

The Feast of the Nativity



December 25, 2017

10:30 a.m.

St. John's Cathedral

The Episcopal Diocese of Florida

Jacksonville, Florida

Welcome to Saint John's Cathedral! We invite you to join us as an active participant in the worship of God. This bulletin contains the entire service. Music may be found in The Hymnal 1982, found in your pew rack. If you are in need of an assisted listening device, please see an usher. Thank you for being here, and we hope to see you again soon! Blessings to you in this Holy Season.

Dean: The Very Rev. Kate Moorehead
Preacher and Celebrant: The Rev. Allen LaMontagne
Canon for Music: Timothy Tuller

Voluntaries Greensleeves Adapted by R. Vaughan Williams
Arr. Stanley Rober
Pat-a-pan Traditional, Arr. Daniel Kelley
Cindy Miller, cello

Introit Verbum caro factum est 15th c. English Carol
Verbum caro factum est; habitavit in nobis. Alleluia.
The Word was made flesh and dwelt among us. Alleluia.
Notum fecit Dominus salutare suum. Alleluia.
The Lord hath made known His salvation. Alleluia.
Prope invocavit me Pater meus es tu. Alleluia.
Nigh to me, he called unto me, Thou art my Father. Alleluia.

THE WORD OF GOD

In Procession, Hymn 105 "God rest you merry, gentlemen" *God Rest You Merry*

God rest you merry, gentlemen, let nothing you dismay;
remember Christ our Savior was born on Christmas Day,
to save us all from Satan's power when we were gone astray.

Refrain: O tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy; O tidings of comfort and joy!

From God our heavenly Father a blessèd angel came
and unto certain shepherds brought tidings of the same:
how that in Bethlehem was born the Son of God by name. *Refrain.*

"Fear not, then," said the angel, "Let nothing you affright;
this day is born a Savior of a pure virgin bright,
to free all those who trust in him from Satan's power and might." *Refrain.*

Now to the Lord sing praises, all you within this place,
and with true love and charity each other now embrace;
this holy tide of Christmas doth bring redeeming grace. *Refrain*

Celebrant Blessed be our God.
People For ever and ever. Amen.

The Celebrant and People say

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.

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 host 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,
 Pleas'd as man with man 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 Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.
People And also with you.
Celebrant Let us pray.

The Celebrant continues

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.

The People are seated.

The First Lesson

Isaiah 62:6-12

Lector A reading from the Book of Isaiah.

Upon your walls, O Jerusalem, I have posted sentinels; all day and all night they shall never be silent. You who remind the LORD, take no rest, and give him no rest until he establishes Jerusalem and makes it renowned throughout the earth. The LORD has sworn by his right hand and by his mighty arm: I will not again give your grain to be food for your enemies, and foreigners shall not drink the wine for which you have labored; but those who garner it shall eat it and praise the LORD, and those who gather it shall drink it in my holy courts. Go through, go through the gates, prepare the way for the people; build up, build up the highway, clear it of stones, lift up an ensign over the peoples. The LORD has proclaimed to the end of the earth: Say to daughter Zion, "See, your salvation comes; his reward is with him, and his recompense before him." They shall be called, "The Holy People, The Redeemed of the LORD"; and you shall be called, "Sought Out, A City Not Forsaken."

Lector The Word of the Lord.
People Thanks be to God.

A period of silence follows the reading for reflection.

The Choir sings
 Psalm 98

CHANT: Charles Villiers Stanford

O sing unto the Lord a new song, *
 for he hath done marvelous things.

With his own right hand and with his holy arm *
 has he gotten himself the victory.

The LORD declared his salvation; *
 his righteousness hath he openly shewed in the sight of the heathen.

He hath remembered his mercy and truth toward the house of Israel, *
and all the ends of the world have seen the salvation of our God.

Shew yourselves joyful unto the LORD, all ye lands; *
sing rejoice, and give thanks.

Praise the LORD upon the harp, *
sing to the harp with a psalm of thanksgiving.

With trumpets also and shawms *
O shew yourselves joyful before the Lord the King.

Let the sea make a noise and all that therein is, *
the round world and they that dwell therein.

Let the floods clap their hands, and let the hills be joyful together before the LORD, *
for he is come to judge the earth.

