SAINT JOHN THE EVANGELIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH
DECEMBER 27, 2015 - FIRST SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS
HOLY EUCHARIST, RITE II — 10:00 A.M.

THE WORD OF GOD
The opening music offers a time for prayer and meditation. Please silence all devices.

GATHERING MUSIC
French Noëls Louis Claude D’Aquin

OPENING ACCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

Celebrant Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
People And blessed be God’s kingdom, now and forever. Amen.

HYMNAL 983 Angels, From the Realms of Glory REGENT SQUARE

COLLECT FOR PURITY
Book of Common Prayer p. 355

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS
(Hymn 896, vss. 1 & 3)
1. Angels we have heard on high, sweetly singing through the night,
And the mountains in reply, echoing their brave delight.

2. Come, adore on bended knee Christ, the Lord, the newborn King,
And his statutes and his judgments to Israel.

3. 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!

COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant The Lord be with you.
People And also with you.
Celebrant Let us pray.

Almighty God, you have poured upon us the new light of your incarnate Word: Grant that this light, enkindled 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.

SECOND READING
Galatians 3:23-25; 4:4-7

Now before faith came, we were imprisoned and guarded under the law until faith would be revealed. Therefore the law was our disciplinarian until Christ came, so that we might be justified by faith. But now that faith has come, we are no longer subject to a disciplinarian.

But when the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son, born under the law, in order to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as children. And because you are children, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, “Abba! Father!” So you are no longer a slave but a child, and if a child then also an heir, through God.

Reader The Word of the Lord.
People Thanks be to God.

Antiphon

Vesperal

VERSE

(Verse appointed for the day)

All repeat Antiphon

THE PEACE

(Collect for St. John's)

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.
People And also with you.

You are invited to share a sign of God’s peace with those around you.

Gospeller The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

GOSPEL
John 1:1-18

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it. There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father’s only son, full of grace and truth. (John testified to him and cried out, “This was he of whom I said, ‘He who comes after me ranks ahead of me because he was before me.’) From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. No one has ever seen God. It is God the only Son, who is close to the Father’s heart, who has made him known.

Gospeller The Gospel of the Lord.
People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

SERMON

A period of silence is observed following the sermon.

NICENE CREED (standing or able) Book of Common Prayer p. 358

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE (standing or kneeling)

Reader Incarnate God,
People Hear our prayer.

Reader Gracious God:
All By your love you have called us to proclaim with joy the good news of your Son: So build us up in the knowledge and love of Him, that we may welcome all people into this community of faith, and show forth our service to you in our service to others; through Jesus Christ Our Lord. Amen.

(Collect for St. John's)
WELCOME
(please be seated.)

THE HOLY COMMUNION
All are invited to share at the Lord’s table. At the altar railing you may stand or kneel to receive the bread and the wine. You may drink from the cup or touch the bread to the wine. If you prefer to receive a blessing you may indicate so by crossing your arms. The common loaf is gluten-free.

OFFERTORY SENTENCE

ANTHEM
W. A. Mozart
Praise thee, we bless thee, we adore thee, we glorify thee.

PRESENTATION
(sung by all, standing if able) OLD HUNDREDTH
Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise Him all creatures here below.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

EUCHARISTIC PRAYER C (The prayer may be followed in the BCP on p. 369.)

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 God thanks and praise.
Celebrant God of all power, Ruler of the Universe, you are worthy of glory and praise.
People Glory to you for ever and ever.
Celebrant At your command all things came to be: the vast expanse of interstellar space, galaxies, suns, the planets in their courses, and this fragile earth, our island home.
People By your will they were created and have their being.
Celebrant From the primal elements you brought forth the human race, and blessed us with memory, reason, and skill. You made us the rulers of creation. But we turned against you, and betrayed your trust; and we turned against one another.
People Have mercy, Lord, for we are sinners in your sight.
Celebrant Again and again, you called us to return. Through prophets and sages you revealed your righteous Law. And in the fullness of time you sent your only Son, born of a woman, to fulfill your Law, to open for us the way of freedom and peace.
People By his blood, he reconciled us.
By his wounds, we are healed.

The Reverend Kate Bradtmiller

SOLILOQUIE

Solemnly, tenderly do we receive these gifts of God.

DIVINITY

Celebrant And therefore we praise you, joining with the heavenly chorus, with prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with all those in every generation who have looked to you in hope, to proclaim with them your glory, in their unending hymn:

SANCTUS ET BENEDICTUS S130 (in front section of hymnal) F. Schubert
(sung by all)

(Please remain standing or kneel according to your custom.)

Celebrant And so, Father, we who have been redeemed by him, …
Remembering now his work of redemption, and offering to you this sacrifice of thanksgiving.

People We celebrate his death and resurrection, as we await the day of his coming.

Celebrant Lord God of our Fathers and Mothers; …
… that we may worthily serve the world in his name.

People Risen Lord, be known to us in the breaking of the bread.

Celebrant Accept these prayers and praises, Father, through Jesus Christ our great High Priest, to whom, with you and Holy Spirit, your Church gives honor, glory, and worship, from generation to generation.

People AMEN.

LORD’S PRAYER

Celebrant And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,
All
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.

Celebrant And so, Father, we who have been redeemed by him, …
And so, 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 for ever. Amen.

(Please stand, as able, for the closing hymn.)

HYMNAL #99 Go, Tell It On the Mountain GO, TELL IT ...

BLESSING AND DISMISSAL

Celebrant May the babe of Bethlehem bring you peace. May the child of Nazareth bring you joy. May the man of Galilee bring you strength; the Christ of Calvary bring you courage; and the ascended Lord a foretaste of his glory. And may the blessing of God Almighty, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, be with you this day and always.

People Amen.
Deacon Our worship here is ended; now let our service begin.
Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

VOLUNTARY

Go, Tell It On the Mountain! Emma Lou Diemer

(You are invited to move forward to the choir stalls for the final music.)

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TODAY WE PRAY WITH
Don, Star, Bert, Winpy, Mae, Kathleen, Linda, Glen, Norma, Ann, Mildred, Joan, Patricia, Thelma, Pat, Steve, Ginny, Jack, Camille, Susan, Pat, Christopher, Amy, Annie, and those you would add.

ALTAR FLOWERS
In thanksgiving for the life of Jerry Wagner, Cynthia S. McIntosh

ASSISTING IN THE SERVICE TODAY

CELEBRANT AND PREACHER
The Reverend Kate Bradtmiller
READER
Shirley Sailors, Keith Davis
VERGER
Joan Potter
ORGANIST
Jayson R. Engquist
SOLOIST
Jessica Bandelin
ACOLYTES
Tim Kral, Caroline Kral, Linnea Kral, Sabine Kral
ALTAR GUILD
Diane Power, Paige Hagstrom, Sarah K. Smith, Sabine Kral, Ginny Schaue, Terry Fishel
USHERS & GREETERS
George & Mason Kinkead, Diane Power, Sally Sand, Cammie Beattie, Ella Slade, Judy Southwick
COFFEE HOUR
Marilyn Conklin

Please visit the St. John’s website - stjohnsstpaul.org - for more information.