



St. Dunstan's Episcopal Church

The Nativity of our Lord: Christmas Day

December 25, 2020

The Holy Eucharist

STREAMING ON FACEBOOK LIVE AT 10 A.M.

The Word of God

Opening Acclamation

Celebrant The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light.
People ***Those who lived in a land of deep darkness—on them light has shined.***

Collect for Purity *said by the Celebrant*

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.***

Celebrant The Lord be with you.
People ***And also with you.***
Celebrant Let us pray.

The Nativity of Our Lord: Christmas Day *said by all*

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.

The First Lesson

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 before the eyes of all the nations; and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.

Lector The Word of the Lord.
People ***Thanks be to God.***

Psalm

Psalm 98

Sing to the Lord a new song, for the Lord has done marvelous things.

God's right hand and holy arm have won the victory.

The Lord has declared victory,

and has revealed vindication in the sight of the nations.

The Lord has remembered mercy and faithfulness to the house of Israel.

All the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.

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

Sing to the Lord with the harp, with the harp and the voice of song.

With trumpets and the sound of the horn shout with joy before the Ruler, the Lord.

Let the sea roar, and all that fills it, the land and those who dwell therein.

Let the rivers clap their hands;

and let the hills ring out with joy before the Lord, who comes to judge the earth.

The Lord will judge the world with righteousness,

and the peoples with equity.

The Second Lesson

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. For to which of the angels did God ever say, "You are my Son; today I have begotten you"? Or again, "I will be his Father, and he will be my Son"? And again, when he brings the firstborn into the world, he says, "Let all God's angels worship him." Of the angels he says, "He makes his angels winds, and his servants flames of fire." But of the Son he says, and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

The Gospel

John 1:1-14

Priest 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.

Priest The Gospel of the Lord.

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

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,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary
and became truly human.

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, who with the Father
and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who 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

Christmas Prayers of the People

Holy Child of Bethlehem, angels proclaimed your birth to shepherds at their labors; we pray for all people in their daily life and work, for those called to shepherd your people, and for those who carry your love into the world. May we see your glory in the world around us, and like the shepherds, may we bear witness to your presence among us.

Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

Holy Child of Bethlehem, born in a stable when your parents found no room in the inn, we pray for all who are without shelter, for all who know poverty, and for all who offer even what little they have to meet the needs of others.

Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

Holy Child of Bethlehem, welcomed into your mother's loving arms, we pray for all who are lost and alone who have no arms to hold them; for those who are sick or in need who depend upon loving arms to care for them; for those whose arms are now empty who mourn loved ones gone; and for those who are no longer with us but have been welcomed into your loving arms.

Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

Holy Child of Bethlehem, a refugee in Egypt, whom Herod sought to kill, we pray for all who live with danger, for all who are persecuted, and for all who are far from their homes, especially the children separated from their parents on our border.

Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

Holy Child of Bethlehem, in you God was pleased to dwell, help us, we pray, to see the divine image in people everywhere, and to honor the divine image in ourselves. Forgive us where we have sinned, strengthen us where we are weak, heal us where we are blind.

Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

Holy Child of Bethlehem, you were born into our world that we might be reborn into eternal life. May we daily live as children of God through your love, as you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. ***Amen.***

The Peace

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People ***And also with you.***

Announcements

The Holy Communion

The Great Thanksgiving Eucharistic Prayer B

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 God thanks and praise.**

Celebrant

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 say this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

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

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest

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.

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 all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

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 Mary, Dunstan and 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.**

As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray,

The Lord's Prayer

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.

Faithful God,

in the wonder of your wisdom and love

you fed your people in the wilderness with the bread of angels,

and you sent Jesus to be the bread of life.

Though we are not consuming these gifts of bread and wine,

we thank you that we have received the sacrament

of Christ's presence,

the forgiveness of sins, and all other benefits of Christ's passion.

By the power of the Holy Spirit,

may we embody your desire

and be renewed for your service,

through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

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

Prayer after Communion *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.

The Christmas Blessing

The blessing of God,
whose love created
light and darkness,
mystery and wonder,
be with you this day.

The blessing of God,
whose love entered this world
vulnerable, naked, and helpless,
be with you always.

The blessing of God,
whose love burns in your heart,
transforming your life,
send you into the world
to be the incarnation of God's love for others..
Amen.

The Dismissal

Response ***Thanks be to God.***