



SAINT LUKE'S

EPISCOPAL CHURCH

3736 Montrose Road
Birmingham, Alabama 35213

The Nativity Of Our Lord CHORAL EUCHARIST, RITE II

December 24, 2021 ✕ 7:00 & 9:00 PM

Please enter quietly as we prepare our hearts for worship.

Welcome! *The congregation's responses are in bold.* The Book of Common Prayer (BCP) and The Hymnal 1982 are found in the pew racks. Children of every age are welcome, or if needed, a nursery is available. Hearing aids are available. See an usher for assistance.

CHRISTMAS EVE PRELUDE AND CAROLS

Brass	<i>God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen</i>	<i>arr. McGregor</i>
Brass	<i>Angels We Have Heard on High</i>	<i>arr. McGregor</i>
Choir	<i>Ave Maria</i>	<i>Franz Biebl</i>
CAROL	<i>Good Christian Friends, Rejoice</i>	<i>Hymnal 107</i>
Brass	<i>Once in Royal David's City</i>	<i>arr. McGregor</i>
Choir	<i>The Glory of the Father</i>	<i>Howland</i>

*The Word was made flesh and dwelt among us
We beheld the glory of the Father, full of grace and truth
In the beginning was the Word; The Word was with God
In Him was life and the life was the light of men
He came to His own and His own received Him not*

CAROL	<i>It Came Upon the Midnight Clear</i>	<i>Hymnal 89</i>
Choir	<i>Away in a Manger</i>	<i>arr. Chilcott</i>
Brass	<i>Ukrainian Bell Carol</i>	<i>arr. Procter</i>
Brass	<i>Ding Dong Merrily on High</i>	<i>arr. Klauphus</i>

THE GREAT PROCESSION

Introit	<i>Of the Father's Love Begotten</i>	<i>Traditional</i>
CAROL	<i>O Come, All Ye Faithful</i>	<i>Hymnal 83</i>

Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
People **And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever.**

The Celebrant says

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.**

CHOIR *Jesus, Jesus, Rest Your Head* arr. Brad Ellingboe

The Celebrant says

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. **Amen.**
The people are seated.

THE FIRST LESSON 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.**

CHOIR *Carol of the Bells* Wilhousky

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.
People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

THE HOLY GOSPEL Luke 2:1-20

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.

The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

CAROL

Hark the Herald Angels Sing

Hymnal 87

THE SERMON The Reverend Richmond R. Webster

THE NICENE CREED *All stand.*

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 *All kneel.*

In peace, we pray to you, Lord God. For all people in their daily life and work;
For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.

For Joseph, our President, Kay our Governor, and the mayors of all the cities in the greater Birmingham area, for this community, the nation, and the world;
For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.

For the just and proper use of your creation;
For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.

For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;
For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.

For the peace and unity of the Church of God;
For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.

For Glenda, our Bishop; the clergy of our parish; Jane, our seminarian; Michael, our Presiding Bishop; and Justin, Archbishop of Canterbury, and for all bishops and other ministers;
For all who serve God in his Church.

Sermon Notes

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation.

Silence during which the people may add their own petitions.

Hear us, Lord;
For your mercy is great.

We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life.

Silence during which the people may add their own petitions.

We will exalt you, O God our King;
And praise your Name for ever and ever.

We pray for all who have died, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom.

Silence during which the people may add their own petitions.

Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;
Who put their trust in you.

We pray to you also for the forgiveness of our sins.

Silence may be kept.

Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father; in your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone; and so uphold us by your Spirit that we may live and serve you in newness of life, to the honor and glory of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE ABSOLUTION

All stand. The Celebrant says to the people

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

The ministers and people greet one another in the name of the Lord.

GREETING *and* ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE HOLY COMMUNION

All are welcome to receive the consecrated bread and wine of the Eucharist. The bread is received in the open palm. The wine may be taken from the common cup by dipping the edge of the wafer of bread in the cup. If you are not receiving the wine, you may fold your hands across your chest. For those choosing to receive neither the bread nor the wine, you are invited to come forward and receive a blessing. Please place your arms across your chest in reception of the blessing.

CHORAL ANTHEM *at the* OFFERTORY

CHOIR

Sing We Now of Christmas

arr. Fred Prentice

...Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

People We remember his death,
 We proclaim his resurrection,
 We await his coming in glory;

The Celebrant continues

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

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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 Celebrant breaks the consecrated bread. A period of silence is kept.

FRACTION ANTHEM

King of kings, yet born of— Ma - ry, as of old on earth he—
stood, Lord of lords in hu - man— ves - ture, in the Bo - dy
and the— Blood he will give to all the faith - -
-ful his own self for heav'n - ly— food.

