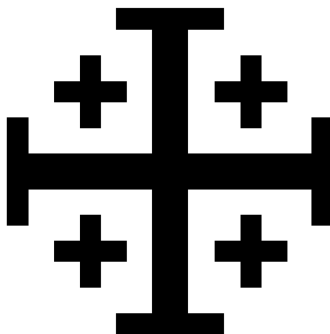


THE ORDER FOR THE ADMINISTRATION
OF
THE LORD'S SUPPER
or
HOLY COMMUNION,
COMMONLY CALLED
THE HOLY EUCHARIST

Anglican Standard Text

December 31, A.D. 2023

First Sunday of Christmas



Welcome!

Thanks for joining us for worship today. Our name, Emmaus, is taken from a place and event near Jerusalem on the afternoon of Easter. Jesus met up with two disciples fleeing the city, dejected. They didn't recognize him, so along the way, he explained the Old Testament to them—how it pointed to him. Then, they invited him in to a house in the town of Emmaus. When he broke the bread at table, their eyes were opened and they recognized him. Thinking back, they realized their hearts burned within them as he explained the Scriptures to them. That is our hope for each Sunday as we gather for worship—that we would encounter Jesus in Scripture and the breaking of bread.

Please leave your name, phone, and email at the guest register in the entryway or narthex. We will get back to you.

For young children, age three and under, feel free to use the nursery in the rear corner. It's hooked up with sound so a parent can hear what's happening in church.

Children age four and up are welcome in Children's Church during the 10:30 service. They go to C.C. after a children's sermon and return for communion with their family.

We serve Sacred Food and Drink here...please don't bring beverages or snacks into church during worship (kids excepted).

Please turn off your cell phones.

A deacon calls the people to prepare themselves for worship.

The people kneel, and observe a time of silent prayer.

Preparatory Prayers for Individuals

Be present, be present, o Jesus, our High Priest, as you were present with your disciples, and be known to us in the breaking of bread; who live and reign, with the Father and the Holy Spirit, now and forever. Amen.

They may be said or sung.

Celebrant Lord have mercy upon us.

People **Christ have mercy upon us.**

Celebrant Lord have mercy upon us.

“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;

Refrain

O come, let us adore him,
Christ the Lord.

God from God,
Light from Light eternal,
lo! he abhors not the Virgin’s womb;
only-begotten
Son of God the Father;

Refrain

Child, for us sinners
poor and in the manger,
we would embrace thee, with love and awe;
who would not love thee,
loving us so dearly?

Refrain

Yea, Lord, we greet thee,
born this happy morning;
Jesus, to thee be glory given;
Word of the Father,
now in flesh appearing;

Refrain

O come, all ye faithful, #83 from *The Hymnal 1982* — Words: John Francis Wade (1711-1786); tr. Frederick Oakeley (1802-1880) and others. Music: *Adeste fideles*, present form of melody att. John Francis Wade (1711-1786); harm. *The English Hymnal*, 1906.

THE ACCLAMATION

Celebrant For unto us a child is born.

People **Unto us a son is given.** Isaiah 9:6

THE COLLECT FOR PURITY

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 SUMMARY OF THE LAW

Hear what our Lord Jesus Christ says:

You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments depend all the Law and the Prophets.

MATTHEW 22:37-40

THE GLORIA

We will sing verse 1 and the chorus



1 An - gels we have heard on high, sing - ing sweet - ly through the night,
2 Shep - herds, why this ju - bi - lee? Why these songs of hap - py cheer?
3 Come to Beth - le - hem and see him whose birth the an - gels sing;
4 See him in a man - ger laid whom the an - gels praise a - bove;



and the moun - tains in re - ply ech - o - ing their brave de - light.
What great bright - ness did you see? What glad tid - ings did you hear?
come, a - dore on bend - ed knee Christ, the Lord, the new - born King.
Ma - ry, Jo - seph, lend your aid, while we raise our hearts in love.



