

# **ST. LUKE'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH**

## **Shawnee, Kansas**



Heaven Holds a Sense of Wonder. WIJK, Famke van. 2011 Spuilein opposite the Nieuwe Kerk Den Haag Netherlands. Photo by Roel Wijnants. [Flickr](#)

## **A SERVICE OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION**

### **THE FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS**

December 27, 2020

## The Opening Hymn

## *God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen The Hymnal 1983 #105*

1 God rest you merry gentlemen  
Let nothing you dismay  
Remember Christ our Saviour  
Was born on Christmas Day  
To save us all from Satan's power when  
we were gone astray. *[Refrain]*

2 From God our heavenly Father  
A blessed angel came  
And unto certain shepherds  
Brought tidings of the same:  
How that in Bethlehem was born  
The Son of God by name *[Refrain]*

4 Now to the Lord sing praises, all  
you within this place, and with true  
love and charity each other now  
embrace; this holy tide of  
Christmas doth bring redeeming  
grace. *[Refrain]*

Refrain  
O tidings of comfort and joy  
Comfort and joy  
O tidings of comfort and joy

3 "Fear not, then," said the angel  
"Let nothing you affright  
This day is born a Savior  
Of a pure virgin bright,  
To free all those who trust in Him  
From Satan's power and might." *[Refrain]*

CCLI Song # 39441

Unknown © Words: London carol, 18<sup>th</sup> cent. Public Domain  
Music: Public Domain *God rest you merry*, melody from *Little Book of Christmas carols*, ca. 1850 For use solely with the  
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## THE WORD OF GOD

### The Opening Acclamation

*Celebrant* Blessed be God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

*People* ***And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.***

### The Collect for Purity

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. ***Amen.***

*Said all together*

**Glory to God in the highest,  
and peace to his people on earth.**

**Lord God, heavenly King,  
almighty God and Father,  
we worship you, we give you thanks,  
we praise you for your glory.**

**Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,  
Lord God, Lamb of God,  
you take away the sin of the world:  
    have mercy on us;  
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:  
    receive our prayer.  
For you alone are the Holy One,  
you alone are the Lord,  
you alone are the Most High,  
    Jesus Christ,  
    With the Holy Spirit,  
        in the glory of God the Father. *Amen.***

### **Collect of the Day**

*Celebrant*      The Lord be with you.

*People*          ***And also with you.***

*Celebrant*      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 LESSONS**

**The Old Testament      Isaiah 61 : 10 - 62:3**

I will greatly rejoice in the LORD,  
    my whole being shall exult in my God;  
for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation,  
    he has covered me with the robe of righteousness,  
as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland,  
    and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.  
For as the earth brings forth its shoots,  
    and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up,  
so the Lord GOD will cause righteousness and praise  
    to spring up before all the nations.  
For Zion's sake I will not keep silent,  
    and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest,  
until her vindication shines out like the dawn,  
    and her salvation like a burning torch.

The nations shall see your vindication,  
and all the kings your glory;  
and you shall be called by a new name  
that the mouth of the LORD will give.  
You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the LORD,  
and a royal diadem in the hand of your God.

*Reader*            The Word of the Lord.  
*People*            ***Thanks be to God.***

**The Psalm            Psalm 147 : 13-21**

- 13 Worship the LORD, O Jerusalem; \*  
praise your God, O Zion;**
- 14 For he has strengthened the bars of your gates; \*  
he has blessed your children within you.**
- 15 He has established peace on your borders; \*  
he satisfies you with the finest wheat.**
- 16 He sends out his command to the earth, \*  
and his word runs very swiftly.**
- 17 He gives snow like wool; \*  
he scatters hoarfrost like ashes.**
- 18 He scatters his hail like bread crumbs; \*  
who can stand against his cold?**
- 19 He sends forth his word and melts them; \*  
he blows with his wind, and the waters flow.**
- 20 He declares his word to Jacob, \*  
his statutes and his judgments to Israel.**
- 21 He has not done so to any other nation; \*  
to them he has not revealed his judgments.  
Hallelujah!**

**Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.**

**The Epistle Galatians 3 : 23-25; 4:4-7**

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.***

### **Gospel Anthem**

*Good Christian Friends Rejoice*

#### **Verse 1**

Good Christian friends rejoice  
With heart and soul and voice  
Give ye heed to what we say  
Jesus Christ was born today  
Ox and ass before him bow  
And he is in the manger now  
Christ is born today  
Christ is born today

#### **Verse 2**

Good Christian friends rejoice  
With heart and soul and voice  
Now ye hear of endless bliss  
Jesus Christ was born for this  
He has opened heaven's door  
And we are blest forevermore  
Christ was born for this  
Christ was born for this

#### **Verse 3**

Good Christian friends rejoice  
With heart and soul and voice  
Now ye need not fear the grave  
Jesus Christ was born to save  
Calls you one and calls you all  
To gain his everlasting hall  
Christ was born to save  
Christ was born to save

CCLI Song # 7140775

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### **The Gospel      John 1 : 1-18**

*Priest*            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.

