



***St. Luke's Cathedral
143 State Street, Portland, Maine***

Christmas Eve 2017 10:00 pm

Welcome!

St. Luke's Cathedral welcomes guests and visitors at Christmas and throughout the year. We invite you to become involved in the life of this Cathedral parish and make St. Luke's your spiritual home. May the joy and hope of Christmas renew in all of us a sense of awe and wonder at God's love for humanity.

St. Luke's shares in the Episcopal Church's mission "to restore all people to unity with God and each other in Jesus Christ." As a cathedral, St. Luke's is the seat of the bishop and the chief mission church of the Diocese and people of Maine. Today we continue a tradition of reaching out to the city and people of Portland which began with our first service on Christmas Day of 1868. St. Luke's is proud to be part of the 2.5 million member Episcopal Church USA and the 75 million member world-wide Anglican Communion.

We thank you for your generous and thoughtful offerings at Christmas and throughout the year. The cost of maintaining the building and continuing our ministry in Portland is very high and we appreciate your sharing in this important work with your financial gifts as well as your talents and energies.

Please join us at regularly scheduled services and especially at our Epiphany Festival of Lessons and Carols, Sunday, January 7 at 4:00 pm. We wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. For more information, call the parish office at 772-5434 or see www.stlukesportland.org.

PRELUDE WITH BRASS, ORGAN, AND CHOIR (9:30)

(Please remain seated as the choir enters the Cathedral)

Brass

*From Heaven above to earth I come
Two Ayres for Cornetts and Sagbuts*

Michael Praetorius
John Adson

Hymn 93

Angels from the realms of Glory

Regent Square

1 An - gels, from the realms of glo - ry, wing your flight o'er
2 Shep - herds in the field a - bid - ing, watch - ing o'er your
3 Sa - ges, leave your con - tem - pla - tions; bright - er vi - sions;
4 Saints be - fore the al - tar bend - ing, watch - ing long in
all the earth; ye, who sang cre - a - tion's sto - ry,
flocks by night, God with you is now re - sid - ing;
beam a - far: seek the great De - sire of na - tions;
hope and fear, sud - den - ly the Lord, de - scend - ing,
now pro - claim Mes - si - ah's birth;
yon - der shines the in - fant Light: come and wor - ship,
ye have seen his na - tal star:
in his tem - ple shall ap - pear:
come and wor - ship, wor - ship Christ, the new - born King.

Choir

A Virgin Most Pure

arr. June Nixon

*A virgin most pure, as the prophets do tell, hath brought forth a Baby, as it hath befell,
To be our Redeemer from death, hell and sin, Which Adam's transgression has wrappèd us in.*

Refrain *Aye and therefore be merry, set sorrow aside;
Christ Jesus our Savior was born on this tide.*

*At Bethlehem Jewry, a city there was, Where Joseph and Mary together did pass,
And there to be taxed, with many one more, For Cæsar commanded the same should be so. Refrain*

*But, when they had entered the city so fair, A number of people so mighty was there,
That Joseph and Mary, whose substance was small, Could find in the inn there no lodging at all. Refrain*

Then were they constrained in a stable to lie, Where oxen and asses they used to tie;
 Their lodging so simple, they took it no scorn, But against the next morning our Savior was born. **Refrain**

Then God sent an angel from Heaven so high, To certain poor shepherds in fields where they lie, And bade
 them no longer in sorrow to stay, Because that our Savior was born on this day. **Refrain**

Organ *La Nativité* Jean Langlais
La Crèche ~ Les Anges ~ Les Bergers ~ La Sainte Famille

Brass *Canzona Per Sonare* Giovanni Gabrieli
Contrapunctus 3 Johann Sebastian Bach

Hymn *See amid the winter's snow* Humility

♩ = 100

1. See a - mid the win - ter's snow, Born for us on earth be - low,
 2. Lo, with - in a man - ger lies, He Who built the star - ry skies;
 3. Say, you ho - ly shep - herds, say, Tell your joy - ful news to - day.
 4. "As we watched at dead of night, Lo, we saw a won - drous light;
 5. Sac - red In - fant, all di - vine, What a ten - der love was Thine,
 See, the gen - tle Lamb ap - pears, Pro - mised from e - ter - nal years.
 He Who, throned in height sub - lime, Sits a - mid the cher - u - bim.
 Why have you now left your sheep On the lone - ly moun - tain steep?
 An - gels sing - ing "Peace on earth" Told us of the Sa - vior's birth."
 Thus to come from high - est bliss Down to such a world as this.
 Hail that ev - er bles - sed morn, Hail re - demp - tion's hap - py dawn,
 Sing through all Jer - u - sa - lem: Christ is born in Beth - le - hem.
 6. Teach, O teach us, holy Child,
 By Thy face so meek and mild,
 Teach us to resemble Thee,
 In Thy sweet humility.

