

# HOLY INNOCENTS' EPISCOPAL CHURCH

SECOND SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS JANUARY 4, 2025 | 10:15 AM

# **Today**

8:00 AM: WORSHIP CHRIST CHAPEL

8:45 AM: DONUTS PROVIDED BY THE CHURCH BISHOP COMMONS

10:15 AM: WORSHIP NAVE

1:00 PM: SPANISH-SPEAKING WORSHIP NAVE 6:00 PM: CELTIC STYLE WORSHIP CHRIST CHAPEL

# Welcome

Holy Innocents is a place to gather as a faith community, where we sing and celebrate, think and talk, laugh and cry, and pray. Together we discover that we are all beloved children of God. With open minds and full hearts, we grow closer to God and to one another. We know we do not have all the answers. We are comfortable with the mystery of the Holy Spirit, alive and active in every person and in the world. Join us as we gather to worship God and serve our neighbors.

#### **Newcomers**

If this is your first time with us, we invite you to fill out a newcomer card in the pew rack or online and come by the welcome table near the front door and introduce yourself. No matter your age, gender, orientation, or political or sports team affiliation, you are welcome at communion. Our clergy are always available to answer any questions. We're so glad you're here.

## Giving

Jesus understood the power of gratitude and sharing all that God has gifted to us. Your generosity enables us to continue our programs to follow the way of Jesus and to love God by serving our neighbors. Use this QR code to give.



#### Childcare

We love children of all ages in worship. You may prefer to let our attentive professional Nursery staff care for your young ones under four years old. The nursery is available from 8:00 AM through 10:15 AM worship.

The people stand as they are able at the sound of the bell.

The liturgy is found in the red Book of Common Prayer.

Prelude | The Three Kings ARR. G. YOUNG

Hymn 119 | As With Gladness Men of Old DIX

# Opening Acclamation | BCP 355

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

And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever.

Amen.

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 | S278 MATHIAS



# The Collect of the Day

The Lord be with you.

## And also with you.

Let us pray. 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.** 

# The Word of God

# The First Lesson | Jeremiah 31:7-14

Thus says the Lord:

Sing aloud with gladness for Jacob, and raise shouts for the chief of the nations:

proclaim, give praise, and say,

"Save, O Lord, your people,

the remnant of Israel."

See, I am going to bring them from the land of the north, and gather them from the farthest parts of the earth,

among them the blind and the lame, those with child and those in labor, together;

a great company, they shall return here.

With weeping they shall come,

and with consolations I will lead them back,

I will let them walk by brooks of water,

in a straight path in which they shall not stumble;

for I have become a father to Israel,

and Ephraim is my firstborn.

Hear the word of the Lord, O nations,

and declare it in the coastlands far away;

say, "He who scattered Israel will gather him, and will keep him as a shepherd a flock."

For the Lord has ransomed Jacob,

and has redeemed him from hands too strong for him.

They shall come and sing aloud on the height of Zion, and they shall be radiant over the goodness of the Lord,

over the grain, the wine, and the oil,

and over the young of the flock and the herd;

The people are seated.

their life shall become like a watered garden, and they shall never languish again.

Then shall the young women rejoice in the dance, and the young men and the old shall be merry.

I will turn their mourning into joy,

I will comfort them, and give them gladness for sorrow.

I will give the priests their fill of fatness,

and my people shall be satisfied with my bounty,

says the Lord.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

# Psalm 84:1-8 | said responsively by half verse.

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.

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.

Happy are they who dwell in your house!

they will always be praising you.

Happy are the people whose strength is in you!

whose hearts are set on the pilgrims' way.

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.

They will climb from height to height,

and the God of gods will reveal himself in Zion.

Lord God of hosts, hear my prayer;

hearken, O God of Jacob.

Behold our defender, O God;

and look upon the face of your Anointed.

# The Second Lesson | 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.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Hymn 497 | How Bright Appears the Morning Star wir schön Leuchet

# The Gospel | Matthew 2:13-15,19-23

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew. **Glory to you, Lord Christ.** 

After the wise men had left, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, "Get up, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you; for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him." Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother by night, and went to Egypt, and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet, "Out of Egypt I have called my son."

When Herod died, an angel of the Lord suddenly appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt and said, "Get up, take the child and his mother, and go to the land of Israel, for those who were seeking the child's life are dead." Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother, and went to the land of Israel. But when he heard that Archelaus was ruling over Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there. And after being warned in a dream, he went away to the district of Galilee. There he made his home in a town called Nazareth, so that what had been spoken through the prophets might be fulfilled, "He will be called a Nazorean."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The people stand as able.

During the Gospel processional, children ages Pre-K through 5th grade are invited to follow the cross to attend Children's Chapel. The children will return during the peace.

