

# Christmas Eve Festival Eucharist



**24 December A.D. 2019**  
**9:00 p.m.**

The Rev. Javier García Ocampo, *Priest in Charge*  
The Rev. Nan Hildebrand, *Pastoral Associate*  
The Rev. Eugene Wright, *Deacon*  
Andrew Kullberg, *Minister of Music*  
Jesse Velazquez, *Director of Music Spanish Service*

*Welcome to Ascension!*

*For more information about our community, fill out a welcome card, found at either end of the pews, or take one of our welcome packets from the table under the monitor in the narthex.*

*The entire service, including the music, is contained in this bulletin.  
Beginning ten minutes before the service, please help us create a contemplative space  
by refraining from cell phone use or loud conversation.  
Please silence your audible devices.*

**The Episcopal Church of the Ascension**  
**Gaithersburg, Maryland**

## CHORAL PRELUDE

*The people remain seated for the hymns and anthems.*

**Hymn** *Sung by all.*  
"Lo, how a Rose e'er blooming" **1982 Hymnal # 81** *Es ist ein Ros*

**Hymn** *Sung by the choir*  
"What is this Fragrance" *French Carol arr. John Huston*

**Piano Solo by Andrew Kullberg**  
"Joy to the World" *Arr. Joseph M. Martin*

**Hymn** *Sung by all*  
"Angels we have heard on high" **1982 Hymnal # 96** *Gloria*

**Hymn** *Sung by the choir*  
"Candlelight Carol" *John Rutter*

**Hymn** *Sung by all*  
"It Came upon the midnight clear" **1982 Hymnal # 89** *Carol*

**Duet by Amy Van Dalinda and Lauren Kingsland**  
"Cantique de Noel " *Adolph Adam*

## THE ENTRANCE RITE

*The people remain seated.*

### Opening Voluntary

"The Wexford Carol" *Trad. Irish carol, Arr. Mark Hayes*

**Introit** *Sung by the choir*

"Of the Father's Love Begotten " *arr. Paul Wohlgeomuth*

*The people stand at the hymn and remain standing through the Collect for Christmas.*

**Hymn in Procession** *Sung by all*  
"O come, all ye faithful" **1982 Hymnal # 83** *Adeste fideles*

### Opening Acclamation

*Celebrant* Blessed are you, holy and living one.  
*People* **You come to your people and set them free.**

### The Collect for Purity

*Celebrant and People* **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.**

**Gloria in excelsis**

*Sung by all.*

“Gloria to God in the highest”

**1982 Hymnal # S 278**

William Mathias

1. Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and  
peace to his peo-ple on earth. 2. Lord God, heaven-ly King, al-  
might-y God and Fa-ther, we wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we  
praise you for your glo-ry. 3. Lord Je-sus Christ,  
on-ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, 4. you  
take a-way the sin of the world: have mer-cy on us;  
5. you are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa-ther: re-  
ceive our prayer. 6. For  
you a-lone are the Ho-ly One, you a-lone are the Lord,  
7. you a-lone are the Most High, Je-sus Christ, with the  
Ho-ly Spi-rit, in the glo-ry of  
God the Fa-ther. A - men.

## The Collect for Christmas

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

*Celebrant and People* **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.**

*The people sit.*

## THE WORD OF GOD

### The First Reading

Isaiah 9:2-7

*Reader* A reading from the book of the prophet 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.

*Reader* Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.  
*People* **Thanks be to God.** 🛎

### Psalm 96 (read responsively)

Sing to the Lord a new song;  
**sing to the Lord, all the whole earth.**  
Sing to the Lord and bless his Name;  
**proclaim the good news of his salvation  
from day to day.**  
Declare his glory among the nations  
**and his wonders among all peoples.**  
For great is the Lord and greatly to be praised;  
**he is more to be feared than all gods.**  
As for all the gods of the nations, they are but  
idols;  
**but it is the Lord who made the heavens.**  
Oh, the majesty and magnificence of his presence!  
**Oh, the power and the splendor of his  
sanctuary!**  
Ascribe to the Lord, you families of the peoples;  
**ascribe to the Lord honor and power.**

Ascribe to the Lord the honor due his Name;  
**bring offerings and come into his courts.**  
Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness;  
**let the whole earth tremble before him.**  
Tell it out among the nations: "The Lord is King!  
**he has made the world so firm that it  
cannot be moved;**  
**he will judge the peoples with equity."**  
Let the heavens rejoice, and let the earth be glad;  
let the sea thunder and all that is in it;  
**let the field be joyful and all that is  
therein.**  
Then shall all the trees of the wood shout for joy  
before the Lord when he comes,  
**when he comes to judge the earth.**  
He will judge the world with righteousness  
**and the peoples with his truth.**

## The Second Reading

Titus 2:11-14

*Reader* A reading from the letter of the apostle St. 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.

