

THE HOLY EUCHARIST

The Second Sunday after Christmas Day

Sunday, January 3, 2021 at 11am

Livestreamed worship available at [facebook.com/stpaulsnorwalk/videos](https://www.facebook.com/stpaulsnorwalk/videos).

St. Paul's on the Green | 60 East Avenue, Norwalk, Connecticut 06851

THE GATHERING RITE

Gathering Music *Puer nobis nascitur* by Pierre Dandrieu (1664-1733)

The Opening Acclamation

The people's responses are in bold.

Blessed be the one, holy, and living God.

Glory to God for ever and ever.

In the beginning was the Word; and we have seen God's glory, full of grace and truth.

—John 1:1,14

Opening Hymn



1. An - gels, from the realms of glo - ry, Wing your flight o'er
5. All cre - a - tion, join in prais - ing God, the Fa - ther,

1. all the earth; Ye who sang cre - a - tion's sto - ry,
5. Spir - it, Son, Ev - er - more your voic - es rais - ing,

1. Now pro - claim Mes - si - ah's birth: Come and wor - ship,
5. To the e - ter - nal Three - in - One: Come and wor - ship,

1-5. come and wor - ship, Wor - ship Christ, the new - born King.

words: verse 1 James Montgomery (1771-1854); verse 5 *Salisbury Hymn Book*, 1857
music: *Regent Square*, Henry T. Smart (1813-1879)

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 LITURGY OF THE WORD

The Lesson *Jeremiah 31:7-14*

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; 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.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

Thanks be to God.

The Response *sung by the choir*

Have you heard the story that they're telling 'bout Bethlehem,
Have you heard the story of the Jesus child?
How he came from heaven and was born in a manger bed?
Mary was his virgin mother pure and mild.

*Sing alleluia, brothers, sing alleluia, sisters,
worship the Jesus child and praise his mother mild.
"Glory to God on high!" the angel hosts above are singing:
listen to the story of the Jesus child.*

Have you heard the story of the poor humble shepherd men,
sitting on the hillside with their flocks at night?
Suddenly the angel tells them: "Hurry to Bethlehem;
go and find the Jesus child, the world's new light."

Jesus child, lying at Bethlehem,
sleeping safe at Mary's knee,
save my soul and bring me to paradise,
let me join the angels singing glory to thee.

Have you heard the story of the kings from the Orient,
following the star that's shining over his head?
Offering their precious gifts of gold, myrrh and frankincense,
kneeling with the ox and ass before his bed?

Sisters, let us celebrate the birth of the Jesus child,
brothers, come and welcome him, the new-born King;
praise the Lord who sent him down from heaven at Christmas time;
young and old and rich and poor, his praises sing.

words and music: John Rutter (b. 1945)

The Gospel *Luke 2:41-52*

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

Glory to you, O Christ.

The parents of Jesus went to Jerusalem every year for the festival of the Passover. And when he was twelve years old, they went up as usual for the festival. When the festival was ended and they started to return, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem, but his parents did not know it. Assuming that he was in the group of travelers, they went a day's journey. Then they started to look for him among their relatives and friends. When they did not find him, they returned to Jerusalem to search for him. After three days they found him in the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. And all who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers. When his parents saw him they were astonished; and his mother said to him, "Child, why have you treated us like this? Look, your father and I have been searching for you in great anxiety." He said to them, "Why were you searching for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?" But they did not understand what he said to them. Then he went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was obedient to them. His mother treasured all these things in her heart.

And Jesus increased in wisdom and in years, and in divine and human favor.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

The Sermon *The Rev. Louise Kalemkerian, Associate Priest*

A period of silent reflection follows the sermon.

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, She* is worshipped and glorified. She 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 Holy Spirit is the spirit of Wisdom, the feminine Sophia, and the Hebrew Scripture calls the Spirit "ruah," a feminine word, to describe the feminine aspect of the Godhead, the breath of God.*

***Here "catholic" means universal. It refers to the belief that the message of forgiveness and salvation through Jesus is a "universal" one that the Church proclaims to everyone, everywhere and always.*

The Prayers of the People

Please offer your own petitions silently or aloud during the silences, or via a Facebook comment. The intercessor says

God of wonder, in Bethlehem of Judea you became one of us. Startle us with your good news, and be born in our hearts, we pray.

Prince of Peace, you disarm the forces of violence. End all war and hatred, and unite every people and nation.

