

ST. ANDREW'S PARISH CHURCH

established in 1706



THE CHRISTMAS PAGEANT



OLD ST. ANDREW'S PARISH CHURCH

Welcome to our historic, living church where the saints have gathered to worship since 1706!

If you are visiting us, please take a welcome brochure, located in the card rack on the back of the pew, and fill out the visitor card. Please place the visitor card in the offering plate or leave it with an usher.

Hearing aids are available. Please ask an usher for assistance.

Please silence your cell phone.

Regarding Holy Communion

Our altar is The Lord's Table and all baptized Christians (baptized in the Name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit) are welcome to receive Holy Communion here.

In the Anglican tradition, Communion is received in two kinds: in the Bread and in the Wine. The Bread is offered first and is typically placed in one's open palm. After hearing the words "The Body of Christ, the bread of Heaven," the bread is ready to be consumed. A chalice bearer will then offer the Wine. As he or she presents the cup, please gently take hold of the base of the chalice, helping the chalice bearer to guide it toward your lips.

If you or your children are not baptized, you may receive a blessing at the altar rail from the Priest. Simply cross your hands over your chest as you kneel at the rail.

Ladies, please "blot" your lipstick prior to receiving communion, as this will help preserve our beautiful altar linens.

If you require a gluten-free wafer, please ask the priest at the altar rail when you kneel for Communion.

The Christmas Pageant

December 22, 2019

THE FIRST PRELUDE HYMN

GOD REST YOU MERRY, GENTLEMEN



1 God rest you mer - ry, gen - tle - men, let noth - ing you dis - may;
2 From God our heaven - ly Fa - ther a bless - ed an - gel came
3 "Fear not, then," said the an - gel, "Let noth - ing you af - fright;
4 Now to the Lord sing prais - es, all you with - in this place,



re - mem - ber Christ our Sa - vior was born on Christ - mas Day,
and un - to cer - tain shep - herds brought tid - ings of the same:
this day is born a Sa - vior of a pure vir - gin bright,
and with true love and char - i - ty each o - ther now em - brace;



to save us all from Sa - tan's power when we were gone a - stray.
how that in Beth - le - hem was born the Son of God by name.
to free all those who trust in him from Sa - tan's power and might."
this ho - ly tide of Christ - mas doth bring re - deem - ing grace.



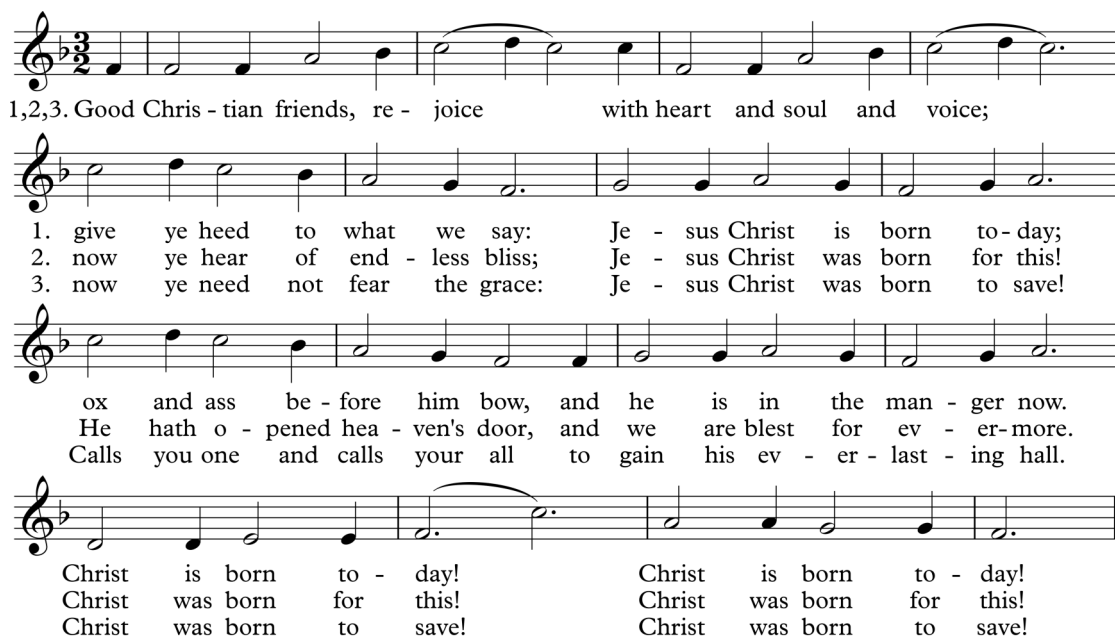
O tid - ings of com - fort and joy, com - fort and



joy; O tid - ings of com - fort and joy!

Keyborad and guitar should not sound together.

Words: London carol, 18th cent.; Copyright © by permission of Fleming H. Revell Company. Music: *God Rest You Merry*, melody from *Little Book of Christmas Carols*, ca. 1850; harm. Charles Winfred Douglas (1867-1944) Copyright © The Church Pension Fund. All rights reserved. Used with permission.



1,2,3. Good Chris - tian friends, re - joice with heart and soul and voice;

1. give ye heed to what we say: Je - sus Christ is born to - day;
 2. now ye hear of end - less bliss; Je - sus Christ was born for this!
 3. now ye need not fear the grace: Je - sus Christ was born to save!

ox and ass be - fore him bow, and he is in the man - ger now.
 He hath o - pened hea - ven's door, and we are blest for ev - er - more.
 Calls you one and calls your all to gain his ev - er - last - ing hall.

