

Christ Episcopal Church
Eve of Our Lord's Nativity



December 24, 2020
3:00 p.m.

Dear Families,

This liturgy is designed to be interactive; bringing the joy and connection of Christmas Eve from Christ Church into your home. There are a few things that would enrich this connection which you can gather before the service.

- **A candle to light before the service starts**
- **Something that could be a halo for angels**
- **Bells of any sort or kind**
- **The baby Jesus for your nativity set at home**
- **An invitation to your family at home and those across the miles to join us online for the service**

While this Christmas is different from others we have experienced, the opportunity for connection across the miles and from household to household is deeper than ever. Please take a moment to send a Christmas message to someone you love before the service starts.

It is our hope that this service brings the JOY of Jesus' birth into your hearts and homes and that in the year ahead, you find countless ways to share it with others.

Christmas Blessings!

Charlette Preslar

Director of Youth and Family Ministry

A blessed and joyous Christmas to you! If you are visiting Christ Church, we welcome you to engage with us in the comments. We are a joyful bunch and would love to greet you! Please visit www.christchurchcoronado.org for more information on our church and other ways we can connect.

We invite you to light a candle with your family before we begin.

HYMN

O COME, ALL YE FAITHFUL

Adeste fideles

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.

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

Celebrant: I bring you good news of great joy:

People: A Savior has been born to you.

Celebrant: Unto us a Child is born.

People: Unto us a Son is given.

Celebrant: He is Christ the Lord. Alleluia!

People: We worship and adore him. Alleluia!

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 Lord, in glory everlasting.
Amen.

THE FIRST LESSON – ISAIAH 7:10-15

A Reading from the Book of Isaiah

God spoke to Ahaz again. This time God said, “Ask me to do anything you want as a sign; anything as high as the highest heaven or as deep as the deepest sea. Go ahead ask me for a sign so I can prove myself to you.”

But Ahaz didn’t feel good about that. “I’m not going to ask you to prove yourself, God. I won’t give you a test.”

Isaiah said, “Listen to me, people of the house of David. Is it not enough for you to wear out human beings, do you have to pester God as well? God will give you a sign. Here’s what it will be: A young girl will have a baby, and she will name him Immanuel. By the time he starts walking he’ll have figured out the right way to life, and how to turn away from bad choices. And by the time that happens, the land ruled by the two kings you are scared of will be empty.”

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

We invite you to wear halos and stand and sing.

HYMN

HARK! THE HERALD ANGELS SING

Mendelssohn

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!

Refrain:

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

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 God-head see; hail the incarnate Deity.
Please as man with us to dwell; Jesus, our Emmanuel!

Refrain:

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

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!

Refrain:

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

THE SECOND LESSON – LUKE 1:26-38

A Reading from the Gospel of Luke

God sent an angel named Gabriel with a message for a young woman named Mary in Nazareth. She was engaged to Joseph, who was a descendant of King David.

Here was the message, “Greetings from God himself, Mary. You are special in God’s eyes. And God holds you close to his heart.” Mary couldn’t figure out what was going on and what the angel could possibly mean by that. Gabriel told her not to be afraid, that God had only good things in mind. “Here is the plan, Mary. You will conceive a baby boy and name him Jesus when he’s born. He will be great, the Son of the Most High, and he will reign over God’s people like King David did, but his kingdom will never end.”

Mary said, “But I’m not married. Why would you choose me to be Jesus’ mother?”

Gabriel said, “The Holy Spirit will make this happen, and you will be surrounded by God’s power as if it were incense. Your child will be holy. He will be called the Son of God. And guess what else? Your older cousin Elizabeth, who’s never been able to have children, is already six months pregnant. So you see, nothing is impossible with God.”

Then Mary said, “Okay. I am willing to work with God on this plan. I trust that God can do what he says he will do.” And then the angel left her alone to think about things.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

THE CHRISTMAS STORY

AS TOLD BY THE YOUTH OF THE EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF SAN DIEGO.

CHILDREN’S CREED

I believe in God above,
I believe in Jesus’ love
I believe the Spirit too,
Comes to tell me what to do.
I believe that I can be
Kind and good, dear Lord, like Thee.

PRAYERS FOR OUR CHURCH, OUR LIVES AND THE WORLD

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

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, forever and ever. Amen.

Have compassion on us, O Lord;

Help us to know that we belong to you and to each other.

Dress us with responsibility and kindness;

That all of your children may find favor in your sight.

May the whole world experience your fairness and love;

For only in you can we live in safety.

Lord, keep this nation under your care;

And help us be a light in the world.

Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;

May our generosity help the poor, lonely, sad and hurt.

Create in us honest hearts, O God;

And sustain us with your Holy Spirit.

A PRAYER FOR OUR SCHOOL

Eternal God, bless all schools, colleges, and universities and especially Christ Church Day School, that they may be lively centers for sound learning, new discovery, and the pursuit of wisdom; and grant that those who teach and those who learn may find you to be the source of all truth. We also ask your help and guidance as we navigate these extraordinary times. Please bless our faculty, staff, students and families with health, patience, grit and compassion. We ask these things through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

A PRAYER FOR THE HUMAN FAMILY

O God, you made us in your own image and redeemed us through Jesus your Son: Look with compassion on the whole human family; take away the arrogance and hatred which infect our hearts; break down the walls that separate us; unite us in bonds of love; and work through our struggle and confusion to accomplish your purposes on earth; that, in your good time, all nations and races may serve you in harmony around your heavenly throne; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

You are invited to name your prayers of intercession and thanksgiving for yourself and for others.

Celebrant: Almighty God, we entrust all who are dear to us to *thy* never-failing care and love, for this life and the life to come, knowing that *thou* art doing for them better things than we can desire or pray for; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

We invite you to place your baby Jesus in the manger in your nativity set at home.

SOLO

SOME CHILDREN SEE HIM

Michael Morgan, soloist

BLESSING

DISMISSAL

As you go on your way, may God go before you to show you the way, behind you to encourage you, beside you to befriend you, above you to watch over you, and within you to give you peace. **Amen**

We invite you to ring bells as you stand and sing inviting the joy of Jesus' birth into your home.

HYMN

GO TELL IT ON THE MOUNTAIN

Afro-American spiritual

Refrain:

*Go tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere;
go tell it on the mountain, that Jesus Christ is born.*

While shepherds kept their watching o'er silent flocks by night,
Behold, through-out the heavens there shone a holy light.

Refrain

The shepherds feared and trembled when lo! above the earth
Rang out the angel chorus that hailed our Savior's birth.

Refrain

Down in a lowly manger the humble Christ was born,
And God sent us salvation that blessed Christmas morn.

Refrain

*Celebrant
People*

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



1114 Ninth Street
Coronado, CA 92118
(619) 435-4561
www.christchurchcoronado.org