



SAINT JOHN'S  
CATHEDRAL  
EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF FLORIDA

LOVE *at the* CORE.

## The Eve of the Nativity

December 24, 2024 | 6 p.m. & 11 p.m



*Lorenzo Lotto, The Nativity, 16th c.*

## WELCOME

We are so glad that you have come to the Cathedral. We would love to get to know you. If you would like to learn about our community, please fill out a connection card that can be found in front of your seat. You can place the card in the silver offering plate that passes by half way through the service or simply hand it to an usher. You can also go to our website at [jaxcathedral.org/welcome](http://jaxcathedral.org/welcome) and fill out a welcome card online.

## CHILDREN

We are so thankful for the gift of children in worship! We embrace their energy and joy they bring to our church family. To help keep their hands and minds engaged during the service, Blessings Bags are available on the Narthex rack. They contain quiet activities and materials to enhance their worship experience. Feel free to borrow one during the service and return afterward so they can be shared with others. If you need a quieter space, a sitting area with a live stream of the service is available near Taliaferro Hall. Ask an Usher for directions.

Thank you for making worship a family experience!

## PRAYER AND VISITS

We are a community that prays for each other. If you need prayer, please let us know. Many people also appreciate someone visiting them in the hospital and praying with them. We have both clergy and chaplains who visit the hospital every day. Please call us if you would like a visit or a blessing (904) 356-5507 or go to [jaxcathedral.org/prayer-requests](http://jaxcathedral.org/prayer-requests) and we will respond quickly and confidentially.

If you have an emergency and want to reach a priest, please call the same number and press 4.

## ✻ THE HOLY EUCHARIST ✻

### Music Before the Service

In Dulci Jubilo, Michael Praetorius

Cinq Noëls, Traditional French

Arr. Michel Rondeau

*I. Voici la Noël*

*II. Iesous Ahatonnia*

*III. Noël Nouvelet*

*IV. Tout le Ciel Reluit*

*V. Entre le Bœuf et L'Âne Gris*

Noël sûr les jeux d'anches, Louis Claude D'Aquin

Yuletide Carols for Brass and Organ, Various/Traditional

Arr. Robert Powell

*The People remain seated. The lights are dimmed and the Advent wreath is lit. As the Christ Light begins to shine forth, we hear the opening sentences of Saint John's Gospel.*

### In Procession, Hymn 83

"O come, all ye faithful"

*Adeste fideles*

## ✻ THE LITURGY OF THE WORD ✻

Celebrant Blessed be our God.

**People Forever and ever. Amen.**

**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 87

"Hark the herald angels sing"

*Mendelssohn*

### The Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

**People And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

*Silence.*

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.**

*All sit.*

## The First Lesson

Isaiah 9:2-7

Reader      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 onward and forevermore. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.

The Word of the Lord.

People      **Thanks be to God.**

## Psalm 96 *(sung by the Cathedral Choir)*

Thomas Attwood

**O sing unto the Lord a new song; sing unto the Lord, all the whole earth.**

**Sing unto the Lord, and praise his Name; be telling of his salvation from day to day.**

**Declare his honour unto the heathen, and his wonders unto all people.**

**For the Lord is great, and cannot worthily be praised; he is more to be feared than all gods.**

**As for the gods of the heathen, they are but idols; but it is the Lord that made the heavens.**

**Glory and worship are before him; power and honour are in his sanctuary.**

**Ascribe unto the Lord, O ye kindreds of the people, ascribe unto the Lord worship and power.**

**Ascribe unto the Lord the honor due unto his Name; bring presents, and come into his courts.**

**O worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness; let the whole earth stand in awe of him.**

**Tell it out among the heathen, that the Lord is King, and that it is he who hath made the round world so fast that it cannot be moved; and how that he shall judge the people righteously.**

Let the heavens rejoice, and let the earth be glad; let the sea make a noise, and all that therein is.

Let the field be joyful, and all that is in it; then shall all the trees of the wood rejoice before the Lord.

For he cometh, for he cometh to judge the earth; and with righteousness to judge the world, and the people with his truth.