Christ is born to - day! Christ is born to - day!
 Christ was born for this! Christ was born for this!
 Christ was born to save! Christ was born to save!

Text: John Mason Neale (1818-1866), alt.
 Music: IN DULCI JUBILO, German carol, 14th cent.

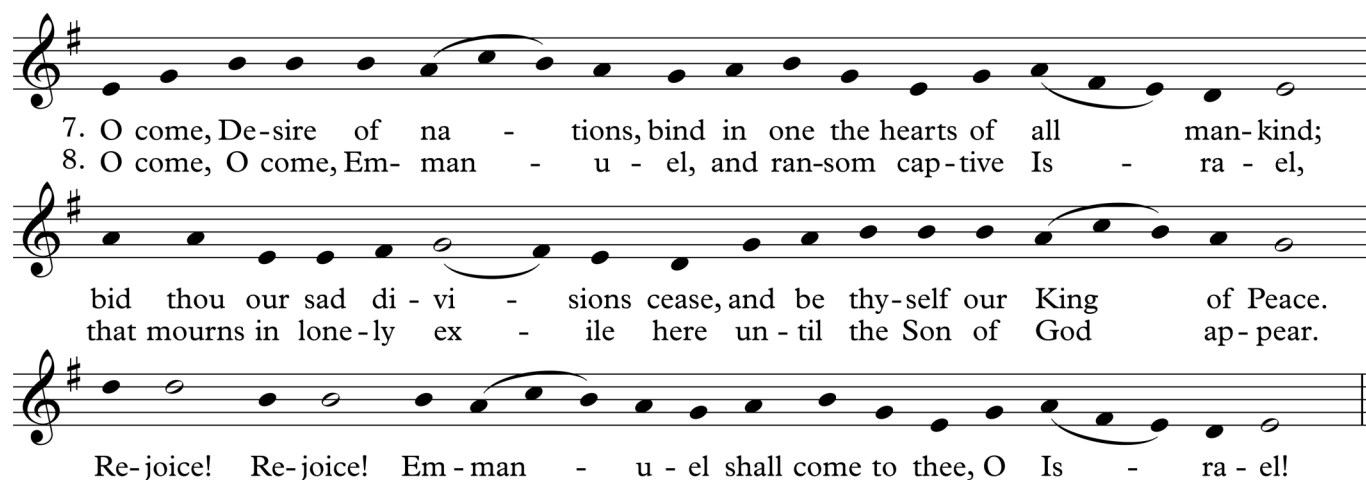
THE LIGHTING OF THE FOURTH ADVENT CANDLE

Erin Wilson & Amelia Little
 DOK & JDOK

THE INTROIT

O COME, O COME, EMMANUEL

VERSES 7 & 8



7. O come, De-sire of na - tions, bind in one the hearts of all man-kind;
 8. O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran-som cap-tive Is - ra - el,

bid thou our sad di - vi - sions cease, and be thy-self our King of Peace.
 that mourns in lone-ly ex - ile here un - til the Son of God ap - pear.

Re-joice! Re-joice! Em - man - u - el shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el!

Text: Latin, ca. 9th cent.; ver. *Hymnal* 1940, alt.
 Music: VENI, EMMANUEL, plainsong, Mode 1, *Processionale*, 15th cent.; adapt. Thomas Helmore (1811-1890)

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.
Glory to you, Lord Christ.

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it. There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God. And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

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

THE HYMN *(Standing)*

ADESTE FIDELIS

1. O come, all ye faith - ful, joy - ful and tri - um - phant, O come ye, O
 2. God from God, Light from Light e - ter - nal, lo! he ab -
 3. Sing, choirs of an - gels, sing in ex - ul - ta - tion, sing, all ye

come ye to Beth - le - hem; come, and be - hold him, born the King of an - gels;
 hors. not the Vir - gin's womb; on - ly - be - got - ten Son of the Fa - ther;
 ci - ti - zens of heaven a - bove; glo - ry to God, glo - ry in the high - est;

O come, let us a - dore him, O come, let us a - dore him, O
 come, let us a - dore him, Christ, the Lord.

Text: John Francis Wade (1711-1786); tr. Frederick Oakeley (1802-1880) and others
 Music: ADESTE FIDELIS, present form of melody att. John Francis Wade

