# CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP



DECEMBER 24, 2023 5:00pm and 7:00pm

# ST. LUKE'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

73 S. FULLERTON AVENUE, MONTCLAIR, NJ SLECHURCH.ORG 973-744-6220

"Joyfully seeking and serving Christ"

### **ORGAN PRELUDE**

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Pastoral Symphony (Händel)

Please stand as you are able and join in singing.

HYMN 83 (The Hymnal 1982 Words: John Francis Wade Music: Adeste fideles)

O come, all ye faithful 1 O come, all faith - ful, joy - ful and tri - um - phant, O ye 2 from. God God. Light from Light e - ter - nal, 3 Sing, an - gels, choirs of sing in ex - ul - ta - tion,\_ \*4 See how the shep-herds, sum - moned to his cra - dle,\_ \*5 Child, for sin - ners inthe man-ger, us poor and 1 come O Beth ye, come\_ le hem; ye 2 lo! he ab hors\_ not the Vir gin's womb; <u>3</u> sing, all ci - ti of heaven ye zens a bove; leav their flocks,\_ nigh ing draw\_ gaze; to 5 we would em brace\_\_ thee, with love awe; and and hold him, of 1 come, be born the King gels; an ly be Son\_ of the Fa ther; ongot ten

> 6 Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning; Jesus, to thee be glory given; Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing;

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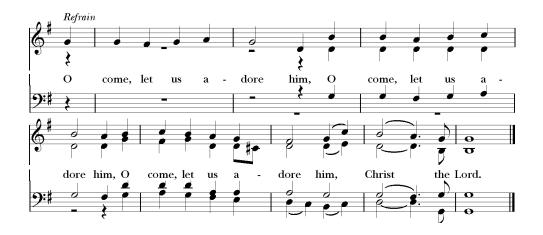
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# **OPENING ACCLAMATION** (Book of Common Prayer, p. 355)

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

People And blessed by God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

# COLLECT FOR PURITY (Book of Common Prayer, p. 355)

All 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.

Please stand as you are able and join in singing verse 1.

HYMN 96 (Music: Gloria)



# THE COLLECT OF THE DAY (Book of Common Prayer, p. 212)

Celebrant The Lord be with you People And also with you

Celebrant 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.

All Amen.

# THE WORD OF GOD

Please be seated for the readings

#### THE FIRST LESSON

A reading from the book of 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.

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

We will say the appointed Psalm alternately by full verse.

### **PSALM 96** (St. Helena Psalter)

Sing to God a new song; \* sing to God all the whole earth.

# Sing and bless God's holy Name; \* proclaim the good news of salvation from day to day.

Declare God's glory among the nations, \* God's wonders among all peoples.

# For God is great and greatly to be praised, \* more to be feared than all gods.

As for all the gods of the nations, they are but idols, \* but it is God who made the heavens.

# Oh, the majesty and magnificence of God's presence! \* Oh, the power and the splendor of God's sanctuary!

Ascribe to God, you families of the peoples, \* ascribe to God honor and power.

# Ascribe due honor to God's holy Name; \* bring offerings and come into the courts of praise.

Worship the Most High in the beauty of holiness; \* may the whole earth stand in awe.

# Tell it out among the nations that God reigns! \* God has made the world so firm that it cannot be moved; God will judge the peoples with equity.

Let the heavens rejoice, and let the earth be glad; let the sea thunder and all that is in it; \* let the field be joyful and all that is therein.

# Then shall all the trees of the wood shout for joy before God, who will come, \* who will come to judge the earth.

God will judge the world with righteousness \* and the peoples with truth.

#### THE SECOND LESSON

A reading from the book of Titus (2:11-14)

For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all, training us to renounce impiety and worldly passions, and in the present age to live lives that are self-controlled, upright, and godly, while we wait for the blessed hope and the manifestation of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ. He it is who gave himself for us that he might redeem us from all iniquity and purify for himself a people of his own who are zealous for good deeds.

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

**HYMN** (The Hymnal 1982 Words: Marcus Aurelius Clemens Purdentius Music: Divinum Mysterium)
Of the Father's love begotten



### THE HOLY GOSPEL

Gospeler The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke (2:1-14)

People 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 all.