Choir *Hodie, Christus natus est* Healey Willan

Today is Christ born; today the Savior has appeared; today the Angels sing, the Archangels rejoice;
 today the righteous rejoice, saying: Glory to God in the highest. Alleluia!

Brass *Carol of the Bells* Mykola Leontovich

FESTIVAL EUCHARIST

Celebrant: The Very Rev. Dr. Benjamin Shambaugh, Dean of the Cathedral

The Procession

Celebrant Alleluia! To us a child is born!

People Come let us adore him. Alleluia!

Celebrant Let us go forth in peace.

People In the name of Christ, Amen.

Hymn 83

O come, all ye faithful

Adeste Fideles

1 O come, all ye faith-ful, joy-ful and tri-um-phant, O
 2 God from God, Light from Light e-ter-nal,
 3 Sing, choirs of an-gels, sing in ex-ul-ta-tion,
 *4 See how the shep-herds, sum-moned to his cra-dle,
 *5 Child, for us sin-ners poor and in the man-ger,

1 come ye, O come ye to Beth-le-hem;
 2 lo! he ab-hors not the Vir-gin's womb;
 3 sing, all ye ci-ti-zens of heaven a-bove;
 4 leav-ing their flocks, draw nigh to gaze;
 5 we would em-brace thee, with love and awe;

1 come, and be-hold him, born the King of an-gels;
 2 on-ly-be-got-ten Son of the Fa-ther;
 3 glo-ry to God, glo-ry in the high-est;
 4 we too will thith-er bend our joy-ful foot-steps;
 5 who would not love thee, lov-ing us so dear-ly?

Refrain

O come, let us a-dore him, O come, let us a-

dore him, O come, let us a-dore him, Christ the Lord.

6 Yea, Lord, we greet thee,
 born this happy morning;
 Jesus, to thee be glory given;
 Word of the Father,
 now in flesh appearing;

Refrain

THE WORD OF GOD

Opening Acclamation

The Book of Common Prayer (BCP) p. 355

Celebrant Blessed be God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
People **And blessed be God's kingdom, now and forever. Amen.**

The Collect for Purity (said together)

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 96

Angels we have heard on high

Chant: George J. Bennett

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, a - 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

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

Celebrant The Lord be with you.
People **And also with you.**
Celebrant Let us pray.

The Collect

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.**

The 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 righteousness from this time onward and forevermore. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

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

Psalm 96

- 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.
- 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.
- 9 Worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness; *
let the whole earth tremble before 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."

- 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 therein.
- 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.

The Second Lesson

Lector: Susan McCuller

Titus 2: 11-14

For 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 redeem us from all iniquity and purify for himself a people of his own who are zealous for good deeds.

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

Sequence Hymn 94

While Shepherds watched their flocks

Winchester Old

Descant

2 "Fear not," said he, for might - y dread had seized their trou - bled mind;
6 "All glo - ry be to God on high and on the earth be peace;

1 While shep - herds watched their flocks by night, all scat - ed on the ground,
2 "Fear not," said he, for might - y dread had seized their trou - bled mind;
3 "To you, in Da - vid's town, this day is born of Da - vid's line
4 "The heaven - ly Babe you there shall find to hu - man view dis - played,
5 Thus spake the ser - aph, and forth-with ap - peared a shin - ing throng

2 "Glad tid - ings of great joy I bring to you and all man - kind.
6 good will hence - forth from heaven to men be - gin and nev - er cease."

1 the an - gel of the Lord came down, and glo - ry shone a - round.
2 "Glad tid - ings of great joy I bring to you and all man - kind.
3 the Sa - vior, who is Christ the Lord; and this shall be the sign:
4 all mean - ly wrapped in swath - ing bands, and in a man - ger laid."
5 of an - gels prais - ing God, who thus ad - dressed their joy - ful song:

6 "All glory be to God on high
and on the earth be peace;
good will henceforth from heaven to men
begin and never cease."

