

# ST. MATTHIAS EPISCOPAL CHURCH

2025  
CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES  
5:00 PM & 7:00 PM

THE REVEREND JAMES M. DORN III, RECTOR

MRS. GINA MOBLEY, M.A., MUSIC MINISTRIES DIRECTOR

THE RIGHT REVEREND DR. JUSTIN S. HOLCOMB, BISHOP  
THE DIOCESE OF CENTRAL FLORIDA

ON THIS MOST HOLY OF NIGHTS, WE CELEBRATE THE BIRTH OF OUR SAVIOR, THE LORD OF LORDS AND KING OF KINGS. WE WELCOME YOU TO ST. MATTHIAS EPISCOPAL CHURCH AND HOPE THAT IF YOU ARE LOOKING FOR A CHURCH HOME, YOU WILL VISIT US AGAIN.

SUNDAY SERVICES 7:45 AM · 9:30 AM · 11:15 AM

574 WEST MONTROSE STREET · CLERMONT, FLORIDA 34711  
CHURCH OFFICES: 528 WEST MONTROSE STREET · CLERMONT, FLORIDA 34711  
352.394.3855 · [WWW.SAINTMATTHIASFL@GMAIL.COM](mailto:WWW.SAINTMATTHIASFL@GMAIL.COM) · <WWW.STMATTHIASFL.COM>

Thank you for remembering to turn off your cell phone.

Talk to God before Church. Listen to God during Church. Talk to each other after Church.

## WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

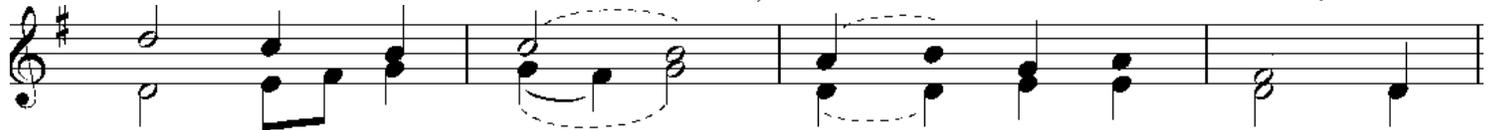
### PROCESSIONAL HYMN *O Come, all ye faithful (v. 1-3, 6)*



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,  
\*4 See how the shep - herds, sum - moned to his cra - dle,  
\*5 Child, for us sin - ners poor and in the man - ger,



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;  
4 leav - ing their flocks, draw nigh to gaze;  
5 we would em - brace thee, with love and awe;



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;  
4 we too will thith - er bend our joy - ful foot - steps;  
5 who would not love thee, lov - ing us so dear - ly?



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

### Verse 6

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

*Refrain*

## **STATION AT THE CRÈCHE**

**Celebrant** Let us pray. Most merciful and loving God, you have made this day holy by the incarnation of your Son Jesus Christ, and by the child-bearing of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Grant that we your people may enter with joy into the celebration of this day, and may also rejoice for ever as your adopted sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## **THE WORD OF GOD**

### **THE OPENING ACCLAMATION**

*The people standing, the Celebrant says*

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

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

### **THE COLLECT FOR PURITY**

*The Celebrant may say*

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.**

## THE GLORIA *Angels we have heard on high*



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 - cd knee Christ, the Lord, the new - born King.  
Ma - ry, Jo - seph, lend your aid, while we raise our hearts in love.

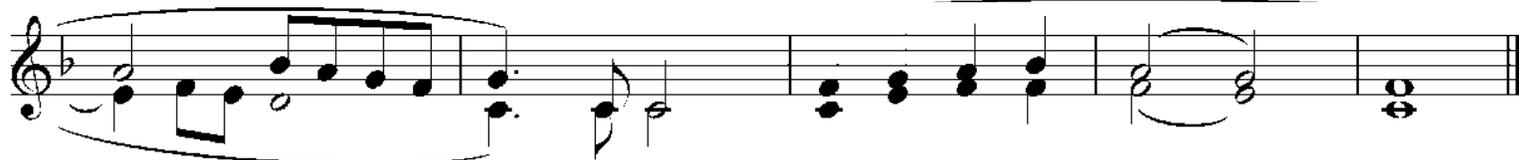
### *Refrain*



Glo - - - - - ri - a



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



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

## THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

**People And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

Almighty God, you have given your only-begotten Son to take our nature upon him, and to be born [this day] of a pure virgin: Grant that we, who have been born again and made your children by adoption and grace, may daily be renewed by your Holy Spirit; through our Lord Jesus Christ, to whom with you and the same Spirit be honor and glory, now and for ever. **Amen.**

