

Christmas Eve

Worship Aid for December 24th, 2024 at 4:00pm



Love God, Love People, Make Disciples

Nativity: an inclusive faith community, following the way of Jesus to nourish the body, mind, and spirit of the people of our south metro communities and beyond.



Merry Christmas!

You may reach the office at Nativity@NativityMN.org or 952-435-8687

Merry Christmas and welcome to Christmas at Nativity! We are so excited and blessed to have each one of you worship with us during this Christmas season as we tell the story of how light came into this world, of God's greatest gift, the birth that makes every birth holy, Jesus, the Christ. During these 12 days of Christmas, we worship through prayer, song, story, and at God's table. We welcome all of you and hope you feel God's spirit this holiday season.

Flower Donations

Thanks to those who have donated to our flower fund to beautify the sanctuary for the Christmas Season

Ruth Erickson <i>In memory of Robert Erickson</i>	Dana, Michael, and Nora Strande <i>In memory of Amara Strande</i>	Marilyn and Greg Schwartz <i>In thanksgiving for their family</i>	George and Carolyn Amer <i>In memory of their parents and brothers In thanksgiving for their family</i>
Bob and Barbara Hurwitz <i>In memory of their parents and grandparents</i>	Dennis and Christina Kopischke <i>In memory of their ancestors In thanksgiving for Nativity church</i>	Sandy Benolkin <i>In thanksgiving for her grandchildren</i>	Theresa May <i>In memory of Ed Kiolbasa and Neiel and Lois Duffy</i>
Linda and Bob Schissel <i>In thanksgiving for their family and health</i>	Marlene Hayman <i>In memory of Brian Hayman</i>	Francesca Carr <i>In memory of Canon Burgess Carr In thanksgiving for the Carr family</i>	Jamie and Tamera Loerzel <i>In memory of Terrence Beauchane and Fran and Phyllis Loerzel</i>
Ray and Mary Ellingrud <i>In thanksgiving for family</i>	John and Linda Flemming <i>In thanksgiving for their five grandchildren</i>	Linda Lange <i>In memory of Dan Lange</i>	Jennifer Strub and Daniel Finigan
Doug and Sally Maust <i>In thanksgiving for their family, friends, & Nativity Community</i>	Mary Feeney <i>In thanksgiving for Mary Hastings</i>	Dennis and Karen Borton <i>In thanksgiving for their family and friends</i>	Courtney Eddy <i>In memory of Nicole, Teddy, and David In thanksgiving for Nicolas and Addison</i>
Cathy and Adrian <i>In memory of Trent</i>		Mary McCarthy	

Nativity Episcopal Church Leadership
The Rev. Dana Fath Strande, Rector
The Rev. Kathleen K. Brusco, Assisting Priest
The Rev. Diane Luther, Deacon
Chloe Hrbacek, Parish Office Coordinator
Clayton Heidbreder, Music Minister
Charlotte McLendon, Organist

Tamera Loerzel, Senior Warden
Andrea Thermos, Junior Warden
Steve Grier, Treasurer

15601 Maple Island Road, Burnsville, MN 55306
nativitymn.org
952-435-8687
Office email: nativity@nativitymn.org

Liturgical Ministers
Lector: Tamer Loerzel
Prayer Leader:
Eucharistic Minister: Phyllis Rowley
Ushers:
Announcements: Tamera Loerzel
Tech: Paul Brusco
Next Week: December 29th

Lector	Mary Feeney
Prayer Leader	
Eucharistic Minister	Phyllis Rowley
Usher (x2)	
Announcements	
Tech	

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Presider: Rejoice, people of God! The light has come into the world.

Four candles are lit.

Presider: O God, now we light the candle of your nativity!

The Christ Candle is lit.

All: With the company of heaven and with sounds of great joy, you come to us. This is the time of light and resplendent joy.

