



**ST. JAMES'S
EPISCOPAL CHURCH**

**Christmas Eve:
Pageant and Holy Eucharist**

**December 24, 2023
5:00 pm**

Welcome to St. James's!

We're glad that you have joined us today to enjoy the blessings of worship and to participate with us in God's mission in the world of justice and love.

*However you come to this place,
exhausted or energized by life, comfortable with church or not,
gay or straight, trans, nonbinary, cisfemale or cismale;
of color or white, neurodivergent or neurotypical,
differently-abled or able-bodied, younger or older!*

*Whoever you are,
know the people of St. James's strive to love and welcome you as God does,
unconditionally and completely just as you are!*

5:00 pm Christmas Eve, Pageant and Holy Eucharist Rite II

<i>Acolytes</i>	Marian King, Johnny Singer-Torres, Sofia Ironside, Emery Mazzotta, Jonte Folkes
<i>Eucharistic Servers</i>	Laverne Agard-Lynch, Marian King
<i>Minister of Music</i>	Patrick Michaels
<i>Preacher</i>	The Rev. Matthew Stewart
<i>Presider</i>	The Rev. Michele Torres
<i>Reader</i>	Isaac Sackton
<i>Usher</i>	Mark Agard, Meg, Ren, and Alan Aukeman
<i>Videographer</i>	David Musser

Words of Welcome

Tolling of the Bell

Opening Hymn: O come, all ye faithful

H 83 (vss. 1,3,5)

1 O come, all ye faith - ful, joy - ful and tri - um - phant, O
2 God from God, Light from Light e - ter - nal,
3 Sing, choirs of an - gels, sing in ex - ul - ta - tion,
*4 See how the shep - herds, sum - moned to his cra - dle,
*5 Child, for us sin - ners poor and in the man - ger,

1 come ye, O come— ye to Beth - le - hem;
 2 lo! he ab - hors— not the Vir - gin's womb;
 3 sing, all ye ci - ti - zens of heaven a - bove;
 4 leav - ing their flocks,— draw— nigh to gaze;
 5 we would em - brace— thee, with love and awe;

1 come, and be - hold him, born the King of an - gels;
 2 on - ly - be - got - ten Son— of the Fa - ther;
 3 glo - ry to God,— glo - ry in the high - est;
 4 we too will thith - er bend our joy - ful foot - steps;
 5 who would not love thee, lov - ing us so dear - ly?

Refrain

O come, let us a - dore him, O come, let us a -

dore him, O come, let us a - dore him, Christ the Lord.

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

Words: John Francis Wade (1711-1786); tr. Frederick Oakeley (1802-1880) and others. Music: *Adeste fideles*, present form of melody att. John Francis Wade (1711-1786); harm. *The English Hymnal*, 1906.

Opening Acclamation

Presider Joy to the world! The Lord is come!

People Let earth receive her King! Amen!

The Collect of the Day

Presider May God be with you.

People And also with you.

Presider 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 him perfectly in heaven; where with you and the Holy Spirit he lives and reigns, one God, in glory everlasting **Amen.**

A Dramatic Presentation of the Birth of Christ

Please be seated for the pageant.

Scene One: Isaiah and Jesus

Prophet Isaiah: Hey Jesus! Remember when you were a cute little baby? What happened to you?

Jesus: Isaiah, dude, it's been a little bit rough, alright? And your prophecy didn't help things. I've been persecuted since I was born. Literally.

Prophet Isaiah: Oof, I've had so many prophecies. You mean the one about you being the Prince of Peace and how the whole government would be on your shoulders?

Jesus: Ahh, yep, THAT'S the one. What a burden for you to put on a baby. Sheesh.

Prophet Isaiah: Well, I am just the mouthpiece for God...

Jesus AND Prophet: Storytime!

1 He came down that we may have love; He
 2 He came down that we may have peace; He
 3 He came down that we may have joy; He

1 came down that we may have love; He came down that we may
 2 came down that we may have peace; He came down that we may
 3 came down that we may have joy; He came down that we may

Cantor: Why did he come?
 1 have love; Hal - le - lu - jah for ev - er - more.
 2 have peace; Hal - le - lu - jah for - ev - er - more.
 3 have joy; Hal - le - lu - jah for - ev - er - more.

