

ST. CHRISTOPHER'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
ROSEVILLE, MN



Christmas
Year B
December 25, 2020

Welcome to Worship with St. Christopher's!

Wednesday service at 12:15 p.m. in the North Parking lot, in your car. 96.1 FM on the radio.

Next Sunday's readings: Isaiah 61:10—62:3; Psalm 147; Galatians 3:23-25, 4:4-7; John 1:1-18.
(Christmas 1, Year B)

Audio podcasts of sermons are available online at our website. Please click on WORSHIP, and then Sermons. Links to previous Sundays' recordings are on the same page.

Prelude

The Word of God

Celebrant: Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People: **And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

Collect for Purity

BCP p. 355

Said by all: **Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Gloria

Said by all:

**Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to God's people on earth.
Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.
Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:
receive our prayer.
For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Celebrant: 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, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The people sit.

The Lessons

A Reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah [9:2-7]

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness—on them light has shined. You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder. For the yoke of their burden, and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian. For all the boots of the tramping warriors and all the garments rolled in blood shall be burned as fuel for the fire. For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onward and forevermore. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 96

Sing to the Lord a new song; *

sing to the Lord, all the whole earth.

Sing to the Lord and bless his Name; *

proclaim the good news of his salvation from day to day.

Declare his glory among the nations *

and his wonders among all peoples.

For great is the Lord and greatly to be praised; *

he is more to be feared than all gods.

As for all the gods of the nations, they are but idols; *

but it is the Lord who made the heavens.

Oh, the majesty and magnificence of his presence! *

Oh, the power and the splendor of his sanctuary!

Ascribe to the Lord, you families of the peoples; *

ascribe to the Lord honor and power.

Ascribe to the Lord the honor due his Name; *

bring offerings and come into his courts.

Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness; *

let the whole earth tremble before him.

Tell it out among the nations: "The Lord is King! *

he has made the world so firm that it cannot be moved;

he will judge the peoples with equity."

Let the heavens rejoice, and let the earth be glad;

let the sea thunder and all that is in it; *

let the field be joyful and all that is therein.

**Then shall all the trees of the wood shout for joy
before the Lord when he comes, *
when he comes to judge the earth.
He will judge the world with righteousness *
and the peoples with his truth.**

A Reading from Paul's letter to Titus [2:11-14]

The grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all, training us to renounce impiety and worldly passions, and in the present age to live lives that are selfcontrolled, upright, and godly, while we wait for the blessed hope and the manifestation of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ. He it is who gave himself for us that he might redeem us from all iniquity and purify for himself a people of his own who are zealous for good deeds.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

The people stand.

The Gospel—Luke 2:1-20

Clergy: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

People: **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn. In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!" When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us." So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered

them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

Clergy: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

The people sit.

The Sermon

The Rev. Randy W. Johnson

The people stand.

The 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.
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.
He 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.**

The Prayers of the People

Form 3, Book of Common Prayer p. 387

Deacon or other leader

Father, we pray for your holy Catholic Church;

That we all may be one.

Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;

That your Name may be glorified by all people.

We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons;

That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.

We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;

That there may be justice and peace on the earth.

Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;

That our works may find favor in your sight.

Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;

That they may be delivered from their distress.

Give to the departed eternal rest;

Let light perpetual shine upon them.

We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;

May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.

Silence

The People may add their own petitions.

The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.

Almighty and eternal God, ruler of all things in heaven and earth: Mercifully accept the prayers of your people, and strengthen us to do your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

The Confession

The Celebrant says

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence may be kept.

Minister and People

Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved

you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.

The Absolution

Celebrant: Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

The people stand

The Peace

Celebrant: The peace of Christ be always with you.

People: **And also with you.**

The people sit.

Greetings & Announcements

The Holy Communion

The Great Thanksgiving

Eucharistic Prayer B, BCP p. 367

The people stand.

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 God thanks and praise.**

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

Because you gave Jesus Christ, your only Son, to be born for us; who, by the mighty power of the Holy Spirit, was made perfect Man of the flesh of the Virgin Mary his mother; so that we might be delivered from the bondage of sin, and receive power to become your children.

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

Celebrant and People

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

The Celebrant continues

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

Celebrant and People

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

The Celebrant continues

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with Christopher and all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

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. **Amen.**

Celebrant: And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

The Lord's Prayer

**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.**

Breaking of the Bread

[Alleluia.] Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
Therefore let us keep the feast. [Alleluia.]

The Invitation

Celebrant: The Gifts of God for the People of God.
and may add Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him
in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

Post Communion Prayer

**Almighty and everliving God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of
the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for
assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of your
Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, Father, send us out to do the work
you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord.
To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.**

The Blessing

Dismissal

The Deacon says the dismissal.
The People respond: **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude

Thursday Ministries

Readers: Mary Pendergrass
Don Shiek
Intercessor: Bill Hanna

Sunday Ministry (12/27)

Altar Guild: Kathy Ackerman

Faith Formation

Children's Sunday School Zoom at 9:30 AM Sundays.

