

HOLY INNOCENTS' EPISCOPAL CHURCH

*The* NATIVITY of OUR LORD  
CHRISTMAS EVE

*on the* TWENTY-FOUR DAY of DECEMBER  
*in the* YEAR of OUR LORD, TWO THOUSAND TWENTY-FIVE  
*at* SIX O'CLOCK & NINE O'CLOCK IN THE EVENING

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS DEO



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"



THE HOLY GOSPEL OF OUR LORD, JESUS CHRIST, ACCORDING TO SAINT LUKE

CHAPTER TWO, VERSE FIFTEEN



# Welcome Home for Christmas

*For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given;  
and the government shall be upon his shoulder:  
and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor,  
Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. – Isaiah 9:6*

We are so glad you are here to celebrate the birth of our Savior, Jesus Christ, with us this Christmas. We rejoice that God has drawn near to all humanity that we might find a better way of living and caring for one another. Whether this is your first visit or you've been part of this community for years, please know that you are deeply welcome here at Holy Innocents.

We are a community of faith that embraces everyone—wherever you are on your spiritual journey or your history with any denomination or faith. With full hearts and open minds, we strive to worship God, grow in faith, and connect deeply with one another.

Holy Innocents is more than a place of worship. We are a community where we gather to share our joys and burdens, support one another, and discover God's presence in our lives. We seek to follow Christ's way of living and caring for the world and each other. In addition to vibrant worship services, we offer a strong school, outreach ministries, and activities for children, youth, young adults, and those with more years of wisdom and experience. There is a place here for you.

We hope you'll join us again, whether on Sunday mornings at 8:00 AM or 10:15 AM, for our Spanish service at 1:00 PM, or for our Celtic service at 6:00 PM. You can also find us online at [holynnocents.org](http://holynnocents.org) or on social media (@hiecatl FB & IG). If you'd like to learn more about us, please fill out an information card from the pew rack or scan the QR code in this bulletin.



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. Gifts must be received by December 31 to receive a tax credit.

May the joy and hope of Christ's birth fill your heart this season and always. From all of us at Holy Innocents, Merry Christmas and God bless you!

With peace and joy,

The Rev. Dr. Bill Murray, Rector  
Holy Innocents' Episcopal Church

Our cover art is by Elise Thomason, a talented artist and new parishioner.  
We invite you to explore more of her work at [elisethomason.com](http://elisethomason.com).

## Prelude | STRING QUARTET

Bring a Torch, Jeanette, Isabella ARR. NICHOLAS PALMER

Away in a Manger

Wexford Carol

*The people stand to sing. The peoples' responses are in bold.*

## Hymn 83 | O Come, All Ye Faithful ADESTE FIDELES, ARR. SIR DAVID WILLCOCKS

1. O come, all ye faithful, Joyful and triumphant,  
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;  
Come and behold him born the King of Angels:  
O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!

2. God of God, Light of Light,  
Lo! He abhors not the Virgin's womb;  
Very God, begotten, not created:  
O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!

3. See how the shepherds,  
summoned to his cradle,  
leaving their flocks, draw nigh to gaze;  
we too will thither  
bend our joyful footsteps;  
O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!

4. Sing, choirs of angels, Sing in exultation,  
Sing, all ye citizens of heav'n above;  
Glory to God in the highest:  
O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!

5. Child, for us sinners poor and in the manger,  
fain we embrace thee, with love and awe;  
who would not love thee, loving us so dearly?  
O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!

6. Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning,  
Jesu, to thee be glory giv'n;  
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing:  
O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!

## Opening Acclamation

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light.

**For unto us a child is born, unto us a Son is given.**

His name will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,  
**the Everlasting Father, the Prince of Peace.**

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

**And blessed be God's kingdom, now and forever. Amen.**

## Gloria | Angels We Have Heard on High GLORIA

1 An - gels we have heard on high, sing - ing sweet - ly through the night,

and the moun-tains in re - ply ech - o - ing their brave de - light.