## The Second Lesson

Titus 2:11-14

Reader A reading from the letter of Paul to 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.

The Word of the Lord.

**People** Thanks be to God.

*All stand.*

## Chant *(sung three times)*

John Bell



## The Holy 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.

The Gospel of the Lord.

**People Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

*Repeat Chant three times.*

*All sit.*

## The Sermon

The Very Rev. Kate Moorehead Carroll

*A period of silence is kept.*

*All stand.*

## The Nicene Creed

**All 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.

## The Prayers of the People

Leader We pray for God's people throughout the world. For the sick, the hungry and those who have no home.

*Silence.*

We pray for the city of Jacksonville and for this Cathedral district here in the heart of the urban core. Pray that we may bring new life to downtown Jacksonville and serve those in need.

*Silence.*

We pray for the nations of the earth, especially the Middle East, Ukraine, Sudan, Congo, and all nations torn by war, injustice and oppression. Pray for peace.

*Silence.*

We pray for this beautiful earth that You have given us. Pray that we may cherish and care for this planet.

*Silence.*

We pray for all who have died, that they may be welcomed into your loving embrace. Pray for those we love but see no longer.

*Silence.*

We thank you God for the gift of Christ's birth, for the gift of our lives and for all the people we love.

*Silence.*

*The Celebrant concludes the prayers. All remain standing or kneel as able.*

## The Peace

Celebrant The Peace of the Lord be always with you.

**People And also with you.**

*Greet one another with the peace of Jesus.*



# Welcome and Announcements



As the altar is prepared for Communion, please place your offering in the collection plate as it is passed. You may also give by texting jaxcathedral \$(amount) to 73256. Or use the QR code to give online. Thank you for your generosity.

## ✠ THE HOLY COMMUNION ✠

### The Offertory

Sans Day Carol, Traditional Cornish  
arr. John Rutter

Now the holly bears a berry as white as the milk,  
And Mary bore Jesus, who was wrapped up in silk:

*Refrain: And Mary bore Jesus Christ our Savior for to be,  
And the first tree in the greenwood, it was the holly. Holly! Holly!  
And the first tree in the greenwood, it was the holly!*

Now the holly bears a berry as green as the grass,  
And Mary bore Jesus, who died on the cross: *Refrain*

Now the holly bears a berry as black as the coal,  
And Mary bore Jesus, who died for us all: *Refrain*

Now the holly bears a berry, as blood is it red,  
Then trust we our Savior, who rose from the dead: *Refrain*

### Hymn 380 (St. 3)

### The Great Thanksgiving (chanted at 11 p.m.)

### Enriching our Worship I

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 our thanks and praise.**

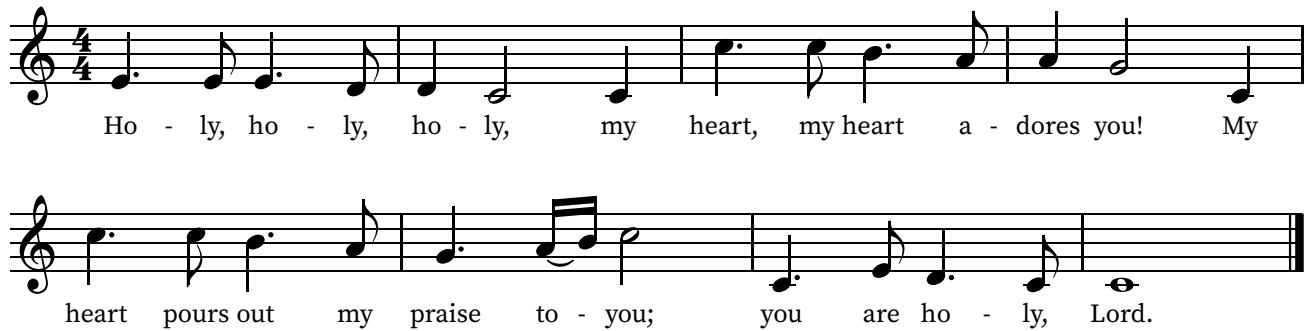
The musical notation consists of three systems, each with a Celebrant staff and a People staff. The first system has the lyrics 'The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.' The second system has 'Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.' The third system has 'Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is right to give him thanks and praise.'

