

The Church of Christ The King

ANGLICAN DIOCESE OF BARBADOS

ROCK DUNDO PARK, ST. MICHAEL BB12006

Archbishop of the Province of the West Indies & Bishop of Barbados

The Most Rev. Dr. The Hon. John W. D. Holder

RECTOR *The Rev. Fr. Robert Luther C. Johnson*

Website: www.christthekingbb.org or www.christthekingbb.com



**Wishing you a Blessed
Christ The King Courtyard Christmas**

Thursday, December 25, 2014

Christmas Day

A Strong Church In Testing Times

To experience and share God's reconciling love

THE CHURCH OF CHRIST THE KING

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WELCOME TO EVERYONE

Please take a moment to TURN OFF all cell phones as the signal interferes with our sound system.

Thank you.

Our Head Usher for today is Mrs. Marcia Burton.

Worship Tips & Gentle Reminders

Please be alert to visitors who sit next to you that are without Prayer books or Hymnbooks. Please allow them to use your books or call an usher to have the books brought to them. If they are unfamiliar with the Liturgy kindly guide them through it or show them how to use the bulletin.

CHRISTMAS MESSAGE TO THE NATION - December 2014



*The Most Rev'd & Dr.
The Hon. John Holder
Bishop of Barbados
Archbishop of the West
Indies*

Each year we are caught up in the festivities of Christmas, and make every effort to ensure that we enjoy the day with friends and family. We hear the Christmas story again in the Gospel reading, and reflect on God's great act of salvation, the sending of his son Jesus as our Lord and Saviour.

Christmas however, is more than an account of a past event. It is a reflection on life, built around the persons in the story. We meet them in conditions that are familiar to us. There is the vulnerability of the young pregnant Mary for whom there is no room in the inn, We read of the ready acceptance of the message of the Good News by the shepherds, in what could have been for them, some contrasting trying times, and we are told about the doubts, and the later compliance of Joseph, which was an act of faith. All this speaks to the real issues of life. The plight of young Mary leads us to think of the many young, and vulnerable in our community, and in the world, for whom the circumstances of life can create some seemingly insurmountable challenges.

The message of Christmas to these young persons is one of hope. It is a message of assurance that reminds us that God can work with us and for us and empower us to deal with our challenges.

We can all be in situations in life, where the immediate answer may not be the inn, that is, what we would like, or what we think we deserve. Like Mary, we may have to settle for something less, knowing that God is with us, and so we can hope for better times. In such circumstances, we should not give up and abandon our dream for the inn, that better place, that better condition that will allow us to make far better use of our skills. As in the case of Mary, working to fulfill our dream may call for the sacrifice of a little comfort today, all because, by so doing we are laying the foundation for a better future, for a better tomorrow.

The shepherds also teach us a great lesson about life, especially about the Christian life. They stepped out in faith to meet the one, who is the hope of the world. They travelled through the dark to meet the light. They did not sit and wait to experience the promise, but travelled in search of the Good News.

There can hardly be a better lesson for us at this time here in Barbados. Like the shepherds, there are many persons who are longing for the light to point the way to better times. In this context, let us remember the message of Christmas that says to us there can be light, there can be hope. But Christmas also reminds us, that there is no magic to put all things right in a hurry. We may have to travel the road, the longer, less comfortable road which Mary and Joseph travelled in order to experience better times. On this road we may encounter Herod who is all taken up with his own security and misses out on the larger picture of the salvation of the world. We also meet Joseph with his doubts and fears who needs that special attention, that extra word to be assured that all is not lost and there can be and will be better times.

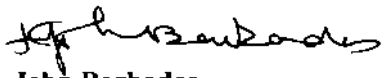
And above it all stands God, our God of hope who guides us through all the challenges of life. He can help us to be like the shepherds, who were ready to take the next step in faith leaving the darkness behind and travelling to the light.

