



MISSION STATEMENT

A Worshipping Community serving as a beacon of God's love by exemplifying the two great commandments; love God with our whole heart and love our neighbors as ourselves

Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ – Christmas Eve

December 24, 2022

Holy Eucharist:

Rite II Prayer B

St. John's Episcopal Church

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College Park, Georgia 30337

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The Word of God

Prelude: O holy night by A. Adam

Soloist: Val Valverde

Upon the ringing of the bell, the congregation is invited to stand, as able.

The Celebrant reads or chants the Prologue to John from the back of the church.

Celebrant: A reading from the Gospel of John

John 1:1-14

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ²He 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.

ENTRANCE HYMN *O come, all ye faithful (Adeste fideles) (Blue Hymnal- 83)*

OPENING ACCLAMATION S- 76 *Opening Acclamation (Martens)*

Celebrant

Bless - ed be God: Father, Son, and Ho - ly Spi - rit.

People

And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ev - er. A - men.

COLLECT FOR PURITY (BCP p. 355)

The Celebrant says

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.*

OPENING ANTHEM OR SONG OF PRAISE S 278 *Glory to God (Canticle 20)*
(Mathias) (

The following is sung, all standing

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 OF THE DAY (BCP p. 357)

Celebrant God be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Let us pray.

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 LESSONS

FIRST READING: Isaiah 9:2-7

Mike Spring

The people sit.

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. 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.*
Silence may follow.

SECOND READING: Titus 3:4-7

Michael Proscia

The people sit.

A Reading from Paul's letter to Titus. 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.*

Silence may follow.

SEQUENCE HYMN- *Hark! the herald angels sing- (Blue Hymnal- 87)*

All stand.

GOSPEL: Luke 2:1-14 [15-20]

All stand.

Deacon 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. 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. ⁸In 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.”¹³ And 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!”¹⁵ 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.”¹⁶ So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger.¹⁷ When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child;¹⁸ and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them.¹⁹ But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart.²⁰ The 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 (BCP p. 358)

THE 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 (BCP p. 359)

Susan Schubert

All remain standing.

Come let us adore Christ, the Lord. Let us pray, “Glorious Lord, *grant us your peace.*” Christ the Lord, we humbly adore you: make joyful our hearts. Strengthen your Church with humility and faith that we might triumph over the power of evil.

Silence

Glorious Lord,

Congregation: Grant us your peace.

Christ the Lord, we humbly adore you: you abhor neither the simple nor the lowly. Shine your light on all the world that the nations may look upon your truth and find their salvation.

Silence

Glorious Lord,

Congregation: Grant us your peace.

Christ the Lord, we humbly adore you: may all of creation burst forth in songs of praise. May all the works of your hand glorify you.

Invite the congregation to add their thanksgivings, followed by silence

Glorious Lord,

Congregation: Grant us your peace.

Christ the Lord, we humbly adore you: summon the people of the city to yourself. May all of the distractions and heartache of our lives fade away in the joy of your presence.

Silence

Glorious Lord,

Congregation: Grant us your peace.

Christ the Lord, we humbly adore you: you love us so dearly. Grant your healing grace to sinners, to the poor, to those in need of love. Open your arms to the sick and the lonely. We pray today for : Frank Harrell, Eleanor Buchanon, Barbarine Thorpe, Claude Lindsey, Catherine Meeks, Sheila Proctor, Emily D’Andrea, Kurt Lundquist and Amy Wilson.

Invite the congregation to add their petitions, followed by silence

Glorious Lord,

Congregation: Grant us your peace.

Christ the Lord, we humbly adore you: all glory be given to you. You blessed our earthly bodies with your birth; and you promise to raise us to new life by your death and resurrection. We pray today for Raymond Duran, Louise Berman, Leasha Reed and Eunice Stephens.

Silence

Glorious Lord,

Congregation: Grant us your peace.

Celebrant: Hasten, O Father, the coming of thy kingdom; and grant that we thy servants, who now live by faith, may with joy behold thy Son at his coming in glorious majesty; even Jesus Christ, our only Mediator and Advocate. *Amen.*

THE PEACE (BCP p. 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

OFFERTORY SENTENCE (BCP p. 376)

The Celebrant says

Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God. *Ephesians 5:2*

**OFFERTORY HYMN- VS, 1,2,3 AND 6 - *Once in royal David's City (Irby)*
(*Blue Hymnal- 102*)**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

SURSUM CORDA S 120 *Lift up your hearts* (BCP p. 367)

The People remain standing.

The musical notation consists of four staves. The first staff is for the Celebrant and the People, with lyrics: "The Lord be with you. And al - so with you." The second staff is for the Celebrant and the People, with lyrics: "Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord." The third staff is for the Celebrant, with lyrics: "Let us give thanks to the Lord our God." The fourth staff is for the People, with lyrics: "It is right to give him thanks and praise." The notation includes a treble clef, a key signature of one flat (B-flat), and a common time signature (C). The lyrics are written below the notes, with some words hyphenated across bar lines.

PROPER PREFACE (BCP p. 367)

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:

SANCTUS S 130 *Holy, holy, holy* (Schubert/Proulx) (BCP p. 367)

Celebrant and People

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and
 might, Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord,
 God of power and might, hea - ven and earth are
 full, full of your glo - ry. Ho -
 san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na
 in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes
 in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na
 in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION (BCP p. 368)

The People stand or kneel.

