

CHRISTMAS EVE

DECEMBER 24, 2023 4:30 PM





We're so glad you chose to be here at Resurrection today.

Whether you're here for the first time, or are a life-long member, Resurrection is a hopeful, healing, transformation-minded kind of place, a place where everyone is welcome and can grow their relationship with God and with one another.

If you *are* here for the first time (or if you just haven't gotten around to it yet), please fill out a pew card and put it in the offering plate to let us know you were here. To receive our weekly email bulletin, be sure to include your email address. And let us know if you would like to connect with our parish life and ministries; we're happy to help you find your spot!

Our services follow *The Book of Common Prayer*, the red book in your pew rack. If you'd like to use the book to follow the service, we begin on page 355. Unless otherwise marked, our hymns are from the *Hymnal 1982*, the blue books in the pew rack.

Select annotations taken from Annotations © 2001 Frank Logue

To learn more about Resurrection, check out www.episcopalloudon.com, email us at office@episcopalloudon.com, or find us on Facebook or Instagram.

Fill out a pew card or email *office@episcopalloudon.com* to be placed on on the weekly email, *Parish Tidings*, for the latest information from Resurrection.

If you can't make it here in person, join us at 10:30, live on Facebook, or watch when you can on Vimeo! *facebook.com/episcopalloudon* or *vimeo.com/episcopalloudon*



HOLY EUCHARIST, RITE II

The Word of God

Prelude

Processional Hymn

Adeste Fidelis

All standing, the Celebrant says

BCP 355

Hymnal 83

PeopleBlessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.PeopleAnd blessed be his kingdom, now and for
ever. Amen.

Hymn of Praise

Angels We Have Heard on High v.1-4

The Collect of the Day

BCP 212

Hymnal 96

PeopleThe Lord be with you.CelebrantLet 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. **Amen**.

The Lessons

The First Lesson: Isaiah 9:2-7

Lector A reading from the Book of Isaiah

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light;

We take our places and allow the peaceful quiet to center and calm us.

The bold portions

are the parts the congregation says together. Remember that "liturgy" means worshipping together. It is important that we make our responses in a good, strong voice.

The first prayer, said by the celebrant, is the **Collect** for Purity. A collect is a particular form of prayer, which names some attribute of God or something God has done, asks for something specific and then closes with praise to God. For centuries, this collect for purity was said silently by the priest. The Prayer Book of 1552 made this prayer a public one said aloud by the priest for all the people gathered.

We respond to each reading: the **Psalm** is our response to the Old Testament, the hymn our sung response to the **Epistle** (the second reading), and the sermon and creed are our response to the **Gospel**. 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.

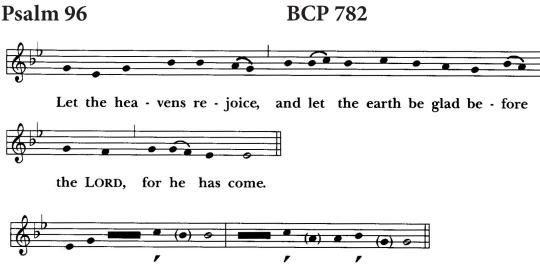
His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace

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.

LectorThe Word of the Lord.PeopleThanks be to God.



- 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.

Antiphon

- 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.

Antiphon

- 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!

Antiphon

- 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.

Antiphon

- 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."

Antiphon

- 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.

Antiphon

The Epistle: Titus 2:11-14

Lector A reading from Titus

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.

LectorThe Word of the Lord.PeopleThanks be to God.

Sequence Hymn *The angel Gabriel*

Hymnal 265

The Gospel Lesson: Luke 2:1-20

All stand

Priest The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.*People* Glory to you, Lord Christ.

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. We stand to indicate the importance we place of Jesus' words and actions. The **Gospel** book comes into the midst of the people and all turn toward the reader. PriestThe Gospel of the Lord.PeoplePraise to you, Lord Christ.