God of wonder, **be born in our hearts, we pray.**

Child of the stable, you appear among the poor and the excluded. Reveal yourself to us in the forgotten and the dismissed.

God of wonder, **be born in our hearts, we pray.**

Word made flesh, you sanctify our bodies with your presence. Teach us to treat the bodies of others and of ourselves with dignity and respect.

God of wonder, **be born in our hearts, we pray.**

Vulnerable Savior, you know what it is like to suffer and be in need. Attend to those who yearn for your healing, including those those we now name. *The People add their own prayers.*

God of wonder, **be born in our hearts, we pray.**

Delight of the angels, you travel the distance between heaven and earth. Bring all who have died to the glories of your eternal home. *The People add their own prayers.*

God of wonder, **be born in our hearts, we pray.**

The Celebrant continues

God of wonder, you arrive in our lives in ways we can neither anticipate nor fully understand: may we so marvel at the mystery of your Incarnation that we neither reject it without thinking nor accept it without being transformed. In the name of Jesus Christ, whose birth changes everything. **Amen.**

The Peace

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

Please share the peace wherever you are: with a comment posted on Facebook, a bow to those nearby, or some other distanced gesture of peace.

The Announcements *available at stpaulsnorwalk.org/sundaymorning*

GIVING TO ST. PAUL'S

Now more than ever, the work and mission of St. Paul's depend on the generous support of its friends and members.

Please consider making an offering to St. Paul's by credit card. Visit stpaulsnorwalk.org/givebycard, or use the QR code to the right.

For other means of giving, visit stpaulsnorwalk.org/donate.

Thank you for your generous support!



THE LITURGY OF THE TABLE

The Offertory

The Altar-Table is prepared with gifts of bread and wine for Communion. During this time, give thanks for all the ways God blesses you, and consider ways you can extend that blessing to others. Learn more ways to give on the previous page.

The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

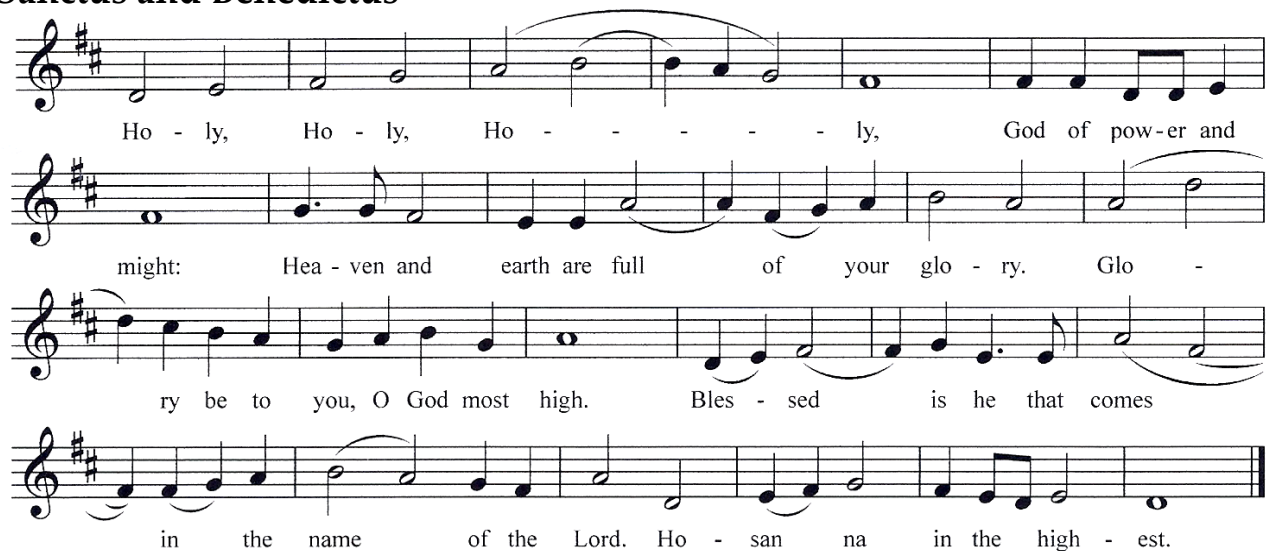
Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give God thanks and praise.

O Eternal Wisdom, we praise you and give you thanks, because you emptied yourself of power and became foolishness for our sake; for in this time you came among us as one of us, born into poverty and exile, to proclaim the good news to the poor, and to let the broken victims go free.