May our God of hope grant us at this Christmas time the courage of the shepherds. May he strengthen our faith in his power and promise when we are overwhelmed with doubt like Joseph. May he fill us with the depth of the vision of Mary for whom the immediate challenge; the relegation to the stables, was seen in the light of the greater picture of God's saving grace through Jesus her son.

We proclaim at this Christmas time a God who never settles for the stables, but empowers us to move on to where we experience his goodness in greater abundance, and proclaim with the shepherds "*Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased!*"

May God grant you a blessed Christmas and a New Year filled with hope.

Your friend and Bishop



+ **John Barbados**

Fear Not God will be with you!

ORDER OF SERVICE

Leader: The Lord be with you

All: And also with you

Leader: We welcome you all to this Eucharist of praise and thanksgiving as we celebrate the birth of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. Let us now bow our heads and hearts before Almighty God in the words of our preparation.

Preparation: (*No applause please*)

Away in a manger

*Away in a manger, no crib for a bed,
the little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet
head;
the stars in the bright sky looked down where
he lay,
the little Lord Jesus, asleep in the hay.*

*The cattle are lowing, the baby awakes,
but little Lord Jesus, no crying he makes;*

*I love thee, Lord Jesus! Look down from the
sky,
and stay by my cradle till morning is nigh.*

*Be near me, Lord Jesus, I ask thee to stay
close by me for ever and love me, I pray;
bless all the dear children in thy tender care,
and fit us for heaven to live with thee there.*

Let us pray:

Collect for Purity:

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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**

Opening Prayer:

Voluntary: Choir & Altar Party Enter

Blessing of the Crib:

The President and Altar Party proceed to the Manger Scene. The figure of the Christ Child is carried by one of the children.

Blessing of the Crib

The Priest blesses the Crib with Holy Water and says:

Dear friends, we are met together to celebrate the birth of Jesus; let us pray that God will bless this Crib, a reminder of that first Christmas morning, when Christ, the Saviour of the World was born in humble circumstances. Let us pray, too, that all who worship the baby Jesus, born of the Virgin Mary, may come to share his life in glory.

The Lector says:

Hear what the prophet Isaiah says: the Lord himself will give you a sign. It is this: a young woman who is with child will soon have a son and will name him Emmanuel This name means 'God With Us'.

All: Thanks be to God.

Let us pray: (All Say)

God our Father, on this day your son Jesus Christ was born of the Virgin Mary for us and for our salvation. Bless this Crib that we have prepared to celebrate this Holy Birth. May all who see it be strengthened in faith, and receive the fullness of the life that He came to bring; for with the Father and the Holy Spirit, He is alive and reigns for ever and ever. Amen.

Opening Hymn:

CH 73

1. Joy to the world, The Lord is come;
let earth receive her King;
let every heart prepare him room,
and heaven and nature sing,
and heaven and nature sing,
and heaven, and heaven, and nature sing.

2. Joy to the world, the Saviour reigns;
let us our songs employ:
while fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains
repeat the sounding joy,
repeat the sounding joy,
repeat, repeat, the sounding joy.
3. No more let sins and sorrows grow,
nor thorns infest the ground:
he comes to make his blessings flow
far as the curse is found,
far as the curse is found,
far as, far as the curse is found.
4. He rules the world with truth and grace,
and makes the nations prove
the glories of his righteousness
and wonders of his love,
and wonders of His love,
and wonders, and wonders, of his love.

Opening Sentences:

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Christmas

But when the fullness of time had come, God sent His son, born of a woman, born under the law, so that we might receive adoption as children. Alleluia. *Galatians 4: 4-5*

or

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light: those who dwell in the land of deep darkness, on them has the light shone. *Isaiah 9:2*

or

I bring you news of great joy, a joy to be shared by the whole people: today in the town of David a Saviour has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord. *Luke 2:10*

or

To us a child is born, to us a son is given: and his name will be called the Prince of Peace.
Isaiah 9:6

Acclamation & Prayer of Intent:

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PRESIDENT:

Blessed be God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Alleluia! Alleluia!