Presider: The prophet Isaiah proclaimed a time when those who walked in the shadows would see a great light. A light would shine and a child would be born to us. The evangelist Luke painted the nativity sky and repeated the heavenly song of the angels, "Glory, peace on earth and goodwill!" John declared that this great light is Christ, the Word made flesh. This great light lives among us. By it we behold God's glory—full of grace and truth. At Christ's nativity, we now rejoice.

All: God, our Life and Light, thank you for coming this night to us. Thanks for touching all heaven and earth with your splendor. In every corner of the world, shine this night with your peace. In every corner of our hearts, shine this night with your grace. Amen.

OPENING HYMN

Joy to the World (Hymnal 100)

Found in your blue 1982 Hymnal books.

OPENING ACCLAMATION

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

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

Presider: 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.

All: Amen.

NATIVITY PAGEANT

Little Town of Bethlehem (Hymnal 79) and Away in a Manger (Hymnal 101)

HYMN OF PRAISE

Angels We Have Heard on High (Hymnal 96, Verse 1)

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

Presider: The Lord be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

Presider: 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.

All: **Amen.**

Please be seated.

THE HEBREW SCRIPTURES

Isaiah 9:2-7

Lector: The Word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

Antiphon:

- 1 Sing to the Lord a new song; *
sing to the Lord, all the whole earth.
- 2 Sing to the Lord and bless his Name; *
proclaim the good news of his salvation from day to day.
- 3 Declare his glory among the nations *
and his wonders among all peoples.
- 4 For great is the Lord and greatly to be praised; *
he is more to be feared than all gods. **Antiphon**
- 5 As for all the gods of the nations, they are but idols; *
but it is the Lord who made the heavens.
- 6 Oh, the majesty and magnificence of his presence! *
Oh, the power and the splendor of his sanctuary!
- 7 Ascribe to the Lord, you families of the peoples; *
ascribe to the Lord honor and power.
- 8 Ascribe to the Lord the honor due his Name; *
bring offerings and come into his courts. **Antiphon**
- 9 Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness; *
let the whole earth tremble be-fore him.
- 10 Tell it out among the nations: "The Lord is King! *
he has made the world so firm that it cannot be moved;
he will judge the peoples with equity." **Antiphon**
- 11 Let the heavens rejoice, and let the earth be glad;
let the sea thunder and all that is in it; *
let the field be joyful and all that is there-in.
- 12 Then shall all the trees of the wood shout for joy
before the Lord when he comes, *
when he comes to judge the earth.
- 13 He will judge the world with righteousness *
and the peoples with his truth. **Antiphon**

THE EPISTLE

Titus 2:11-14

Lector: The Word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Christmastime Alleluia

Sing twice.

Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia,

Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia!

THE GOSPEL

Luke 2:1-20

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

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

The Gospel is read.

Presider: The Gospel of the Lord.

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

Please be seated.

SERMON

The Rev. Diane Luther

NICENE CREED

Presider: Let us declare our faith in God.

Presider and All:

**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.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Deacon: As this day ends, so does our waiting. Blessed Savior Jesus Christ, we come to your worship with friend, family, and stranger to sing and speak your praise. Lead us to you, Jesus. Fill us with the wonder of your birth. Remind us to look to you every day that we live.

Leader: We pray for your Church, O Christ, that it may always follow you and show your glory to its people and to the world. Bless and keep our Presiding Bishop, Sean, and our own bishop, Craig. Pour your Spirit onto all of us at Nativity, that we will continue in the ministries that you have generously given us. Bless all who are part of Building Our Future and lead them in your love to fulfill your purpose. We pray from our hearts,

All: **Glory to God in the highest.**

Leader: We pray for leaders everywhere. Help them to see your wonder in the lands they rule and in the people they serve. We pray from our hearts,

All: **Glory to God in the highest.**

Leader: Make us glad and grateful for the beautiful earth you have given us. Let us see your loving intention all around us. We pray from our heart,

All: **Glory to God in the highest.**

Leader: Savior Jesus, comfort those who in this season of gladness are left alone, without family or friends, without means to celebrate your birth, without a home, without faith, and without hope. Let them know that you are always with and for them. We pray from our hearts,

All: **Glory to God in the highest.**

Leader: Bless and heal all who suffer in body, mind, or spirit. Strengthen those who care for those who suffer. This evening we especially name... Are there others?

