## ST. FRANCIS IN-THE-FIELDS EPISCOPAL CHURCH

The Rev. C. Davies Reed, Rector The Rev. Dr. Joél Muñoz, Curate

# The Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ Festival Holy Eucharist

### December 24, 2023 8:00pm

1525 Mulberry Street Zionsville, Indiana 46077 317.873.4377

Website: <u>www.stfranciszionsville.org</u> E-mail: info@stfranciszionsville.org Welcome. Please join us in the responses as indicated in boldface type.

#### THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

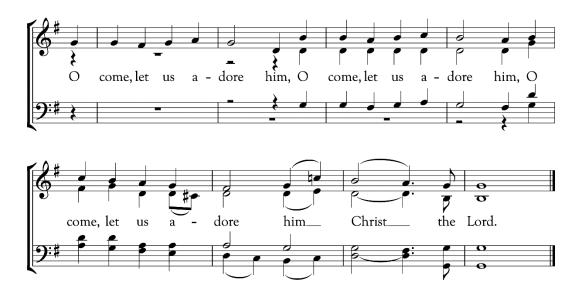
#### The Prelude

O Holy Night

A. Adam

#### The Welcome





#### The Station at the Crèche

Presider: The Word was made flesh and dwelt among us:

People: And we beheld his glory.

Presider: Let us pray. Almighty and ever-living God, you have given us a new revelation of your loving providence in the coming of your Son Jesus Christ to be born of the Virgin Mary: Grant that as he shared our mortality, so we may share his eternity in the glory of your kingdom; where he lives and reigns for ever and ever. Amen.

The processional hymn continues with verses 4-6, on the following page.



#### The Opening Acclamation

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

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

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.** 



Presider: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Presider: 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. **Amen.** 

Please be seated

#### The First Reading

Isaiah 52:7-10

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."

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

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

The LORD has bared his holy arm

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

before the eyes of all the nations; and all the ends of the earth shall see

People: Thanks be to God.

the salvation of our God.

#### A Hymn

(blue) 1982 Hymnal 89, vss. 1, 2, 4

It Came Upon the Midnight Clear

Regent Square



#### The Second Reading

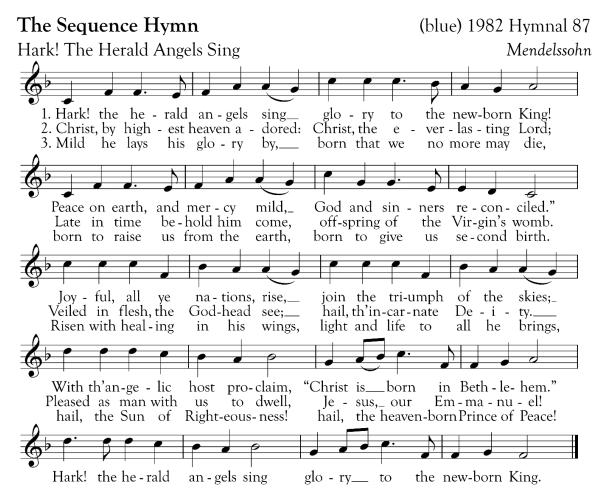
Hebrews 1:1-4

Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets, but 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. He 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, having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Please stand as you are able for the Sequence Hymn and the proclamation of the Gospel.



The Gospel John 1:1-14

Reader: The Holy Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has

come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

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

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

And 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.

Reader: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Please be seated.

#### The Sermon

The Rev. C. Davies Reed, Rector

Please stand as you are able for the Creed.

#### 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.

#### The Prayers of the People

Leader: For the Church on this great feast of Christmas, that we may be

uplifted in thanksgiving for the birth of our Savior, we pray:

People: O come, let us adore him.

Leader: That the peace of Christmas may radiate into the world, gently

influencing the hearts of world leaders and turning their thoughts

to the poor and the lowly, we pray:

People: O come, let us ado b re him.

