

Christmas Service



Welcome to St. Stephen's Episcopal Church

Saint Stephen's welcomes everyone who wishes to follow Christ, worship together, grow in faith and share God's love through service to others.

CHRISTMAS EVE & DAY SERVICE



Welcome and Announcements

Christmas Eve - {Christmas Carols

(see insert) sung outside Socially distant with masks please}

24 & 25 Dec 2020

Christmas 84

1 Love came down at Christ - mas, love all love - ly, love di - vine;
 2 Wor - ship we the God - head, love in - car - nate, love di - vine;
 3 Love shall be our to - ken; love be yours and love be mine,

love was born at Christ - mas: star and an - gels gave the sign.
 wor - ship we our Je - sus, but where - with for sa - cred sign?
 love to God and neigh - bor, love for plea and gift and sign.

Words: Christina Rossetti (1830-1894), alt.
 Music: Gartan, melody from *Petrie Collection of Irish Melodies, Part II*, 1902;
 harm. David Evans (1874-1948)

67. 67

The Greeting

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

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

Presider *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/Glory to God

BCP p. 356

**Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to his people on earth.
Lord God, heavenly King,
almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.
Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:
receive our prayer.
For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

The Collect of the Day

Presider *The Lord be with you.*

People **And also with you.**

Presider *Let us pray.*

All: **Almighty God, you have given your only-begotten Son to take our nature upon him, and to be born [this day] of a pure virgin: Grant that we, who have been born again and made your children by adoption and grace, may daily be renewed by your Holy Spirit; through our Lord Jesus Christ, to whom with you and the same Spirit be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.**

(please be seated for the lessons)

The Word of God

First Reading from the book of: **Isaiah 62:6-12**

Upon your walls, O Jerusalem, I have
posted sentinels;
all day and all night
they shall never be silent.

You who remind the Lord,
take no rest,
and give him no rest
until he establishes Jerusalem
and makes it renowned throughout
the earth.

The Lord has sworn by his right hand
and by his mighty arm:

I will not again give your grain
to be food for your enemies,
and foreigners shall not drink the wine
for which you have labored;
but those who garner it shall eat it
and praise the Lord,

Reader: The word of the Lord.

and those who gather it shall drink it
in my holy courts.

Go through, go through the gates,
prepare the way for the people;
build up, build up the highway,
clear it of stones,
lift up an ensign over the peoples.

The Lord has proclaimed
to the end of the earth:

Say to daughter Zion,
"See, your salvation comes;

his reward is with him,
and his recompense before him."

They shall be called, "The Holy People,
The Redeemed of the Lord";

and you shall be called, "Sought Out,
A City Not Forsaken."

People: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 97

Dominus regnavit

- 1 The Lord is King;
let the earth rejoice; *
let the multitude of the isles be glad.
- 2 Clouds and darkness are round about him, *
righteousness and justice are the foundations of his throne.
- 3 A fire goes before him *
and burns up his enemies on every side.
- 4 His lightnings light up the world; *
the earth sees it and is afraid.
- 5 The mountains melt like wax at the presence of the Lord, *
at the presence of the Lord of the whole earth.
- 6 The heavens declare his righteousness, *
and all the peoples see his glory.
- 7 Confounded be all who worship carved
images
and delight in false gods! *
Bow down before him, all you gods.
- 8 Zion hears and is glad, and the cities of Judah rejoice, *
because of your judgments, O Lord.
- 9 For you are the Lord,
most high over all the earth; *
you are exalted far above all gods.
- 10 The Lord loves those who hate evil; *
he preserves the lives of his saints
and delivers them from the hand of the wicked.
- 11 Light has sprung up for the righteous, *
and joyful gladness for those who are truehearted.
- 12 Rejoice in the Lord, you righteous, *
and give thanks to his holy Name.

Second Reading from the book of **Titus 3:4-7**

When the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared, he saved us, not because of any works of righteousness that we had done, but according to his mercy, through the water of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit. This Spirit he poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior, so that, having been justified by his grace, we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life.

Reader: *The word of the Lord.* **People: Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Reading Luke 2:(1-7), 8-20

Reader: 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.

Reader: The Gospel of the Lord

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

Sermon

The Nicene Creed *All say together*

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.