The people may add their own petitions

Leader: We pray from our hearts,

All: **Glory to God in the highest.**

Leader: We pray for those whose life is ending...Be with them, O Savior. And we remember before you all who have died, especially...Are there others?

The people may add their own petitions.

Leader: We pray from our hearts,

All: **Glory to God in the highest.**

Deacon: These are the prayers from our hearts, Lord Jesus, that we set before you on this most holy night. Fill us with the joy of your birth. Hold us in its mystery. Guide us in our longing to live in your light.

All: **Amen.**

THE PEACE

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

All: **And also with you.**

OFFERTORY

The Presider invites the gifts of the congregation, with these or other words

Presider: Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God.

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

“Away in a Manger,” arr. Howard Helvey

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Presider: May God be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

Presider: Lift up your hearts.

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

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

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

Presider: God of all power, Source and sustainer of the Universe, you are worthy of glory and praise.

All: **Glory to you forever and ever.**

Presider: At your command, all things came to be: shining lights and enfolding dark: the vast expanse of interstellar space, galaxies, suns, and this fragile earth, our island home.

All: **By your will, they were created and have your being.**

Presider: From the primal elements, you brought forth the human race, and blessed us with the capacity for memory, reason, and skill. You made us the stewards of your creation. But we turned against you, and betrayed your trust: and we turned against one another.

All: **Have mercy, Lord, for we are sinners in your sight.**

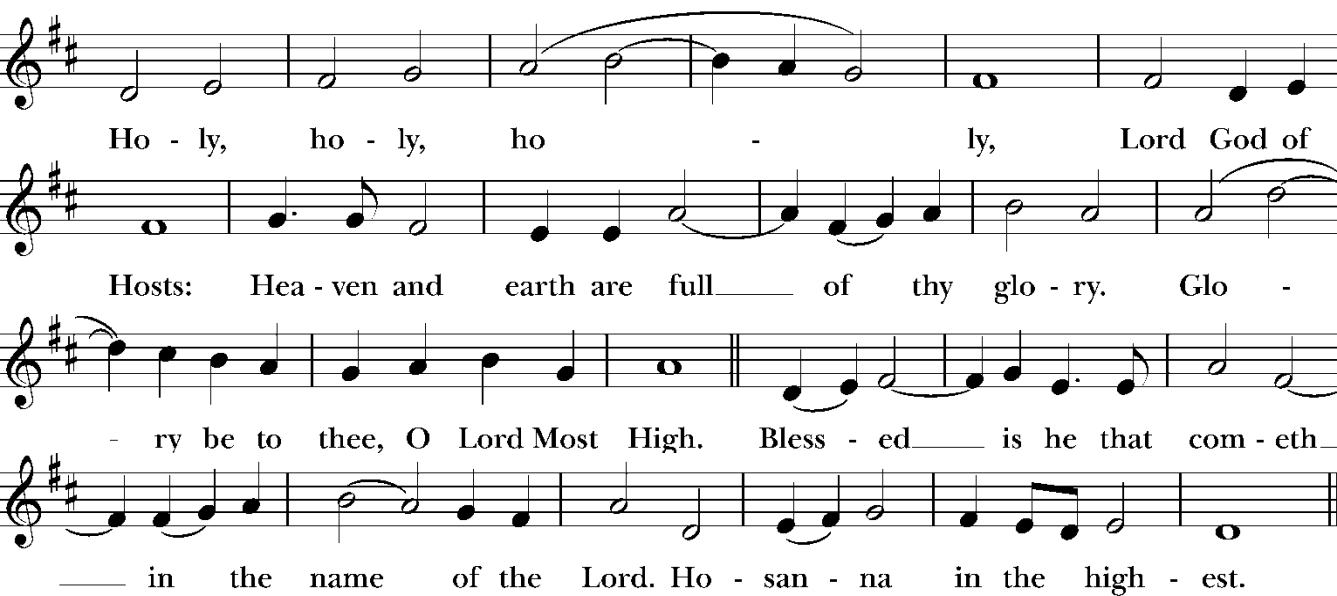
Presider: Again and again, you called us to return. Through prophets and sages, you revealed your righteous Law. And in the fullness of time you sent your eternal Word, born of your servant Mary, to fulfill your law, opening us for the way of freedom and peace.

