



MESSIAH EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Christmas Eve Family Crib Service with Carols

December 24th, 2025

4 pm Service

Holy Communion, Rite Two

Christmas Worship.

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.

Our theme for Christmastide comes to us from the Nicene Creed, which the Church has professed for almost two millennia. This year marks the 1700th Anniversary of the Council of Nicaea. The history of the Creed is fascinating. For example, St. Nicholas of Myra—yes Santa Claus! —was there. As was a priest named Arius, who promoted a new and more palatable version of the faith for former pagans, and the powerful in the Empire, to accept and co-opt. It was a Unitarian version of Christianity named after its inventor, and Arianism had spread quickly once Christianity was now legal under Constantine. Thankfully, this newly Christian Emperor called the Bishops of the Church together to shape and set boundaries for the Christian faith.

Our Christmas Services & Events

Christmas Eve, Wed, Dec. 24th: 4pm Family Service.

Contemporary & traditional music of the season, with Holy Communion. A Christmas Crib service: members of the congregation carry the creche figures to place near the altar. Silent Night sung by candlelight.

Christmas Day, Thurs, Dec. 25th: 10am Morning Service.

Contemporary and traditional music of the season, Holy Communion, and sermon by the Rector.

One Combined Service, Sun. Dec. 28th: I I am Lessons & Carols

Prayers, readings, and Christmas carols old & new trace salvation history. No sermon; Holy Communion will be celebrated.

Karen Christmas Celebration, Dec 28th: 12:30pm in the Undercroft

The whole Messiah community is invited to join Karen members for an afternoon of festive food, games and songs.

Sunday in Christmastide, Sun, Jan. 4th: 8:30am & I I am Holy Communion

On this last Sunday of Christmas, the Magi will arrive, with a festive Epiphany Coffeehour.

With every blessing,

Dave+



An Episcopal Church in the Anglican Communion

THE WORD OF GOD

Prelude *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel* Violin & Piano Duet

Please stand.

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

O Come All Ye Faithful Verses 1, 2, 3 and 6 **Hymnal #83**

OPENING ACCLAMATION **BCP p. 355**

Please turn in the Book of Common Prayer to p. #355.

Leader Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
All And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever.
Amen.

COLLECT FOR PURITY

Leader Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known...
...and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord.
All Amen.

HYMN OF PRAISE

Angels We Have Heard On High **Hymnal #96**

COLLECT FOR THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD **BCP p. 212**

Leader The Lord be with you.

All And also with you.

Leader Let us pray.

O God, you make us glad by the yearly festival of the birth...
...with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

All Amen.

Please be seated.

THE LESSONS **BCP p. 357**

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON (Isaiah 9:2-7) **Bible OT p. 638**

Please turn in your pew Bible to OT p. # 638.

After the reading:

Reader The word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

PSALTER: Psalm 96:1-13 (read responsively by whole verse) **BCP p. 725-726**

Please turn in the Book of Common Prayer to p. #725.

All stand.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Go Tell It On The Mountain (Refrain only) **Hymnal #99**

All sit.

CHRISTMAS CRIB SERVICE

Portions of the three primary Christmas Gospels are read, after each reading please stand to sing the Carol that follows while members of the congregation bring the crib figures forward. Please be seated.

A reading from Luke 2:1-7 Bible NT p. 58

In The Bleak Mid-Winter Hymnal #112

While we sing, the Mary, Joseph and Baby Jesus are brought forward and arranged at the Creche.

A reading from Luke 2:8-14 Bible NT p. 58

What Child Is This Hymnal #115

While we sing, the Shepherds are brought forward and arranged at the Creche.

A reading from Matthew 2:1-2, 9-11 Bible NT p. 2

We Three Kings Of Orient Are Hymnal #128

While we sing, the Wise Men are brought forward and arranged at the Creche.

Christmas Homily the Rev. Dave Langille

All stand.

