



# THE PARISH CHURCH

— AT HABERSHAM —

The First Sunday of Christmas

Sunday, December 31, 2023

*Alleluia!*

---

He

is

Here!



## A Church Where We Love Our Neighbors

### Who We Are

*The Parish Church worships God together in community, offering an opportunity to come to know and love the Lord Jesus. We believe that as we grow in our love for God together, we will also grow closer to one another - being known, sharing life, and loving neighbors as Jesus taught us to do, right where we live.*

*The Parish Church at Habersham is a daughter church plant of St. Helena in Downtown Beaufort. We are a mission church on the Anglican Diocese of South Carolina under the authority of Bishop Charles Edgar.*

# Liturgy of the Word

## Welcome and Announcements

### Opening Hymn:

30 Joy to the World

Joy to the world, the Lord is come!  
Let earth receive her King;  
Let ev'ry heart prepare him room  
And heav'n and nature sing,  
And heav'n and nature sing,  
And heav'n, and heav'n and nature sing.

Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns!  
Let all their songs employ,  
While fields and floods,  
Rocks, hills, and plains  
Repeat the sounding joy,  
Repeat the sounding joy,  
Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

No more let sins and sorrows grow,  
Nor thorns infest the ground;  
He comes to make his blessings flow  
Far as the curse is found,  
Far as the curse is found,  
Far as, far as the curse is found.

He rules the world with truth and grace  
And makes the nations prove  
The glories of his righteousness  
And wonders of his love,  
And wonders of his love,  
And wonders, wonders of his love.

## The Acclamation

Celebrant: For unto us a child is born,

*People: Unto us a son is given.*

### *The Celebrant prays:*

## The Collect for Purity

## The Summary of the Law

## Gloria:

*Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth. Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory. Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us; you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.*

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

*People: And with your spirit.*

Celebrant: Let us pray.

## The Collect of the Day

<sup>10</sup> 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. <sup>11</sup> 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.

<sup>1</sup> 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.

<sup>2</sup> 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. <sup>3</sup> You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the Lord, and a royal diadem in the hand of your God. <sup>4</sup> 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. <sup>5</sup> 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*

**Psalm 147:12-20**

*Please read the psalm responsively by half verse*

<sup>12</sup> Praise the Lord, O Jerusalem!

***Praise your God, O Zion!***

<sup>13</sup> For he strengthens the bars of your gates;

***he blesses your children within you.***

<sup>14</sup> He makes peace in your borders;

***he fills you with the finest of the wheat.***

<sup>15</sup> He sends out his command to the earth;

***his word runs swiftly.***

<sup>16</sup> He gives snow like wool;

***he scatters frost like ashes.***

<sup>17</sup> He hurls down his crystals of ice like crumbs;

***who can stand before his cold?***

<sup>18</sup> He sends out his word, and melts them;

***he makes his wind blow and the waters flow.***

<sup>19</sup> He declares his word to Jacob,

***his statutes and rules to Israel.***

<sup>20</sup> He has not dealt thus with any other nation;

***they do not know his rules.***

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***

<sup>23</sup> Now before faith came, we were held captive under the law, imprisoned until the coming faith would be revealed.

<sup>24</sup> So then, the law was our guardian until Christ came, in order that we might be justified by faith. <sup>25</sup> But now that faith has come, we are no longer under a guardian, <sup>26</sup> for in Christ Jesus you are all sons of God, through faith.

<sup>27</sup> For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ. <sup>28</sup> 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. <sup>29</sup> And if you are Christ's, then you are Abraham's offspring, heirs according to promise.

<sup>4</sup> 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, <sup>2</sup> but he is under guardians and managers until the date set by his father. <sup>3</sup> In the same way we also, when we were children, were enslaved to the elementary principles of the world. <sup>4</sup> But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law, <sup>5</sup> to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons. <sup>6</sup> And because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" <sup>7</sup> 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.*

**Gradual Hymn:**      36 What Child is This Who Laid to Rest

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?

Chorus:

This, this is Christ, the King,  
Whom shepherds guard and angels sing:  
Haste, haste to bring Him laud,  
The Babe, the Son of Mary!

Reader: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ  
according to St. John.