Leader: That the comfort and healing power of Jesus may be present to all

God's children, especially Abby, Ann, Beryl, Bridgette, Charlie, Christy, Dennis, Ed, Frank, Gary, Glen, Gordon, Grant, Gretchen, Hannah, Jan, Jeanine, Jennifer, John, Julia and family, Julie, Lena Rose, Leslie, Mark, Megan, Meretha, Michael, The Rt.

Rev. Michael Curry, Molly, Myles, Nora Rose, Patty, Sergio,

Shannon, Sheila, Stephen, Steve, Steven, Thomas, Tim, Whitney, and Willow; we pray:

People: O come, let us adore him.

Leader: That Jesus may be at the heart of our family festivities, our gift giving, and every lovely custom we keep in God's honor, because in his birth

God has made every human joy God's own, we pray:

People: O come, let us adore him.

Leader: For those who keep a lonely watch on this night, and those who have no one to care for them, that they may also hear tidings of great joy in the name of Jesus, we pray:

People: O come, let us adore him.

Leader: For those we love but see no longer, that they may now behold their

Savior, unveiled in all his glory in heaven, we pray:

People: O come, let us adore him.

The people are invited to add their own prayers of intercession and thanksgiving.

Presider: God of all humanity, accept the prayers we offer in the name of your child Jesus in this holy season. As we welcome this mystery of your love, may we delight in our joy as children and heirs of your lyingdom. Glary to you for ever and ever. Amon

kingdom. Glory to you for ever and ever. Amen.

#### The Peace

Presider: The Peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: And also with you.

We invite you to share with others signs of Christ's Peace.

Please be seated for the offertory.

#### THE LITURGY OF THE TABLE

#### The Offertory

Shepherds Loud Their Praises Singing

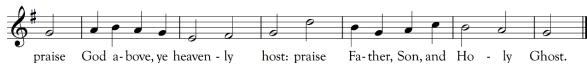
A. Rowley

Please stand as you are able for the Doxology.

#### The Doxology

Old 100<sup>th</sup>





#### The Great Thanksgiving

#### **Eucharistic Prayer A**

Presider: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you. Presider: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

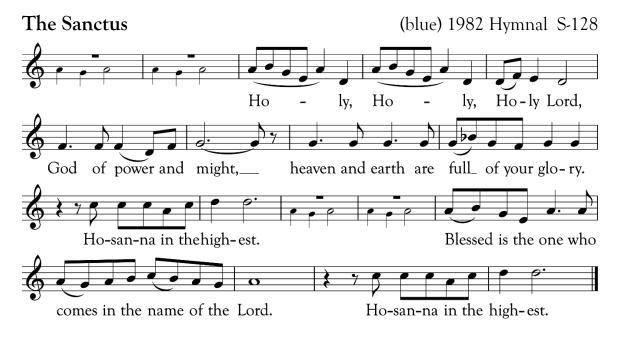
Presider: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give God thanks and praise.

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



Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself, and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, 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 we proclaim the mystery of faith:

#### Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ: By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **AMEN.** 

#### The Lord's Prayer

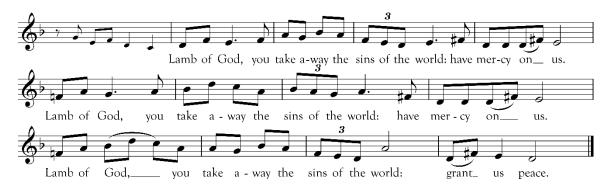
And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

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,
for ever and ever. Amen.

#### The Fraction Anthem

(blue) 1982 Hymnal S-163



The Gifts of God for the People of God. Holy Gifts for Holy People.

We invite all persons to receive Holy Communion. If you are unable to come forward to receive for any reason, inform an usher and Communion will be brought to you. If you prefer a Blessing instead of receiving Communion, please cross your hands over your chest at the rail.

#### The Prayer of Spiritual Reception

For those worshiping online.

*People*: In Union, dear Lord, with the faithful at every altar of your Church where your blessed Body and Blood are being offered, I desire to offer you praise and thanksgiving. I believe that you are truly present in the Holy Sacrament, and since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, I beseech you to come spiritually into my heart. I unite myself to you, and embrace you with all the affections of my soul. Let me never be separated from you. Let me live and die in your love. Amen.

