

# TRINITY EPISCOPAL CHURCH

*Offering Companionship along the Way*

THE FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS

HYMN SING AND READINGS

DECEMBER 31, 2023

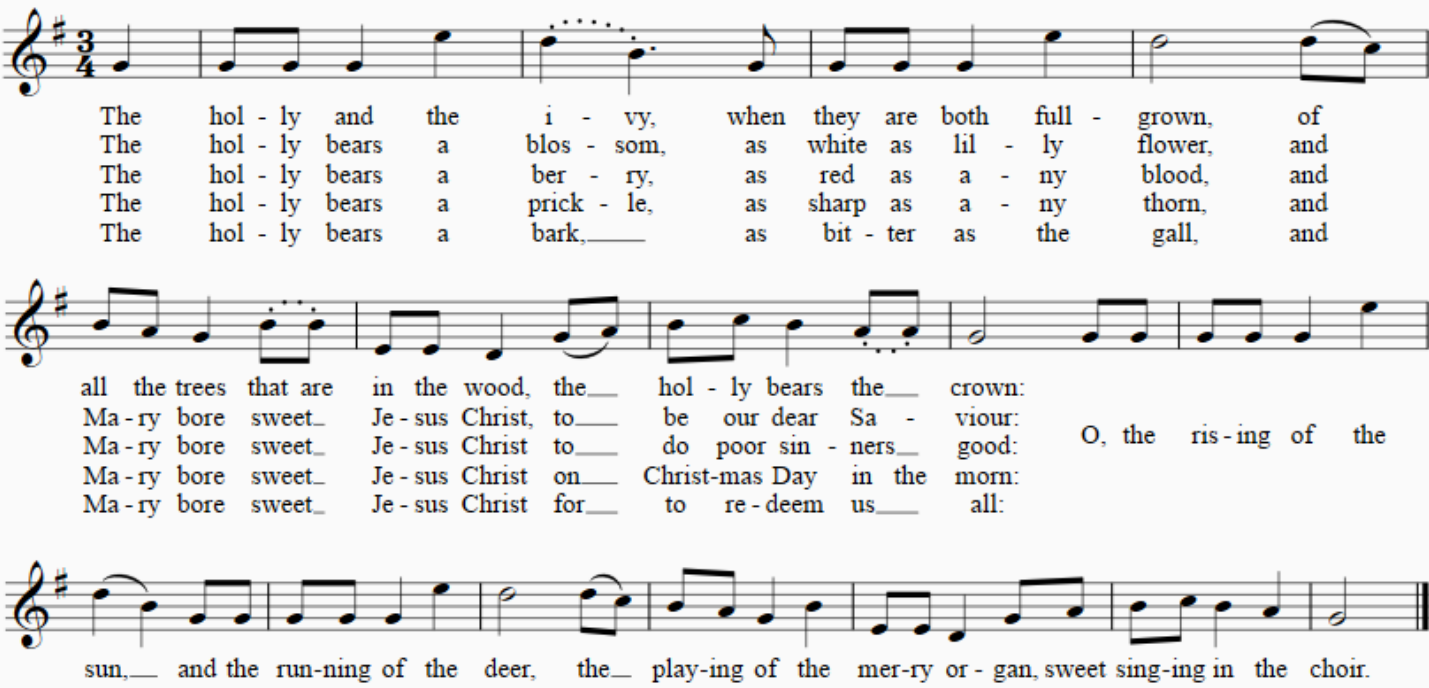


Care of Planet Earth Drawing by Frank Ramspott 2021 (used by permission)

## Prelude Organ improvisation

## Opening Hymn The Holly and the Ivy

Traditional English Traditional Air. arr. by W. Bucknall



The hol - ly and the i - vy, when they are both full - grown, of  
The hol - ly bears a blos - som, as white as lil - ly flower, and  
The hol - ly bears a ber - ry, as red as a - ny blood, and  
The hol - ly bears a prick - le, as sharp as a - ny thorn, and  
The hol - ly bears a bark, as bit - ter as the gall, and  
all the trees that are in the wood, the hol - ly bears the crown:  
Ma - ry bore sweet Je - sus Christ, to be our dear Sa - viour: O, the ris - ing of the  
Ma - ry bore sweet Je - sus Christ to do poor sin - ners good:  
Ma - ry bore sweet Je - sus Christ on Christ - mas Day in the morn:  
Ma - ry bore sweet Je - sus Christ for to re - deem us all:  
sun, and the run - ning of the deer, the play - ing of the mer - ry or - gan, sweet sing - ing in the choir.

