



THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE
HOLY COMMUNION



The Nativity of Our Lord

December 24, 2017 at 10:00 p.m.

Our Mission Welcome to The Episcopal Church of the Holy Communion, a welcoming and diverse community seeking to walk in the way of Jesus and to reveal Christ's reconciling love in our city, nation, and world.

Can I receive Communion? Yes. Whoever you are, wherever you find yourself on the journey of faith, you are welcome to receive the bread and wine made holy.

Visiting Children All visiting children are invited to join in the telling of the Christmas story as shepherds and angels. During the carol singing, come see our youth group for an outfit and a sheep!

Are children welcome? We like to say we expect *everyone* to act their age. Acting your age as a little one can mean restlessness in worship. Wiggles and giggles are welcome too! Children learn by watching adults worship. There are coloring sheets and quiet books at the back of the church. Our chapel is a sound-proof place to bring a crying infant, or a boisterous toddler, with windows into the church and speakers broadcasting the sound from the service. Ask an usher if you need any assistance.

How do I find my way around? There is a map by the Welcome Table in the main entryway (on the East side of the church). Also, feel free to ask anyone around you for directions, or help navigating the service.

Where are the restrooms? There are single-user, all-gender restrooms in the Lounge, through the main (East) door, and through the next glass door. There are gendered, larger restrooms downstairs (take the elevator or stairs at the end of the long hallway in front of that entrance). Changing tables are available in the downstairs restrooms or in the nursery.

Is there wheelchair accessibility? Yes. Our entrances have auto-open buttons, and our elevator is ADA compliant. Both the downstairs restrooms and one of the upstairs restrooms are accessible. Everyone is invited to remain seated during the service as they need.

What about hearing assistance? We can help there, too. Hearing assistance devices are available from the ushers. Just ask.

How do I get involved? If you begin by filling out a "Connect Card" in your pew, or at the Welcome Table, we'd be glad to keep you up to date with all that goes on here. You can also use the Connect Cards to update your information, request prayers, or to ask a question.

Become a member. All are welcome to be here and to explore. If you would like to learn more and meet interesting people, consider joining in Pilgrimage, the Rector's classes for newcomers and explorers. A new class begins in February, 2018. Email the rector for more information or to sign up (mangell@holycommunion.net).

Prelude:

Es ist ein' Ros' entsprungen

Johannes Brahms

In dulci jubilo

Wilbur Held

Es ist ein' Ros' entsprungen

Gerald Near

Carol Singing

Go, Tell It on the Mountain

LEVAS 21

*Refrain Go, tell it on the mountain
over the hills and everywhere;
go, tell it on the mountain,
that Jesus Christ is born.*

2 The shepherds feared and trembled,
when lo! above the earth,
Rang out the angel chorus
that hailed the Savior's birth.

Refrain

1 While shepherds kept their watching
o'er silent flocks by night,
Behold throughout the heavens
there shown a holy light.

3 Down in a lowly manger
the humble Christ was born,
And God sent us salvation
that blessed Christmas morn.

Refrain

Refrain

Anthem

Betelehemu

Nigerian Carol, arr. Barrington Brooks

*Awa yi o ri Baba gbojule.
Awa yi o ri Baba febenti.
Nibo labi Jesu, nibo lagbe bii.
Betelehemu ilu ara, nibe labi baba o daju.
Iyin, iyin, iyin, nifuno.
Adupe fun o joomi, Baba oloreo
Iyin fun o Baba anu, Baba toda wasi*

We are glad that we have a Father to trust.
We are glad that we have a Father to rely upon.
Where was Jesus born? Where was He born?
Bethlehem, the city of wonder,
That is where the Father was born for sure.
Praise, praise, praise be to Him.
We thank Thee, we thank Thee,
we thank Thee for this day, Gracious Father.
Praise, praise be to Thee, merciful Father.

Es ist ein Ros

Hymnal 81

1 Lo, how a Rose e'er blooming
from tender stem hath sprung!
Of Jesse's lineage coming
as seers of old have sung.
It came, a blossom bright,
amid the cold of winter,
when half spent was the night.

