

St Cuthbert's Scottish Episcopal Church



Christmas Day 2022

A very warm welcome on this special day

Please stand as the clergy enters

We meet to celebrate the coming of Christ into the world.
The Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us.

And we beheld his glory.

LIGHTING OF ADVENT CANDLES

Holy God you left the glory of heaven to take upon yourself our fragile humanity. You came to us in love and yet we denied you room and you were laid in a manger. We have lit candles of hope, peace, love and joy, may these virtues shine brightly in our lives as we welcome you into our hearts this Christmas. Amen.

HYMN 534 – O come, all ye faithful

**O come, all ye faithful,
joyful and triumphant,
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;
come and behold him
born the king of angels:**

*O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!*

**God of God,
Light of Light,
lo, he abhors not the Virgin's womb;
very God, begotten not created:**

*O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!*

**Sing, choirs of angels,
sing in exultation,
sing, all ye citizens of heaven above:
glory to God in the highest:**

*O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!*

**Yea, Lord, we greet thee,
born this happy morning,
Jesu, to thee be glory giv'n;
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing:**

*O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!*

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trans. Frederick Oakeley (1802-1880)

COLLECT FOR PURITY

**Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires
known, and from whom no secrets are hidden: 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 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.**

COLLECT OF THE DAY

God our Father, whose Word has come among us in the Holy Child of Bethlehem, may the light of faith illumine our hearts and shine in our words and deeds; through him who is Christ the Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Amen.

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

Please sit

READING: ISAIAH 9.2-7

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light. They lived in a land of shadows, but now light is shining on them. You have given them great joy Lord; you have made them happy. They rejoice in what you have done, as people rejoice when they harvest grain or when they divide captured wealth. For you have broken the yoke that burdened them and the rod that beat their shoulders. You have defeated the nation that oppressed and exploited your people, just as you defeated the army of Midian long ago. The boots of the invading army and all their bloodstained clothing will be destroyed by fire. A child is born to us! A son is given to us! And he will be our ruler. He will be called, “Wonderful^[b] Counselor,” “Mighty God,” “Eternal Father,” “Prince of Peace.” His royal power will continue to grow; his kingdom will always be at peace. He will rule as King David's successor, basing his power on right and justice, from now until the end of time. The LORD Almighty is determined to do all this.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GRADUAL HYMN 265 – Good Christians all, rejoice

Please stand

**Good Christians all, rejoice
with heart and soul and voice!
Give ye heed to what we say:
News! News! Jesus Christ is born today;
ox and ass before him bow,
and he is in the manger now:
Christ is born today, Christ is born today!**

**Good Christians all, rejoice
with heart and soul and voice!
Now ye hear of endless bliss:
Joy! Joy! Jesus Christ was born for this.
He hath opened heaven's door,
and we are blest for evermore:
Christ was born for this,
Christ was born for this.**

**Good Christians all, rejoice
with heart and soul and voice!
Now ye need not fear the grave:
Peace! Peace! Jesus Christ was born to save;
calls you one, and calls you all,
to gain his everlasting hall:
Christ was born to save,
Christ was born to save.**

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Please remain standing

GOSPEL: LUKE 2.1-14

Hear the good news of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

Glory to Christ our Saviour.

At that time Emperor Augustus ordered a census to be taken throughout the Roman Empire. When this first census took place, Quirinius was the governor of Syria. Everyone, then, went to register himself, each to his own hometown.

Joseph went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to the town of Bethlehem in Judea, the birthplace of King David. Joseph went there because he was a descendant of David. He went to register with Mary, who was promised in marriage to him. She was pregnant, and while they were in Bethlehem, the time came for her to have her baby. She gave birth to her first son, wrapped him in cloths and laid him in a manger—there was no room for them to stay in the inn. There were some shepherds in that part of the country who were spending the night in the fields, taking care of their flocks. An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone over them. They were terribly afraid, but the angel said to them, “Don't be afraid! I am here with good news for you, which will bring great joy to all the people. This very day in David's town your Savior was born—Christ the Lord! And this is what will prove it to you: you will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger.” Suddenly a great army of heaven's angels appeared with the angel, singing praises to God:

“Glory to God in the highest heaven,
and peace on earth to those with whom he is pleased!”

Give thanks to the Lord for his glorious Gospel.

Praise to Christ our Lord.

Please sit

ADDRESS

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Please stand

We believe in God the Father, from whom every family in heaven and earth is named. We believe in God the Son, who lives in our hearts through faith, and fills us with his love. We believe in God the Holy Spirit, who strengthens us with power from on high. We believe in one God; Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.