**THE FIRST LESSON: Isaiah 9:2-7**

Reader      A Reading from the book of Isaiah.

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness on them light has shined. You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder. For the yoke of their burden, and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian. For all the boots of the tramping warriors and all the garments rolled in blood shall be burned as fuel for the fire. For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onward and forevermore. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

Reader      The Word of the Lord.

**People      Thanks be to God**

**THE PSALM (SAID IN UNISON): Psalm 96**

**Sing to the LORD a new song;  
sing to the LORD, all the whole earth.**

**Sing to the LORD and bless his Name;  
proclaim the good news of his salvation from day to day.**

**Declare his glory among the nations  
and his wonders among all peoples.**

**For great is the LORD and greatly to be praised;  
he is more to be feared than all gods.**

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

**Oh, the majesty and magnificence of his presence!  
Oh, the power and the splendor of his sanctuary!**

**Ascribe to the LORD, you families of the peoples;  
ascribe to the LORD honor and power.**

**Ascribe to the LORD the honor due his Name;  
bring offerings and come into his courts.**

**Worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness;  
let the whole earth tremble before him.**

**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."**

*Continues on next page*

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

**Then shall all the trees of the wood shout for joy  
before the LORD when he comes,  
when he comes to judge the earth.**

**He will judge the world with righteousness  
and the peoples with his truth.**

**THE SECOND LESSON: Titus 2:11-14**

Reader     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.

Reader     The Word of the Lord.

**People     Thanks be to God.**

# THE GOSPEL HYMN *O little town of Bethlehem*



1 O lit - tle town of Beth - le - hem, how still we see thee lie!  
2 For Christ is born of Ma - ry; and gath - ered all a - bove,  
3 How si - lent - ly, how si - lent - ly, the won - drous gift is given!  
\*4 Where child - ren pure and hap - py pray to the bless - ed Child,  
5 O ho - ly Child of Beth - le - hem, de - scend to us, we pray;



1 A - bove thy deep and dream - less sleep the si - lent stars go by;  
2 while mor - tals sleep, the an - gels keep their watch of won - dering love.  
3 So God im - parts to hu - man hearts the bless - ings of his heaven.  
4 where mis - er - y cries out to thee, Son of the mo - ther mild;  
5 cast out our sin and en - ter in, be born in us to - day.



1 yet in thy dark streets shin - eth the ev - er - last - ing Light;  
2 O morn - ing stars, to - geth - er pro - claim the ho - ly birth!  
3 No ear may hear his com - ing, but in this world of sin,  
4 where char - i - ty stands watch - ing and faith holds wide the door,  
5 We hear the Christ - mas an - gels the great glad tid - ings tell;



1 the hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee to - night.  
2 and prais - es sing to God the King, and peace to men on earth.  
3 where meek souls will re - ceive him, still the dear Christ en - ters in.  
4 the dark night wakes, the glo - ry breaks, and Christ - mas comes once more.  
5 O come to us, a - bide with us, our Lord Em - man - u - el!

## **THE GOSPEL:** Luke 2:1-14 (15-20)

**Celebrant** The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

**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.

**Celebrant** The Gospel of the Lord.

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

## **THE SERMON**

5:00 pm

7:00 pm

Children's Program, Sunday School

The Rev. James M. Dorn III

**THE NICENE CREED (SAID IN UNISON)**

**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** My sisters and brothers in the peace of God, all the gifts we shall give and receive in these days are but small tokens of the gift that shines forth in God's Word made flesh this night. From grateful hearts let us intercede for all who find themselves longing for this deepest, truest gift, saying: O Lord, Let your light shine.