*Refrain*

Glo - - - - - ri - a

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

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

### Collect of the Day

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us pray. O God, you have caused this holy night to shine with the brightness of the true Light: Grant that we, who have known the mystery of that Light on earth, may also enjoy him perfectly in heaven; where with you and the Holy Spirit he lives and reigns, one God, in glory everlasting. **Amen.**

*The people may be seated.*



## The First Lesson | 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.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*The people remain seated.*

## Hymn 89 | It Came Upon a Midnight Clear CAROL

**1. It came upon the midnight clear,  
that glorious song of old,  
from angels bending near the earth  
to touch their harps of gold:  
'Peace on the earth, good will to men,  
from heaven's all-gracious King.'  
The world in solemn stillness lay  
to hear the angels sing.**

**2. For lo! the days are hastening on,  
by prophets seen of old,  
when with the ever-circling years  
shall come the time foretold,  
when peace shall over all the earth  
its ancient splendors fling,  
and all the world give back the song  
which now the angels sing.**

## The Second Lesson | Titus 2:11-14

For 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 self-controlled, 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.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*The people stand.*

## **Hymn 79** | O Little Town of Bethlehem ST. LOUIS, VV. 1, 2 BEFORE; 3 AFTER

**1. O little town of Bethlehem,  
how still we see thee lie!  
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep  
the silent stars go by;  
yet in thy dark streets shineth  
the everlasting Light;  
the hopes and fears of all the years  
are met in thee tonight.**

**2. For Christ is born of Mary;  
and gathered all above,  
while mortals sleep, the angels keep  
their watch of wondering love.**

**O morning stars, together  
proclaim the holy birth!  
and praises sing to God the King,  
and peace to men on earth.**

**3. How silently, how silently,  
the wondrous gift is given!  
So God imparts to human hearts  
the blessings of his heaven.  
No ear may hear his coming,  
but in this world of sin,  
where meek souls will receive him, still  
the dear Christ enters in.**

## **Gospel** | Luke 2:1-20

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

The Gospel of the Lord.  
**Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

*The people may be seated.*

## **The Sermon** | The Rev. Dr. Bill Murray RECTOR

## 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

Let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need.

That the peace proclaimed by angels takes root in every land torn by war and on every street marked by violence, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, hear our prayer.**

That the child born for us this night might find a warm welcome in our hearts as we open our lives to the homeless and the hungry, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, hear our prayer.**

That in this season of gift-giving we may become more attentive to the abandoned, the despairing, and all who mourn, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, hear our prayer.**

That the joy we share this holy night may bind us more deeply to one another in lives of faithful worship and loving service, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, hear our prayer.**

That the joy we share may bind the people of Holy Innocents' Episcopal Church more deeply to one another, and be a sign of hope for Sandy Springs and the world, let us pray to the Lord.  
**Lord, hear our prayer.**

That the blessed peace we celebrate this night may be fulfilled for all who have gone before us in faith, let us pray to the Lord.  
**Lord, hear our prayer.**

God of darkness and silence, you have pierced the stillness of this night by the speaking of your Word in our flesh. May our prayers of praise and petition echo the wonder of this holy night, so that all may come to the peace you promise in Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

## Confession of Sin | BCP 360

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 Peace

The peace of the Lord be always with you.  
**And also with you.**

*The people greet one another in the name of the Lord. The people are seated.*

## 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 with the QR code.*



## Offertory Anthem | Wonderful Peace NORDQUIST, ARR. DAVISON

Peace, peace, wonderful peace, peace to the world is given.  
Hushed are the angels, so still is the night;  
Then in the East shone a heavenly light.  
Join in the chorus, His praises sing!  
Glory to God, to the newly born King.  
Peace, peace, wonderful peace,  
Peace to the world is given.  
Peace, peace, bearer of peace,  
Men of good will receive Him.  
Holiest of nights, O most wondrous of days;  
Shepherds and kings lift their voices in praise.  
Join in the chorus, His praises sing!  
Glory to God, to the newly born King.  
Peace, peace, wonderful peace,  
Peace to the world is given.