Sermon

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 use the **Nicene Creed** on Sundays, and the Apostle's Creed for Baptism. Both are ancient statements of faith.

Why do some people bow their head for part of the creed? Some bow at "he came down from heaven" as a sign of reverent respect for Jesus' incarnate presence with us. The Rev. Amy Morehous

BCP 358

The Prayers of the People

Come let us adore Christ, the Lord. Let us pray, "Glorious Lord, grant us your peace."

Christ the Lord, we humbly adore you: Make joyful our hearts. Strengthen your Church with humility and faith that we might triumph over the power of evil.

Glorious Lord, Grant us your peace.

Christ the Lord, we humbly adore you: you abhor neither he simple nor the lowly. Shine your light on all the world that the nations may look upon your truth and find their salvation.

Glorious Lord,

Grant us your peace.

Christ the Lord, we humbly adore you: may all of creation burst forth in songs of praise. May all the works of your hand glorify you.

Glorious Lord, **Grant us your peace.**

Christ the Lord, we humbly adore you: summon the people of all the cities to yourself. May all of the distractions and heartache of our lives fade away in the joy of your presence.

Glorious Lord, **Grant us your peace.**

Christ the Lord, we humbly adore you: you love us so dearly. Grant your healing grace to sinners, to the poor, to those in need of love. Open your arms to the sick and the lonely, and especially **Tracy; Daphne; Ulla; Sarah; Judy K.; Kyle, Cathy & Callie; Ashley; Debbie; Nancy C.; Jack H.; Randy; Rame; Ingham; Wayne; Sharon; Larry; Rick & Mali; Diana N.; Sandy; Peggy Ann; and all your children who suffer the effects of war, oppression, or natural disasters.**

The congregation may add their petitions or thanksgivings.

Glorious Lord, **Grant us your peace.** Our prayers change each week, along with the lectionary. Please feel free to add those on your heart, either silently or aloud, at the appropriate place. Christ the Lord, we humbly adore you: all glory be given to you. You blessed our earthly bodies with your birth; and you promise to raise us to new life by your death and resurrection.

Glorious Lord, **Grant us your peace.**

Confession of Sin BCP 359

The Officiant says to the people

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence may be kept.

Officiant and People together, all kneeling

Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.

The Officiant says

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen**.

The Peace

BCP 360

All stand. The Celebrant says to the people

PeopleThe peace of the Lord be always with you.ParallelAnd also with you.

Holy Eucharist, Rite II | 8

The **Confession of Sin** helps us examine our hearts, and hear of God's forgiveness.

The **Peace**, is a very ancient way for people to greet one another.

Parish Announcements

This center section of your bulletin is for you to tear out & take home with you. Keep the announcements, prayer lists, calendars, & Diocesan news on hand all week!

Bible Study Offering

Beginning **Wednesday, January 3rd**, Tony Adams will facilitate a Bible study offering on **The Acts of the Apostles**. If you wish to participate, please contact Tony at (423) 884-3024 or adamsaj@aol.com.

From tiny beginnings among Jesus' disciples, the church exploded into a worldwide force in just a few years. How? Jesus left His followers with a mission, and the Spirit of God moved mightily through them to fulfill it. Luke's account of how the gospel was carried from Jerusalem to Rome – despite every conceivable obstacle – assures us that God will also help us discover and live out our mission in the world.

We'll meet via ZOOM videoteleconference, Wednesday mornings from 11:00 am to noon.

SCHEDULE CHANGE

On Sunday, December 31st, at both 8:00 and 10:30, we will celebrate Morning Prayer to close out 2023.

Join us tonight at 10:30pm, for our Christmas Eve service with special music.

At 10:30, Tanja Miric returns with a new program of Christmas songs for us to enjoy. Then, at 11:00, we'll rejoice with our Christmas Eve Holy Communion service.

