

# The Episcopal Church of St. John the Baptist

## CHRISTMAS PAGEANT & HOLY EUCHARIST

DECEMBER 24, 2017

6:30 p.m.

**Welcome! At the Holy Eucharist, we proclaim the presence of Christ in the assembly, the Word and the Sacrament. All are welcome to receive Holy Communion or to come forward for a blessing.**

*Music before the service by our Joyful Noise Choir*

	<u>HYMN NO.</u>
<b>Opening Hymn:</b>	<i>O come all ye faithful</i> 83, vss. 1, 3 & 6
<i>The congregation remains seated for the following Carols.</i>	
<i>We sing the first verse of these Carols.</i>	
<b>Entrance of the Animals</b>	<i>O little town of Bethlehem</i> 79
<b>Entrance of Joseph &amp; Mary</b>	<i>Once in royal David's city</i> 102
<b>Entrance of the Christ Child</b>	<i>Away in a manger</i> 101
<b>Entrance of the Shepherds &amp; Angels</b>	<i>Angels we have heard on high</i> 96
<b>Coming of the Wise Men</b>	<i>We three kings</i> 128
<i>We sing all three verses of this Carol.</i>	
<b>Coming of the People with the Gifts of Stars</b>	<i>What child is this</i> 115

*Celebrant* The word was made flesh and dwelt among us.

*People* **And we beheld his glory.**

### THE COLLECT

O God, you make us glad by the yearly festival of the birth of your only Son Jesus Christ: Grant that we, who joyfully receive him as our Redeemer, may with sure confidence behold him when he comes to be our Judge; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

### THE GOSPEL

*The Gospel is read while all stand, the reader first saying*

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke (2:1-14).

*People* **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

*At the end of the Gospel, the reader says*

The Gospel of the Lord

*People* **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

## THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

*The people remain standing.*

*The Leader and people pray responsively*

Father, we pray for your holy Catholic Church;

*That we all may be one.*

Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;

*That your Name may be glorified by all people.*

We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons;

*That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.*

We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;

*That there may be justice and peace on the earth.*

Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;

*That our works may find favor in your sight.*

Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;

*That they may be delivered from their distress.*

Give to the departed eternal rest;

*Let light perpetual shine upon them.*

We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;

*May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.*

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.

*Silence*

*The Celebrant adds a concluding collect.*

## THE PEACE

## THE HOLY COMMUNION

**Offertory Hymn:**

*Go tell it on the mountain*

**Hymnal No. 99**

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

[p. 367]

*The people remain standing. The Celebrant says*

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 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. 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 for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

*Celebrant and People*

[Hymnal S-130]

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.**

*The people 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, O Father,

*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, Joseph, John the Baptist 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, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **AMEN.**

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say, [p. 364]

**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**

*Celebrant and People*

[Hymnal S-154]

**Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us; therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

*The Celebrant invites the people to Communion saying*

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

**Communion Hymn:** *(as time permits)*

*In the bleak midwinter*

**Hymnal No. 112**

*Lo, how a rose e'er blooming*

**Hymnal No. 81**

*After Communion, the Celebrant says*

Let us pray.

**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.**

**Candle Lighting**

*Silent night*

**111**

*The Celebrant gives the blessing*

**Recessional Hymn:**

*Hark the herald angels sing*

**87**

*The Deacon dismisses the people with these words*

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

*People*

**Thanks be to God.**

**Postlude**

*Good Christian Men Rejoice*