

THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD DECEMBER 25, 2020

The Word of God

Entrance Rite

OPENING ACCLAMATION (BCP p. 323)

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

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

Amen.

COLLECT FOR PURITY AND GREAT COMMANDMENTS (BCP p. 323)

The Celebrant says

Almighty God, unto whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of thy Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love thee, and worthily magnify thy holy Name; through Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Hear what our Lord Jesus Christ saith:

Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it: Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself. On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets.

OPENING ANTHEM OR SONG OF PRAISE (BCP p. 324)

Glory be to God on high,

and on earth peace, good will towards men.

We praise thee, we bless thee,

we worship thee,

we glorify thee,

we give thanks to thee for thy great glory,

O Lord God, heavenly King, God the Father Almighty.

O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ;
O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,
 that takest away the sins of the world,
 have mercy upon us.
Thou that takest away the sins of the world,
 receive our prayer.
Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father,
 have mercy upon us.
For thou only art holy;
thou only art the Lord;
thou only, O Christ,
 with the Holy Ghost,
 art most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY (BCP p. 325)

Celebrant The Lord be with you.
People And with thy spirit.
Celebrant Let us pray.

Almighty God, who hast given us thy only-begotten Son to take our nature upon him and as at this time to be born of a pure virgin: Grant that we, being regenerate and made thy children by adoption and grace, may daily be renewed by thy Holy Spirit; through the same our Lord Jesus Christ, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the same Spirit ever, one God, world without end. *Amen.*

The Lessons

FIRST READING: Isaiah 52:7-10

The people sit.

A Reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah.

How beautiful upon the mountains
 are the feet of the messenger who announces peace,
who brings good news,
 who announces salvation,

who says to Zion, "Your God reigns."

⁸Listen! Your sentinels lift up their voices,
together they sing for joy;
for in plain sight they see
the return of the LORD to Zion.

⁹Break forth together into singing,
you ruins of Jerusalem;
for the LORD has comforted his people,
he has redeemed Jerusalem.

¹⁰The LORD has bared his holy arm
before the eyes of all the nations;
and all the ends of the earth shall see
the salvation of our God.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 98

¹Sing to the LORD a new song, *
for he has done marvelous things.

²With his right hand and his holy arm *
has he won for himself the victory.

³The LORD has made known his victory; *
his righteousness has he openly shown in the sight of the nations.

⁴He remembers his mercy and faithfulness to the house of Israel, *
and all the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.

⁵Shout with joy to the LORD, all you lands; *
lift up your voice, rejoice, and sing.

⁶Sing to the LORD with the harp, *
with the harp and the voice of song.

⁷With trumpets and the sound of the horn *
shout with joy before the King, the LORD.

⁸Let the sea make a noise and all that is in it, *

the lands and those who dwell therein.

⁹Let the rivers clap their hands, *
and let the hills ring out with joy before the LORD,
when he comes to judge the earth.

¹⁰In righteousness shall he judge the world *
and the peoples with equity.

SECOND READING: Hebrews 1:1-4 [5-12]

A Reading from Paul's letter to the Hebrews.

¹Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets, ²but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, through whom he also created the worlds. ³He is the reflection of God's glory and the exact imprint of God's very being, and he sustains all things by his powerful word. When he had made purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, ⁴having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs. [

⁵For to which of the angels did God ever say,
"You are my Son;
today I have begotten you"?

Or again,

"I will be his Father,
and he will be my Son"?

⁶And again, when he brings the firstborn into the world, he says,
"Let all God's angels worship him."

⁷Of the angels he says,
"He makes his angels winds,
and his servants flames of fire."

⁸But of the Son he says,
"Your throne, O God, is forever and ever,
and the righteous scepter is the scepter of your kingdom.

⁹You have loved righteousness and hated wickedness;
therefore God, your God, has anointed you
with the oil of gladness beyond your companions."

¹⁰And,
"In the beginning, Lord, you founded the earth,

and the heavens are the work of your hands;
¹¹they will perish, but you remain;
they will all wear out like clothing;
¹²like a cloak you will roll them up,
and like clothing they will be changed.
But you are the same,
and your years will never end.”

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

GOSPEL: John 1:1-14

All stand.

Priest The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.
People Glory be to thee, O Lord.

¹In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.
²He was in the beginning with God. ³All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being ⁴in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. ⁵The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

⁶There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. ⁸He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. ⁹The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

¹⁰He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. ¹¹He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him.
¹²But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, ¹³who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

¹⁴And 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.

Priest The Gospel of the Lord.
People Praise be to thee, O Christ.