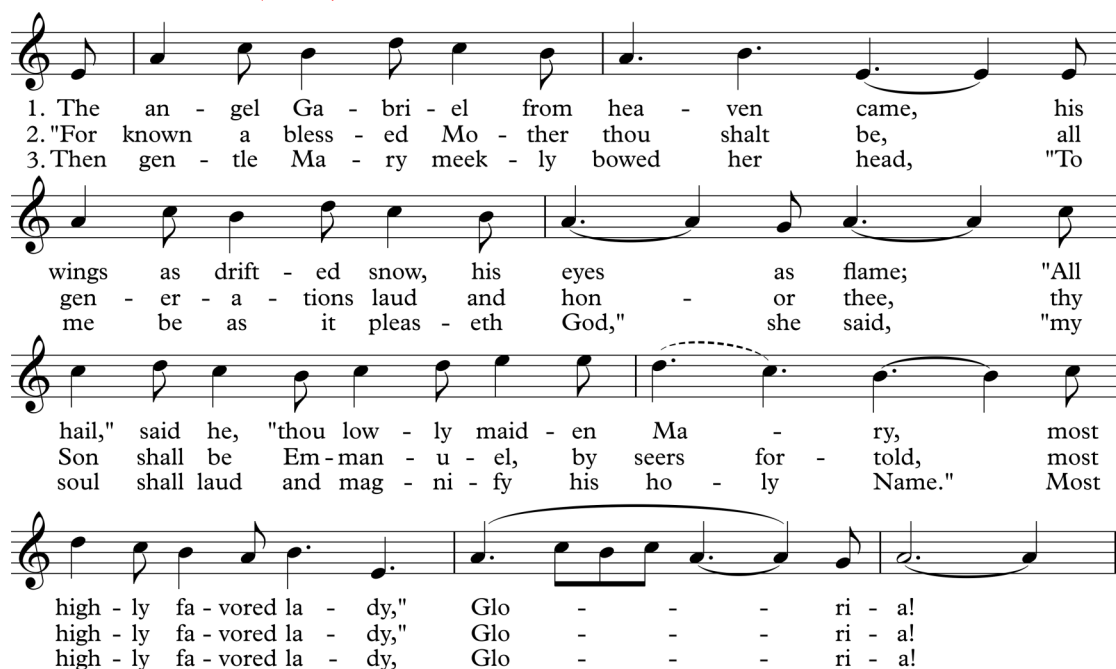
THE CHRISTMAS COLLECT *(Standing)*

The Rev. Marshall Huey
 XIX Rector of St. Andrew's Parish Church

THE FIRST READING *(Please be seated)*

Luke 1:26-33

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin named Mary, who was to be married to Joseph. Joseph was a descendant of King David, the greatest king of Israel. And the angel Gabriel said to Mary, "Greetings to you, Mary! The Lord is with you!" But Mary was very afraid and did not understand what the angel meant. So the angel Gabriel explained to her, "You have found favor with God, Mary. You will have a son, and name him Jesus. The Lord God will give him the throne of King David and his kingdom will never end."



1. The an - gel Ga - bri - el from hea - ven came, his
 2. "For known a bless - ed Mo - ther thou shalt be, all
 3. Then gen - tle Ma - ry meek - ly bowed her head, "To

wings as drift - ed snow, his eyes as flame; "All
 gen - er - a - tions laud and hon - or thee, thy
 me be as it pleas - eth God," she said, "my

hail," said he, "thou low - ly maid - en Ma - ry, most
 Son shall be Em-man - u - el, by seers for - told, most
 soul shall laud and mag - ni - fy his ho - ly Name." Most

high - ly fa - vored la - dy," Glo - - - ri - a!
 high - ly fa - vored la - dy," Glo - - - ri - a!
 high - ly fa - vored la - dy, Glo - - - ri - a!

Text: Basque carol; para. Sabine Baring-Gould (1834-1924)
 Music: GABRIEL'S MESSAGE, Basque carol

THE SECOND READING *(Seated)*

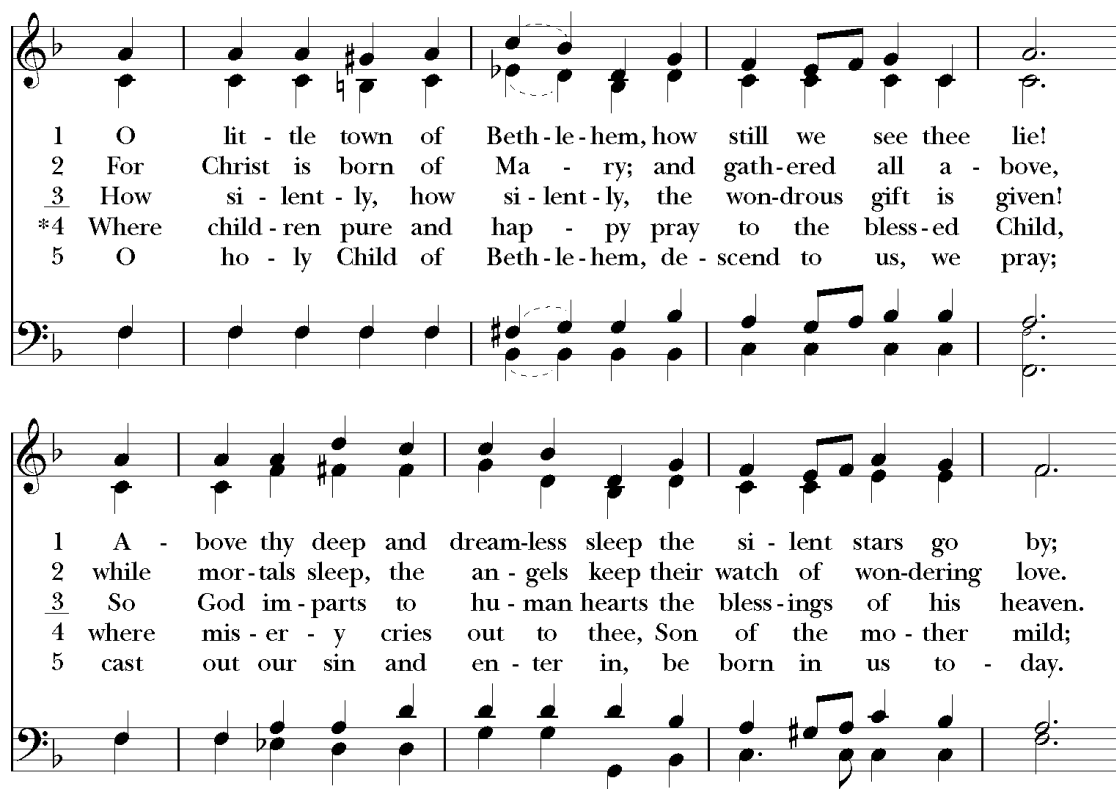
Luke 2:1-5

And it came to pass in those days, that there went out a decree from Caesar Augustus, that all the world should be taxed. And all went to be taxed, every one to his own city. And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judea, into the city of David, which is called Bethlehem; (because he was of the house and lineage of David), to be taxed with Mary his espoused wife, being great with child.