Therefore, we sing with the stars of heaven, with the angels, and with all those who have loved you throughout the ages, and we praise your name, singing:

Sanctus and Benedictus



Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - - - - ly, God of pow-er and
might: Hea - ven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Glo -
ry be to you, O God most high. Bles - sed is he that comes
in the name of the Lord. Ho - san na in the high - est.

setting: *Missa de Sancta Maria Magdalena*, Healey Willan (1880–1968)
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Blessed is our brother Jesus, bone of our bone and flesh of our flesh; who, on the night when he was delivered over to death, took bread, gave thanks, broke it, and said: "This is my body, which is for you. Do this to remember me."

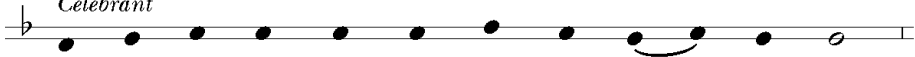
In the same way also the cup, after supper, saying: "This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, whenever you drink it, to remember me." Therefore, as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we are proclaiming the Lord's death until he comes.

Come now, Holy Spirit, embrace us with your comforting power. Brood over these bodily things, and make us one body in Christ. As Mary's "Yes" brought forth your Son, may Christ be ever born in us for the life of the world.

All this we pray in the risen life of the one who unites earth and heaven, your son, Jesus Christ, through whom, with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all power and glory are yours, now and for ever. **AMEN.**

The Lord's Prayer

Celebrant

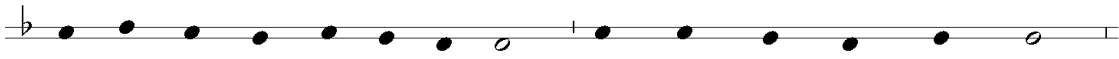


As our Sa - vior Christ has taught us, we now pray,

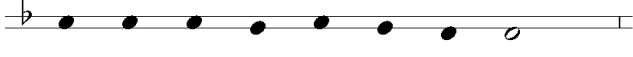
Celebrant and People



Our Fa - ther in hea - ven, hal - lowed be your Name,



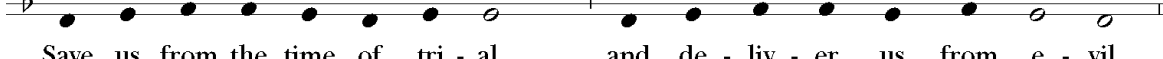
your king - dom come, your will be done, on earth as in hea - ven.



Give us to - day our dai - ly bread.



For - give us our sins as we for - give those who sin a - gainst us.



Save us from the time of tri - al, 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.

setting: *Ambrosian Chant*, adapt. Mason Martens
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The Communion

The Word became flesh;

and we have beheld God's glory. —John 1:14

Receive the one who comes among us; God comes to us, so that we might come to God.

Hymn at the Communion

1. Un - to us a boy is born! The King of all cre -
2. Cra - dled in a stall was he With sleep - y cows and
4. Now may Mar - y's son, who came So long a - go to
a - tion, Came he to a world for - lorn, The
ass - es; But the ver - y beasts could see That
love us, Lead us all with hearts a - flame Un -
Lord of ev - 'ry na - tion.
he the world sur - pass es.
to the joys a - bove us.

words: *Puer nobis nascitur*, Latin, 15th c.; tr. Percy Dearmer (1867-1936)

music: *Puer nobis nascitur*, *Piae Cantiones*, 1582

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After a period of silent reflection the people pray the following

We bless you, Creator of all, for in the Holy One of Bethlehem and in this holy meal you have visited your people, and in our humanity you have revealed the face of divinity. Gather into your arms all the peoples of the world, so that in your embrace we may find blessing, peace, and the fullness of our inheritance as your children. Amen.

THE SENDING RITE

The Blessing and Dismissal

May Christ, who by his Incarnation gathered into one things earthly and heavenly, fill you with his joy and peace; and the blessing of God Almighty, † the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Go forth with joy, glorifying and praising God for all you have heard and seen.
Thanks be to God.

Postlude *Gelobet seist du, Jesu Christ* by Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

THE WORSHIP IS OVER. THE SERVICE BEGINS.

[Click here](#) to join in small group conversation and catching up on Zoom!

St. Paul's on the Green
The Rev. Daniel Simons, *Priest-in-charge*
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