THE SERMON (BCP p. 326)

THE CREED (BCP p. 326)

I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
and of all things visible and invisible;
And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of his Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father;
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation
came down from heaven,
and was incarnate by the Holy Ghost of the Virgin Mary,
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered and was buried;
and the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures,
and ascended into heaven,
and sitteth on the right hand of the Father;
and he shall come again, with glory,
to judge both the quick and the dead;
whose kingdom shall have no end.
And I believe in the Holy Ghost the Lord, and Giver of Life,
who proceedeth from the Father and the Son;
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped
and glorified;
who spake by the Prophets.
And I believe one holy catholic and apostolic Church;
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins;
and I look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Celebrant: The Savior is born in Bethlehem, and the Word became flesh and dwelt among us. In the Name of our Lord Jesus Christ, let us make our prayers and supplications unto Almighty God, saying, "*Lord have mercy upon us.*"

All kneel.

Lector: For the one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church of God -- and especially for The Diocese of Springfield, The Episcopal Church, and The Anglican Communion; that it may be filled with the spirit of truth, unity and concord, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord have mercy upon us.

For all bishops and other ministers -- and especially for Daniel, Michael, and Justin; that they may, both by their life and doctrine, set forth the true and lively Word of God, and rightly and duly administer His holy sacraments, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord have mercy upon us.

For all the holy People of God, for Trinity Church; that, with meek heart and due reverence, they may hear and receive the holy Word of God, truly serving Him in holiness and righteousness all the days of their lives, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord have mercy upon us.

For all those who bear the authority of government in this and every land, especially our President Donald, our President-Elect Joseph, and our Governor J B, that God may lead them to wise decisions and right actions for the welfare and peace of the world; and for all those serving in active military service and law enforcement; let us pray to the Lord.

Lord have mercy upon us.

For all the people of the earth that God would open their eyes to see His gracious hand in all His works; and that, rejoicing in His whole creation, they may honor Him with their substance, and be faithful stewards of His bounty, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord have mercy upon us.

For all those who, in this transitory life, are in trouble, sorrow, need, or sickness; that God, in His goodness, would comfort and succor them in their adversity, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord have mercy upon us.

For all God's servants who have departed this life in His faith and fear; that God would grant them continual growth in His love and service, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord have mercy upon us.

For the grace to follow the good examples of the Blessed Virgin Mary, St. George, St. Andrew, St. Patrick, St. David, and all His saints; that with them we may be made partakers of His heavenly kingdom, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord have mercy upon us.

Celebrant: Almighty and most merciful God, who sent Thine only Son, Jesus Christ, to share in our humanity, that we might share in His divinity; fulfill now the desires and petitions of Thy servants as may be best for us; granting us in This Age knowledge of Thy truth, and in the Age to Come life everlasting; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

CONFESSION OF SIN (BCP p. 330)

The Deacon or Celebrant says

Ye who do truly and earnestly repent you of your sins, and are in love and charity with your neighbors, and intend to lead a new life, following the commandments of God, and walking from henceforth in his holy ways: Draw near with faith, and make your humble confession to Almighty God, devoutly kneeling.

Silence may be kept.

Minister and People

Almighty God,

Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,

maker of all things, judge of all men:

We acknowledge and bewail our manifold sins
and wickedness,

which we from time to time most grievously have committed,
by thought, word, and deed, against thy divine Majesty,
provoking most justly thy wrath and indignation against us.

We do earnestly repent,

and are heartily sorry for these our misdoings;

the remembrance of them is grievous unto us,

the burden of them is intolerable.

Have mercy upon us,
have mercy upon us, most merciful Father;
for thy Son our Lord Jesus Christ's sake,
forgive us all that is past;
and grant that we may ever hereafter
serve and please thee in newness of life,
to the honor and glory of thy Name;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Priest stands and says

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who of his great mercy hath promised forgiveness of sins to all those who with hearty repentance and true faith turn unto him, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and bring you to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Hear the Word of God to all who truly turn to him.

God so loved the world, that he gave his only-begotten Son, to the end that all that believe in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. *John 3:16*

This is a true saying, and worthy of all men to be received, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners. *I Timothy 1:15*

THE PEACE (BCP p. 332)

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And with thy spirit.

The Holy Communion

OFFERTORY SENTENCE (BCP p. 343)

The Celebrant says

Offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving, and make good thy vows unto the Most High.
Psalm 50:14

The Great Thanksgiving

SURSUM CORDA (BCP p. 333)

Celebrant The Lord be with you.
People And with thy spirit.
Celebrant Lift up your hearts.
People We lift them up unto the Lord.
Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People It is meet and right so to do.

PROPER PREFACE (BCP p. 333)

Facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds

It is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord, holy Father, almighty, everlasting God.

Because thou didst give Jesus Christ, thine only Son, to be born for us; who, by the mighty power of the Holy Ghost, was made very Man of the substance of the Virgin Mary his mother; that we might be delivered from the bondage of sin, and receive power to become thy children.