THE SECOND RESPONSIVE HYMN *(Seated)*

VERSES 1 & 2

O LITTLE TOWN OF BETHLEHEM



1 O lit - tle town of Beth - le - hem, how still we see thee lie!
 2 For Christ is born of Ma - ry; and gath - ered all a - bove,
 3 How si - lent - ly, how si - lent - ly, the won - drous gift is given!
 *4 Where child - ren pure and hap - py pray to the bless - ed Child,
 5 O ho - ly Child of Beth - le - hem, de - scend to us, we pray;

1 A - bove thy deep and dream - less sleep the si - lent stars go by;
 2 while mor - tals sleep, the an - gels keep their watch of won - dering love.
 3 So God im - parts to hu - man hearts the bless - ings of his heaven.
 4 where mis - er - y cries out to thee, Son of the mo - ther mild;
 5 cast out our sin and en - ter in, be born in us to - day.

1 yet in thy dark streets shin - eth the ev - er - last - ing Light;
 2 O morn - ing stars, to - geth - er pro - claim the ho - ly birth!
 3 No ear may hear his com - ing, but in this world of sin,
 4 where char - i - ty stands watch - ing and faith holds wide the door,
 5 We hear the Christ - mas an - gels the great glad tid - ings tell;

1 the hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee to - night.
 2 and prais - es sing to God the King, and peace to men on earth.
 3 where meek souls will re - ceive him, still the dear Christ en - ters in.
 4 the dark night wakes, the glo - ry breaks, and Christ - mas comes once more.
 5 O come to us, a - bide with us, our Lord Em - man - u - el!

Words: Phillips Brooks (1835-1893) Music: *St. Louis*, Lewis H. Redner (1831-1908)

THE THIRD READING *(Seated)*

Luke 2:6-7

And so it was, while they were there, the days were accomplished that she should be delivered.
 And she brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for him in the inn.

THE THIRD RESPONSIVE HYMN *(Seated)*

AWAY IN A MANGER

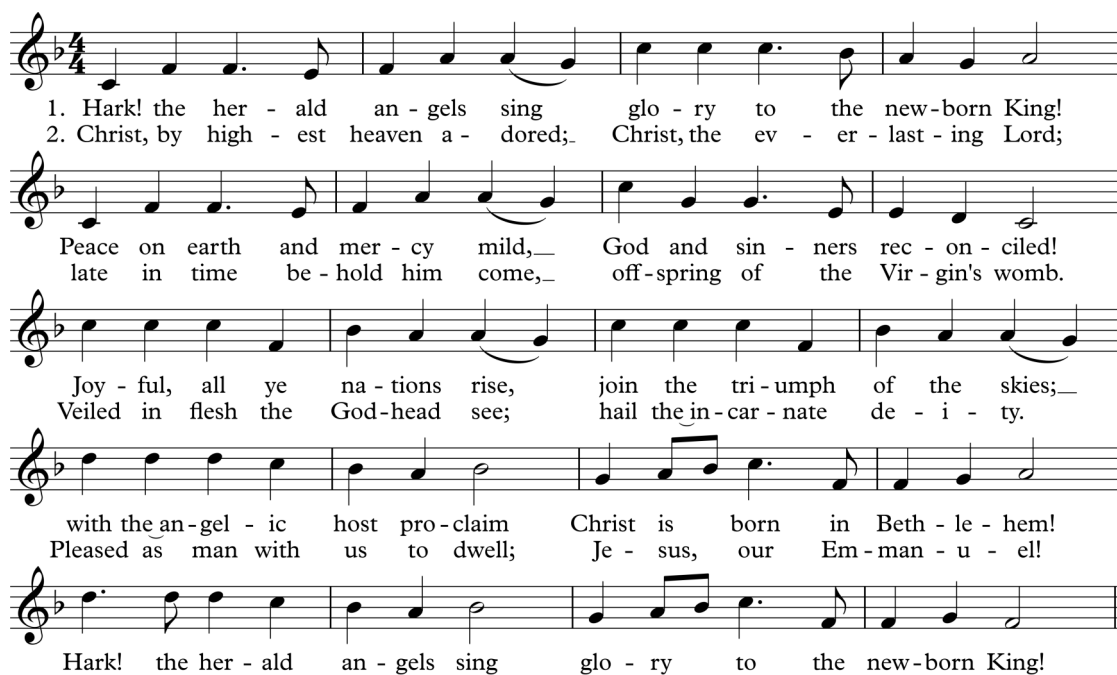
Away in a manger no crib for his bed,
 The little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head.
 The stars in the sky looked down where he lay
 The little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.

The cattle are lowing the baby awakes.
 But little Lord Jesus no crying He makes.
 I love thee, Lord Jesus! Look down from the sky,
 And stay by my side until morning is night.

And there were in the same country shepherds, abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were afraid. And the angel said unto them: "Fear not; for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, which is Christ the Lord. And this shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, 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 and on earth peace, good will toward men."