Deacon The Holy Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ According to Luke.
People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

The Holy Gospel

Luke 2:1-20

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn. In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see — I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!" When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us." So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and 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.

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

The Sermon

The Rt. Rev. Stephen T. Lane, Bishop of Maine

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.

Christmas Prayers (from *Daily Prayer for All Seasons*)

Wonderful Counselor, whose glory is beyond our understanding and whose love is beyond measure: **Let us know your presence now.**

Mighty God, whose power girds creation, whose hands cradle the hills, yet whose mercy is boundless: **Let us know your presence now.**

Prince of Peace, whose righteousness is like the strong mountains and whose justice is as the great deep: **Let us know your presence now.**

Emmanuel, whose property it is always to have mercy, and whose arm is long to save, we lift before you now. (pause) *Here people may add particular intercessions or thanksgivings.* We pray tonight for peace on Earth. We raise up to you those who have died, especially Monica Ellis, those who are sick or suffering, remembering in particular the victims of the train crash in Washington this week. We give thanks for all the members of this congregation and all those in whose name the flowers and Christmas decorations were given.

Hold all those we love in your unbounded love.
Make us your healing presence in the world.

Loving Word of God, you have shown us the fullness of your glory in taking human flesh: Fill us in our bodily life, with your grace and truth, that our pleasure may be boundless, our integrity complete, and our hearts may be filled with the joy of Christmas all year long.
Amen.

The Peace (*All stand*)

The celebrant says to the people: The peace of the Lord be always with you.
People: **And also with you.**

The Offering

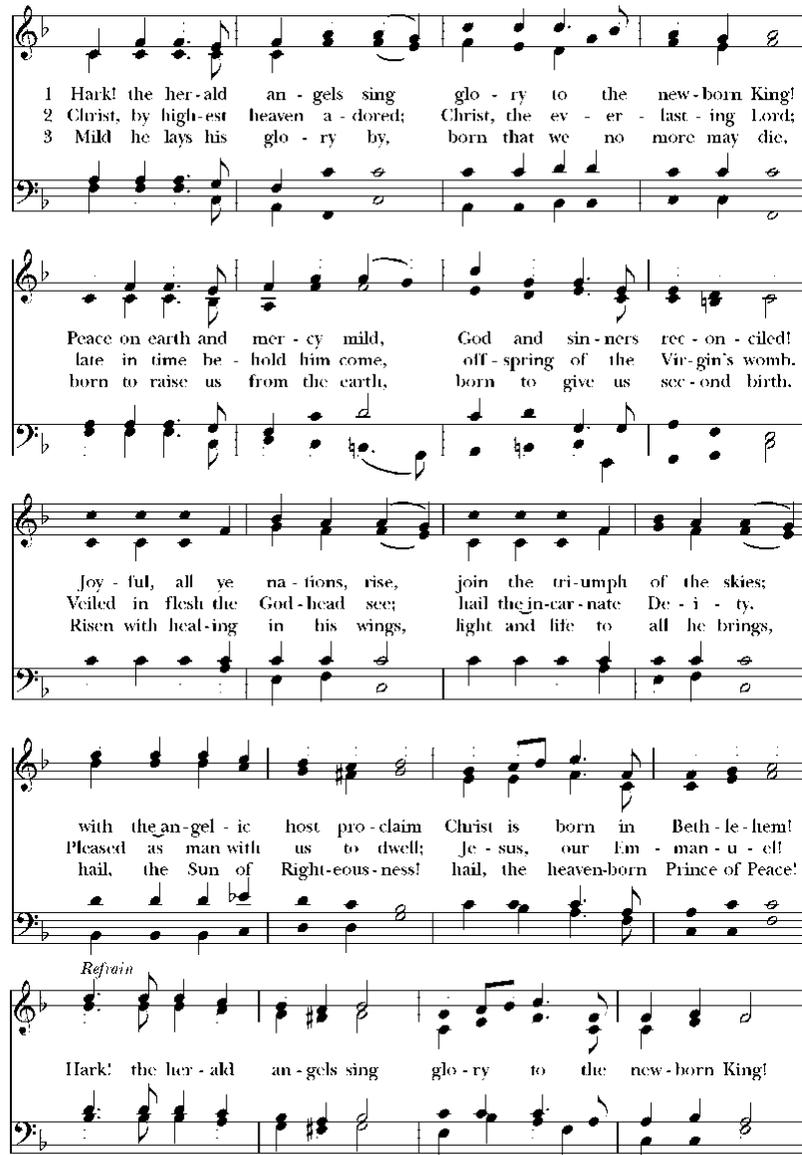
All quarters collected in the offering will go towards meals for school children in Duny, Haiti.