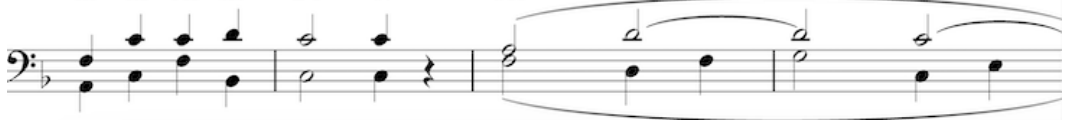
Refrain



Glo - - - - - ri - a



in ex - cel - sis De - o. Glo - - - - -



Words: French carol; tr. James Chadwick (1813-1882), alt. Music: *Gloria*, French carol; arr. Edward Shippen Barnes (1887-1958).

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

The Celebrant says to the People

The Lord be with you.

People **And with your spirit.**

Officiant Let us pray.

Almighty God, you have poured upon us the new light of your incarnate Word: Grant that this light, kindled in our hearts, may shine forth in our lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

CHILDREN’S BLESSING

Children are invited forward for a blessing. Children age three through fourth grade are invited to children’s church. They return at the peace to join their families for communion.

“Fruit Of The Spirit”

**The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace,
 Patience, kindness, goodness, (*snaf*)
 Faithfulness, gentleness and self control**

Galatians 5:22

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 61:10-62:5

I will greatly rejoice in the LORD; my soul shall exult in my God, for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation; he has covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself like a priest with a beautiful headdress, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.

¹¹ For as the earth brings forth its sprouts, and as a garden causes what is sown in it to sprout up, so the Lord God will cause righteousness and praise to sprout up before all the nations.

62 For Zion's sake I will not keep silent, and for Jerusalem's sake I will not be quiet, until her righteousness goes forth as brightness, and her salvation as a burning torch. ² The nations shall see your righteousness, and all the kings your glory, and you shall be called by a new name that the mouth of the LORD will give. ³ You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the LORD, and a royal diadem in the hand of your God. ⁴ You shall no more be termed Forsaken, and your land shall no more be termed Desolate, but you shall be called My Delight Is in Her, and your land Married; for the LORD delights in you, and your land shall be married. ⁵ For as a young man marries a young woman, so shall your sons marry you, and as the bridegroom rejoices over the bride, so shall your God rejoice over you.

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

Psalms 147:12-20

¹² Praise the LORD, O Jerusalem; *
praise your God, O Zion.

¹³ For he has made strong the bars of your gates *
and has blessed your children within you.

¹⁴ He makes peace in your borders *
and fills you with the finest of wheat.

15 He sends forth his commandment upon the earth, *
and his word runs very swiftly.
16 He gives snow like wool *
and scatters the white frost like ashes.
17 He casts forth his ice like crumbs; *
who is able to abide his frost?
18 He sends out his word and melts them; *
he blows with his wind, and the waters flow.
19 He declares his word unto Jacob, *
his statutes and ordinances unto Israel.
20 He has not dealt so with other nations; *
neither have they knowledge of his laws. Praise the LORD.

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,
and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen**

Epistle Reading

Galatians 3:23-4:7

Now before faith came, we were held captive under the law, imprisoned until the coming faith would be revealed. ²⁴ So then, the law was our guardian until Christ came, in order that we might be justified by faith. ²⁵ But now that faith has come, we are no longer under a guardian, ²⁶ for in Christ Jesus you are all sons of God, through faith. ²⁷ For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ. ²⁸ There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is no male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus. ²⁹ And if you are Christ's, then you are Abraham's offspring, heirs according to promise.

4 I mean that the heir, as long as he is a child, is no different from a slave, though he is the owner of everything, ² but he is under guardians

and managers until the date set by his father. ³ In the same way we also, when we were children, were enslaved to the elementary principles of the world. ⁴ But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law, ⁵ to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons. ⁶ And because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, “Abba! Father!” ⁷ So you are no longer a slave, but a son, and if a son, then an heir through God.

Reader: The word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

**Turn your eyes upon Jesus
Look full in His wonderful face
And the things of earth
Will grow strangely dim
In the light of His glory and grace**

CCLI Song # 15960 Helen H. Lemmel Words: Public Domain; Music: Public Domain CCLI License # 11021826

THE HOLY GOSPEL

Deacon The Holy Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ, according to St. John

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

John 1:1-18

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ² He was in the beginning with God. ³ All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made. ⁴ In him was life, and the life was the light of men. ⁵ The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it. ⁶ There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷ He came as a witness, to bear witness about the light, that all might believe through him. ⁸ He was not the light, but came to bear witness about the light. ⁹ The true light, which gives light to everyone, was coming into the world.