Prayers of the People

Leader: *Let us pray to God, who came among us in the birth of Jesus:*

Gracious God, as a star rose, and drew people from great distances to Bethlehem that they might greet the Christ-child; Draw us, your Church, and all of your people to you – that we might be the Church and the People who you call us to be. Lord, in your mercy,

People: Hear our prayer.

Leader: *As you gave Mary your Holy Spirit, filling her with the delight of your Presence; Fill us with your Spirit, and renew our lives.
Lord, in your mercy,*

Hear our prayer.

Leader: *As Gentiles streamed to Jesus' Light, and Kings to the brightness of his rising; Draw our nation, our President, and all in authority, to His brightness.* Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

Leader: *As angels sang 'glorias' to you and proclaimed peace on earth, and goodwill among all peoples; Bring us your peace, and bring an end to and terror and strife.* Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

Leader: *As shepherds were drawn away from their flocks by night; Draw those who do not know you yet to the knowledge and love of you.* Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

Leader: *As Jesus was born in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn; Be especially present with those who have no where to lay their head, those who are vulnerable, and those who are hungry.* Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

Leader: *As the Holy Family gathered together in Bethlehem, and traveled together to far off lands; Bless all families, especially the families of our parish, and protect those who travel.* Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

Leader: *As your son came to proclaim the forgiveness of sins, and the gift of Life Eternal; Give to the departed eternal rest and let Light perpetual shine on them.* Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

Leader: *Let us pray for our own needs and those of others, (people add their own prayers either silently or aloud).* Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Celebrant: *O Lord our God, may the Light and Hope of this night/season, and of your Son's Incarnation, reassure our hearts that you are among us, that you hear our prayer, and that you will be with us always, even to the end of the age. In the name of Jesus of Nazareth we pray.* **Amen.**

Exchange of the Peace

Presider *May the peace of Christ be always with you*

All **And also with you.**

(The Ministers and People exchange socially distant signs of peace (peace sign, namaste, virtual hug)

Offertory

Presider: *Through Christ let us continually offer to God the sacrifice of praise, that is, the fruit of lips that acknowledge his Name.*

Offertory Music



The Holy Communion

The Great Thanksgiving

Rite II Prayer D BCP p. 372

Presider *The Lord be with you.*

People **And also with you.**

Presider *Lift up your hearts.*

People **We lift them to the Lord.**

Presider *Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.*

People **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

Presider

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.

People:

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 (say),

Celebrant and People

All:

**Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

Then the Presider continues

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.

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

The Celebrant continues

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.

Remember, Lord, your one holy catholic and apostolic Church, redeemed by the blood of your Christ.

Reveal its unity, guard its faith, and preserve it in peace.

And grant that we may find our inheritance with the Blessed Virgin Mary, with Matriarchs, Patriarchs, 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, for ever and ever. AMEN.

And now as Jesus taught us, we pray:

Lord's Prayer:

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread

Fraction: *(In silence the Presider breaks the bread)*

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, grant us peace.

Invitation to Communion:

Presider: The gifts of God for the people of God.

(Everyone is invited to come forward and receive communion or a blessing).

Communion Music

Recognition of a Birthday, Anniversary, Healing, Gratitude

Post Communion Prayer *The people stand as they are able.*

Presider: Let us pray:

Presider and People

Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the World in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Blessing

The Presider says

Be a people of peace. Let peace live in your heart and share the peace of Christ with all you meet, and the blessing of God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit be upon you and remain with you always. Amen.

Closing Hymn (*Silent Night, Holy Night*)