THE FOURTH RESPONSIVE HYMN (*Seated*)

MENDELSSOHN



1. Hark! the her - ald an - gels sing glo - ry to the new-born King!
 2. Christ, by high - est heaven a - dored; Christ, the ev - er - last - ing Lord;
 Peace on earth and mer - cy mild, God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled!
 late in time be - hold him come, off - spring of the Vir - gin's womb.
 Joy - ful, all ye na - tions rise, join the tri - umph of the skies;
 Veiled in flesh the God-head see; hail the in - car - nate de - i - ty.
 with the an - gel - ic host pro - claim Christ is born in Beth - le - hem!
 Pleased as man with us to dwell; Je - sus, our Em - man - u - el!
 Hark! the her - ald an - gels sing glo - ry to the new-born King!

Text: Charles Wesley (1707-1788), alt.
 Music: MENDELSSOHN, Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847); adapt. William H. Cummings (1831-1915)

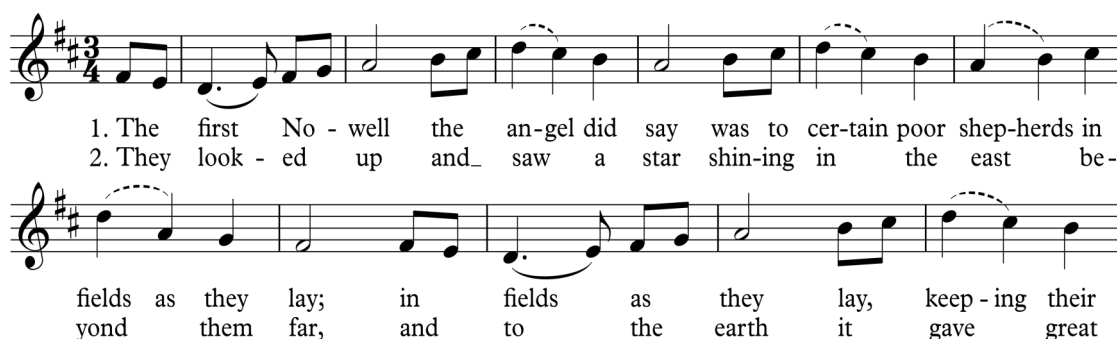
THE FIFTH READING (*Seated*)

Luke 2:15-16

And it came to pass, as the angels were gone away from them into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us now go even unto Bethlehem and see this thing which is come to pass, which the Lord hath made known to us" And the shepherds came with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the babe lying in the manger.

THE FIFTH RESPONSIVE HYMN (*Seated*)

THE FIRST NOWELL



1. The first No - well the an - gel did say was to cer - tain poor shep - herds in
 2. They look - ed up and saw a star shin - ing in the east be -
 fields as they lay; in fields as they lay, keep - ing their
 yond them far, and to the earth it gave great



Text: English carol, 18th cent.
Music: THE FIRST NOWELL, English carol, 17th cent.

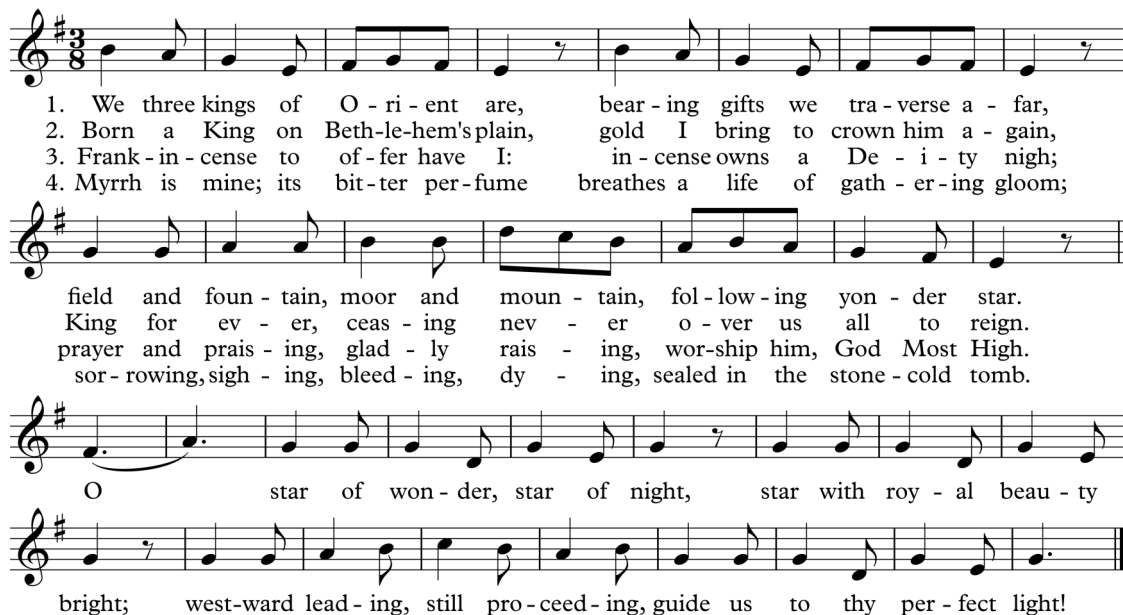
THE SIXTH READING *(Seated)*

Matthew 2:1-10

Now when Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the King, behold, there came wise men from the East to Jerusalem saying, “Where is he that is born King of the Jews? For we have seen his star in the East and are come to worship him.” When Herod the King had heard these things, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him. And when he had gathered all the chief priests and scribes of the people together, he demanded of them, where Christ should be born. And they said unto him, “In Bethlehem of Judea; for thus it is written by the prophet, and thou Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, art not the least among princes of Judah; for out of thee shall come a governor that shall rule my people Israel.” Then Herod, when he had called the wise men, inquired of them what time the star appeared. And he sent them to Bethlehem, and said, “Go and search for the young child, and when you have found him, bring me word again, that I may go and worship him also.” When they had heard the king, they left for Bethlehem; and lo, the star, which they saw in the East, went before them, till it came and stood over where the young child was.