ALL

And blessed be His Kingdom, now and forever. Amen.

Alleluia! Alleluia!

ALL

Blessed Lord and Father, we have assembled in your name and in fellowship with one another. Enable us by your grace to offer the sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving; to proclaim and respond to your holy word. Teach us to pray for your world and your Church. Grant that we, confessing our sins, may worthily offer to you our souls and bodies as a living sacrifice and eat and drink of your spiritual food in this Holy Sacrament. Amen.

The Kyries & Gloria:

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THE KYRIES

Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS

**Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to his people on earth.**

**Lord God, heavenly King,
almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.**

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,

**Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:
receive our prayer.**

**For you alone are the Holy One;
you alone are the Lord;
you alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

THE COLLECT: Christmas - Pg 158 BCP

O God, you make us glad by the yearly festival of the birth of your only Son Jesus Christ: Grant that we, who joyfully receive him as our Redeemer, may with sure confidence behold him when he comes to be our Judge; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

MINISTRY OF THE WORD

1st Lesson: Isaiah 62:6-7, 10-12

Miss Alyssa Harewood

Upon your walls, O Jerusalem, I have posted sentinels; all day and all night they shall never be silent. You who remind the LORD, take no rest,⁷ and give him no rest until he

establishes Jerusalem and makes it renowned throughout the earth. ¹⁰ Go through, go through the gates, prepare the way for the people; build up, build up the highway, clear it of stones, lift up an ensign over the peoples. ¹¹ The LORD has proclaimed to the end of the earth: Say to daughter Zion, “See, your salvation comes; his reward is with him, and his recompense before him.” ¹² They shall be called, “The Holy People, The Redeemed of the LORD”; and you shall be called, “Sought Out, A City Not Forsaken.”

This is the word of the Lord

ALL : Thanks be to God

Psalm: 97

Page 594 (BCP)

1. The LORD is King; let the earth rejoice; * let the multitude of the isles be glad.
2. Clouds and darkness are round about him, * righteousness and justice are the foundations of his throne.
3. A fire goes before him * and burns up his enemies on every side.
4. His lightnings light up the world; * the earth sees it and is afraid.
5. The mountains melt like wax at the presence of the LORD, * at the presence of the Lord of the whole earth.
6. The heavens declare his righteousness, * and all the peoples see his glory.
7. Confounded be all who worship carved images and delight in false gods! * Bow down before him, all you gods.
8. Zion hears and is glad, and the cities of Judah rejoice, * because of your judgments, O LORD.
9. For you are the LORD, most high over all the earth; * you are exalted far above all gods.
10. The LORD loves those who hate evil; he preserves the lives of his saints and delivers them from the hand of the wicked.
11. Light has sprung up for the righteous, * and joyful gladness for those who are truehearted.
12. Rejoice in the LORD, you righteous, * and give thanks to his holy Name.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son:
and to the Holy Spirit
As it was in the beginning is now
and ever shall be, world without end....**Amen**

2nd Lesson: Titus 3:4-7

Ms. Lisa Gaskin

But when the goodness and loving-kindness of God our Saviour appeared, ⁵he saved us, not because of any works of righteousness that we had done, but according to his mercy, through the water of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit. ⁶This Spirit he poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Saviour, ⁷so that, having been justified by his grace, we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life.

This is the word of the Lord

ALL : Thanks be to God

Gradual Hymn:

CH 77

1. O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant,
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;
come and behold him, born the King of angels:

Refrain:

*O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him,
Christ the Lord.*

2. God of God, Light of Light,
lo, he abhors not the virgin's womb;
very God, begotten, not created:

Refrain

3. Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,
sing all ye citizens of heaven above:
'Glory to God in the highest.'

