



ST. MARY'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Welcome to St. Mary's! Since our 19th century beginnings as a mission church to local coal mining and farming families, we have taken a special interest in welcoming all who come through our doors. Whether we are worshiping in Little St. Mary's, the original church that was consecrated in 1878, or New St. Mary's, which was built in 1992 to meet the present and future needs of our continually growing congregation, we are glad that you are here.

If this is your first time at St. Mary's or one of many, please let us know what we can do to enrich your time here. Your presence enriches us, and we hope to see you here often.

The Rev. Louise Browner Blanchard, *Rector*

Christmas Eve ❖ December 24, 2016

Holy Eucharist: Rite One ❖ 11:00 p.m.

Prelude

Hymn 102 Once in royal David's city *Sung by all, standing*

Irby

THE WORD OF GOD

Opening Sentences

Book of Common Prayer, page 323

Celebrant Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People **And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

Collect for Purity

Prayer Book, page 323

Celebrant Almighty God, unto whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of thy Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love thee, and worthily magnify thy holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Summary of the Law

Celebrant Hear what our Lord Jesus Christ saith: Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it: Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself. On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets.

The Kyrie

Celebrant Lord, have mercy upon us.

People **Christ, have mercy upon us.**

Celebrant Lord, have mercy upon us.

The Collect of the Day

Prayer Book, page 161

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And with thy spirit.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

Please remain standing.

Silence is kept.

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.

The First Lesson Isaiah 9:2-7

Please sit.

Leader A reading from the Book of Isaiah.

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 onwards and for evermore. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Silence is kept.

Psalm 96

Said responsively by whole verse

Prayer Book, page 725

- 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 salvation from day to day.
- 3 Declare his glory among the nations *
and his wonders among 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 magnificence 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 into his courts.**
- 9 Worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness; *
let the whole earth tremble before 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 therein.
- 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.**
- 13 He will judge the world with righteousness *
and the peoples with his truth.

Hymn 89 It came upon a midnight clear *Sung by all, standing* *Carol*

The Gospel Luke 2:1-20 *Please stand.*
Deacon The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.
People **Glory be to thee, O Lord.**

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.

Reader The Gospel of the Lord.
People **Praise be to thee O Christ.**

Nicene Creed

Said by all, standing.

Prayer Book, page 327

I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
and of all things visible and invisible;
And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of his Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father;
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation
came down from heaven,
and was incarnate by the Holy Ghost
of the Virgin Mary,
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under
Pontius Pilate;
he suffered and was buried;

and the third day he rose again according
to the Scriptures,
and ascended into heaven,
and sitteth on the right hand of the Father;
and he shall come again, with glory,
to judge both the quick and the dead;
whose kingdom shall have no end.
And I believe in the Holy Ghost the Lord, and
Giver of Life,
who proceedeth from the Father and the
Son;
who with the Father and the Son together
is worshiped and glorified;
who spake by the Prophets.
And I believe in one holy Catholic and
Apostolic Church;
I acknowledge one Baptism for the
remission of sins;
and I look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Prayers of the People

Please kneel.

Prayer Book, page 328

Leader Let us pray for the whole state of Christ's Church and the world.

Leader Almighty and everliving God, who in thy holy Word hast taught us to make prayers, and supplications, and to give thanks for all men: Receive these our prayers which we offer unto thy divine Majesty, beseeching thee to inspire continually the Universal Church with the spirit of truth, unity, and concord; and grant that all those who do confess thy holy Name may agree in the truth of thy holy Word, and live in unity and godly love.

Give grace, O heavenly Father, to all bishops and other ministers, especially Justin, the Archbishop of Canterbury, Michael, our presiding bishop, and Shannon, Susan, and Ted, our bishops, that they may, both by their life and doctrine, set forth thy true and lively Word, and rightly and duly administer thy holy Sacraments.

