



**The Episcopal
Church of the Nativity
Christmas Eve 2020, 6:00 pm
Online**



Please join us for weekly services:
Sundays 10:00 am - In Person Outside and Online
Wednesdays 6:00 pm - Evening Prayer followed by Bible Study Online

The Episcopal Church of the Nativity
22405 North Miller Road
Scottsdale, AZ 85255
480-307-9216
www.nativityscottsdale.org

The Rev. Scot McComas, Rector/Senior Pastor
scotmccomas@thenativity.net

The Rev. Dr. Wayne V. Whitney, Associate Rector
waynewhitney@thenativity.net

The Rev. Martha Durham,
Deacon
marthadurham@thenativity.net

Juliana Witt, Music Director
julianawitt@thenativity.net

Mandy Hodges,
Director of Youth,
Children & Family Ministries
mandyhodges@thenativity.net

Mina Rafferty,
Parish Administrator
minarafferty@thenativity.net

Jean Hawkins, Deacon Intern
jeanhawkins@thenativity.net

WELCOME TO ALL THIS EVENING

Instrumental Prelude -Christmas Medley - Various composers
Piano Quartet



Processional Hymn: 83 *O Come, All Ye Faithful* (vv. 1, 3 & 6)



1 O come, all ye faith - ful, joy - ful and tri - um - phant, O
2 God from God, Light from Light e - ter - nal,
3 Sing, choirs of an - gels, sing in ex - ul - ta - tion,



1 come ye, O come ye to Beth - le - hem;
2 lo! he ab - hors not the Vir - gin's womb;
3 sing, all ye ci - ti - zens of heaven a - bove;



1 come, and be - hold him, born the King of an - gels;
2 on - ly - be - got - ten Son of the Fa - ther;
3 glo - ry to God, glo - ry in the high - est;

Refrain



O come, let us a - dore him, O come, let us a -



dore him, O come, let us a - dore him, Christ the Lord.

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

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

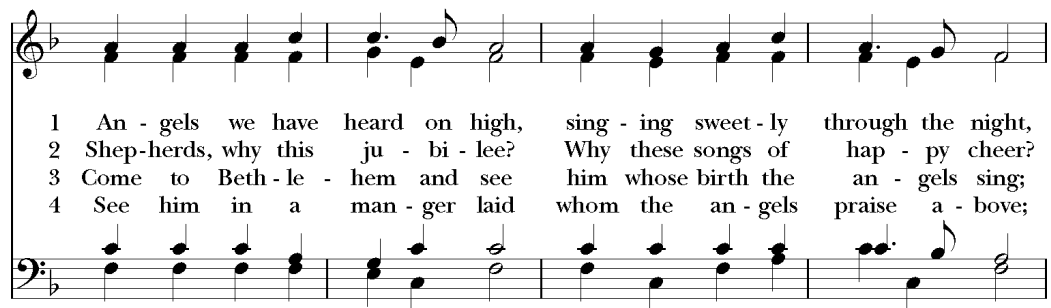
People: And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

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.

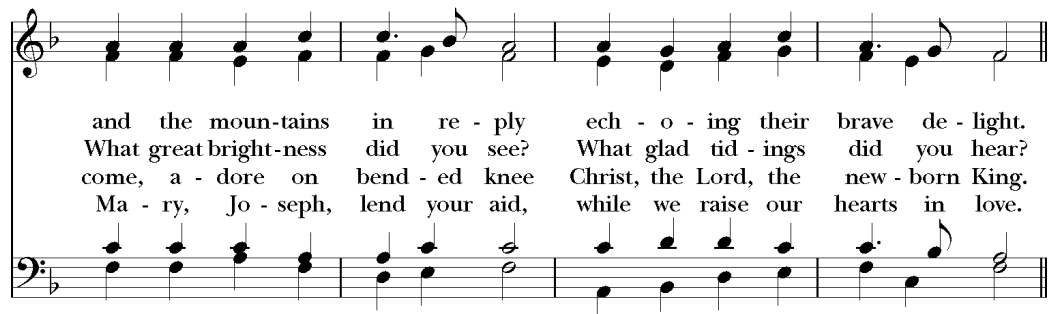
Please
stand and
sing the
hymn.

Please
join in
singing.

96 *Angels we have heard on high* (vv. 1 & 4) *Gloria*, Edward S. Barnes (1887-1958)



1 An - gels we have heard on high, sing - ing sweet - ly through the night,
2 Shep - herds, why this ju - bi - lee? Why these songs of hap - py cheer?
3 Come to Beth - le - hem and see him whose birth the an - gels sing;
4 See him in a man - ger laid whom the an - gels praise a - bove;



and the moun - tains in re - ply ech - o - ing their brave de - light.
What great bright - ness did you see? What glad tid - ings did you hear?
come, a - dore on bend - ed knee Christ, the Lord, the new - born King.
Ma - ry, Jo - seph, lend your aid, while we raise our hearts in love.