INTERCESSIONS

Please sit or kneel

THE PEACE

Please stand

Unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given, and his name shall be called the Prince of Peace.

We meet in Christ's name.

Let us share his peace.

Let us offer one another a sign of God's peace.

THE LITURGY OF THE SACRAMENT

OFFERTORY HYMN 559 – O little town of Bethlehem

**O little town of Bethlehem,
how still we see thee lie!
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep
the silent stars go by.
Yet in thy dark streets shineth
the everlasting light;
the hopes and fears of all the years
are met in thee tonight.**

**O morning stars, together
proclaim the holy birth,
and praises sing to God the King,
and peace to all the earth.
For Christ is born of Mary;
and, gathered all above,
while mortals sleep, the angels keep
their watch of wond'ring love;**

**How silently, how silently,
the wondrous gift is giv'n!
So God imparts to human hearts
the blessings of his heav'n.
No ear may hear his coming;
but in this world of sin,
where meek souls will receive him still,
the dear Christ enters in.**

**O holy child of Bethlehem,
descent to us, we pray;
cast out our sin, and enter in,
be born in us today.
We hear the Christmas angels
the great glad tidings tell:
O come to us, abide with us,
our Lord Emmanuel.**

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Please remain standing

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation;
through your goodness we have this bread to offer,
which earth has given and human hands have made;
it will become for us the bread of life.

Blessed be God for ever.

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation;
Through your goodness we have this wine to offer,
fruit of the vine and work of human hands;
it will become the cup of our salvation.

Blessed be God for ever.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give God thanks and praise.

Worship and praise belong to you, Father,
in every place and at all times.

You made us, all the people of the world,
and everything that is.

You give us the daylight.

Your Word lights up our minds.

Jesus was born among us
to be light in our darkness.

Your Spirit lives in us

so that we can look at the world with your eyes.

One day we will be with you in heaven,
but already we laugh with the saints and angels,
and sing their joyful song:

**Holy, Holy, Holy Lord,
God of power and might.
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna in the highest.**

Please sit

Father, you never forget us or turn away from us, even
when we fail you.

You sent your Son Jesus who gave his life for us.

He healed those who were sick, cared for those who were
poor, and cried with those who were sad.

He forgave sinners and taught us to forgive.

For all your love, we give you thanks in the way that Jesus
showed us.

On the night before he died, while he was having supper with his friends, he took bread and offered you thanks. He broke the bread, and gave it to them, saying:

“Take, eat. This is my Body: it is broken for you.”

After supper, he took the cup, he offered you thanks, and gave it to them saying:

"Drink this, all of you. This is my Blood of the new covenant; it is poured out for you, and for all, that sins may be forgiven. Do this in remembrance of me."

So, as we do what he told us, we open our hearts to him; we remember how he died and rose again to live now in us.

Together with him we offer you these gifts: in them we give you ourselves. Send your Holy Spirit on us and on this bread and this wine, that they may be the Body and Blood of Christ, and that, sharing your life, we may travel in your company to our journey's end.

With all your people we give you thanks and praise through the Son and in the Spirit, now and for ever. **Amen.**

BREAKING OF THE BREAD

The living bread is broken for the life of the world.
Lord, unite us in this sign.

LORD'S PRAYER

As our Saviour Christ has commanded and taught us,
we are bold to say:

**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,
the power and the glory,
for ever and ever.
Amen.**

COMMUNION

**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

The gifts of God for the people of God.
All are welcome to receive on this holy morning.

All are welcome to receive Communion, or if you would prefer, please come to the altar rail for a blessing.

COMMUNION HYMN 59 – Away in a manger

**Away in a manger,
no crib for a 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.**

**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.**

**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.**

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William James Kirkpatrick (1838-1921)*

THANKSGIVING AND SENDING OUT

Give thanks to our gracious God
Whose mercy endures for ever.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Father of all, the child born for us is the Saviour of the world. May he who made us your children welcome us into your kingdom, where he is alive and reigns with you now and for ever. Amen.

POST-COMMUNION HYMN 409 – Joy to the world!

Please stand

**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.**

**Joy to the earth! The Saviour 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.**

**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, and wonders of his love.**

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BLESSING

Christ the Son of God, born of Mary, fill you with his grace to trust his promises and obey his will; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always.

Amen.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

In the name of Christ.

Amen.

Organ Voluntary: Chorale Prelude on “In Dulci Jubilo”

- J S Bach

Wishing you a peaceful and blessed Christmas.

