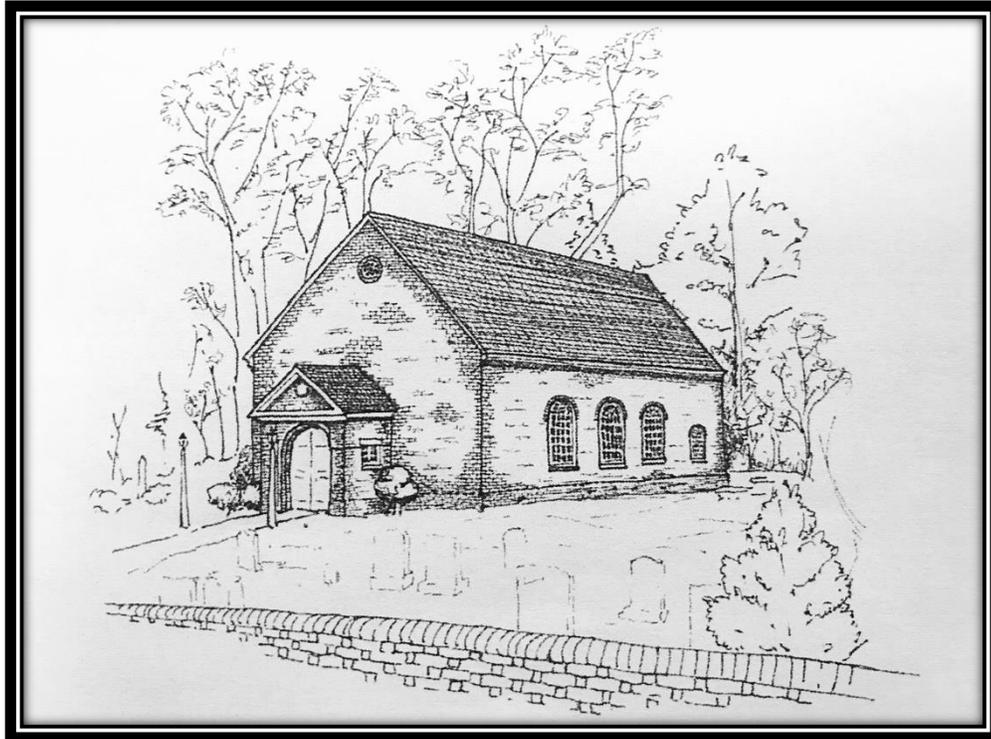


*Welcome to Christ Church Parish  
(Episcopal)*

*December 24, 2021*

*5:00 p.m.*

*Christmas Eve - The Nativity of our Lord Jesus Christ*



*Founded in 1666*

*Before the service, speak to God in the silence of your heart.*

*During the service, let God speak to you through  
Word and Sacrament.*

*After the service, speak with your neighbor!*

**Christ Church Parish Mission Statement**

*We are a family of faith,  
growing in Christ through worship, learning, and  
service, who strive to love God  
and to love our neighbors as ourselves.*

CHRISTMAS EVE – The Nativity of our Lord Jesus Christ  
CHRIST CHURCH PARISH

December 24, 2021

+ + + + +

4:30 p.m.

Carol Sing

5:00 p.m.

THE HOLY EUCHARIST

Rite II

Prelude

*“In Quiet Joy from The Nativity”*

Oliver Messiaen

Processional Hymn 83 *“O come, all ye faithful”*

**BLESSING OF THE CRECHE**

V. The Word was made flesh and dwelt among us.

**R. And we beheld his glory.**

V. God himself is with us. Alleluia.

**R. Come let us adore him. Alleluia.**

Let us pray.

Most merciful and loving God, you have made this day holy by the incarnation of your Son Jesus Christ, and by the child-bearing of the Blessed Virgin Mary: + Bless, we pray, this Creche that it may be a sign of his humble birth, and grant that we your people may enter with joy into the celebration of this day, and may also rejoice for ever as your adopted sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

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

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

*The Celebrant may say*

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.**

**Hymn of Praise 96** *“Angels We Have Heard on High”*

## PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD OF GOD

*The Celebrant says to the people*

The Lord be with you.

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

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

### **Collect of The Nativity of Our Lord:**

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. **Amen.**

### **First Lesson**

Isaiah 9:2-7

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness— on them light has shined. You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder. For the yoke of their burden, and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian. For all the boots of the tramping warriors and all the garments rolled in blood shall be burned as fuel for the fire. For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteous-ness from this time onward and forevermore. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.

*After each reading, the reader may say*

The Word of the Lord.

