

December 24, 2021

9:00 p.m.

SAINT ANDREW'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

8:40 pm Prelude of Carols and Anthems

CAROL – O little town of Bethlehem (St. Louis)

hymnal, number 79; verses 1-3 and 5

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.

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!

CAROL – It came upon the midnight clear (Noel)

hymnal, number 90

1. It came upon the midnight clear, that glorious song of old,
from angels bending near the earth, to touch their harps of gold:
"Peace on the earth, good will to men, from heaven's all-gracious King."
The world in solemn stillness lay, to hear the angels sing.

2. Still through the cloven skies they come with peaceful wings unfurled,
and still their heavenly music floats o'er all the weary world;
above its sad and lowly plains bend on hovering wing,
and ever o'er its Babel sounds the blessed angels sing.

3. Yet with the woes of sin and strife the world has suffered long;
beneath the heavenly hymn have rolled two thousand years of wrong;
and warring humankind hears not the tidings which they bring;
O hush the noise and cease your strife and hear the angels sing!

4 For lo! the days are hastening on, by prophets seen of old,
when with the ever-circling years shall come the time foretold,
when peace shall over all the earth its ancient splendors fling,
and the whole world give back the song which now the angels sing.

CAROL ANTHEM— A child is born in Bethlehem arranged by Richard Proulx (1937-2010)
sung by the Choir

CAROL – God rest you merry, gentlemen (God rest you merry) *hymnal, number 105*

1 God rest you merry, gentlemen, let nothing you dismay;
remember Christ, our Savior was born on Christmas Day
to save us all from Satan's pow'r when we were gone astray.

Refrain:

O tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy, O tidings of comfort and joy.

2 From God our heav'nly Father a blessed angel came
and unto certain shepherds brought tidings of the same,
how that in Bethlehem was born the son of God by name. **[Refrain]**

3 "Fear not," then said the angel, "let nothing you affright;
this day is born a Savior, of a pure virgin bright,
to free all those who trust in him from Satan's pow'r and might." **[Refrain]**

4 Now to the Lord sing praises, all you within this place,
and with true love and charity each other now embrace;
this holy tide of Christmas doth bring redeeming grace. **[Refrain]**

CAROL – Go tell it on the mountain (Afro-American Spiritual) *hymnal, number 99*

Refrain:

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

1. While shepherds kept their watching o'er silent flocks by night,
behold, throughout the heavens there shone a holy light. (Refrain)

2. The shepherds feared and trembled when lo! above the earth
rang out the angel chorus that hailed our Savior's birth. (Refrain)

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

CAROL – See amid the winter's snow
handbell ringers

arranged by James Kimball

CAROLS – *Christmas and Suo Gan*

arranged by Thomas Keesecker

9:00pm The Holy Eucharist

The Word of God

CAROL – O Come, all ye faithful (Adeste fidelis)

hymnal, number 83; verses 1-3 and 6

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 from God, Light from Light eternal,
lo! he abhors not the Virgin's womb; only-begotten Son of the Father; **[Refrain]**

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

Presider: 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.

Presider: For unto us a child is born.

People: And he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

Collect for Purity

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.**

Carol – Angels we have heard on high (Gloria)

hymnal, number 96; verses 1 and 3

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

Refrain:

Gloria in excelsis Deo, gloria in excelsis Deo.

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

First Reading:

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.

Psalm 96 *The congregation joins in singing the verses in **bold print**.*

C. H. H. Parry



1 Sing to the Lord a | new | song; *
sing to the Lord, | all the | whole | earth.

2 Sing to the Lord and | bless his | Name; *
proclaim the good news of his sal|vation ▪ from | day to | day.

3 **Declare his glory a |mong the | nations ***
and his | wonders ▪ a |mong all | peoples.

4 **For great is the Lord and | greatly ▪ to be | praised; ***
he is more to be | feared | than all | gods.

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

6 Oh, the majesty and mag|nificence ▪ of his | presence! *
Oh, the power and the | splendor |of his | sanctuary!

7 **Ascribe to the Lord, you | families ▪ of the | peoples; ***
ascribe to the | Lord | honor ▪ and | power.