Words: Cameroon traditional. Music: origin unknown, arrangement transcribed from voices by John L. Bell, 1980. All rights reserved. OneLicense.net License #A-700155

Scene Two: Mary

Angel Gabriel: Rejoice highly favored one, the Lord is with you. Blessed are you among all people.

Mary: Can this be true?

Jesus: She was shooketh.

Angel Gabriel: Fear not, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And behold you will conceive in your womb and will give birth to a son, and you shall call his name Jesus.

Prophet: Hey Jesus, You've never told me, what does the name "Jesus" mean?

Jesus: Hey Siri!

Siri: What can I help you with?

Jesus: What does Jesus mean?

Siri: Most dictionaries will translate Jesus' name to be "God is salvation."

Mary: Behold, I am the servant of the Lord; let it be according to your word.

Hymn: It came upon the midnight clear

H 89 (vss. 1-2 only)

The image shows a musical score for the hymn "It Came Upon the Midnight Clear". It consists of four systems of music, each with a vocal line and a piano accompaniment line. The key signature is one flat (B-flat major or D minor), and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are as follows:

1 It came up - on the mid - night clear, that
2 Still through the clov - en skies they come with
3 Yet with the woes of sin and strife the
4 For lo! the days are haste - ning on, by

glo - rious song of old, from an - gels bend - ing
peace - ful wings un - furled, and still their heaven - ly
world has suf - fered long; be - neath the heaven - ly
pro - phets seen of old, when with the ev - er -

near the earth to touch their harps of gold:
mu - sic floats o'er all the wea - ry world;
hymn have rolled two thou - sand years of wrong;
cir - cling years shall come the time fore - told,

"Peace on the earth, good will to men, from
a - bove its sad and low - ly plains they
and war - ring hu - man - kind hears not the
when peace shall o - ver all the earth its

heaven's all - gra - cious King." The world in sol - emn
 bend on hov - ering wing, and ev - er o'er its
 tid - ings which they bring; O hush the noise and
 an - cient splen - dors fling, and all the world give

still - ness lay to hear the an - gels sing.
 Ba - bel - sounds the bless - ed an - gels sing.
 cease your strife and hear the an - gels sing!
 back the song which now the an - gels sing.

Words: Edmund H. Sears (1810-1876), alt. Music: *Carol*, Richard Storrs Willis (1819-1900).

Scene Three: Joseph

Angel Gabriel: Joseph, do not hesitate to get married. Mary is blessed; God's holy spirit has made her pregnant.

Jesus: Then.... Joseph married Mary.

Prophet: That's not funny.

Prophet: Mary and Joseph were summoned for a census that required them to travel a far distance.

Jesus: But unfortunately life was different back then, we didn't have Siri to help us out...

Prophet: So, they began on their journey to Judea, which is where Joseph's hometown was, to pay their tax.

Siri: You are about 90 miles from Judea, it will take you 4.5 days on foot and 3 by donkey.

Jesus: Thank you Siri. However, when Mary's womb was ready she had no choice but to take a break.

Hymn: O little town of Bethlehem

H 79 (vss. 1,2,4,5 only)

1 O lit - tle town of Beth - le - hem, how still we see thee lie!
 2 For Christ is born of Ma - ry; and gath - ered all a - bove,
 3 How si - lent - ly, how si - lent - ly, the won - drous gift is given!
 *4 Where child - ren pure and hap - py pray to the bless - ed Child,
 5 O ho - ly Child of Beth - le - hem, de - scend to us, we pray;

1 A - bove thy deep and dream - less sleep the si - lent stars go by;
 2 while mor - tals sleep, the an - gels keep their watch of won - dering love.
 3 So God im - parts to hu - man hearts the bless - ings of his heaven.
 4 where mis - er - y cries out to thee, Son of the mo - ther mild;
 5 cast out our sin and en - ter in, be born in us to - day.