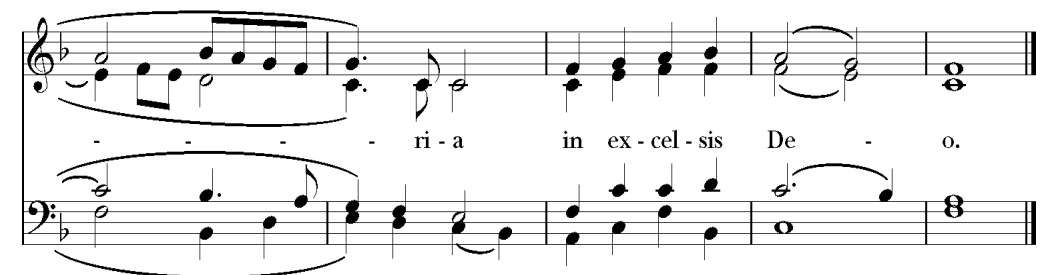
Refrain



Glo - - - - - ri - a



in ex - cel - sis De - o. Glo - - - - -



- - - - - ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o.

Officiant: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Officiant: 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.**



The Lessons

First Lesson: *Isaiah 9:2-7*

The prophet Isaiah tells of joy and exultation at the triumph of the King of kings – and this triumph is contained in one child whose promise brings God's peace to the world.

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.

People: Thanks be to God.



*The Psalms,
hymns of
ancient
Israel, speak
of the hopes,
joys and
fears of
God's
people.*

Psalm 96 *Book of Common Prayer p.725*

Sing a New Song- Michael Praetorius
Vocal ensemble

- 1 Sing to the Lord a new song; *
sing to the Lord, all the whole earth.
- 2 Sing to the Lord and bless his Name; *
proclaim the good news of his salvation
from day to day.
- 3 Declare his glory among the nations *
and his wonders among all peoples.
- 4 For great is the Lord and greatly to be praised; *
he is more to be feared than all gods.
- 5 As for all the gods of the nations, they are but idols; *
but it is the Lord who made the heavens.
- 6 Oh, the majesty and magnificence of his presence! *
Oh, the power and the splendor of his sanctuary!
- 7 Ascribe to the Lord, you families of the peoples; *
ascribe to the Lord honor and power.
- 8 Ascribe to the Lord the honor due his Name; *
bring offerings and come into his courts.
- 9 Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness; *
let the whole earth tremble before him.
- 10 Tell it out among the nations: "The Lord is King! *
he has made the world so firm
that it cannot be moved;
he will judge the peoples with equity."
- 11 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.
- 12 Then shall all the trees of the wood shout for joy
before the Lord when he comes, *
when he comes to judge the earth.
- 13 He will judge the world with righteousness *
and the peoples with his truth.



The apostle expresses the meaning and glory of God's presence with us in Christ.

Second Lesson: 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.

The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Sequence Hymn: #102 Once In Royal David's City (vv. 1 - 2 & 5)

Please stand and sing versus 2 and 5 hymn.

1 Once in roy - al Da - vid's ci - ty stood a
2 He came down to earth from hea - ven. who is

1 low - ly cat - tle shed, where a mo - ther laid her
2 God and Lord of all, and his shel - ter was a

1 ba - by in a man - ger for his bed: Ma - ry
2 sta - ble, and his cra - dle was a stall; with the

1 was that mo - ther mild, — Je - sus Christ her lit - tle child. —
2 poor, the scorned, the low - ly, lived on earth our Sa - vior ho - ly.

5 And our eyes at last shall see Him,
Through His own redeeming love;
For that child so dear and gentle,
Is our Lord in heaven above,
And He leads His children on,
To the place where He is gone.



In the midst of darkness, poverty and fear, the Son of God is born. In a humble stable, away from home, without welcome from the people of the world, the child Jesus is surrounded by the love of Mary and Joseph, and the wonder of poor shepherds – and that is enough.

Please be seated.

The Gospel: Luke 2:1-20

Deacon: The Holy Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke

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

Deacon: In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn. 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.

Deacon: The Gospel of the Lord

***People:* Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

The Sermon: **The Rev. Scot McComas, Rector**

Musical meditation: *Christ the Lord is Come to Earth* - Jennifer L. Stammers
Small Vocal Ensemble

Please stand.

The Nicene Creed is the most ancient and important corporate profession of our faith.

We are joining ourselves to the great heritage of the holy (of God) catholic (universal) and apostolic (witnessing to the resurrection) church down through the centuries.

This heritage is vaster, richer and more mysterious than any one individual can understand, but we, as the members of the Body of Christ, share and commit ourselves to it and through it.

