CHRISTMAS EVE
HOLY EUCHARIST RITE II

DECEMBER 24, 2019
4 O’CLOCK AND 10 O’CLOCK
WELCOME

Thank you for coming to St. John’s to worship this Christmas Eve. We believe everyone who passes through our doors is a blessing from God. We’re glad you’re here.

Below are answers to some of the questions you might have about St. John’s. If you don’t see the information you need, please ask an usher and we’ll help you out!

First time at St. John’s? Introduce yourself to any of the clergy or a greeter after worship. We would love to meet you! Interested in more information about our music program or ministries? We’d be glad to connect you with someone. Fill out the welcome book at the back of the church, or fill out a visitor card found in the pew rack, and then place it in the offering plate or give it to an usher. We’ll drop off some bread to thank you for visiting!

Assistive Devices: Everyone needs a little help sometimes. Large-print Bibles and hearing-assist devices are available at the back of the church. Just ask an usher!

Communion: All are invited to take Communion, no matter your age or religious background. The loaf is gluten-free. If, due to mobility issues, you cannot walk to the altar rail, let an usher know and communion will be brought down to you.

Godly Play: Most Sundays we offer Godly Play (children’s Sunday school) during the 10am service. Children may join the procession down to their classrooms during the Opening Hymn. If you have any questions please feel free to ask an Usher or Greeter and they will point you in the right direction.

Children: We welcome everyone, including children of all ages, to participate in all our worship services and to take Communion.

- In the back of the church, there is a rocking chair and a soft space where children can sit and play on the floor. There are also “Busy Bags” with activities for kids to take into the pews.
- If, for any reason, you and your child need to leave the church during the service, you can still hear the service over the speakers in the lower level below the worship space.

Restrooms: Located on the lower level down any set of stairs. We also have an elevator and handicap-accessible restrooms on the lower level—ask an usher for directions.

Electronics: Please silence your cell phone and refrain from using flash cameras during the worship service. Thank you!
Responses in bold are spoken by everyone.

The Book of Common Prayer (BCP) is the black book in the pews.

Hymns can be found in the blue hymnal in the pew rack. Hymn numbers that start with “S” come from the front section of the hymnal.

You can simply listen to the Scripture readings, or follow along in the red pew Bible on the given page number.

You can always remain seated if you are not comfortable standing or kneeling.

About today’s Worship: Seeing, Noticing, and Welcoming God in Christmastide

Beginning at sundown on Christmas Eve, December 24, and continuing through January 5, the Christmas Season is the festival of the birth of Jesus Christ; by, with, and in whom we celebrate the Incarnation of God.

Liturgical Color: the Gold and Festal Coronation embroidery symbolize the joy, celebration, and majesty of the Christ child who is born in great humility and celebrated as the King of kings and Lord of lords.

Nativity Cèche: the Incarnation of God in the Christ child is symbolized in the iconic Nativity Scene which makes visible the story of Jesus’s lowly birth described in the Gospels of Matthew and Luke.

If you have any questions about these Christmastide liturgies, please email our Associate Rector at craig.lemming@stjohnsstpaul.org.
Music before the Service
(Preludes at 3:30 & 9:30PM)

Fuga sopra il Magnificat, BWV 733
Johann Sebastian Bach

Es ist ein Ros’ entsprungen
Johannes Brahms

Prelude on the Sussex Carol
Russell Schulz-Widmar

Richard Gray, organ

French Carol Medley

Greensleeves

O Come, O Come Emmanuel

Shepherds Pipe Carol

The Copper Street Brass Ensemble
THE WORD OF GOD

Please stand, as you are able, for the opening hymn.

1 O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant, O
2 God from God, Light from Light eternal,
3 Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,
*4 See how the shepherds, summoned to his cradle,
*5 Child, for us sinners poor and in the manger,

1 come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;
2 lo! he abhors not the Virgin’s womb;
3 sing, all ye citizens of heaven above;
4 leaving their flocks, draw nigh to gaze;
5 we would embrace thee, with love and awe;

1 come, and behold him, born the King of angels;
2 only begotten Son of the Father;
3 glory to God, glory in the highest;
4 we too will thither bend our joyful footsteps;
5 who would not love thee, loving us so dearly?

Refrain

O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him,
OPENING ACCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

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

People  And blessed be God's kingdom, now and forever.

COLLECT FOR PURITY

Celebrant  Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of your hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord.

People  Amen.