The Gospel Procession reminds us that it is our responsibility to carry the Good News of Jesus Christ into all the world.

We stand, as we are able, to listen to this reading. Some will trace a cross with their thumb over their forehead, lips, and heart. This "enacted prayer" asks that the Gospel be inscribed in our minds, spoken with our lips and loved in our hearts.

The people are seated.

# The Sermon | The Rev. T. Stewart Lucas VICAR

The people stand as able.

## 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

Dwelling in the presence of the God who has made himself known among us, let us boldly pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

Drawn into the light of Christ, we pray for this parish of Holy Innocents. As the Magi followed the star, so lead us by your Spirit— that, having seen the light, we may bear it with courage and joy into the world.

Hear us, O God. Your mercy is great.

Drawn into the glory of creation, we pray for the earth and all that you have made. Sustain every living thing with clean water, fruitful land, and wise stewardship. Guide us to honor the gifts you entrust to us, that future generations may flourish.

Hear us, O God. Your mercy is great.

Drawn into the brightness of God's presence, we pray for the nations of the world. Where there is war or division, let your peace break forth; where people live in fear or oppression, reveal the justice and compassion of your reign.

Hear us, O God. Your mercy is great.

Drawn into the light of healing mercy, we pray for all who wait for healing and relief from suffering, especially those on our parish prayer list, and those we name now, either silently or aloud. Restore hope where it has grown dim, and make your presence known in every place of pain.

Hear us, O God. Your mercy is great.

Drawn into the dawning of a new way, we pray for reconciliation among peoples and within our own hearts. As the Magi returned home by another road, turn us from paths that harm and lead us toward lives shaped by forgiveness and love.

Hear us, O God. Your mercy is great.

Drawn into the promise of everlasting light, we pray for those who mourn and give thanks for all the saints who now rest in your radiant presence. Strengthen us to live as children of the light, until we join that great company in praise without end.

Hear us, O God. Your mercy is great.

Trusting in the God who has been revealed in Jesus Christ, we commend all for whom we pray to your mercy and care, through the power of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.** 

The people kneel or remain standing.

## **Confession of Sin**

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

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.

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 greet one another in the name of the Lord.

The people are seated.

The Peace | BCP 360

Welcome and Announcements

# The Holy Communion

# The Offertory

At the offertory, we gratefully offer back to God some of what God has given us, symbolically in the bread and wine, and in the money we give. An offering is received to support Holy Innocents' ministry of sharing God's love. All are invited to make a gift as the plate is passed or online with QR code on page one.

Anthem | The Shepherds' Farewell HECTOR BERLIOZ

The people stand as able.

# Presentation Hymn | OLD 100TH



# The Great Thanksgiving | Eucharistic Prayer B

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Almighty God, 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 perfectly human 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:

# Sanctus | MATHIAS



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 Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh. For in these last days you sent Jesus to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In Christ, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In Christ, 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 Savior 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 Jesus 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 many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, according to his command, O Father, We remember his death, We proclaim his resurrection, We await his coming in glory;

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Savior 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 in the sacrifice of Jesus Christ, through whom we are acceptable to you, 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 all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your children; through Jesus Christ our Savior, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

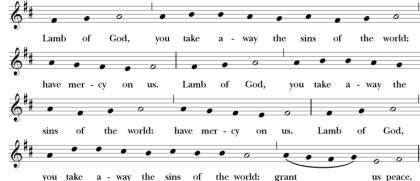
By Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, now and for ever. AMEN.

And now as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to 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, for ever and ever. Amen.

# The Breaking of the Bread

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us: Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

# Agnus Dei | S161 HURD



# **Invitation to Holy Communion**

All who seek God and a deeper life in Christ are welcome to receive Communion. Receive the bread in open and outstretched hands and respond by saying "Amen." Gluten-free wafers are available; please notify a minister. Receiving the bread is full participation in the Eucharist. Wine is also available. If you prefer to receive a blessing, rather than the Eucharist, indicate this by placing your hands across your chest. Those who wish to have Communion brought to them at their seat should notify an usher.

Hymn 117 | Brightest and Best of the Stars of the Morning

MORNING STAR

# Sending forth of Holy Communion

In the name of this congregation, I send you forth bearing these holy gifts to our friends, that they may share with us in the sacrament of our Savior Jesus Christ.

We who are many are One Body, because we all share one Bread, and one Cup.

The people stand as able.

# **Post Communion Prayer**

Let us pray.

Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

# The Blessing

Hymn 128 | We Three Kings THREE KINGS OF ORIENT

## The Dismissal

Let us go forth into the world, Rejoicing in the power of the Spirit. **Thanks be to God.** 

Postlude | Rigadoun ANDRE CAMPRA

# **HI-LIGHTS**

# Learn More | holyinnocents.org/events

## **CURIOUS ABOUT HOLY INNOCENTS?**

Whether you're new to the Episcopal Church, returning after time away, or simply ready to go deeper—we invite you to take the next step through our **Inquirers' Classes** for adults and **Confirmation Classes** for youth. These gatherings are a welcoming, nopressure way to explore our faith, our community, and what it means to belong. Classes will begin in early 2026, leading up to a special visit from the Rt. Rev. Rob Wright, Bishop of Atlanta, on May 31, 2026, when he will welcome and confirm new members. If you'd like to learn more or express interest, please **email** the Rev. Ruth Pattison (*rpattison@holyinnocents.org*) or the Rev. Stewart Lucas (*slucas@holyinnocents.org*). Parents interested in confirmation for their 9-12th graders should **email** Megan Atkinson (*matkinson@holyinnocents.org*).

## **ANNUAL MEETING** JANUARY 25, 9:00 AM

Join us in Inglett Hall for breakfast and fellowship as we review our ministry's finances, reflect on 2025's accomplishments, and embrace the vision for the year ahead. We'll elect vestry members and step forward together in faith and community.

## SANDWICH BUILD FOR CHURCH OF THE COMMON GROUND JAN. 25, 11:15 AM

We will be packing 125+ lunches for our unhoused brothers and sisters who attend Church of the Common Ground in Woodruff Park in downtown Atlanta. Please join us in Parish Hall after the 10:15 AM service to help make sandwiches and assemble lunch bags. An additional part of our outreach is to worship with the men and women of CCG at their 1:00 PM service in Woodruff Park.

Contact Robin Hickey (hickeys5040@gmail.com)

## WINTER WARM-UP: SONG & CELEBRATION JANUARY 30, 4:30 PM

Something wonderful is cooking at Holy Innocents! Join us for a cozy winter evening featuring some of our very own staff singers as they share favorite songs, along with the choir singing a few of our all-time favorite anthems. After the music, we'll move into a festive reception with food, fellowship, and celebration. Come celebrate the talent among us, enjoy good company, and shake away the winter blues!

## HABITAT FOR HUMANITY BUILD FEBUARY 7-MARCH 28

Holy Innocents, along with several local churches, is sponsoring Atlanta Habitat for Humanity's Faith Build. Adult parishioners and teens ages 16 and up are invited to take part in this meaningful work. Each Saturday, at least four members of Holy Innocents will have the opportunity to serve. No skills required, just the desire to help an Atlanta family buy a home at a very affordable price. Registration details coming soon.

## PARISH RETREAT REGISTRATION FEBUARY 13-15

Join us this February at Kanuga (Hendersonville, NC) for our parish retreat exploring the connection between body and soul, spirit, and daily life. Together we'll reflect on longing, authentic relationship, and the ways food, nature, and shared table fellowship reconnect us to God and one another.

Our retreat leader is the Rev. Mark Wastler—Episcopal priest, farmer, and founder of Chesapeake Watershed Ministries—who brings rich experience in spirituality, ecology, and the practice of food as sacred gift.

Cost: \$375 single room. • \$575 double room (two people)
Includes lodging, meals (Friday dinner–Sunday lunch), and all programming.
Learn more and register on the church website.

# **GROUPS**

## PRAYER SHAWL JANUARY 6, 7:00-8:30 PM

Join us in the Parlor on Tuesday, January 6, 7:00-8:30 PM. We knit and crochet shawls for those in need, but bring any project—needlepoint, cross-stitch, even mending—and enjoy fellowship while you work. **Contact** Cammie Ives (cammieives@gmail.com)

## YOUNG ADULTS: WINTER PARTY JANUARY 9, 6:00-9:00 PM

We're excited to invite you to a Winter Party at Rev. Stewart Lucas' home! Come as you are and join us for a cozy evening of delicious food, fun, and great conversation. Come hang out, get to know one another, and kick off the new year together!

Contact Megan Atkinson (matkinson@holyinnocents.org)

## MEN'S THIRD FRIDAY BREAKFAST JANUARY 16, 7:30-8:30 AM

Enjoy warm hospitality, engaging discussions, and a fresh breakfast in the Frost Youth Center. Come for the conversation and stay for the fellowship.