And to all thy people give thy heavenly grace, and especially to this congregation here present; that, with meek heart and due reverence, they may hear and receive thy holy Word, truly serving thee in holiness and righteousness all the days of their life.

We beseech thee also so to rule the hearts of those who bear the authority of government in this and every land, especially Barack, our president, Donald, our president-elect, and Terry, our governor, that they may be led to wise decisions and right actions for the welfare and peace of the world.

Open, O Lord, the eyes of all people to behold thy gracious hand in all thy works, that, rejoicing in thy whole creation, they may honor thee with their substance, and be faithful stewards of thy bounty.

And we most humbly beseech thee, of thy goodness, O Lord, to comfort and succor those on our parish prayer list and all those who, in this transitory life, are in trouble, sorrow, need, sickness, or any other adversity.

We give you thanks for all the blessings of this life.

And we also bless thy holy Name for all thy servants departed this life in thy faith and fear. We beseech thee to grant them continual growth in thy love and service; and to grant us grace so to follow the good examples of St. Mary and of all thy saints, that with them we may be partakers of thy heavenly kingdom.

Grant these our prayers, O Father, for Jesus Christ's sake, our only Mediator and Advocate.
Amen.

Confession of Sin

Celebrant Let us humbly confess our sins unto Almighty God.

Silence is kept.

People **Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against thee in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved thee with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of thy Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in thy will, and walk in thy ways, to the glory of thy Name. Amen.**

Celebrant Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who of his great mercy hath promised forgiveness of sins to all those who with hearty repentance and true faith turn unto him, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and bring you to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Peace

Please stand.

Prayer Book, page 332

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

The Ministers and People greet one another in the name of the Lord.

After exchanging the Peace, please be seated.

Welcome and Announcements

THE HOLY COMMUNION

The Offertory

The Presentation *At this time, the fruits of our labor are presented to God. Please stand.*

People **All things come of thee, O Lord, and of thine own have we given thee.**

The people remain standing.

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And with thy spirit.**

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them up unto the Lord.**

Celebrant Let us give thanks unto our Lord God.

People **It is meet and right so to do.**

Celebrant It is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places give thanks unto thee, O Lord, Holy Father, almighty, everlasting God, because thou didst give Jesus Christ, thine only Son, to be born for us; who, by the mighty power of the Holy Ghost, was made very Man of the substance of the Virgin Mary his mother; that we might be delivered from the bondage of sin, and receive power to become thy children.

Therefore with Angels and Archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious Name; evermore praising thee and saying,

Sanctus

Said by all.

**Holy, holy, holy, Lord, God of Hosts:
Heaven and earth are full of thy glory.
Glory be to thee, O Lord Most High.
Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

The people kneel, as the Celebrant continues

All glory be to thee, O Lord our God, for that thou didst create heaven and earth, and didst make us in thine own image; and, of thy tender mercy, didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to take our nature upon him, and to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption. He made there a full and perfect sacrifice for the whole world; and did institute, and in his holy Gospel command us to continue, a perpetual memory of that his precious death and sacrifice, until his coming again.

For in the night in which he was betrayed, he took bread; and when he had given thanks to thee, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take, eat, this is my Body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Likewise, after supper, he took the cup; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, "Drink this, all of you; for this is my Blood of the New Covenant, which is shed for you, and for many, for the remission of sins. Do this, as oft as ye shall drink it, in remembrance of me."

Wherefore, O Lord and heavenly Father, we thy people do celebrate and make, with these thy holy gifts which we now offer unto thee, the memorial thy Son hath commanded us to make; having in remembrance his blessed passion and precious death, his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension; and looking for his coming again with power and great glory.

