

ST. GEORGE'S ON-THE-HILL ANGLICAN CHURCH

Epiphany Sunday

Sunday, January 4, 2026, 10:30am Holy Eucharist

Welcome & Announcements

THE GATHERING OF THE COMMUNITY

We gather with song and prayer as the People of God

Opening Hymn: #153 Good Christians All, Rejoice

PLEASE STAND

1. Good Christians all, rejoice with heart and soul and voice!
Listen now to what we say: Jesus Christ is born today;
Ox and ass before him bow and he is in the manger now!
Christ is born today; Christ is born today!
2. Good Christians all, rejoice with heart and soul and voice!
Hear the news of endless bliss: Jesus Christ was born for this;
He has opened heaven's door and we are blessed for evermore!
Christ was born for this; Christ was born for this.
3. Good Christians all, rejoice with heart and soul and voice!
Now you need not fear the grave; Jesus Christ was born to save:
Come at his most gracious call to find salvation, one and all!
Christ was born to save; Christ was born to save!

Welcome & Greeting

Presider: "Do I not fill heaven and earth?" says the Lord.

All: **Now the Word is made flesh and laid in a narrow manger.**

Presider: From eternity to eternity you are God,

All: **and now we see you as a newborn child.**

Presider: Grace, mercy and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

Gloria in Excelsis (Tune: *Iris*)

Glory be to God in heaven, peace on earth in all our days!

King and Lord, almighty Father, praise and blessing now we raise:

Gloria in excelsis Deo! Gloria in excelsis Deo!

Lamb of God, O Lord most holy, Jesus, take our sins away;

You are seated with the Father, hear our voices as we pray:

Gloria in excelsis Deo! Gloria in excelsis Deo!

Jesus, you are Lord and Saviour, you alone the Holy One,

With the Holy Spirit blessed and the Father on the throne.

Gloria in excelsis Deo! Gloria in excelsis Deo!

The Prayer of the Day

THE PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD OF GOD

We read and respond to God's message in scripture

PLEASE BE SEATED

First Reading: Isaiah 60:1-6

Read by Wendy Dimmock

A Reading from the Book of Isaiah.

Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you. For darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples; but the Lord will arise upon you, and his glory will appear over you. Nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn. Lift up your eyes and look around; they all gather together, they come to you; your sons shall come from far away, and your daughters shall be carried on their nurses' arms. Then you shall see and be radiant; your heart shall thrill and rejoice, because the abundance of the sea shall be brought to you, the wealth of the nations shall come to you. A multitude of camels shall cover you, the young camels of Midian and Ephah; all those from Sheba shall come. They shall bring gold and frankincense, and shall proclaim the praise of the Lord.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

(Please keep a period of silence for reflection)

Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14 (Tune: Mendelssohn - CP #138)

PLEASE REMAIN SEATED & JOIN IN SINGING

Give the king your justice, Lord; share it with your royal son.
May he justly rule your folk and give justice to th'oppressed.
May the land be prosperous; may the hills know righteousness;
May he be fair to the poor, help them but oppressors crush.
May he be fair to the poor, help them but oppressors crush.

May the rulers of far lands bring their gifts unto the king.
May all kings bow down to him; may the nations all serve him.
For he heeds the needy's call, helps the poor and helpless ones.
He takes pity on the weak and he saves the poor ones' lives.
He redeems from violence; precious is their blood to him.

Second Reading: Ephesians 3:1-12

Read by Mary Coppard

A Reading from the Letter of Paul to the Church in Ephesus.

This is the reason that I Paul am a prisoner for Christ Jesus for the sake of you Gentiles - for surely you have already heard of the commission of God's grace that was given me for you, and how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I wrote above in a few words, a reading of which will enable you to perceive my understanding of the mystery of Christ. In former generations this mystery was not made known to humankind, as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit: that is, the Gentiles have become fellow heirs, members of the same body, and sharers in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel. Of this gospel I have become a servant according to the gift of God's grace that was given me by the working of his power. Although I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given to me to bring to the Gentiles the news of the boundless riches of Christ, and to make everyone see what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God who created all things; so that through the church the wisdom of God in its rich variety might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. This was in accordance with the eternal purpose that he has carried out in Christ Jesus our Lord, in whom we have access to God in boldness and confidence through faith in him.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

(Please keep a period of silence for reflection)

Gospel Acclamation

PLEASE STAND

Cantor: Hal - le, hal - le - lu - - jah! Hal - le, ha - le lu - - jah!
People: Hal - le - lu - jah, ha - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu - - jah!
People: Hal - le - lu - jah, ha - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu - - jah! *repeat v.*

The Holy Gospel: Matthew 2:1-12

Reader: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Reader: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

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

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 Gospel of Christ.

