

December 24, 2023 Christmas Eve Holy Eucharist Rite Two

Welcome to
St. David's Episcopal Church

The Word of God

Processional Hymn O come, O come, Emmanuel, vv. 1, 4, 5, 6, 7

Hymnal 56

(Veni, veni, Emmanuel)

1) O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear.

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!

4) O come, thou Branch of Jesse's tree, free them from Satan's tyranny that trust thy mighty power to save, and give them victory o'er the grave.

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!

5) O come, thou Key of David, come, and open wide our heavenly home; make safe the way that leads on high, and close the path to misery.

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!

6) O come, thou Dayspring from on high, and cheer us by thy drawing nigh; disperse the gloomy clouds of night, and death's dark shadow put to flight.

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!

7) O come, Desire of nations, bind in one the hearts of all mankind; bid thou our sad divisions cease, and be thyself our King of Peace. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!

The people standing, the Celebrant says

BCP 355

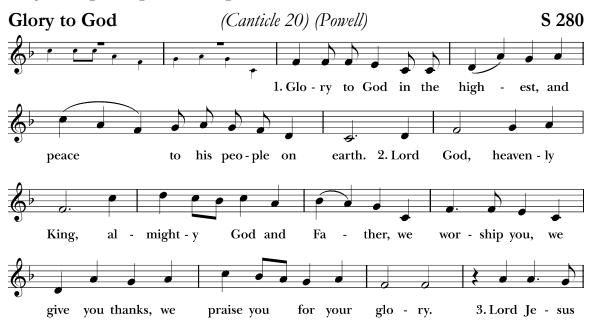
Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

The Celebrant may 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.*

The following is sung, all standing





Music: Robert Powell (b. 1932), rev. Setting: Copyright © Church Publishing Inc.

The Collect of the Day

BCP 357

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Let us pray.

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 Lessons

Old Testament Isaiah 9:2-7

A Reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah.

²The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness—on them light has shined.

³You 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.

⁴For 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.

⁵For all the boots of the tramping warriors and all the garments rolled in blood shall be burned as fuel for the fire.

⁶For 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. ⁷His 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 The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

The Psalter Psalm 96

- 'Sing to the LORD a new song; * sing to the LORD, all the whole earth.
- ²Sing to the LORD and bless his Name; * proclaim the good news of his salvation from day to day.
- ³Declare his glory among the nations * and his wonders among all peoples.
- ⁴For great is the LORD and greatly to be praised; *

 he is more to be feared than all gods.
- ⁵As 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!
- ⁷Ascribe 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.

⁹Worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness; *

let the whole earth tremble before him.

¹⁰Tell 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."

¹¹Let 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.

¹²Then shall all the trees of the wood shout for joy before the LORD when he comes, *

when he comes to judge the earth.

¹³He will judge the world with righteousness * *and the peoples with his truth.*

New Testament Titus 2:11-14

A Reading from Paul's letter to Titus.

¹¹The grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all, ¹²training us to renounce impiety and worldly passions,

and in the present age to live lives that are self-controlled, upright, and godly,

¹³while we wait for the blessed hope and the manifestation of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ.

¹⁴He 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 The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Gradual Hymn While shepherds watched their flocks by night

(Winchester Old)

Hymnal 94

- 1) While shepherds watched their flocks by night, all seated on the ground, the angel of the Lord came down, and glory shone around.
- 2) "Fear not," said he, for mighty dread had seized their troubled mind; "Glad tidings of great joy I bring to you and all mankind.
- 3) "To you, in David's town, this day is born of David's line the Savior, who is Christ the Lord; and this shall be the sign:
- 4) "The heavenly babe you there shall find to human view displayed, all meanly wrapped in swathing bands, and in a manger laid."
- 5) Thus spake the seraph, and forthwith appeared a shining throng of angels praising God, who thus addressed their joyful song:
- 6) "All glory be to God on high, and to the earth be peace; good will henceforth from heaven to men begin and never cease."

The Holy Gospel

Luke 2:1-20

All stand.

Deacon The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according

to Luke.

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

¹In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. ²This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria.

³All went to their own towns to be registered.

⁴Joseph 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.

⁵He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child.

⁶While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. ⁷And 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.

⁹Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified.

¹⁰But the angel said to them,

"Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people:

¹¹to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord.

¹²This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger."

¹³And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying,

¹⁴"Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!"

¹⁵When 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."

¹⁶So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger.

¹⁷When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; ¹⁸and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them.

¹⁹But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart.

²⁰The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

Deacon The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Sermon: the Reverend Jeff Wallace

The Nicene Creed (BCP p. 358)

All stand.