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

### **Psalm 96**

*Cantate Domino*

Sing to the LORD a new song; \*  
**sing to the LORD, all the whole earth.**

Sing to the LORD and bless his Name; \*  
**proclaim the good news of his salvation from day to day.**

Declare his glory among the nations \*  
**and his wonders among all peoples.**

For great is the LORD and greatly to be praised; \*  
**he is more to be feared than all gods.**

As for all the gods of the nations, they are but idols; \*  
**but it is the LORD who made the heavens.**

Oh, the majesty and magnificence of his presence! \*  
**Oh, the power and the splendor of his sanctuary!**

Ascribe to the LORD, you families of the peoples; \*  
**ascribe to the LORD honor and power.**

Ascribe to the LORD the honor due his Name; \*  
**bring offerings and come into his courts.**

Worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness; \*  
**let the whole earth tremble before him.**

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."**

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 therein.**

Then shall all the trees of the wood shout for joy  
before the LORD when he comes, \*  
**when he comes to judge the earth.**

He will judge the world with righteousness \*  
**and the peoples with his truth.**

## **The Epistle**

Titus 2:11-14

The grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all, training us to renounce impiety and worldly passions, and in the present age to live lives that are self-controlled, upright, and godly, while we wait for the blessed hope and the manifestation of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ. He it is who gave himself for us that he might



pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

*After the Gospel, the Reader says*

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

**The Sermon**

Fr. Stuart Wood

**The Nicene Creed** (*standing*)

**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.**

### **The Prayers of the People**

*Sisters and brothers, rejoicing in the love of God that has taken flesh among us in Christ Jesus, let us confidently bring to the Lord the petitions of our heart this Christmas, saying: Lord hear our prayer.*

For the believing community throughout the world, especially those in positions of leadership; Justin, Archbishop of Canterbury, Michael, our Presiding Bishop; Susan, Jennifer, and Porter our bishops, Stuart our rector, Peg our deacon, and Bob our priest associate, that they might always work to give glory to God and to bring peace to our earth, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

For the church gathered in this place, that we might always bear the good news of God's living presence in our world, towards deepening of Christian faith and living that faith in love, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

For those lost in the darkness of prejudice, hostility, and fear; for those burdened by the yoke of injustice, terrorism, hunger, and war; and for all our sisters and brothers in any need or trouble, that the light and life that is the Lord might touch their hearts this day, let us prayer to the Lord. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

For the homeless, those who have lost their jobs, and for the children born in the midst of poverty and pain, that there be room at the inn for all god's people, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

For the sick and the dying among us, and for those who care for them, that the God whose love extends from the wood of the manger to the wood of the cross might bless them this day with the gift of peace, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

[Here other intercessions may be offered.]

That the blessed hope we celebrate this night might be the fulfillment of all who have gone before us in faith, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord,**

**hear our prayer.**

*All loving and gracious God, we thank you for gracing us with the gift of your son. Confident of your continuing love for us, we have placed our needs before you. Hear and answer our prayers, through the same Christ, whose birth we celebrate this day, our Lord and Savior, forever and ever.*  
**Amen.**

### **Confession of Sin**

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Silence may be kept. Minister 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.**

*The Priest, stands and says*

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 Peace**

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

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

### **THE CELEBRATION OF THE HOLY COMMUNION**

**Offertory** "Unto Us Is Born A Son" arr. David Willcocks

**The Great Thanksgiving:** E.O.W. Eucharistic Prayer I



ho - ly Lord, God of power and might,  
 heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. 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.

*The Celebrant continues*

Blessed are you, gracious God,  
 creator of the universe and giver of life.  
 You formed us in your own image  
 and called us to dwell in your infinite love.

You gave the world into our care  
 that we might be your faithful stewards  
 and show forth your bountiful grace.

But we failed to honor your image  
 in one another and in ourselves;  
 we would not see your goodness in the world around us;  
 and so we violated your creation,  
 abused one another,  
 and rejected your love.  
 Yet you never ceased to care for us,  
 And prepared the way of salvation for all people.

Through Abraham and Sarah  
 you called us into covenant with you.

You delivered us from slavery,  
sustained us in the wilderness,  
and raised up prophets  
to renew your promise of salvation.  
Then, in the fullness of time,  
you sent your eternal Word,  
made mortal flesh in Jesus.  
Born into the human family,  
and dwelling among us,  
he revealed your glory.  
Giving himself freely to death on the cross,  
he triumphed over evil,  
opening the way of freedom and life.

On the night before he died for us,  
Our Savior Jesus Christ took bread,  
And when he had given thanks to you,  
He broke it, and gave it to his friends, and said:  
“Take, eat:  
This is my Body which is given for you.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.”

As supper was ending, Jesus 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 poured out for you and for all  
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.**

*The Celebrant continues*

Remembering his death and resurrection,  
we now present to you from your creation  
this bread and this wine.

By your Holy Spirit may they be for us  
the Body and Blood of our Savior Jesus Christ.

Grant that we who share these gifts  
may be filled with the Holy Spirit  
and live as Christ's Body in the world.