Gospeler The Gospel of the Lord

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

**HOMILY** The Rev. John A. Mennell (Pastor Tristan Shin will offer a children's homily at the 5:00pm service.)

### THE NICENE CREED (Book of Common Prayer, p. 358)

Celebrant Let us stand together with Christians throughout the centuries and throughout the world today, to affirm our faith

in the words of the 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.

Who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, Who 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 (Planning for Rites and Rituals Year A)

Celebrant Gracious and Loving God, in Jesus you have filled all humanity with your

divine life: Hear our prayers of joy and thanksgiving as we offer our

supplications to you, saying: Glory to God in the highest heaven, and peace to

God's people on earth."

Leader You have entrusted the Church with good news of great joy for all people:

Inspire our witness that we may spread the light of Jesus' love to all humanity.

Silence.

Glory to God in the highest heaven,

People and peace to God's people on earth.

Leader Let your power and compassion guide those who exercise authority on earth,

that they may be servants of peace, bringing comfort and security to all who

are vulnerable. Silence.

Glory to God in the highest heaven,

People and peace to God's people on earth.

Leader Embrace with your eternal protection all who are poor: refugees and the

displaced, those threatened by violence, and families with no place to call their

home. Silence.

Glory to God in the highest heaven,

People and peace to God's people on earth.

Leader Fill this community with hospitality and generosity, that we may care for one

another and celebrate the joy of your presence in our humanity. Silence.

Glory to God in the highest heaven,

People and peace to God's people on earth.

Leader We entrust to your divine grace all for whom we pray, especially *[insert prayer*]

*list*]. We give thanks for shepherds and all the vigilant who work while others sleep. Hear our grateful thanksgiving for all the gifts and blessings in our lives,

and we entrust into your eternal arms those who have died. Silence.

Glory to God in the highest heaven,

People and peace to God's people on earth.

Celebrant Loving God, the joyful message of the angels fills us with gladness as we

celebrate the coming of the Christ child to live among us in vulnerable humility: Let your divine light so dwell within us, that we may treasure your

words, ponder them in our hearts, and continue the work of Christ's incarnation in our day, through Jesus our Savior, to whom with you and the

Holy Spirit be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

THE PEACE (Book of Common Prayer, p. 360)

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you.

The Celebrant and People greet one another in the name of the Lord.

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

#### **OFFERTORY ANTHEM**

Nativity Carol (John Rutter)

Born in a stable so bare, Born so long ago; Born 'neath light of star He who loved us so. Far away, silent he lay, Born today, your homage pay, For Christ is born for aye, Born on Christmas Day.

Cradled by mother so fair, Tender her lullaby; Over her son so dear Angel hosts fill the sky. Far away, silent he lay, Born today, your homage pay; Christ is born for aye, Born on Christmas Day. Wise men from distant far land, Shepherds from starry hills, Worship this babe so rare, Hearts with his warmth he fills, Far away, silent he lay, Born today, your homage pay, For Christ is born for aye, Born on Christmas Day.

Love in that stable was born Into our hearts to flow; Innocent dreaming babe, Make me thy love to know. Far away, silent he lay, Born today, your homage pay; Christ is born for aye, Born on Christmas Day.

During the offertory, a collection is gathered as we look to give back to God in thanksgiving for all the blessings in our life. As stewards of our gifts of treasure this opportunity to give back allows the church to continue its work in the world serving those in spiritual, emotional, and financial need.

When attending in person, we appreciate your remaining seated during the Offertory to enjoy the anthem. As you enter or leave the church, you may place your donation in the box labeled "Church Donation Box" at the back of the center aisle, or take advantage of the following options for giving electronically:

- Scan the QR code to the right
- Text ("ThanksB2God" to 73256)
- Zelle (donate@slechurch.org)
- Venmo (@Saint-Lukes)

Detailed information is available on the "Giving" tab of our website, slechurch.org



Please join us by sharing your abundance and pledging for 2024. Our goal is \$525,000 and full participation.

Make your pledge on the website at slechurch.org or by scanning the QR code. If you wish to discuss your pledge, reach out to our campaign co-chairs Amy Lui Abel and Chelle Carter-Wilson at stewardship@slechurch.org.