With righteousness shall he judge the world *
and the people with equity.

The Second Lesson

Titus 3:4-7

Lector A reading from the letter to Titus.

When the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared, he saved us, not because of any works of righteousness that we had done, but according to his mercy, through the water of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit. This Spirit he poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior, so that, having been justified by his grace, we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

A period of silence follows the reading for reflection.

The People stand and sing.

Hymn 107

“Good Christian friends rejoice”

In Dulci Jubilo

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!

The Gospel

Luke 2:1-20

Gospeler 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.

Gospeler The Gospel of the Lord.
People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Sermon

The Reverend Allen LaMontagne

A period of silence follows the reading for reflection.

The People stand.

The 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: 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.

All remain standing as able.

The Prayers of the People

In the course of the silence after each bidding, the People offer their own prayers, either silently or aloud.

I ask your prayers for God's people throughout the world. We pray especially for the people of the Middle East. We pray for the Church in Jerusalem. Pray for peace.

Silence

I ask your prayers for the poor, the sick, the hungry, the oppressed, and those in prison. Pray for those in any need or trouble.

Silence

I ask your prayers for all who seek God. Pray that they may find and be found by God.

Silence

I ask your prayers for the departed. Pray for those who have died.

Silence

Praise God for those in every generation in whom Christ has been honored. Pray that we may have grace to glorify Christ in our own day.

Silence

The Celebrant concludes the prayers.

The Peace

All stand. The Celebrant says

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

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

Merry Christmas and a warm welcome to our visitors and guests today. Please know how happy we are to have you worship with us. We'd love to welcome our guests, so please fill out a visitor card and drop it in the offering plate as it comes by. God's blessings for a merry Christmas. We hope you'll come again!

THE HOLY COMMUNION

Representatives of the congregation collect the offerings of the People.

The Offertory Anthem

In the bleak midwinter

Gustav Holst

In the bleak mid-winter Frosty wind made moan; Earth stood hard as iron, Water like a stone; Snow had fallen, snow on snow, Snow on snow, In the bleak mid-winter Long ago.	Enough for Him, whom Cherubim Worship night and day, A breastful of milk And a mangerful of hay; Enough for Him, whom Angels Fall down before, The ox and ass and camel Which adore.	What can I give Him, Poor as I am? — If I were a Shepherd I would bring a lamb; If I were a Wise Man I would do my part, — Yet what I can I give Him, — Give my heart. -Christina Rossetti
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Our God, heaven cannot hold Him Nor earth sustain, Heaven and earth shall flee away When He comes to reign: In the bleak mid-winter A stable-place sufficed The Lord God Almighty — Jesus Christ.	Angels and Archangels May have gathered there, Cherubim and seraphim Thronged the air; But only His Mother In her maiden bliss Worshipped the Beloved With a kiss.
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Representatives of the congregation bring forward the People's offerings of bread and wine, money, and other gifts. The People stand when the offerings are brought forward and placed on the Altar. You may also text the dollar amount of your gift to 904-584-3116.

Hymn 380 vs. 3

“Praise God, from whom all blessings flow”

Old 100th

The Great Thanksgiving

Celebrant The Lord be with you.
People And also with you.
Celebrant Lift up your hearts.
People We lift them to the Lord.
Celebrant 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 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,

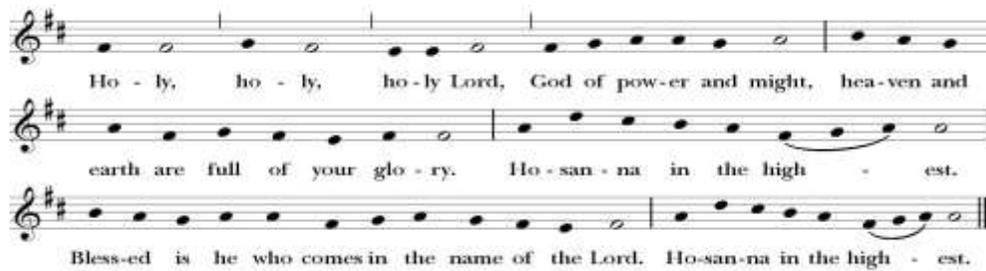
was made perfect Man of the flesh of the Virgin Mary his mother; so that we might be delivered from the bondage of sin, and receive power to become your children.