1 yet in thy dark streets shin - eth the ev - er - last - ing Light;
 2 O morn - ing stars, to - geth - er pro - claim the ho - ly birth!
 3 No ear may hear his com - ing, but in this world of sin,
 4 where char - i - ty stands watch - ing and faith holds wide the door,
 5 We hear the Christ - mas an - gels the great glad tid - ings tell;

1 the hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee to - night.
 2 and prais - es sing to God the King, and peace to men on earth.
 3 where meek souls will re - ceive him, still the dear Christ en - ters in.
 4 the dark night wakes, the glo - ry breaks, and Christ - mas comes once more.
 5 O come to us, a - bide with us, our Lord Em - man - u - el!

Words: Phillips Brooks (1835-1893). Music: *St. Louis*, Lewis H. Redner (1831-1908).

Scene Four: The Magi

Prophet: But we're not at that part yet.

Messenger 1: King Herod! I heard a prophecy of a child born of God? How are you feeling about that? Is this speculation and gossip or in fact true?

Messenger 2: If true will he take your power and rule over all the people? What do you plan to do to secure your position?

Messenger 1: What should people be doing in preparation of this prophecy?

Messenger 2: Do you intend to do whatever it takes to keep your power?

Herod: You there! Find the child from the prophecy! I wish to extend my blessing to him and offer him great gifts. Find him and report back to me.

Magi: As you wish. We shall follow that very bright star in the sky!

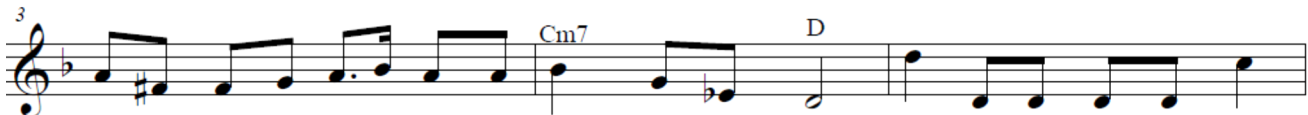
Hymn: Wise men came journeying

Words: Shirley Erena Murray

Music: Patrick Michaels



Wise men came jour - ney-ing, once, long a - go,
Wise are the trav - el - lers led to move on
Wise are each one of us look - ing for change,
Wise ones keep jour - ney-ing, all through their days,



cam - el hooves swirl - ing the sand dune and snow, gold in the sad - dle - bag,
fol - low - ing signs where the Christ light has shone, fac - ing the des - erts and
star - gaz - er peo - ple, re - spect - ing the strange, in - ner and out - er worlds
bring - ing their gifts to the source of their praise, risk - ing the prom - ise with



myrrh in the jar, in - cense to hon - or the Child of the star.
cross - ing the lines, heed - ing no lim - its that cul - ture de - fines.
o - pen to light, cen - tered on see - ing the real and the right.
all they hold dear, seek - ing God's peace at the door of the year.

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Scene Five: Shepherds and Angels

Jesus: Meanwhile, Mary and Joseph needed a break from their journey, so they stopped at an inn only to discover there were no rooms available. Not even for Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Prophet: And so you spent your first night in a barn, sleeping in a manger.

Solo: Away in a Manger

Fiona Thomas, soprano

Shepherd 1: We heard of the birth of a baby who is to be king.

Shepherd 2: Is it true?

Shepherd 1: How could a child be prince of peace?

Jesus: And then a heavenly host of angels appeared.

Song: Allelu *"The Angel Dance"*

Jesus: Unfortunately, Herod, being the original Christmas Grinch, had some sinister intentions in mind.

Prophet: Absolutely, in fact my good aunt Neriah always used to say: "Twas the night before Christmas, when all through the desert, not a creature was stirring, not even a pheasant. King Herod's jealousy enlivened a fight, in hopes that this Christ child would not make it the night."

Angel Gabriel: Fear not, I have come to guide you to the child who they call the Prince of Peace. But I must warn you, your King has evil intentions, do not return to him.

Prophet: That first silent night seems to have gone as smoothly as possible, all things considered!

Jesus: I suppose so, but this certainly isn't the end of the story. Thank you all for helping to tell the story of my humble birth, if I might say so myself... but all joking aside, I can't wait to see where each of you will fit in.

