



St. Michael's
Episcopal Church
COLORADO SPRINGS

December 25, 2021
10:00 AM Worship Service
Christmas Day

Welcome & Introduction

Harp Prelude

from "Dancing Day"
Harpist: Abigail Enssle

John Rutter

Opening Hymn "Angels, from the realms of glory"

Hymn #93

1. Angels, from the realms of glory,
wing your flight o'er all the earth;
ye, who sang creation's story,
now proclaim Messiah's birth:

Refrain:

**come and worship, come and worship,
worship Christ, the newborn King.**

2. Shepherds in the field abiding,
watching o'er your flocks by night,
God with you is now residing;
yonder shines the infant Light:

Refrain

3. Sages, leave your contemplations;
brighter visions beam afar:
seek the great Desire of nations;
ye have seen his natal star:

Refrain

4. Saints before the altar bending,
watching long in hope and fear,
suddenly the Lord, descending,
in his temple shall appear:

Refrain

Opening Acclamation

The Book of Common Prayer, Pg 355

Celebrant
People

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

People **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.**

Gloria “Angels we have heard on high” Hymn #96 v. 1

Angels we have heard on high, singing sweetly through the night,
and the mountains in reply echoing their brave delight.
Gloria in excelsis Deo. Gloria in excelsis Deo.

Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

O God, you make us glad by the yearly festival of the birth of your only Son Jesus Christ: Grant that we, who joyfully receive him as our Redeemer, may with sure confidence behold him when he comes to be our Judge; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

A Reading from the Book of Isaiah (9:2-7)

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness--on them light has shined. You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder. For the yoke of their burden, and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian. For all the boots of the tramping warriors and all the garments rolled in blood shall be burned as fuel for the fire. For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onward and forevermore. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Cantate Domino

Sing to the Lord a new song; *
 sing to the Lord, all the whole earth.
 Sing to the Lord and bless his Name; *
 proclaim the good news of his salvation from day to day.
 Declare his glory among the nations *
 and his wonders among all peoples.
 For great is the Lord and greatly to be praised; *
 he is more to be feared than all gods.
 As for all the gods of the nations, they are but idols; *
 but it is the Lord who made the heavens.
 Oh, the majesty and magnificence of his presence! *
 Oh, the power and the splendor of his sanctuary!
 Ascribe to the Lord, you families of the peoples; *
 ascribe to the Lord honor and power.
 Ascribe to the Lord the honor due his Name; *
 bring offerings and come into his courts.
 Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness; *
 let the whole earth tremble before him.
 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."
 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.
 Then shall all the trees of the wood shout for joy
 before the Lord when he comes, *
 when he comes to judge the earth.
 He will judge the world with righteousness *
 and the peoples with his truth.

People Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now,
 and will be for ever. Amen.

A Reading from the Letter of Paul to Titus (2:11-14)

For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all, training us to renounce impiety and worldly passions, and in the present age to live lives that are self-controlled, upright, and godly, while we wait for the blessed hope and the manifestation of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ. He it is who gave himself for us that he might redeem us from all iniquity and purify for himself a people of his own who are zealous for good deeds.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

“Alleluia”

Sussex Carol

The Gospel

Deacon The Holy Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ According to Luke. (2:1-20)
People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see-- I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying,

"Glory to God in the highest heaven,
and on earth peace among those whom he favors!"

When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us." So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

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

Gospel Acclamation "Alleluia" Sussex Carol

Sermon The Rev. Matt Holcombe

Meditation "Tomorrow Shall Be My Dancing Day" by John Rutter
Kacie Kenton, soprano
Abigail Enssle, harp

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.

The Prayers of the People

Leader Let us pray to God, who came among us in the birth of Jesus:

Leader Gracious God, as a star rose, and drew people from great distances to Bethlehem that they might greet the Christ-child; Draw us, your Church – that we might be the Church and People who you call us to be.

Lord, in your mercy,

People **Hear our prayer.**

Leader As Gentiles streamed to Jesus' Light, and Kings to the brightness of his rising; Draw our nation, our President, and all in authority, to His brightness.