And if you can't make it tonight, tomorrow morning, at 10:00am, we'll have our Christmas Day service.

We wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

The church office will be closed December 25-January 1. We'll be back in the office on Tuesday, January 2, ready to begin 2024!

Prayers / Phanksgivings

THIS WEEK'S PRAYER LIST

Tracy; Daphne; Ulla; Sarah; Judy K.; Kyle, Cathy & Callie; Ashley; Debbie; Nancy C.; Jack H.; Randy; Rame; Ingham; Wayne; Sharon; Larry; Rick & Mali; Diana N.; Sandy; Peggy Ann; and all your children who suffer the effects of war, oppression, or natural disasters.

BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

- 12/4 Ruth Hennessy
- 12/11 Gregg & Rosemary Kitts
- 12/12 David St. John
- 12/17 Jerry Ploeger
- 12/18- Jenny Lucas
- 12/22 Paul & Jeanette Fiebke Will & Nancy Heathcote
- 12/23 Vicky St. John
- 12/24 David Baumgardner
- 12/25 Keytha Graves
- 12/26 Jessica Harper **Michael Mott**
- 12/27 Rame Coombes
- 12/30 Mel Hines

CONTINUED PRAYER LIST

Claire	Sandy
Rob & Sherry	Lynnette
Cheri	the Garretts
Sara	Jane
Sue	Millie
Shannon	Jim
Donna	Mel
Charles	

DIOCESAN PRAYERS

For Peace: Eternal God, in whose perfect kingdom no sword is drawn but the sword of righteousness, no strength known but the strength of love: So mightily spread abroad your Spirit, that all peoples may be gathered under the banner of the Prince of Peace, as children of one Father; to whom be dominion and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

For Church Musicians and Artists: O God, whom saints and angels delight to worship in heaven: Be ever present with your servants who seek through art and music to perfect the praises offered by your people on earth; and grant to them even now glimpses of your beauty, and make them worthy at length to behold it unveiled for evermore; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

For Your Calendars

4:30 pm	Acolyte: EM: Lector: Ushers: Chancellor:	Andrew Wilkinson Jane Mocilac Bill Perry Kathleen Bailey & Monty Ross	Next Week at Resurrection Monday, 12/25 10:00am - Christmas Day Service
10:30 pm	Acolyte: EM: Lector: Usher: Chancellor:	Dawson Hope Holly Pate Jerry Ploeger Ginny Tolbert	Thursday, 12/28 3:30pm - AA (women only meeting) Sunday, 12/31 8:00am - Holy Eucharist Service 9:30am - Choir Practice 10:30pm - Holy Eucharist Service Email office@episcopalloudon.com to have your ministry or committee's activities or meetings added to the parish calendar (and to let us know if you'd like it to appear here).
Dec 25th	Acolyte/EM: Kell Lector: Wen Usher: Kath		

COMING UP ...

Dec 25: Christmas Day Dec 25-29: Office Closed Jan 3: ActS Bible Study begins Jan 9: Open Table Tuesdays resume

Check your Parish Tidings and keep a look out for upcoming details!

Check it out!



Forma is a ministry of Lifelong Learning at Virginia Theological Seminary (VTS). This network for Christian formation celebrates, equips, supports, and connect leaders who form followers of Jesus Christ. The 2024 Forma Annual Conference, a Way in the Wilderness, will be held **January 22nd through 25th** in a new, "radically hybrid" format. You can join as an individual through Zoom, host a gathering in your area, or attend in person at Kanuga Conference Center Retreat or Camp Allen Conference Center Retreat.

If you are interested in learning more about attending or hosting a local gathering, contact Canon Beverly Hurley Hill at bhurleyhill@dioet.org or (205) 213-6640 so that we can leverage our diocesan membership.