Refrain

The Gospel:

Luke 2:1-14, (15-20)

PRIEST: The Lord be with you

ALL: **And also with you**

PRIEST: The Holy Gospel according to Luke Chapter 2,
beginning to read at the 1st verse

ALL : **Glory to Christ our Saviour**

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. ²This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. ³All went to their own towns to be registered. ⁴Joseph 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. ⁵He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. ⁶While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. ⁷And 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. ⁸In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. ⁹Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. ¹⁰But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: ¹¹to you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, who is the Messiah, the Lord. ¹²This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.” ¹³And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, ¹⁴“Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favours!” ¹⁵When 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.” ¹⁶So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. ¹⁷When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; ¹⁸and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. ¹⁹But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. ²⁰The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

PRIEST :The Gospel of Christ

ALL: Praise to Christ our Lord

4. Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning;
Jesu, to thee be glory given;
Word of the Father now in flesh appearing:

Refrain

THE SERMON

Reflection:

Silent Night

*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,
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!
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.
Jesus Lord, at Thy birth*

The Nicene Creed

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**We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is seen or 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,
one in 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 was born of the Virgin Mary,
and became man.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered, died and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in fulfilment of 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.
With the Father and the Son
he is worshipped 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 Bidding Prayer:

Fr. Jay

The Intercessions:

Eucharistic Minister

PRESIDENT

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just, and will forgive our sins, and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

A period of silence shall be kept.

PRESIDENT:

Let us therefore confess our sins.

FORM A

ALL:

Almighty God, our Heavenly Father, we have sinned against you and one another, in thought, word and deed, and in what we have left undone. We are sorry and repent of all our sins. For your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ's sake, forgive us all that is past, and grant that we may serve you in newness of life to the glory of your Name. *Amen*

FORM B

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 neighbours as ourselves; we have not loved ourselves as we ought. 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.*

PRESIDENT

Almighty God, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and keep you in life eternal; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

ALL: **Amen.**

THE GREETING OF PEACE

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One of the following forms shall be used:

FORM A

PRESIDENT

We are the body of Christ. By the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body. and have all been made to drink of the one Spirit.

ALL

Let us then pursue the things that make for peace and build up the common life.

Form B

PRESIDENT

If you are offering your gift at the altar, and there remember that your brother has something against you,

ALL

Leave your gift there before the altar and go; first be reconciled to your brother, and then come and offer your gift.

Form C

PRESIDENT

The Kingdom of God is justice, peace, and joy, inspired by the Holy Spirit.

ALL

They who thus serve Christ are acceptable to God and approved by others.

The President shall then greet the congregation.

PRESIDENT

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

ALL And also with you.

The President and people shall greet one another in the name of the Lord.

Peace Song

There is a sweet, sweet spirit,

There's a sweet, sweet Spirit in this place
And I know that it's the Spirit of the Lord
There are sweet expressions on each face
And I know they feel the presence of the Lord

And for these blessings
We lift our hearts in praise
Without a doubt we know
That we'll have been revived
When we shall leave this place

*Sweet Holy Spirit... sweet heavenly dove...
Stay right here with us
Filling us with Your love*

The Offertory Hymn:

CH 79

1. O Christ, Redeemer of our race,
thou brightness of the Father's face,
of him, and with him ever one,
ere times and seasons had begun;
2. thou that art very Light of light,
unfailing hope in sin's dark night,
hear thou the prayers thy people pray,
the wide world o'er, this blessed day.
4. Remember, Lord of life and grace,
how once, to save a ruined race,
thou didst our very flesh assume
in Mary's undefiled womb.
5. Today, as year by year its light
sheds o'er the world a radiance bright,
one precious truth is echoed on,
'tis thou hast saved us, thou alone.

5. Thou from the Father's throne didst come
to call his banished children home;
and heaven, and earth, and sea, and shore
his love who sent thee here adore.

6. And gladsome too are we today,
whose guilt thy blood has washed away;
redeemed the new-made song we sing;
it is the birthday of our King.