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, Form I

With all our heart and with all our mind, let us pray to the Lord, saying, "Lord, have mercy."

For the peace from above, for the loving kindness of God, and for the salvation of our souls, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the peace of the world, for the welfare of the holy Church of God, and for the unity of all peoples, especially the Diocesan Staff of the Diocese of South Carolina, the Episcopal Church in the Philippines; the congregations of St. David's Anglican Church, St. David's Episcopal Church; and St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church; St. David's Episcopal School & Daycare staff and families; let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For Justin, the archbishop of Canterbury; Michael, our presiding bishop; Ruth, our bishop; Jeff, our priest; and for all the clergy and people, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For Joe, our president; Henry, our governor; and Andy, our mayor; and for all in authority, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For all who live and work in the Upper Pee Dee region, for every city and community, and for those who live in them, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For seasonable weather, and for an abundance of the fruits of the earth, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the good earth which God has given us, and for the wisdom and will to conserve it, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For those who travel on land, on water, or in the air, let us pray to the Lord. *Lord, have mercy.*

For the aged and infirm, for the widowed and orphans, and for the sick and the suffering, and those for whom prayers have been requested:

(Please see the Prayer List insert.)

We remember in prayer our shut-ins, chronically ill and those who live alone, listed in the Prayer List, and any you wish to name aloud or in your heart...

Members of the congregation may add their own petitions or thanksgivings.

Let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the poor and the oppressed, for the unemployed and the destitute, for prisoners and captives, and for all who remember and care for them, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For all who have died in the hope of the resurrection, especially Sandra Day O'Conner, Maggie Sanders, and Georgiana S. Knight; and for all the departed let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For deliverance from all danger, violence, oppression, and degradation, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the absolution and remission of our sins and offenses, let us pray to the Lord. *Lord, have mercy.*

That we may end our lives in faith and hope, without suffering and without reproach, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

Defend us, deliver us, and in thy compassion protect us, O Lord, by thy grace. *Lord, have mercy.*

In the communion of Saint David and of all the saints, let us commend ourselves, and one another, and all our life, to Christ our God.

To thee, O Lord our God.

Silence

The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.

Confession of Sin

BCP 359

The Deacon or Celebrant says
Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Minister and People

Most merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us and forgive us;
that we may delight in your will,
and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your Name. Amen.

The Priest stands and says

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. *Amen*.

The Peace BCP 360

All stand.

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you.

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

The Holy Communion

The Celebrant says

BCP 376

Offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving, and make good your vows to the Most High.

Psalm 50:14

Offertory Hymn

Away in a manger, no crib for his bed (Cradle Song)

Hymnal 101

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

3) Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask thee to stay close by me for ever, and love me I pray. Bless all the dear children in thy tender care, and fit us for heaven to live with thee there.

The Great Thanksgiving

BCP 367

All things come of thee, O Lord, *And of thine own have we given thee.*

The People remain standing.

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.

Facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds

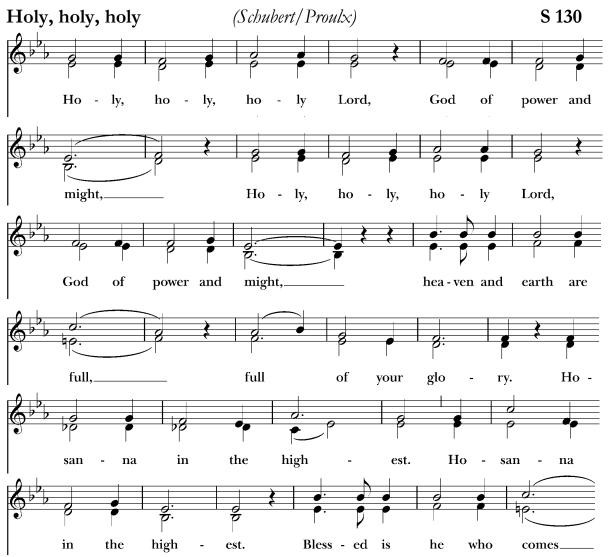
It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

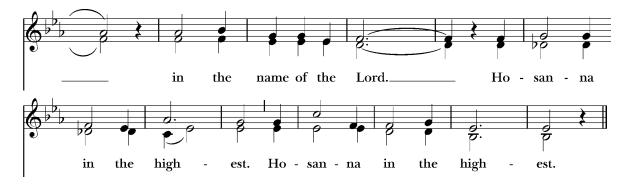
Because you gave Jesus Christ, your only Son, to be born for us; who, by the mighty power of the Holy Spirit, was made perfect Man of the flesh of the Virgin Mary his mother; so that we might be delivered from the bondage of sin, and receive power to become your children.

