

CHRISTMAS EVE & CHRISTMAS PAGENT

December 24th, 2020

7:00PM



St. Mark's Episcopal Church
1 Porter Road
East Longmeadow, MA 01028
(413) 525-6341
Email: office@stmarksma.org
Website: www.stmarksma.org

WELCOME

PRELUDE

CHRISTMAS FANFARE by Leopold Mozart, Ryan Schneider, trombone; Alan Druckenmiller, tuba

OPENING SENTENCE: Behold, I bring you good news of a great joy which will come to all the people; for to you is born this day in the city of David, a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.
Luke 2:10, 11

LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE

Officiant: The Lord be with you. *People:* **And also with you.** *Officiant:* Let us pray. O God, you make us glad by the yearly festival of the birth of your only Son Jesus Christ: Grant that we, who joyfully receive him as our Redeemer, may with sure confidence behold him when he comes to be our Judge; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, on God, now and for ever. *Amen*

ENTRANCE HYMN *O come, all ye faithful* (H 83)

1 O come, all ye faithful, joy-ful and tri-um-phant, O
2 God, from God, Light from Light e-ter-nal,
3 Sing, choirs of an-gels, sing in ex-ul-ta-tion,
*4 See how the shep-herds, sum-moned to his cra-dle,
*5 Child, for us sin-ners poor and in the man-ger,
1 come ye, O come ye to Beth-le-hem;
2 lo! he ab-hors not the Vir-gin's womb;
3 sing, all ye ci-ti-zens of heaven a-bove;
4 leav-ing their flocks, draw nigh to gaze;
5 we would em-brace thee, with love and awe;
1 come, and be-hold him, born the King of an-gels;
2 on-ly-be-got-ten Son of the Fa-ther;
3 glo-ry to God, glo-ry in the high-est;
4 we too will thith-er bend our joy-ful foot-steps;
5 who would not love thee, lov-ing us so dear-ly?
tegram
O come, let us a-dore him, O come, let us a-dore him,
dore him, O come, let us a-dore him, Christ the Lord.

6. Yea, Lord, we greet thee,
Born this happy morning;
Jesus, to thee be glory given'
Word of the Father,
Now in flesh appearing;

CHRISTMAS GREETING

HYMN "Away in a Manger" sung by Rita Robichaud

CHRISTMAS PAGEANT ~ "The Nativity Story from the Gospel according to St. Luke"

HYMN *Joy to the world! the Lord is come* (H 100)

1 Joy to the world! the Lord is come: let earth re -
2 Joy to the world! the Sa - vior reigns; let us our
*3 No more let sins and sor - rows grow, nor thorns in -
4 He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the

ceive her King; let ev - ery heart pre - pare him room, and
songs em - ploy, while fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains, re -
fest the ground; he comes to make his bless - ings flow far
na - tions prove the glo - ries of his right - eous - ness, and

heaven and na - ture sing, and heaven and na - ture
peat the sound - ing joy, re - peat the sound - ing
as the curse is found, far as the curse is
won - ders of his love, and won - ders of his

1 and heaven and na - ture sing, and
2 re - peat the sound - ing joy, re -
3 far as the curse is found, far
4 and won - ders of his love, and

sing, and heaven, and heaven and na - ture sing.
joy, re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.
found, far as, far as the curse is found.
love, and won - ders, won - ders of his love.

heaven and na - ture sing,
peat the sound - ing joy,
as the curse is found,
won - ders of his love,

HOMILY

Rev. Sandi+ Albom

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.
Who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified.
Who 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.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

(The Prayers are led by the intercessor and followed by his response)

*Intercessor: Loving God People: **Receive our prayer***

Intercessions are welcome at this time

Intercessor: Glory to you, O God, for you give to us good news of great joy. By your grace, a child has been born; a son is given to us. We give thanks for his light that shines in the darkness. With the angels, we sing your praise, as we pray these words: Loving God,

People: Receive our prayer.

Intercessor: Gathered as a community on this Christmas Eve, we pray for your church and all, in every place, who serve in your name, that we may make known to others what has been told to us about this child that has been born. Loving God,

People: Receive our prayer.

Intercessor: Holy Child, shine your light in every place of need. Draw near to those that spend this night apart from community; be with all who live alone, or are estranged from family and friends; accompany those who travel. Comfort the poor and vulnerable, those in prison, and those who wait beside a hospital bed. We pray especially for those on our prayer list and those we hold in our hearts this night. Loving God,

People: Receive our prayer.

Intercessor: We pray for this nation, for all nations and peoples, remembering especially all who are victims of injustice or oppression. Prince of Peace, guide our leaders and elected officials, that they may govern with courage and equity. Loving God,

People: Receive our prayer.

Intercessor: We pray for our families, friends, neighbors, and loved ones, and for all who may be in any need or trouble. Guide and strengthen us in our common life to know the gifts of your love and grace. Loving God,

People: Receive our prayer.

