

Grace Episcopal Church



Christmas Day

9 AM Holy Eucharist

December 25, 2024

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Prelude

Opening Hymn

Once in David's Royal City v.1-2, 5

1982 Hymnal #435

Blessed are you, Holy and Living One.

You come to your people and set them free.

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

Hymn of Praise

Angels We Have Heard on High v.1

1982 Hymnal #96

**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.

The Word of God

The Collect of the Day

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

Almighty God, you have given your only-begotten Son to take our nature upon him, and to be born this day of a pure virgin: Grant that we, who have been born again and made your children by adoption and grace, may daily be renewed by your Holy Spirit; through our Lord Jesus Christ, to whom with you and the same Spirit be honor and glory, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Lessons

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,
 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.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God**

Psalm 96

- 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.

Titus 2:11-14

A Reading from the letter of Titus.

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**

Gospel Song

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing v. 1-3

1982 Hymnal #87

**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!**

**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 Emmanuel!**

Refrain

**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 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 Nicene Creed

Sung to the tune Ode to Joy.

**We believe in God almighty,
author of all things that be,
Maker of the earth and heavens,
Keeper of the sky and sea.
We believe in God's son, Jesus,
now for us both Lord and Christ,
of the Spirit and of Mary
born to bring abundant life.**

**We believe that Jesus suffered,
scourged and scorned and crucified;
taken from the cross, was buried—
True Life there had truly died.
We believe that on the third day
Christ was raised up from the grave,
then ascended to God's right hand.
He will come to judge and save.**

**We believe in God's own Spirit,
bonding all the saints within
One church catholic, one church holy,
where forgiveness frees from sin;
in the body's resurrection,
for the breaking of death's chain
gives the life that's everlasting.
This the faith that we have claimed.**

Litany Of The Incarnation

O God, the ruler of ages eternal, You are without beginning or end:
**Yet you choose to be born an infant in time. Praise to you, O
Lord.**

O God, the invisible, You are the One whom nobody has seen or can see: **Yet you assume the face of the son of Mary. Praise to you, O Lord.**

O God the all-powerful, You hold the mountains in the palm of your hand: **Yet you let yourself be wrapped in swaddling clothes. Praise to you, O Lord.**

O God, the eternal glory, Innumerable angels acclaim you endlessly: **Yet you choose to be rocked to sleep by the songs of the daughter of David. Praise to you, O Lord.**

O God, the universal provider, you feed every creature: **Yet you choose to hunger for the milk of your mother. Praise to you, O Lord.**

O God, the infinite, Heaven and earth cannot contain you: **Yet you rest in the arms of Mary. Praise to you, O Lord.**

O God, the perfect joy, You are the source of happiness of heaven and earth; **Yet you cry like a little child. Praise to you, O Lord.**

O God, the eternal Word, You are the light of all created intelligence: **Yet you are laid in a manger and cannot even speak. Praise to you, O Lord.**

You are the God of a thousand faces, **Yet nothing can reveal you completely except the face of the child of Bethlehem. We pray to you, Oh Lord: Continue in our lives the mystery of Christmas. Let your Son become flesh in us So that we may be for all our brothers and sisters The revelation of your ever-present love. Amen.**

The Peace

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.
People **And also with you.**

Announcements, Birthdays, Anniversaries

Offertory

The Holy Communion

Eucharistic Prayer B

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to God.

Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God of all of Creation

It is right to give God 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:

Sanctus

Angels From the Realms of Glory *v.1,4*

1982 Hymnal #93

**Angels, from the realms of glory,
wing your flight o'er all the earth;
ye, who sang creation's story,
now proclaim Messiah's birth:**

Refrain

**come and worship, come and worship,
worship Christ, the newborn King.**

**Saints before the altar bending,
watching long in hope and fear,
suddenly the Lord, descending,
in his temple shall appear:**

Refrain

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

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,
**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

Alleluia! Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
Therefore, let us keep the feast. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Fraction Anthem

What Child is This?

1982 Hymnal #115

**What child is this, who, laid to rest,
on Mary's lap is sleeping?
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet,
while shepherds watch are keeping?**

Refrain:

**This, this is Christ the King,
whom shepherds guard and angels sing;
haste, haste to bring him laud,
the babe, the son of Mary.**

**Why lies he in such mean estate
where ox and ass are feeding?
Good Christian, fear: for sinners here
the silent Word is pleading. *Refrain***

The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remem-
brance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by
faith, with thanksgiving.

Jesus is our host; all are welcome at God's table. To receive communion, come forward at the usher's instructions and kneel or stand at the altar rail.

You may either hold on to the bread and "intinct" (dip) it into the bowl of wine when it comes to you, or consume the bread and drink from the cup. Communion in one kind (bread only) is a full communion; gluten free wafers are available if needed. If you are unable to come forward and would like to receive communion in your pew, please let an usher know.

Children and infants are welcome to receive communion, either the bread or wine or both, as long as their parents are comfortable. If you or your child prefers to come forward to receive a blessing, please cross your arms over your chest.

Music At Communion

Communion Hymn

It Came Upon a Midnight Clear v.1-4

1982 Hymnal #89

**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.**

**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
they bend on hovering wing,
and ever o'er its Babel-sounds
the blessed angels sing.**

**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!**

Post-Communion

Father of all, we give you thanks and praise, that when we were still far off you met us in your Son and brought us home. Dying and living, he declared your love, gave us grace and opened the gate of glory. May we who share Christ's body live his risen life; we who drink his cup bring life to others; we whom the Spirit lights give light to the world. Keep us firm in the hope you have set before us so we and all your children shall be free and the whole earth live to praise your name, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Blessing

Closing Hymn

Good Christian Friends, Rejoice! v. 1-3

1982 Hymnal #107

**Good Christian friends, rejoice
with heart and soul and voice;
give ye heed to what we say:
Jesus Christ is born today;
ox and ass before him bow,
and he is in the manger now.
Christ is born today!**

**Good Christian friends, rejoice
with heart and soul and voice;
now ye hear of endless bliss;
Jesus Christ was born for this!**

**He hath opened heaven's door,
and we are blest for evermore.
Christ was born for this!**

**Good Christian friends, rejoice
with heart and soul and voice;
now ye need not fear the grave:
Jesus Christ was born to save!
Calls you one and calls you all
to gain his everlasting hall.
Christ was born to save!**

Dismissal

**Alleluia! Alleluia! Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!**

Postlude

Christmas Services

Sunday 12/29

First Sunday After Christmas, *9am*

Grace Church Staff

Rector:	The Rev. Amy Denney Zuniga
Bishop-in-Residence:	The Rt. Rev. Alan Scarfe
Retired Associate:	The Rev. Wendy Watson
Associate Pastor:	Sarah Christopher
Minister of Music:	Ted von Pohle
Facilities Manager:	Sandra Sheffield
Administrative Manager:	Belli Skinner
Controller:	Marshall Cox
Communications:	Ryan Cagle
Livestream Production:	Brian Capener

Grace Church Vestry

Senior Warden:	Genevieve Schlangen
Junior Warden:	Michael Roché
Treasurer:	Phil Baxter
Clerk:	Alexandra Haslip
Mark Linder	John Sales
Braulio Munoz-Matheny	Sue Cottrell
Craig Bond	Edie Kausch

If you would like our intercessors to pray for you or someone else, please call Helen Christianson at 707-963-4157, or email us at Helen@grace-episcopal.org. All requests are kept confidential.