

THE CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD

CHRISTMAS PAGEANT WITH HOLY EUCHARIST, RITE II

THE THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

DECEMBER 17, 2023 AT 10:15 AM



THE RT. REV. SAMUEL RODMAN
BISHOP DIOCESAN OF NORTH CAROLINA

THE RT. REV. JENNIFER BROOKE-DAVIDSON
ASSISTANT BISHOP OF NORTH CAROLINA

THE REV. IMOGEN RHODENHISER, RECTOR
THE REV. JOYCE CORBIN ALLEN, ASSOCIATE RECTOR

THE REV. ANDREW PHILLIPS, ASSOCIATE RECTOR
THE REV. NANCY ALLISON, PRIEST-IN-RESIDENCE

ALL ARE WELCOME HERE

*We are a welcoming, inclusive and affirming parish in the Episcopal Diocese of North Carolina.
We seek to meet and serve Christ in all people and to glorify God in our words and our actions.*

ARE YOU VISITING TODAY?

*Know that you are most welcome, and we pray that you will return to worship with us again soon!
Please do us the honor of filling out a Visitor Card, either by scanning the QR code to the right OR by
filling out a physical card located in the pew rack in front of you. If you fill out a physical card, please
place it in the alms basin during the offertory or hand it to an usher or to a member of the clergy as
you leave today. Thank you!*



CHRISTMAS PAGEANT WITH HOLY EUCHARIST: RITE TWO

This service bulletin is designed for use with the red Book of Common Prayer (BCP) and the blue Hymnal 1982, both of which are located in the pew rack in front of you.

Voluntary

Processional Hymn: Blest be the King whose coming

Hymnal 74

Opening Acclamation

Celebrant Blessed are you, holy and living One.

People **You come to your people and set them free.**

The Collect for Purity

BCP, p. 355

Song of Praise: Blessed be the God of Israel

Hymnal 444

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

Stir up your power, O Lord, and with great might come among us; and, because we are sorely hindered by our sins, let your bountiful grace and mercy speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Christmas Pageant

Much like last Sunday's service of Lessons and Carols, this week's Christmas Pageant offers us the opportunity to enter the story of the coming of Christ in a new way. Through words spoken and embodied, through humor and play, and through songs offered in praise, we invite you to hear once more the message of the Angels, to go to Bethlehem, and to see the Son of God lying in a manger. This Pageant is offered as a gift for all who hear it, in response to the greatest gift of all—God-with-us in Jesus Christ.

During the pageant, please join the cast and choir in signing the carols on the facing page.

What child is this, who, laid to rest

What child is this, who, laid to rest,
on Mary's lap is sleeping?
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet,
while shepherds watch are keeping?

Refrain:

This, this is Christ the King,
whom shepherds guard and angels sing;
haste, haste to bring him laud,
the babe, the son of Mary.

O little town of Bethlehem

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.

Once in royal David's city

Once in royal David's city
stood a lowly cattle shed,
where a mother laid her baby
in a manger for his bed;
Mary was that mother mild,
Jesus Christ her little child.

Angels we have heard on high

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

Refrain:

Gloria in excelsis Deo.
Gloria in excelsis Deo.

We three kings of Orient are

We three kings of Orient are,
bearing gifts we traverse afar,
field and fountain,
moor and mountain,
following yonder star.

Refrain:

O star of wonder, star of night, star with
royal beauty bright;
westward leading,
still proceeding,
guide us to thy perfect light!

O come, all ye Faithful

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.

Joy to the world! the Lord is come

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.

The Peace

BCP, p. 360

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

Welcome and Announcements

Today's Altar Flowers

The flowers on the altar are given to the glory of God by Beverly Shavlik and Kim Randolph in loving memory of Ronald Dean Shavlik ("Ronnie"), beloved husband, father and grandfather, and Kenneth Dexter Randolph, Jr. ("Dexter"), beloved son, brother and grandson.

Give to CGS Online

Use the QR code to the right to give or pledge online to CGS.

Open your phone's camera, point the camera at the square, and tap the screen.



The Holy Communion

Offertory Anthem: Unexpected and mysterious

Jeannette M. Lindholm

*Unexpected and mysterious is the gentle word of grace. Ever-loving and sustaining is the peace of God's embrace. If we falter in our courage and we doubt what we have known,
God is faithful to console us as a mother tends her own.*

*In a momentary meeting of eternity and time, Mary learned that she would carry both the mortal and divine.
Then she learned of God's compassion, of Elizabeth's great joy, and she ran to greet
the woman who would recognize her boy.*

*We are called to ponder mystery and await the coming Christ, to embody God's compassion for each fragile human life. God is with us in our longing to bring healing to the earth,
while we watch with joy and wonder for the promised Savior's birth.*

Presentation Hymn: O come, O come, Emmanuel

Hymnal 56, verse 6

O come, thou Dayspring from on high, and cheer us by thy drawing nigh;
disperse the gloomy clouds of night, and death's dark shadow put to flight.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!

The Great Thanksgiving: Eucharistic Prayer B

BCP, p. 367

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.**

Celebrant ...Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Sanctus: Holy, holy, holy

Hymnal S 125

Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Hosts:
Heaven and earth are full of thy glory.
Glory be to thee, O Lord Most High.
Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

The Eucharistic Prayer continues on p. 368 in the Book of Common Prayer

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

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

Celebrant ...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.

