

The Second Sunday After Christmas

Hymn Sing

January 3, 2021

10:00 a.m.



St. Mark's Episcopal Church

1 Porter Road

East Longmeadow, MA 01028

(413) 525-6341

Email: office@stmarksma.org

Website: www.stmarksma.org

WELCOME

OPENING SENTENCE

Behold, the dwelling of God is with humankind. He will dwell with them and they shall be his people, and God will be with them and be their God. *Rev. 21:30*

INTRODUCTION

HYMN “*Angels we have heard on high*” (H 96)

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

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.

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

Officiant: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Officiant: Let us pray.

COLLECT OF THE DAY

O God, who wonderfully created, and yet more wonderfully restored, the dignity of human nature: Grant that we may share the divine life of him who humbled himself to share our humanity, your Son Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

HYMN “**O come, all ye faithful**” (H 83 vs. 1-5)

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;

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 God the Father;

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

See how the shepherds,
summoned to his cradle,
leaving their flocks, draw nigh to gaze;
we too will thither
bend our joyful footsteps;

Officiant: The Lord be with you.
People: **And also with you.**
Officiant: Let us pray.

O God, you make us glad with the weekly remembrance of the glorious resurrection of your Son our Lord:
Give us this day such blessing through our worship of you, that the week to come may be spent in your favor;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

HYMN “Once in royal David’s city” (H 102 vs. 1, 2, & 5)

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.

He came down to earth from heaven,
Who is God and Lord of all,
And His shelter was a stable,
And His cradle was a stall;
With the poor, and mean, and lowly,
Lived on earth our Saviour holy.

And our eyes at last shall see Him,
Through His own redeeming love;
For that Child so dear and gentle
Is our Lord in heaven above,
And He leads His children on
To the place where He is gone.

PSALM 84: 1-8

- 1 How dear to me is your dwelling, O LORD of hosts! *
My soul has a desire and longing for the courts of the LORD;
my heart and my flesh rejoice in the living God.
- 2 The sparrow has found her a house
and the swallow a nest where she may lay her young; *
by the side of your altars, O LORD of hosts,
my King and my God.
- 3 Happy are they who dwell in your house! *
they will always be praising you.
- 4 Happy are the people whose strength is in you! *
whose hearts are set on the pilgrims' way.
- 5 Those who go through the desolate valley will find it a place of springs, *
for the early rains have covered it with pools of water.
- 6 They will climb from height to height, *
and the God of gods will reveal himself in Zion.
- 7 LORD God of hosts, hear my prayer; *
hearken, O God of Jacob.
- 8 Behold our defender, O God; *

Officiant The Lord be with you.
People **And also with you.**
Officiant Let us pray.

Almighty God, kindle, we pray, in every heart the true love of peace, and guide with your wisdom those who take counsel for the nations of the earth, that in tranquility your dominion may increase until the earth is filled with the knowledge of your love; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. *Amen.*

HYMN “Go, Tell it on the Mountain” (H 99)

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, throughout the heavens
there shone a holy light.

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

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

A READING FROM Ephesians 1:3-6,15-19a

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, just as he chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love. He destined us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will, to the praise of his glorious grace that he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved. I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

HYMN "Silent night, holy night" (H 111)

Silent night, holy night,
all is calm, all is bright
round yon virgin mother and child.
Holy infant, so tender and mild,
sleep in heavenly peace.

Silent night, holy night,
shepherds quake at the sight,
glories stream from heaven afar,
heavenly hosts sing alleluia;
Christ, the Savior, is born!

Silent night, holy night,
Son of God, love's pure light
radiant beams from thy holy face,
with the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord, at thy birth.

Officiant: The Lord be with you.

People : **And also with you.**

Offician:t Let us pray.

Lord Jesus Christ, you stretched out your arms of love on the hard wood of the cross that everyone might come within the reach of your saving embrace: So clothe us in your Spirit that we, reaching forth our hands in love, may bring those who do not know you to the knowledge and love of you; for the honor of your Name. **Amen.**

A READING FROM Matthew 2:1-12

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage." When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet: `And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for

from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel.'" Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage." When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

Reader: The Word of the Lord

People: **Thanks be to God**

HYMN "We three kings of Orient are" (H 128 vs. 1 & 5)

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

Myrrh is mine; its bitter perfume
breathes a life of gathering gloom;
sorrowing, sighing,
bleeding, dying,
sealed in the stone-cold tomb.

REFLECTION

Rev. Sandi Albom

HYMN "Of the Father's love begotten" (H 82 vs. 1, 2 & 3)

Of the Father's love begotten,
ere the worlds began to be,
he is Alpha and Omega,
he the source, the ending he,
of the things that are, that have been,
and that future years shall see,
evermore and evermore!

O that birth for ever blesséd,
when the Virgin, full of grace,
by the Holy Ghost conceiving,
bore the Savior of our race;
and the Babe, the world's Redeemer,
first revealed his sacred face,
evermore and evermore!