Offertory Anthem

What sweeter music

John Rutter

What sweeter music can we bring Than a carol, for to sing The birth of this our heavenly King? Awake the voice! Awake the string! Dark and dull night, fly hence away, And give the honor to this day, That sees December turned to May. That sees December turned to May. Why does the chilling winter's morn Smile, like a field beset with corn? Or smell like a meadow newly-shorn, Thus, on the sudden? Come and see The cause, why things thus fragrant be: 'Tis He is born, whose quickening birth Gives life and luster, public mirth, To heaven, and the under-earth. We see him come, and know him ours, Who, with his sunshine and his showers, Turns all the patient ground to flowers. Turns all the patient ground to flowers. The darling of the world is come, And fit it is, we find a room To welcome him. To welcome him. The nobler part Of all the house here, is the heart. Which we will give him; and bequeath This holly, and this ivy wreath, To do him honour, who's our King, And Lord of all this revelling. What sweeter music can we bring, Than a carol for to sing The birth of this our heavenly King?



1 Hark! the her-ald an-gels sing glo-ry to the new-born King!
 2 Christ, by high-est heaven a-dored; Christ, the ev-er-last-ing Lord;
 3 Mild he lays his glo-ry by, born that we no more may die.

Peace on earth and mer-cy mild, God and sin-ners rec-on-ciled!
 late in time he-hold him come, off-spring of the Vir-gin's womb.
 born to raise us from the earth, born to give us sec-ond birth.

Joy-ful, all ye na-tions, rise, join the tri-umph of the skies;
 Veiled in flesh the God-head see; hail the in-car-nate De-i-ty.
 Risen with heal-ing in his wings, light and life to all he brings,

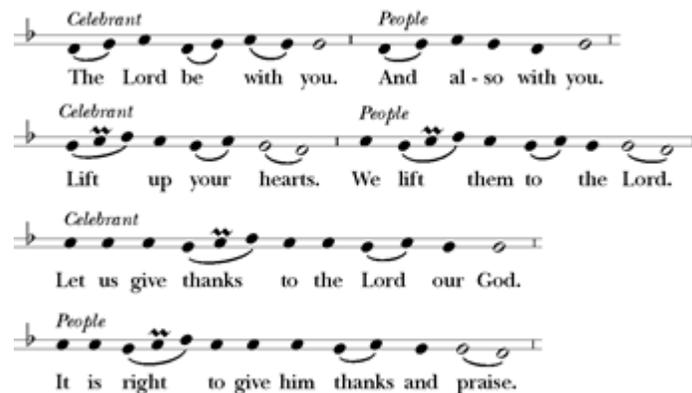
with the an-gel-ic host pro-claim Christ is born in Beth-le-hem!
 Pleased as man with us to dwell; Je-sus, our Em-man-u-el!
 hail, the Sun of Right-eous-ness! hail, the heaven-born Prince of Peace!

Refrain
 Hark! the her-ald an-gels sing glo-ry to the new-born King!

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Eucharistic Prayer B

BCP p. 367



Celebrant The Lord be with you. *People* And al-so 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.

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 power to become your children. Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

The Sanctus

William Trafka

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord,
God of pow - er and might, heav - en and earth are
full of your glor - y. Ho - san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the
high - est. Bles - sed is he who comes in the name of the
Lord. Ho - san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est!

The people may stand or kneel.

Then the Celebrant continues

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,

Celebrant and People

**We remember his death,
We proclaim his resurrection,
We await his coming in glory;**

The Celebrant continues

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 the Blessed Virgin Mary, Luke, and all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn 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, now and forever. **AMEN.**

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

Celebrant and People

**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**

Agnus Dei

Setting: William Trafka



Je - sus, Lamb of God, have mer - cy on us.
Je - sus, bear - er of our sins, have mer - cy on us.
Je - sus, Re - deem - er, Re - deem - er of the world,
do - na no - bis pa - cem, do - na no - bis
pa - cem, do - na no - bis pa - cem.

Celebrant: 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.