¹⁰ He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world did not know him. ¹¹ He came to his own, and his own people did not receive him. ¹² But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, ¹³ who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God. ¹⁴ And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth. ¹⁵ (John bore witness about him, and cried out, “This was he of whom I said, ‘He who comes after me ranks before me, because he was before me.’”) ¹⁶ For from his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. ¹⁷ For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. ¹⁸ No one has ever seen God; the only God, who is at the Father’s side, he has made him known.

Deacon: The Gospel of the Lord. *People:* **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

**Turn your eyes upon Jesus
Look full in His wonderful face
And the things of earth
Will grow strangely dim
In the light of His glory and grace**

THE SERMON

Fr. Theron Walker

THE NICENE CREED

Let us confess our faith in the words of the Nicene Creed:

Celebrant and People

We believe in one God,

**the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, visible and invisible.**

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,

**the only-begotten 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,
was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and 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],
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who 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

The deacon says,

Let us pray for the Church and for the world.

Reader Almighty and everliving God, we are taught by your holy Word to offer prayers and supplications and to give thanks for all people. We humbly ask you mercifully to receive our prayers. Inspire continually the universal Church with the spirit of truth, unity, and concord; and grant that all who confess your holy Name may agree in the truth of your holy Word, and live in unity and godly love.

Reader Lord, in your mercy: *People* **Hear our prayer.**

We pray that you will lead the nations of the world in the way of righteousness; and so guide and direct their leaders, especially (_____), that your people may enjoy the blessings of freedom and peace. Grant that our leaders may impartially administer justice, uphold integrity and truth, restrain wickedness and vice, and protect true religion and virtue.

Reader Lord, in your mercy: *People* **Hear our prayer.**

Give grace, heavenly Father, to all Bishops, Priests, and Deacons, *and especially to your servant(s)* _____ that by their life and teaching, they may proclaim your true and life-giving Word, and rightly and duly administer your holy Sacraments. And to all your people give your heavenly grace, especially to this Congregation, (_____), those celebrating birthdays (_____), anniversaries (_____), in our diocese (_____) and in our community (____); that with reverent and obedient hearts we may hear and receive your holy Word, and serve you in holiness and righteousness all the days of our lives.

Reader Lord, in your mercy: *People* **Hear our prayer.**

Prosper, we pray, all those who proclaim the Gospel of your kingdom throughout the world, *especially* _____, and strengthen us to fulfill your great commission, making disciples of all nations, baptizing them and teaching them to obey all that you have commanded.

Reader Lord, in your mercy: *People* **Hear our prayer.**

For our brothers and sisters in Christ who are persecuted for their faith, especially in _____.

Reader Lord, in your mercy: *People* **Hear our prayer.**

For soldiers of this nation deployed to fight for the sake of righteousness and freedom, and for those who bear the wounds of combat: _____.

Reader Lord, in your mercy: *People* **Hear our prayer.**

We ask you in your goodness, O Lord, to comfort and sustain all who in this transitory life are in trouble, sorrow, need, sickness, or any other adversity [especially _____].

Reader Lord, in your mercy: *People* **Hear our prayer.**

Almighty and Holy God, the author and sustainer of all life, in sorrow and repentance for the scourge of abortion and any practices which promote or hasten unnatural death, we appeal to Your mercy and love for the lives of all people and families; the born and unborn, wanted and unwanted, capable or limited, healthy or suffering; that Your perfect will be fulfilled and life ever be cherished as a gift from You, to the Glory of God, our Master, Redeemer, and Friend.

Reader Lord, in your mercy:

People **Hear our prayer.**

We remember before you all your servants who have departed this life in your faith and fear, [especially _____,] that your will for them may be fulfilled; and we ask you to give us grace to follow the good examples of [_____, and] all your saints, that we may share with them in your heavenly kingdom.