*Silence*

That the peace proclaimed by angels in the shepherd's field might be realized on every field of war and on every street of violence, into the dark corners of the world, O Lord,

**People** **Let your light shine.**

*Silence*

**Leader** That the child born to us might find in our hearts a warm welcome by our openness to the needs of the homeless and the hungry, into the dark corners of the world, O Lord,

**People** **Let your light shine.**

*Silence*

**Leader** That in this time of gift-giving we might become more responsive to the abandoned, the despairing, and the mourning, into the dark corners of the world, O Lord,

**People** **Let your light shine.**

*Silence*

**Leader** That the rejoicing of this night might be a bond leading us to true communion of life and worship, into the dark corners of the world, O Lord,

**People** **Let your light shine.**

*Silence*

**Leader** That the joy and consolation of the Wonderful Counselor might enliven all who are struck down by disease and illness, into the dark corners of the world, O Lord,

**People** **Let your light shine.**

*Silence*

*The prayers of the congregation may be added silently or aloud.*

**Leader** That the blessed hope we celebrate this night might be the fulfillment of all who have gone before us in faith, into the dark corners of the world, O Lord,

**People** **Let your light shine.**

*Silence*

Celebrant God of darkness and silence, you have pierced the quiet of this night by the utterance of your Word made flesh. May our words of praise and petition be strong echoes of your Christmas Word, so that all might come to the peace you promise in Jesus, who is Lord and God this night and for ever. **Amen.**

We pray to you also for the forgiveness of our sins.

*Silence*

## **CONFESSION OF SIN**

*Celebrant and People*

**Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father; in your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone; and so uphold us by your Spirit that we may live and serve you in newness of life, to the honor and glory of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Celebrant 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**

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

**People And also with you.**

## **THE HOLY COMMUNION**

### **OFFERTORY SENTENCE**

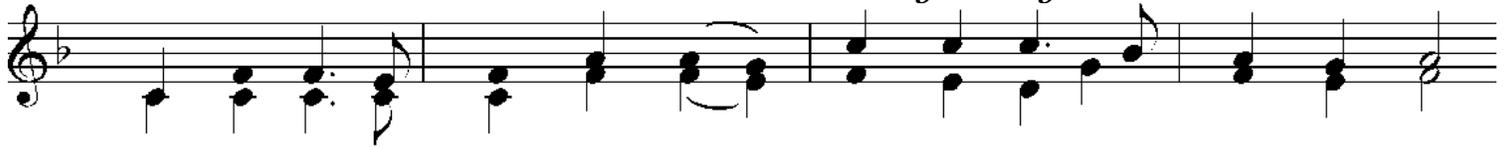
Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God.  
(*Ephesians 5:2*)

### **OFFERTORY ANTHEM**

*When I Kneel at the Manger Tonight*

Beall/Carter | The Singing Saints

## THE PRESENTATION HYMN *Hark! The herald angels sing*



1 Hark! the her - ald an - gels sing glo - ry to the new - born King!  
2 Christ, by high - est heaven a - dored; Christ, the ev - er - last - ing Lord;  
3 Mild he lays his glo - ry by, born that we no more may die,



Peace on earth and mer - cy mild, God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled!  
late in time be - hold him come, off - spring of the Vir - gin's womb.  
born to raise us from the earth, born to give us sec - ond birth.



Joy - ful, all ye na - tions, rise, join the tri - umph of the skies;  
Veiled in flesh the God - head see; hail the in - car - nate De - i - ty.  
Risen with heal - ing in his wings, light and life to all he brings,



with the an - gel - ic host pro - claim Christ is born in Beth - le - hem!  
Pleased as man with us to dwell; Je - sus, our Em - man - u - el!  
hail, the Sun of Right - eous - ness! hail, the heaven - born Prince of Peace!



Hark! the her - ald an - gels sing glo - ry to the new - born King!