And we most humbly beseech thee, O merciful Father, to hear us, and, with thy Word and Holy Spirit, to bless and sanctify these gifts of bread and wine, that they may be unto us the Body and Blood of thy dearly-beloved Son Jesus Christ,

And we earnestly desire thy fatherly goodness to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, whereby we offer and present unto thee, O Lord, ourselves, our souls and bodies. Grant, we beseech thee, that all who partake of this Holy Communion may worthily receive the most precious Body and

Blood of thy Son Jesus Christ, and be filled with thy grace and heavenly benediction; and also that we and all thy whole Church may be made one body with him, that he may dwell in us, and we in him; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord;

By whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Ghost all honor and glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, world without end. **AMEN.**

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

Celebrant and People

Prayer Book, page 336

**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

Prayer Book, page 337

A period of silence is kept.

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
People **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

The Celebrant says

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.

At the Communion of the People

*All are welcome to receive the Sacrament. When you come forward to the altar rail you may kneel or stand. When you are given the consecrated bread, you may consume it and then drink the wine from the first or larger chalice. Or, if you wish, you may "intinct" or touch the tip of your bread to the wine from the second or smaller cup. You may also choose to receive Communion in only one kind. Either the bread or the wine alone is a full Communion. **Please indicate if you would like to receive a gluten-free wafer.***

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Prayer Book, page 339

Celebrant Let us pray. *Please kneel.*

All **Almighty and everliving God, we most heartily thank thee for that thou dost feed us, in these holy mysteries, with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and dost assure us thereby of thy favor and goodness towards us; and that we are very members incorporate in the mystical body of thy Son, the blessed company of all faithful people; and are also heirs, through hope, of thy everlasting kingdom. And we humbly beseech thee, O heavenly Father, so to assist us with thy grace, that we may continue in that holy fellowship, and do all such good works as thou hast prepared for us to walk in; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honor and glory, world without end. Amen.**

The Blessing

Celebrant The peace of God, which passeth all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, be amongst you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Hymn 111 Silent night, holy night *Sung by all, standing* *Stille Nacht*

Please leave in silence. Merry Christmas!

There is no collection at this Service of Holy Eucharist. Alms basins are at the back of the church if you would like to make a contribution to the ministries of St. Mary's Church.

The Altar flowers are given to the Glory of God.



Participants in tonight's services

Celebrant: Robert G. Hetherington; **Deacon and Preacher:** Louise Browner Blanchard; **Chalice Bearer:** Linda Hendricks and Fay Lohr; **Lay Reader:** Hobie Andrews; **Intercessor:** Betsy Rawles; **Musicians:** Jill Foster, *Violin 1*; Margie Heath, *Violin 2*; Tom Stevens, *Viola*; Barbara Gaden, *cello*; **Oblation Bearers:** Mary and David Campbell; **Ushers:** Jane du Frane and Doug Pera

December Altar Guild: Eva Bryson, Valerie Deep Cary, Connie Martenstein, Scottie Slater, and Charmaine Trice

The Parish Prayer List

Ted Allen, Maggie Bassett, Justin Bennett, Cindy Blanton, Jack Blanton, Ann Lee Saunders Brown, Charles Bryan, Kendall Cray, Kay Gates, Gordon Graham, Linda Hendricks, Elizabeth Hazelton, Lolly Hetherington, Taylor Johnson, Cathy Keiger, Ann Kidd, Anne Lesko, Carol McGee, Barbara Meador, Daniel Moore, Polly Pace, Elizabeth Pope, John Presley, Susan Reynolds, Lori Rowland, Sue Schroeder, Bill Thornton, Elaine Taylor, Callen Tyson, John Wheeler, William Wilson, and Wilton Zaiser. **For all the blessings of this life. For those expecting children. For those who have died, especially Antony Massey DeVilbiss.** In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer, we pray for *the Diocese of Kita Kanto, Japan, and the Rt. Rev. Zerubbabel Katsuichi Hirota.* **For those serving in the military or diplomatic service:** Alec Mackenzie, Timothy Rose. *Names in italics were added to the prayer list this week. Names which have appeared on the prayer list for three months will be removed unless otherwise requested. You are most welcome and encouraged to contact the parish office to request earlier removal or extended prayer.*