40th Annual Diocesan Convention

Friday, February 9th, 2024 St. John's Episcopal Cathedral, Knoxville

Saturday, February 10th, 2024 Episcopal School of Knoxville

The annual convention of the Episcopal Diocese of East Tennessee is the legislative body for the Diocese. Each year, parishes across East Tennessee send delegations to convention to consider resolutions, elect diocesan leadership, hear reports from diocesan committees and other working groups, pass the annual diocesan budget, and find inspiration and training from an array of in-person and online affinity groups and workshops.

The convention, meeting in early February of each year, rotates between each of our three regions: the South East region (Chattanooga), the Middle East region (Knoxville, and the Upper East region (Kingsport/Johnson City).

Visit *diocesconvention.org* for more info.

Then the Ministers and People may greet one another in the name of the Lord.

Announcements

Blessing of Birthdays and Anniversaries

THE HOLY COMMUNION

The Celebrant says

Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God. *Ephesians 5:2*

Offertory Anthem

Break Forth O Beautious Heavenly Light

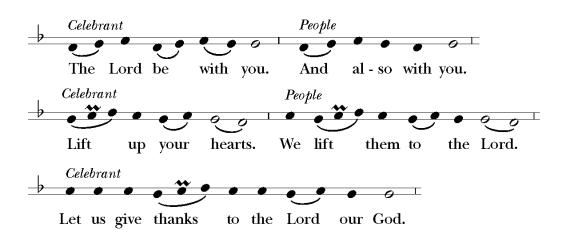
Arr. Manning

The Celebrant invites the people's offerings

Doxology

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below; praise him above, ye heavenly host: praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

The Great Thanksgiving Eucharistic Prayer D



When the celebrant says: "The Peace of the Lord be always with you," everyone responds: "And also with you." Then we share God's peace with one another

This Christmas season, we will follow **Eucharistic Prayer D**, from the Book of Common Prayer, p. 372.

Prayer D is adapted from the Liturgy of Saint Basil, dating to the late 300s CE. A variation of it is also used by Greek, Slavic, and Coptic churches, making it authorized among Christians more than any other Eucharistic prayer.

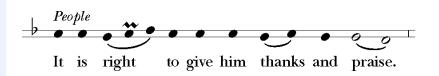
The Liturgy of the Table

The second part of the liturgy moves to the Table. It is based on Jewish fellowship meals, particularly the Passover observance.

Should I stand or kneel?

Either is correct. In the early church, standing was usual. Some prefer to kneel as a gesture of reverence. Choose whichever feels prayerful for you.

Why are some parts of the liturgy chanted? Chanting - or singing part of the liturgy dates back to the 9th century. In our liturgy, both the celebrant and the people chant or sing.



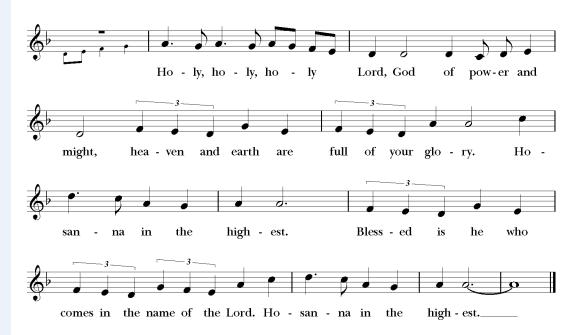
Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds

It is truly right to glorify you, Father, and to give you thanks; for you alone are God, living and true, dwelling in light inaccessible from before time and for ever.

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.

Countless throngs of angels stand before you to serve you night and day; and, beholding the glory of your presence, they offer you unceasing praise. Joining with them, and giving voice to every creature under heaven, we acclaim you, and glorify your Name, as we sing (say),

Celebrant and People



The people stand or kneel. Then the Celebrant continues

We acclaim you, holy Lord, glorious in power. Your mighty works reveal your wisdom and love. You formed us in your own image, giving the whole world into our care, so that, in obedience to you, our Creator, we might rule and serve all your creatures. When our disobedience took us far from you, you did not abandon us to the power of death. In your mercy you came to our help, so that in seeking you we might find you. Again and again you called us into covenant with you, and through the prophets you taught us to hope for salvation.