3 O Flower, whose fragrance tender
with sweetness fills the air,
dispel in glorious splendor
the darkness everywhere;
true man, yet very God,
from sin and death now save us,
and share our every load.

2 Isaiah 'twas foretold it,
the Rose I have in mind,
with Mary we behold it,
the Virgin Mother kind.
To show God's love aright,
she bore to us a Savior,
when half spent was the night.

Anthem*Still, Still, Still --*

Austrian Carol, arr. Norman Luboff

- 1 Still, still, still, one can hear the falling snow
 For all is hushed, the world is sleeping
 Holy star its vigil keeping
 Still, still, still, one can hear the falling snow.
- 2 Sleep, sleep, sleep, 'tis the eve of our Savior's birth
 The night is peaceful all around you
 Close your eyes, let sleep surround you
 Sleep, sleep, sleep, 'tis the eve of our Savior's birth

- 3 Dream, dream, dream of the joyous day to come.
 While guardian angels without number;
 Watch you as you sweetly slumber
 Dream, dream, dream of the joyous day to
 come.

St. Louis**Hymnal 79**

- 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 Where children pure and happy
 pray to the blessed Child,
 where misery cries out to thee,
 Son of the mother mild;
 where charity stands watching
 and faith holds wide the door,
 the dark night wakes, the glory breaks,
 and Christmas comes once more.
- 5 O holy Child of Bethlehem,
 descend to us, we pray;
 cast out our sin and enter in,
 be born in us today.
 We hear the Christmas angels
 the great glad tidings tell;
 O come to us, abide with us,
 our Lord Emmanuel!

Anthem*Kyrie from Mozart Missa Brevis*

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart

Kyrie eleison.
Christe eleison.
Kyrie eleison.

Lord, have mercy.
 Christ, have mercy.
 Lord, have mercy.

The First Nowell

Hymnal 109

1 The first Nowell the angel did say
was to certain poor shepherds
in fields as they lay;
in fields as they lay, keeping their sheep,
on a cold winter's night that was so deep.

Refrain Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell,
born is the King of Israel.

2 They looked up and saw a star
shining in the east beyond them far,
and to the earth it gave great light,
and so it continued both day and night.

Refrain

3 And by the light of that same star
three wise men came from country far;
to seek for a king was their intent,
and to follow the star wherever it went.

Refrain

4 This star drew nigh to the northwest,
o'er Bethlehem it took its rest,
and there it did both stop and stay
right over the place where Jesus lay.

Refrain

5 Then entered in those wise men three
full reverently upon their knee,
and offered there in his presence
their gold, and myrrh, and frankincense.

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

Processional Hymn: *Please stand*

Adeste fidelis

Hymnal 83, vv. 1, 3, 4, 6

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.

3 Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,
sing, all ye citizens of heaven above;
Glory to God, glory in the highest;

Refrain

4 See how the shepherds, summoned to his cradle,
leaving their flocks, draw nigh to gaze;
We too will thither bend our joyful footsteps

Refrain

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

Opening Acclamation

Celebrant
Bless-ed be God: Father, Son, and Ho-ly Spi-rit.

People
And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ev-er. A-men.

The Collect of the Day

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

O God, you have caused this holy night to shine with the brightness of the true Light: Grant that we, who have known the mystery of that Light on earth, may also enjoy Christ perfectly in heaven; where with you and the Holy Spirit he lives and reigns, one God, in glory everlasting. **Amen.**

*Gloria in excelsis Deo,
Et in terra pax hominibus bonae voluntatis.
Laudamus te, benedicimus te,
Adoramus te, glorificamus te.
Gratias agimus tibi propter magnam gloriam tuam.
Domine Deus, Rex coelestis,
Deus Pater omnipotens.
Domine Fili unigenite, Jesu Christe.
Domine Deus, Agnus Dei, Filius Patris.
Qui tollis peccata mundi,
Miserere nobis.
Qui tollis peccata mundi,
[Suscipe deprecationem nostram.
Qui sedes ad dexteram Patris,
miserere nobis.]
Quoniam tu solus sanctus, tu solus Dominus,
Tu solus altissimus, [Jesu Christe.]
Cum Sancto Spiritu in gloria Dei Patris,
Amen.*