Communion of the People: *Words of welcome (from the Iona Community): "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 here 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." Gluten-free hosts are available for those who need them. If you do not wish to receive wine, or only wish a blessing, cross your hands over your chest as you come forward. After receiving communion, you may wish to go to All Saints Chapel (to the right of the high altar) for the Laying on of Hands, anointing with holy oil, and prayers of healing for yourself or someone else. Parents are asked to assist the clergy in determining whether their child will receive the sacraments or a Christmas blessing.*

Prayers of Healing: After receiving communion, those who wish may go to All Saints Chapel (to the right of the high altar) for prayers of healing or celebration.

Music During Communion

Brass *Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming* Johannes Brahms

Hymn 112 *In the Bleak Midwinter* Cranham

1 In the bleak mid - win - ter, frost - y wind made moan,
 2 Our God, heaven can - not hold him, nor earth sus - tain;
 3 An - gels and arch - an - gels may have gath - ered there,
 4 What can I give him, poor as I am?

earth stood hard as i - ron, wa - ter like a stone;
 heaven and earth shall flee a - way when he comes to reign:
 cher - u - bim and se - ra - plum throug - ed the air;
 If I were a shep - herd, I would bring a lamb;

snow had fal - len, snow on snow, snow on snow,
 in the bleak mid - win - ter a sta - ble - place suf - ficed,
 but his mo - ther on - ly, in her maid - en bliss,
 if I were a wise - man, I would do my part;

in the bleak mid - win - ter, long a - go.
 the Lord God in - car - nate, Je - sus Christ.
 wor - shiped the be - lov - ed with a kiss.
 yet what I can I give him— give my heart.

Communion Anthem *Adam Lay Ybounden* Philip Ledger

*Adam lay ybounden, Boun den in a bond;
 Four thousand winter Thought he not too long. Deo gracias!
 And all was for an apple An apple that he took
 As clerkes finden Written in their book. Deo gracias!
 Ne had the apple taken been, The apple taken been
 Ne had never our lady A ben Heav'né queen. Deo gracias!
 Blessed be the time That apple taken was,
 Therefore we moun singen, Deo gracias!*

Anthem*Hush, my dear, lie still*

Malcolm Archer

*Hush, my dear, lie still and slumber; holy angels guard thy bed!
Heav'nly blessings without number gently falling on thy head.*

Refrain: *Lullaby, lullaby, hush, my baby, lullaby*

*Sleeping babe; my babe, thy food and raiment, house and home, thy friends provide;
All without thy care or payment, all thy wants are well supplied. Refrain.*

Soft and easy is thy cradle; coarse and hard thy Saviour lay

When his birthplace was a stable, and His softest bed the hay. Refrain.

See the lovely babe addressing: lovely infant, how he smiled!

When he wept, the mother's blessing soothed and hushed the holy child. Refrain.

Hymn 115*What Child is This*

Greensleeves

(During the singing of this hymn, you are invited to light your hand-held candles in preparation for Silent Night)

Unison or harmony

1 What child is this, who, laid to rest, on
2 Why lies he in such mean es - tate where
3 So bring him in - cense, gold, and myrrh, come,

Ma - ry's lap is sleep - ing? Whom an - gels greet with
ox and ass are feed - ing? Good Chris - tian, fear: for
peas - ant, king, to own him; the King of kings sal -

an - thems sweet, while shep - herds watch are keep - ing?
sin - ners here the si - lent Word is plead - ing.
va - tion brings, let lov - ing hearts en - throne him.

Refrain

This, this is Christ the King, whom shep - herds
guard and an - gels sing; haste, haste to
bring him laud, the babe, the son of Ma - ry.

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.

The Post Communion Prayer

BCP p. 365

Almighty and everliving God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

The Blessing

The Bishop of Maine

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 the 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 forever. **Amen.**

Recessional Hymn 100

Joy to the World

Antioch

1 Joy to the world! the Lord is come: let earth re -
 2 Joy to the world! the Sa - vior reigns; let us our
 *3 No more let sins and sor - rows grow, nor thorns in -
 4 He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the

ceive her King; let ev - ery heart pre - pare him room, and
 songs em - ploy, while fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains, re -
 fest the ground; he comes to make his bless - ings flow far
 na - tions prove the glo - ries of his right - eous - ness, and

heaven and na - ture sing, and heaven and na - ture
 peat the sound - ing joy, re - peat the sound - ing
 as the curse is found, far as the curse is
 won - ders of his love, and won - ders of his

1 and heaven and na - ture sing, and
 2 re - peat the sound - ing joy, re -
 3 far as the curse is found, far
 4 and won - ders of his love, and

sing, and heaven, and heaven and na - ture sing.
 joy, re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.
 found, far as, far as the curse is found.
 love, and won - ders, won - ders of his love.

heaven and na - ture sing,
 peat the sound - ing joy,
 as the curse is found,
 won - ders of his love,

Deacon Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.
Alleluia, alleluia!

