

Christmas Eve

A Service for Families and Children



5:00 p.m. - 24 December A.D. 2019

Episcopal Church of the Ascension

205 South Summit Ave. · Gaithersburg, Maryland 20877
Phone: 301.948.0122 www.ascensionmd.org

Welcome Team:

*Vince Fera-Rivera
Gina Fera
Dorett Sutherland*

Acolytes:

*Isabella Rincon-Noble
Ron Hayden
Ray Chin*

Chalicians:

*Florence Chukwurah
Gina Fera*

Prelude

THE WEXFORD CAROL
Trad. Irish, arr. Mark Hayes

Hymnal 1982 #83, vs. 1, 3 and 6

O come, all ye faithful

Opening Prayer

Let us love God with our hearts
People: **and our neighbors as ourselves.**
 Let us love God with our minds.
People: **and our neighbors as ourselves**
 Let us love God with our strength
People: **and our neighbors as ourselves.**

Lift Every Voice and Sing #27

Away in a Manger

1. A - way in a man-ger, no crib for a bed, The lit - tle Lord
 2. The cat - tle are low - ing the Ba - by a - wakes, But lit - tle Lord
 3. Be near me, Lord Je - sus, I ask thee to stay Close by me for

1. Je - sus laid down His sweet head. The stars in the sky__ looked
 2. Je - sus, no cry - ing He makes, I love thee, Lord Je - sus! Look
 3. ev - er, and love me, I pray. Bless all the dear chil - dren in

1. down where He lay, The lit - tle Lord Je - sus a - sleep on the hay.
 2. down from the sky, And stay by my cra - dle till morn - ing is nigh.
 3. thy ten - der care, And fit us for heav - en to live with thee there.

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.**

Christmas Story

The Affirmation of Faith Priest and People

**You, O God, are supreme and holy,
 You create our world and give us life.
 Your purpose overarches everything we do.
 You have always been with us.
 You are God.
 You, O God, are infinitely generous,
 Good beyond all measure.
 You came to us before we came to you.**

**You have revealed and proved
 Your love for us in Jesus Christ,
 Who lived and died and rose again.
 You are with us now.
 You are God.
 You, O God, are Holy Spirit.
 You empower us to be your gospel in the world.
 You reconcile and heal; you overcome death.
 You are our God. We worship you.**

Prayer Time

**We thank God for what we have and ask
 God for what we want.**

The Peace

We greet one another in the name of the Lord.

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

Offertory

While the altar table is prepared, we pass the offering plates and sing.

Hymnal 1982 #99

Go tell it on the mountain

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord is here.
People: **God's Spirit is with us,**
 Lift up your hearts.
People: **We lift them to the Lord.**
 Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People: **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

It is good for us to always give thanks to you, Lord God, creator of heaven and earth. So we praise you, singing with all the angels of heaven this hymn to you:

After the preface, all sing together.

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and

The first line of musical notation is in 6/4 time, featuring a treble and bass clef. The melody is written in the treble clef, and the accompaniment is in the bass clef. The lyrics are: "Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and".

might, heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -

The second line of musical notation continues the melody and accompaniment from the first line. The lyrics are: "might, heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -".

san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes

in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the

high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

The image shows a three-system musical score for a hymn. Each system consists of a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment line (bass clef). The key signature has one flat (B-flat). The lyrics are: 'san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.'

On the night before he died, Jesus gathered his friends together to share a meal. Before they ate, he lifted up the bread and wine to God and gave thanks. He thanked God for making the wheat for the bread and the grapes for the wine. After he gave thanks for the bread and the wine, Jesus took the bread and broke it into pieces—one piece for each of his friends.

Then Jesus gave the bread to his friends, and when he did he said, “Take, eat: This is my Body which is given for you. Do this to remember me.” Jesus wanted his friends to remember him whenever they ate bread together.

Next Jesus shared the cup of wine with his friends. He said to them, “Drink this, all of you. This is my Blood shed for you. Whenever you drink it, do this to remember me.” Jesus also wanted his friends to remember him when they drank wine together.

That night at Jesus’ last meal before he died, he asked his friends to remember him. Today, we also remember Jesus as we share bread and wine together. We remember Jesus died on the cross and we also remember he rose from the grave. We remember this mystery of faith:

Christ has died.
Christ has risen.
Christ will come again.

At dinner that night Jesus made a promise to his friends. He said, “I will never leave you alone. I will send God’s Holy Spirit to fill your hearts and your minds.” Jesus makes that same promise to us today. Jesus helps us and is with us in everything we do and everywhere we go.

So, today, we ask the Holy Spirit of God to touch this bread, this cup, and our own hearts so we may remember Jesus just as his friends did at that dinner long ago. Blessed Trinity, Creator, Christ, and Holy Spirit, we give you praise and glory now and forever. **AMEN.**

The prayer finishes with the Lord's Prayer:

Our Father in heaven,
holy is your Name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us
as we forgive others.
Save us from the time of trial,
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and for ever. Amen.

Silence is kept as the priest breaks the bread

We break this bread to share in the Body of Christ.

