



St. Peter's Anglican Church
Loveland, CO

HOLY EUCHARIST
Christmas Day

WELCOME
IN THE NAME OF OUR LORD
JESUS CHRIST



December 25, 2023

Prelude

Processional: O Come, All Ye Faithful – H #28

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,
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,
Glory in the highest;

(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 giv'n;
Word of the Father,
Now in flesh appearing;

(Refrain)

Celebrant: For unto us a child is born,

***People:* Unto us a son is given.**

All: 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.

Deacon/Priest: 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 Kyrie

Celebrant: Lord, have mercy upon us.

***People:* Christ, have mercy upon us.**

Celebrant: Lord, have mercy upon us.

Gloria: Angels We Have Heard On High – H #27

Angels we have heard on high,
Singing sweetly through the night,
And the mountains in reply
Echoing their brave delight.
Gloria in excelsis Deo.

Shepherds, why this jubilee?
Why these songs of happy cheer?
What great brightness did you see?
What glad tidings did you hear?
Gloria in excelsis Deo.

Come to Bethlehem and see
Him whose birth the angels sing;
Come, adore on bended knee
Christ, the Lord, the newborn King.
Gloria in excelsis Deo.

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

***People:* And with your spirit.**

Celebrant: Let us pray:

Collect for the Day

Celebrant: 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 Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom with you and the same Spirit be honor and glory, now and for ever. **Amen.**

(The people may sit.)

The First Lesson: Isaiah 52: 7-12

7 How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him who brings good news, who publishes peace, who brings good news of happiness, who publishes salvation, who says to Zion, "Your God reigns." 8 The voice of your watchmen—they lift up their voice; together they sing for joy; for eye to eye they see the return of the LORD to Zion. 9 Break forth together into singing, you waste places of Jerusalem, for the LORD has comforted his people; he has redeemed Jerusalem.

10 The LORD has bared his holy arm before the eyes of all the nations, and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God. 11 Depart, depart, go out from there; touch no unclean thing; go out from the midst of her; purify yourselves, you who bear the vessels of the Lord. 12 For you shall not go out in haste, and you shall not go in flight, for the LORD will go before you, and the God of Israel will be your rear guard.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

The Psalm 98

Cantate Domino

1 O sing unto the Lord a **new** song, *
for he has done / mar-ve-**lous** things.
2 With his own right hand and with his holy **arm**, *
he has won for him-/self the **vic-tory**.
3 The Lord declared his sal-**va-tion**; *
his righteousness has he openly shown in the sight / of
the **na-tions**.
4 He has remembered his mercy and truth toward the
house of **Is-rael**, *
and all the ends of the world have seen the salva-**tion**
of **our** God.
5 Show yourselves joyful in the Lord, all you **lands**; *
sing, re-/joyce, and **give** thanks.
6 Praise the Lord with the **harp**; *
sing with the harp a psalm / of thanks-**giv-ing**.
7 With trumpets also and **horns**, *
O show yourselves joyful before / the Lord, **the** King.
8 Let the sea make a noise, and all that is **in** it, *
the round world, and those / who dwell **there-in**.
9 Let the rivers clap their hands, and let the hills
be joyful together before the **Lord**, *
for he has come / to judge **the** earth.
10 With righteousness shall he judge the **world**, *
and the peo-/ples with **e-qui-ty**.

All: *Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,
And / to the **Ho-ly** Ghost
As it was in the beginning, is **now**,
and shall be for-/ever **A-men**.*

The Second Lesson: Hebrews 1:1-12

1 Long ago, at many times and in many ways, God spoke to our fathers by the prophets, 2 but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed the heir of all things, through whom also he created the world. 3 He is the radiance of the glory of God and the exact imprint of his nature, and he upholds the universe by the word of his power. After making

purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, 4 having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs. 5 For to which of the angels did God ever say, “You are my Son, today I have begotten you”? Or again, “I will be to him a father, and he shall be to me a son”? 6 And again, when he brings the firstborn into the world, he says, “Let all God’s angels worship him.” 7 Of the angels he says, “He makes his angels winds, and his ministers a flame of fire.” 8 But of the Son he says, “Your throne, O God, is forever and ever, the scepter of uprightness is the scepter of your kingdom. 9 You have loved righteousness and hated wickedness; therefore God, your God, has anointed you with the oil of gladness beyond your companions.” 10 And, “You, Lord, laid the foundation of the earth in the beginning, and the heavens are the work of your hands; 11 they will perish, but you remain; they will all wear out like a garment, 12 like a robe you will roll them up, like a garment they will be changed. But you are the same, and your years will have no end.”

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

(Please stand as you are able.)

Of The Father’s Love Begotten - H #462 (V. 1 & 2)

Of the Father’s love begotten,
Ere the worlds began to be,
He is Alpha and Omega,
He the source, the ending he,
Of the things that are, that have been,
And that further years shall see,
Evermore and evermore!