*Reader* Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.  
*People* **Thanks be to God.** 🛎

*The people stand for the hymn and remain standing for the Gospel.*

## Hymn at the Sequence

*Sung by all, verses 1-4 before the Gospel, verse 5 after.*

"O little town of Bethlehem"

**1982 Hymnal # 79**

*St. Louis*

## The Gospel

Luke 2:1-20

*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.**

*The people are seated at the invitation of the preacher.*

## Sermon

The Rev. Javier Garcia Ocampo

*The people stand.*

## The Nicene Creed

*Celebrant and People*

**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.  
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

In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

For all people in their daily life and work;  
**For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.**

For this community, the nation, and the world;  
**For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.**

For the just and proper use of your creation;  
**For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.**

For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;  
**For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.**

For the peace and unity of the Church of God;  
**For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.**

For all bishops, priests, and deacons, especially Michael, our Presiding Bishop, Mariann and Chilton, our  
Bishops, and Javier, Nan and Eugene, our clergy.  
**For all who serve God in his Church.**

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation.  
*Silence*

*The People may add their own petitions*

We pray for comfort, healing, courage, and hope for **John** Walker, **Rebecca** Pittman, **Samuel** Tellu, **Sciou** Broderick, **Marcia** Noble, **Eduardo** Rincon, **Warren** Porter, **Jim** Wilson, **Tim** Anderson, **Leslie** Sanya, **Sue** Jenkins, **Olive** Rivera, **Wadai** Dennis, **Judy** Conroy, **Doris** Chin, **Jean** Cohn, **Lee** Silverman, **Johnetta** Mars-Gibson, **Clint** Miller, **Neville** Barr, **Phyllis** Kramer, **Calya** Crawford and all those who, in this transitory life, are in trouble, sorrow, need, sickness, or any other adversity, as well as those on our extended healing prayer list.

Hear us, Lord;

**For your mercy is great.**

We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life.

*Silence*

*The People may add their own thanksgivings*

We will exalt you, O God our King;

**And praise your Name for ever and ever.**

We pray for all who have died, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom.

*Silence*

*The People may add their own petitions*

Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;

**Who put their trust in you.**

All say the prayer for Ascension:

**God of all, we offer thanks to you for this our parish, Church of the Ascension, as we gather here together in your name. Bless us with remembrance of those who founded this parish, erected the walls, and provided the space we have today. We pray that we may continue their work with perseverance and faithfulness to become a truly One Ascension for this community. We pray for strength, steadfastness, and vision for Padre Javier on his journey as our Priest in Charge. Guide us as we walk the way with him. We pray that the path we take together and the light that shows us the way are your own. In Jesus's name we pray. Amen.**

*Presider* Lord, hear the prayers of your people; and what we have asked faithfully, grant that we may obtain effectually, to the glory of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

## **The Peace**

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

*The Ministers and People greet one another in the name of the Lord and are then seated.*

## **Announcements**

### **Anthem at the Offertory**

"O Magnum Mysterium"

*Sung by the Choir*

Morten Lauridsen

Translation:

O great mystery, and wonderful sacrament, that animals should see the newborn Lord, lying in a manger!

Blessed is the virgin whose womb was worthy to bear the Lord, Jesus Christ.

Alleluia!

The people stand.

**Hymn at the Presentation**  
"Angels from the Realms of Glory"

*Sung by all*  
**1982 Hymnal # 93**

*Regent Square*

### THE HOLY COMMUNION

*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.**

*Celebrant*

It is truly right to glorify you, Father, and to give you thanks; for you alone are God, living and true, dwelling in light inaccessible from before time and forever.

Fountain of life and source of all goodness, you made all things and fill them with your blessing; you created them to rejoice in the splendor of your radiance.

Countless throngs of angels stand before you to serve you night and day; and, beholding the glory of your presence, they offer you unceasing praise. Joining with them, and giving voice to every creature under heaven, we acclaim you, and glorify your Name, as we sing,

### Sanctus

"Holy, holy, holy Lord"

*Sung by all.*  
**1982 Hymnal # S 125**

Richard Proulx

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might,  
 heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -  
 san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.  
 Blessed 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 people kneel or stand.

*Celebrant*

We acclaim you, holy Lord, glorious in power. Your mighty works reveal your wisdom and love. You formed us in your own image, giving the whole world into our care, so that, in obedience to you, our Creator, we might rule and serve all your creatures. When our disobedience took us far from you, you did

not abandon us to the power of death. In your mercy you came to our help, so that in seeking you we might find you. Again and again you called us into covenant with you, and through the prophets you taught us to hope for salvation.