People: We who are many are one body, for we all share in the one bread.

All are welcome to receive communion. If you do not wish to receive, cross your hands over your chest and the priest will give you a blessing. Gluten-free wafers are also available. Make your need known to the Clergy by holding up three fingers. If you wish to learn more about baptism, please speak to one of the clergy. After receiving the bread and wine, or a blessing, you may return to your seat.

The Prayer After Communion

We thank you, Lord, for this life.
We thank you for this holy food.
Strengthen us for your service.
And be with us always. *Amen.*

The Blessing

Priest: Live without fear: your Creator has made you holy, has always protected you, and loves you as a mother. Go in peace to follow the good road, and may the blessing of God Almighty, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, be upon us today and remain with us always.

Hymnal 1982 #100, vs. 1, 2, 4

Joy to the world!

Postlude

Hornpipe from 'Water Music'
George Frederic Handel

The Dismissal

Priest or Deacon: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God.

Christmas Flowers

The Christmas flowers were given by:

Mary and Jack Rouse *in honor of their grandchildren Andrew and Claire Rouse*
Peg Ruppel *in honor of the Ruppel Family*
Johnetta Mars-Gibson *in honor of her grandmom Leona Chesson*

Kristin Fitzpatrick *in loving memory of Bryan Fitzpatrick*
Alfredia Freeman Black *in loving memory of the Black & Watkins families*
Ed and Helen Neal *in loving memory of Jane & Horace Neal;*
Mary Capari and Constantine Smiy

Cynthia Perley *in loving memory of Lincoln Perley IV; John & Lucille Cocumelli;*
and Lincoln & Audrey Perley

Nancy Carman *in loving memory of John Carman III; Shirley Thomas;*
William Thomas and Patricia Thomas

Shirley Allen *in loving memory of her uncle Richlieu Ricks, Sr.*
James, Jon & Alfredia Black *in loving memory of James Black Sr.;*
Frances Gooch; and Alfred & Louella Watkins

Esther & Margaret Tellu *in loving memory of Moses & Doris Tellu; Elizabeth, Edmond,*
Prince, Chuku; uncles, aunts, grandparents; Sam, Jr.; Marian and Juliet

Betsy Hasegawa *in loving memory of Helen & Jerry Jenkins and Linda Cates*
Tunde Ayinde *in loving memory of Michael Lynne Lea*

Dotty & Jerry Pfadenhauer *in loving memory of Glenn, Charles & Alice Pfadenhauer;*
Sophie Dunbar; and Caryl Thomas

Elizabeth Lennon *in loving memory of William & Helen Bradfield*

Peg Donnellon *in loving memory of John, Dot, Mary, Paul & Lori Ahrens*

Don & Marty Marks *in loving memory of the Marks and VanAiken families*

Berenice & Lucelia Rodriguez *in loving memory of Maria Socorro Guzman*

Gwendolyn Wilson *in loving memory of Samuel Gooding; Ngogi, Kelly & Jack*

Anne Brink *in loving memory of her mother Lois Becker*

Alice Nyakabwa Katenta *in loving memory of her father, mother & all Nyakabwa family*

Gloria Nwankwo
Denise & Tom Lionetti
Ron & Jan Hauber
Phyllis Eddy & Joe Deffenbaugh
Stella Escobar & Elizabeth Vergel
Betty Knight
M. Hakimi
Anonymous



Leadership at Ascension

Clergy

The Rev. Javier García Ocampo, *Priest in Charge*
The Rev. Nan Hildebrand, *Pastoral Associate*
The Rev. Eugene Wright, *Deacon*

Musicians

Andrew Kullberg, *Minister of Music*
Jesse Velazquez, *Spanish Service Music Director*
The Ascension Choir

Wardens

Betsy Hasegawa, *Senior Warden*
Zadinga Ogada, *Junior Warden*

Vestry

2020: Gordon Donnelly, Meredith Horan, Luis Pedrón
2021: Berenice Rodriguez, Bob Waters, Susan McLaughlin
2022: James Black, Kristen Keating, Wadai Dennis

Danielle Allen, *Clerk of the Vestry*
Avin Lalmansingh, *Treasurer*

Ministry Area Leaders

Megan Didavi, *Christian Formation for Children*
Angie Hight-Walker, *Christian Formation for Youth*
Ted Bedell, *Facilities*
Avin Lalmansingh, *Finance*
Paul Boynton, *Mission*
Javier Ocampo/Nan Hildebrand, *Pastoral Care*
Jean Cohn, *Personnel*
Curt Lindsay/Gary McLaughlin, *Worship*

Delegates to Diocesan Convention

Mardia Dennis, Gary McLaughlin, Sue Snay
Alternate: Fredy Diaz

Staff

Lin Keene, *Parish Administrator*
Jesse Velazquez, *Communication*



THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION
205 SOUTH SUMMIT AVENUE
GAITHERSBURG, MARYLAND 20877-2315
PHONE: 301.948.0122 – FAX: 301.926.9012
ECA@ASCENSIONMD.ORG
WWW.ASCENSIONMD.ORG