

St. Dunstan's Episcopal Church



Christmas Lessons and Carols

The First Sunday After Christmas

December 28, 2025

The Holy Eucharist

10 A.M.

Prelude

He is Born

arr. Bish

Processional Hymn 109

The First Nowell

The First Nowell

Refrain

6 Then let us all with one accord
sing praises to our heavenly Lord;
that hath made heaven and earth of nought,
and with his blood our life hath bought.

Refrain

Alternative Refrain
Descant (others unison)

Words: English Carol, 18th cent. Music: *The First Nowell*, English carol, 17th cent.; harm. John Stainer (1841-1901); alt. refrain harm. and desc. Healey Willan (1880-1968). Alternative setting with descant, Copyright © 1926, by Oxford University Press, Inc.

The Word of God

The Bidding Prayer

Dear people of God: In this Christmas season let it be our duty and delight to hear again the message of the angels, to go to Bethlehem, and see the Son of God lying in a manger.

Let us hear again from Holy Scripture the tale of God's loving purpose from the time of our rebellion against him until the glorious redemption brought us by this holy Child; and let us make this place glad with our carols of praise.

But first, let us pray for the needs of the whole world, for all God's people, for peace and justice, for the mission of the Church, and for goodwill among all people.

And because Jesus particularly loves them, let us remember in his name the poor and helpless, the cold, the hungry and oppressed, the sick and those who mourn, the lonely and unloved, the aged and little children, as well as all those who do not know and love our Lord Jesus Christ.

Finally, let us remember all those who rejoice with us,
but upon another shore and in a greater light,
that multitude which no one can number,
whose hope was in the Word made flesh,
and with whom, in this Lord Jesus, we for evermore are one. **Amen.**

The First Lesson

Luke 2:1-7

Luke tells of the birth of Jesus.

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.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Hymn 105

God rest you merry gentlemen

God Rest You Merry

1 God rest you mer - ry, gen - tle-men, let noth - ing you dis - may;
 2 From God our heaven - ly Fa - ther a bless - ed an - gel came
 3 "Fear not, then," said the an - gel, "Let noth - ing you af - fright;
 4 Now to the Lord sing prais - es, all you with - in this place,

re - mem - ber Christ our Sa - vior was born on Christ-mas Day,
 and un - to cer - tain shep - herds brought tid - ings of the same:
 this day is born a Sa - vior of a pure vir - gin bright,
 and with true love and char - i - ty each o - ther now em - brace;

to save us all from Sa - tan's power when we were gone a - stray.
 how that in Beth - le - hem was born the Son of God by name.
 to free all those who trust in him from Sa - tan's power and might."
 this ho - ly tide of Christ - mas doth bring re - deem - ing gracie.

Refrain

O tid - ings of com - fort and joy, com - fort and
 joy; O tid - ings of com - fort and joy!

The Second Lesson

Luke 2:8-16

The Shepherds go to the manger.

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.

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

Unison or harmony

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

Mary'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.

Refrain

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

guard and an - gels sing basic, taste to

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

The wise men are led by the star to Jesus.

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage." When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet: 'And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel.'" Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage." When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**



1 Of the Fa - ther's love be - got - ten, ere the worlds be -
 2 O that birth for ev - er bless - ed, when the Vir - gin,
 3 Let the heights of heaven a - dore him; an - gel hosts, his
 4 Christ, to thee with God the Fa - ther, and, O Ho - ly



gan to be, he is Al - pha and O - me - ga,
 full of grace, by the Ho - ly Ghost con - ceiv - ing,
 prais - es sing; powers, do - min-ions, bow be - fore him,
 Ghost, to thee, hymn and chant and high thanks - giv - ing,



he the source, the end - ing he, of the things that
 bore the Sa - vior of our race; and the Babe, the
 and ex - tol our God and King; let no tongue on
 and un - wea - ried prais - es be; hon - or, glo - ry



are, that have been, and that fu - ture
 world's Re - deem - er, first re - vealed his
 earth be si - lent, ev - ery voice in
 and do - min - ion, and e - ter - nal



years shall see, ev - er - more and ev - er - more!
 sa - cred face, ev - er - more and ev - er - more!
 con - cert ring, ev - er - more and ev - er - more!
 vic - to - ry, ev - er - more and ev - er - more!