Glory to God in the highest,
And peace on earth to all of good will.
We praise You, we bless You,
We worship You, we glorify You.
We give You thanks for Your great glory.
Lord God, King of Heaven,
God the Father Almighty.
Lord only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ.
Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father.
You who take away the sin of the world,
Have mercy on us.
You who take away the sin of the world,
[Hear our prayer.
You who sit at the right hand of the Father,
have mercy on us.]
For You alone are holy, You alone are Lord,
You alone are the Most High, [Jesus Christ.]
With the Holy Spirit in the glory of God the
Father, Amen.

1st Lesson

Isaiah 9:2-7

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.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Congregational Hymn

In the Bleak Midwinter

Hymnal 112

- | | |
|--|---|
| <p>1 In the bleak midwinter
frosty wind made moan,
earth stood hard as iron,
water like a stone;
Snow had fallen, snow on snow,
snow on snow
in the bleak midwinter
long ago.</p> <p>2 Our God, heaven cannot hold him,
nor earth sustain;
heaven and earth shall flee away
when he comes to reign:
in the bleak midwinter
a stable-place sufficed
the Lord God incarnate
Jesus Christ</p> | <p>3 Angels and archangels
may have gathered there,
cherubim and seraphim
thronged the air;
but his mother only,
in her maiden bliss
worshipped the beloved
with a kiss.</p> <p>4 What can I give him,
poor as I am?
if I were a shepherd,
I would bring a lamb;
if I were a wise man,
I would do my part
yet what I can I give him
give my heart</p> |
|--|---|

2nd Lesson *Please be seated*

Titus 2:11-14

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.

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

Sequence Hymn *Please stand*

- 1 Angels we have heard on high,
singing sweetly through the night,
and the mountains in reply
echoing their brave delight.

Gloria in excelsis Deo.

Gloria

- 2 Shepherds, why this jubilee?
Why these songs of happy cheer?
What great brightness did you see?
What glad tidings did you hear?

Gloria in excelsis Deo.

Hymnal 96, vv. 1 & 2

The Holy Gospel

Luke 2:1-14

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

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!"

The Gospel of our Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Sequence Hymn

- 3 Come to Bethlehem and see
him whose birth the angels sing;
come, adore on bended knee
Christ, the Lord, the newborn King.

Gloria in excelsis Deo.

Gloria

- 4 See him in a manger laid
whom the angels praise above;
Mary, Joseph, lend your aid,
while we raise our hearts in love.

Hymnal 96, vv. 3 & 4

The Sermon *Please be seated at the invitation of the Preacher.*

The Rev. Mike Angell

The Nicene Creed *Please stand*

**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, 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.**

The Prayers of the People *standing or kneeling*

The Leader and People pray responsively

In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

Accept O Lord, our thanks and praise for all that you have done for us. We thank you for the splendor of the whole creation, for the beauty of this world, for the wonder of life, and for the mystery of love. Lord in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

We thank you for the blessings of family and friends, and for the loving care that surrounds us on every side. Lord in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

We thank you for setting us at tasks that demand our best efforts, and for leading us to accomplishments that satisfy and delight us. Lord in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

We thank you also for those disappointments and failures that lead us to acknowledge our dependence on you alone. Lord in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

For all who have died in the hope of resurrection and for all the departed, Lord in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

Above all, we thank you for your Son Jesus Christ; for the truth of his Word and the example of his life; for his steadfast obedience, by which he overcame temptation; for his dying, through which he overcame death; and for his rising to life again, in which we are raised to the life of your kingdom. Lord in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

Grant us the gift of your Spirit, that we may know Christ and make him known; and through him, at all times and in all places, may give thanks to you in all things. Lord in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

Celebrant

O Lord our God, accept the fervent prayers of your people; in the multitude of your mercies, look with compassion upon us and all who turn to you for help; for you are gracious, O lover of souls, and to you we give glory, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and for ever.

