

CHRIST CHURCH

THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH IN ASPEN



CHRISTMAS DAY
DECEMBER 25, 2022

Welcome to Christ Church! We're glad you're worshipping with us today.

Hymns and service music are found in the blue Hymnal 1982. Text of prayers and lessons are included here.

Please join us for refreshments following the service, outside the front steps or in the Rowland Davis Hall (weather depending).

10:00 AM

THE HOLY EUCHARIST, RITE II
The Book of Common Prayer, pp. 355-366

PRELUDE

Angels We Have Heard on High, arr. Victor Labenske

THE OPENING ACCLAMATION

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

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

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

Hymnal 109, *The first Nowell*, verses 1-3
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THE 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**

HYMN AT THE GLORIA

Hymnal 96, vs 1, 2 *Angels we have heard on high*

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

(Refrain) Glo—ria in excelsis Deo, Glo—ria in excelsis Deo.

2. **Shepherds, why this jubilee? Why these songs of happy cheer?
What great brightness did you see? What glad tidings did you hear? (Refrain)**

Presider: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Presider: Let us pray.

COLLECT OF THE DAY

The Priest says: O God, you make us glad by the yearly festival of the birth of your only Son Jesus Christ: Grant that we, who joyfully receive him as our Redeemer, may with sure confidence behold him when he comes to be our Judge; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

(Please be seated.)

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD OF GOD

A READING FROM THE BOOK OF THE PROPHET ISAIAH 52:7-10

How beautiful upon the mountains

are the feet of the messenger who announces peace,

who brings good news,

who announces salvation,

who says to Zion, "Your God reigns."

Listen! Your sentinels lift up their voices,

together they sing for joy;

for in plain sight they see

the return of the LORD to Zion.

Break forth together into singing,
you ruins of Jerusalem;
for the LORD has comforted his people,
he has redeemed Jerusalem.

The LORD has bared his holy arm
before the eyes of all the nations;
and all the ends of the earth shall see
the salvation of our God.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 98

You have been gracious to your land, O LORD, *
you have restored the good fortune of Jacob.

**You have forgiven the iniquity of your people *
and blotted out all their sins.**

I will listen to what the LORD God is saying, *
for he is speaking peace to his faithful people
and to those who turn their hearts to him.

**Truly, his salvation is very near to those who fear him, *
that his glory may dwell in our land.**

Mercy and truth have met together; *
righteousness and peace have kissed each other.

**Truth shall spring up from the earth, *
and righteousness shall look down from heaven.**

The LORD will indeed grant prosperity, *
and our land will yield its increase.

**Righteousness shall go before him, *
and peace shall be a pathway for his feet.**

**Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit,
As it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.**

A READING FROM THE LETTER OF PAUL TO 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.**

GOSPEL HYMN

Hymnal 79, *O little town of Bethlehem*, verses 1-3
© 1985 by The Church Pension Fund

THE GOSPEL (*Please stand*)

Priest: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John 1:1-14

People: **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

Priest: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: **Praise be to you, O Christ.**

SERMON

The Rev. Dr. Bill Lupfer

A period of silence will be kept.

THE NICENE CREED, p. 358 (*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. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He 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

Intercessor: On this holy night as we come to give thanks to God for loving us so deeply that he made himself known to us in his son Jesus.

Loving God, as we celebrate the birth of your son Jesus, help us remember that in his birth you have given us the gift of yourself; and let your Spirit arouse in our hearts a joy so great that we know the wonders of your love and be filled with comfort, hope, joy and peace.

-May we see in Christ's birth your Divine light

-and rejoice with the heavens on this holy morning.

Gracious God, as we ponder the mystery and miracle of Jesus' birth, give us the humility to offer to others the same compassion, forgiveness, mercy, love and grace you give to us.

-May we follow your star and reflect its light

-and rejoice in your love on this holy morning.

Merciful God, comfort, heal, and give your peace to all who are suffering, especially those for whom this season is a time of grief. We lift up to you now those we hold in our hearts [*names may be offered aloud*]. We also ask that you guide and protect our nation and leaders, your Church in this place and throughout the world, our families, and all of us who are seeking to glorify you, not only with our words but with our lives.

-May we be transformed by your love and your light

-and rejoice in the peace of this holy morning.

Presider: Gracious and loving God, we give you thanks for the gift of your son Jesus. May all who hear our words share our wonder and joy and set forth on a journey that leads them to you.

-In the name of your son Jesus we pray to you, O Lord.

-AMEN.

Presider: Hasten, O Father, the coming of your kingdom; and grant that we your servants, who now live by faith, may with joy behold thy Son at his coming in glorious majesty; even Jesus Christ, our only Mediator and Advocate. *Amen.*

THE PEACE *All stand.*

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

People: **And also with you.**

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

WELCOME / ANNOUNCEMENTS / BIRTHDAY & ANNIVERSARY PRAYERS / TRAVEL PRAYERS

THE LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

OFFERTORY MUSIC

Silent Night, arr. Victor Labenske
Giving QR code located on the back page of the bulletin

DOXOLOGY

Hymnal 380 vs. 4, *Praise God from whom all blessings flow*
© 1985 by The Church Pension Fund

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; / Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host; / Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING *(The people remain standing)*

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 him thanks and praise.**

The Presider proceeds:

It is right, and a good and joyful thing...etc. Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

SANCTUS

Tune: Land of Rest

**Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.

(The people stand or kneel.)

