



St. Michael's
Episcopal Church
COLORADO SPRINGS

Christmas Day
December 25, 2022
10:00 AM
Holy Eucharist II

Prelude

“Il dulci Jubilo”

by Rebecca Groom te Velde

Opening Hymn

“Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

Hymn 87

1. Hark! the herald angels sing
glory to the newborn King!
Peace on earth and mercy mild,
God and sinners reconciled!
Joyful, all ye nations, rise,
join the triumph of the skies;
with the angelic host proclaim
Christ is born in Bethlehem!

*Hark! the herald angels sing
glory to the newborn King!*

3. Mild he lays his glory by,
born that we no more may die,
born to raise us from the earth,
born to give us second birth.
Risen with healing in his wings,
light and life to all he brings,
hail, the Sun of Righteousness!
hail, the heaven-born Prince of Peace!

*Hark! the herald angels sing
glory to the newborn King!*

2. Christ, by highest heaven adored;
Christ, the everlasting Lord;
late in time behold him come,
offspring of the Virgin's womb.
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see;
hail the incarnate Deity.
Pleased as man with man to dwell;
Jesus, our Emmanuel!

*Hark! the herald angels sing
glory to the newborn King!*

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Opening Acclamation

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

People: **And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

The Collect for Purity

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, vs. 1 & 3

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.
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.

The 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 (52:7-10)

How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of the messenger who announces peace, who brings good news, who announces salvation, who says to Zion, “Your God reigns.” Listen! Your sentinels lift up their voices, together they sing for joy; for in plain sight they see the return of the Lord to Zion. ⁹Break forth together into singing, you ruins of Jerusalem; for the Lord has comforted his people, he has redeemed Jerusalem. 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.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 98

The Book of Common Prayer pg. 727

Sing to the Lord a new song, *
for he has done marvelous things.
With his right hand and his holy arm *
has he won for himself the victory.
The Lord has made known his victory; *
his righteousness has he openly shown in the sight of the nations.
He remembers his mercy and faithfulness to the house of Israel, *
and all the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.
Shout with joy to the Lord, all you lands; *

lift up your voice, rejoice, and sing.
Sing to the Lord with the harp, *
with the harp and the voice of song.
With trumpets and the sound of the horn *
shout with joy before the King, the Lord.
Let the sea make a noise and all that is in it, *
the lands and those who dwell therein.
Let the rivers clap their hands, *
and let the hills ring out with joy before the Lord,
when he comes to judge the earth.
In righteousness shall he judge the world *
and the peoples with equity.

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 to the Hebrews (1:1-12)

Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets, but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, through whom he also created the worlds. He is the reflection of God's glory and the exact imprint of God's very being, and he sustains all things by his powerful word. When he had made purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high,

having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs. For to which of the angels did God ever say, "You are my Son; today I have begotten you"? Or again, "I will be his Father, and he will be my Son"? And again, when he brings the firstborn into the world, he says, "Let all God's angels worship him." Of the angels he says, "He makes his angels winds, and his servants flames of fire." But of the Son he says, "Your throne, O God, is forever and ever, and the righteous scepter is the scepter of your kingdom. You have loved righteousness and hated wickedness; therefore God, your God, has anointed you with the oil of gladness beyond your companions." And, "In the beginning, Lord, you founded the earth, and the heavens are the work of your hands; they will perish, but you remain; they will all wear out like clothing; like a cloak you will roll them up, and like clothing they will be changed. But you are the same, and your years will never end."

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Acclamation

"Celtic Alleluia"

The Gospel

Celebrant: The Holy Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ According to John (1:1-14)

People: **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

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.

Celebrant : The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Gospel Acclamation

“Celtic Alleluia”

Sermon

The Rev. Matt Holcombe

(Please Stand)

The Nicene Creed

The Book of Common Prayer, Pg. 358

**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.**

Christmas Prayers of the People

Celebrant: 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 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 around the world.
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 reassure our hearts and strengthen us to do your will so that we may be your hands and feet in the world. All this we pray in the name of your Son our Savior, Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

The Peace

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

Announcements

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

- Text the word GIVE to 719-223-3446, and follow the secure link.
- Scan the QR code using your phone's camera.



Offertory "I Heard The Bells On Christmas Day" by Johnny Marks

Doxology Hymn 180, vs. 3

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

The Great Thanksgiving Prayer A The Book of Common Prayer, Pg. 361

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. Because you gave Jesus Christ, your only Son, to be born for us; who, by the mighty power of the Holy Spirit, was made perfect Man of the flesh of the Virgin Mary his mother; so that we might be delivered from the bondage of sin, and receive power 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:

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 the one who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

(Please kneel or stand in body or spirit)

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 is 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.

(Joyfully proclaiming) **AMEN.**

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

The Lord's Prayer

The Book of Common Prayer, Pg. 364

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 Book of Common Prayer, Pg. 364

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.

All are welcome to receive communion at St. Michael's. At this time we are only offering intinction/ dipping of the bread into the wine. Please come to the altar rail and place one hand in the other, like a manger or bowl. Once you receive the bread, you may consume it, or wait for the wine. When the wine comes to you, you may dip your wafer into the wine and then consume and return to your pew. If you would like to receive a blessing only, simply cross your arms in an X form across your chest and a priest will offer you a blessing.