*People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.*

**The Gospel:**

John 1:1-18

<sup>1</sup> In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. <sup>2</sup> He was in the beginning with God. <sup>3</sup> All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made. <sup>4</sup> In him was life, and the life was the light of men. <sup>5</sup> The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

<sup>6</sup> There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. <sup>7</sup> He came as a witness, to bear witness about the light, that all might believe through him. <sup>8</sup> He was not the light, but came to bear witness about the light.

<sup>9</sup> The true light, which gives light to everyone, was coming into the world. <sup>10</sup> He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world did not know him. <sup>11</sup> He



came to his own, and his own people did not receive him.  
<sup>12</sup> But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God,  
<sup>13</sup> who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.  
<sup>14</sup> 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. <sup>15</sup> (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.’”) <sup>16</sup> For from his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. <sup>17</sup> For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. <sup>18</sup> No one has ever seen God; the only God, who is at the Father's side, he has made him known.

Reader: The Gospel of the Lord.

*People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.*

Sermon

Rev. Jamie Sosnowski

## The Nicene Creed

*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

Let us pray for the Church and for the world, saying, “hear our prayer.”

*After each intercession, prayers from the congregation are invited.*

Celebrant: Let us humbly confess our sins unto Almighty God.

## The Confession of Sin

*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.*

## The Absolution of Sin

## The Comfortable Words

## The Peace (*standing*)

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

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

## Offertory:

35 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 pow'r,  
When we were gone astray.

Refrain  
O tidings of comfort and joy,  
Comfort and joy.  
O tidings of comfort and joy!

From God our heav'nly 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.

“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 pow'r and might.”

## The Doxology

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise him, all creatures here below;  
Praise him above, ye heav'nly host;  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen*

## The Sursum Corda

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.*

## The Sanctus

*Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in  
the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the Name of  
the Lord. Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the  
highest.*

## The Prayer of Consecration

Celebrant: Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

*People: Christ has died.*

*Christ is risen.*

*Christ will come again.*

## The Lord's Prayer

## The Fraction

Celebrant: Alleluia. Christ our Passover Lamb has been sacrificed, once for all upon the Cross.

*People: Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.*

## The Prayer of Humble Access

*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.*

## The Invitation

## The Ministration of Communion

### Communion Hymn

34 In the Bleak Midwinter

In the bleak midwinter,  
Frosty wind made moan,  
Earth stood hard as iron,  
Water like a stone;  
Snow had fallen, snow on snow,  
Snow on snow,  
In the bleak midwinter,  
Long ago.

Our God, heav'n cannot hold him,  
Nor earth sustain;  
Heav'n and earth shall welcome him,  
When he comes to reign;  
In the bleak midwinter,  
A stable place sufficed,  
The Lord God incarnate,  
Jesus Christ.

Angels and archangels,  
May have gathered there;  
Cherubim and seraphim,  
Thronged the air;  
But his mother only,  
In her maiden bliss,  
Worshiped the beloved,  
With a kiss.

### The Post Communion Prayer

*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 the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.*

### The Blessing

## Closing Hymn:

## 37 Good Christian Men Rejoice

Good Christian men, rejoice,  
With heart, and soul, and voice;  
Give ye heed to what we say;  
Jesus Christ is born today;  
Ox and ass before him bow,  
And he is in the manger now,  
Christ is born today!  
Christ is born today!

Good Christian men, rejoice,  
With heart, and soul, and voice;  
Now ye hear of endless bliss;  
Jesus Christ was born for this!  
He hath oped the heav'nly door,  
And man blessed evermore.  
Christ was born for this!  
Christ was born for this!

Good Christian men, rejoice,  
With heart, and soul, and voice;  
Now ye need not fear the grave;  
Jesus Christ was born to save!  
Calls you one and calls you all,  
To gain his everlasting hall.  
Christ was born to save!  
Christ was born to save!

## The Dismissal

Deacon: Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the  
power of the Holy Spirit.

*Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.*

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

## Thank You for Worshipping with Us!

- If you have any prayer requests or questions about the Christian faith, our Pastor, Jamie Sosnowski, is available at 843-817-5667 or at [parishchurchathabersham@gmail.com](mailto:parishchurchathabersham@gmail.com).
- If you would like to financially support our ministry, you can go to [TheParish.org](http://TheParish.org) and Click “Give” on the homepage.
- New to the Parish Church? Please let us know who you are by scanning this code with your phone's camera.