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

**Sermon**                **The Reverend Jonathan Brice**



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*Nativity.* Duccio di Buoninsegna. [Wikimedia](#)

## **The Nicene Creed**

*All stand and say together.*

**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 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

December 27, 2020

### The First Sunday after Christmas

*Brothers and sisters in the faith, God has called us into the family of the church. In the Spirit of Christ, we call out “Abba, Father,” asking our creator to hear the prayers we offer, saying: Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**”*

Let us pray for the human family:

Eternal Father, you entrusted to Mary and Joseph the life of your child, Jesus. Strengthen all parents and children in the bonds of love, peace, and faith. Lord in your mercy: **hear our prayer.**

Let us pray for the household of the church:

Creator of life, make your church a fruitful vine to all who are reborn in the living waters of baptism. May we find ourselves continually nourished and refreshed at the table of Christ’s body and blood. Lord in your mercy: **hear our prayer.**

Let us pray for those who suffer:

Consoler of the afflicted, sustain the homeless and the abandoned. Protect the widow, the widower, the orphan. Comfort those who mourn the dead. Lord in your mercy: **hear our prayer.**

Let us pray for the families of this community:

God of love, like a mother you nourish us with your grace. Quicken in us the see of Christ’s word, that we might reveal his life to the whole human family. Lord in your mercy: **hear our prayer.**

#### **In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer:**

Pray for Full Communion Partner, the Mar Thoma Syrian Church of Malabar, India

#### **In the World Council of Churches Cycle of Prayer:**

Pray for the people of Ghana and Nigeria

#### **In the Kansas Cycle of Prayer:**

Pray for Calvary, Yates Center

Lord in your mercy: **hear our prayer.**

**For Those Serving in the Armed Forces:** Devon Allen; Murphy Bright; Ben Dible; Coy Goodman; Michael Green; Harvey Hayselden; Drew Hunnicutt; Benjamin

Karpinski; Patrick McAnerney; Alex Shaw; Jose Te'o; Brian Michael; Collin Kelly; Macauley Garton; Frank Bednar; Grant Bednar

Lord in your mercy: **hear our prayer.**

**For Health & Strength:** the family of Wayne White; Annie Bax; Craig Knabel; Candace Harvey; Rose Youngs; The Family of Keala Kauanui; the Family of Steve Osborne; Jeanne and Bruce Miller;; Karen Mitchell; Frankie Woodman; Jerome; Christy and Family; Jim, Danny and Michelle; John Howell; Dixie Moss; Doug and Arlene Finney; Judy Ball; Charlene Lassiter; Charlie Luetje ; Barbara Alexander; Janet Kay; Dakota and Cyd Pfeiffer; Mililani Hayselden; Courtney Canova; Curtis Smith; James Johann; Maxine Liebst; Elizabeth Appleyard; Adam Griest; Roger Aton; Craig & Jeanette Burris; Anthony Straker; Jack Harris; "Spike" Speicher; the Hoffmann family, especially John Hoffman; Florence Kirkland; Michael Siragusa; Jeanne McDowell; Ken Hoag; Matt Hunnicut; Joanne Diviney; Geraldine; Richard Mann; Don Hoffman; Ginger Waters; Maxine Jones; Jonell Knodel; Athyana McElwee; Lana Rae, Evan Higgins; Homer Nash; Kristy Maendele; Deb Callaway, Jim Darnell, Stephanie Robertson and family; Budd Hughes;

Lord in your mercy: **hear our prayer.**

**For Birthdays:** Jessie Rohrer; Candi Phillips; Scott Goodman; Mac McCallum;

Lord in your mercy: **hear our prayer.**

**For Anniversaries:** Steve and Terrell Mann

Lord in your mercy: **hear our prayer.**

*Gracious God, may your favor and blessing rest upon the family which you have gathered in the name of your child Jesus. Accept the prayers we offer in his name. So may your love embrace us, now and forever. Amen.*

### **Birthday Prayer**

Watch over your children, O Lord, as their days increase; bless and guide them wherever they may be. Strengthen them when they stand; comfort them when discouraged or sorrowful; raise them up if they fall; and in their hearts may your peace which passes understanding abide all the days of their lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

### **Anniversary Prayer**

O gracious and ever living God, look mercifully upon this couple who come to you seeking your blessing on this their anniversary, continue assisting them with your grace, that with true fidelity and steadfast love they may honor and keep the promises and vows they have made; through Jesus Christ our Savior. **Amen.**

### **The Confession of Sin**

*Priest* Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Priest and People*

**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.**

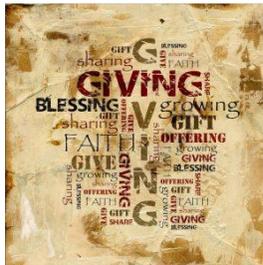
*Priest*

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 Exchange of Peace**

*Celebrant* The peace of the Lord be always with you.