People **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia!**

Organ Postlude

Toccata on "Antioch"

Craig Phillips

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The Cathedral Choir

Albert Melton, Cathedral Musician; Randall Mullin, Assisting Organist

Sopranos

Georgia Bancroft
Joanne DeKay
Caroline Goddard*
Molly Hunt*
Hilary Jones
Suezan Moore
Cynthia Morris
Jean Smart
Emma Wolfsohn*

Altos

Sally Campbell
Lynn Dalheim
Kenna Haines*
Gretchen Lane
Kathy Watt
Nan White

Tenors

Judd Hume*
David Illingworth
Curtis Maurand
Martin Lescault
Ted Poland

Basses

Ray Davis Murdoch Curry
Bob Englert**
Jim Flagler
Chuck Hornberger
Chris Johnston*
Parker Roberts
Stephen White

*Not singing this service

**Guest Singer

The Festival Brass

Michelle Kingston—Trumpet
Matt Lagarde—Trumpet
Sophie Flood—French Horn
Parker Kenyon— Tenor Trombone
Tom Michaud— Bass Trombone
Mark Fredericks— Timpani

The Service Leaders

The Rt. Rev. Stephen T. Lane, Bishop of Maine, *Preacher*
The Very Rev. Dr. Benjamin A. Shambaugh, Dean of the Cathedral, *Celebrant*
The Rev. Suzanne Roberts, *Assisting*
The Rev. Alice Goshorn, *Deacon*
Albert Melton, *Cathedral Musician*
David Savage, Thurl Headen, Lisle Blind
Michael Brennan, Tom Lizotte, Heather Murdoch Curry, *Vergers*
Marby Payson, Linda Poland, Joe DeKay, Bruce Myers, *Eucharistic Ministers*
Louisa Radtke-Rowe, Ed Hodgdon, *Crucifers*
David Fernald, *Thurifer*
Gwen Armitage, Nate Thorne, Ben Cox, Eleanor Roberts, *Torches*
Vivica Dunlap, Miryam Keller, Madeline Roberts, Helen Roberts, *Banners*
Anna Messmer, Jim Messmer, Peter Bingham, Ellen Manetti, Susan McCuller, Anne Schink, *Ushers*
Michael Courts, Marlene Cordes, Philip Lee, *Altar Guild*
The Flower Guild

The Presiding Bishop's Christmas Message 2017

In 2 Corinthians, the Apostle Paul says, *If anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation. The old has passed away, behold, the new is come.* At a point in that passage, St. Paul says, “*God was in Christ, reconciling the world to Himself,*” and he also says at another point in the same passage, “and we have been given the ministry of reconciliation.”

Have you ever gone to the movies or read a story or a novel, and the novel starts with the end, so you know where the story ends, but then the rest of the story or the novel is actually the story behind the story. We know about Christmas. We know about Mary. We know about Joseph. We know about the angels singing *Gloria in excelsis deo*. We know from our childhood the animals in the stable. We know of the magi who come from afar, arriving around Epiphany, bearing gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. We know of the angels singing in the heavens, and the star that shown above them. Therein is the story.

But the story behind the story is what St. Paul was talking about. God was in Christ reconciling the world to himself, and Jesus has now given us that same ministry of reconciliation. God was reconciling the world to himself by becoming one of us. The divine became human. God entered history. Eternity became part of time. God was reconciling the world to himself by actually living it himself. In Jesus, God came among us to show us the way, to be reconciled with the God who has created us all and everything that is. And God has likewise come in the person of Jesus, to show us how to be reconciled with each other, as children of the one God who is the Creator of us all. That's the story behind Christmas.

God is showing us the Way to become God's children, and as God's children, brothers and sisters of each other. God is showing us in Jesus how to become God's family and how to change, and build, and make a world where everybody is a part of that family. Where children don't go to bed hungry. Where no one has to be lonely. Where justice is real for all and where love is the ultimate law.