The Nicene Creed

**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.**



We pray at all times in the Spirit (Ephesians 6:18) We stand as a priestly people and offer intercessions for the whole world.

The Prayers of the People

Leader: Brothers and sisters, on this most holy night of our Lord's birth, that we may find peace, joy and contentment in this holy season, let us pray for ourselves and all those in need of our prayers, saying: Glory to God in the highest.

Leader: For the church of Christ, that it may faithfully proclaim the good news of salvation and may care for the needs of God's people in all corners of the world, we pray to you, O Christ.

People: Glory to God in the highest.

Leader: For peace in our troubled world, that the darkness of war and injustice may be replaced by the light of peace and love, we pray to you, O Christ.

People: Glory to God in the highest.

Leader: For all those in need of our prayers: the homeless; the unemployed; the hungry; those who are hospitalized, those who are imprisoned in body or soul; and all those for whom this season is one not of joy but of trial and sadness, we pray to you, O Christ.

People: Glory to God in the highest.

Leader: For the sick that their illnesses may be turned into health and their sorrow into rejoicing, we pray to you, O Christ.

People: Glory to God in the highest.

Leader: For all members of the armed forces, especially those spending this Christmas away from home; that you will defend them day by day with your heavenly grace, strengthen them in their trials and temptations; give them courage to face the perils which beset them; and grant them a sense of your abiding presence wherever they may be, we pray to you, O Christ.

People: Glory to God in the highest.

Leader: For those who are mourning, and for all who have gone before us, that they may live forever in the light of your eternal glory, we pray to you, O Christ.

People: Glory to God in the highest.

Leader: Mighty God, mercifully hear the prayers of the people you have chosen as your own. Give us zeal in our ministries and joy in our work, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

People: Amen.

The Celebrant says a Concluding collect.

The Peace

Officiant: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: And also with you.

Welcome Announcement

Please be seated.



Our Lord
taught us a
simple,
heartfelt
prayer
(Matthew
6:9-13,
Luke 11:2-4)

Officiant: And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to pray,

Officiant and People: **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 candles
are lit as we
sing "Silent
Night"
together.

Lighting of Candles: *Night of Silence* - Daniel Kantor/Frans Gruber, arr. John Ferguson
Choir & Congregation

Si - lent night, ho - ly night, all is calm,
Si - lent night, ho - ly night, shep - herds quake
Si - lent night, ho - ly night, Son of God,

all is bright round yon vir - gin mo - ther and child.
at the sight, glo - ries stream from hea - ven a - far,
love's pure light ra - diant beams from thy ho - ly face,

Ho - ly in - fant, so ten - der and mild, sleep in hea - ven - ly
heaven - ly hosts— sing al - le - lu - ia; Christ, the Sa - vior, is
with the dawn of re - deem - ing grace, Je - sus, Lord, at thy

peace. Sleep in hea - ven - ly peace.
born! Christ, the Sa - vior, is born!
birth. Je - sus, Lord, at thy birth.

The Christmas Blessing

Recessional Hymn: # 87 *Hark the herald angels sing* (vv. 1 - 3)

Charles Wesley, Felix Mendelssohn, arr. Dan Forest

Please follow conductor for cues to sing

Verse 1 (*all 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 th’angelic host proclaim:
“Christ is born in Bethlehem.”
Hark! The herald angels sing,
“Glory to the newborn King!”

Verse 2 (*choir only*)

Christ by highest heav’n adored,
Christ the everlasting Lord!
Late in time behold Him come,
Offspring of a Virgin’s womb.
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see,
Hail the incarnate Deity,
Pleased as man with man to dwell,
Jesus, our Emmanuel.
Hark! The herald angels sing,
“Glory to the newborn King!”

Verse 3 (*all sing*)

Hail the heav’n-born Prince of Peace!
Hail the Sun of Righteousness!
Light and life to all He brings,
Ris’n with healing in His wings.
Mild He lays His glory by,
Born that man no more may die,
Born to raise the sons of earth,
Born to give them second birth.
Hark! The herald angels sing,
“Glory to the newborn King!”



The Dismissal

Deacon: Let us go forth in the name of Christ! Alleluia! Alleluia!

People: **Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!**

Instrumental postlude: *For Unto Us a Child is Born* - G.F. Handel, arr. Jeff Bennett

Piano duet

A big THANK YOU to the musicians who contributed to our service,
both in person and virtual choir members, handbell choir, and our guest musicians:

Lauren Berman, soprano

Leia Wasbotten, soprano

Jonathan Fitzgerald, violin

Mila Crise Gallardo, viola

Yeil Park, cello

Chris Granger, piano



*The Christmas Flowers are
Given to the Glory of God
In Loving Memory of*



*Bob Christopher
By Mina Rafferty*

*Elanna Davis
By Carol & Lewis Smith*

*Julia Walski
By Fred Walski*