Father, you loved the world so much that in the fullness of time you sent your only Son to be our Savior. Incarnate by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, he lived as one of us, yet without sin. To the poor he proclaimed the good news of salvation; to prisoners, freedom; to the sorrowful, joy. To fulfill your purpose he gave himself up to death; and, rising from the grave, destroyed death, and made the whole creation new.

And, that we might live no longer for ourselves, but for him who died and rose for us, he sent the Holy Spirit, his own first gift for those who believe, to complete his work in the world, and to bring to fulfillment the sanctification of all.

At the following words concerning the bread, the Celebrant is to hold it, or lay a hand upon it, and at the words concerning the cup, to hold or place a hand upon the cup and any other vessel containing wine to be consecrated.

When the hour had come for him to be glorified by you, his heavenly Father, having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end; at supper with them he 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." When we gather together we remember Jesus. Through repeating the words and actions of Jesus' last meal with his disciples, we ourselves join the story and make it our own. We don't just watch the drama or listen to it unfold. but we enter into the story as we too take the bread and wine and eat and drink.

Father, we now celebrate this memorial of our redemption. Recalling Christ's death and his descent among the dead, proclaiming his resurrection and ascension to your right hand, awaiting his coming in glory; and offering to you, from the gifts you have given us, this bread and this cup, we praise you and we bless you.

Celebrant and People



The Celebrant continues

Lord, we pray that in your goodness and mercy your Holy Spirit may descend upon us, and upon these gifts, sanctifying them and showing them to be holy gifts for your holy people, the bread of life and the cup of salvation, the Body and Blood of your Son Jesus Christ.

Grant that all who share this bread and cup may become one body and one spirit, a living sacrifice in Christ, to the praise of your Name.

Remember, Lord, your one holy catholic and apostolic Church, redeemed by the blood of your Christ. Reveal its unity, guard its faith, and preserve it in peace.

And grant that we may find our inheritance with all the saints who have found favor with you in ages past. We praise you in union with them and give you glory through your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, all honor and glory are yours, Almighty God and Father, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, for ever and ever.



The Great Amen is the only word in our Book of Common Prayer in all capital letters. It is the people's affirmation of all that has gone before, and has been a practice since the 2nd century. In this service, we sing our Amens. And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

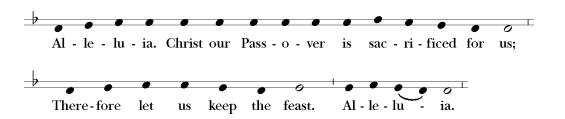
Celebrant and People

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. This prayer of Jesus was given to his disciples as an example of how they should pray. The phrase "**Lord's Prayer**" is not used in the New Testament.

The Breaking of the Bread

BCP 364

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept.



The Celebrant says

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

Communion of the Faithful

We encourage you to come forward to receive Holy Communion as you feel comfortable. Remain seated, and the usher will direct you forward to the communion rail. This is the **"Sancta Sanctis"** - the Invitation to Communion.

Receiving Communion

All are welcome at God's table. Hold out your hands and you will be

given the bread. For now, wine is available both in individual cups and from the chalice. Please partake in the way you feel comfortable. Gluten-free wafers are available by request.

You have fully received communion if you receive either the bread or the wine. Please remain standing to receive communion, and then return to your seat by the side aisle, so that traffic flows one way.

If you would prefer communion be brought to you at your seat, please let an usher know and, as always, we will be happy to do so. If you prefer not to receive communion, please cross your arms over your chest as a sign that you prefer a blessing.

The Bread and the Cup are given to the communicants with these words

The Body of Christ, the bread of heaven. **Amen**. The Blood of Christ, the cup of salvation. **Amen**.