Adult Formation/Video Coffee Hour Via Zoom at 8 AM Sundays.

Pledge Drive Update

Where does 2020 stand? Well, we are about 3% behind on pledge receipts at the end of November. Please be sure your 2020 Pledge is up to date. Because of Covid-19, we are behind in building income by about \$31,000.

For 2021, about 77% (90) of our pledges are in so far. They account for about 84% of the asked-for amount towards our 2021 budget. We are "short" about \$55,000. Please let us know what you intend for 2021.

E-Traveler Deadline is December 28th

If you have something you would like to submit for the January e-Traveler, the deadline is Monday, December 28.

ANNUAL MEETING NOTICE

Our 2020 Annual Meeting will be held virtually on January 24, 2021.

We expect to mail out copies of the Annual Report about one week before the meeting. Please watch for information about logging in for the meeting. It will be very similar to connecting for Adult Forum. **If you will be submitting a report** for the Annual Report Book, PLEASE have it in the office not later than **January 10th**. THANK YOU!

"Housekeeping"

Restrooms are available in the lower narthex, for acute need only.

Parish Prayer List

Please pray for our Members and Friends who are in Acute need:

Ebie Richards

Please pray for our Shut Ins and Members with ongoing needs:

Mary Barkley	Harold Danley	Barb Swanson
Jerry Baxter	Michael Elsen	Jean Swesey
Jean Brandt	Don Horton	Evelynne Thompson
Dan Brown	Ken Ives	Joe Westenfield
Dennis Buechler	Ebie Richards	Marliss Westenfield
Ruth Buechler	Mary Richards	Barb Wilkinson
Betty Carr	Marcia Rockwood	Roberta Williams
Pamela Case	Dave Stewart	

Please pray for our family and friends with ongoing needs:

Brian Hogan, Nora Bridges, Carol Haskin, Ruth Korpola, Allison & Beth, Barb & Roger Carsten, Dan B., Bonnie, Lois Purrington, Gretchen Glueck, Savannah Rausch, Jerry, Renee Forst, Jack Cork, Olivia McLoughlin, Elizabeth Bergum, Steve & Pam, Kirk Ingram, Amy, Marmie, Ann, Russ Amling, Sue Hitchcock, Jim VonDeLinde, Brenda Beard Conley, Conner Eischens, Merle Anderson, Jan Holte, Dave Waring, Sydney Eischens, Kit Corti, Russell Hitchcock, Nancy Kersten, Missy Peterson.

Pray for all who have died.

In the Anglican cycle of prayer, please pray for Christians in other denominations and the work of the ecumenical movement .

In the Episcopal Church in Minnesota Cycle of prayer, please pray for the Bishop, The Rt. Rev. Craig Loya; and the Missioners and Missional Support staff in ECMN; pray for the foundations that minister to children with special needs, especially for the work of the Sheltering Arms Foundation; and for all who work in child protection agencies throughout the state of Minnesota. Pray also for St. Stephen's faith communities in Edina and Paynesville; and St. John the Evangelist faith communities in Aitkin, Hallock, Mankato, Onigum, Red Lake, St. Cloud, St. Paul, and White Bear Lake.

Please pray for children caught in crisis at our borders, and around the world. Please pray for our neighbors who are refugees and immigrants. Please pray for the President and President-elect, and the Congress of the United States. Please pray for the victims of the Coronavirus, and for the caregivers and first responders who care for them. Please pray for world peace and justice for all people; and for those whose lives have been disrupted by recent marches and riots, storms and wildfires worldwide.

Please pray also for our enemies and for those who wish us harm.

In Thanksgiving: we give thanks for the Coronavirus Vaccines, and for friends and family apart from us this holiday season, staying safe to gather in the next season; and for the ministries of our members as they continue to live as the Church away from our building.

We remember those who celebrate Birthdays and Anniversaries this week:

29 Ebie Richards; 30 Sally Brown, Christopher Haack; 31 Jeanna McLoughlin; 2 Carol Ammermann



ST. CHRISTOPHER'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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**MEET CHRIST
BE CHRIST**

VESTRY:

Kathy Ackerman, Sr. Warden *Mike Sirany, Jr. Warden*
Allison Jensen, Clerk *Suzanne Hitchcock, Treasurer*

Barb Hovey, Tom Linder, Lisa Spiro — 2020
Erin Bowman, Josh Kattelman, Al Reedstrom — 2021
Ann DePaolis-Jones, Alexander Kun, Jeanna McLoughlin — 2022

STAFF

Ruth Thillen, Parish Administrator
Marion Hunner, Children's Ministries
Chad O'Leary, Youth Ministries Director
Karla Standridge Cole, Director of Music
The Rev. Randy W. Johnson, Rector

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The Right Reverend Craig Loya,
Bishop of Minnesota

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