Father, you loved the world so much that in the fullness of time you sent your only Son to be our Savior. Incarnate by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, he lived as one of us, yet without sin. To the poor he proclaimed the good news of salvation; to prisoners, freedom; to the sorrowful, joy. To fulfill your purpose he gave himself up to death; and, rising from the grave, destroyed death, and made the whole creation new.

And, that we might live no longer for ourselves, but for him who died and rose for us, he sent the Holy Spirit, his own first gift for those who believe, to complete his work in the world, and to bring to fulfillment the sanctification of all.

When the hour had come for him to be glorified by you, his heavenly Father, having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end; at supper with them he 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." 🕯

Father, we now celebrate this memorial of our redemption. Recalling Christ's death and his descent among the dead, proclaiming his resurrection and ascension to your right hand, awaiting his coming in glory; and offering to you, from the gifts you have given us, this bread and this cup, we praise you and we bless you.

*Celebrant and People*

**We praise you, we bless you,  
we give thanks to you,  
and we pray to you, Lord our God.**

*Celebrant*

Lord, we pray that in your goodness and mercy your Holy Spirit may descend upon us, and upon these gifts, sanctifying them and showing them to be holy gifts for your holy people, the bread of life and the cup of salvation, the Body and Blood of your Son Jesus Christ.

Grant that all who share this bread and cup may become one body and one spirit, a living sacrifice in Christ, to the praise of your Name.

And grant that we may find our inheritance with the ever-Blessed Virgin Mary, with patriarchs, matriarchs, prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and all the saints who have found favor with you in ages past. We praise you in union with them and give you glory through your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, all honor and glory are yours, Almighty God and Father, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, forever and ever. **AMEN.**

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,  
*Celebrant and People*

**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,  
forever and ever. Amen.**

**Fraction Anthem**  
"Taste and See"

*Sung by all.*

**Wonder, Love, and Praise # 764**

James. Moore, Jr.

Taste and see. Taste and see the good - ness  
of the Lord. O taste and see. Taste and  
see the good - ness of the Lord. of the Lord.

*Celebrant* The Gifts of God for the People of God.

*The people sit.*

**Invitation**

*All who seek God and a deeper life in Christ are welcome to receive Communion. Come to the front of the nave at the direction of the Welcome Team. Receive the bread in the palm of your hand. Eat the bread and then drink from the cup when it is offered to you, or, if you wish, you may hold the bread and dip it into the wine. Gluten-free wafers are available. Please make your need known to the priest by holding up three fingers. If you wish to receive a blessing, join in the movement to the front of the nave and cross your arms over the front of your chest. If you need Communion brought to you, please inform a member of the Welcome Team.*

**Hymns at the Communion**

*Sung by all, seated.*

" What child is this, who laid to rest"  
" In the bleak midwinter "

**1982 Hymnal # 115**  
**1982 Hymnal # 112**

*Greensleeves*  
*Cranham*

## Prayer after the Communion

*The people kneel.*

*Priest*            Let us pray.

*Priest and People*

**Loving God,  
we give you thanks  
for restoring us in your image  
and nourishing us with spiritual food  
in the Sacrament of Christ's Body and Blood.  
Now send us forth  
a people, forgiven, healed, renewed;  
that we may proclaim your love to the world  
and continue in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.**

## Hymn after the Communion

*"Silent night, holy night"*

*Sung by all, kneeling.*

**1982 Hymnal # 111**

*Stille Nacht*

## The Blessing

May Almighty God, who sent his Son to take our nature upon him, bless you in this holy season, scatter the darkness of sin, and brighten your heart with the light of his holiness. **Amen.**

May God, who sent his angels to proclaim the glad news of the Savior's birth, fill you with joy, and make you heralds of the gospel. **Amen.**

May God, who in the Word made flesh joined heaven to earth and earth to heaven, give you his peace and favor. **Amen.**

And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you forever. **Amen.**

*The people stand.*

## Hymn in Recession

"Joy to the world!"

*Sung by all.*

**1982 Hymnal #100**

*Antioch*

## Dismissal

*Celebrant*            Let us go forth into the world bearing the light of Christ!  
*People*                **Thanks be to God.**

## Postlude for Organ

"Hornpipe" from 'Water Music' suite 2 in D

George Frederic Handel

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## Worship Leaders

Readers:                *Ceda Ogada, Peggy Ruppel and Esther Tellu*  
Welcome Team:        *Zadinga Ogada, Hawa Clemens, Dorett Sutherland and James Black*  
Acolytes:               *Roberta Taylor and Paul Whitmore*  
Chalicians:             *Sari Stoddard and Shirley Allen*

# 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