Therefore with Angels and Archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious Name; evermore praising thee, and saying,

SANCTUS (BCP p. 333)

Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Hosts:
Heaven and earth are full of thy glory.
Glory be to thee, O Lord Most High.
Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION (BCP p. 334)

All glory be to thee, Almighty God, our heavenly Father, for that thou, of thy tender mercy, didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption; who made there, by his one oblation of himself once offered, a full, perfect,

and sufficient sacrifice, oblation, and satisfaction, for the sins of the whole world; and did institute, and in his holy Gospel command us to continue, a perpetual memory of that his precious death and sacrifice, until his coming again.

For in the night in which he was betrayed, he took bread; and when he had given thanks, he brake it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take, eat, this is my Body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Likewise, after supper, he took the cup; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, "Drink ye all of this; for this is my Blood of the New Testament, which is shed for you, and for many, for the remission of sins. Do this, as oft as ye shall drink it, in remembrance of me."

Wherefore, O Lord and heavenly Father, according to the institution of thy dearly beloved Son our Savior Jesus Christ, we, thy humble servants, do celebrate and make here before thy divine Majesty, with these thy holy gifts, which we now offer unto thee, the memorial thy Son hath commanded us to make; having in remembrance his blessed passion and precious death, his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension; rendering unto thee most hearty thanks for the innumerable benefits procured unto us by the same.

And we most humbly beseech thee, O merciful Father, to hear us; and, of thy almighty goodness, vouchsafe to bless and sanctify, with thy Word and Holy Spirit, these thy gifts and creatures of bread and wine; that we, receiving them according to thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ's holy institution, in remembrance of his death and passion, may be partakers of his most blessed Body and Blood.

And we earnestly desire thy fatherly goodness mercifully to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving; most humbly beseeching thee to grant that, by the merits and death of thy Son Jesus Christ, and through faith in his blood, we, and all thy whole Church, may obtain remission of our sins, and all other benefits of his passion.

And here we offer and present unto thee, O Lord, our selves, our souls and bodies, to be a reasonable, holy, and living sacrifice unto thee; humbly beseeching thee that we, and all others who shall be partakers of this Holy Communion, may worthily receive the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son Jesus Christ, be filled with thy grace and heavenly benediction, and made one body with him, that he may dwell in us, and we in him.

And although we are unworthy, through our manifold sins, to offer unto thee any sacrifice, yet we beseech thee to accept this our bounden duty and service, not weighing our merits, but pardoning our offenses, through Jesus Christ our Lord;

By whom, and with whom, in the unity of the Holy Ghost, all honor and glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, world without end. *AMEN.*

THE LORD'S PRAYER (BCP p. 336)

And now, as our Savior Christ hath 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,
forever and ever. Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread

FRACTION ANTHEM (BCP p. 337)

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

PRAYER OF HUMBLE ACCESS (BCP p. 337)

The following prayer may be said. The People may join in saying this prayer

We do not presume to come to this thy Table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in thy manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under thy Table. But thou art the same Lord whose property is always to have mercy. Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of thy dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. *Amen.*

INVITATION (BCP p. 338)

The Celebrant says

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER (BCP p. 339)

After Communion, the Celebrant says

Let us pray.

The People may join in saying this prayer

Almighty and everliving God, we most heartily thank thee for that thou dost feed us, in these holy mysteries, with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and dost assure us thereby of thy favor and goodness towards us; and that we are very members incorporate in the mystical body of thy Son, the blessed company of all faithful people; and are also heirs, through hope, of thy everlasting kingdom. And we humbly beseech thee, O heavenly Father, so to assist us with thy grace, that we may continue in that holy fellowship, and do all such good works as thou hast prepared for us to walk in; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honor and glory, world without end. *Amen.*

BLESSING (BCP p. 339)

The peace of God, which passeth all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, be amongst you, and remain with you always. *Amen.*

DISMISSAL (BCP p. 340)

Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People Thanks be to God.

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Trinity Church - Jacksonville, Illinois
The Nativity of Our Lord
Christmas Day – December 25, 2020

The Very Rev. Zachary D. Brooks, Celebrant

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**The Christmas flowers are given to the glory of God
and in loving memory of:**

Dorothy Berscheit, Allen & Carolyn Brannan,
Hazel Brightbill, Edwin & Ruth Jean Cisne,
Sally & Jeff Cisne, James & Hilda Cunningham,
Hervey, Hervey, Jr., & Paul Du Bois,
Arthur & Helena Eldred, Donald Eldred,
Howard & Lula Ermeling,
Mark Evans, Robert & Margaret Evans
Milton & Ida Hearne, Jo McGinnis,
Forster & Pauline Mitchell, Isaac Newton Mitchell,
Francis, Evelyn, Dorothea, & William Nelson,
Carlton & Susan Powell, Paul & Florence Pratt,
Richard Pratt, Paul & Phyllis Radcliffe,
James & Mildred Riley, Carolyn Sosnoski,
Albert Tracey, Robert & Benita Tracey,
William & Dollie Tracey, John & Lena Underbrink,
Eileen Wiseman, and Kenneth Wiseman

***“May the souls of all the faithful departed,
through the mercy of God,
rest in peace, and rise in glory.”***

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