It is truly right, and good and joyful, to give you thanks, all-holy God, source of life and fountain of mercy. You have filled us and all creation with your blessing and fed us with your constant love; you have redeemed us in Jesus Christ and knit us into one body. Through your Spirit you replenish us and call us to fullness of life. Therefore, joining with Angels and Archangels and with the faithful of every generation, we lift our voices with all creation as we sing:



# Sanctus *(Sung three times)*

Holy, Holy, Holy, My Heart  
WLP 785



*All stand or kneel.*

**Celebrant** Blessed are you, gracious God, creator of the universe and giver of life. You formed us in your own image and called us to dwell in your infinite love. You gave the world into our care that we might be your faithful stewards and show forth your bountiful grace.

But we failed to honor your image in one another and in ourselves; we would not see your goodness in the world around us; and so we violated your creation, abused one another, and rejected your love. Yet you never ceased to care for us, and prepared the way of salvation for all people.

Through Abraham and Sarah you called us into covenant with you. You delivered us from slavery, sustained us in the wilderness, and raised up prophets to renew your promise of salvation. Then, in the fullness of time, you sent your eternal Word, made mortal flesh in Jesus. Born into the human family, and dwelling among us, he revealed your glory. Giving himself freely to death on the cross, he triumphed over evil, opening the way of freedom and life.

On the night before he died for us, Our Savior Jesus Christ took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his friends, and said: "Take, eat: This is my Body which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

As supper was ending, Jesus 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 poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

**All** **Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

**Celebrant** Remembering his death and resurrection, we now present to you from your creation this bread and this wine. By your Holy Spirit may they be for us the Body and Blood of our Savior Jesus Christ. Grant that we who share these gifts may be filled with the Holy Spirit and live as Christ's Body in the world. Bring us into the everlasting heritage of your daughters and sons, that with all your saints, past, present, and yet to come, we may

praise your Name for ever. Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor, glory, and praise, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

**All** 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.**

*Celebrant breaks the consecrated bread.*

**All** **Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us; therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

**Celebrant** 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.

*All who long for God are welcome to receive communion. Please let clergy know if you would like a gluten-free wafer. Everyone is welcome to come to the altar for a blessing, indicated by folding your arms across your chest. If you would like to receive communion and are unable to come to the altar, please ask an usher for assistance. A socially distant communion table is set in the chapel to the right of the altar and you may receive prayers in the chapel to the left.*

## Music at Communion

All This Time, William Walton

*Refrain: All this time this song is best: 'Verbum caro factum est.'*

This night there is a child yborn  
That sprang out of Jesse's thorn;  
We must sing and say therefor, *Refrain*

Jesus is the child's name,  
And Mary mild is his dame;  
All our sorrow shall turn to game: *Refrain*

It fell upon high midnight:  
The stars shone both fair and bright;  
The angels sang with all their might, *Refrain*

Now kneel we down on our knee,  
And pray we to the Trinity  
Our help, our succour for to be: *Refrain*

“When He is King we will give Him the Kings’ gifts:  
Myrrh for its sweetness, and gold for a crown,  
Beautiful robes,” said the young girl to Joseph,  
Fair with her first-born on Bethlehem Down.

Bethlehem Down is full of the starlight:  
Winds for the spices, and stars for the gold,  
Mary for sleep, and for lullaby music  
Songs of a shepherd by Bethlehem fold.

When He is King they will clothe Him in grave-sheets:  
Myrrh for embalming, and wood for a crown,  
He that lies now in the white arms of Mary,  
Sleeping so lightly on Bethlehem Down.

Here He has peace and a short while for dreaming:  
Close-huddled oxen to keep Him from cold,  
Mary for love, and for lullaby music  
Songs of a shepherd by Bethlehem fold.