This hymn may be performed in equal note values: ♩ ♩ ♩ ♩

Words: Marcus Aurelius Clemens Prudentius (348-410?); tr. John Mason Neale (1818-1866) and Henry Williams Baker (1821-1877), alt.

Music: *Divinum mysterium*, Sanctus trope, 11th cent.; adapt. *Piae Cantiones*, 1582; acc. Bruce Neswick (b. 1956), harm. Copyright ©1984, Bruce Neswick. All rights reserved. Used with permission.

The Gospel of John unfolds the mystery of the Incarnation.

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.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

The Peace

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

Announcements

The Holy Communion

Offertory Anthem

Sweet Little Jesus Boy
Bruce Lafitte, soloist

Robert MacGimsey

Hymn 112

In the bleak mid-winter

Cranham

1. In the bleak mid-winter, frost - y wind made moan,
2. Our God, heaven can - not hold him, nor - earth sus - tain;
3. An - gels and arch - an - gels may have gath - ered there,
4. What can I give him, poor - as I am?

earth stood hard as i - ron, wa - ter like a stone;
heaven and earth shall flee a - way when he comes to reign:
cher - u - bim and sc - ra-phim throng - ed the air;
If I were a shep - herd, I would bring a lamb;

snow had fal - len, snow on snow, snow on snow, snow,
in the bleak mid - win - ter a sta - ble - place suf - ficed
but his mo - ther on - ly, in her maid - en bliss,
if I were a wise - man, I would do my part;

the in the bleak mid - win - ter, long a - go.
Lord God in - car - nate, Je - sus Christ.
wor - shiped the be - lov - ed with a kiss.
yet what I can I give him - give my heart.

Words: Christina Rossetti (1830-1894). Music: *Cranham*, Gustav Theodore Holst (1874-1934).

Communion under Special Circumstances

Officiant

Almighty Father, whose dear Son, on the night before he suffered, instituted the Sacrament of his Body and Blood: Mercifully grant that we may receive it thankfully in remembrance of Jesus Christ our Lord, who in these holy mysteries gives us a pledge of eternal life; and who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

Let us pray in the words our Savior Christ has taught us.

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 Communion of the People *All people are invited to receive Communion.*

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

Communion Hymn 101

Away in a manger

Cradle Song

1 A - way in a manger, 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 lie 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 night.
and fit us for hea - ven to live with thee there.

Words: Traditional carol. Music: *Cradle Song*, melody William James Kirkpatrick (1838-1921); harm. Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958) Copyright © by permission of Oxford University Press. All rights reserved. Used with permission.

Prayer after Communion *Officiant and People*

When the song of the angels is stilled,
When the star in the sky is gone,
When the king and princes are home,
When the shepherds are back with their flocks,
The work of Christmas begins:
 To find the lost,

To heal the broken,
To feed the hungry,
To release the prisoner,
To rebuild the nations,
To bring peace among others,
To make music in the heart. Amen.

Recessional Hymn 99

Go Tell it on the Mountain
On following page

Go Tell It on the Mountain

The Dismissal

Response

Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Joy to the World

arr. Burkhardt

Ministry Schedule

| | DEC 28th Christmas Lessons & Carols – 10 a.m. | January 4th, 2026 10 a.m. |
|-------------------------------|---|---|
| Officiant | Susie Throop | |
| Vestry on Duty | Marshall Kress | Andrea Patten-Weerakoon |
| Lay Reader: | Nancy Dillon | Alexander Pierre |
| Lector 1 st Lesson | Rhea Hannah | Tom Barnett |
| Lector 2 nd Lesson | Jessica Peoples | Vivian Siggers |
| Lector 3 rd Lesson | Claudia Gimson | ~ |
| Lector 4th Lesson | Josh Taylor | ~ |
| Ushers / Greeters | Gwen McAlpine & Paul Zimmer | Tom Barnett |
| Altar Guild | Ralph / Claudia | Marshall / Ralph |
| Flower Guild | Claudia Gimson | |

Upcoming Schedule of Services

January 4 **Second Sunday after Christmas** at 10:00 a.m.