THE EUCHARIST

The Offertory Prayer:

Page 126

PRESIDENT AND PEOPLE,

Father, we offer to you these gifts which you have given us; this bread, this wine, this money. With them we offer ourselves, our lives, and our work, to become through your Holy Spirit a reasonable, holy, and lively sacrifice. As this bread and wine become the Body and Blood of Christ, so may we and all your people become channels of your love; through the same Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Offertory Hymn:

CH 79(Final verse)

7. O Lord, the virgin-born, to thee
eternal praise and glory be,
whom with the Father we adore
and Holy Ghost for evermore. .

Sursum Corda: (The Lord be with you)

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PRESIDENT
ALL

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

PRESIDENT Lift up your hearts.
ALL **We lift them up to the Lord.**

PRESIDENT Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
ALL **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

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

The Proper Preface: (CHRISTMAS)

Page 127

Because you sent your beloved Son to redeem us from sin and death, and to make us heirs in him of everlasting life; that when he shall come again in power and great triumph to judge the world, we may without shame or fear rejoice to behold his appearing.

Sanctus: (Holy, Holy, Holy)

Page 131

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven, who forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

ALL
**Holy, holy, holy, Lord,
God of power and might;
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes
in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest!**

The Eucharistic Prayer B:

Page 135

PRESIDENT

Holy and gracious Father,
all creation rightly gives you praise.
All life, all holiness, comes from you
through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord,
whom you sent to share our human nature,
to live and die as one of us,
to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

We therefore bring you these gifts,
and we ask you to make them holy
by the power of your Spirit,
that they may become the Body and Blood of your Son,
our Saviour Jesus Christ,
who offered Himself in obedience to your will,
the Perfect Sacrifice for all mankind.

On the night he was betrayed, he took bread,
and when he had given thanks to you,
He broke it and gave it to his disciples and said:
"Take this and eat it:
"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.
"Do this, whenever you drink it,

"For the remembrance of me."

One of the following Acclamations shall be said:

ALL

**When we eat this Bread and drink this Cup, we
proclaim the death of Christ until he comes again.**

or

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

or

Christ Jesus is Lord.

He has set us free from the law of sin and death:

In his name alone is our salvation.

PRESIDENT

Father, calling to mind the death your Son
endured for our salvation;

His Glorious Resurrection and Ascension;

His continual intercession for us in heaven;

and looking for His coming again in glory,

we offer you, in thanksgiving,

this holy and life-giving sacrifice.

Look with favour on your Church's offering,
and grant that we who eat and drink these holy gifts
may be filled with your Holy Spirit

and become one body in Christ,
and serve you in unity, constancy and peace.

May He make us a perpetual offering to you
and enable us, in communion with
blessed Mary and the whole company of heaven,
to share in the inheritance of your saints.

With Him, and in Him, and through Him,
by the power of the Holy Spirit,
we worship you, Father Almighty,
with all who stand before you in earth and heaven
in songs of everlasting praise:

ALL

**Blessing and honour and glory and power
be yours for ever and ever. Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer:

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PRESIDENT

As our Saviour has taught us, so we pray:

ALL

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your Name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.**

**Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours
now and for ever. Amen.**

The Breaking of the Bread:

Page 145

PRESIDENT

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.

ALL

Though we are many, we are one body, because we all share in one bread.

Or

PRESIDENT

God of promise, You have prepared a Banquet for us.

ALL

Happy are those who are called to the supper of the Lamb.

Or

PRESIDENT

This is the true bread which comes from heaven.

ALL

Whoever eats this bread will live forever.

The Agnus Dei: (Lamb of God)

Page 147

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world:
grant us peace.**

Invitation to Communion:

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Form A

PRESIDENT

My brothers and sisters in Christ, draw near and receive His Body which He gave for you, and His Blood, which He shed for you. Remember that He died for you, and feed on Him in your hearts by faith with thanksgiving.

ALL

Grant gracious Lord, that we may so eat the flesh of your dear Son, Jesus Christ and drink His blood, that we may evermore dwell in Him and He in us. Amen.

Form B

PRESIDENT

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

ALL

Our souls will feast and be satisfied, and we will sing glad songs of praise to Him.

Form C

PRESIDENT

Draw near and receive the Body and blood of our Saviour Jesus Christ with faith and thanksgiving.