*The people stand as able.*

## Presentation Hymn 100 | Joy to the World ANTIOCH

**1. Joy to the world, the Lord is come!**  
**Let earth receive her King!**  
**Let every heart prepare Him room,**  
**and heav'n and nature sing,**  
**and heav'n and nature sing,**  
**and heav'n, and heav'n and nature sing.**

**2. He rules the world with truth and grace,**  
**and makes the nations prove**  
**the glories of His righteousness**  
**and wonders of His love,**  
**and wonders of His love,**  
**and wonders, wonders of His love.**

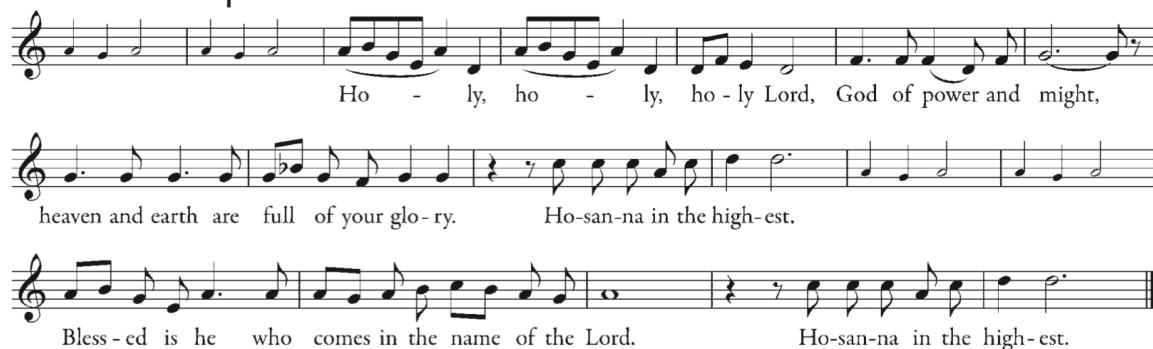
## The Great Thanksgiving | Eucharistic Prayer B

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 S128 | 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.

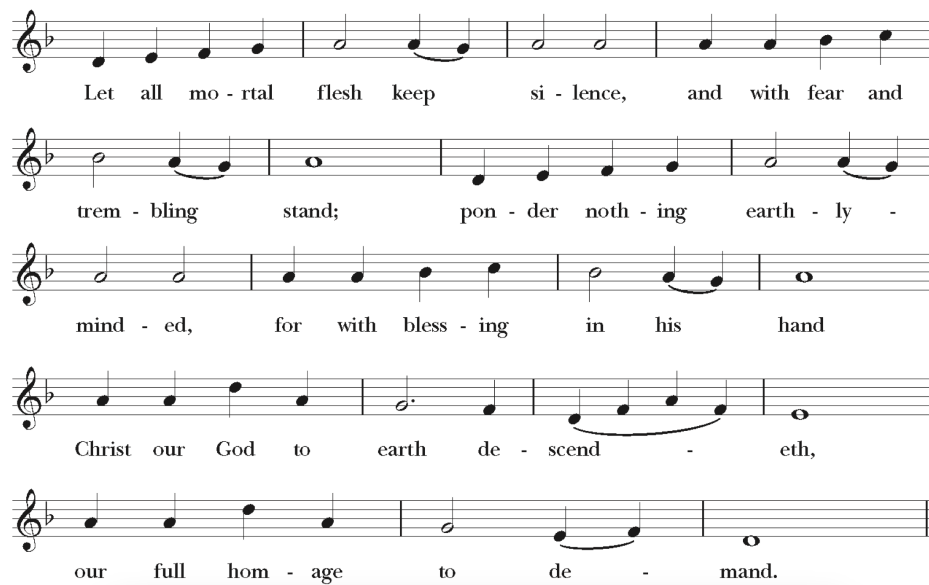
By Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, now and for ever. **AMEN.**

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.**

## Fraction Anthem | Let All Mortal Flesh PICARDY



## Invitation to Holy Communion

*All who seek God and a deeper life in Christ are welcome to receive Communion. Please move to the altar rail at the direction of the ushers. 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, indicate this by crossing your hands across your chest. Those who wish to have Communion brought to them at their seat should notify an usher.*

## Communion Anthem | Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming PRAETORIUS

**1. Lo, how a Rose e'er blooming  
From tender stem hath sprung!  
Of Jesse's lineage coming  
As men of old have sung.  
It came, a flower bright,  
Amid the cold of winter  
When half-spent was the night.**

**2. Isaiah 'twas foretold it,  
The Rose I have in mind:  
With Mary we behold it,  
The virgin mother kind.  
To show God's love aright  
She bore to men a Savior  
When half-spent was the night.**

