

Christmas Eve

The Nativity of our Lord Jesus Christ

24 December 2020 AD

THE HOLY EUCHARIST

Prelude

Opening Hymn “O Come, All Ye Faithful”

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, Christ the Lord.

2 God from God, Light from Light eternal,
lo! he abhors not the Virgin’s womb; only-begotten
Son of God the Father; *Refrain*

3 Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,
sing, all ye citizens of heaven above; glory to God,
glory in the highest; *Refrain*

The Greeting

Priest: Grace, mercy and peace from God our Father
and the Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

People: And also with you.

Celebrant says the Collect for Purity.

Prayer Book page in blue brackets [355]

Hymn of Praise “Angels We Have Heard on High”

1 Angels we have heard on high, singing sweetly through the night,
and the mountains in reply echoing their brave delight.

Gloria in excelsis Deo. (x2)

2 Shepherds, why this jubilee? Why these songs of happy cheer?

What great brightness did you see? What glad tidings did you hear?

Gloria in excelsis Deo. (x2)

The Collect of the Day

[357]

Priest: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Priest: Let us pray. *Celebrant says the Collect of the Day.*

Lesson *A Reading from the Book of Isaiah. [Isaiah 52:7-9] Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church. [People: Thanks be to God.]*

Gradual Hymn “The First Nowell”

1 The first Nowell the angel did say was to certain poor shepherds
in fields as they lay;
in fields as they lay, keeping their sheep, on a cold winter’s night
that was so deep.

Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, born is the King of Israel.



O
Come
Let us
Adore
Him



*Our music
will be played
by a Brass
Quartet.*

2 They looked up and saw a star shining in the east beyond them far,
and to the earth it gave great light, and so it continued both day and night. *Refrain*

Epistle *A Reading from the Book of Titus.* [Titus 3:4-7] *Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.*
[*People: Thanks be to God.*]

Sequence Hymn “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

1 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 the angelic host proclaim Christ is born in Bethlehem!

Hark! the herald angels sing, glory to the newborn King!

2 Christ, by highest heaven adored; Christ, the everlasting Lord;
late in time behold him come, offspring of the Virgin’s womb.
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see; hail the incarnate Deity.
Pleased as man with man to dwell; Jesus, our Emmanuel! *Refrain*

The Holy Gospel *The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.* [People: *Glory to you, Lord Christ.*] [Luke 2:1-14] *The Gospel of the Lord.* [People: *Praise to you, Lord Christ.*]

A Short Homily

The Nicene Creed

[358]

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

Intercessor: We pray in Jesus’ name:

People: God give us peace.

The Peace *Shave God’s peace with someone this week.*

Offertory Sentence *Offerings are received through the mail.*

Anthem

The Great Thanksgiving

[361]

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 him thanks and praise.*

The Celebrant continues until these words until these words: ...who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Celebrant and People (spoken)

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

Then the Celebrant continues until these words: ...Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Celebrant and People

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

The Celebrant continues until: ... Almighty Father, now and for ever. AMEN.

As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray:

[364]

All pray the Lord's Prayer.

The Breaking of the Bread

[364]

Officiant: Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

People: ***Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.***

The Invitation

Officiant: The Gifts of God for the People of God.

Communion *will be offered ("drive-thru") in the Back Lot Sunday at 11:00*

Hymn During Communion "Once in Royal David's City"

- 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, the lowly, lived on earth our Savior holy.
- 3 We, like Mary, rest confounded that a stable should display
heaven's Word, the world's creator, cradled there on Christmas Day,
yet this child, our Lord and brother, brought us love for one another.

Hymn at the Lighting of the "Candles" *bend your glow sticks several times to release light*

- 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.

2 Silent night, holy night, shepherds quake at the sight,
glories stream from heaven afar, heavenly hosts sing alleluia; 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.

The Blessing

Closing Hymn "Joy to the World" (*verses 1, 2 and 4*)

1 Joy to the world! the Lord is come: let earth receive her King;
let every heart prepare him room, and heaven and nature sing.
2 Joy to the world! the Savior reigns; let us our songs employ,
while fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains, repeat the sounding joy. . . .
4 He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the nations prove
the glories of his righteousness, and wonders of his love.

Dismissal

Priest Alleluia. Alleluia. Let us bless the Lord.

People Thanks be to God. Alleluia. Alleluia.

Postlude

This recording was made on Christmas Eve morning so that we all might avoid the severe weather this afternoon. Thanks to all who helped pull this together!

Our musicians are James Canty and Esteban Pope, trumpet, and Chris Connolly and Marlon McDonald, trombone. The anthem is prerecorded by our quartet.

We receive the gifts of the people for the support of the church and its mission in the world at this address: **The Church of the Messiah, P O Box 70367, Myrtle Beach, SC 29572.**

If you would like to share some care at Christmastide, send a check to the above address and mark it for "Seven." Give seven dollars or any multiple of seven to our "Seven on Sunday" Emergency Relief Fund.



The Episcopal Church of the Messiah in the City of Myrtle Beach