Communion Hymn *In the bleak midwinter*

Hymnal 112

Post Communion Prayer

After Communion, the Celebrant says

Let us pray.

Celebrant and People

Eternal God, heavenly Father, 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.

Please sit or kneel, as you prefer.

As we sing, the altar party will bring the light forward. Please pass it to your neighbor as a sign of hope and joy.

Postcommunion Hymn

Silent Night

Hymnal 111

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.

Silent night, holy night, shepherds quake at the sight, glories stream from heaven afar, heavenly hosts sing alleluia; Christ, the Savior, is born!

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.

WE GO INTO GOD'S WORLD

The Blessing

The priest blesses the people, saying

May Christ, who by his Incarnation gathered into one things earthly and heavenly, fill you with his joy and peace; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen**.

Recessional Hymn

Go tell it on the mountain

Hymnal 99

The Dismissal

BCP 366

CelebrantLet us go forth in the name of Christ.PeopleThanks be to God.

The Blessing - a priestly blessing first began with Bishops in the 4th century, then spread in practice by priests, when the Bishop was not present. **Christmas flowers are given to the Glory of God and In Loving Memory of**

Chuck Murphy John, Mary Anne, Harold, & Lucy, by the Stahrs Susan & Ben Kubesh Jim & Martha Brown Ben Kubesh Our Loved Ones, by the Ploegers

and In honor of all the men and women who serve in the Armed Services, by Tony Adams

TODAY'S ART



The Nativity Girolamo Romanino (c.1484 - c.1560) Italian c. 1524 Oil on wood The National Gallery, London



Mary and her husband Joseph kneel in adoration before the infant Christ. The scene is watched by the ox and donkey and by a throng of rejoicing baby angels. Two of them hold an inscribed scroll, suggesting the annunciation of Christ's birth to the shepherds, who appear in the middle distance among their sheep.

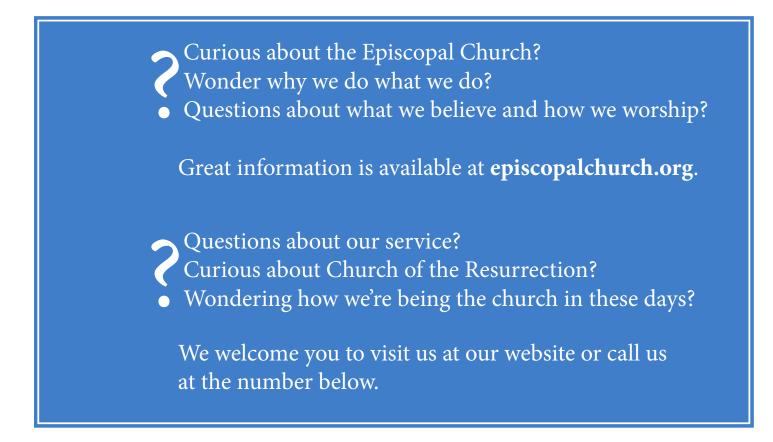
This is the central panel of Romanino's high altarpiece for S. Alessandro in Brescia. The high altar was the responsibility of the Confraternity of Corpus Christi – a lay brotherhood which venerated the body of Christ – so this depiction of Christ was of central importance. It would have been placed directly above the tabernacle in which the Eucharist was kept.

The church was dedicated to Saint Alexander, whose relics were kept there, and to the Virgin Mary, mother of God, so she also has a prominent position. Her mantle is embroidered with gold fleur-de-lis ornaments, the symbol of Saint Alexander.

GLORIFYING GOD BY REFRESHING SOULS | BRIDGING COMMUNITIES | ENGAGING PEOPLE IN SERVICE

Thank you for joining us today! We hope to see you again soon.

We invite you to join us for worship at 8:00 or 10:30 am each Sunday. If you can't make it in person, join us at 10:30, live on Facebook! *facebook.com/episcopalloudon*





The Rev. Amy Morehous, Rector

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