January 11 **First Sunday after Epiphany**
8:30 and 10:45 a.m.; Sunday School 9:30 a.m.

Refrain

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.

Repeal Refrain

Happy Birthday

Suzanne Johnson December 31 **Heather Robertson** December 31
Alexander Pierre January 2

Prayer Requests

Parishioners: Holly Swing; Suzanne Johnson; Brenda Patten; Penny France; Priscilla Davis; Donna Thomas; and Cathy Leake.

Family: Terra Garrett, cousin of Cathleen Hackett; Jane Schneiderwind, sister of Mimi Gold; Cody Young, cousin of Lindsey Reece; Pamela V. Bowers, sister of Suzanne Van de Mark; Tim Leyden, father / father-in law of Tim & Jessie Leyden; Kathy Benedict, family of Andrea, Anil and Brenda; Preston Wilson, brother of Mary Jane Hannah; Roswitha Moos, grandmother of Katharina McCawley; Carson Morris, daughter; Mary Morris, sister-in-law of Lee Morris; Tiffiny Lucas, niece, of Vivian Siggers; Gwen McAlpine; Joyce Emmons, cousin of Elizabeth Wong Mark; Chris Ekmark, cousin of Heather Robertson; Cody Young, nephew, Deborah & Bill Reece; Carra & Vincent Lafitte, Larry & Sharon Mobley, Jack & Linda Mobley family of Daria and Bruce Lafitte; Charlie Bunn, cousin of Tiffany Wilson; Aggie Whyte, Priscilla Williams, sisters of Bessie Holland; Oakley Family, cousins of Priscilla Davis; Mary Jane Hobbs, sister of Sara Thomas; Deni Omundson, Sydney Cortez & Family, relatives of Jeanne & Josh Taylor; Karen, sister of Steve Hauser; Jessica LeClaire, sister of Sara Thornton; Clare Richardson, sister-in-law of Penny France; Deborah Ellis-Williams, mother of Jackie O'Connell; Barbara Martello, niece of Mimi Gold.

Friends: Bob Adams (Mary Jane Hannah); Miriam & Santana Herrera; Cary Ralls & Mark Sillay; Patricia Woods; Walter Buchanan (Rhea Hannah); Marilyn Reynolds (Bessie Holland); Tony Rizzuto (Daria Jones); Dann Brown (Tricia Templeton); Carol Davis, Carolyn Timmons (Sandra & Joe Dobbs); Sara Corredor (Tiffany Wilson); Lynell Walker, Pat Park and Rik Rasmussen (Anil & Andrea Patten-Weerakoon); Carol Fitzgerald, Sam Roberson (Lee Morris); Gay McNeely, John Ware (Suzanne Van de Mark); Lauren Courtney Robinson (Lindsey Reece); Neil, Emma, Addison Bonser (Brown family); Barry Mazor (Bob Wolfson); Loretta Roberts, Benjamin Banas (Cathy Leake); Bill Cobb, Sandy Jusak, Michellene Tipton, Joshua Dowd, Debbie Bogard, James Bogard (Jeanne & Josh Taylor); Carolyn Neely Holmes (Vivian Siggers); Madison Fucita & Family; Rose Faison, Mary Jane Graff, Anne Henry, Tim Embry (Priscilla Davis); Jennifer Pern, Sherrel Howard (Mimi Gold).

We give thanks for our parish especially Mary Jane Hannah; Rhea Hannah; Maggie & Tom Harney and Ginny & Dick Harris.

We pray for those who have died.



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