Reader Lord, in your mercy: *People* **Hear our prayer.**

The Deacon concludes with this or some other appropriate Collect.

Heavenly Father, grant these our prayers for the sake of Jesus Christ, our only Mediator and Advocate, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION OF SIN

The Deacon or other person appointed says the following

All who truly and earnestly repent of your sins, and seek to live in love and charity with your neighbors, and intend to lead the new life, following the commandments of God, and walking in his holy ways: draw near with faith and make your humble confession to Almighty God.

Silence

The Deacon and People kneel as able and pray

**Almighty God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
maker and judge of us all:**

**We acknowledge and lament our many sins and offenses,
which we have committed by thought, word, and deed
against your divine majesty,
provoking most justly your righteous anger against us.**

**We are deeply sorry for these our transgressions;
the burden of them is more than we can bear.**

Have mercy upon us,

Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father;

for your Son our Lord Jesus Christ's sake,

forgive us all that is past;

and grant that we may evermore serve

and please you in newness of life,

to the honor and glory of your Name;

through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Bishop or Priest stands and says

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who in his great mercy has promised forgiveness of sins to all those who sincerely repent and with true faith turn to him, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and bring you to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE COMFORTABLE WORDS

The Deacon may then say one or more of the following sentences, first saying

Hear the Word of God to all who truly turn to him.

Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.

MATTHEW 11:28

God so loved the world, that he gave his only-begotten Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.

JOHN 3:16

The saying is trustworthy and deserving of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners.

1 TIMOTHY 1:15

If anyone sins, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous. He is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world.

1 JOHN 2:1-2

THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And with your spirit.

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

THE OFFERTORY

For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sake he became poor, so that you by his poverty might become rich. 2 Corinthians 8:9

The ushers present the bread and wine to the deacon, then pass the offering baskets.

“Shine Jesus Shine”

**Lord the light of Your love is shining
In the midst of the darkness shining
Jesus Light of the world shine upon us
Set us free by the truth You now bring us
Shine on me shine on me**

Chorus

**Shine Jesus shine
Fill this land
With the Father's glory
Blaze Spirit blaze
Set our hearts on fire
Flow river flow
Flood the nations
With grace and mercy
Send forth Your word Lord
And let there be light**

**Lord I come to Your awesome presence
From the shadows into Your radiance
By the blood I may enter Your brightness
Search me try me consume all my darkness
Shine on me shine on me**

Chorus

**As we gaze on Your kingly brightness
So our faces display Your likeness
Ever changing from glory to glory
Mirrored here may our lives tell Your story
Shine on me shine on me**

Chorus

**Shine Jesus shine
Fill this land
With the Father's glory
Blaze Spirit blaze
Set our hearts on fire
Flow river flow
Flood the nations
With grace and mercy
Send forth Your word Lord
And let there be light**

Graham Kendrick CCLI Song #30426 © 1987 Make Way Music CCLI License #11021826

When the altar is prepared the ushers present the people's offering of money, with the children at 10:30, and we sing....

Priest. All things come from you O Lord.

People: **And of your own, have we given you.**

Gloria Patri

The image shows a musical score for the Gloria Patri. It consists of two systems of music, each with a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment line (bass clef). The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are: "Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Ho-ly Ghost; as it was in the be-gin-ning, is now, and ev-er shall be, world without end. A - men, a - men."

THE SURSUM CORDA

The People remain standing. The Celebrant faces them and sings or says

The Lord be with you.

People **And with your spirit.**

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them up 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 continues

It is right, our duty and our joy, 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 Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary his mother, was made truly man, yet without the stain of sin, that we might be cleansed from sin and given the right 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:

THE SANCTUS

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Music: From *A Community Mass*; Richard Proulx (b. 1937). Copyright © 1971, 1977 GIA Publications, Inc.

THE PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

The People kneel or stand. The Celebrant continues

All praise and glory is yours, O God our heavenly Father, for in your tender mercy, you gave your only Son Jesus Christ to suffer death upon the Cross for our redemption. He made there, by his one oblation of himself once offered, a full, perfect, and sufficient sacrifice, oblation, and satisfaction, for the sins of the whole world; and he instituted, and in his Holy Gospel commanded us to continue, a perpetual memory of his precious death and sacrifice, until his coming again.