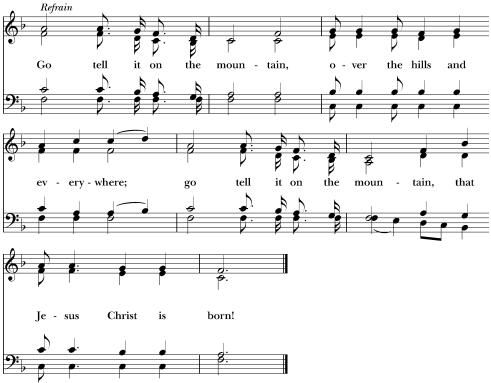




Please stand as you are able and join in singing.

# PRESENTATION HYMN 99

Go tell it on the mountain



# THE HOLY COMMUNION

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING (Eucharistic Prayer B, Book of Common Prayer, p. 367)

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

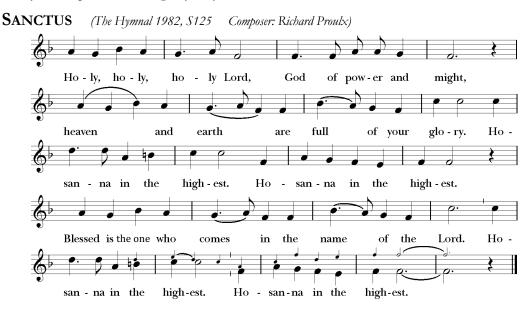
People We lift them to the Lord.

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People It is right to give God thanks and praise.

#### The Celebrant continues

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, God 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 human 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:



The Celebrant continues, you may stand or kneel

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, our Savior. For in these last days you sent Jesus to be incarnate Son from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In Christ, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In Christ, 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 God,

Celebrant and People

We remember his death, We proclaim his resurrection We await his coming 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, 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 God, now and for ever.

All AMEN!

# THE LORD'S PRAYER (Book of Common Prayer, p. 364)

Feel free to pray in whatever language and words that bring you closer to God.

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

All

Mother Our Father who art in heaven, Creator 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.

## BREAKING OF THE BREAD (Book of C

(Book of Common Prayer, p. 364)

Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

All

Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia!

# **INVITATION** (Book of Common Prayer, p. 365)

Celebrant

These are the gifts of God for the people of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you and feed on him in your hearts, by faith, with thanksgiving.

You will be guided when it is your turn to join the Communion line.

### **COMMUNION ANTHEM**

Judah's land (Appalachian Carol, from Berea College, arranged by David N. Johnson)

To thee with joy I sing, Sweet Child that heav'n did bring, now Judah's land shall ring with thy praises.

Gentle Stranger, in that manger,
In Judah's land we find thee, Infant Savior.

I greet thee, Prince of Peace: from sin give thy release! Nor shall my tongue e'er cease from thy praises. Gentle Stranger, in that manger, In Judah's land we find thee, Infant Savior.

Thy crib can scarce contain thy love, our precious gain; May hymns new heights attain with thy praises. Gentle Stranger, in that manger, In Judah's land we find thee, Infant Savior.

Now twilight quietly comes: the baby lies asleep; Play softly, flute and drums, to his praises. Gentle Stranger, in that manger, In Judah's land we find thee, Infant Savior.

**HYMN 104** (The Hymnal 1982 Words: Richard Wilbur Music: Andújar, David Hurd) A stable lamp is lighted sta - ble light - ed Whose lamp is Α childthrough Da - vid's ci - tv Shall 2 (This) for - sak - en, And 3 (Yet) he shall be 4 (But) aŧ the end - ing, The as now, stars shall bend their voic - es, glow shall wake the sky; The palm shall strew its branch - es, tri - umph The ride in by; sky shall groan and dark - en, The vield - ed up to die: stars shall bend their voic - es, low 18 lift - ed high; The And ev - ery stone shall cry, And ev - ery stone shall cry.\_\_\_\_ ev - ery stone shall cry. And ev - ery stone shall cry; ev - ery stone shall cry. ev - erv stone shall cry, And And And ev - ery stone shall cry. ev - ery stone shall cry, And straw like gold shall shine; barn shall har - bor hea - ven, And Though hea - vy, dull, and dumb. And lie with in the road - way God's blood up - on the spear - head, For ston - y hearts of men: By whose de-scent a - mong us In prais - es of the Child 1-3 stall be-come a shrine. \_\_\_\_ 2 This pave his king-dom come.\_ 3 Yet God's love re-fused a - gain. 4 But The worlds are rec - on - ciled. Final Ending

Please stand as you are able.