Hymn: The first Nowell

1 The first No - well the an - gel did say
 2 They look - ed up and saw a star
 3 And by the light of that same star
 4 This star drew nigh to the north - west,
 5 Then en - tered in those wise men three

1 was to cer - tain poor shep - herds in fields as they lay;
 2 shin - ing in the east be - yond them far,
 3 three wise men came from coun - try far;
 4 o'er Beth - le - hem it took its rest,
 5 full rev - erent - ly up - on their knee,

1 in fields as they lay, keep - ing their sheep,
 2 and to the earth it gave great light,
 3 to seek for a king was their in - tent,
 4 and there it did both stop and stay
 5 and of - fered there in his pres - ence

1 on a cold win - ter's night that was so deep.
 2 and so it con - tin - ued both day and night.
 3 and to fol - low the star wher - ev - er it went.
 4 right o - ver the place where Je - sus lay.
 5 their gold, and myrrh, and frank - in - cense.

Refrain

No - well, No - well, No - well, No - well,

born is the King of Is - ra - el.

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

Words and Music: English Carol, 18th cent, harm. John Stainer (1840-1901)

Homily

The Rev. Matt Stewart

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,
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.

Prayers of the People

Isaac Sackton

Let us pray to God who came among us in the birth of Jesus.

Gracious God, as a star rose, and drew people from great distances to Bethlehem that they might greet the Christ Child; Draw us, your church, and all of your people to you – that we might be the church and the people who you call us to be.

In your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

As you gave Mary your Holy Spirit, filling her with the delight of your presence; Fill us with your Spirit, that in these hard times, you might renew our lives with hope and joy.

In your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

As Gentiles streamed to Jesus's light, and kings to the brightness of his rising; Draw our nation, our government, and all in any authority to your brightness.

In your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

As angels sang 'glorias' to you and proclaimed peace on earth, and goodwill among all peoples; Bring us your peace, and bring an end to all war, terror, hatred, and strife, in particular in the Holy Land of Jesus's birth.

In your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

As shepherds were drawn from their flocks by night; Draw those who do not yet know you to the knowledge and love of you.

In your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

As Jesus was born in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn; Be especially present with those who have nowhere to lay their head, those who are vulnerable, and those who are hungry.

In your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

As your Son was born into a time of darkness, we pray for all who are anxious, depressed, or ill. Draw near to those who find this season a source of pain or grief, and to all who are suffering or sick, that they may feel the comfort of this holy night.

In your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

As the Holy Family gathered together in Bethlehem, and traveled together to far off lands; Bless all families, especially the families of our parish, and protect those who travel.

In your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

And as the Holy Family soon thereafter fled to Egypt to escape persecution from those in power, we ask for your blessing upon all refugees and immigrants and an end to all forms of racism and injustice.

In your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

As your Son came to proclaim the gift of life eternal; Give to the departed eternal rest and let light perpetual shine on them.

In your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

Let us now pray for our own needs and those of others, aloud or in silence.

The Presider then says

O Lord our God, may the light and hope of this night, and of your Son's Incarnation, reassure our hearts that you are among us, that you hear our prayer, and that you will be with us always, even to the end of the age.

In the name of Jesus of Nazareth we pray. **Amen.**

The Peace

Presider The peace of Christ be always with you.

People And also with you.

Announcements

The Holy Communion

Offertory Sentence

The Presider says

Walk in love as Christ loved us and gave himself for us an offering and sacrifice to God.

Offertory Anthem: Because of the Baby

The Greenleaf Choir

Text: Shirley Erena Murray

Music: Patrick Michaels

Presentation Hymn: Joy to the World

H 100, v. 1 only



1. Joy to the world! the Lord is come: Let earth re - ceive her King;



Let ev - 'ry heart pre - pare Him room, And heav'n and na - ture sing,



And heav'n and na-ture sing, And heav'n, and heav'n and na-ture sing.