*People* **And also with you.**



### **The Offertory Sentence**

*Celebrant*

Let us with gladness present the offerings and oblations of our life and labor to the Lord.

### **Offertory Anthem**

#### **Verse 1**

The snow lay on the ground the stars shown bright  
When Christ our Lord was born on Christmas night  
Venite adoremus Dominum (4X)

#### **Verse 3**

She laid him in a stall at Bethlehem  
The cattle lowing shared the roof with them  
Venite adoremus Dominum (2X)

#### **Ending**

The snow lay on the ground  
The snow lay on the ground

### *The Snow Lay on the Ground*

#### **Verse 2**

'Twas Mary pure Virgin of holy Anne  
That brought to the world God made man  
Venite adoremus Dominum (2X)

#### **Verse 4**

And Joseph was near to tend the child  
To guard him and protect His mother mild  
And angels hovered 'round  
And sang this song  
Venite adoremus Dominum (4X)

## The Presentation of Bread



## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

## Eucharistic Prayer A

*Standing as you are able.*

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

*People* ***And also 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.***

*Celebrant*

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever say this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

*Celebrant and People*

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

*Celebrant*

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all. He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, 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 we proclaim the mystery of faith:

*Celebrant and People*

**Christ has died.**

**Christ is risen.**

**Christ will come again.**

*Celebrant*

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. 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.**

*Celebrant*

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

**The Lord's Prayer**

*(All together)*

**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**

*A period of silence is kept.*

*Celebrant* Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;  
*People* ***Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.***

### **Post Communion Hymn**

*In the Bleak Midwinter*

#### **Verse 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

#### **Verse 3**

Angels and archangels  
May have gathered there  
Cherubim and seraphim  
Thronged the air  
But His mother only  
In her maiden bliss  
Worshipped the Beloved

#### **Verse 2**

Our God heav'n cannot hold Him  
Nor earth sustain  
Heav'n and earth shall flee away  
When He comes to reign  
In the bleak midwinter  
A stable place sufficed  
The Lord God Almighty  
Jesus Christ

#### **Verse 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 can I give Him  
Give my heart

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*A spiritual communion is a devotional action that anyone can pray. It expresses the desire to receive Holy Communion at a moment where circumstances impede them from actually receiving the consecrated bread and wine.*

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

*Celebrant and People*

**My Jesus, I believe that you are truly present in the Blessed Sacrament of the Altar. I desire to offer you praise and thanksgiving as I proclaim your resurrection. I love you above all things, and long for you in my soul. Since I cannot receive you in the Sacrament of your Body and Blood, come spiritually into my heart. Cleanse and strengthen me with your grace, Lord Jesus, and let me never be separated from you. May I live in you, and you in me, in this life and in the life to come. Amen.**

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

*Celebrant and People*

**Loving God, we give you thanks for restoring us in your image and nourishing us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of Christ's Body and Blood. Now send us forth a people, forgiven, healed, renewed; that we may proclaim your love to the world and continue in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.**

### **The Blessing**

*Priest*

The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

### **Announcements**

#### **The Closing Hymn**

*Go Tell it on the Mountain*

*The Hymnal 1982 #99*

#### **Refrain**

Go, tell it on the mountain,  
over the hills and everywhere;  
go, tell it on the mountain  
that Jesus Christ is born!

1. While shepherds kept their  
watching  
o'er silent flocks by night,  
behold, throughout the heavens  
there shone a holy light. (*Refrain*)

2. The shepherds feared  
and trembled  
when lo! above the earth  
rang out the angel chorus  
that hailed our Savior's birth.  
(*Refrain*)

3. Down in a lowly manger  
the humble Christ was born,  
and God sent us salvation  
that blessed Christmas morn.  
(*Refrain*)

Words: Afro-American spiritual, 19<sup>th</sup> cent.; adapt. John W. Work (b. 1901)

Music: *Go Tell It on the Mountain*, Afro-American spiritual, 19<sup>th</sup> cent.; arr. Horace Clarence Boyer (b. 1935) Reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE #A-734492. All rights reserved.

## The Dismissal

*Deacon* Alleluia. Alleluia. Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

*People* ***Thanks be to God. Alleluia. Alleluia.***



Rector: The Rev. Jonathan Brice

Deacon: Karen Wichael

Director of Music Ministry: Jacob Hofeling

Technical Team: Dennis Phillips, Tom Schrempp, Wayne Fowler

St. Luke's Episcopal Church

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