THE NICENE CREED BCP p. 358

Please turn in the Book of Common Prayer, p. #358, as we profess our faith in the words of the Nicene Creed.

All We believe in one God...
... and the life of the world to come. Amen

Please kneel as you are able.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE: FORM V BCP p. 389

After every petition we respond, “**Lord, have mercy.**”.

CONFESSION BCP p. 360

All stand.

ABSOLUTION & PEACE BCP p. 360

Leader The peace of the Lord be always with you.
Maw Ywa, ata ghu ta poe, oh taw thu da kay.

All And also with you.
Maw oh taw, na thar da kay.

Please take a moment to share the sign of peace with those around you.

All sit.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

A greeting from our clergy to Messiah members and our guests; we’ll also share news for the Messiah community.

THE HOLY COMMUNION

OFFERTORY

Leader Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God. Ephesians 5:2

The bread and wine are brought forward and the offering is received.

OFFERTORY HYMN

O Holy Night

O Holy Night! The stars are brightly shining,
It is the night of our dear Saviours birth;
Long lay the world in sin and error pining,
'Til He appeared and the soul felt its worth.
A thrill of hope the weary world rejoices,
For yonder breaks a new and glorious morn;
Fall on your knees, Oh, hear the angels voices!
O night divine, O night when Christ was born!
O night, O holy night, O night divine!

Led by the light of faith serenely beaming,
With glowing hearts by His cradle we stand;
So led by light of a star sweetly gleaming,
Here came the wise men from Orient land.
The King of kings lay thus in lowly manger,
In all our trials born to be our Friend;
He knows our need,
To our weakness is no stranger.
Behold your King, before Him lowly bend!
Behold your King, before Him lowly bend!

Truly He taught us to love one another;
His law is love and His gospel is peace;
Chains shall He break, for the slave is our brother,
And in His name all oppression shall cease.
Sweet hymns of joy in grateful chorus raise we,
Let all within us praise His holy name;
Christ is the Lord,
Oh, praise His name forever!
His powr and glory evermore proclaim!
His powr and glory evermore proclaim!

All stand as offering is brought forward.

Leader All things come from you, O God.

All And from your own have we given you.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING: EUCHARISTIC PRAYER C BCP p. 369

Please turn in the Book of Common Prayer to p. # 369

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And al - so 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 him thanks and praise.

Leader God of all power, Ruler of the Universe, you are worthy...
... proclaim with them your glory, in their enduring hymn.

SANCTUS

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, Lord, God of power and might, —
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, Lord God of power and might —
hea - ven and earth are full, — full — of your glo - ry
Ho - san - na in the high - est Ho - san - na in the high - est.
Bless - ed is he who comes — in the name of the Lord. —
Ho - san - na in the high - est Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Setting: From Deutsche Messe, Franz Peter Schubert (1797-1828); arr. Richard Proulx (b. 1937)

Please kneel as you are able.

Leader And so, Father, we who have been redeemed by him, and...
...Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering now his work of redemption, and offering to you this sacrifice of thanksgiving.

All **We celebrate his death and resurrection,
as we await the day of his coming.**

Leader Lord God of our Fathers: God of Abraham, Isaac, and...
... gives honor, glory, and worship, from generation to generation. **AMEN**

THE LORD’S PRAYER

Leader And now as Jesus has taught us, we are bold to say:

Cantor Our Fa - ther, — *All;* Our Fa - ther, in hea - ven, hal - lowed
be, hal - lowed be your Name, your king - dom come, your will be done,
on earth as in hea - ven. Give us to - day our dai - ly — bread.
For - give — us our sins as we for - give, for - give — those,
those who sin a - gainst us. Save us from the time of —
trial, and de - liv - er us from e - vil. For the king - dom, the
power, and the glo - ry are yours, now and for - ev - er. A - - - men.

Music: Senzeni na (What have we done?), South African; set to words of Mass by Betty C. Pulkington (Freedom Mass); Used by permission.