Words: Isaac Watts (1674-1748), alt. Music: Antioch, George Frideric Handel (1685-1759); adapt. & arr. Lowell Mason (1792-1872)

The Great Thanksgiving

Eucharistic Prayer written by the Rev. Laurie Rofinot

Presider The Lord be with you.
People And also with you.
Presider Lift up your hearts.
People We lift them to the Lord.
Presider Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People It is right to give our thanks and praise.

The Presider says

It is our deepest joy to thank you, gracious and loving God. You said, "Let there be light," and there was light, and an entire universe. You brought forth life in all its forms, filling us with the breath of your Spirit. You love us and want us close to you, ever bringing us back when we go astray. We thank you, God, for blessing us with your life and your love, joining all of creation as we sing together.

Sanctus

MHSO 37

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of power and might.

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of power and might.

Heav - en earth, heav-en and earth are

Heav - en, earth, heav-en and earth are

full of your glo-ry. Ho - san-na in the high - est. Ho - san-na in the

full of your glo-ry. Ho - san-na in the high - est.

The musical score is written in 4/4 time with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). It consists of three systems of vocal lines (treble and bass clefs) and piano accompaniment (bass clef). The lyrics are: "Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of power and might." "Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of power and might." "Heav - en earth, heav-en and earth are" "Heav - en, earth, heav-en and earth are" "full of your glo-ry. Ho - san-na in the high - est. Ho - san-na in the" "full of your glo-ry. Ho - san-na in the high - est."

high - est. Bless - ed, bless - ed

Ho - san-na in the high - est. Bless - ed, _____ bless - ed

is the one who comes in the name of the Lord. Bless - ed, bless - ed

is the one who comes in the name of the Lord. Bless - ed, _____ bless - ed

is the one who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san-na in the

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

high - est. Ho - san-na in the high - est.

Ho - san-na in the high - est. Ho - san-na in the high - est.

Words: from The Book of Common Prayer (1979) of the Episcopal Church USA.
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The Presider continues

We especially give you thanks for coming to live among us. For tonight we celebrate the birth of your child Jesus, our savior. We thank you for Mary his mother and Joseph his father. We remember how he was born poor and humble, and like the star of Bethlehem, which announced his birth, he showed us the way we need to follow and the truth we need to know. We remember that he lived, died, and rose again to bring us your light and your love.

We remember that on the night he died for us, our Savior Jesus took bread. And when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his friends 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 his friends 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."

And so with this bread and wine, we taste your goodness and tender loving care of each one of us. Send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts, that we who receive Christ's body may indeed be the body of Christ, and we who share his cup may draw strength from the one born on this night to bring us eternal life. Let the little child lead us to lives of faith, humility and courage, in our community, in the world, in his name.

All this we ask through your child, our Savior Jesus Christ. May praise, glory and love be yours, this and every day, from us and all people, here and everywhere. AMEN.

As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now sing:

Lord's Prayer (Zambian)

SJS 1

(Soloists sing the words in italics. The congregation joins in unitalicized language.)

*Hear our plea, dear Father we pray;
shower upon us your heav'nly grace
that we may be your people
Glorifying you.*

Lord, our Father, in heaven abiding,
may your name always be hallowed by us.
Your will is righteous and ever consistent,
in heaven and also on earth.

Give us this day what we really have need of.
Please forgive us the sins we've committed.
Help us forgive all the sins of our neighbor
as you have forgiven us ours.

Far from temptation we ask you to lead us.
 Save us also from all that is evil.
 Yours is the kingdom, the power, the glory
 at this time and world without end.

Yours is glory excelling. Now and forever.
Yours is glory excelling. Now and forever.
Yours is glory excelling. Now and forever.
 Forever and ever. Amen.

Yours is glory excelling. Now and forever.
Yours is glory excelling. Now and forever.
Yours is glory excelling. Now and forever.
 Forever and ever. Amen.