Please join the choir in singing verses 1 and 4 of the following hymn.
1 Angels we have heard on high, singing sweetly through the night,
2 Shepherds, why this jubilee? Why these songs of happy cheer?
3 Come to Bethlehem and see him whose birth the angels sing;
4 See him in a manger laid whom the angels praise above;

and the mountains in reply echoing their brave delight.
What great brightness did you see? What glad tidings did you hear?
come, adore on bended knee Christ, the Lord, the newborn King.
Mary, Joseph, lend your aid, while we raise our hearts in love.

Refrain

Gloria in excelsis Deo.
Gloria in excelsis Deo.
The Collect of the Day

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

O God, you have caused this holy night to shine with the brightness of the true Light: Grant that we, who have known the mystery of that Light on earth, may also enjoy him perfectly in heaven; where with you and the Holy Spirit he lives and reigns, one God, in glory everlasting.

People Amen.

Please be seated.

First Reading Isaiah 9:2-7 Pew Bible, pp. 624-25

Reader The Word of the Lord.
People Thanks be to God.
1 Sing to the LORD a new song; *
sing to the LORD, all the whole earth.
2 Sing to the LORD and bless his Name; *
proclaim the good news of his salvation from day to day.
3 Declare his glory among the nations *
and his wonders among all peoples.
4 For great is the LORD and greatly to be praised; *
he is more to be feared than all gods.
5 As for all the gods of the nations, they are but idols; *
but it is the LORD who made the heavens.
6 Oh, the majesty and magnificence of his presence! *
Oh, the power and the splendor of his sanctuary!
7 Ascribe to the LORD, you families of the peoples; *
ascribe to the LORD honor and power.
8 Ascribe to the LORD the honor due his Name; *
bring offerings and come into his courts.
9 Worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness; *
let the whole earth tremble before him.
10 Tell it out among the nations: "The LORD is King! *
he has made the world so firm that it cannot be moved;
he will judge the peoples with equity."
11 Let the heavens rejoice, and let the earth be glad;
let the sea thunder and all that is in it; *
let the field be joyful and all that is therein.
12 Then shall all the trees of the wood shout for joy
before the LORD when he comes, *
when he comes to judge the earth.
13 He will judge the world with righteousness *
and the peoples with his truth.
SECOND READING  Titus 2:11-14  Pew Bible, p. 1089

Reader  The Word of the Lord.

People  Thanks be to God.

Please stand, as you are able.

1 Hark! the herald angels sing, glory to the new-born King!
2 Christ, by highest heaven adored; Christ, the ever-lasting Lord;
3 Mild he lays his glory by, born that we no more may die,

Peace on earth and mercy mild,
late in time behold him come,
born to raise us from the earth,

Joyful, all ye nations, rise,
Veiled in flesh the God-head see;
Risen with healing in his wings,

with the angelic host proclaim Christ is born in Beth-le-hem!
Pleased as man with us to dwell; Jesus, our Em-man-u-el!
hail, the Sun of Right-eous-ness! hail, the heaven-born Prince of Peace!
Gospeller: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.


People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

SERMON: The Rev. Jered Weber-Johnson, Rector
**THE NICENE CREED**

*said by all, standing as you are 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.
PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Reader Incarnate God,
All 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. — The Collect for St. John’s

THE PEACE

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

WELCOME

The Rev. Jered Weber-Johnson, Rector

THE HOLY COMMUNION

OFFERTORY AND PRESENTATION
Anthem

**What Sweeter Music**

*John Rutter*

**Presentation of the Gifts**

*Celebrant*    All things come of thee, O Lord.

*People*    And of thine own have we given thee.

**The Great Thanksgiving**

**Eucharistic Prayer A**

*Celebrant*    The Lord be with you.

*People*    And also with you.

*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 God thanks and praise.
Celebrant: It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty...

Therefore, we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

SANCTUS AND BENEDICTUS

Holy, holy,

Holy Lord, God of power and might,

Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Ho-san-na in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Ho-san-na in the highest.
Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all…

...Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

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

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts…

By whom, and with whom, and in whom, 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 say,

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.
BREAKING OF THE BREAD

FRACTION ANTHEM

Celebrant   Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
People      Therefore let us keep the feast.

DISTRIBUTION

All are welcome at the Lord’s table. You may kneel or stand to receive communion. The common loaf is gluten-free. If you prefer to receive a blessing please cross your arms. There is a standing station to receive Holy Communion.

CAROLS

Ding, dong, merrily on High
Coventry Carol
It came upon the midnight clear

The Staff Singers of St. John the Evangelist

SOLO

Comfort ye, my people

Nicholas Swanson, soloist

HYMN #94   While shepherds watched their flocks by night
HYMN #111  Silent Night

WINCHESTER OLD

HYMN #111  Stille Nacht
Silent night, holy night, all is calm,
Silent night, holy night, shepherds quake
Silent night, holy night, Son of God,

All is bright round yon virgin mother and child.
at the sight, glories stream from heaven afar,
love’s pure light radiant beams from thy holy face,

Holy infant, so tender and mild, sleep in heavenly
heavenly hosts sing alleluia; Christ, the Savior, is
with the dawn of redeeming grace, Jesus, Lord, at thy

peace. Sleep in heavenly peace.
born! Christ, the Savior, is born!