THE SIXTH RESPONSIVE HYMN *(Seated)*

THREE KINGS OF ORIENT

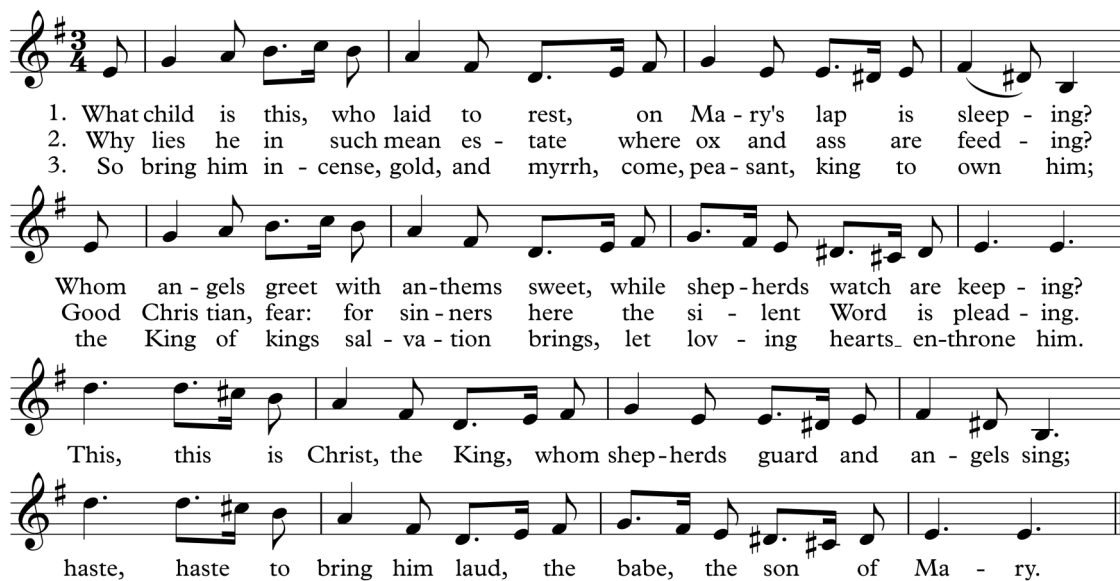


Text: John Henry Hopkins, Jr. (1820-1891), alt.
Music: THREE KINGS OF ORIENT, John Henry Hopkins, Jr. (1820-1891)

And when they came into the house, they saw the young child with Mary his mother, and fell down, and worshipped him, and when they had opened their treasures, they presented unto him gifts: gold, frankincense and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their country by another road.

THE SEVENTH RESPONSIVE HYMN *(Seated)*

GREENSLEEVES



1. What child is this, who laid to rest, on Ma - ry's lap is sleep - ing?
 2. Why lies he in such mean es - tate where ox and ass are feed - ing?
 3. So bring him in - cense, gold, and myrrh, come, pea - sant, king to own him;

Whom an - gels greet with an - thems sweet, while shep - herds watch are keep - ing?
 Good Chris - tian, fear: for sin - ners here the si - lent Word is plead - ing.
 the King of kings sal - va - tion brings, let lov - ing hearts en - throne him.

This, this is Christ, the King, whom shep - herds guard and an - gels sing;
 haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Ma - ry.

Text: William Chatterton Dix (1837-1898)
 Music: GREENSLEEVES, English melody; harm. *Christmas Carols New and Old*, 1871

THE RECTOR'S REMARKS AND THE EXCHANGE OF THE PEACE

The Rev. Marshall Huey

THE PEACE *(Please stand)*

Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: *And also with you.*

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

At this time the Rector will welcome all to the Lord's Table and share the announcements of the day.

THE OFFERTORY *(Please stand)*

JOY TO THE WORLD

1 Joy to the world! the Lord is come: let earth re -
 2 Joy to the world! the Sa - vior reigns; let us our
 *3 No more let sins and sor - rows grow, nor thorns in -
 4 He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the

ceive her King; let ev - ery heart pre - pare him room, and
 songs em - ploy, while fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains, re -
 fest the ground; he comes to make his bless - ings flow far and
 na - tions prove the glo - ries of his right - eous - ness, and

heaven and na - ture sing, and heaven and na - ture
 peat the sound - ing joy, re - peat the sound - ing
 as the curse is found, far as the curse is
 won - ders of his love, and won - ders of his

1 and heaven and na - ture sing, and
 2 re - peat the sound - ing joy, re -
 3 far as the curse is found, far
 4 and won - ders of his love, and

sing, and heaven, and heaven and na - ture sing.
 joy, re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.
 found, far as, far as the curse is found.
 love, and won - ders, won - ders of his love.

heaven and na - ture sing,
 peat the sound - ing joy,
 as the curse is found,
 won - ders of his love,

Celebrant All things have come of thee.
People And of thine own have we given thee.