All: **By his blood, he reconciled us. By his wounds, we are healed.**

Presider: And therefore we praise you, joining with the heavenly chorus, with prophets, martyrs, and with all those in every generation who have looked to you in hope, to proclaim with them your glory, in their unending hymn:

SANCTUS

Holy, Holy



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, Lord God of
Hosts: Hea - ven and earth are full of thy glo - ry. Glo -
ry be to thee, O Lord Most High. Bless - ed is he that com - eth
in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Presider: On the night he was betrayed Jesus took bread, said the blessing, broke the bread, and gave it to his friends, and said, “Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given up for you. Do this in remembrance of me.” After supper, Jesus took the cup of wine, gave thanks, and said, “Drink this, all of you; This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this in remembrance of me.”

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

All: **We celebrate Christ’s death and resurrection as we await the day of his coming.**

Presider: Therefore, O God, we who have been redeemed by Jesus Christ, and made a new people by water and the Spirit, now bring before you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ our Savior.

Presider: Sanctify us also, and let the grace of this Holy Communion make us one body, one spirit in Christ, that we may worthily serve the world in his name.

All: **Risen Lord, be known to us in the breaking of the Bread.**

Presider: God of our ancestors; Redeemer and Mother of Israel; God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ: open our eyes to see your hand at work in the world about us. Deliver us from the presumption of coming to this table for solace only and not for strength, for pardon only and not for renewal.

Accept these prayer and praises, Almighty God, through Jesus Christ our great High Priest, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, your Church gives honor, glory and worship, from generation to generation.

All: **AMEN.**

Presider: And now, as our Savior, Christ, has taught us, we are bold to say;

Presider and All:

**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,
forever and ever.
Amen.**

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

The Presider breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept.


Presider: Alleluia, Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

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

FRACTION ANTHEM

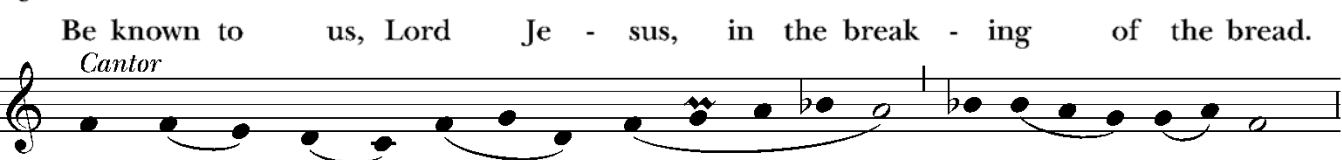
Be Known to Us

Antiphon: Cantor; then All

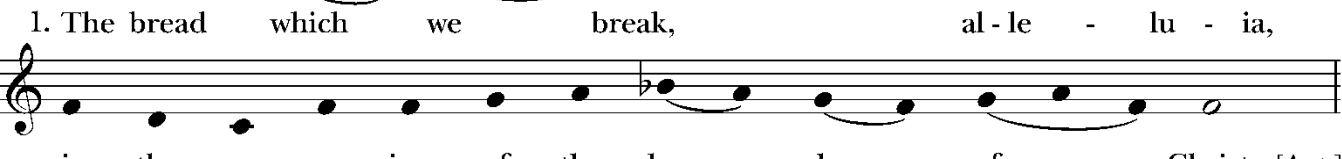


Be known to us, Lord Je - sus, in the break - ing of the bread.