## Communion Hymn 112 | In the Bleak Midwinter CRANHAM

**1. In the bleak midwinter,  
frosty wind made moan,  
earth stood hard as iron,  
water like a stone;  
snow had fallen, snow on snow,  
snow on snow,  
in the bleak midwinter,  
long ago.**

**2. Our God, heaven cannot hold him,  
nor earth sustain;  
heaven and earth shall flee away  
when he comes to reign:  
in the bleak midwinter  
a stable-place sufficed  
the Lord God incarnate,  
Jesus Christ.**

**3. Angels and archangels  
may have gathered there,  
cherubim and seraphim  
throngéd the air;  
but his mother only,  
in her maiden bliss,  
worshiped the belovéd  
with a kiss.**

**4. What can I give him,  
poor as I am?  
If I were a shepherd,  
I would bring a lamb;  
if I were a wise man,  
I would do my part;  
yet what I can I give him—  
give my heart.**

*The people kneel or remain seated.*

## **The 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.**

*Individual candles will now be lit. Ushers will collect candles at the door as you leave.*

## **Hymn 111 | Silent Night STILLE NACHT**

**1. Silent night, holy night,  
all is calm, all is bright  
round yon virgin, mother and child.  
Holy Infant so tender and mild,  
sleep in heavenly peace.  
Sleep in heavenly peace.**

**2. Silent night, holy night,  
Shepherds quake at the sight.  
Glories stream from heaven afar,  
Heav'nly hosts sing Alleluia;  
Christ the Savior is born  
Christ the Savior is born**

**3. Silent night, holy night,  
Son of God, love's pure light  
radiant beams from thy holy face,  
with the dawn of redeeming grace,  
Jesus, Lord, at thy birth.  
Jesus, Lord, at thy birth.**

## **Christmas Blessing**

May the joy of the angels,  
the eagerness of the shepherds,  
the perseverance of the wise men,  
the obedience of Joseph and Mary,  
and the peace of the Christ child  
be yours this Christmas;  
and the blessing of God Almighty,  
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,  
be among you and remain with you always.  
**Amen.**

*The people stand.*



## Hymn 87 | Hark! The Herald Angels Sing MENDELSSOHN

1. Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King."  
Peace on earth and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled:  
Joyful all ye nations rise, Join the triumph of the skies,  
With th'angelic host proclaim, Christ is born in Bethlehem.  
Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King."

2. Christ, by highest heav'n adored, Christ, the everlasting Lord,  
Late in time behold him come Offspring of a virgin's womb:  
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see, Hail th'incarnate Deity!  
Pleased as man with man to dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel.  
Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King."

3. Hail the heav'n-born Prince of Peace! Hail the Sun of Righteousness!  
Light and life to all he brings, Risen with healing in his wings;  
Mild he lays his glory by, Born that man no more may die,  
Born to raise the sons of earth, Born to give them second birth.  
Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King."

## Dismissal

Go in peace to proclaim the Good News.  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Christ the Savior is Born.  
**Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!**