The Peace *Please stand*

The peace of Christ be always with you.

And also with you.

Welcome and Announcements *Please be seated*

Offertory Anthem

Credo from the Missa Brevis

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart

Credo in unum Deum, Patrem omnipotentem, factorem caeli et terrae, visibilium omnium et invisibilium.

I believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible.

Et in unum Dominum Iesum Christum, Filium Dei unigenitum, et ex Patre natum ante omnia saecula. Deum de Deo, Lumen de Lumine, Deum verum de Deo vero, genitum non factum, consubstantialem Patri; per quem omnia facta sunt.

And in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only begotten Son of God, born of the Father before all ages. God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, one in being with the Father; through Whom all things were made.

Qui propter nos homines et propter nostram salutem descendit de caelis. Et incarnatus est de Spiritu Sancto ex Maria Virgine, et homo factus est.

Who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven. He was made flesh by the Holy Spirit from the Virgin Mary, and was made man.

Crucifixus etiam pro nobis sub Pontio Pilato, passus et sepultus est, et resurrexit tertia die, secundum Scripturas, et ascendit in caelum, sedet ad dexteram Patris.

He was crucified for us under Pontius Pilate; suffered, and was buried. On the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures; He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father.

Et iterum venturus est cum gloria, iudicare vivos et mortuos, cuius regni non erit finis.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and of His kingdom there shall be no end.

Et in Spiritum Sanctum, Dominum et vivificantem, qui ex Patre Filioque procedit.

And in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of Life, Who proceeds from the Father and the Son.

Qui cum Patre et Filio simul adoratur et conglorificatur: qui locutus est per prophetas.

Who, with the Father and the Son, is adored and glorified: Who has spoken through the Prophets

Et unam, sanctam, catholicam et apostolicam Ecclesiam.

And I believe in one holy, catholic and apostolic Church.

Confiteor unum baptismum in remissionem peccatorum. Et expecto resurrectionem mortuorum, et vitam venturi saeculi. Amen.

I confess one baptism for the remission of sins. And I look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the age to come. Amen.

The Great Thanksgiving *Please stand*

Celebrant *People*
The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Celebrant *People*
Lift up your hearts. 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...

The presider offers our thanks to God for the grace and mercy made available to us in Christ.

Sanctus and Benedictus

from *Missa Brevis in D major K. 194*

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart

Sung by the choir. Please be seated.

*Sanctus, Sanctus, Sanctus, Dominus Deus Sabaoth.
Pleni sunt coeli et terra gloria tua.
Hosanna in excelsis.
Benedictus qui venit in nomine Domini.
Hosanna in excelsis.*

Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Hosts.
Heaven and earth are full of your glory,
Hosannah in the highest.
Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosannah in the highest.

Please Stand

The presider gives thanks to God for the reconciling work of Christ's passion and resurrection and prays over the bread and wine.

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

The presider concludes with prayer for the coming of God's reign.

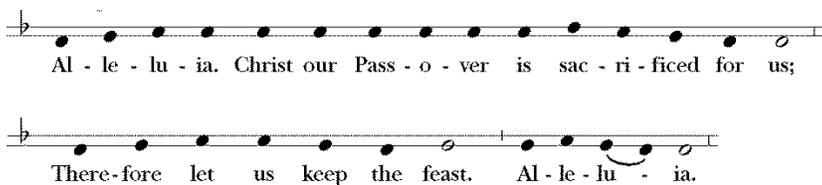
All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ, by him, and with him, and in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. *The People sing AMEN.*

Celebrant *People*
A-men.

The Lord's Prayer

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 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.