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## Opening Sentence and Collects

*Leader:* Behold, the dwelling of God is with God's people. The Lord will dwell with them, and they shall be God's people and the Lord himself will be with them, and be their God. *Rev. 21:3*

O God, the King eternal, whose light divides the day from the night and turns the shadow of death into the morning; drive far from us all wrong desires, incline our hearts to keep your law, and guide our feet into the way of peace; that, having done your will with cheerfulness during the day, we may, when night comes, rejoice to give you thanks; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

## Collect for the First Sunday after Christmas

Almighty God, you have poured upon us the new light of your incarnate Word: Grant that this light, enkindled in our hearts, may shine forth in our lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Let us pray in the words which Christ himself has taught us saying:

**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.**

### **Hymn Sing with Christmas readings**

#### **First Reading**

**Isaiah 61:10-62:3**

I will greatly rejoice in the LORD,  
my whole being shall exult in my God;  
for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation,  
he has covered me with the robe of righteousness,  
as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland,  
and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.  
For as the earth brings forth its shoots,  
and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up,  
so the Lord GOD will cause righteousness and praise  
to spring up before all the nations.  
For Zion's sake I will not keep silent,  
and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest,  
until her vindication shines out like the dawn,  
and her salvation like a burning torch.  
The nations shall see your vindication,  
and all the kings your glory;  
and you shall be called by a new name  
that the mouth of the LORD will give.  
You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the LORD,  
and a royal diadem in the hand of your God.

*Reader*        The Word of the Lord.  
*People*        **Thanks be to God.**

#### **Hymn**

## Second Reading

Psalm 147:13-21

*The reader will say the odd verses. Please respond with the even verses.*

- 13 **W**orship the LORD, O Jerusalem; \*  
praise your God, O Zion;
- 14 **F**or he has strengthened the bars of your gates; \*  
**he has blessed your children within you.**
- 15 He has established peace on your borders; \*  
he satisfies you with the finest wheat.
- 16 **H**e sends out his command to the earth, \*  
**and his word runs very swiftly.**
- 17 He gives snow like wool; \*  
he scatters hoarfrost like ashes.
- 18 **H**e scatters his hail like bread crumbs; \*  
**who can stand against his cold?**
- 19 He sends forth his word and melts them; \*  
he blows with his wind, and the waters flow.
- 20 **H**e declares his word to Jacob, \*  
**his statutes and his judgments to Israel.**
- 21 He has not done so to any other nation; \*  
to them he has not revealed his judgments.  
Hallelujah!

**Glory to the Father, to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. As it was in the beginning, is now and will be forever. Amen.**

## Hymn

### Third Reading

Galatians 3:23-25; 4:4-7

Now before faith came, we were imprisoned and guarded under the law until faith would be revealed. Therefore the law was our disciplinarian until Christ came, so that we might be justified by faith. But now that faith has come, we are no longer subject to a disciplinarian. But when the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, in order to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as children. And because you are children, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" So you are no longer a slave but a child, and if a child then also an heir, through God.

*Reader*        The Word of the Lord.  
*People*        **Thanks be to God.**

## Hymn

### Fourth Reading

The Letter to the Hebrews 1:1-4

Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets, but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, through whom he also created the worlds. He is the reflection of God's glory and the exact imprint of God's very being,

and he sustains all things by his powerful word. When he had made purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs.

*Reader*        The Word of the Lord.

*People*        **Thanks be to God.**

## Hymn

### Fifth Reading

### Gospel of John 1:1-18

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth. (John testified to him and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks ahead of me because he was before me.'") From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. No one has ever seen God. It is God the only Son, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known.

*Reader*        The Word of the Lord.

*People*        **Thanks be to God.**

## Hymn

### Prayers of the People

Lord, we greatly rejoice in your presence among us. We come to bow with the shepherds, to kneel with the wise men, to adore with Joseph, to hold you in our hearts with Mary. Let your church proclaim your glory and your love.

We pray for pastors and shepherds of your flock; for all who go out in mission, for all involved in outreach. May we reveal you as the Light to lighten all peoples.