O that birth forever blessed,
When the virgin, full of grace,
By the Holy Ghost conceiving,
Bore the Savior of our race,
And the babe, the world’s Redeemer,
First revealed his sacred face,
Evermore and evermore!

Deacon or Priest: The Holy Gospel of our Lord, Jesus Christ according to Saint John.

All: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

The Holy Gospel: John 1:1-18

1 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 or Priest: The Gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Of The Father's Love Begotten - H #462 (V. 3 & 5)

O ye heights of heav'n, adore him;
Angel hosts, his praises sing;
Pow'rs, dominions, bow before him,
And extol our God and King;
Let no tongue on earth be silent,
Ev'ry voice in concert ring,
Evermore and evermore!

Christ, to thee, with God the Father,
And Holy Ghost, to thee,
Hymn and chant and high thanksgiving,
And unwearied praises be:
Honor, glory, and dominion,
And eternal victory,
Evermore and evermore!

The Sermon

Deacon or Priest: Let us confess our faith in the words of the Nicene Creed.

All: 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.

(Please kneel, stand, or sit as you are able.)

Prayers of the People

Deacon or Priest: Let us pray for the Church and for the world, saying, "hear our prayer."

Intercessor: For the peace of the whole world, and for the well-being and unity of the people of God. O God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, our only Savior, the Prince of Peace; Give us grace seriously to lay to heart the great dangers we are in by our unhappy divisions. Take away all hatred and prejudice, and whatsoever else may hinder us from godly union and concord: that as there is but one Body and one Spirit, and one hope of our calling, one Lord, one Faith, one Baptism, one God and Father of us all, so we may be all of one heart and of one soul, united in one holy bond of truth and peace, of faith and charity, and may with one mind and one mouth glorify you; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

(Please offer your prayers, either out loud or silently.)

Intercessor: Lord, in your mercy:

People: Hear our prayer.

Intercessor: For our Archbishop, Foley Beach; for our Bishop, Bill Atwood; for our Rector, Father Matt Rucker, and for our assisting clergy: Father Bill Easterling, and Deacon Larry Doyle.

(Please offer your prayers, either out loud or silently.)

Intercessor: Lord, in your mercy:

People: Hear our prayer.

Intercessor: For all those who proclaim the Gospel at home and abroad; and for all who teach and disciple others including those we serve in our Outreach Programs, naming especially Zeteo Missions, Denver Rescue Mission, and Harvest Farm.

(Please offer your prayers, either out loud or silently.)

Intercessor: Lord, in your mercy:

People: Hear our prayer.

Intercessor: For our brothers and sisters in Christ who are persecuted for their faith.

(Please offer your prayers, either out loud or silently.)

Intercessor: Lord, in your mercy:

People: Hear our prayer.

Intercessor: For our nation, for those in authority, and for all in public service, especially our President, Joseph, and our Governor, Jared. Give them a discerning heart and a wise mind to lead and serve as God desires. We also pray for those in our armed forces serving our country both home and abroad.

(Please offer your prayers, either out loud or silently.)

Intercessor: Lord, in your mercy:

People: Hear our prayer.

Intercessor: For all those who are in trouble, sorrow, need, sickness, or any other adversity, naming especially those who grieve the loss of someone they love during this Christmas season, and those who through illness or adversity are unable to be with us tonight.

(Please offer your prayers, either out loud or silently.)

Intercessor: Lord, in your mercy:

People: Hear our prayer.

Intercessor: For all the blessings of this life and for the many reasons we have to give thanks.

(Please offer your prayers, either out loud or silently.)

Intercessor: Lord, in your mercy:

People: Hear our prayer.

Intercessor: For all those who have departed this life in the certain hope of the resurrection, in thanksgiving let us pray.

(Please offer your prayers, either out loud or silently.)

Intercessor: Lord, in your mercy:

People: Hear our prayer.

(Additional petitions may be made during this moment of silence.)

Deacon or Priest: 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 forever. **Amen.**

Deacon or Priest: Let us humbly confess our sins to Almighty God.

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, 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.**

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

(Please stand as you are able.)

The Peace

Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

All: And with your spirit.

The Offering

“Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God”.

Ephesians 5:2

(Please stand as you are able.)

Offertory: Wexford Carol

Good people all, this Christmas time
Consider well and bear in mind
What our good God for us has done
In sending his beloved son
With Mary holy we should pray
To God with love this Christmas Day
In Bethlehem upon that morn
There was a blessed Messiah born
The night before that happy tide,
The noble virgin and her guide
Were long time seeking up and down
To find a lodging in the town.
But mark how all things came to pass
From every door repelled, alas,
As was foretold, their refuge all
Was but a humble ox's stall.
Near Bethlehem did shepherds keep
Their flocks of lambs and feeding sheep
To whom God's angels did appear
Which put the shepherds in great fear
'Prepare and go,' the angels said
'To Bethlehem, be not afraid
For there you'll find, this happy morn
A princely babe, sweet Jesus born
With thankful heart and joyful mind
The shepherds went, this babe to find
And as God's angel had foretold
They did our saviour Christ behold
Within a manger he was laid
And by his side the virgin maid
Attending on the Lord of life
Who came on earth to end all strife
Good people all, this Christmas time
Consider well and bear in mind
What our good God for us has done
In sending his beloved Son
With Mary holy we should pray
To God with love this Christmas day
In Bethlehem upon that morn
There was a blessed Messiah born.