# THE POST COMMUNION PRAYER (Book of Common Prayer, p. 365)

Celebrant Let us pray.

All Eternal God, heavenly Being,

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.



**BLESSING** (Book of Occasional Services p. 23)

Celebrant May almighty God, who sent a Child 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 God's holiness.

All Amen.

Celebrant May God, who sent 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 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 for ever.

All Amen.

HYMN 87 (The Hymnal 1982 Words: Charles Wesley Music: Mendelssohn) Hark! The Herald Angels Sing Hark! the her-ald new-born King! an - gels sing glo - ry to the Christ, by high-est heaven a - dored; Christ, the last - ing Lord; ev - er -Mild he lays his glo - ry born that we more may die, by,  $\mathbf{n}$ o Peace on earth and mer - cy mild, God andsin - ners rec - on - ciled! late in time be - hold him come, off - spring of the Vir-gin's womb. born to raise us from the earth, born to give us sec - ond birth. 0 Joy - ful, all join the tri-umph ye na - tions, rise, of the skies; Veiled in flesh the God - head hail the in-car-nate De - i - ty. see; wings, light and life he brings, Risen with heal-ing in his to all with the an-gel - ic host pro-claim Christ is born in Beth - le - hem! Pleased as man with us to dwell; Je - sus, our Em - man - u - el!



hail, the

heaven-born Prince of Peace!

Right-eous-ness!

hail,

the

Sun of

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**DISMISSAL** (Book of Common Prayer, p. 365)

Celebrant Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

People Thanks be to God.

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

#### **CHORAL POSTLUDE**

Joy to the World (Fox)

# Thank you to all who help make our services meaningful.

#### Servers:

Altar Guild: Juliet Robinson, Martha Thalheimer

# 5:00pm

# <u>7:00pm</u>

Virtual Verger. Stevie Tryson

Readers

Sarah Stransky Robin Vitullo

Liz Perez

Nesta Stephens

Ushers

Robin Vitullo

Sudhir Frederick

Virtual Verger: Stevie Tryson

Readers

Kathleen Kellaigh

Candi Carter

Barbara Brooks Andrews

Matthew Price

Ushers

Allen Wastler

Sudhir Frederick

The St. Luke's parish offices will be closed until Tuesday, January 2.

Please reach out to our Rector, The Rev. John A. Mennell (mennell@slechurch.org),

Associate Rector Pastor Tristan Shin (shin@slechurch.org),

or our Parish Administrator, Christine Corso (corso@slechurch.org)

for anything that needs urgent attention.

# WELCOME TO ST. LUKE'S

We are very glad that you are able to join us. Please feel free to contact us through our website at slechurch.org.

# ST. LUKE'S VESTRY & LEADERS

### Wardens

Godfrey Gregg Denise Price

# Class of 2024

Susan Andersen Stephanie Borsi Alison Curtin Patrick Rodriguez

# Class of 2025

Shahri Griffin Tim Mannion

Okey Okuzu

Martha Thalheimer

## Class of 2026

Rochelle Carter-Wilson Sean McDonald Kayode Oyegbite Stevie Tryson

# <u>Clerk</u> Alison Curtin

<u>Treasurer</u> Patrick Rodriguez

### Sexton

Bayron Jiménez

You can reach staff and leaders at lastname@slechurch.org

### ST. LUKE'S CLERGY

Rector: The Rev. John A. Mennell mennell@slechurch.org mennell.appointlet.com

Associate Rector: The Rev. Tristan Shin shin@slechurch.org

Assisting Clergy: The Rev. Tom Laws laws@slechurch.org

#### ST. LUKE'S STAFF

Parish Administrator: Christine Corso corso@slechurch.org

Business Operations Manager: Pam Smith smith@slechurch.org

Director of Family Ministries: Kathy DeWalt dewalt@slechurch.org

Director of Music: Ronald Baltimore baltimore@slechurch.org

Junior Choir Director: Kelly Wenz juniorchoir@slechurch.org Bookkeeper: Marty Chavkin chavkin@slechurch.org

# TONI'S KITCHEN

Executive Director: Anne Mernin
Director of Kitchen Operations: Stacey Cooper
Financial & Grant Management: Kerry Giles
Administrative Support: Jennifer Pine
Enterprise Architect: Felice Bettenbender
Part-Time Shift Managers:
Maggie Rabelo & Deb Sharp