## Postlude | In Dulci Jubilo, BWV 729 J. S. BACH

## WITH GRATITUDE TO OUR GUEST MUSICIANS

### String Quartet

Jacob Dakon, violin

Annalisa Chang, violin

Andrew Kang, viola

Bill Scruggs, cello

### Guest Organist

Sue Mitchell-Wallace

## FLOWER DONATIONS

**Will and Louie Cantrell**

*by Jenny Cantrell*

**The Clark, Hyser, and Fordonski Families**

*by Bill & Diane Clark*

**Buck and Mary Cliff Buchanan, MaryJo and Bill Gurley**

*by Bill & Janie Gurley*

**The HIEC Clergy**

*by Mike & Maggie Menkus*

**The HIEC 2026 Stewardship Committee**

*by Lindsey Parrish*

**Frankie & Jesse**

*by Lynne Eckman.*

**The Vestry, Clergy, and Staff**

*by Will & Hayley Kelly.*

**The Joy and Birth of Ray Anne Frances Walker**

*by Dave Stockert & Cammie Ives*

**The Incredible Woodworking Skills of Allen and Nancy Tiegreen**

*by The Holy Innocents' Flower Guild & Clergy*

**Family and Friends**

*by Curtis & Marilyn Kimball*

**Charlotte Shai Corbett Benitez**

*by Charles and Wendy Corbett*

**The HIEC Community/Family & Leaders**

*by Al & Carol Vacca*

**The Clergy of Holy Innocents**

*by Chris & Rosalyn Devine*

## IN THANKSGIVING FOR

**All Who Make Music and Bring Light at Holy Innocents**

*by Molly O'Wagner*

**Family and friends**

*by Van and Mary Katherine Willis*

**Susan Faulk; Jeannie, Jim, Sidney, and Madeline Roberts; Marie, Brian, Anna, and Will Thomas; Leigh, John, and Chip Cummings**

*by Dan Faulk*

**Avery, Payton, and Harris**

*by David & Karen Calhoun*

**With Deep and Heartfelt Thanksgiving for David**

*by Karen Calhoun*

**Holy Innocents' Parish and especially for our Grandchildren, Reese, Bryn, and Heath Foster, Virginia and Ansley King**

*by Margaret and Harry Boone*

**Our family, Connor, Sarah, and Stephen**

*by Paul and Madeline Hamill*

**Atley Mae and Julia Foster Alston**

*by John and Linda Foster*

**In Thanksgiving for the Priests, Staff, and Parishioners of Holy Innocents' Episcopal Church**

*by Paul Barton, Head of School, Board of Trustees, Faculty, Staff, and Students of Holy Innocents' Episcopal School*