People **AMEN.**

The Lord's Prayer

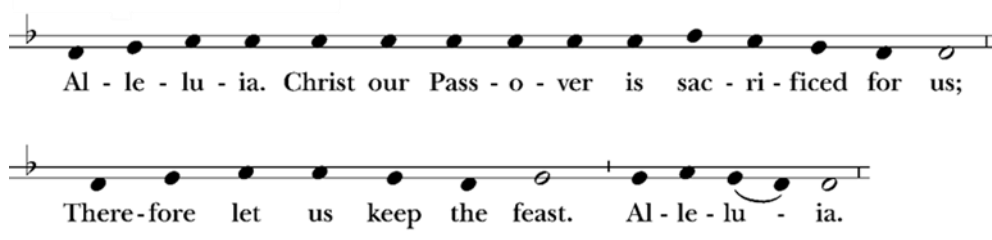
BCP, p. 364

The Breaking of the Bread

BCP, p. 364

The Fraction Anthem: Christ our Passover

Hymnal S 152



Invitation and Communion

All are invited to come forward during the sharing of Holy Communion.

Where can I go to receive bread and wine by drinking from the common cup? *Please come to the left side (lectern side) of the altar rail; return to your seat via the stairs in the sacristy.*

Where can I go to receive bread and wine by intinction (having a minister dip the host in wine and place it in your hand)? *Please come to the right side (pulpit side) of the altar rail; return to your seat via the stairs by the baptismal font.*

Where can I go to receive only the bread? *Please come to either location and tell the server “only bread.”*

Where can I go to receive gluten-free bread? *Please come to either location and ask for gluten free.*

Where can I go to receive a blessing? *Please come to either location and cross your arms over your chest.*

How can I ask for communion to be brought to me? *Please ask an usher to receive by intinction in your seat.*

Communion Hymn: There’s a voice in the wilderness crying

Hymnal 75

Sending out of Eucharistic Visitors

Celebrant In the name of this congregation, we 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 **Because we who are many are one body in Christ. We share one bread, one cup. Amen.**

Post Communion Prayer

Enriching Our Worship I, p. 69

Celebrant Let us pray.

People **God of abundance, you have fed us with the bread of life and cup of salvation; you have united us with Christ and one another; and you have made us one with all your people in heaven and on earth. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit, that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue for ever in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen**

The Blessing

Celebrant May the Sun of Righteousness shine upon you and scatter the shadows from before your path; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always.

People **Amen.**

Recessional Hymn: On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry

Hymnal 76

The Dismissal

BCP, p. 366

Voluntary

**Please join us immediately following this service for
our Parish Christmas Party and to celebrate Mother Joyce!**

Serving Today

Ushers	Peg Dorer and Rob Stone
Verger	David Roten and Ed Gavin
Acolytes	Jack Boyne, Libby Boyne, and Ella Grace Cherry
Chalicerist	Julie Lowe
Livestream & Sound	Ed Sharp and Sam DeShong
Flower Guild	Molly Propst

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This Week's Prayer List

*Roy Wright, Carolyn Owens, Janet Gilliam, Ralph Sanders, Pete Taylor, Martha Bailey,
Peggy Hawks, Ginny Byrd, Mitchell Lawrence, Hugh Stohler, Darrell Dennis,
Janie Ward-Newton, William Short, Julia Hall, Gigi Giersch, Catherine and Bob Williams,
Fran and Paul Hoch, Brinley Harris, Don Caudill, Larry Bledsoe, Mike,
Elizabeth Alexander and Family, Logan McGhee, Mike Deloatch, Mindy McIntyre, Ann Antoun,
Stephanie Rivers, Carolyn Watson, Nolan Simon, Emily Bordeaux and her family,
Bob Kirchgessner, Margaret Park, Bob Wood, Peter Anderson, Ilona McHale,
Viola Cleo Bradshaw, Cordelia Vogel, Felix, The Howard Family, The Davis Family,
The Usanis-Doster Family, The Buckley Family, The Flowers Family,
The Family of William Carter, the people of Israel and Palestine, the people of Ukraine,
The Diocese of North Carolina, and The Anglican Church of Papua New Guinea.*

ADVENT & CHRISTMAS AT THE CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD

PLEASE JOIN US!

- Sunday, December 17th
- All-Ages Christmas Pageant with Eucharist at 10:15 AM
 - Parish Christmas Party immediately following the 10:15 AM worship service
 - Service of Hope and Healing at Christmas at 3:00 PM
- Sunday, December 24th
- Christmas Eve Services of Holy Eucharist
The Rev. Imogen Rhodenhiser, Preacher
- 2:00 PM Interactive Children and Family Service
 - 5:00 PM Traditional Eucharist with Choir and Handbells
 - 11:00 PM Midnight Eucharist with Violin and Cello
- Monday, December 25th
- Christmas Day Eucharist at 9 AM
The Rev. Imogen Rhodenhiser, Celebrant and Preacher
- Sunday, December 31st
- One Worship Service at 10:15 AM
Christmas Lessons and Carols with Holy Eucharist

Coming Up at 3 PM

HOPE AND HEALING AT CHRISTMAS

The holiness of Advent, and indeed all our life, is not limited to times of joy and gladness. Holiness, sometimes in its most profound form, resides also in sorrow, heartache, and loss. If you, or anyone you love, find yourself experiencing any grief or difficulty this Advent, this service is for you. We shall offer spoken and sung prayers, aided by an oboist and vocal soloist, all interspersed with silence and candlelight. The service will be about 40 minutes in length with no Eucharist and time to stay and pray in the sanctuary or to speak with Rev. Imogen.