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

Sermon: Rev'd Jess

(After the sermon, please keep a period of silence for reflection)

PLEASE STAND

Litany for the Season of Christmas

Led by Wendy Dimmock

*Please respond to the petition, "Holy God," with the response, "**hear our prayer.**"*

Leader: And now, gathering all our prayer into one, we pray as Jesus taught us:

All: **Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and for ever. Amen.**

The Peace

Presider: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: **And also with you.**

(We encourage you to share a sign of peace with those around you as you are comfortable.)

THE CELEBRATION OF THE EUCHARIST

We share God's banquet of love for this community of faith

Offertory Hymn: CP #143 Angels, from the Realms of Glory

PLEASE JOIN IN SINGING

1. Angels, from the realms of glory, wing your flight o'er all the earth;
You who sang creation's story, now proclaim Messiah's birth:
Come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ, the new-born king.
2. Shepherds in the field abiding, watching o'er your flocks by night,
God with us is now residing; yonder shines the infant Light:
Come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ, the new-born king.
3. Sages, leave your contemplations; brighter visions beam afar;
Seek the great desire of nations; you have seen his natal star:
Come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ, the new-born king.
4. Saints before the altar bending, watching long in hope and fear,
Suddenly the Lord, descending, in his temple shall appear:
Come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ, the new-born king.
5. Though an infant now we view him, he shall fill the eternal throne,
Gather all the nations to him; every knee shall then bow down:
Come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ, the new-born king.

Prayer over the Gifts

The Eucharistic Prayer

Presider: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Presider: Lift up your hearts.

People: **We lift them to the Lord.**

Presider: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

The Presiding Celebrant acclaims the life-giving power of God in the story of salvation and calls on us to join all creation in the song of the angels. We then sing verses 1-2 of the Sanctus as follows:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly.

Lord God of pow'r, Lord God of pow'r - and might

1. Hea - ven and earth are filled this night with glo - ry Ho-
 2. Bless - ed is he who comes this night in God's name: Ho-

san - na in the high - est, Ho - san - na in the high - est! Ho -
 san - na in the high - est, Ho - san - na in the high - est! Ho -

san - na in the high - est! Ho - - ly Lord!
 san - na in the high - est! Bless - ed are you!

The Presiding Celebrant recounts God's continuing love in the history of humanity and in the sending of his son, Jesus Christ.

We join Jesus as he celebrates his Last Supper and acclaim his giving of himself in the gifts of bread and wine. After the words over the cup and the elevation of the chalice, we sing:

People: (sing) **Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.**
Hosanna in the highest. Glory to you!

*The Presiding Celebrant calls on the Holy Spirit to bless and strengthen us, the Church, until we come to share the joys of heaven.
 We praise God's endless love, and at the elevation of the bread and cup, we sing:*

People: (sing) **Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.**
Hosanna in the highest. Amen!

The Breaking of the Bread

Presider: We break the bread of life, and that life is the light of the world.

All: **God here among us, light in the midst of us, bring us to light and life.**

Presider: The gifts of God for the people of God.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Song for the Breaking of the Bread

O Lamb of God, you take a - way, you take a - way the

sin - - - of the world, 1. Lord have
 2. Lord have
 3. Give us your

mer - cy, have mer - cy up - on us, Lord.
 mer - cy, have mer - cy up - on us, Lord.
 peace, O give us your peace, Lord.

*Music: Carl Orff
 Carmina Burana*

The Communion

PLEASE BE SEATED

*All who seek God in Christ are welcome to receive the sacrament of holy communion.
If you would prefer a blessing, simply fold your arms across your chest to indicate this.
Gluten-free wafers are available upon request.*

Music during Communion: Quem Pastores Laudavere

arr. J. Rutter

Prayer after Communion & Doxology

PLEASE STAND

Presider: Glory to God,

All: **whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine. Glory to God from generation to generation, in the Church and in Christ Jesus, for ever and ever. Amen.**

The Blessing

Closing Hymn: CP #148 See Amid the Winter's Snow

PLEASE JOIN IN SINGING

1. See amid the winter's snow, born for us on earth below,
See, the tender Lamb appears, promised from eternal years!
Hail, thou ever blessed morn! Hail, redemption's happy dawn!
Sing through all Jerusalem: Christ is born in Bethlehem.

2. Lo, within a manger lies he who built the starry skies,
Who enthroned in height sublime sits amid the cherubim. *Refrain.*

3. Say, ye holy shepherds, say what your joyful news today;
Wherefore have ye left your sheep on the lonely mountain steep? *Refrain.*

4. "As we watched at dead of night, lo, we saw a wondrous light;
Angels, singing 'Peace on earth' told us of the Saviour's birth." *Refrain.*

5. Sacred infant, all divine, what a mighty love was thine,
Thus to come from highest bliss down to such a world as this! *Refrain.*

Dismissal

Postlude: Personent Hodie

J. Rutter

("On this day earth shall ring")

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