Know there is a story behind the story, and it's a story worth singing about, and giving thanks for, and then living. One of my favorite writers, the late Howard Thurman, composed a poem many years ago about Christmas, and he says it probably better than I:

*When the song of the angels is stilled,
When the star in the sky is gone,
When the kings and the princes are home,
When the shepherds are back with their flocks,
Then the work of Christmas begins:
To find the lost,
To heal the broken,
To feed the hungry,
To release the prisoner,
To rebuild the nations,
To bring peace to others,
And alas, to make music in the heart.*

The story behind the story is that God so loved the world, and so loves you, and so loves me. Have a blessed Christmas, a wonderful New Year, and go out and make music in the heart of the world.

The Most Rev. Michael B. Curry, Presiding Bishop and Primate

A Christmas message from the Bishop of Maine

In Advent we wait in the dark for the light we trust is coming.

I think that this year, many of us are feeling alone and isolated in our lives and concerns. We worry for our families and our country and for the future of this fragile earth, our island home.

I suspect it was very much this way when Jesus was born. A small, poor, rural country, occupied by a foreign power, held in contempt for its strange and unsophisticated belief in one God. Who was there to notice or to care about the people of Israel?

But then came the angels and the shepherds. Christmas tells us that God cares and, in fact, cares so much that God has come to live our lives as one with us. Jesus is the human face of God and is right here, right now.

An ancient prayer of praise from the Celtic tradition captures the intimacy of God's presence with us.

*You are the peace of all things calm
You are the place to hide from harm
You are the light that shines in dark
You are the heart's eternal spark
You are the door that's open wide
You are the guest who waits inside
You are the stranger at the door
You are the calling of the poor
You are my Lord and with me still
You are my love, keep me from ill
You are the light, the truth, the way
You are my Saviour this very day.*

Jesus is with us, right here, right now. May you rejoice in this good news and may you share his light with everyone you meet. Merry Christmas.

The Rt. Rev. Stephen T. Lane, Bishop of Maine

The Christmas Greens are given to the glory of God and in thanksgiving for

Janet, Callie and Caitlin Brennan	Michael Brennan
Our children, the Woolsons, Garcias, Shaws	Muffie and David Fernald
Hallam, Murdoch, Davis and Curry Families	Ray Davis Murdoch Curry
Chuck Sawyer	Lynne England
The Buteau and Marcoux families	Debra Marcoux
Arthur Jones, Kristen Buteau & Craig Masse, Michael, Melissa and Liam Cox	Susan McCuller
Our grandchildren, Nola, Greyson, Elin and Leighton	Anne and Bruce Myers
Aidriana and J.D.	Dan and Fran Riggall
Our St. Luke's family	Ben and Shari Shambaugh

The Christmas Greens are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of

The Rt. Rev. Frederick B. Wolf	Anonymous
Charles H. Brennan	Michael Brennan
Roland Buteau, George and Doris Mackay, Art Marcoux	Carolyn Buteau
Helen and John Hennessy, Sr., Evelyn and Donald Callnan	John Hennessy and Peter Callnan
Renald Manetti, Emily Courts, Stephen Gayle Courts	Mike Courts
Bob Fitzgerald	Cynthia Fitzgerald
Art Marcoux, Roland Buteau	Debra Marcoux
Mac McCuller, Faith Jones	Susan McCuller
Jane Hallam Murdoch	Ray Davis Murdoch Curry
Darrell J. Doughty	Mary Doughty
Edward and Ellen Lynsky, Richard and Bessie Farnsworth	Dick and Ellen Farnsworth
Oakley Debbs	Nick Penfield
Our parents: Ted and Rosa Poland, Walter and Cherry Perkins	Sally and Ted Poland
Oliver Pride	Jessica and Misha Pride
Marianne Riggall, Merrit Butterfield, John Butterfield	Dan and Fran Riggall
The Savage and Sawyer Families	Chuck Sawyer and David Savage
Marianne Goddard	Ben and Shari Shambaugh
Katharine Shambaugh, Martha Repp Shambaugh, Marietta Long	George & Roberta Shambaugh
Alice A. McLaughlin	Mary Strnad
Alice Theberge, Gerald Thorne, Mary Polero	Michael Thorne

Christmas Greens are also given by Sallie Smith, Joyce Cassidy