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING: EUCHARISTIC PRAYER B

*The people remain standing. The Celebrant, whether bishop or priest, faces them and sings or says*

**Celebrant** The Lord be with you.

**People** And also with you.

**Celebrant** Lift up your hearts.

**People** We lift them to the Lord.

**Celebrant** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**People** It is right to give him thanks and praise.

*Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds*

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 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.

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:

*Celebrant and People*

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

*The people stand or kneel.*

*Then the Celebrant continues*

We give thanks to you, O God,  
for the goodness and love  
which you have made known to us in creation;  
in the calling of Israel to be your people;  
in your Word spoken through the prophets;  
and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son.  
For in these last days  
you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary,  
to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world.  
In him, you have delivered us from evil,  
and made us worthy to stand before you.  
In him, you have brought us out of error into truth,  
out of sin into righteousness,  
out of death into life.

*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.*

On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

*Celebrant and People*

**We remember his death,  
We proclaim his resurrection,  
We await his coming in glory;**

*The Celebrant continues*

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine. We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit.

In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **Amen.**

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

*People and Celebrant*

**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 BREAKING OF THE BREAD

*The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread.*

*A period of silence is kept.*

*Then may be sung or said*

Celebrant *Alleluia.* Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

People **Therefore let us keep the feast. *Alleluia.***

*Facing the people, the Celebrant says the following Invitation*

The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

*The ministers receive the Sacrament in both kinds, and then immediately deliver it to the people.*

***Tonight we will receive Holy Communion by Intinction. Receiving of the consecrated bread and wine of the eucharist at the same time. You may either dip the communion wafer in the wine yourself or have the Eucharistic Minister dip the wafer in the wine and place the wafer on your tongue. We will not be drinking from the common cup.***

*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.*]

**As you leave from receiving communion,  
please receive a candle and light it until after we sing *Silent Night.***

# COMMUNION HYMN *What child is this, who, laid to rest*

*Unison or harmony*



1 What child is this, who, laid to rest, on  
2 Why lies he in such mean es - tate where  
3 So bring him in - cense, gold, and myrrh, come,



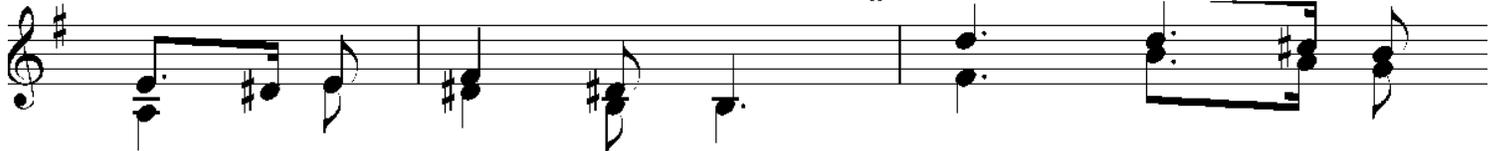
Ma - ry's lap is sleep - ing? Whom an - gels greet with  
ox and ass are feed - ing? Good Chris - tian, fear: for  
peas - ant, king, to own him; the King of kings sal -



an - thems sweet, while shep - herds watch are keep - ing?  
sin - ners here the si - lent Word is plead - ing.  
va - tion brings, let lov - ing hearts en - throne him.



This, this is Christ the King, whom shep - herds

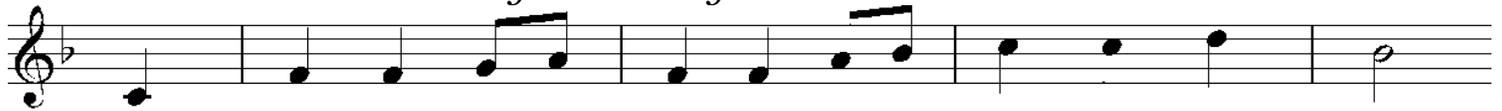


guard and an - gels sing; haste, haste to



bring him laud, the babe, the son of Ma - ry.