Administration of the Sacrament

You are invited to receive the Sacrament of the Holy Eucharist. Gluten Free wafers are available, on request, from the minister. On the left (West) side of the altar rail, the chalice is filled with white grape juice, as a sign of welcome for those who choose not to consume wine. On the right (East) side of the altar rail, the chalice is traditional red wine. Please feel free to cross the aisle for your preferred chalice. If you would prefer to receive a blessing, simply cross your arms over your chest.

Agnus Dei *Please be seated.*

from *Miss Brevis in D major, K. 194*

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart

*Agnus Dei qui tollis peccata mundi,
miserere nobis.*

Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world,
have mercy on us.

*Agnus Dei qui tollis peccata mundi,
miserere nobis.*

Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world,
have mercy on us.

*Agnus Dei qui tollis peccata mundi,
dona nobis pacem.*

Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world,
grant us peace.

Hymns During Communion *Sung by all*

The Hymnal is a blue book in the pew racks. "Lift Every Voice and Sing" (LEVAS) has a red spine.

Away in a Manger

LEVAS 27

It Came Upon a Midnight Clear

Hymnal 89

Post Communion Prayer *please kneel or stand*

**Gracious God,
tonight you have united earth and heaven
in sending your Son to take our human nature.
May we, who have tasted heavenly things,
share in the life of Christ's kingdom.
We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

The Lighting of the Candles

*Please tip your candle into the flame to receive the light;
after receiving the light, please hold your candle upright.*

Hymn after Communion

Stille Nacht

Hymnal 111

- 1 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.
- 2 Silent night, holy night,
shepherds quake at the sight,
glories stream from heaven afar,
heavenly hosts sing alleluia;
Christ, the Savior, is born!

- 3 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.

The Christmas Blessing

May God, who sent angels to proclaim the glad news of the Savior's birth, fill you with joy and make you heralds of the Gospel. And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever. **Amen.**

*At the conclusion of the blessing, please cup your hand
behind the flame and extinguish your candle.*

Final Hymn

Antioch

Hymnal 100

- 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.
- 2 Joy to the world! the Savior reigns;
let us our songs employ,
while fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains,
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.
- 4 He rules the world with truth and grace,
and makes the nations prove
the glories of his righteousness,
and wonders of his love.

The Dismissal:

Alleluia! Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

Postlude

In dulci jubilo

Leo Sowerby

Worship Leaders

Preacher & Celebrant	The Rev. Mike Angell
Assisting	The Rev. Marc Smith
Deacon	The Rev. Chester Hines
Lectors	Ellis Anderson, Mary Haggerty
Chalice	Mary Haggerty
Crucifer	Scott Scoopmire
Acolytes	Amanda Willingham, Cecily Hawksworth
Ushers	Ellis Anderson, Kara Cummins
Altar Guild	Jean Parker
Guest Musicians	Anne Geiler
	Irene Goren Scheer
	Marilyn Humiston

The poinsettias and greens adorning the church for Christmas are given by:

Mary Myers Allen, in memory of Marcus Allen

Sally and Bill Thomas

An anonymous donation in honor of Jim and Sarah Marxsen

Cecily Hawksworth in honor of the Holy Communion Choir

The Rev. Marc Smith in memory Mary Lee

Eddyth Smith in memory of A. K. Smith

The Rev. Mike Angell and Ellis Anderson in thanksgiving for Holy Communion

Marvin Alexander in thanksgiving for his grandchildren; Winter, Lincoln, and Meadow

Valarie Myers Wilson in honor of her parents, Helen and Ken Myers and sister, Sibyl Myers

Scott Ferguson in honor of Thomas & Elizabeth Ferguson

An anonymous donation in honor of Richard Justiss

Bob Niedringhaus in thanksgiving for friends and family

An anonymous donation in thanksgiving for family

Courtney Dula in honor of HP, Ellene, Greg, Helen, Leo, & Lib

Nancy Cummings in honor of Henry W. Cummings

An anonymous donation

An anonymous donation in honor of James W. & Jean L. Davis

Ryan and Agata Freedle in honor of Olivia and Versy

Karen and Brooklyn Payne in honor of Bryant Payne Jr.

