



PARISH VESTRY

The Rev. Dr. Bill Lupfer

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

PARISH STAFF

Rev. Dr. Bill Lupfer, *Priest*

Mandy Gessler, *Minister of Music*

Siri Mytty, *Parish Administrator*

Leslie Boyer, *Assistant Administrator*

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CHRIST CHURCH ASPEN



CHRISTMAS EVE
DECEMBER 24, 2023
4:00 P.M.



DECEMBER 24, 2023

May the Lord fill you with joy in this holy season. We are glad you have joined us for the celebration of Christmas Eve. Our regular Sunday services are at 8:00 A.M. and 10:00 A.M. Visitor/newcomer cards are in the pew racks. Please complete a card and drop it in the collection plate, or give it to one of the ushers or clergy at the door.

Our child-friendly Family Christmas Eve service incorporates all the necessary parts of the liturgy, but adapts them for a congregation likely to include a large number of young children. We invite you to receive Holy Communion if you hunger for God. Children of any age are welcome to receive the Sacrament. Simply follow the directions of the ushers.

4:00 PM **FAMILY SERVICE OF HOLY EUCHARIST**

PRELUDE *It Came Upon a Midnight Clear*, arr. Victor Labenske

All standing the Presider says from the church door:

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

People: And Blessed be His Kingdom, now and forever. Alleluia. Alleluia.

ENTRANCE HYMN **Hymnal 83, verses. 1-3, *O Come, all ye faithful***

- 1. O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant,
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;
come and behold him, born the Kind of angels; (Refrain)**

(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)**



Christmas Flowers and Music are Given To The Glory Of God

Flowers are given in loving memory of

Nini and Bill Geary

by Bonnie and Paul Grenney

Music is given in the loving memory of my parents and

Flowers given in the thanksgiving for my family.

by Linda Ho

Flowers and Music are given in grateful thanksgiving for Christ Church

by Eric Pelander and Evalyn Gates

Music is given in memory of loved ones passed

by Diana Rumsey

Flowers and Music are given in loving memory of

Amy Malone Davis and William Guthrie Russell

by Lynn Russell and Stoney Davis

*Flowers and Music in grateful thanksgiving for
our family and our Christ Church Community. Blessing to all.*

by Joy and Wayne Stryker

Music is in loving memory of

Geraldine Dellenback and Campbell Lincicome.

by Patti and Jay Webster





Serving at this Christmas Eve Celebration

The Rev. Dr. Bill Lupfer, *Presiding*
Mandy Gessler, *Piano and Organ*
Donna Rowlands, *Acolyte*
Peter Grenney, *Reader*
Donna Rowlands, *Altar Guild*
Stoney Davis & Peter Grenney, *Greeters/Ushers*
Warren Klug, *"Saint Nicholas"*



Altar Flowers Are Given To The Glory Of God

In loving memory of my Parents and Family
by Diana Rumsey

In grateful Thanksgiving for our Marriage and home in the valley.
by Patti and Jay Webster



Presider: The Lord be with you.
People: **And also with you.**
Presider: Let us pray.

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, on God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

HYMN AT THE GLORIA **Hymnal 96, verses 1, 2** *Angels we have heard on high*

**Angels we have heard on high, singing sweetly through the night,
and the mountains in reply echoing their brave delight.
Glo—ria in excelsis Deo, Glo—ria in excelsis Deo.**

**Shepherds, why this jubilee? Why these songs of happy cheer?
What great brightness did you see? What glad tidings did you hear?
Glo—ria in excelsis Deo, Glo—ria in excelsis Deo.**

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD OF GOD

FIRST LESSON, *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.**

GOSPEL HYMN

**1. We three kings of Orient are,
bearing gifts we traverse afar,
field and fountain, moor and mountain,
following yonder star.**

(Refrain)
**O star of wonder, star of night,
star with royal beauty bright;
westward leading, still proceeding,
guide us to thy perfect light**

Hymnal 128 verses 1-3, *We three kings*

**2. Born a King on Bethlehem's plain,
gold I bring to crown him again,
King for ever, ceasing never
over us all to reign. (Refrain)**

**3. Frankincense to offer have I:
incense owns a Deity nigh;
prayer and praising, gladly raising,
worship him, God Most High. (Refrain)**

A SPECIAL VISIT FROM ST. NICHOLAS

THE 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.

Intercessor: May we see in Christ's birth your Divine light
People: **and rejoice with the heavens on this holy night.**

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.

Intercessor: May we follow your star and reflect its light
People: **and rejoice in your love on this holy night.**

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.

Intercessor: May we be transformed by your love and your light
People: **and rejoice in the peace of this holy night.**
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.

DISMISSAL

The Presider: Let your light shine before others, that they may see your good works and give glory to God.
People: **Thanks be to God. Alleluia. Alleluia.**

POSTLUDE

Hark, the herald angels sing, arr. Victor Labenske

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*Wishing you a
Holy and Blessed Christmas!*

*Join us
Christmas Day at 10:00 A.M.*

CANDLELIGHT HYMN

Hymnal 111, *Silent Night*

Sing as directed, while holding candles.

- 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.**

A BLESSING BY THE PRIEST

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 100, vs. 1, 2, 4, *Joy to the world*

- 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, repeat, repeat the sounding joy.**
- 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.**



Presider: In the name of your son Jesus we pray to you, O Lord.
People: **AMEN.**

THE PEACE (*All stand*)

Presider: The peace of the Christ be always with you.
People: **And also with you.**
We greet one another in the Lord's name.

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

OFFERTORY

O Holy Night, arr. Victor Labenske

DOXOLOGY

Hymnal 380 vs. 4, *Praise God from whom all blessings flow*
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**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. The Celebrant faces them and sings or says:

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.**

Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and every- where 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

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. Then the Celebrant continues.

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.

At the following words concerning the bread, the Celebrant is to hold it, or to lay a hand upon it; and at the words concerning the cup, to hold or place a hand upon the cup and any other vessel containing wine to be consecrated.

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,

Celebrant and People:
**We remember his death,
We proclaim his resurrection,
We await his coming in glory;**

The Celebrant 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, 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.*

Let us now pray in the words our Saviour Christ has taught us to pray:

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. Silence is kept.

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

THE INVITATION

Presider: "The gifts of God for the People of God...etc.

THE DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION

All people who hunger for God are welcome to receive communion or a blessing. Please indicate a blessing by crossing your arms across your chest when you come to the altar.

COMMUNION MUSIC

Away in a Manger, arr. Victor Labenkse

THE 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.