Light who lightens all,

**Shine in our hearts.**

Lord, we remember with sadness the divisions of our world; a world not at peace where people are held hostage, are gravely injured and are made refugees. We remember places of war and violence, especially Ukraine and Russia, Israel and Gaza. Lord, may the nations come to know the peace which only you can give.

Light who lightens all,

**Shine in our hearts.**

Lord, we remember all who are lonely this Christmas; all who are troubled or sad, all who are unable to enter into the fullness of joy through sickness or bereavement. We pray for parents anxious about their children, and children are anxious about their parents. (*We read from the book and leave time for names to be added.*)

Light who lightens all,

**Shine in our hearts.**

Lord, we remember all who have entered into joy and peace in the glory of your kingdom. (*We read from the book and leave time for names to be added.*)

Light who lightens all,

**Shine in our hearts**

Lord, we pray in gratitude for all those things for which we are thankful (*We leave time to lift up thanksgivings.*) And for every good thing God has given us.

Light who lightens all,

**Shine in our hearts.**

May we all rejoice in your presence and your love.

Light who lightens all,

**shine in our hearts. Amen.**

### **The**

*Leader* The peace of the Lord be always with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

### **Announcements**

*Leader* Let us with gladness present the offerings and oblations of our life and labor to the Lord.

### **Hymn**

**Doxology Hymn 380, vs. 3** Praise God from whom all blessings flow

*Old 100th*

### **A Prayer of St. Chrysostom**

**Almighty God, you have given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplication to you; and you have promised through your well-beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name you will be in the midst of them: Fulfill now, O Lord, our desires and petitions as may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of your truth, and in the age to come life everlasting. Amen.**

*Leader* 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.**

## Closing Hymn

George Ratcliffe Woodward (1848-1934)

Harmony by Edward L. Stauff



1. Ding dong! Mer - ri - ly on high, in Heav'n the bells are ring - ing,  
2. E'en so here be - low, be - low, let stee - ple bells be swung - en,  
3. Pray ye du - ti - ful - ly, prime your ma - tin chime, ye rin - gers;



Ding dong! Ver - i - ly the sky is riv'n with an - gel sing - ing.  
And i - o, i - o, i - o, by priest and peo - ple sung - en.  
May ye beau - ti - ful - ly rime your eve - time song, ye sing - ers.



Glo - - - - -



- - - - - ri - a, Ho - san - nah in the high - est!

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## The Dismissal

*Leader* Let us bless the Lord.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

**Postlude** Organ improvisation

## Serving Today

*Worship Leader Today:* Tom Schindler

*Rector:* The Rev. Heidi Truax

*Music Director:* Christine Gevert

The Trinity Choir

*Readers:* Diane Walters, Marian Beers, Mary Anne Carley,  
Susanna Schindler, Mike Cuoco

*Altar Flowers:* Marian Beers

*Counter:* Bev Becker

*Greeter/Ushers:* Mike Cuoco and Bev Becker

*Verger:* Geoff Brown

## Announcements

- Dec. 26-Jan 2** Pastor Heidi is on vacation. Please contact Linda Lloyd, Sr. Warden in case of Pastoral emergency.
- Thurs., Jan. 4** 1:00 PM Bible Study resumes on Zoom
- Sunday, Jan. 7** 8 and 10:30 AM Celebration of the Epiphany  
12 Noon Vestry meeting
- Sunday, Jan. 21** 12 Noon—Annual Meeting with potluck lunch . Snow date is Jan. 28
- Sat., Jan. 27** 12 Noon—Misa en Español with Rev. Felix Rivera and Sin Fronteras

## Weekly Schedule

- Mondays** 6:30 PM Crescendo rehearsal in Walker Hall
- Tuesdays** 9:00 AM to 12 Noon Taichi Chuan with Christopher Kiely in Walker Hall
- Wednesdays** Services at Noble Horizons, Geer Nursing, Geer Lodge  
6:00 PM on first and last Wednesday of the month, Women's AA in Walker Hall
- Thursdays** 1:00 PM Bible Study
- Saturdays** 9:00 AM till Noon—Bookkeeper, Nancy Hiller is in the office every other Sat.

*Please remember that we are filming this service  
and wait to have private conversations until after you have left the nave.*

## Music Credits for Live Stream:

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## The Trinity Vestry

Linda Lloyd, Senior Warden  
M. E. Freeman, Treasurer Bev Becker, Clerk  
Marian Beers, Jim Conzo, Michael Cuoco  
Al Dorf, Theresa Kenny, Al Swide

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