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:

Celebrant and People

Sanctus





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.

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,

Celebrant and People

We remember his death, We proclaim his resurrection, We await his coming in glory;

The Celebrant continues

BCP 369

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 St. David and 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.

As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray,

People and Celebrant

BCP 363

Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your Name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done, on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins

as we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread

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

The Celebrant says

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 are welcome to receive Communion at St. David's, regardless of denomination or where you find yourself in your spiritual journey. If you prefer to receive a blessing, cross your arms across your chest when you come up to the altar, and the priest or Eucharistic minister will offer you a simple blessing.

The ministers receive the Sacrament in both kinds, and then immediately deliver it to the people.

The Bread and the Cup are given to the communicants with these words

The Body of our Lord Jesus Christ keep you in everlasting life. [Amen.] The Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ keep you in everlasting life. [Amen.]

After Communion, the Celebrant says

Let us pray.

Celebrant and People

BCP 365

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 Bishop when present, or the Priest, blesses the people, saying

The blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever. *Amen.*

Recessional Hymn Joy to the world! the Lord is come (Antioch)

Hymnal 100

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

- 2) Joy to the world! the Savior reigns; let us our songs employ, while fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains, repeat the sounding joy; repeat the sounding joy; repeat, repeat the sounding joy.
- 3) 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; far as the curse is found; far as, far as the curse is found.
- 4) He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the nations prove the glories of his righteousness, and wonders of his love and wonders of his love and wonders, wonders of his love.

Dismissal BCP 366

Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People Thanks be to God.

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Announcements:

- ◆ St. David's invites you to **Sunday School Bible Study** Sundays, in the Chapel Library. We're studying the first seven chapters of First Samuel. Please come join us. The class starts at 9:30 and finish around 10:10.
- ◆ St. David's Daycare & Preschool has great long-sleeve tee-shirts on hand, with the school logo on the back and the school name on the front. They come in sizes from 2T to 3XL. See Jimmy Carol Avent, Director/Principal, for more information.
- ◆ Fr. Jeff has a weekly time of **conversation and prayer** with staff members and anyone who wishes to come, most **Tuesdays at 1:00** in his office. The purpose is to lift up and encourage, and to inform one another about projects and events going on in the church. All are welcome!
- ◆ St. David's Episcopal Church is a distribution point for the Chesterfield County *FoodShare* program, which makes fresh produce available to local citizens at reasonable cost. Our next delivery day is:

 Order by Friday, Jan 5pick up on Thursday, Jan 11 (12:30-3:30)

The Christmas flowers and decorations are given to the greater glory of God by:

Anne & Van Pate, in memory of our parents Eleanor & Clyde Pate and Margie & Jim Wannamaker.

Jeff & Vickie Buckner, in memory of Jewel Crawford and in thanksgiving for Margaret Davis.

Mr. & Mrs. James A Spruill, in memory of our parents William & Mary Jane Cain and James & Eleanor Spruill; and W. Duvall Spruill; and in thanksgiving for Tim & Sarah, Aaron & Calder, and Louisa & Jay.

Ron Stafford, in memory of John Teal, and in thanksgiving for Catherine Stafford.

Tommy & Nellie Laney, in thanksgiving for and support of the ministries of St. David's Episcopal Church.

Bob & Margaret Mitchell, in thanksgiving for our Church family.

Phil & Sally Powell, in thanksgiving for our family and our church family.

Fr. Jeff Wallace, in thanksgiving for many friendships and other blessings in Cheraw.

If you provided flowers, you may take them after Christmas Eve service.



Welcome!

Regardless of whether or not you regularly attend here, we are happy to have you as one of us today! Feel free to come up close, and kneel before our Lord's altar and receive the sacrament of Holy Communion. All Baptized Christians, regardless of denomination (or status as Protestant or Roman Catholic) are welcome here, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. If you need a gluten-free wafer, then please indicate this to one of the ushers.

Of course, if you prefer to remain seated during Eucharist, we are fine with that as well. We merely hope that your experience with us today is divinely positive and truly meaningful.

As Priest-in-Charge, I would be glad for us to have a conversation during the coffee hour or to have a scheduled appointment for another time. I love answering questions about why we do what we do and about who we are as Episcopalian Christians. If you have a confidential matter to voice, I can be trusted as a priest and as a certified grief counselor.

Again, I am very happy that you have chosen to be with us this day. Feel free to contact me personally. On Sunday afternoons, I am only available for pastoral emergencies.

Blessings, Father Jeff+

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