



The Feast of the Holy Name
Christmas Festival of Lessons and Carols
January 1, 2023

WELCOME

to St. Mary's Episcopal Church

a member of the Central Michigan Episcopal Covenant

St. Andrew's Episcopal Church

Big Rapids, MI

Seeking every day to love God
with our whole heart, mind, and soul, and to
love our neighbors as ourselves.

St. Mary's Episcopal Church

Cadillac, MI

We strive to live out the Great
Commandment: To love the Lord with all our
heart, soul, and mind and to love our
neighbors as ourselves.

If you have a faith or are seeking one, you are always welcome here.

If you are visiting or looking for a spiritual home,
we'd love to get to know you.

CHRISTMAS LESSONS & CAROLS with THE HOLY EUCHARIST: RITE II

THE WORD OF GOD

All stand as able.

Processional Hymn

It Came Upon the Midnight Clear, Hymnal 1982, #90

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

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

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

Eternal Father, you gave to your incarnate Son the holy name of Jesus to be the sign of our salvation: Plant in every heart, we pray, the love of him who is the Savior of the world, our Lord Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, in glory everlasting. **Amen.**

A Bidding Prayer

Celebrant Dear People of God: In this Christmas Season, let it be our duty and delight to hear once more the message of the Angels, to go to Bethlehem and see the Son of God lying in a manger.

Let us hear and heed in Holy Scripture the story of God's loving purpose from the time of our rebellion against him until the glorious redemption brought to us by his holy Child Jesus, and let us make this place glad with our carols of praise.

But first, let us pray for the needs of his whole world, for peace and justice on earth, for the unity and mission of the Church for which he died, and especially for his Church in our country and in this city.

And because he particularly loves them, let us remember in his name the poor and helpless, the cold, the hungry and the oppressed, the sick and those who mourn, the lonely and unloved, the aged and little children, as well as all those who do not know and love the Lord Jesus Christ.

Finally, let us remember before God his pure and lowly Mother, and that whole multitude which no one can number, whose hope was in the Word made flesh, and with whom, in Jesus, we are one for evermore.

And now, to gather up all these petitions, let us pray in the words which Christ himself has taught us, saying:

**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.**

Officiant The Almighty God bless us with his grace; Christ give us the joys of everlasting life; and to the fellowship of the citizens above may the King of Angels bring us all. **Amen.**

The Lessons and Carols

Reader A reading from the book of Genesis.

Now the serpent was more crafty than any other wild animal that the Lord God had made. He said to the woman, "Did God say, 'You shall not eat from any tree in the garden?'" The woman said to the serpent, "We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden; but God said, 'You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the middle of the garden, nor shall you touch it, or you shall die.'" But the serpent said to the woman, "You will not die; for God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil." So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate; and she also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate. Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made loincloths for themselves. They heard the sound of the Lord God walking in the garden at the time of the evening breeze, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the Lord God among the trees of the garden. But the Lord God called to the man, and said to him, "Where are you?" He said, "I heard the sound of you in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked; and I hid myself." He said, "Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?" The man said, "The woman whom you gave to be with me, she gave me fruit from the tree, and I ate." Then the Lord God said to the woman, "What is this that you have done?" The woman said, "The serpent tricked me, and I ate." The Lord God said to the serpent, "Because you have done this, cursed are you among all animals and among all wild creatures; upon your belly you shall go, and dust you shall eat all the days of your life. I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; he will strike your head, and you will strike his heel."

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Hymn

The King Shall Come, Hymnal 1982, #73

Second Lesson

Isaiah 40:1-11

Reader A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah.

Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that she has served her term, that her penalty is paid, that she has received from the Lord's hand double for all her sins. A voice cries out: "In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord, make straight in the desert a highway for our God. Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain. Then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together, for the mouth of the Lord has spoken." A voice says, "Cry out!" And I said, "What shall I cry?" All people are grass, their constancy is like the flower of the field. The grass withers, the flower fades, when the breath of the Lord blows upon it; surely the people are grass. The grass withers, the flower fades; but the word of our God will stand forever. Get you up to a high mountain, O Zion, herald of good tidings; lift up your voice with strength, O Jerusalem, herald of good tidings, lift it up, do not fear; say to the cities of Judah, "Here is your God!" See, the Lord God comes with might, and his arm rules for him; his reward is with him, and his recompense before him. He will feed his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms, and carry them in his bosom, and gently lead the mother sheep.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Hymn

On Jordan's Bank, Hymnal 1982, #76

Reader A reading from the Gospel of Luke.

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you." But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end."

Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?" The angel said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. For nothing will be impossible with God." Then Mary said, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her.

In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leaped in her womb.

And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit and exclaimed with a loud cry, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me? For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leaped for joy. And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her by the Lord."

And Mary said, "My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, for he has looked with favor on the lowliness of his servant. Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed; for the Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy is his name. His mercy is for those who fear him from generation to generation. He has shown strength with his arm; he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts. He has brought down the powerful from their thrones, and lifted up the lowly; he has filled the hungry with good things, and sent the rich away empty. He has helped his servant Israel, in remembrance of his mercy, according to the promise he made to our ancestors, to Abraham and to his descendants forever." And Mary remained with her about three months and then returned to her home. Now the time came for Elizabeth to give birth, and she bore a son. Her neighbors and relatives heard that the Lord had shown his great mercy to her, and they rejoiced with her.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Hymn

Lo, How a Rose, Hymnal 1982, #81

Fourth Lesson

Luke 2:1-20

Reader A reading from the Gospel of Luke.

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.

Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon; this man was righteous and devout, looking forward to the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit rested on him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Messiah. Guided by the Spirit, Simeon came into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him what was customary under the law, Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying, "Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace, according to your word; for my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to your people Israel." And the child's father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him. Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, "This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed—and a sword will pierce your own soul too."

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Hymn

What Child is This, Hymnal 1982, #115

Homily

The Rev. Radha Kaminski

The Nicene Creed

All stand as able.

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

Praying the Scriptures

Intercessor Sisters and brothers, let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus. With humble hearts let us say to the Lord, “Lord Jesus, **we bow our hearts at your name.**”

Jesus, we exalt your name in all the world! Bless your Church. Inspire us by the Holy Spirit to confess you as Lord over all we are, all we do. We pray for Michael, our Presiding Bishop; Prince, our Bishop Provisional; Anne, our Canon Missioner; Radha, our Rector; our Central Michigan Episcopal Covenant. St John’s Saginaw - Curt, Rector; Pam, Assistant Priest, St. James, Albion – Jocelyn, Sr. Warden. We pray for all those in our diocese discerning calls to ministry, both lay and ordained. In particular, we pray for those in our dioceses preparing for the Sacred Order of Priests, including Joe, Barrett, Alex, Matt, and Anne Marie. We pray also for those in our dioceses preparing for the Sacred Order of Deacons, including: Abraham, John, Stephanie, Thon, Jennifer, Justin, Jessica, Julianne, Beckett, Rachel, John, Linda, Cathy, Dell, Theresa. We remember with gratitude the retired clergy of the diocese. *Silence*

Lord Jesus,

People **We bow our hearts at your name.**

Intercessor Jesus, we exalt your name in all the world! Bless the people of the world. May the whole world experience your peace. *Silence* Lord Jesus,

People **We bow our hearts at your name.**

Intercessor We pray for those in positions of authority in our country and in the world, especially Joe, our president; Gretchen our govenor; Carla, our mayor. *Silence* Lord Jesus,

People **We bow our hearts at your name.**

Intercessor Jesus, we exalt your name in all the world! Bless our planet. Make us faithful stewards of all the works of your fingers. Forgive us when we fail to repsect your creature: the beasts of the field, the birds of the air, and the fish of the sea. *Silence* Lord Jesus,

People **We bow our hearts at your name.**

Intercessor Jesus, we exalt your name in all the world! Bless our city and our region. Give us renewed hope and purpose as we begin this new year. *Silence* Lord Jesus,

People **We bow our hearts at your name.**

Intercessor Jesus, we exalt your name in all the world! Bless the sick and the lonely and all those in great need. Make your face to shine on them and be gracious to them. We pray for those in the St. Mary's circle of prayer: Heather & Lonnie & Family, Jamie, Dahilia, Lynda, Kyle, Sherry, Lorie, Reggie, Linda, Anne & Steve, Cindy, Larry, Lisa, Lorie, Deliala, Norm, Jerry. For those in the St. Andrew's circle of prayer: Karen, Sally, Jeanne, Nan, Ollie, Sharyn, Susie, Marty, Rachel, & Doug, Bob, Jill, Shelley, Raymond & Carolyn, Carlson Family;

For our family and friends in the armed forces and who are first responders: Richard, Corey, Matt, Teylor, Tony, Kim, Drew, Jon, Sabastian, Noah, Eli, Jess; And for all those we name at this time. *Silence*
Lord Jesus,

People **We bow our hearts at your name.**

Intercessor Jesus, we exalt your name in all the world! Bless the dying and the dead. We praise you, that through your death on the cross, you have earned for us everlasting life. *Silence* Lord Jesus,

People **We bow our hearts at your name.**

Officiant All these things we have spoken, and those which we name in the silence of our hearts, we pray in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord who with you and the Holy Spirit are one God, forever and ever. **Amen.**

The Confession of Sin

Celebrant Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.
Silence may be kept.

All **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.**

Celebrant 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

All stand as able.

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.** *The People greet one another in the name of the Lord.*

THE HOLY COMMUNION

Offertory *The celebrant says the offertory sentence.*

Offertory Hymn *Jesus, Name Above All Names, Pew Folder, pg. 59*

After all the gifts are brought to the altar, all say in unison:

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

The Great Thanksgiving

Eucharistic Prayer A, BCP, pg. 361

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.**

The celebrant offers our thanks to God for the grace and mercy made available to us in Christ, and in response all sing:

Sanctus (Holy, Holy, Holy)

Pew Folder, p.87

The people stand or kneel as able while the celebrant gives thanks to God for the reconciling work of Christ's passion and resurrection and prays over the bread and wine. Then says:

Celebrant Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

All **Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

Prayer After Communion

All stand or kneel as able.

Celebrant Let us pray.

All In gratitude, in deep gratitude for this moment, this meal, these people, we give ourselves to you. Take us out to live as changed people because we have shared this Living Bread and cannot remain the same. Ask much of us, expect much from us, enable much by us, encourage many through us. So, Lord, may we live to your glory, both as inhabitants of earth and citizens of the commonwealth of heaven. **Amen.**

The Blessing

All stand as able.

May Almighty God, who sent his Son to take our nature upon him, bless you in this holy season, scatter the darkness of sin, and brighten your heart with the light of his holiness. **Amen.**

May God, who sent his angels to proclaim the glad news of the Savior's birth, fill you with joy, and make you heralds of the Gospel. **Amen.**

May God, who in the Word made flesh joined heaven to earth and earth to heaven, give you his peace and favor. **Amen.**

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

The Dismissal

Celebrant Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People Thanks be to God. Alleluia. Alleluia. Amen. Amen.

Recessional Hymn

Go Tell it on the Mountain, Hymnal 1982, #99

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