## FLOWER DONATIONS

**J. Bart Miller**

*by Carol T. Miller*

**Don Hart and Grace Murtha**

*by Marlene Hart*

**Buck Kinsey**

*by his family*

**Betty and Harry Creekmuir**

*by Bill & Frances Creekmuir*

**Angie Cox**

*by John Cox*

**Towechi Ebere**

*by Esther Ebere*

**Larry**

*by Lynne Eckman*

**George Ernest Thomas and Eldo Ediger**

*by Scott & Lisa Ediger*

**Elsie Hroncich**

*by JT & Kris Hroncich*

**Lori and Papa**

*from the Kellys*

**Carl, Allison, and Greg Pirkle**

*by Anita Pirkle*

**Don Plunkett**

*by Joan Plunkett*

**Ms. Alice Thomas, mother, and**

**Ms. Marilyn Thomas, wife**

*by Pat Thomas*

**Diane Conrad Gleason**

*by Charles and Wendy Corbett*

**Carolyn O. & Percy C. Wingo, parents**

*by Charles Wingo*

## IN MEMORY OF

**Nancy and Ed Kerr**

*by Bonnie and Dan Connors*

**Sherry Kerr**

*by Bonnie and Dan Connors*

**Stephen and Brooke Stark**

*by Paul & Stacy Heerin*

**Helen & Sharman Dennard,**

**Lilla & Wamon Faulk**

*by Susan and Dan Faulk*

**My Memoe, Tama Powers**

*by Silas House*

**Maryruth and Mary Pfeiffer**

*by Christine Pfeiffer*

**Warren Reedy**

*by Kit Reedy*

**Claire & Vern Vines**

*by Julie Burroughs*

**Will and Louie Cantrell**

*by Jenny Cantrell*

**Robert Lee & Nelson Sumner**

*by Audrey Sumner*

**The Incredible Woodworking Skills of Allen and Nancy Tiegreen**

*by The Holy Innocents' Flower Guild & Clergy*

**Family and Friends**

*by Curtis & Marilyn Kimball*

**In Thanksgiving for the HIEC Community/Family and Leaders**

*by Al & Carol Vacca*

**All Who Make Music and Bring Light at Holy Innocents**

*by MollyO Wagner*

**Our Family**

*by Nora and Jen Hattauer*

**Fanny Suggs (Amanda Libbey's Mother and Church Musician)**

*by Amanda and Chris Libbey*

**My Children and Grandchildren**

*by Kit Reedy*



**J. Bart Miller**  
*by Carol T. Miller*

**John Hedrick, Mike Shortal, Donley Klein, and Steve Larkin**  
*by Bill & Diane Clark*

**Don Hart and Grace Murtha**  
*by Marlene Hart*

**Our Favorite Drummer, Jim Barton**  
*by Diane, Jack, and Josie Barton*

**My God-son, Peter de Lanoy Welles, Jr.**  
*by Sandra K Cummings*

**Jack Courtney**  
*by Marilyn Courtney*

**Melinda Newton Smith**  
*by Sally Newton Combs*

**Bobby, Ann and Tom Thompson**  
*by Pete & Debbie Vaky*

**My Memoe, Tama Powers**  
*by Silas House*

**Maryruth and Mary Pfeiffer**  
*by Christine Pfeiffer*

**Warren Reedy**  
*by Kit Reedy*

*This list was believed to be complete on December 17, 2025.  
If your name has been inadvertently omitted or improperly listed, please accept our sincere apologies.*



## HI-LIGHTS

Learn More | [holyinnocents.org/events](https://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, no-pressure 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](mailto:rpattison@holyinnocents.org)) or the Rev. Stewart Lucas ([slucas@holyinnocents.org](mailto:slucas@holyinnocents.org)). Parents interested in confirmation for their 9-12th graders should **email** Megan Atkinson ([matkinson@holyinnocents.org](mailto: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 *January 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](mailto:hickeys5040@gmail.com)) **Learn More** [churchofthecommonground.org](https://churchofthecommonground.org)

### 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!

### Parish Retreat Registration *February 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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:charles@corepm.net))

### Women of HI: Wine and Wisdom *January 15*

#### **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](mailto:harris4338@gmail.com)), Charles Crosby ([charles@corepm.net](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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 battleship! It's the perfect way to relax and reconnect after the holidays, bring a friend and come hang out!

To learn more about our ministries and ways to get involved,  
scan this QR code.



# Connect

## Clergy

**The Rev. Dr. Bill Murray** Rector | [bmurray@holyinnocents.org](mailto:bmurray@holyinnocents.org)  
**The Rev. T. Stewart Lucas** Vicar | [slucas@holyinnocents.org](mailto:slucas@holyinnocents.org)  
**The Rev. Ruth Pattison** Associate Rector | [rpattison@holyinnocents.org](mailto:rpattison@holyinnocents.org)  
**The Rev. Antonio Brito** Associate for Hispanic Ministries  
**The Rev. John Porter** Assisting Priest | [jjporter10@gmail.com](mailto:jjporter10@gmail.com)  
**The Rev. Dr. Stefanie Taylor** Head Chaplain | [stefanie.taylor@hies.org](mailto:stefanie.taylor@hies.org)  
**The Rev. KC Crewdson** Middle School Chaplain | [kc.crewdson@hies.org](mailto:kc.crewdson@hies.org)  
**The Rev. Trey Davis** Lower School Chaplain | [trey.davis@hies.org](mailto:trey.davis@hies.org)

## Music

**Randall Romig** Interim Director of Music | [music@holyinnocents.org](mailto:music@holyinnocents.org)  
**Alexis Lundy** Children's Choir Director | [alexis.lundy@hies.org](mailto:alexis.lundy@hies.org)

## Children & Youth

**Megan Atkinson** Director of Youth, Young Adults, and Family Ministry | [matkinson@holyinnocents.org](mailto:matkinson@holyinnocents.org)  
**Renee Stephens** Director of Membership and Children's Ministry | [rstephens@holyinnocents.org](mailto:rstephens@holyinnocents.org)  
**Kelsey Andries** Children's Ministry Intern  
**Alberta Hayes, Sherrie Thomas, Chloe Folts** Nursery Staff

## Administration & Support

**Caroline Fleming** Parish Administrator | [cfleming@holyinnocents.org](mailto:cfleming@holyinnocents.org)  
**Melody McNeil** Executive Assistant for the Clergy | [mmcneil@holyinnocents.org](mailto:mmcneil@holyinnocents.org)  
**Camille Waller** Parish Accountant | [accounting@holyinnocents.org](mailto:accounting@holyinnocents.org)  
**Emily Badacour** Director of Communications | [ebadacour@holyinnocents.org](mailto: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**  
**Karla Smith**  
**Mary Katherine Willis**  
**Rick Otness**  
**Tricia Carlson**

**John Cummings**  
**Anna Marie Fulbright**  
**Greg Euston**  
**Michelle Ventulett**

### Youth Members

**Lucy Peterson**

**Ellison Losin**