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

BCP p. 364-366

Please turn in the Book of Common Prayer to p. #364.

Leader Alleluia, Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
All Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

Leader The gifts of God for the people of God. Take them in remembrance ...
... and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

All are invited to kneel in prayer at the Communion. The ushers will release you, one pew at a time, to kneel at the Altar Rail to receive Holy Communion. All baptized believers in Jesus are welcome to receive the Eucharist. A special note to visitors: If you are accustomed to receiving Holy Communion in your home Church, no matter what its denomination, you are also welcome to receive Holy Communion. After receiving the bread, one is free to receive the chalice. If you would prefer to receive the bread only, simply cross your arms in front of you. And, if you would prefer to receive a blessing only, please also signify by crossing your arms. Thank you.

COMMUNION MUSIC

Emmanuel (Hallowed Manger Ground)

1. What hope we hold this star-lit night: A King is born in
2. What fear we felt in the si-lent age, four-hun-dred years can

Beth-le - hem. Our jour-ney long, we seek the light that
He be found? But bro-ken by a ba - by's cry; Re -

leads to the hal - low-ed man - ger ground.
joice in the hal - low-ed man - ger ground.

Chorus
Em-man - u - el, Em-man - u - el, God in - car - nate
here to dwell. Em-man - u - el, Em-man - u - el,
Praise His name Em - man - u - el.

3. The Son of God, here, born to bleed; a crown of thorns would
pierce His brow. And we be-held this of-fer-ing, ex - alt-ed now, the
King of kings, Praise God for the hal - low-ed man - ger ground.

Coda
Praise His name Em - man - u - el.

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Hark The Herald Angels

Hymnal #87

Ushers will light candles, please share the light with your neighbor.

Congregation is invited to kneel.

Silent Night

Hymnal #111

၁. နာဘွန်ဘိုဉ်, နာစီဆွံ, ၂. နာဘွန်ဘိုဉ်, နာစီဆွံ,
ဘိုဉ်ခဲလၢာ်, ကပိလၢာ်, ကလးကနီ, ဖဲမုာ်နာစီ,
ဝ:တြးမိာ်ဒီးဖိစီဆွံ, လါကပိလၢာ်ဆဲးဖျါမုာ်ခိဉ်,
ဖိသုဉ်စီဆွံလၢအဲဉ်လၢကွဲ မုာ်ခိဉ်ဖိသးဝံဉ်အာလံလၢယၤ,
မံလၢမုာ်ခိဉ်ဘွန်ဘိုဉ်မုာ်. (၂ဘျီ) ခရုာ်ဟ့ၤအဲဉ်ခိဉ်တၢ်အိဉ်ဖျါ. (၂ဘျီ)

၃. နာဘွန်ဘိုဉ်, နာစီဆွံ,
ယွၤဖိခွါ, တၢ်အဲဉ်, ကပိလၢာ်,
မဲာ်စီဆွံကပြုဆဲးထီဉ်,
ဃုာ်ဒီးမုာ်ဆုဉ်, တၢ်ဃုာ်က့ၤအဘျုး,
ဖၢ်ယုဉ်ရှုးဖဲနအိဉ်ဖျါ. (၂ဘျီ) အာမုဉ်.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

BCP p. 365

Please turn in the Book of Common Prayer to p. #365.

Leader Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members
... with gladness and singleness of heart, through Christ our Lord.
All Amen.

THE BLESSING

BCP p. 366

The Celebrant offers a blessing to the people in the name of God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

All stand.

CLOSING HYMN

Joy To The World

Hymnal #100

Please turn in the hymnal to our closing Hymn, Hymn #100. Joy to the World

Please leave candles in baskets as you exit. Thank you.

THE DISMISSAL

BCP p. 366

Please turn in the Book of Common Prayer to p. #366.

Leader Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit.
All Thanks be to God.

Postlude



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