8 **Ascribe to the Lord the | honor ▪ due his | Name; ***
bring offerings and | come in |to his | courts.

9 Worship the Lord in the | beauty ▪ of | holiness; *
let the whole | earth | tremble ▪ be|fore | him.

10 Tell it out among the nations: "The | Lord is | King! *
he has made the world so firm that it cannot be moved; ~ he will | judge the | peoples ▪
with | equity."

11 **Let the heavens rejoice, ' and let the earth be glad; ~ let the sea thunder and | all that**
▪ is | in it; *
let the field be joyful and | all that | is there |in.

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

Second half of chant.

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

The Second Reading:

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.

Reader: The Word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God.

Carol: Hark! the herald angels sing (Mendelssohn)

hymnal, number 87

1. Hark! the herald angels sing glory to the newborn 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 hosts proclaim Christ is born in Bethlehem!

Refrain:

Hark! the herald angels sing, glory to the newborn King!

2. Christ, by highest heaven adored; Christ, the everlasting Lord;
Late in time behold him come, offspring of the virgin's womb.
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see; hail the incarnate Deity.
Pleased as man with us to dwell; Jesus, our Immanuel! **(Refrain)**
3. Mild he lays his glory by, born that we no more may die,
born to raise us from the earth, born to give us second birth.
Risen with healing in his wings, Light and life to all he brings,
hail, the Sun of Righteousness! hail, the heaven-born Prince of Peace! **(Refrain)**

The Holy Gospel: Luke 2:1-20

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

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn. In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see-- I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." And suddenly there was

with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!" When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us." So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

Gospeller: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Sermon

A brief silence follows the sermon.

The Rev. Melesa Skoglund

The Nicene Creed

Said in unison by all.

**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,
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

The response to each bidding:

Intercessor: Come, Lord Jesus.
People: Hear our prayer.

The Peace

Presider: The peace of the Lord be always with you.
People: And also with you.

All greet one another in the name of Jesus Christ.

Celebrations and Invitations

The Holy Eucharist

Offertory

Offertory Anthem – Evergreen

text by Robert Hillyer (1895-1961)
music by Daniel Pinkham (1923-2006)

How fine the sweetness from the bough, Evergreen, ever living,
Like the pray'r offer'd now for a whole world's forgiving;
While the Christ Child is sleeping, Worlds of woe in his keeping,
Worlds of joy in his dream. Lord, redeem us, redeem us!
That when thou art waking, the hearts we uplift shall be thy Christmas gift
And be well worth thy taking.

How bright the radiance of the tree, Evergreen everlasting,
Like the feast day to be after long years of fasting.
Bright in hope Christmas morning to the Christ Child returning,
Once again we believe. Lord, receive us, receive us!
When we come before thee, the heart's joy we bring Noel! Noel! Shall sing
And forever adore thee.

Offertory Response – With gratitude and humble trust (Forest Green)

With gratitude and humble trust we bring our best to thee
to serve thy cause and share thy love with all humanity.
O thou who gavest us thyself in Jesus Christ thy Son,
help us to give ourselves each day until life's work is done.

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 our thanks and praise.**

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

Because you gave Jesus Christ, your only Son, to be born for us; who, by the mighty power of the Holy Spirit, was made perfect Man of the flesh of the Virgin Mary his mother; so that we might be delivered from the bondage of sin, and receive power to become your children.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might, hea - ven and
earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.
Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

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 many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me. Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