Announcements

Adult Forum and Intergenerational Formation remains in recess. On January 7, Christian Formation returns with an Intergenerational Formation focusing on the visitation of the Wise Men.

Intergenerational Game Night- January 7th All are invited to our first intergenerational game night. Bring your favorite game and any leftover Christmas cookies you would like to share. We will provide the pizza and drinks. We will gather from 5-7:30pm, so please feel free to come and go as your schedule permits.

Epiphany Celebration: Visit of the Three Kings – January 7 at 10:30am Come celebrate the start of the Epiphany season, as we welcome the three kings to Holy Communion. During our 10:30 worship, the Three Kings will enter as they follow the star to adore the Christ Child. After the 10:30a service, the children get to break open the star (piñata).

Choir Announcements: The choral program will be on break after Christmas and will start up again with rehearsal on January 4, 2018 at 7:30pm. If you are interested in singing with the choir, contact Mary Chapman (mchapman@holychommunion.net). The children's choral program will also begin later in January. Look for more announcements in the coming weeks!. If your child is in grades K-5 and would like to sing in Cherub Choir, contact Connor Scott (cscott@holychommunion.net). If your child is in grades 6-12 contact Mary Chapman.

MLK Music Festival— January 14: featuring music composed by St. Louis native, Rollo Dilworth, Dilworth is a composer of choral music, with emphasis in the areas of spirituals and gospel-inspired works. His research interests are in the areas of African-American music and music education curriculum and instruction.

Altar Flowers Our Flower Ministry volunteers do a fabulous job creating arrangements each week, and their work makes it easy and affordable to sponsor altar flowers. The cost is \$55 and all you need to do is use the sign up sheet posted in the Lounge or go to our website's "Worship" page to find our online Altar Flower Donation form.

Sunday Morning Breakfast Our dedicated group of Breakfast hosts will be back on January 7 to serve a delicious, hot breakfast in Mitchell Parish Hall from 9:00 until 9:15. A suggested donation of \$2 per person will be gratefully received, except for visitors or newcomers whom we welcome as our guests. **Breakfast hosts are needed for January, February and March. Sign-up to host a breakfast using the sheet on the bulletin board in the narthex.** Contact David Motherwell for more info (dmothe5626@aol.com).

Annual Giving Update

If you have already pledged. Thank you. Your generosity makes a difference. As you see in the chart below, we have already exceeded our total pledging last year, in terms of dollars. Given this year of growth, we are hopeful that more people will pledge. In order to keep parish ministry growing along with Sunday attendance, we need to hear from everyone.

2017 (final)	2018 (to date)
Total Pledges: 107	Total Pledges: 102
Total Pledged: \$225,497	Total Pledged: \$250,814
New pledges for 2018: 17	
Percent of 2018 pledgers under age 40: 20%	
Historic Pledges Increase/Decrease : + \$8,148	

Parish Office Holiday Schedule The Parish Office is closed next week for the holidays and will re-open on Tuesday, January 2, 2018 at 9:00am. During that time, clergy can be reached for pastoral emergencies by calling the parish office and listening for the clergy emergency number at the end of the message. *Merry Christmas and a blessed New Year!*



Welcome to The Episcopal Church of the Holy Communion, a welcoming and diverse community seeking to walk in the way of Jesus and to reveal Christ's reconciling love in our city, nation, and world. Children are especially welcome at Holy Communion, wiggles, noises, and all. There is a soft space at the back of the church, if your little one needs to play during the service. If you have any questions, feel free to ask a neighbor.

Staff

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Vestry

Scott Ferguson, *Sr. Warden*

Susan Norris, *Jr. Warden*

Brian Barnhart, *Treasurer*

Angela Burroughs-Kelly, *Secretary*

Earl Bonds, Mary Haggerty, Shirley Mensah,

Pat Redington, Rebecca Rugen, Alisa Williams

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