#### A Communion Anthem

A Sound of Angels

C. Tye

In the Bleak Midwinter Cranham the bleak mid - win - ter. fros - ty wind made moan, Our God, heaven can - not hold earth sus - tain; An - gels and arch - an gels may have gath-ered there, What\_\_ I give him, am? can poor\_\_ as earth stood hard like as ron. wa - ter a stone: heaven and earth shall flee when he comes a - wav reign: to cher - u - bim and ser a-phim throng - ed the air; I would bring were a shep - herd, lamb: had fall - en. snow snow snow, snow, the bleak mid sta - ble place suf in win ficed ter ly but his mo-ther on her maid - en bliss, if would do were wise\_ man, my part; the bleak mid - win long\_ in ter, a go. the Lord God in - car Christ. nate, le sus\_ wor-shiped the be - lov ed kiss.

Please stand as you are able.

what

yet

#### The Post-Communion Prayer

can

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.

him –

give\_

my\_

heart.

give

Please share the light for your candle as you receive it.



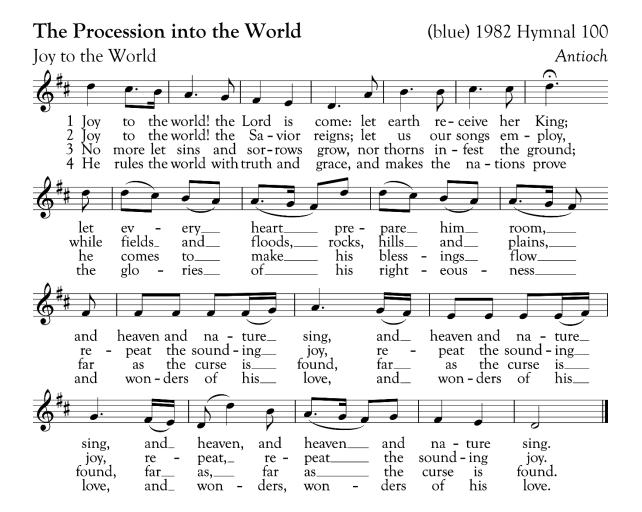
#### The Solemn Blessing

May Almighty God, who sent God's Son 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 holiness. **Amen.** 

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. Amen.

May God, who in the Word made flesh joined heaven to earth and earth to heaven, give you peace and favor. **Amen.** 

And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever. **Amen.** 



#### The Dismissal and Online Greeting

If you are worshiping in person, please turn towards the organ and wave to the camera to greet those worshipping online.

Presider: Let us go forth in the name of Christ. Alleluia, alleluia!

People: Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia!

#### The Postlude

La Crèche A. Guilmant

#### X X

#### When The Liturgy Is Over, The Service Begins

Preacher: The Rev. C. Davies Reed, Rector

Presider: The Rev. Joél Muñoz, Curate

Altar Guild: Anne Foster, Pat Guiney

Lectors: George Parker, Anne O'Leary

Acolytes: Mara Lusk, Annabel Lusk

Chalice Bearer: Thomas Sullivan, Jenni Smith

Music: Robert Bolyard, Music Director; The St. Francis Choir

Shannon Dillon, Flute

Ushers: Melissa and Mike Bibb

Greeter: Claire Bibb

Technical Direction: Rafa Reynal

Virtual Usher: Megan Olson

This service comes from:

The Book of Common Prayer; 1979
The Book of Occasional Services; 2003

The Hymnal; 1982

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#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

#### Church Office Winter Break

Merry Christmas! The church office will be closed December 25<sup>th</sup> through January 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2023. If you have an emergency, please call 317-873-4377 and follow the prompts for pastoral care. A priest will be in touch with you shortly.

#### Children and Youth in 2024

This new year we will have more exciting opportunities for our children and youth. Pick up a calendar on the table in the narthex!

#### **Annual Meeting**

Mark your calendars! The Annual Meeting of the church will be held on Sunday, February 11th following the 10:00am Holy Eucharist in the Parish Hall and online.