The Holy Communion

THE SURSUM CORDA

Celebrant The Lord be with you.
People **And with your spirit.**
Celebrant Lift up your hearts.
People **We lift them up to the Lord.**
Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

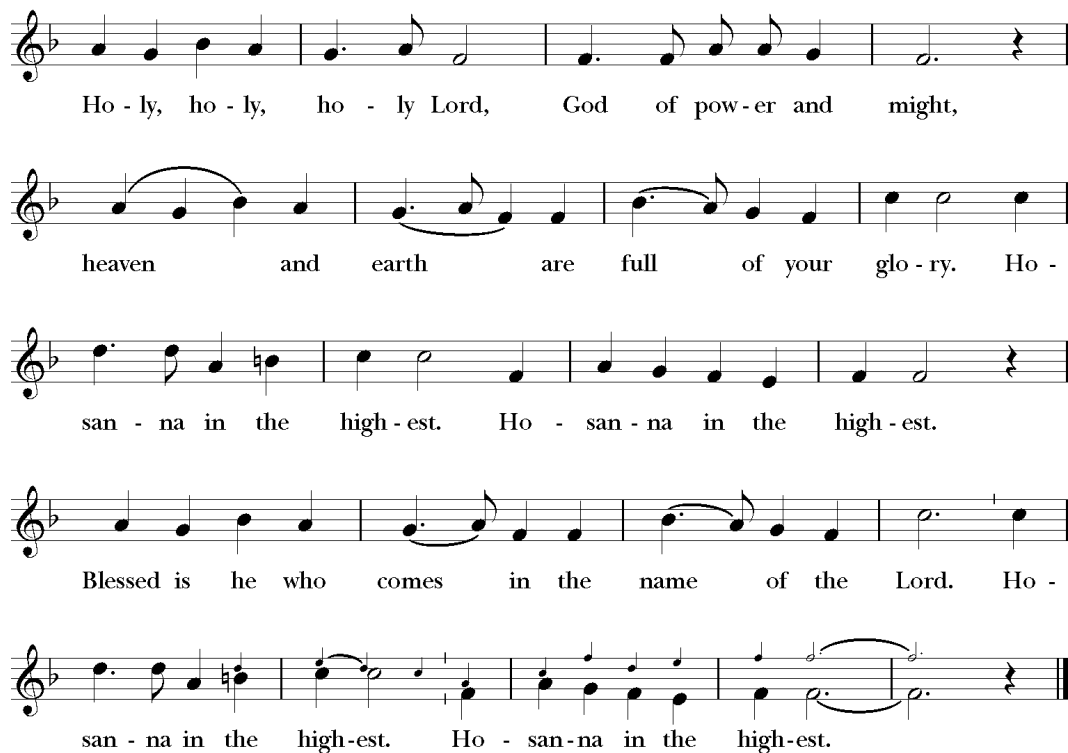
The Celebrant continues

It is right, our duty and our joy, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

Because you sent your beloved Son to redeem us from sin and death, and to make us heirs in him of everlasting life; that when he shall come again in power and great glory to judge the world, we may without shame or fear rejoice to behold his appearing.

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 SANCTUS AND BENEDICTUS



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 PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

Please Kneel

Celebrant:

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you have made us for yourself; and when we had sinned against you and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent your only Son Jesus Christ into the world for our salvation. By the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary he became flesh and dwelt among us. In obedience to your will, he stretched out his arms upon the Cross and offered himself once for all, that by his suffering and death we might be saved. By his resurrection he broke the bonds of death, trampling Hell and Satan under his feet. As our great high priest, he ascended to your right hand in glory, that we might come with confidence before the throne of grace.

On the night that he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take, eat; this is my Body, which is given for you: Do this in remembrance of me."

Likewise, after supper, Jesus took the cup, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, "Drink this, all of you; for 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 in remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Celebrant and People:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

Celebrant:

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, and we offer you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Word and Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son Jesus Christ. Sanctify us also, that we may worthily receive this holy Sacrament, and be made one body with him, that he may dwell in us and we in him. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us with all your saints into the joy of your heavenly kingdom, where we shall see our Lord face to face.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ: 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.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Celebrant:

And now as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to sing:

Our Fa-ther who art in heav-en, hall-ow-ed be thy Name, thy
king-dom come thy will be done, on earth as it is in heav-en. Give us this day our
dai-ly bread and for-give us our tres-pass-es as we for-give those who trespass a- gainst
us. And lead us not in-to temp-ta-tion, but de-liv-er us from e-vil. For
thine is the king-dom, and the pow-er, and the glo-ry,
for ev-er and ev-er. A - men. A - men. A - men.

Text: International Consultation on English Texts
Music: R.D. Duckett (1959-2013) Used by permission.
Harmonization: M. Wilkinson (b. 1991) & C.L. Walchesky (b. 1989). Used by permission.

Celebrant: Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

People: Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

Celebrant and People:

We do not presume to come to this your table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in your abundant and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under your table; but you are the same Lord whose character is always to have mercy. Grant us, therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of your dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that our sinful bodies may be made clean by his body, and our souls washed through his most precious blood, and that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen

The Agnus Dei (Lamb of God)

Lamb of God, You take a - way the sins of the world:
have mer - cy on us, have mer - cy on us.
Lamb of God, You take a - way the sins of the world:
have mer - cy on us, have mer - cy on us.
Lamb of God, You take a - way the sins of the world: grant us peace.

Setting: Eric Wyse (b. 1959).
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Invitation to Communion

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.

1 It came up - on the mid - night clear, that
 2 Still through the clov - en skies they come with
 3 Yet with the woes of sin and strife the
 4 For lo! the days are haste - ning on, by

glo - rious song of old, from an - gels bend - ing
 peace - ful wings un - furled, and still their heaven - ly
 world has suf - fered long; be - neath the heaven - ly
 pro - phets seen of old, when with the ev - er -

near the earth to touch their harps of gold:
 mu - sic floats o'er all the wea - ry world;
 hymn have rolled two thou - sand years of wrong;
 cir - cling years shall come the time fore - told,

"Peace on the earth, good will to men, from
 a - bove its sad and low - ly plains they
 and war - ring hu - man - kind hears not the
 when peace shall o - ver all the earth its

heaven's all - gra - cious King." The world in sol - emn
 bend on hov - ering wing, and ev - er o'er its
 tid - ings which they bring; O hush the noise and
 an - cient splen - dors fling, and all the world give

still - ness lay to hear the an - gels sing.
 Ba - bel - sounds the bless - ed an - gels sing.
 cease your strife and hear the an - gels sing!
 back the song which now the an - gels sing.