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 Christ, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In Christ, 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 Savior 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 Jesus 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 Christ's death,
We proclaim Christ's resurrection,
We await Christ's coming in glory;

The Celebrant continues

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 the Blessed Virgin Mary, Blessed John, 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.*

**THE LORD'S PRAYER S 119 *The Lord's Prayer (Traditional)*
(Plainsong/Douglas) (BCP p. 363)**

Our Fa - ther, who art in hea - ven, hal - low - ed
 be thy Name, thy king - dom come, thy will be done,
 on earth as it is in hea - ven. Give us this day our
 dai - ly bread. And for - give us our tres - pas - ses,
 as we for - give those who tres - pass 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 power,
 and the glo - ry, for ev - er and ev - er. A - men.

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

FRACTION ANTHEM (BCP p. 364)

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

Congregation: Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

O Lamb of God, that ta - kest a -
 way the sins of the world, have mer - cy up -
 on us. O Lamb of God, that
 ta - kest a - way the sins of the world, have
 mer - cy up - on us. O Lamb of
 God, that ta - kest a - way the sins of the
 world, grant us thy peace.

INVITATION (BCP p. 364)

The Celebrant says

The Gifts of God for the People of God. Whoever you are, wherever you are on your journey, you are welcome at this table.

DISTRIBUTION (BCP p. 365)

We will be sharing communion in both kinds. If you want bread, hold out one hand, if bread and wine, hold out two hands. The server will intinct (dip) the bread for you and place it in your hands.

CONGREGATIONAL HYMN- *Silent Night- Blue Hymnal 111*

You are invited to kneel as you are able.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER (BCP p. 365)

the Celebrant says

Let us pray.

Celebrant 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.

SEASONAL BLESSING

The Priest blesses the people, saying

May Christ, who by his Incarnation gathered into one things earthly and heavenly, fill you with his joy and peace; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. *Amen.*

POST-COMMUNION HYMN- VS. 1,2,3 AND 6 *The first Nowell the angel did say (The First Nowell) (H 109)*

DISMISSAL (BCP p. 366)

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE- Ave Maria by F. Schubert

Soloist: Betsy Davis

Parish Notes

Make Prayer Requests Online: <https://forms.gle/UTa6iMfrukh furgD8>

Wednesday Night Bible Study is off until January 18, 2023 Look for more information in the Bulletin and Eagle Notes in the coming weeks.

Morning Prayer on Zoom Tuesday and Thursday- 10 AM

One of the vastly underutilized gifts of the Episcopal Church is morning prayer. Start your day off with prayer with our online community each week on Tuesday and Thursday. Meeting ID: Meeting ID: 869 7767 5734 Password: 752305

Compline (Night Prayer) Online Thursdays at 7 PM

End your day on a peaceful note and pray Compline with St. John's each Thursday evening. Meeting ID: 843 7684 4017 Password: 848486

Give by Texting- You can use your phone's text messaging capabilities to give to St. Johns. **Just text 73256 and enter our code 3480 as the message.** You will be taken to the giving page where you can make your selections. You can also set up online giving through a link in our weekly email. To subscribe to the weekly email, please contact our administrator at info@stjohnscollegepark.org

Organist	Toku Kawata
Readers:	Mike Spring and Michael Proscia
Prayers of the People:	Susan Schubert
Verger:	Richard Pflieger
Priest in Charge:	The Rev. Tim Black
Church Administrator	Terry Glover
Vestry Members:	The Rev. Tim Black, Priest in Charge Paul Brady, Communications Linda Cage, Outreach Sherran Davis, Clerk Richard Pflieger, Treasurer Archie Polk, Evangelism Michael Proscia, Jr. Warden Pat Roberts, Sr. Warden

At 3:30 PM : Join us via Zoom December 24, 2022 You may be prompted to enter the following: Meeting ID: 890 4465 2335 Password: 704817. If you do not have a camera-enabled device, but want to participate via audio only, then call (toll-free) **1-929-205-6099** and use the same meeting ID and password as above.

Please subscribe to our email: Complete information about what is happening at St. John’s can be received in your inbox just by signing up for our weekly email. (If you do not get email, we can make arrangements for you to get a copy of the weekly news). To sign up, please email us at info@stjohnscollegepark.org

We still need all the pledges for 2023. To pledge right now, fill out this pledge form and turn it in to the offering plate. Your pledges help us to plan for St John’s mission and ministry. We rely on pledges in order to be able to be proactive about our programming and outreach. If you have never pledged, but give, please consider pledging. Giving to God’s work in The Church is a spiritual discipline we are all called to follow. We are grateful in advance for your generosity and prayerful support.

 <p>Currency of Money Pledge</p> <p>Your pledge will allow St. John's to plan its ministry & mission</p> <p>I pledge \$ _____</p> <p>To be paid: Weekly__ Monthly __ Yearly __</p> <p>Signature _____</p> <p><i>Drop your completed pledge card in the offering plate or give to the church office</i></p>	<p>Name _____</p> <p>Address _____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>Phone _____</p> <p>Email _____</p>
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