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:

The Celebrant and People sing

Hymnal, S-124

David Hurd



The People stand or kneel. 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.

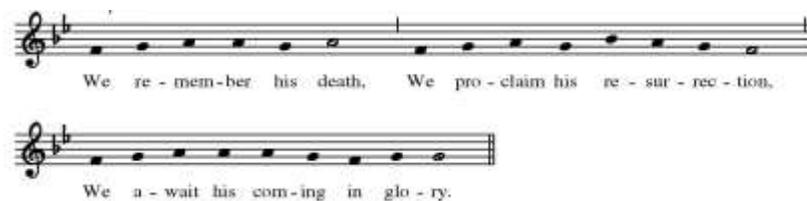
At the following words concerning the bread, the Celebrant is to hold it or lay a hand upon it; and at the words concerning the cup, to hold or place a hand upon the cup and any other vessel containing wine to be consecrated.

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,

The Celebrant and People sing



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, 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.

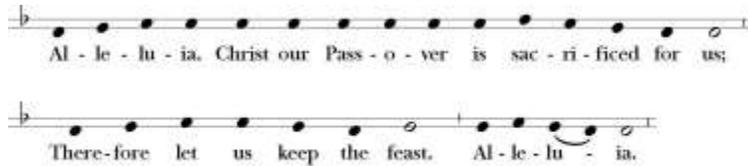
By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. *AMEN.*

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

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept. Then the Celebrant and People sing



The Celebrant continues

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.)

The Lord's Table is open to all. Baptized persons are welcome to receive communion. Unbaptized persons are invited to the altar to receive a blessing. To signify that you do not desire communion, please cross your arms over your chest, and a priest will administer a blessing.

Music at Communion

Coventry Carol
Cindy Miller, cello

Traditional
Arr. Daniel Kelley

Hymn 115

“What child is this”

Greensleeves

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?

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

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. (Refrain)

So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh,
come, peasant, king, to own him;
the King of kings salvation brings,
let loving hearts enthrone him. (Refrain)

Carol (*sung by the Choir*)

Poverty (Nativity)

Welsh Carol

All poor men and humble,
All lame men who stumble,
Come haste ye, nor feel ye afraid;
For Jesus, our treasure,
With love past all measure,
In lowly poor manger was laid.

Though wise men who found him
Laid rich gifts around him,
Yet oxen they gave him their hay:
And Jesus in beauty
Accepted their duty;
Contented in manger he lay.

The haste we to show him
The praises we owe him;
Our service he ne'er can despise:
Whose love still is able
To show us that stable
Where softly in manger he lies.

Postcommunion Prayer

The Celebrant says

Let us pray.

The People kneel. The Celebrant and People say

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 God, who in the Word made flesh joined heaven to earth and earth to heaven, give you his peace and favor. And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. *Amen.*

In Procession, Hymn 100

“Joy to the world! The Lord is come”

Antioch

Joy to the world! the Lord is come:
let earth receive her King;
let every heart prepare him room,
and heaven and nature sing.

No more let sins and sorrows grow,
nor thorns infest the ground;
he comes to make his blessings flow
far as the curse is found.

Joy to the world! the Savior reigns;
let us our songs employ,
while fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains,
repeat the sounding joy.

He rules the world with truth and grace,
and makes the nations prove
the glories of his righteousness,
and wonders of his love.

The Dismissal

People

Alleluia, alleluia. Let us bless the Lord.
Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.

Concluding Voluntary

In Dulci Jubilo

J. S. Bach



Mary and Joseph's journey to Bethlehem is over...our Savior is born and lies in a manger.
The shepherds have listened to the angel and hurried to see the babe in swaddling clothes.
The Wise Men travel on, led by a star.
Two ways to meet our Lord—drop everything and believe
or with quiet study and longing, find the way.
The journey to Bethlehem is complete, but the story is only beginning...