Words: Edmund H. Sears (1810-1876), alt. Music: *Carol*, Richard Storrs Willis (1819-1900)

SECOND COMMUNION HYMN

STILLE NACHT

1. Si - lent night, ho - ly night, all is calm, all is bright
 2. Si - lent night, ho - ly night, shep - herds quake at the sight,
 3. Si - lent night, ho - ly night, Son of God, love's pure light

round yon vir - gin mo - ther and child. Ho - ly in - fant so ten - der and mild,
 glo - ries stream from hea - ven a - far, heaven - ly hosts sing al - le - lu - ia;
 ra - diant beams from thy ho - ly face, with the dawn of re - deem - ing grace,

sleep in hea - ven - ly peace. Sleep in hea - ven - ly peace.
 Christ the Sa - vior, is born! Christ, the Sa - vior, is born!
 Je - sus, Lord, at thy birth. Je - sus, Lord, at thy birth.

Text: Joseph Mohr (1792-1848); tr. John Freeman Young (1820-1885)
 Music: STILLE NACHT, melody Franz Xaver Gruber (1787-1863)

The Post Communion Prayer

After Communion, the Celebrant says

Let us pray.

Celebrant and People together say the following, or the Post Communion Prayer in the Anglican Standard Text

Heavenly Father,

We thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal Kingdom. And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

THE BLESSING

VISITING TODAY?

WELCOME TO OLD ST. ANDREW'S PARISH CHURCH!

Please take one of the Welcome brochures
in the card rack in your pew, fill out the Visitor Card,
and place it in the offering plate.

Thank you!

THE RECESSIONAL HYMN (*Please stand*)

GO TELL IT ON THE MOUNTAIN

Refrain

Go tell it on the moun - tain, o - ver the hills and

ev - ery - where; go tell it on the moun - tain, that

Je - sus Christ is born!

1 While shep - herds kept their
2 The shep - herds feared and
3 Down in a low - ly

watch - ing o'er si - lent flocks by night, be -
trem - bled when lo! a - bove the earth rang
man - ger the hum - ble Christ was born, and

Repeat Refrain

hold, through - out the hea - vens there shone a ho - ly light.
out the an - gel cho - rus that hailed our Sa - vior's birth.
God sent us sal - va - tion that bless - ed Christ - mas morn.

Words: Afro-American spiritual, 19th cent.; adapt. John W. Work (b. 1901) Music: *Go Tell It on the Mountain*, Afro-American spiritual, 19th cent.;
arr. Horace Clarence Boyer (b. 1935) Copyright ©1984, Horace Clarence Boyer. All rights reserved. Used with permission.

THE DISMISSAL

Alleluia. Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

Thanks be to God. Alleluia.

CLOSING VOLUNTARY

A Brief History of Saint Andrew's Parish Church

Built in 1706, this simple, elegant church is the oldest surviving structure used for worship south of Virginia. It is South Carolina's only remaining colonial cruciform church.

St. Andrew's Parish Church (commonly known as Old St. Andrew's) was one of ten Anglican churches in South Carolina established in 1706 by the Church Act. It was built to serve the Anglican planters along the Ashley River, a thriving tidal waterway that connected them to the city of Charles Town and to each other.

The ancient building holds a full schedule of worship services every Sunday. Some of its earliest counterparts are still used, but less often. (None is older.) Others have been replaced or augmented by newer buildings, some centuries old themselves, some modern. Still others have vanished, or their ruins stand in eerie silence to ages past. Visitors to this national treasure see a beautifully restored building, but the church hides a past that left it for dead many times.

Rice, indigo, and slaves brought prosperity to the lands along the Ashley, where some of the wealthiest plantations in British North America were located. The church was expanded to the shape of a cross in 1723 to accommodate a growing population. It survived a major fire in the 1760s but was quickly rebuilt inside its existing walls. But the parish declined before the Revolution and into the antebellum era. Ministering to the slaves, at the church and three plantation chapels, became the focus of the clergy. From 1851 to 1891, the Rev. John Grimké Drayton, the renowned horticulturalist at Magnolia-on-the-Ashley just north of St. Andrew's, was rector.

The church was one of the few buildings along the Ashley that Union troops did not burn to the ground during the Civil War. It became a polling place and did not reopen until 1876, eleven years after the war ended. The parish found itself at the epicenter of two of the most important events of late nineteenth century Charleston: the phosphate mining boom along the Ashley and the Great Earthquake of 1886, which caused significant damage to the church. After Rev. Drayton died in 1891, St. Andrew's lay dormant for the next fifty-seven years.

In 1948 Episcopalians moving to the West Ashley suburbs reopened the dilapidated church, even though it was far away from new residential developments. Dogged perseverance brought slow but continual improvements. A parish house was built, and then expanded twice in quick succession. Hurricane Hugo (1989) caused major damage to the graveyard. Into the twenty-first century, the church undertook the most extensive restoration in its history and celebrated its tercentennial. For more than 300 years, St. Andrew's has survived, indeed has thrived, against all odds.

Paul Porwoll, author of *Against All Odds: History of Saint Andrew's Parish Church, Charleston, 1706-2013*