Contact Charles Crosby (charles@corepm.net)

## WOMEN OF HI: WINE AND WISDOM JANUARY 15, 6:00 PM

Wine and Wisdom: What Every Woman Should Know about Money and Planning Preparation empowers women in every season of life. The Women of HI and the Endowment Committee invite you to join us for an evening of wine, conversation, and practical wisdom. In the spirit of the late Betty Barstow, we will share some quips from the book "Being Dead is No Excuse" along with door prizes! We will welcome a trusted estate attorney to share what every woman should know about estate planning and financial security. While this is not a workshop, it will be a pain free way to learn what documents matter, what to have in place, and where to find essential information.

## MEN'S RETREAT APRIL 24-26, 2026

We are pleased to welcome Bill Harkins once again as retreat leader for the 2026 Men of Holy Innocents' Retreat at Lake Logan Episcopal Center in the mountains of North Carolina , where our theme will be "Arete, Faith, and a Rule of Life for Connection Among Men." Bill will serve as both facilitator and homilist, guiding us with the wisdom, depth, and grounded presence many of us have come to value over the years.

**Contact** John Harris (harris4338@gmail.com), Charles Crosby (charles@corepm.net)

# **BOOK CLUBS**

## BUCKET LIST BOOK CLUB JANUARY 6, 1:00 PM

This co-ed group is reading *Metamorphosis* by Franz Kafka. We'll meet at 1:00 PM in the Parlor room. All are welcome!

**Contact** Audrey Sumner (audreysum4833@gmail.com)

## MEN'S DINNER AND A BOOK JANUARY 13, 6:30 PM

The book is Devil in The White City by Erik Larson. John Cox is hosting. All men at H.I. are invited!

Contact Jeremy Webber (jhwwebber@gmail.com)

# **CHILDREN & YOUTH**

#### GLOW JANUARY 7. 6:00-7:00 PM

Kids (PreK–5th grade) are invited to join us for a faith-filled evening focused on God's love and the beauty of winter. We'll enjoy snow-themed games, activities, and a meaningful take-home project to help kids grow in faith. Wear your favorite winter or snow-themed outfit and get ready for some fun!

Adults and kids are invited to gather for dinner at 5:30 PM, then kids will head to the GLOW program from 6:00–7:00 PM. Parents are welcome to stay for wine and conversation while the kids are at GLOW. Friends are welcome!

### YOUTH GROUP JANUARY 11, 4:00-6:00 PM

Middle and highschoolers are invited to Youth Group on Sunday, January 11! We'll kick back with some good food and great company. We'll also play a hilarious game of human batteship! It's the perfect way to relax and reconnect after the holidays, bring a friend and come hang out!

## Connect

## Clergy

THE REV. DR. BILL MURRAY Rector | bmurray@holyinnocents.org

THE REV. T. STEWART LUCAS Vicar | slucas@holyinnocents.org

THE REV. RUTH PATTISON Associate Rector | rpattison@holyinnocents.org

THE REV. ANTONIO BRITO Associate for Hispanic Ministries

THE REV. JOHN PORTER Assisting Priest | jjporter10@gmail.com

THE REV. DR. STEFANIE TAYLOR Head Chaplain | stefanie.taylor@hies.org

THE REV. KC CREWDSON Middle School Chaplain | kc.crewdson@hies.org

THE REV. TREY DAVIS Lower School Chaplain | trey.davis@hies.org

#### Music

RANDALL ROMIG Interim Director of Music | music@holyinnocents.org

ALEXIS LUNDY Children's Choir Director | alexis.lundy@hies.org

## Children & Youth

MEGAN ATKINSON Director of Youth, Young Adults, and Families | matkinson@holyinnocents.org RENEE STEPHENS Director of Membership and Children's Ministry | rstephens@holyinnocents.org ALBERTA HAYES, SHERRIE THOMAS, CHLOE FOLTS Nursery Staff

## Administration & Support

CAROLINE FLEMING Parish Administrator | cfleming@holyinnocents.org

MELODY MCNEIL Executive Assistant for the Clergy | mmcneil@holyinnocents.org

CAMILLE WALLER Parish Accountant | accounting@holyinnocents.org

EMILY BADACOUR Director of Communications | ebadacour@holyinnocents.org

ISABELLY LUCIANO Sexton | SUSANA MUNEVAR Sunday Sexton

## Vestry

HAYLEY KELLY Senior Warden

JENNY PITTMAN CANTRELL Junior Warden

CAMMIE IVES Secretary

DOUG PETERSON Treasurer

DAVID STOCKERT Assistant Treasurer

MARC HOWARD Chancellor

Members

JOHN RASH JOHN CUMMINGS
KARLA SMITH ANNA MARIE FULBRIGHT
MARY KATHERINE WILLIS GREG EUSTON
RICK OTNESS MICHELLE VENTULET
TRICIA CARLSON

Youth Members

LUCY PETERSON ELLISON LOSIN

HOLY INNOCENTS' EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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