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER

Please stand

Presider
ALL

Let us pray.
Grant, we pray, O Lord our God:
that we, who rejoice to celebrate the birth of our redeemer,
may follow him in the way of righteousness
and by your grace may be made worthy to dwell with him in heaven,
who lives and reigns for ever and ever. Amen.

HYMN

Hymnal 1982, 83

Text: Latin 18th century; tr. Frederick Oakley, alt.

Tune: John Francis Wade, Cantus Diversi, 1751

- 1 O come, all ye faithful,
Joyful and triumphant,
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;

Come and behold him,
Born the King of angels;
*O come let us adore him, O come let us adore him,
O come let us adore him, Christ the Lord.*

2 God from God,
Light from Light eternal,
Lo! he abhors not the Virgin's womb;
Only begotten Son of the Father;
*O come let us adore him, O come let us adore him,
O come let us adore him, Christ the Lord.*

3 Sing, choirs of angels,
Sing in exultation,
Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above
Glory to God—glory in the highest;
*O come let us adore him, O come let us adore him,
O come let us adore him, Christ the Lord.*

BLESSING AND DISMISSAL

Presider 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.

People Amen.

Presider 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.

People Amen.

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

People Amen.

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

People Amen.

Deacon Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.

People Thanks be to God.

VOLUNTARY *Prelude, 'Vom Himmel hoch'*

J.S. Bach

CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS

In loving memory of

*Alvin Andersen, Sydney & Hugh Kennedy, Anskar & Esther Andersen by Eileen Andersen
George P. & Mary deC. Bartholomew, William Bartholomew, Stephen & Laura Bartholomew,
Betty Bartholomew by Ann Bartholomew Powers
Nick Bowness by Christine Albano
Clem & Susan Boyers by Sheila Valenti
Connor loved ones by Nancy Connor
Bunny Dockrell, Val Pettit by Margot Dockrell
Carolyn Faloni by Faloni, Capen, Adams Families
Pam Kamel by Michael Kamel
Pam Kamel, Gloria Kelley by Diane Kazimir
Looker-Mosher loved ones by Larry Looker & Karen Mosher
Michale Mazur, Agnes Hill, Lottie & Blythe, Anita & Walter Bach by Sue Mazur
Father John Negrotto by Sue Negrotto
John and Valerie Pettit by Larry Pettit
Nan & Bob Rame, Willard & Jacki Haight by Tom & Laurie Haight
Margaret & Raymond Morrison, Gary Samuels by Alice Samuels
Gerardina Piserchia by Pat Scaglione
Carolyn Faloni by Faloni, Capen, Adams Families
Joan Waitts by George & Diane Waitts
Lee Wescott, Earl Wescott, Carles & Priscilla Pierce by by Carolyn Westcott*

In thanksgiving for

*St. Peter's Church by Joan Loiacano
Brittany & Gregory by Sue Mazur
The McLaughlin grandsons by Kathleen McLaughlin
The work of the Altar Guild by Eloise Monzillo Hiris
Family & friends by Carolyn Westcott*



CHRISTMAS MUSIC

In loving memory of

*George P. & Mary deC. Bartholomew, William Bartholomew, Stephen & Laura Bartholomew,
Betty Bartholomew by Ann Bartholomew Powers
Clem & Susan Boyers by Sheila Valenti
Gregory Counce, Oliver Counce, Ted Irwin, Jonathan Pope by Liz & Jim Irwin
Connor loved ones by Nancy Connor
Bunny Dockrell, Val Pettit by Margot Dockrell
Priscilla Hannen Kleinman by Mark Trautman and Ben. Sifuentes*

In thanksgiving

Valerie Felix

For the McLaughlin grandsons by Kathleen McLaughlin

Joan Loiacano

CHRISTMAS OFFERING

In thanksgiving by Valerie Felix

In loving memory of Father Negrotto by Sue Negrotto

In thanksgiving by the Wohltmann family



NATIVITY PAGEANT

Charlotte Albano, Jule Alexander, Wren Alexander, Morgan Ballard, Eva Convery,
Charlotte Copeland, Eloise Copeland, Emilia Copeland, Sofia Convery, Lexie Felix,

Carter Fiss, Katerina Manfre, Clare Mulcahy, Kevin Mulcahy, Molly Mulcahy,

Aiden Ramos, Bryson Ramos, Ben Rosenak, Will Rosenak, Ella Scaglione, Luca Scaglione,

Noah Stern, Emery Vonderahe



MINISTERS OF THE LITURGY

Altar Guild Nancy Connor, Karen Mosher, Alice Samuels

Ushers Jim Irwin, Wayne Copeland, Tyler Copeland,
Chris Shearin

Crucifer, Acolytes Chris Aliotta, Andrew Stern, Ethan Fiss, Koen Vonderahe

Readers Connor Mulcahy, Mary Shearin

Eucharistic Minister Pat Aliotta

Guest Musicians Connor Leach, Vincent Kornstein

Director of Music Mark A. Trautman

Presiding The Reverend Nathaniel Darville



JOIN US FOR WORSHIP

Sundays, 8 am, 10 am, 4 pm



THE VESTRY OF ST. PETER'S CHURCH
Mary Shearin and Wayne Copeland, *Wardens*
Valerie Felix, Jim Irwin, Christine Albano, Eloise Monzillo Hiris,
David Cowell, Kurt Vonderahe, *Vestry Members*

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