



*The First Sunday after Christmas Day*  
**THE HOLY EUCHARIST**  
Sunday, 31 December 2023 • 8:00 & 10:30 AM  
*Pensacola, Florida • Episcopal Diocese of the Central Gulf Coast*

The People's responses are in *bold italics*.

Hymns are in the blue *Hymnal 1982*.

Service music (marked "S") is found at the front of the Hymnal.

Other page numbers refer to the red *Book of Common Prayer*.

### Worship Information

*Welcome to Christ Church! We especially welcome our visitors and newcomers and ask that you fill out a visitor card so that we can thank you for coming.*

*For Children – Children are always welcome during service. There is a Kid's Korner with books and activities at the entrance.*

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**Opening Voluntary** *Prelude on Es ist ein Ros' entsprungen*

*("Lo, how a rose e'er blooming")*

— *Mary Beth Bennett (b. 1954)*

### Hymn in Procession

**Hymn 93** — *Angels, from the realms of glory*

### Welcome

#### THE LITURGY OF THE WORD – BCP 355

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

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

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.***

**Gloria: Glory to God in the highest** **Hymnal S 280**

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.

### The 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 People may be seated.*

### The First Lesson — 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. The Word of the Lord. ***Thanks be to God.***

### 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!

### The Second Lesson — 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. The Word of the Lord. ***Thanks be to God.***

*The People stand for the Sequence Hymn and the Gospel.*

**10:30 - Sequence Hymn**

**Hymn 82** — *Of the Father's love begotten*

**CHILDREN'S CHAPEL** — 10:30 Service  
During the Hymn of Praise, children in grades Pre-K–5th  
may follow the children's acolytes down the center aisle  
to Children's Chapel. They will return at the Peace.

**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.**

**The Sermon**

*The Rev. Dr. Michael Hoffman*

*Silence may be kept.*

**The Nicene Creed** *The People stand.*

**BCP 358**

We believe in one God, *the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven*

*and is seated at the right hand of the Father.*

*He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.*

*We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son.*

*With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.*

*He has spoken through the Prophets.*

*We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.*

*We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.*

*We look for the resurrection of the dead,*

*and the life of the world to come. Amen.*

**Prayers of the People: Form IV**

**BCP 388**

*Celebrant* Let us pray for the Church and for the world.

*Leader* Grant, Almighty God, that all who confess your Name may be united in your truth, live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world.

*Silence*

Lord, in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

*Leader* Guide the people of this land, and of all the nations, especially the Middle East, in the ways of justice and peace; that we may honor one another and serve the common good.

*Silence*

Lord, in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

*Leader* Give us all a reverence for the earth as your own creation, that we may use its resources rightly in the service of others and to your honor and glory.

*Silence*

Lord, in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

*Leader* Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, and grant that we may serve Christ in them, and love one another as he loves us. We pray especially for the poor and the oppressed, for the unemployed and the destitute, for prisoners and captives, and for all who remember and care for them.

*Silence*

Lord, in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

*Leader* Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit (*especially...*); give them courage and hope in their troubles, and bring them the joy of your salvation.

*Silence*

Lord, in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

*Leader* We commend to your mercy all who have died (*especially...*), that your will for them may be fulfilled; and we pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom.

*Silence*

Lord, in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

*The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.*

*Celebrant* 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** *All stand.*  
*Celebrant* The peace of the Lord be always with you.  
*People* **And also with you.**  
*The Ministers and People greet one another in the name of the Lord.*

## Announcements

### The Offertory

#### 10:30 - Offertory Anthem

*“Lo, how a rose e'er blooming”  
— Michael Praetorius (1571-1621)*

*The text of the Offertory Anthem may be found  
at Hymn no. 81 in The Hymnal 1982.*

**At the Presentation** **Hymnal 380:3**  
*Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
praise him all creatures here below;  
praise him above, ye heavenly host:  
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.*

*At the presentation of the monetary gifts,*  
*Celebrant* All things come of thee, O Lord.  
*People* **And of thine own have we given thee.**

## THE HOLY COMMUNION

### Eucharistic Prayer A – BCP 361

*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.**

*Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds*  
It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. *Here a Proper Preface is said.*  
Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

*Celebrant and People* **Hymnal S 129**  
**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.**

*The people stand or kneel. Then the Celebrant continues*  
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.**

*The Celebrant continues*  
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.**

### The Lord's Prayer

*Celebrant* And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,  
**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.*  
*Celebrant* Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.  
*People* **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

**10:30 - Then is sung**  
**Fraction Anthem: Agnus Dei** **Hymnal S 163**

*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.

## The Communion

Christians of all ages (regardless of where you were baptized) are welcome to receive Holy Communion. • Please come forward to the Altar Rail, being careful of the step just before the rail. • The rail fills from the center, and please don't hesitate to cross to the other side if there is space. • Communion is available in two kinds. If you choose not to receive communion in one or both kinds, please cross both arms across your chest and the priest will offer a blessing. • If you choose to receive communion in one kind, know Christ is fully present and all benefits of the Eucharist are fully received. • If you receive the chalice, please assist the chalice bearer by guiding the base of the cup. Or you may choose to intinct in the chalice. • If you need a gluten-free wafer, please cross one arm across your chest. There is no separate chalice. • If you would like the clergy to bring communion to someone in the pew, please notify the ushers at the door.

## Communion Hymns

Hymn 105 — *God rest you merry, gentlemen*

Hymn 89 — *It came upon the midnight clear*

## Post Communion Prayer

BCP 365

Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

## Prayer for Mission

BCP 101

Lord Jesus Christ, you stretched out your arms of love on the hard wood of the cross that everyone might come within the reach of your saving embrace: So clothe us in your Spirit that we, reaching forth our hands in love, may bring those who do not know you to the knowledge and love of you: for the honor of your name. Amen.

## The Blessing

## Hymn in Procession

Hymn 99 — *Go tell it on the mountain*

Dismissal Response: *Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!*

## Closing Voluntary

Prelude on "God rest ye merry, gentlemen"  
— John Rutter (b. 1945)



# CHRIST CHURCH PARISH

Wright Street at Palafox, PO Box 12683,  
Pensacola, Florida 32591-2683 Phone: (850) 432-5115  
e-mail: [chronicle@christ-church.net](mailto:chronicle@christ-church.net) web: [www.christ-church.net](http://www.christ-church.net)

## CLERGY & STAFF

The Rev. Dr. Michael Hoffman, *Rector*  
The Rev. Katie Gillett, *Associate*  
The Rev. Leonard Roberts Graves    The Rev. Doug Halvorsen  
The Rev. Walter Kindergan  
The Rev. D. Fredrick Lindstrom, Jr.    The Rev. John Walter Phillips, II  
The Rev. Jandy H. Watkins, *Assisting Clergy*  
Dr. Jason Hobratschk, *Director of Music Ministry*  
Paul Miller, *Assistant Organist*  
Victoria Wright, *Director of Children & Family Ministries*  
Tess Willstatter, *Youth Minister*  
Tim Heindl, *Parish Administrator*    Kelly Heindl, *Parish Secretary*  
Traci Hart, *Director of Communications*  
Honey Harris, *Director of Outreach & Connections*  
Krista McGraw, *Clergy Assistant*  
Treece Efird, *Technology Coordinator*  
Kia Lewis, Bobbie Smith, Cleveland Swift, *Sextons*  
Jean Karadin, *Senior Verger*    Brandi Lane, *Verger*

## THE VESTRY

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