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The Breaking of the Bread (*Silence is kept*)

Fraction Anthem: My God, thy table now is spread

H 321 (vs. 1 only)

1 My God, thy ta - ble now is spread, thy cup with
 2 O let thy ta - ble hon - ored be, and fur - nished
 3 Drawn by thy quick - ening grace, O Lord, in coun - tless
 4 Nor let thy spread - ing Gos - pel rest till through the

love doth o - ver - flow; be all thy chil - dren
 well with joy - ful guests; and may each soul sal -
 num - bers let them come and gath - er from their
 world thy truth has run, till with this Bread shall

thith - er led, and let them thy sweet mer - cies know.
va - tion see, that here its sa - cred pledg - es tastes.
Fa - ther's board the Bread that lives be - yond the tomb.
all be blessed who see the light or feel the sun.

Words: Sts. 1-3, Philip Doddridge (1702-1751), alt.; st. 4, Isaac Watts (1674-1748), alt. Music: *Rockingham*, melody from *Second Supplement to Psalms in Miniature*, ca. 1780; adapt. Edward Miller (1731-1807); harm. Samuel Webbe (1740-1816).

The Invitation

Presider The Gifts of God for the People of God.

Administration of Communion

All are welcome and encouraged to receive Communion from God's table.

The people are invited to come forward to receive communion when directed by an usher.

*After receiving the bread and wine,
you may consume them immediately or wait and do so at a social distance.*

*Those that wish a prayer of blessing or
a gluten-free, allergen-free wafer are welcome to ask for that.*

1 An - gels we have heard on high, sing - ing sweet - ly through the night,
 2 Shep - herds, why this ju - bi - lee? Why these songs of hap - py cheer?
 3 Come to Beth - le - hem and see him whose birth the an - gels sing;
 4 See him in a man - ger laid whom the an - gels praise a - bove;

and the moun - tains in re - ply ech - o - ing their brave de - light.
 What great bright - ness did you see? What glad tid - ings did you hear?
 come, a - dore on bend - ed knee Christ, the Lord, the new - born King.
 Ma - ry, Jo - seph, lend your aid, while we raise our hearts in love.

Refrain

Glo - - - - - ri - a

in ex - cel - sis De - o. Glo - - - - -

- - - - - ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o.

Words: French carol; tr. James Chadwick (1813-1882) Music: Gloria, French Carol; arr. Edward S. Barnes (1887-1958)

*Following communion, the lights are dimmed for the singing of Silent Night.
 You are invited to sit or kneel as you wish.*

Communion Hymn: Silent Night

H 111

Si - lent night, ho - ly night, all is calm,
 Si - lent night, ho - ly night, shep - herds quake
 Si - lent night, ho - ly night, Son of God,

all is bright round yon vir - gin mo - ther and child.
 at the sight, glo - ries stream from hea - ven a - far,
 love's pure light ra - diant beams from thy ho - ly face,

Ho - ly in - fant, so ten - der and mild, sleep in hea - ven - ly
 heaven - ly hosts— sing al - le - lu - ia; Christ, the Sa - vior, is
 with the dawn of re - deem - ing grace, Je - sus, Lord, at thy

peace. Sleep in hea - ven - ly peace.
 born! Christ, the Sa - vior, is born!
 birth. Je - sus, Lord, at thy birth.

Words: Joseph Mohr (1792-1848); tr. John Freeman Young (1820-1885) Music: *Stille Nacht*, melody F. Gruber; harm. C. Reinecke

Post Communion Prayer

Presider Let us pray.

All 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.

Blessing

Presider

May the joy of the angels,
the eagerness of the shepherds,
the perseverance of the Magi,
the faithfulness of Joseph and Mary,
and the peace of the Christ Child
be yours this Christmas;
and the blessing of God: Creator, Christ, and Holy Spirit,
be with you now and always. **Amen.**

Closing Hymn: Go Tell It on the Mountain

H 99

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.

Repeat Refrain

Words: African-American spiritual 19th cent.; adapt. John W. Work (1901-1967) Music: Go Tell It on the Mountain, harm. H. Boyer

Dismissal

Presider Let us go forth, rejoicing in the power of Incarnate Christ.
 Alleluia. Alleluia.
People Thanks be to God. Alleluia. Alleluia.

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Office Email: office@stjamescambridge.org
Emergency Pastoral Line: 857-600-1329

Interested in speaking to a priest or asking for prayers?
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