Celiac friendly: Please come to the left side (as you face the front) of the altar rail and let the clergy know if you would like to receive a gluten free host and wine. The ceramic chalice is for gluten free hosts only.

Communion Hymns

"Away in a manger"

1. Away in a manger, no crib for a bed the little
Lord Jesus lay down his sweet head;
the stars in the bright sky look down where he
lay, the little Lord Jesus, asleep on the hay.
2. The cattle are lowing, the baby awakes, but
little Lord Jesus no crying He makes;
I love thee, Lord Jesus! Look down from the
sky, and stay by my cradle till morning is nigh.
3. Be near me, Lord Jesus, I ask thee to stay close
by me forever, and love me, I pray;
bless all the dear children in thy tender care, and
fit us for heaven to live with thee there.

“O Little Town of Bethlehem”

Hymn 78, vs. 1,2 &5

1. O little town of Bethlehem,
how still we see thee lie!
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep
the silent stars go by;
yet in thy dark streets shineth
the everlasting Light;
the hopes and fears of all the years
are met in thee tonight.
2. For Christ is born of Mary;
and gathered all above,
while mortals sleep, the angels keep
their watch of wondering love.
O morning stars, together
proclaim the holy birth!
and praises sing to God the King,
and peace to men on earth.
5. O holy Child of Bethlehem,
descend to us, we pray;
cast out our sin and enter in,
be born in us today.
We hear the Christmas angels
the great glad tidings tell;
O come to us, abide with us,
our Lord Emmanuel!

Lay Eucharistic Visitor Sending

When present, Eucharistic Visitors are commissioned to carry the Consecrated Gifts of Holy Communion to those who are unable, due to illness or impairment, to join us for Sunday services.

Celebrant: In the name of God and this community, I send you forth bearing these holy gifts, that those to whom you go may share with us in the communion of Christ's Body and Blood.

***People:* We who are many, are one body, because we all share one bread, one cup.**

(Please kneel in body or spirit)

Post Communion Prayer

The Book of Common Prayer, Pg. 365

Celebrant: Let us pray.

***People:* 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

“Good Christian friends, rejoice!”

Hymn 107

1. Good Christian friends, 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!
2. Good Christian friends, rejoice
with heart and soul and voice;
now ye hear of endless bliss;
Jesus Christ was born for this!
He hath opened heaven’s door,
and we are blest for evermore.
Christ was born for this!
3. Good Christian friends, 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!

Dismissal

Deacon: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

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

Postlude

“Sing We Now of Christmas”

arr. Diane Bish

Upcoming Events & New Announcements

New Year's Day

Sunday, January 1, 2023

10:00 AM Lessons & Carols, Nursery, & Livestreamed

Epiphany 1

Sunday, January 8

Regular Sunday Schedule Resumes

8:00 AM Holy Eucharist

9:15 AM Education for All

10:30 Holy Eucharist & Livestreamed

(Nursery Available 7:45 AM – 11:45 AM & Coffee Hour Fellowship after morning services.)

CPR & AED Training

Sunday, January 15, 12:00 PM

Youth Ski Trip

January 28-29

Annual Parish Meeting

Sunday, January 29, 9:15 – 10:15 AM

Valentines Pasta Potluck Dinner

Tuesday, February 14, 6:00 PM

Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper

Tuesday, February 21, 6:00 PM

Ash Wednesday

Wednesday, February 22

7:00 – 9:00 AM Ashes to Go in Church Parking Lot

12:00 PM & 6:00 PM Imposition of Ashes & Eucharist

Royal Gorge Philharmonic “Simply Gorge-ous Concert”

featuring Organ Soloist, Daniel Foster

Saturday, February 25, 4:00 PM at St. Michael's *(Advanced ticket purchase required)*

Join one of our newly forming small groups to grow & deepen your faith in 2023

Register: www.stmikeschurch.com/signup

Light for your Journey: Thursdays 6:30 – 8:00 PM Beginning January 12 *(6-weeks)*

“Sacred Water” Creation Care: Tuesdays 6:00 – 7:30 PM Beginning February 7 *(10-weeks)*

St. Michael's Episcopal Church

Office: (719) 598-3244 Email: contact@stmikeschurch.com

Office Hours: Monday - Thursday 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM

The Rev. Matt Holcombe, Rector, x101	Matt@stmikeschurch.com
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The Rev. Dr. Joanne Sanders, Assisting Clergy	Joanne@stmikeschurch.com
The Rev. Gary Darress, Deacon	Gary@stmikeschurch.com
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Bojana & Marinko Pantovic, Sextons	

Vestry

Senior Warden: Kristy Callihan Junior Warden: Jim Marquart
Class of 2023: Marcy Capell, Amy de Lourenco, Dean Logemann
Class of 2024: Sue Caruthers, Andy Laffely, Elena Zarecky
Class of 2025: Russ Howell, Linda Page, Rachel Stoller
Clerk: Aprel Mitchell Treasurer: Chris Couch