Bring us into the everlasting heritage  
of your daughters and sons,  
that with the blessed Virgin Mary, St. Joseph and  
all your saints, past, present, and yet to come,  
we may praise your Name for ever.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
to you be honor, glory, and praise,  
for ever and ever. **Amen.**

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

*People and Celebrant*

**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**

*The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread.  
A period of silence is kept. Then may be sung*

## Fraction Anthem (S-152 *sung as versicle and response*)

*This setting is not used in Lent.*

Al - le - lu - ia. Christ our Pass - o - ver is sac - ri - ficed for us;  
There - fore let us keep the feast. Al - le - lu - ia.

*This setting may be sung full by all, or by the choir, or as a versicle and response.*

*Facing the people, the Celebrant says the following Invitation*

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.

[All Baptized persons are invited to receive communion at this time, and if you are not baptized, you may come forward and receive a blessing. If you desire a gluten free wafer, please tell the priest or deacon.]

**Communion Hymns 101** (alt. tune) *“Away in a manger”*

**79** *“O little town of Bethlehem”*

**84** *“Love came down at Christmas”*

## The Prayer of Thanksgiving

*After Communion, the Celebrant says*

Let us pray.

*Celebrant and People*

**God of abundance,**

**you have fed us**

**with the bread of life and cup of salvation;**

**you have united us**

**with Christ and one another;**

**and you have made us one**

**with all your people in heaven and on earth.**

**Now send us forth**

**in the power of your Spirit,**

**that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world**

**and continue for ever**

**in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.**

Lighting of individual candles (*sitting*)

**Hymn 111** *“Silent Night, Holy Night”*

**The Christmas Blessing:**

May Almighty God, who sent his Son to take our nature upon him, bless you in this holy season, scatter the darkness of sin, and brighten your heart with the light of his holiness. **Amen.**

May God, who sent his angels to proclaim the glad news of the Savior’s birth, fill you with joy, and make you heralds of the Gospel. **Amen.**

May God, who in the Word made flesh joined heaven to earth and earth to heaven, give you his peace and favor. **Amen.**

And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever. **Amen.**

**Recessional Hymn 100** *“Joy to the world!”*

*The people are dismissed with these words*

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

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

Postlude

*“In dulci jubilo”* BWV 729

J. S. Bach

**Participants in the Service:**

Celebrant/Sermon	the Rev. Stuart C. Wood
Deacon	the Rev. Deacon Peg Moncure
Organist	Debbie Davis
Vergers	Grace Parker
Crucifer	Nicole Davis
Torch Bearers	Linda Irwin and Lydia Dudley
Lector	Page Wittkamp
Euch. Min./Gospel Book Bearer/Intercessions	Harriette Floyd
Eucharistic Minister	David Wilcox
Christ Church Choir	

# POINSETTIAS GIVEN TO THE GLORY OF GOD

## IN MEMORY OF

Martha Anne & Jim Engard  
Jack Goodloe  
Harry & Doris Henning  
Charles Bray & Virginia Diggs King  
Emily Chowning  
Blanche Cornwell  
Sally Libbey, Edward Colston & our parents  
Ronald Orval Kirk  
Christina Benedict  
Mary Post  
Libby & Janie Allen  
Robert McCandlish  
Bill and Dorothy Gorin  
Andre Bourdon ( Karen Gorin's dad )  
John & Jean McClelland  
Charles & Margaret Brook  
Marion & Elizabeth Moncure  
Clyde and Rose Marie Roettger  
Sally Anne & George Faulkner  
Governor & Mrs. Andrew Jackson Montague  
Col. & Mrs. Charles Beatty Moore  
Brig. General & Mrs. Robert Latane Montague  
Mrs. Robert Montague, III  
The Hoskins Family  
Ruby Lee & Vernon Norris, Sr.  
Richard & Betty Turner  
Paul Johnson  
Karen Stebbins  
Jordan E. Wood

## IN HONOR OF

Evan, Kate, and Will Anderson  
(2) First Responders

## GIVEN BY

Louanne Ambrose  
Martha Buchanan  
Bill Budd & Mary Lynn Landgraf  
Bill Budd & Mary Lynn Landgraf  
Meredith Caskie  
Meredith Caskie  
Miles Libbey & Sharon Colston  
Ann De Peyster  
Jim & Lydia Dudley  
Jim & Lydia Dudley  
Elizabeth Durrill  
Elizabeth "Betty" Evans  
Mike & Karen Gorin  
Mike & Karen Gorin  
Jeff & Pam McClelland  
Jeff & Pam McClelland  
Henry & Peg Moncure  
Henry & Peg Moncure  
Henry and Peg Moncure  
Robert Montague, III  
Vernon Norris  
Jim & Ann Padgett  
Grace Parker  
Don Stebbins  
Fr. Stuart C. Wood

## GIVEN BY

Roland and Pat Anderson  
Virginia Miller