Intercessor: And we remember and give thanks for all those who have shared this life and who have died in the peace of Christ and the hope of the resurrection, and for those whose faith is known to God alone. Loving God,

People: Receive our prayer.

Intercessor: That your love, born in us tonight, will overflow more and more in our lives, in your church, and in all the world, until all may know the good news and great joy of Jesus Christ, our Savior, in whose name we pray. **Amen.**

THE CONFESSION OF SIN AND ABSOLUTION

Celebrant: As we kneel with the shepherds before the newborn Christ child, we open our hearts in penitence and faith: You, Lord, were born for our salvation.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Celebrant: You came as Savior to bring wholeness and peace.

People: Christ, have mercy.

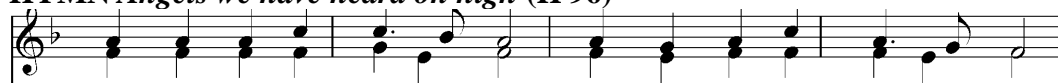
Celebrant: You came to bring light into the darkness of our lives.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Celebrant: May Almighty God, who sent his Son into the world to save sinners, bring you his pardon and peace, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE PEACE

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



1 An - gels we have heard on high, sing - ing sweet - ly through the night,
2 Shep - herds, why this ju - bi - lee? Why these songs of hap - py cheer?
3 Come to Beth - le - hem and see him whose birth the an - gels sing;
4 See him in a man - ger laid whom the an - gels praise a - bove;



and the moun - tains in re - ply ech - o - ing their brave de - light.
What great bright - ness did you see? What glad tid - ings did you hear?
come, a - dore on bend - ed knee Christ, the Lord, the new - born King.
Ma - ry, Jo - seph, lend your aid, while we raise our hearts in love.

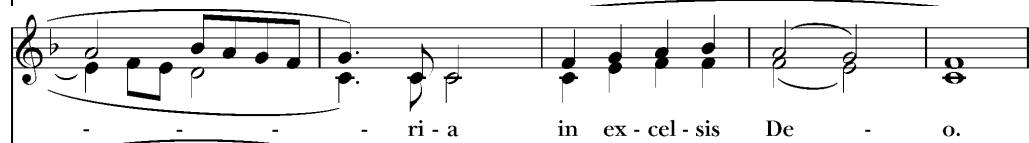
Refrain



Glo - - - - - ri - a



in ex - cel - sis De - o. Glo - - - - -



- - - - - ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o.

OFFERTORY SENTENCE

MUSICAL OFFERING: "What Sweeter Music Can We Bring", by Ralph Vaughan Williams;
Chris Berry vocal and guitar

Officiant: And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us we pray,

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 *Hark! the herald angels sing* (H 87)



1 Hark! the her-ald an-gels sing glo-ry to the new-born King!
2 Christ, by high-est heaven a-dored; Christ, the ev-er-last-ing Lord;
3 Mild he lays his glo-ry by, born that we no more may die,
Peace on earth and mer-cy mild, God and sin-ners rec-on-ciled!
late in time be-hold him come, off-spring of the Vir-gin's womb.
born to raise us from the earth, born to give us sec-ond birth.
Joy-ful, all ye na-tions, rise, join the tri-umph of the skies;
Veiled in flesh the God-head see; hail the in-car-nate De-i-ty.
Risen with heal-ing in his wings, light and life to all he brings,
with the an-gel-ic host pro-claim Christ is born in Beth-le-hem!
Pleased as man with us to dwell; Je-sus, our Em-man-u-el!
hail, the Sun of Right-eous-ness! hail, the heaven-born Prince of Peace!
Refrain
Hark! the her-ald an-gels sing glo-ry to the new-born King!

PRAYER OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

O God, we are united here in your transcendent power of love. From this center of goodness, you appear to us now in a new way, a new light, a new understanding, a new power of friendship and unity. We receive this life from you; we share this life together. You appear in our midst as Life itself, and we rise up together, beyond the resistant forces around us and within us. We receive you. This is the Body of Christ. Amen.

BLESSING

SPECIAL MUSIC: “O Holy Night, by Adolphe Adam; sung by Carey and Adam Lape

CONCLUDING SENTENCE

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all evermore. *Amen. 2 Corinthians 13:14*

DISMISSAL

Let us bless the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

CLOSING HYMN *Silent night, holy night* (H 111)

Si - lent night, ho - ly night, all is calm,
 Si - lent night, ho - ly night, shep - herds quake
 Si - lent night, ho - ly night, Son of God,

all is bright round yon vir - gin mo - ther and child.
 at the sight, glo - ries stream from hea - ven a - far,
 love's pure light ra - diant beams from thy ho - ly face,

Ho - ly in - fant, so ten - der and mild, sleep in hea - ven - ly
 hea - ven - ly hosts— sing al - le - lu - ia; Christ, the Sa - vior, is
 with the dawn of re - deem - ing grace, Je - sus, Lord, at thy

peace. Sleep in hea - ven - ly peace.
 born! Christ, the Sa - vior, is born!
 birth. Je - sus, Lord, at thy birth.

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