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself...etc. Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

The Presider continues: We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father...etc. ...All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. 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.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER *(Please stand)*

Presider: 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

The Presider breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept. Then the following is said:

Presider: Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

People: **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia!**

INVITATION AND DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION

All people who hunger for God are invited to receive communion. Please form a single file line down the center aisle and receive the consecrated bread and wine. The priest will place the bread in your hands and you can dip the bread into the wine and consume them together then.

COMMUNION MUSIC

It came upon a midnight clear, Arr. Victor Labenske
© MMX Alfred Music Publishing Co, Inc.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER, p. 365 (Please stand)

Presider and People: **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.**

THE BLESSING

May Christ, who by his Incarnation gathered into one things earthly and heavenly, fill you with his joy and peace; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. Amen.

RECESSIONAL HYMN

Hymnal 107, *Good Christian friends, rejoice*
© 1985 by The Church Pension Fund

DISMISSAL

Presider: Let your light shine before others, that they may see your good works, and give glory to God.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

Joy To the World, arr. Nancy Faber

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THANK YOU FOR WORSHIPPING WITH US!

In-Person Services are at 8:00A.M. & 10:00A.M.

The Live Broadcast will be at 10:00A.M. at ChristChurchAspen.org



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## PARTICIPATING IN TODAY'S SERVICE

***Presider:*** The Rev. Dr. Bill Lupfer

***Ministert of Music:*** Mandy Gessler

***Piano and Organ:*** Mandy Gessler

***Acolyte*** Donna Rowlands

***Reader:*** Neala Young

***Altar Guild:*** Alison Ford & Gail Price

***Greeter/Usher:*** Leone & Basil Falcone

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GIVING QR CODE



Open the built-in camera app on your phone. Point the camera at the QR code. Tap the banner that appears, it will connect you to our giving app.

Thank you for your faithful stewardship and valued partnership in ministry.

VESTRY

Lindsay Gorman (Sr. Warden), Joel Shannon (Jr. Warden), Eric Pelander (Treasurer), Diana Rumsey (Clerk), Peter Grenney, Tracy Murtagh, Janice James, and Peter Harrigan.

STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE

Janice James, Neal Douthant, Wayne Stryker, Diana Rumsey, Tracy Murtagh and Jay Webster.

"Let your Light Shine through the Joy of Giving"

STAY CONNECTED

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Parish Administrator, Siri Mytty: siri@christchurchaspen.org

Assistant Administrator, Leslie Boyer: leslie@christchurchaspen.org

Pastoral Care, The Rev. Dr. Bill Lupfer: (646) 618-1684

536 West North Street Aspen, CO 81611-1253



The Sunday News Page

December 25, 2023, THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST

WELCOME TO CHRIST CHURCH

We are glad you are here. If you are a newcomer, or a visitor, please fill out the *Welcome Card* in the pew or in the Narthex, and give to an usher. We would love to get to know you better.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

12/ 25 Joy Stryker

CHURCH OFFICE CLOSURE

The church office will be closed the week after Christmas: **Tuesday, December 26 through January 1, 2024** Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year!

CHURCH SKI DAY COORDINATOR

We are looking for a special someone to coordinate church ski days this winter. If you are interested please reach out to Joy Stryker at joy@strykerbrown.com.

FIRST SUNDAY BREAKFAST

Join us after the service at 10:00 A.M. on **Sunday, January 7**. Donations are appreciated and everyone is welcome! Some say it's the best breakfast in Aspen...come along and decide for yourself.

CHRIST CHURCH ANNUAL MEETING

Save the date!: The Christ Church Annual Meeting will be held on **Sunday, January 28, 2024** between services at 9:00 A.M.

ON-GOING AT CHRIST CHURCH

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sunday School and the Nursery are available on Sundays at 10:00 A.M.

ALTAR FLOWERS

The sign up for Altar flowers is on the table in the Narthex. The florist fee is \$250 and comes with an inscription in the Sunday News page. You are welcome to make a homemade arrangement or share a day with someone. For more information please contact Siri Mytty, Parish Administrator at siri@christchurchaspen.org.

STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN 2024

We hope that you will prayerfully consider joining us in making a financial pledge this year. In addition every new pledge will be matched. Your pledge can help us build toward an even brighter future. May you **“Let Your Light Shine through the Joy of Giving.”** If you did not receive a letter in the mail, there are additional pledge cards on the Narthex table.

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY Wednesdays at 8 A.M. at the Mountain Chalet

Wednesday mornings at 8:00 A.M. for breakfast and men's Bible Study. Email Warren Klug for details at warrenklug1@gmail.com.