ALL

We do not presume to come to this your table, most merciful Father, trusting in our own righteousness, but only in your boundless mercy. We are not even worthy to gather up the crumbs under your table. But you are the Lord ever the same, ever merciful. Grant therefore Lord of grace and love that we may so eat the flesh of your dear Son Jesus Christ and drink his blood that with bodies and souls made clean from every stain of sin we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us.

The Administration of Communion:

During the singing of the Communion Hymns, we invite to the Lord's Table all those persons who are communicant members in this church and in their respective churches. Please remember to place your arms across your chest if you are taking communion by intinction, that is, by the Priest dipping the bread into the wine.

Communion Hymn: CH 82

1. O little town of Bethlehem,
how still we see thee lie!
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep
the silent stars go by:
yet in thy dark streets shineth
the everlasting Light;
the hopes and fears of all the years
are met in thee tonight.
2. For Christ is born of Mary;
and, gathered all above,

while mortals sleep, the angels keep
their watch of wondering love.
O morning stars, together
proclaim the holy birth,
and praises sing to God the King,
and peace to men on earth.

3. How silently, how silently,
the wondrous gift is given!
So God imparts to human hearts
the blessings of his heaven.
No ear may hear his coming;
but in this world of sin,
where meek souls will receive him, still
the dear Christ enters in.
4. O holy Child of Bethlehem,
descend to us, we pray;
cast out our sin, and enter in:
be born in us to-day.
We hear the Christmas angels
the great glad tidings tell:
O come to us, abide with us,
our Lord Emmanuel.

Communion Hymn: CH 81

1. O come, Redeemer of mankind, appear,
thee with full hearts the Virgin-born we greet;
let every age with rapt amazement hear
that wondrous birth which for our God is meet.
2. Not by the will of man, or mortal seed,
but by the Spirit's breathed mysterious grace
the Word of God became our flesh indeed,
and grew a tender plant of human race.

3. Lo! Mary's virgin womb its burthen bears;
nor less abides her virgin purity;
in the King's glory see our nature shares;
here in his temple God vouchsafes to be.
4. From His bright chamber, virtue's holy shrine,
the royal Bridegroom cometh to the day;
of twofold substance, human and divine,
as giant swift, rejoicing on his way.
5. Forth from His Father to the world he goes,
back to the Father's face his way regains,
far down to souls beneath his glory shows,
again at God's right hand victorious reigns.
6. With the Eternal Father equal, thou
girt with our flesh dost triumph evermore,
strengthening our feeble bodies here below
with endless grace from thine own living store.
7. How doth thy lowly manger radiant shine!
On the sweet breath of night new splendor grows;
so may our spirits glow with faith Divine,
where no dark cloud of sin shall interpose.
8. All praise and glory to the Father be,
all praise and glory to his only son,
all praise and glory, Holy Ghost, to thee,
both now, and while eternal ages run.

Communion Hymn: CH 91

1. While shepherds watched their flocks by night,
all seated on the ground,
the angel of the Lord came down,
and glory shone around.

2. 'Fear not,' said he (for mighty dread
had seized their troubled mind);
'Glad tidings of great joy I bring
to you and all mankind.
3. 'To you in David's town this day
is born of David's line
a Saviour, who is Christ the Lord;
and this shall be the sign:
4. 'The heavenly Babe you there shall find
to human view displayed,
all meanly wrapped in swathing bands,
and in a manger laid.'
4. Thus spake the seraph; and forthwith
appeared a shining throng
of angels praising God, who thus
addressed their joyful song:
5. 'All glory be to God on high,
and to the earth be peace;
good will henceforth from heaven to men
begin and never cease.'

During the singing of the next hymn, all children who are not confirmed are invited to the Altar for a Blessing.