Lord, in your mercy,

People **Hear our prayer.**

Leader As angels sang ‘glorias’ to you and proclaimed peace on earth, and goodwill among all peoples; Bring us your peace, and protect those who strive for justice in their deployment.
Lord, in your mercy,

***People* Hear our prayer.**

Leader As shepherds were drawn away from their flocks by night; Draw those who do not know you yet, and continue to draw us closer to the Babe the shepherds sought.
Lord, in your mercy,

***People* Hear our prayer.**

Leader As Jesus was born in a manger because there was no room for them in the inn; Be especially present with those who have no place to lay their head, those who are vulnerable, those who are hungry, and those who are sick.
Lord, in your mercy,

***People* Hear our prayer.**

Leader As the Holy Family gathered together in Bethlehem, and traveled together to far off lands; Bless all families and those who are traveling.

Lord, in your mercy,

***People* Hear our prayer.**

Leader As your son came to proclaim the forgiveness of sins, and the gift of Life Eternal; Give to the departed eternal rest and let Light perpetual shine on them.

Lord, in your mercy,

***People* Hear our prayer.**

Celebrant O Lord our God, may the Light and Hope of this season, and of your Son’s Incarnation, reassure our hearts that you are among us, that you hear our prayer, and that you will be with us always, even to the end of the age. In the name of Jesus of Nazareth we pray. **Amen.**

The Confession

The Book of Common Prayer Pg. 360

Deacon Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

**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 have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life.
Amen.

The Peace

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

(You are encouraged to use your cell phone to exchange the peace via text message)

Announcements

Scan the QR code to view the latest Weekly eNews.



Digital Offering



(To make a one-time contribution to St. Michael's or to pay your pledge online;)

1. Using your text message on your smart phone, text the word GIVE to 719-223-3446.
2. Then click on the secure link sent to you via text message to make a contribution.
3. Or scan the QR code to the left.

Offertory Anthem

“I Saw Three Ships”
Abigail Enssle, harp

arr. Rhett Barnwell

Doxology, “Praise God from whom all blessings flow”

Hymn #380, v. 3

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

The Great Thanksgiving Eucharistic Prayer A

The Book of Common Prayer Pg. 361

Celebrant All things come of thee O Lord.
People **And of thine own have we given thee.**

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 It is a right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.
(An appropriate Proper Preface is offered here and the service continues as follows.)

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:

Sanctus (*Spoken*)

**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.

Celebrant

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.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: 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 for the remembrance of me." Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

People

Christ has died.

Christ has risen.

Christ will come again.

Celebrant

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.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

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 for ever. **Amen.**

Celebrant

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.

The Breaking of the Bread

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept.

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

Celebrant The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

Communion Hymns:

"Lo, how a Rose e'er blooming" Harp Solo

"Love came down at Christmas" Hymn #84

1. Love came down at Christmas,
 love all lovely, love divine;
 love was born at Christmas:
 star and angels gave the sign.
2. Worship we the Godhead,
 love incarnate, love divine;
 worship we our Jesus,
 but wherewith for sacred sign?
3. Love shall be our token;
 love be yours and love be mine,
 love to God and neighbor,
 love for plea and gift and sign.

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.

Final Blessing

Closing Hymn “I heard the bells on Christmas day”

1. I heard the bells on Christmas day
 Their old familiar carols play
 And mild and sweet their songs repeat
 Of peace on Earth, good will to men
2. And in despair I bowed my head
 "There is no peace on Earth, " I said
 For hate is strong and mocks the song
 Of peace on Earth, good will to men
3. Then rang the bells more loud and deep
 God is not dead, nor doth He sleep
 The wrong shall fail, the right prevail
 With peace on Earth, good will to men
4. Then ringing, singing on its way
 The world revolved from night to day
 A voice, a chime, a chant sublime
 Of peace on Earth, good will to men

Dismissal

Deacon Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit. Alleluia, Alleluia!
People **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia!**

Postlude Organ Flourish on “Joy to the World” Michael G. Dell

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Vestry

Senior Warden: Kristy Callihan

Junior Warden: Jim Marquart

Betty Bullard (2022)	Bob Wettemann (2022)
Mike Mapes (2022)	Marcy Capell (2023)
Amy de Lourenco (2023)	Dean Logemann (2023)
Sue Caruthers (2024)	Andy Laffely (2024)
Elena Zarecky (2024)	April Mitchell, Clerk

A special thank you to all our Worship Volunteers!



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