*Christmas Flowers Given to the
Glory of God and in Loving Memory of*

Mary Ellen Germany
John Germany, Sr.
Afifeh & Mitchell Mackoul
Dr. H. Raymond Klein
Dr. Victor P. Mackoul
Walter E. Mackoul
Leila Jones
Valerie Dunn
Hunter Kelly
Dr. Robert Sneller
Jimmie W. Harden
Russell T. Baker
Our parents, Melvin & Fay
Doiron and Eugene & Joyce
Schrader
Jack, Ruth & Craig Carpenter
Donald & John Deakin
Amy Caroline Purcell
Barbara Ann Spancake
Paul & Clara Hafner
Janet K. Collins
Richard Marty
Bonnie T. Grissett
Ted Grissett
Clinton D. Griswold
Dorcas F. Griswold
Carolyn R. Michaels
Mr. & Mrs. Clarence Osborn
Chester & Tate Wilkinson

Ransome Sutherland
Wait & Virginia Brewer
Herbert & Skippy Jenkins
Harry & Rosemary Kimball
Dick Bush
Andrew & Olga Bush
Lucius & Ethel Paul
Lillian & William Armsby
Chester A. Gillis, Jr.
F. Mark Gillis
Charles & Marilyn Lewis
Douglas & Sylvia Tubre
Buddy Walker
Gary F. Keys
Michael J. Keys
Cecelia Bearden
George Baccash
Driscoll Family
Watts Family
Scully Family
Conklin Family
Mr. & Mrs. Ray Hood
Mr. & Mrs. Sherill Wisner
Moses & Sadie Meide
Clara Meide
Ollie Meide
Julia Brannam
Randall Collins
Edith Hulsey Shurley

Fletcher R. Shurley
Mary Laverne Watts
Calvin T. Watts
Doris Seiler
Agnes Stoddard
Grant Peterson
Patricia Corrigan
Nassif Abdelnour
David Abdelnour
George & Helen Barket
Patrick Rash
Bob Rash
Patricia Rash
Bubbie & Uncle Grier
Heather, Manny & Debbie
Frank Barker
Ann Millan
Patricia Nicholas
Amelia Shields DeMuth
Carl Robertson Kurtz, Jr.
Bayard Shields Ferber
Paul L. Ferber
Amelia K. Ferber
Bayard Benoit Shields
Members of the Shields family
George H. & Annie West
George H. West, Jr.
Col. Jim & Adele Higgins
Michael Spruill

*Christmas Flowers Given to the
Glory of God and in Thanksgiving for*

Family & friends
Jean Harden
Charley, Lauren, Stella
and Ruby Baker
Our daughters and their
families; Leslie, Roger & Baby
Girl Clark and Laura, Kenny,
Savannah & James Kwaak
Tom & Lorraine Corey
Thomas & Emily Corey
Renee Corey
Alex Ellis

Abigail Hunt
David Alexander II
Kamryn Alexander
Nicholas Spicer
Elizabeth Spicer
Tory Walker
Collin Walker
Kristen Santarone
Jim, Isabella, Jack &
Eva Lewis-Tubre
Dot Walker
Kathy Lind

Russ Lind
Ray & Lillian Hood
Brooke, Skip, Alec &
Victoria Valet
Katie, Whit, Mallory &
Brendan Wisner
Tom, Lori & Brandon
Hounshell
Our Children
Cleo



PLEASE JOIN US!

THE FESTIVAL OF NINE LESSONS AND CAROLS
CELEBRATING THE FEAST OF THE HOLY NAME
NEW YEAR'S EVE, SUNDAY, DECEMBER 31 AT 5 P.M.
A traditional candlelight Christmas Carol Service
sung by the Choir of St. John's Cathedral.

HOLY EUCHARIST ON SUNDAYS AND WEEKDAYS
Our regular Sunday service times are 8 a.m., 9 a.m. and 11 a.m.,
with Sunday classes at 10 a.m.

We also have Holy Eucharist at 12:10 p.m. every Tuesday-Friday,
and every Wednesday at 7 a.m.



ST. JOHN'S CATHEDRAL

256 East Church Street
Jacksonville, Florida 32202
(904) 356-5507 - www.jaxcathedral.org
Office Hours: Monday-Thursday 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.
and Friday 8 a.m. - 3 p.m.

You can now watch our 11 a.m. Sunday services live on our website!
Just click the Live Broadcast link on the homepage.