Let the heights of heaven adore him;
angel hosts, his praises sing;
powers, dominions, bow before him,
and extol our God and King;
let no tongue on earth be silent,
every voice in concert ring,
evermore and evermore!

Officiant: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Officiant: Let us pray.

Almighty God, by the hand of Mark the evangelist you have given to your Church the Gospel of Jesus Christ the Son of God: We thank you for this witness, and pray that we may be firmly grounded in its truth; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, on God, for ever and ever. ***Amen.***

Priest: All things come from you O Lord.

People: **And of your own have we given you.**

OFFERTORY HYMN “In the bleak midwinter” (H 112)

In the bleak midwinter,
frosty wind made moan,
earth stood hard as iron,
water like a stone;
snow had fallen, snow on snow,
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.

Angels and archangels
may have gathered there,
cherubim and seraphim
throngéd the air;
but his mother only,
in her maiden bliss,
worshipéd the belovéd
with a kiss.

What can I give him,
poor as I am?
If I were a shepherd,
I would bring a lamb;
if I were a wise man,
I would do my part;
yet what I can I give him—
give my heart.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Lector: God of love and mercy.

Peope: **Receive our prayer.**

HYMN “Hark! the herald angels sing” (H 87)

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!

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!

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!

Officiant: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Officiant: Let us pray.

O God, you have taken to yourself the blessed Virgin Mary, mother of your incarnate Son: Grant that we, who have been redeemed by his blood, may share with her the glory of your eternal kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

HYMN “O little town of Bethlehem” (H 78 vs. 1, 2, & 5)

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.

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!

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Officiant and People

**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.**

HYMN "Joy to the world! the Lord is come" (H 100 vs. 1, 2, & 4)

Joy to the world! the Lord is come:
let earth receive her King;
let every heart prepare him room,
and heaven and nature sing.

Joy to the world! the Savior reigns;
let us our songs employ,
while fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains,
repeat the sounding joy.

He rules the world with truth and grace,
and makes the nations prove
the glories of his righteousness,
and wonders of his love.

CLOSING PRAYER

Lord, make us instruments of your peace. Where there is hatred, let us sow love; where there is injury, pardon; where there is discord, union; where there is doubt, faith; where there is despair, hope; where there is darkness, light; where there is sadness, joy. Grant that we may not so much seek to be consoled as to console; to be understood as to understand; to be loved as to love. For it is in giving that we receive; it is in pardoning that we are pardoned; and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life. *Amen.*

HYMN “Venite adoremus” (H 110)

The snow lay on the ground,
the stars shone bright,
when Christ our Lord was born
On Christmas night.

Venite adoremus Dominum.

‘Twas Mary, daughter pure
of holy Anne,
that brought into this world
the God made man.
She laid him in a stall
at Bethlehem;
the ass and oxen shared
the roof with them.

Saint Joseph, too, was by
to tend the child;
to guard him, and protect
his mother mild;
the angels hovered round,
and sang this song,
Venite adoremus
Dominum.

And thus that manger poor
became a throne;
for he whom Mary bore
was God the Son.
O come, then, let us join
the heavenly host,
to praise the Father, Son,
and Holy Ghost.

BLESSING

DISMISSAL

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

HYMN “O God, our help in ages past” (H 680 vs. 1, 5, & 6)

O God, our help in ages past,
our hope for years to come,
our shelter from the stormy blast,
and our eternal home:

Time, like an ever-rolling stream,
bears all our years away;
they fly, forgotten, as a dream
dies at the opening day.

O God, our help in ages past,
our hope for years to come,
be thou our guide while life shall last,
and our eternal home.

SINGERS

Mindy and Peter Rosengarten
Chris Pryce
Adam, Carey, and Zoey Lape
Rich Bruns
Alan Druckenmiller
Sue Matsui
Rev. Sandi Albom
Cliff Kerr

People in Our Prayers

- ***Homebound:*** Mary Jane, William & Barbara, Melissa, Lucy, Fran
- ***Healing:*** Doreen, Milt, Dale, Alaina, Matthew, Russ, Gail, Joseph, Jose, David, Phyllis, Joyce, Ann, Andy, Wendy, Jaime, Kim, Jean, Maggie, Mark, Elizabeth, Sandy, Carol, June, Millie, Rick, Jeff, Liz, Dick, Dusti, Justin, Jim, Georgia, Fran, Ashling, Dan, Holly, Jack, Sue, Gail, Mary, The Tarby's, Liz, Jean, Keith, Colleen, Jeff, Samantha, Gus, Irene, Lisa, Millie, Caroline, Carol, Felicia Gelinis, Donna Marie Haraty, Alicia Gagne, Linda Anderson, Barbara, David, Pat Harmon, Deb Lewis, Bill Bremmer, Tracie Wright, Caroline, Margaret, Lynn, Barbara Volker, Jeff and his co-workers at BFF Corp. in Agawam.
- ***Those celebrating a birthday this week:*** Barbara Gibbs, Cathy Stevens, Dick Volker, Michael Solitario.