Cantor

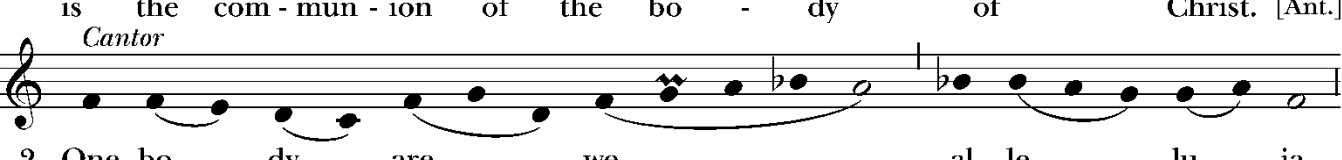


1. The bread which we break, al - le - lu - ia,

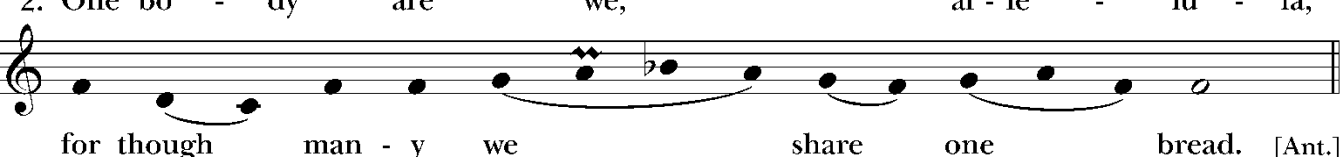


is the com - mun - ion of the bo - dy of Christ. [Ant.]

Cantor



2. One bo - dy are we, al - le - lu - ia,



for though man - y we share one bread. [Ant.]

INVITATION

Presider: So come to this table,
 you who have much faith
 and you who would like to have more;
 you who have been here often
 and you who have not been for a long time;
 you who have tried to follow Jesus,
 and you who have failed;
 Come. It is Christ who invites us to meet him here.

Presider: The Gifts of God for the people of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with Thanksgiving.

Please take a candle after getting communion before you return to your seat.

COMMUNION HYMN

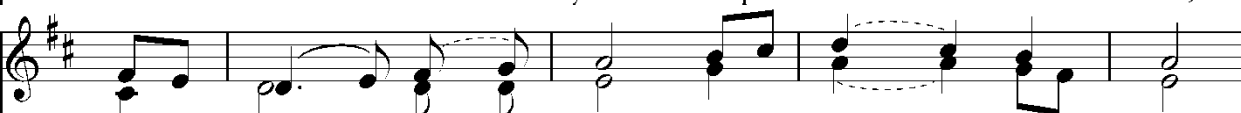
The First Noelle (Hymnal 109)



1 The first No - well the an - gel did say
2 They look - ed up and saw a star
3 And by the light of that same star
4 This star drew nigh to the north - west,
5 Then en - tered in those wise men three



1 was to cer - tain poor shep - herds in fields as they lay;
2 shin - ing in the east be - yond them far,
3 three wise men came from coun - try far;
4 o'er Beth - le - hem it took its rest,
5 full rev - erent - ly up - on their knee,

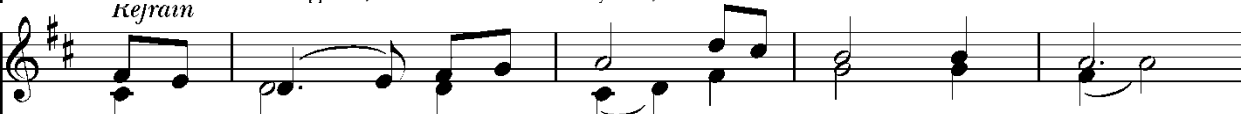


1 in fields as they lay, keep - ing their sheep,
2 and to the earth it gave great light,
3 to seek for a king was their in - tent,
4 and there it did both stop and stay
5 and of - fered there in his pres - ence



1 on a cold win - ter's night that was so deep.
2 and so it con - tin - ued both day and night.
3 and to fol - low the star wher - ev - er it went.
4 right o - ver the place where Je - sus lay.
5 their gold, and myrrh, and frank - in - cense.