the 1982 Hymnal #111

Christmas Eve - {Let's all gather outside to sing Silent Night}

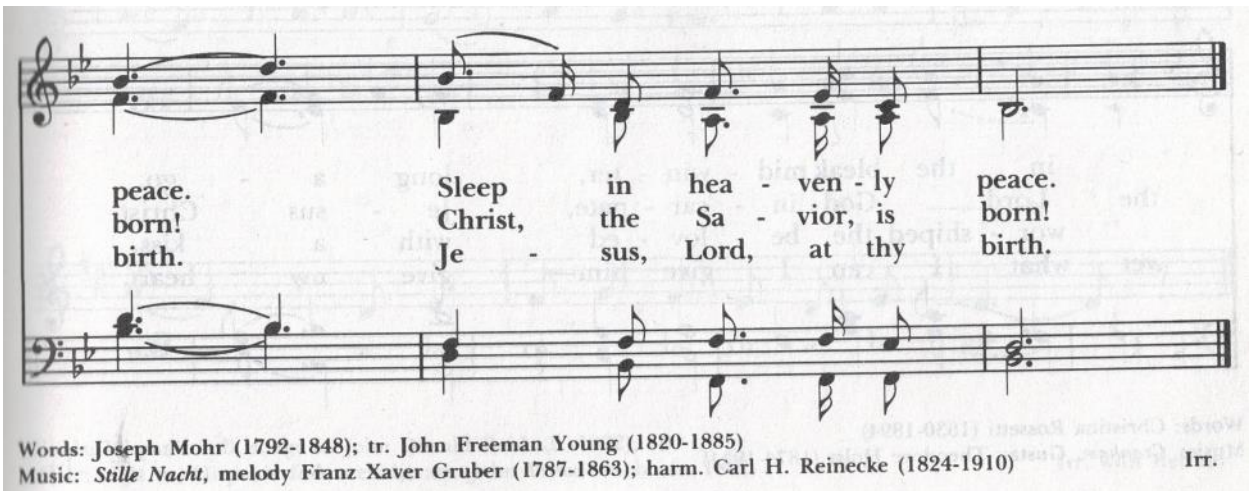
Christmas 111

The image shows a page of a hymnal with the title 'Christmas' in the top left and the number '111' in the top right. The page contains three systems of musical notation, each with a vocal line and a piano accompaniment line. The lyrics are written below the vocal lines. The first system has three lines of lyrics. The second system has three lines of lyrics. The third system has two lines of lyrics. The piano accompaniment consists of chords and single notes in the left hand.

1 Si - lent night, ho - ly night, all is calm,
2 Si - lent night, ho - ly night, shep - herds quake
3 Si - lent night, ho - ly night, Son of God,

all is bright round yon vir - gin mo - ther and child.
at the sight, glo - ries stream from hea - ven a - far,
love's pure light ra - diant beams from thy ho - ly face,

Ho - ly in - fant, so ten - der and mild, sleep in hea - ven - ly
heaven - ly hosts— sing al - le - lu - ia; Christ, the Sa - vior, is
with the dawn of re - deem - ing grace, Je - sus, Lord, at thy



peace.
born!
birth.

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

Words: Joseph Mohr (1792-1848); tr. John Freeman Young (1820-1885)
Music: *Stille Nacht*, melody Franz Xaver Gruber (1787-1863); harm. Carl H. Reinecke (1824-1910) Irr.

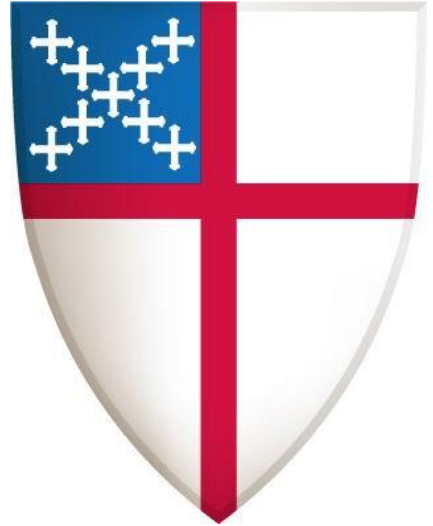
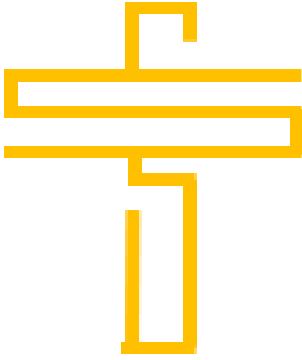
Dismissal

Presider: *Let us go forth in the name of Christ. Alleluia, alleluia!*

People **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia, (Alleluia!)**



Christmas Day Service
December 25 - 10³⁰ a.m.
*Gather with us around the manger
as we worship Him!*



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Welcome Visitor!!!

Please leave your name and contact info below. If you'd like to speak with someone, please check here

Or you can also use the QRC here to fill this out online.



Info Update Giving Envelopes Mail News Letter

Name _____ (first) _____ (Mid.) _____ (Last)

Hm: _____ Cell _____

Email: _____ Anv. Date _____

Adrs: _____ BrthDate _____

City, St., Zip: _____, _____, _____