The Doxology

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow
Praise Him all creatures here below
Praise Him above ye heavenly hosts.
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

Celebrant: Yours, O Lord, is the greatness, and the power, and the glory, and the victory, and the majesty: for everything in heaven and on earth is yours; yours is the Kingdom, O Lord, and you are exalted as Head above all. All things come from you, O Lord,

People: And of your own have we given you.

1 Chronicles 29:11, 14

The Great Thanksgiving

Celebrant: 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.

Celebrant: It is right, our duty and our joy, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

(Proper Preface) 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 – S # 130

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

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

(The people may kneel, stand, or sit.)

Celebrant: Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and when we had sinned against you and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent your only Son Jesus Christ into the world for our salvation.

By the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary he became flesh and dwelt among us. In obedience to your will, he stretched out his arms upon the Cross and offered himself once for all, that by his suffering and death we might be saved. By his resurrection he broke the bonds of death, trampling Hell and Satan under his feet. As our great high priest, he ascended to your right hand in glory, that we might come with confidence before the throne of grace.

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 we proclaim the mystery of faith:

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

Celebrant: We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, and we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Word and Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son Jesus Christ. Sanctify us also, that we may worthily receive this holy Sacrament, and be made one body with him, that he may dwell in us and we in him. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us with all your saints into the joy of your heavenly kingdom, where we shall see our Lord face to face.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ: 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 forever. *Amen.*

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

**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, forever and ever. Amen.**

Celebrant: Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.
People: Therefore, let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

(Please kneel or stand as you are able.)

Prayer of Humble Access

**All: 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. 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.**

Agnus Dei – S # 164

*Jesus, Lamb of God: have mercy on us.
Jesus, bearer of our sins: have mercy on us.
Jesus, redeemer, redeemer of the world:
Give us your peace, give us your peace.*

Celebrant: 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.

(You may kneel, stand, or sit during Communion.)

Communion Hymns

What Child Is This

What child is this, who, laid to rest,
On Mary's lap is sleeping?
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet,
While shepherds watch are keeping?

*This, this is Christ the King,
Whom shepherds guard and angels sing;
Haste, haste to bring him laud,
The babe, the son of Mary.*

Why lies he in such mean estate
Where ox and ass are feeding?
Good Christian, fear: for sinners here
The silent Word is pleading.

*Nails, spear shall pierce Him through,
The cross be borne for me, for you.
Hail, hail the Word made flesh,
The Babe, the Son of Mary.*

So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh,
Come, peasant, king, to own him;
The King of kings salvation brings,
Let loving hearts enthrone him.

*Raise, raise a song on high,
The Virgin sings her lullaby.
Joy, joy for Christ is born,
The Babe, the Son of Mary.*

He Is Born, The Divine Christ Child – H #48

Chorus:

*He is born, the divine Christ child;
Play on the oboe and bagpipes merrily!
He is born, the holy child;
Sing we all of the Saviour mild.*

Thro' long ages of the past,
Prophets have foretold his coming;
Thro' long ages of the past
Now the time has come at last! (*Chorus*)

O how lovely, O how pure.
Is this perfect child of heaven!
Oh, how lovely, oh, how pure
Gracious gift of God sent down! (*Chorus*)

Jesus, Lord of all the world,
Coming as a child among us,
Jesus, Lord of all the world,
Grant to us Thy heav'nly peace. (*Chorus*)

Post Communion Prayer

Celebrant: Let us pray.

All: Heavenly Father, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal Kingdom. And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our

Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and forever. Amen.

The Blessing

Celebrant: The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Recessional: Go Tell It on the Mountain

Refrain:

*Go tell it on the mountain,
Over the hills and everywhere;
Go tell it on the mountain,
That Jesus Christ is born, Alleluia!
Go tell it on the mountain
Let your merry voices ring
Go tell it on the mountain
Let the world proclaim him king!*

While shepherds kept their watching
O'er silent flocks by night,
Behold, throughout the heavens
There shone a holy light. (*Refrain*)

The shepherds feared and trembled
When lo! above the earth
Rang out the angel chorus
That hailed our Savior's birth. (*Refrain*)

Down in a lowly manger
The humble Christ was born,
And God sent us salvation
That blessed Christmas morn. (*Refrain*)

The Dismissal

Deacon or Priest: Alleluia, alleluia. Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.**