MUSIC during COMMUNION

CHOIR

In the Bleak Midwinter

Traditional

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

*Our God, heaven cannot hold him,
Nor earth sustain;
Heaven and earth shall flee away
When he comes to reign;
In the bleak midwinter
A stable place sufficed
The Lord God incarnate,
Jesus Christ.*

CHOIR

Still, Still, Still

Norman Luboff

*Dream, dream, dream,
Of the joyous day to come.
While guardian angels without
number,
Watch you as you sweetly slumber.
Dream, dream, dream,
Of the joyous day to come.*

*Still, still, still,
One can hear the falling snow.
For all is hushed,
The world is sleeping,
Holy Star its vigil keeping.
Still, still, still,
One can hear the falling snow.*

*Sleep, sleep, sleep,
'Tis the eve of our Saviour's birth.
The night is peaceful all around you,
Close your eyes,
Let sleep surround you.
Sleep, sleep, sleep,
'Tis the eve of our Saviour's birth.*

POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER *All kneel.*

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.

The people remain kneeling as individual candles are lit from the Christ candle.

CAROL *Silent Night, Holy Night* Hymnal 111

THE BLESSING

The people stand to sing the hymn.

CAROL *Joy to the World, the Lord Has Come!* Hymnal 100

THE DISMISSAL

Let us go forth in the name of Christ.
People **Thanks be to God.**

ORGAN POSTLUDE *Good Christian Men, Rejoice* J.S. Bach

Saint Luke's Brass: Dr. Eric Yates, Trumpet; Dr. Steve Roberts, Trumpet; Mr. James Baker, French Horn; Mr. Patrick Rutledge, Trombone; Mr. R. Scott Robertson, Tuba

*Please feel free to share your joys, concerns and prayer requests with a member of the Prayer Team.
They are available in the chapel following the service and all are welcome.*

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS

The Christmas flowers and arrangements are given
to the glory of God
and in loving memory of

Lanterns.....*Peter Farthwaite Smith*

Pew Standards.....*Mary Morén Sellers Crommelin, Henry Crommelin Jr., Sally Wade Crommelin,
Forsyth Sellers Crommelin, and Joseph Marion Donald*

Lectern.....*Joseph Stewart Silsbee*

Verge.....*Donald Carl Turnbull*

CLERGY AND STAFF: The Rt. Rev. Dr. Glenda Curry, *Bishop of Alabama*; The Rev. Richmond R. Webster, *Rector*; The Rev. William Boyles, *Associate Rector*; The Rev. David Hall, *Associate Rector*; The Rev. Corey Jones, *Associate Rector*; The Rev. Rebecca Debow, *Priest Affiliate*; The Rev. Dr. Maurice L. Goldsmith, *Priest Affiliate*; The Rev. Dr. Stephen McWhorter, *Priest Affiliate*; The Rev. Dr. Mark LaGory, *Deacon*; The Rev. Katy Smith, *Deacon*; Mr. Shaun Pezant, *Artist in Residence*; Dr. Philip Copeland, *Choral Director*; Mr. Jamie McLemore, *Organist*.

VESTRY: Class of 2021-Rebecca Eubanks- Communications & SLDS; Trippe Gray- Facility Management; Norman Jetmundsen- Sr. Warden; Scarlett Simmons- Jr. Warden & Youth Ministry. Norman Tynes- Adult Education & Stewardship. Class of 2022- Reed Avant- Children & Family Ministry; Ann Johnson- Outreach, MACE, & Founders Place. Bill Pitts- Finance; Krislin Smith- Pastoral Care & Communication; Wayne Trucks- Jr. Warden, Worship & Facility Management. Class of 2023- David Kimberlin- COVID-19; Allyson Mouron- Worship & Events; Susan Silverstein- New Members & Adult Education; Beth Wilder- Outreach & Communication; Turner Williams- Finance & SOAR. Appointed Members- Kevin Collins- Clerk; William Nicrosi- Treasurer.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

No service on Christmas Day. We will worship with one service at 11 am on Sunday, December 26 AND Sunday, January 2.

Stewardship Update as of December 21, 2021

Number of Pledges: 429

2022 Pledges received - \$3,028,371

We have reached 81% of our 2022 Goal of \$3.7 million.

As the year end draws near, please take note of the Year End Giving Guidelines available on our website at www.saint-lukes.com/giving. Contributions to Saint Luke's Episcopal Church are tax deductible as allowed by law. IRS rules recognize a contribution on the day of delivery. For contributions to be deductible for 2021, they must meet one of the following criteria:

- By Mail: Postmarked on or before December 31, 2021.
- Hand-Delivery: Received in the Finance office by noon, December 31, 2021. Any gifts dropped off after the office is closed will be treated as 2022 gifts.

Beginning now, and through February, we are collecting coats and jackets for the families who use the Grace/Woodlawn food pantry. Please bring any used (clean and in good condition) coats and jackets to the closet in Graham Hall. As you enter Graham Hall from the Commons, the closet is located on the left side of the entrance. Please place coats in the designated boxes. All sizes of coats will be appreciated, both children's and adults. Thank you!

Wednesday night curb-side pickup resumes Wednesday, January 5. To receive our weekly menus, email kitchen@saint-lukes.com to be added to our distribution list.

Fellowship groups resume January 9 with a discussion class led by the Rector at 10 am in Graham Hall. All adult groups will meet together on this day. New Creation returns as well for children 3k – 3rd grade on 1/9. We return to full programming during the fellowship hour on Sunday, January 23.

