



St. John's Episcopal Church

THE FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS HOLY EUCHARIST RITE II DECEMBER 27, 2020 10:00 AM

Voluntary

The holly and the ivy

Herbert Sumsion

Entrance Hymn 83, vv. 1 & 3 (*Sung by the choir*)

O come, all ye faithful

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;

Refrain: O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him,
Christ the Lord.

Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation;
sing, all ye citizens of heaven above;
glory to God, glory in the highest, *Refrain*

The Opening Acclamation

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

People: **And blessed be his Kingdom, now and forever. Amen.**

The Collect for the First Sunday after Christmas

Priest: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Priest: Let us pray.

Almighty God, you have poured upon us the new light of your incarnate Word: Grant that this light, enkindled in our hearts, may shine forth in our lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The First Lesson Galatians 3:23-25; 4:4-7 (*Seated*)

Now before faith came, we were imprisoned and guarded under the law until faith would be revealed. Therefore the law was our disciplinarian until Christ came, so that we might be justified by faith. But now that faith has come, we are no longer subject to a disciplinarian. But when the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, in order to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as children. And because you are children, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into

our hearts, crying, “Abba! Father!” So you are no longer a slave but a child, and if a child then also an heir, through God.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Sequence Hymn 84 (*Standing*)

Love came down at Christmas

Love came down at Christmas, love all lovely, love divine;
love was born at Christmas: star and angels gave the sign.

Worship we the Godhead, love incarnate, love divine;
worship we our Jesus, but wherewith for sacred sign?

Love shall be our token; love be yours and love be mine;
love to God and neighbor, love for plea and gift and sign.

The Holy Gospel John 1:1-18 (*Standing*)

Deacon: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

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

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it. There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God. And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth. (John testified to him and cried out, “This was he of whom I said, ‘He who comes after me ranks ahead of me because he was before me.’”) From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. No one has ever seen God. It is God the only Son, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known.

Deacon: The Gospel of the Lord.

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

Children's Homily

The Sermon (*Seated*)

The Reverend C. Wallace Marsh

The Prayers of the People (*Kneeling or standing*)

Father, in this holy season your Son our Savior was born in human form.
Renew your Church as the body of Christ. Lord, in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

In this holy season Christians the world over are celebrating his birth.
Open our hearts that he may be born in us today. Lord, in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

In this holy season there was no room for your Son in the inn.
Protect with your love those who have no home and all who live in poverty. Lord, in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

In this holy season the angels sang “Peace to God’s people on earth.”
Strengthen those who work for peace and justice in all the world. Lord, in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

In this holy season strangers found the Holy Family and saw the baby lying in
the manger. Bless our homes and all whom we love. Lord, in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

In this holy season heaven is come down to earth, and earth is raised to heaven.
Keep in safety all those who have gone through death in the hope of heaven. Lord, in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

In this holy season angels and shepherds worshiped at the manger throne.
Receive the worship we offer in fellowship with Blessed Mary and all the saints.

Leader: Merciful Father,

People: **Accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.**

The Peace

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

People: **And also with you.**

Offertory

A stable lamp is lighted

David Hurd

We encourage you to place your offerings in the offertory plates at the exits of the church if you are worshipping with us in person. If you are worshipping with us online, you can text your gift by texting STJOHNS to 732-56. You can go to the St. John’s website and click on the Give Now button on the top-right of the homepage. You can mail your gift to the church office: St. John’s Episcopal Church, Attn: Finance Office, 211 N. Monroe St., Tallahassee, FL, 32301. If you bank online, set up St. John’s as a vendor with your bank for quick, easy, online payments.

The Great Thanksgiving-Eucharistic Prayer B

Priest: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Priest: Lift up your hearts.

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

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

People: **It is right to give him 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 the 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:

Holy, holy, holy

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.

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 many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me." Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

Priest and People:

**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 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 John and all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the first born 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.**

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, the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread

Priest: Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

All: **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

Invitation to Communion: *All baptized people are welcome to receive the consecrated bread of the Eucharist. Please come forward to the priest to receive. Please receive the bread (a wafer) in the palm of your hand. Please know that the Episcopal Church maintains that the full blessing of the Eucharist is available in only one element. Gluten-free wafers are available upon request. Those not receiving the bread are invited to receive a blessing, indicated by crossing your arms in front of your chest.*

Postcommunion Prayer *(Said by all, kneeling)*

Priest: Let us pray.

People: 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

Closing Hymn 100, vv.1-2 *(Standing)*

Joy to the world!

Joy to the world! the Lord is come: let earth receive her King;
let every heart prepare him room, and heaven and nature sing,
and heaven and nature sing, and heaven, and heaven and nature sing.

Joy to the world! the Savior reigns; let us our songs employ,
while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains, repeat the sounding joy,
repeat the sounding joy, repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

The Dismissal

Priest: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Voluntary

In dulci jubilo

Norman Dello Joio

Tower Bells

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