COMMUNION HYMN *Away in a manger*



1 A - way in a man - ger, no crib for his bed,  
2 The cat - tle are low - ing, the ba - by a - wakes,  
\*3 Be near me, Lord Je - sus; I ask thee to stay



the lit - tle Lord Je - sus laid down his sweet head.  
but lit - tle Lord Je - sus no cry - ing he makes.  
close by me for ev - er, and love me I pray.



The stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay,  
I love thee, Lord Je - sus! Look down from the sky,  
Bless all the dear chil - dren in thy ten - der care,



the lit - tle Lord Je - sus a - sleep on the hay.  
and stay by my side un - til morn - ing is nigh.  
and fit us for hea - ven to live with thee there.

## COMMUNION HYMN *Go tell it on the mountain*



Go tell it on the moun - tain, o - ver the hills and  
ev - ery - where; go tell it on the moun - tain, that  
Je - sus Christ is born!

1 While shep - herds kept their  
2 The shep - herds feared and  
3 Down in a low - ly  
watch - ing o'er si - lent flocks by night, be -  
trem - bled when lo! a - bove the earth rang  
man - ger the hum - ble Christ was born, and  
hold, through - out the hea - vens there shone a ho - ly light.  
out the an - gel cho - rus that hailed our Sa - vior's birth.  
God sent us sal - va - tion that bless - ed Christ - mas morn.

## THE POST COMMUNION PRAYER

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.**

# HYMN OF ADORATION *Silent Night*

*The lights in the Church are dimmed and candles are lit for the singing of Silent Night.*

*During Silent Night the people may kneel as they are able.*



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.

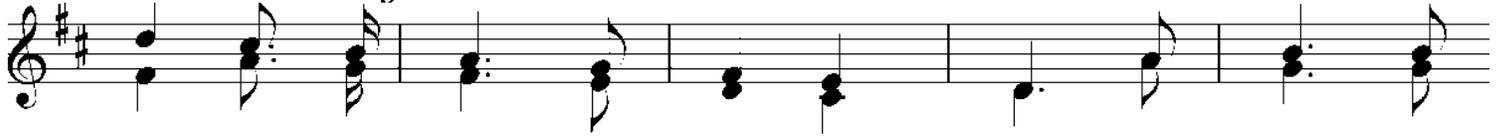
***At the end of Silent Night, you may extinguish your candle.***

## THE BLESSING OF THE PEOPLE

*The Celebrant says*

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.**

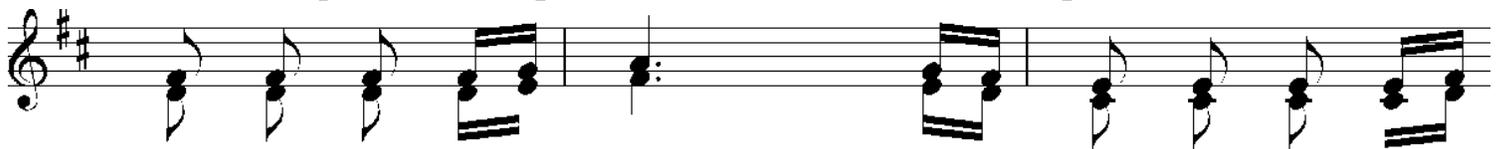
## CLOSING HYMN *Joy to the world! The Lord is come*



1 Joy to the world! the Lord is come: let earth re -  
2 Joy to the world! the Sa - vior reigns; let us our  
\*3 No more let sins and sor - rows grow, nor thorns in -  
4 He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the



ceive her King; let ev - ery heart pre - pare him room, and  
songs em - ploy, while fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains, re -  
fest the ground; he comes to make his bless - ings flow far  
na - tions prove the glo - ries of his right - cous - ness, and



heaven and na - ture sing, and heaven and na - ture  
peat the sound - ing joy, re - peat the sound - ing  
as the curse is found, far as the curse is  
won - ders of his love, and won - ders of his



sing, and heaven, and heaven and na - ture sing.  
joy, re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.  
found, far as, far as the curse is found.  
love, and won - ders, won - ders of his love.

## THE DISMISSAL

**Celebrant** *Alleluia. Alleluia.* Let us go forth in the name of the newborn Christ.

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