

St. Mark's Episcopal Church

COPPERHILL, TENNESSEE

The Nativity of Our Lord

December 24, 2020



Photo from breadoflifec.org

The mission of St. Mark's Church is to love God with all our heart, soul, mind and strength, and our neighbors as ourselves. We seek to fulfill our mission through reverent worship, warm hospitality, and faithful service.

The Holy Eucharist Rite Two

The Nativity of Our Lord

(Christmas Eve – 7:00 p.m.)

Prelude: *The Sussex Carol*

On Christmas night, all Christians sing
To hear the news the angels bring
On Christmas night, all Christians sing
To hear the news the angels bring

News of great joy, news of great birth
News of great joy, news of great birth
News of our merciful King's birth

Then why should man on earth be so sad
Since our redeemer made us glad
Then why should man on earth be sad
Since our redeemer made us glad

When from our sin He set us free
When from our sin He set us free
All for to gain our liberty

All out of darkness we have light
Which made the angels sing this night
All out of darkness we have light
Which made the angels sing this night

Glory to God and peace to man
Glory to God and peace to man
Glory to God and peace to man
God and peace to man

The Word of God

Procession Hymn: O come, all ye faithful Hymnal 83

O Come all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant,
O come ye, O come ye, to Bethlehem;
Come and behold him, born the King of Angels;

Refrain O come, let us adore Him,
 O come, let us adore Him,
 O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord.

God from God, Light from Light eternal,
Lo! He abhors not the Virgin's womb;
Only begotten Son of the Father;

Sing, choir of angels, sing in exultation,
Sing all ye citizens of heaven above;
Glory to God, glory in the highest;

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

Celebrant 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.*

Hymn: Angels we have heard on high Hymnal 96

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

Refrain Gloria in excelsis Deo.
 Gloria in excelsis Deo.

Shepherds why this jubilee?
Why these songs of happy cheer?
What great brightness did you see?
What glad tidings did you hear?

Come to Bethlehem and see
him whose birth the angels sing;
come, adore on bended knee
Christ, the Lord, the new-born King.

See him in a manger laid
whom the angels praise above;
Mary, Joseph, lend your aid,
While we raise our hearts in love.

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.

The Lessons

A Reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah Isa 9:2-7

²The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness— on them light has shined. ³You 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. ⁴For 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. ⁵For all the boots of the tramping warriors and all the garments rolled in blood shall be burned as fuel for the fire. ⁶For 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. ⁷His 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.

The Word of the Lord

People Thanks be to God

Psalm Psalm 96

¹Sing to the Lord a new song; *

sing to the Lord, all the whole earth.

²Sing to the Lord and bless his Name; *

proclaim the good news of his salvation from day to day.

³Declare his glory among the nations *

and his wonders among all peoples.

⁴For great is the Lord and greatly to be praised; *

he is more to be feared than all gods.

⁵As for all the gods of the nations, they are but idols; *

but it is the Lord who made the heavens.

⁶Oh, the majesty and magnificence of his presence! *

Oh, the power and the splendor of his sanctuary!

⁷Ascribe to the Lord, you families of the peoples; *

ascribe to the Lord honor and power.

⁸Ascribe to the Lord the honor due his Name; *

bring offerings and come into his courts.

⁹Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness; *

let the whole earth tremble before him.

¹⁰Tell 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."

¹¹Let 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.

¹²Then shall all the trees of the wood shout for joy

before the Lord when he comes, *

when he comes to judge the earth.

¹³He will judge the world with righteousness *

and the peoples with his truth.

A Reading from the Letter to Titus

Titus 2:11-14

¹¹For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all, ¹²training us to renounce impiety and worldly passions, and in the present age to live lives that are self-controlled, upright, and godly, ¹³while we wait for the blessed hope and the manifestation of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ. ¹⁴He 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.

The Word of the Lord

People Thanks be to God

Hymn: O little town of Bethlehem

Hymnal 79

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.

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

How silently, how silently, the wondrous gift is given!
So God imparts to human hearts the blessing of his heaven.
No ear may hear his coming, but in this world of sin,
Where meek souls will receive him, still the dear Christ enters in.

Gospel Luke 2:1-14

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ
according to Luke.

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!”

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

The Sermon

The Nicene Creed

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

BCP 387

Father we pray for your holy Catholic Church;
That we all may be one.

Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly
serve you;
That your Name may be glorified by all people.

We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons;
That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.

We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of
the world;
That there may be justice and peace on the earth.

Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;
That our works may find favor in your sight.

Have compassion on those who suffer from nay grief or trouble;
That they may be delivered from their distress.

Give to the departed eternal rest;
Let light perpetual shine upon them.

We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;
May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others

O Lord our God, accept the fervent prayers of your people; in the
multitude of your mercies, look with compassion upon us and all
who turn to you for help; for you are gracious, O lover of souls,
and to you we give glory, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and for
ever. *Amen.*

The Peace

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

The Holy Communion

The Great Thanksgiving

Eucharistic Prayer B

BCP 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 him thanks and praise.

It is 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:

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.

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, 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, according to his command, O Father,

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

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon

these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with [_____ and] all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

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.*

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

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

Communion

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

The Bread and the Cup are given to the communicants with these words

The Body of Christ, the bread of heaven.

The Blood of Christ, the cup of salvation.

Prayer for Spiritual Communion

In union, O Lord, with your faithful people at every altar of your Church, where the Holy Eucharist is now being celebrated, I desire to offer to you praise and thanksgiving.

I remember your death, Lord Christ;

I proclaim your resurrection;

I await your coming in glory.

And since I cannot receive you today in the Sacrament of your Body and Blood, I beseech you to come spiritually into my heart. Cleanse and strengthen me with your grace, Lord Jesus, and let me never be separated from you.

May I live in you, and you in me,
in this life and in the life to come. Amen.

Post-Communion Prayer

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

The church is darkened and ushers will light the candles.

Hymn: Silent Night, Holy Night

Hymnal 111

Silent night, holy night, all is calm, all is bright.

Round yon Virgin, Mother, Mother and Child

Holy infant so tender and mild

Sleep in heavenly peace. Sleep in heavenly peace

Silent night, holy night, shepherd quake at the sight,

glories stream from heaven afar,

heavenly hosts sing alleluia;

Christ the Savior is born! Christ the Savior is born!

Silent night, holy night, Son of God, love's pure light

radiant beams from the holy face,

with the dawn of redeeming grace,

Jesus, Lord, at thy birth. Jesus, Lord, at thy birth.

Blessing

Recession Hymn: Joy to the World

Hymnal 100

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 heaven and nature sing,

and heaven, and heaven and nature sing.

Joy to the world, the Savior reigns;