So now, O merciful Father, in your great goodness, we ask you to bless and sanctify, † with your Word and Holy Spirit, these gifts of bread and wine, that we, receiving them according to your Son our Savior Jesus Christ's holy institution, in remembrance of his death and passion, may be partakers of his most blessed Body and Blood.

On the night that he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take, eat; this is my Body, which is given for you: Do this in remembrance of me." †

Likewise, after supper, Jesus took the cup, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, "Drink this, all of you; for 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 in remembrance of me." †

Therefore, O Lord and heavenly Father, according to the institution of your dearly beloved Son our Savior Jesus Christ, we your humble servants celebrate and make here before your divine Majesty, with these holy gifts, the memorial your Son commanded us to make; remembering his blessed passion and precious death, his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension, and his promise to come again.

And we earnestly desire your fatherly goodness mercifully to accept this, our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving; asking you to grant that, by the merits and death of your Son Jesus Christ, and through faith in his Blood, we and your whole Church may obtain forgiveness of our sins, and all other benefits of his passion.

And here we offer and present to you, † O Lord, ourselves, our souls and bodies, to be a reasonable, holy, and living sacrifice. We humbly pray that all who partake of this Holy Communion may worthily receive the most precious Body and Blood of your Son Jesus Christ, be filled with your grace and heavenly benediction, and be made one body with him, that he may dwell in us, and we in him.

And although we are unworthy, because of our many sins, to offer you any sacrifice, yet we ask you to accept this duty and service we owe, not weighing our merits, but pardoning our offenses, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

And now as our savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to pray:

Officiant and People

**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 FRACTION

If the consecrated Bread was not broken earlier, the Celebrant breaks it now.

A period of silence is kept.

Celebrant Alleluia! The disciples knew the Lord Jesus!

People **In the breaking of the bread. Alleluia!**

THE PRAYER OF HUMBLE ACCESS

Celebrant and People together may say

**We do not presume to come to this your table, O merciful Lord,
trusting in our own righteousness,
but in your abundant and great mercies.**

**Apart from your grace,
we are not worthy so much as to gather up
the crumbs under your table;
but you are the same Lord
whose character is always to have mercy.**

**Grant us, therefore, gracious Lord,
so to eat the flesh of your dear Son Jesus Christ,
and to drink his blood,
that our sinful bodies may be made clean by his body,
and our souls washed through his most precious blood,
and that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.**

THE AGNUS DEI

O Lamb Of God

Fraction Anthem

The St. James Christmas Service

Gently [In One]

O Lamb of God, O Ho - ly
Child, who takes the sin of the world a - way; Have
mer - cy on us, lamb so mild, the babe, the
son of Ma - ry. This, this is your bo - dy
giv'n, Your pre - cious blood, the gift of heav'n.
Take, eat, for we are one in the babe, the
son of Ma - ry.

THE MINISTRATION OF COMMUNION

Facing the People, the Celebrant may say the following invitation

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.]

Please come forward by row up the center to receive the Sacrament. All baptized Christians are welcome. Take and eat the bread, then take and drink the wine. You may drink from the COMMON CUP, dip your bread in the common cup, or drink from a single serving cup. If you are not baptized, it would be our pleasure to bless in the Lord's Name. Please come forward, cross your arms over your chest, and the priest will offer up a special prayer for you. If you need gluten free bread, let the priest know.

“Christmas Carol Medley”

THE POST COMMUNION PRAYER

After Communion, the Celebrant says

Let us pray.

Celebrant and People together say the following,

Almighty and everliving God,

we thank you for feeding us, in these holy mysteries,

with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood

of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ;

**and for assuring us, through this Sacrament, of your favor and
goodness towards us:**

that we are true members of the mystical body of your Son,

the blessed company of all faithful people;

and are also heirs, through hope, of your everlasting kingdom.

And we humbly ask you, heavenly Father,

to assist us with your grace,

that we may continue in that holy fellowship,

and do all the good works that you have prepared for us to walk

in; through Jesus Christ our Lord,

to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,

be all honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

People accompany their first three responses with a sweep of the arm towards the cross above the holy table, and their final response with a sweep towards heaven. From the Book of Common Prayer of Kenya.