Hymn for the Blessing & Recommitment:

CH 60

1. Angels, from the realms of glory,
wing your flight o'er all the earth;
ye who sang creation's story,
now proclaim Messiah's birth:

Refrain (with IRIS);

*come and worship Christ the newborn King,
come and worship, worship Christ the newborn King.*

Or Gloria in excelsis Deo, Gloria in excelsis Deo.

Refrain (with REGENT SQUARE):
come and worship, come and worship,
worship Christ, the new born King.

2. Shepherds, in the field abiding,
watching o'er your flocks by night,
God with man is now residing,
yonder shines the infant Light:

Refrain

3. Sages, leave your contemplations;
brighter visions beam afar;
seek the great Desire of Nations;
ye have seen his natal star:

Refrain

4. Saints before the altar bending,
watching long in hope and fear,
suddenly the Lord, descending,
in the temple shall appear.

Refrain

5. Though an infant now we view him,
he shall fill his Father's throne,
gather all the nations to him;
every knee shall then bow down:

Refrain

Post Communion Prayer:

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ALL

**Almighty Father,
we thank you for feeding us
with the Body and Blood
of your Son Jesus Christ.
May we who share His Body
live His risen life; we who drink His cup
bring life to others;
we upon whom your Spirit shines give light to the world.
Help us to continue in faithful witness to your Word,
so we and all your children shall be free,
and the whole earth live to praise your Name,
through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Or

**Eternal God and Heavenly Father,
we thank you for feeding us
with the Body and Blood of your Son Jesus Christ.
Send us now into the world in peace,
and grant us strength and courage
to love and serve you and all persons in you,
with gladness and singleness of heart,
through your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

Or

**Almighty and everliving God,
we thank you for feeding us
with the spiritual food
of the most precious Body and Blood
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ;
and for assuring us in these holy mysteries
that we are living members
of the Body of your Son,**

and heirs of your eternal kingdom.

**And now, Father, send us out
to do the work you have given us to do,
to love and serve you as faithful witnesses
of Christ our Lord.**

**To Him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit,
be honour and glory, now and for ever. Amen**

Final Blessing (CHRISTMAS)

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Christmas

Christ, who by His incarnation gathered into one, all 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.

ALL Amen.

Additional Notices and Announcements:

Hymn of Eucharistic Thanksgiving:

CH 68

1. Hark! The herald-angels sing
glory to the new-born King,
peace on earth, and mercy mild,
God and sinners reconciled.
Joyful, all ye nations, rise,
join the triumph of the skies;
with the angelic host proclaim,
'Christ is born in Bethlehem.'

Refrain:

*Hark! the herald-angels sing
Glory to the new-born King.*

2. Christ, by highest heaven adored,
Christ, the everlasting Lord,
late in time behold him come,
offspring of a Virgin's womb.
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see!
Hail, the incarnate Deity!
Pleased as Man with man to dwell,
Jesus, our Emmanuel.

Refrain

*Hark! the herald-angels sing
Glory to the new-born King.*

3. Hail, the heaven-born Prince of peace!
Hail, the Sun of Righteousness!
Light and life to all He brings,
risen with healing in his wings.
Mild he lays his glory by,
Born that man no more may die,
Born to raise the sons of earth,
Born to give them second birth.

Refrain

DISMISSAL AND BENEDICTION:

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

*Glad tidings we bring of Jesus our King
We wish you a Merry Christmas
and a Happy New Year!*

*If you were blessed and enjoyed our service
Tell and bring others
Help them experience God's reconciling
Love for themselves and then share it with others.*

Have a Blessed Christmas!

SUNDAY, December 28, 2014

FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS - YEAR B

8:00 a.m. - Sung Eucharist & Sermon 10:30 a.m. - Sunday School

READINGS: Isaiah 61: 10-62: 3 / Psalm 147 / Galatians 3: 23-25, 4: 4-7

Gospel: John 1: 1-18

A Prayer for Christmas

God grant you the light of Christmas, which is faith;

The warmth of Christmas, which is love;

The belief of Christmas, which is truth;

The all of Christmas, which is Christ.

Wilda English

Merry Christmas to one and all!