Presider and People

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

The Presider continues

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

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

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

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.**

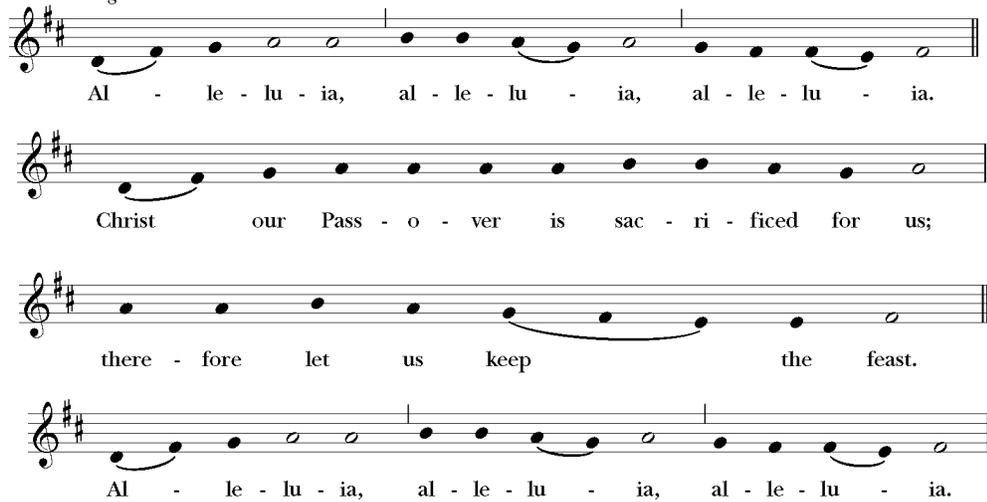
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen

The Breaking of the Bread

A period of silence is kept.

The Fraction Anthem Alleluia, Christ our Passover

This setting is not used in Lent.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Christ our Pass - o - ver is sac - ri - ficed for us;

there - fore let us keep the feast.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

Music at the Communion

Carol-It came upon the midnight clear (Carol)

arranged by James Kimball

1. It came upon the midnight clear, that glorious song of old,
from angels bending near the earth, to touch their harps of gold:
"Peace on the earth, good will to men, from heaven's all-gracious King."
The world in solemn stillness lay, to hear the angels sing.

2. Still through the cloven skies they come with peaceful wings unfurled,
and still their heavenly music floats o'er all the weary world;
above its sad and lowly plains bend on hovering wing,
and ever o'er its Babel sounds the blessed angels sing.

3. Yet with the woes of sin and strife the world has suffered long;
 beneath the heavenly hymn have rolled two thousand years of wrong;
 and warring humankind hears not the tidings which they bring;
 O hush the noise and cease your strife and hear the angels sing!

4 For lo! the days are hastening on, by prophets seen of old,
 when with the ever-circling years shall come the time foretold,
 when peace shall over all the earth its ancient splendors fling,
 and the whole world give back the song which now the angels sing.

Carol-Away in a Manger *The congregation joins in singing stanzas 1 and 3.*
The choir sings stanza 2

Mueller

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

1. lit - tle Lord Je - sus laid down his sweet head; The
 2. lit - tle Lord Je - sus, no cry - ing he makes; I
 3. by me for - ev - er, and love me, I pray; Bless

1. stars in the sky — looked down where he lay, The
 2. love thee, Lord Je - sus! Look down from the sky, And
 3. all the dear chil - dren in thy ten - der care, And

1. lit - tle Lord Je - sus, a - sleep on the hay.
 2. stay by my cra - dle till morn - ing is nigh.
 3. fit us for heav - en to live with thee there.

Text: 11 11 11 11; verses 1-2, *Little Children's Book for Schools and Families*, ca. 1885;
 verse 3, *Gabriel's Vineyard Songs*, 1892, alt. Music: attr. to James R. Murray, 1841-1905.

Eternal God,
 you have graciously accepted us as living members
 of 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 Savior. Amen.**

Candlelight Carol – Silent night, holy night (Stille nacht) *hymnal, number 111*
The hymn will be introduced on the piano and with the choir singing, “Night of silence”
while candles are lit.
When all candles are lit, join in singing all 3 verses of “Silent Night” in unison.

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. 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! 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. Jesus, Lord at thy birth.

Christmas Blessing

CAROL – Joy to the world (Antioch)
hymnal, number 100
Joy to the world (Antioch)

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 Savior 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, wonders of his love.

Dismissal

Postlude – In dulci jubilo BWV 729

J. S. Bach (1685-1750)

A special thanks to those who enriched this service with their gift of music.

St. Andrew's Chancel Choir

David and Penelope and Ross Swaney, handbell ringers

Kelley Sinclair, assistant to the music director

Ken Stancer, Music Director and Organist

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