#### Art Project with Middle School Students

St. Francis is teaming up with the Boys and Girls Club to offer a special art class for Middle School students in February and March. Sign up for more information on our narthex table or contact us at info@stfranciszionsville.org.

#### Food Pantry Delivery Volunteers Needed

Volunteers are needed to help deliver nonperishable food donations to The Caring Center. This once-a-week opportunity involves picking up all items from St. Francis and driving them to Lebanon. Contact us to help.

#### Theology on Tap: Hope

Adults are invited to participate in our January Theology on Tap event on Wednesday, January 31st at 7:00 pm at North High Brewing at 75 N Main St, Zionsville, IN 46077. In January we will discuss Hope with The Rev. Frank Impicciche, Rector of St. Matthew's Episcopal Church.

#### CHRISTMAS FLOWERS

The flowers are given to the glory of God by:

Kathie Anderson and family in memory of Ric Anderson.

Jenni Smith in Memory of May and Joseph Revill, John and Jackie Revill, and Ida Leverett.

Lee Greaves in Thanksgiving for my grandchildren.

Kimberly Applegate and George Parker in gratefulness for our wonderful family.

Megan Olson in Thanksgiving for Sheila, Greg, and Sarah Olson, and in Memory of The Rev. and Mrs. C.K. Powell, and Ray and Carol Stewart.

The Unroe Family in Memory of Chris Unroe.

Patricia Greger in Memory of Steve Greger.

Phyllis Thomas in Thanksgiving for my family and friends, and in Memory of Robert D. Thomas and Suzanne Thomas Schoonover.

Denise Kearns-Vigil in memory and honor of my parents, Robert and Erna Kearns, and of my nephew, Christian Kearns, given by their daughter, Aunt, D. Kearns-Vigil. Celebrating their lives and the marriage of my daughter and her husband, Lisette and Robert Carr, given by Denise Kearns-Vigil.

The Fuhs family in memory of Douglas and Eleanor Naylor, Anthony and Anne Venci, Edward and Alice Fuhs, and Allene Hisch, and in honor of Joe Hisch.

Mike and Melissa Bibb in Thanksgiving for our family and friends.

Gordon Mallett in memory of Carole Mallett.

Elizabeth Davidson in Memory of Jerry J. Davidson, and in thanksgiving of my children, grandchildren, and great grandchildren and family.

Fran and Larry Paarlberg in Thanksgiving for "Fifi" Francs McClellan – Godfrey and in memory of loved ones past.

Eve Earley in Memory of Judge Bob Earley, and Robbie Earley.

David and Debbie Nearpass in Thanksgiving for Matthew and Colin Floyd.

Lele Frenzel Casalini in Memory of Otto N. Frenzel, III, Dominic Michael Casalini, Pop & Susan Wilson, Ott & Eleanor Frenzel, Elizabeth Johnson, and in Thanksgiving for Cynthia Wilson Ottaway, and the Casalini children and grandchildren.

Gary Gibson for Augustine, Robert, and Georgianna.

Meghan McConnell in Thanksgiving for the St. Francis Virtual Ushers, Megan Olson, Meg Hoke, Lesley MacKellar, and Paulette Feltus, who serve our online community.

The Rev. C. Davies Reed & Carol Rogers Reed, in honor of Baxter Cooper Rogers, James Weston Rogers, Drake Audsley Rogers, Caroline Cummings Mitchell, Alexandra Westbrook Mitchell, Daniel Cyrus Lynch, Brian August Lynch, Tyler Joseph Lynch, Clara Michelle Lynch, and Elise Mary Lynch.

#### The Prayer of Saint Francis of Assisi

Lord, make us instruments of your peace.

Where there is hatred, let us sow love;
where there is injury, pardon;
where there is discord, union;
where there is doubt, faith;
where there is despair, hope;
where there is darkness, light;
where there is sadness, joy.

Grant that we may not so much seek
to be consoled as to console;
to be understood as to understand;
to be loved as to love.
For it is in giving that we receive;
it is in pardoning that we are pardoned;
and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life.

Amen.

Anonymous, La Clochette, Paris, 1912