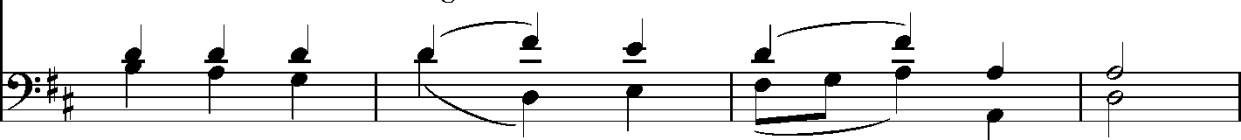
Refrain



No - well, No - well, No - well, No - well,



born is the King of Is - ra - el.



6 Then let us all with one accord
sing praises to our heavenly Lord;
that hath made heaven and earth of nought,
and with his blood our life hath bought.

Angels We Have Heard on High (Hymnal 96)



1 An - gels we have heard on high, sing - ing sweet - ly through the night,
2 Shep - herds, why this ju - bi - lee? Why these songs of hap - py cheer?
3 Come to Beth - le - hem and see him whose birth the an - gels sing;
4 See him in a man - ger laid whom the an - gels praise a - bove;



and the moun - tains in re - ply ech - o - ing their brave de - light.
What great bright - ness did you see? What glad tid - ings did you hear?
come, a - dore on bend - ed knee Christ, the Lord, the new - born King.
Ma - ry, Jo - seph, lend your aid, while we raise our hearts in love.

Refrain



Glo - - - - - ri - a



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



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

CHOIR ANTHEM

“Christmas Lullaby,” by John Rutter

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Presider: Let us pray.

Presider and All:

Eternal God, We thank you that in Christ you give yourself into our hands; may we who have tasted life proclaim the coming feast when many will come from East and West, from North and South to greet the Lord of all; we ask this in his name. Amen.

CLOSING HYMN

Silent Night (Hymnal 111)

Si - lent night, ho - ly night, all is calm,
Si - lent night, ho - ly night, shep - herds quake
Si - lent night, ho - ly night, Son of God,
all is bright round yon vir - gin mo - ther and child.
at the sight, glo - ries stream from hea - ven a - far,
love's pure light ra - diant beams from thy ho - ly face,
Ho - ly in - fant, so ten - der and mild, sleep in hea - ven - ly
heaven - ly hosts— sing al - le - lu - ia; Christ, the Sa - vior, is
with the dawn of re - deem - ing grace, Je - sus, Lord, at thy
peace. Sleep in hea - ven - ly peace.
born! Christ, the Sa - vior, is born!
birth. Je - sus, Lord, at thy birth.

BLESSING

Presider: May we who have been touched by the Word made flesh be his body for the world, his hands to bring blessing, his sense to glory, in the promise of creation restored; and the blessing of God the Creator, Jesus the Redeemer and the Holy Spirit our sustainer be with you this night and forever more.

All: **Amen**

DISMISSAL

Presider: Our worship has ended, our service now begins. Go in peace to love and serve the Lord and one another.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

WEEKLY AT NATIVITY

Community Café
5-6pm – Wednesdays

Bible Study
10:30am – Mondays

Handbell & Choir
5 & 6pm – Tuesdays

Adult Forum
9am – Sundays, See you in 2025!

UPCOMING
Office Closed
December 24th, 25th & 31st, January 1st

Feast of the Epiphany
During service, kings' cake to follow – Sunday, Jan. 5th

CPR/Defibrillator Training
11:45-1pm – Sunday, Jan. 5th

All Parish Meeting with Building Our Future Update
After service – Sunday, Jan. 12th

Parish Potluck
After Service – Sunday, Jan. 12th

Christmas Service Schedule

Tuesday, Dec. 24th, 4pm | Family Service with Christmas Pageant

Wednesday, Dec. 25th, 10:15am | Service with Music
In-person only

Sunday, Dec. 29th, 10:15am | Slipper, Robe, and Christmas Carols Sunday

Sunday, Jan. 5th, 10:15am | Epiphany Celebration