Minister All our problems,
People **We send to the cross of Christ.**
Minister All our sins.
People **We send to the cross of Christ.**
Minister All the devil's works.
People **We send to the cross of Christ.**
Minister All our hopes,
People **We set on the risen Christ!**

THE BLESSING

The Priest gives the blessing:

The light of the Christmas star to you,
The warmth of home and hearth to you,
The cheer and good will of friends to you,
The hope of a childlike heart to you,
The joy of a thousand angels to you,
The love of the Son,
And God's peace to you;
and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always.

Amen.

“God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen”

**God rest you merry, gentlemen,
let nothing you dismay;
remember Christ our Savior
was born on Christmas Day,
to save us all from Satan's power
when we were gone astray.**

Refrain

O tidings of comfort and joy,
comfort and joy;
O tidings of comfort and joy!

From God our heavenly Father
a blessed angel came
and unto certain shepherds
brought tidings of the same:
how that in Bethlehem was born
the Son of God by name.

Refrain

“Fear not, then,” said the angel,
“Let nothing you affright;
this day is born a Savior
of a pure virgin bright,
to free all those who trust in him
from Satan’s power and might.”

Refrain

Now to the Lord sing praises,
all you within this place,
and with true love and charity
each other now embrace;
this holy tide of Christmas
doth bring redeeming grace.

Refrain

God rest you merry, gentlemen, #105 from *The Hymnal 1982* — Words: London carol, 18th cent. Music: *God Rest You Merry*, melody from *Little Book of Christmas Carols*, ca. 1850; harm. Charles Winfred Douglas (1867-1944). Copyright © The Church Pension Fund.

THIS WEEK

Sunday	8:00	Eucharist; Mid-Hour No Choir or Class; 10:30 Eucharist
Wednesday	9:00	Eucharist
	10:00	Class
	11:00	Finance Meeting
	11:30	Staff Meeting
Thursday	2:30	Prayer Group
Friday	7:00	MESS

Serving Sunday 12/31

	8:00	10:30
Lector	Dave N.	Jim V.
Acolyte	Kelsey	Holly
Chalice		Marsha
Jr. Acolyte		Bella & Diego
Ushers	Cadwell	Van Keuren
Prayer team	Laure	Hampton
Children's church		Erin
Flowers		Open
Hospitality		
Open		

LOOKING AHEAD

January 7	Feast of the Baptism of our Lord with Baptisms
January 13-14	Bishop Steven Tighe from Anglican Diocese of the Southwest
January 21	Sanctity of Life Sunday
January 28	Annual Meeting between the Services
February 11	Shrove Sunday Pancake Supper & Variety Show
February 14	Ash Wednesday

Lectors, Acolytes, and Chalice Bearers Needed

Would you like to read God's Word in the liturgy? Would you like to carry the cross, ring the bell, or serve the Blood of Christ to his people? We'll be training new recruits for 8:00 and 10:30 services during the mid-hour, January 7, 21, Feb. 4. (Two sessions for lectors, three for acolytes and chalice bearers). Please email Fr. Theron if you're interested: TRWalker@mac.com.

Anglican Diocese of the Southwest Visit

Saturday January 13-Sunday January 14, Emmaus will host Bishop Steven Tighe and three representatives from the Diocese, up from El Paso. This is a time for us to get to know them and they us as we seek the Lord's direction for our future diocesan home. Bishop Steven will lead a retreat for us on Saturday from 9:00-3:00 on DISCERNING THE LORD'S WILL for yourself, and as a community. He'll be our guest preacher at both Sunday services and will host a Question and Answer period during the mid-hour. We'll wrap up with a chili lunch on Sunday. **PLEASE SIGN UP TO ATTEND ON SATURDAY!**

You're Invited

2024 Provincial Assembly
The Anglican Church in North America
15th Anniversary
25-28 June 2024
Saint Vincent College
Latrobe, PA 15650

To give, cash and checks are always welcome.
Another option is this code that will take you to the
Emmaus website to a secure giving portal.