*-Bruce Blunt*

Hymn 79

“O little town of Bethlehem”  
*St. Louis*

Hymn 101

“Away in a manger”  
*Cradle Song*

*The lights dim. The People remain kneeling for the singing of “Silent Night.”*

Hymn 111

“Silent night, holy night”  
*Stille Nacht*

## Postcommunion Prayer

Celebrant 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.**

## Blessing

Celebrant    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.**

## In Procession, Hymn 100

“Joy to the World”  
*Antioch*

## The Dismissal

Deacon        Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Alleluia, alleluia!

People        **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia!**

## Voluntary

Carol of the Bells, Mykola Leontovych  
Arr. Avi Benson



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[www.jaxcathedral.org](http://www.jaxcathedral.org)



[@jaxcathedral.org](https://www.instagram.com/jaxcathedral)

We invite you to join us again at St. John's Cathedral soon.  
Sunday morning services are held at 8 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.

NEW YEAR'S EVE  
Tuesday, December 31  
**Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols**  
5 p.m. | Champagne reception to follow

## CHURCH OFFICE HOLIDAY CLOSURES

The church office will be closed December 25th and 26th, as well as January 1st and 2nd.

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# *Poinsettias at the Christmas Altar*

given in loving memory of

Donna Richards  
Geneva Hubbard  
Daryl, Barbara & Shirley  
Christopher L. Garrett  
Denise Schoonmaker  
Karen W. Duncan  
Thomas & Lorraine Corey  
Parents of Gianni & Sonia Vivian  
Earl & Dixie Jones  
Edward Charron  
Robert & Donna Maxwell  
Bud Staggs  
Carl Hathaway  
Pat Hathaway  
Doris Hambrecht  
Jean Marie Hussong

Cindy Mueller  
Claus Erstling  
Robert Hodgson  
Mr. & Mrs. Clarence Osborn  
Tom Burrell  
David Burrell  
Sue Harris  
Dorothy Root  
Tom Deters  
John Daily  
Alberta Daily  
Mr. & Mrs. Samuel Diegue  
Lillian & William Armsby  
The Rev. Dr. R. Wayne Wood  
Rolf Towe  
Nancy & Harry Mason  
Stephen Clarke Mason

given in thanksgiving for

The Cathedral Clergy and Staff  
Tim Tuller and the Cathedral Choir  
The Cathedral Worship Teams and Sanctuary Guild  
The Hill Family  
The Hicks Family  
Mary Jane and Larry McKnight  
Caroline Ketchum  
Sharon Staggs  
Linda & Melissa's 20th Wedding Anniversary  
Our children and grandchildren, Bob & Valerie Dannals  
Leslie, Roger & Margo Clark  
Laura, Kenny, Savannah & James Kwaak  
Our daughter and our parents, Kristen & Brad Laughlin  
Nina & John Searcy  
The Cathedral Cats  
Our children, Bond, Ben & Abbay Mageveny



## ∞ LOVE AT THE CORE ∞

Love at the Core is our motto; it refers to the heart of who we are. For nearly 200 years, St. John's Cathedral has sought to lead people in worship and community service here in the urban core of Jacksonville. We believe that through beauty, art, and worship we can draw people into community to experience God's love and serve those in need. We are a diverse congregation that welcomes all people. You are welcome to learn about the love of Jesus with us.

### Our Clergy



**The Very Rev.  
Kate Moorehead Carroll**  
Dean



**The Rev.  
Mark S. Anderson**  
Subdean



**The Rev. Dr.  
Linda Privitera**  
Associate Priest



**The Rev. Saundra Kidd**  
Deacon for Pastoral Care  
and Outreach

### Our Vestry

Steve Busey, Chancellor   John Sefton, Subchancellor   Charles Winney, Treasurer  
Martha Cox, Sr. Warden   Patrick Kimball, Jr. Warden

John Bass, Donna Walker Bell, Chris Collinsworth, Glenn Guiler, Paige Hakimian,  
Lewis Hunt, Will Ketchum, Lloyd Lewis, Lisa McKenna, Meg Sacks, Shane Williams