Words: Joseph Mohr (1792-1848), tr. John Freeman Young (1820-1885)
Music: Stille Nacht, melody Franz Xaver Gruber (1787-1863); harm. Carl H. Reinecke (1824-1910)
POST COMMUNION PRAYER

standing or kneeling, as is your custom

All Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Please stand, as you are able, for the closing hymn.

CHRISTMAS BLESSING

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.

Hymn Joy to the World Antioch
1 Joy to the world! the Lord is come: let earth receive her King; let every heart prepare him room, and heaven and nature sing, and
2 Joy to the world! the Saviour reigns; let us our songs employ, while fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains, repeat the sounding joy, repeat the sounding joy,
3 No more let sins and sorrows grow, nor thorns in fest the ground; he comes to make his blessings flow far as the curse is found, far as the curse is found,
4 He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the nations prove the glories of his righteousness, and wonders of his love, wonders of his love,
**Blessing**

**Dismissal**

*Deacon*  Our worship here is ended; now our service begins. Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

*People*  Thanks be to God.

**Postlude**  

*I saw three ships*  

*Copper Street Brass Ensemble*
## Assisting in the Service

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Role</th>
<th>Name</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Celebrant</td>
<td>The Reverend Craig Lemming</td>
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<tr>
<td>Preacher</td>
<td>The Reverend Jered Weber-Johnson</td>
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<tr>
<td>Deacon</td>
<td>The Reverend Margaret Thor</td>
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<tr>
<td>Director of Music</td>
<td>Richard Gray</td>
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<tr>
<td>Organist</td>
<td>Dr. Dean Billmeyer</td>
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<tr>
<td>Copper Street Brass Ensemble</td>
<td>Allison Hall, trumpet; Josh Cameron, trumpet; Tim Bradley, horn; Alex Wolff, trombone; Nick Adragna, tuba; Reid Kennedy, timpani</td>
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<tr>
<td>Altar Guild</td>
<td>Volunteers</td>
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<tr>
<td>Acolytes</td>
<td>Maggie Baxter, Thomas Rinkoff (4pm)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Mugeegbaykola &amp; Hawah Sharon Koroma, Sabine Krall (10pm)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Readers</td>
<td>Nan Lightner, Chris Matter (4pm)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>John Graham, Jill Thompson (10pm)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Verger</td>
<td>Thea Bischof (4pm), Philip Baird (10pm)</td>
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Altar Flowers are given in thanksgiving for the lives of Thomas & Betty Garrett, Louise S. Andrews, Martha & Gustav Seeger, John Seeger.
Christmas 2019 Garlands, Wreaths, and Flowers

Given to the glory of God

In memory of
Adrian & Dorothy Drew, Bram Drew and Arthur Pollard
Cindy MacIntosh
Clinton, June & Jeffery Schaeppi
Cooper Olson, Riley Loch, Don Husband, Nick Velasquez, and Vern & Ethel Olson
Donals Walter Dailey and Ian Llewellyn Dailey
George Mairs and Sandy Vogt
Irene Muhleisen & Shirley Lang
Jack Lightner
Jack Lightner, Laura Ingersoll Johnson, and Camille Scheel
James Doane Frisby
Jeanne & Bryce Gilbertson and Ann B. & John Ashmun "
Jin Soon Hwang
John & Dorothy Brands
Martha & Russ Rhodes
Mary Ellen Longley & F. Alan Longley
Matt Thompson, Lizzie Mae Williams, and Mel Price
Maxine & Richard Reinhold
Michael A. 'Sandy' O'Brien
Norma Thor
Philip C. Nichols Sr.
Piper Mraz
Richard Ledbetter
Robert Sloney
Robert C. Merrill, Phyllis & Alan Acosta, Florence & Raymond Merrill, Phyllis & Dick Stromenger
Rosemary Voje
Stephen C. Brown
Thomas W. & Doris N. Dunlop and James Ek
William & Lois King, Jack & Margaret Rasmussen, Ralph Hagstrom, and Ted & Hillie Divett

In honor and thanksgiving of:
Debbie Rhodes
George & Yoshi Tani and Robert & Jean Spindler
St. John the Evangelist Episcopal Church
60 Kent Street
St. Paul, MN 55102