



Karen Frederick

Christmas Pageant and Holy Eucharist

December 22, 2024

Prelude: *Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming*, arr. John Purifoy

Processional Hymn

Come thou long expected Jesus

Hymn 66

Advent Candle Lighting

Celebrant: "John 13:34 – Jesus said to them, I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."

People: "Loving God, your mercy and compassion endure forever. Open our hearts, that we may receive your love; and following the example of your Son, spread that love to a love-starved world. Through Jesus Christ, who loved us to the end. Amen."

The Word of God

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

People: And blessed be his kingdom, now and forever. Amen.

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Advent Collect

Celebrant: Purify our conscience, Almighty God, by your daily visitation, that your Son Jesus Christ, at his coming, may find in us a mansion prepared for himself; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Celebrant: Now let us hear the story of our Savior's birth as told through our Christmas Pageant.

Innkeeper Procession

Away in a Manger

Hymn 101

**Away in a manger, no crib for his bed,
The little Lord Jesus laid down his
sweet head.**

**The stars in the bright sky looked down
where he lay**

The little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.

Narrator: Welcome everyone who has come to worship
and hear

the story of Baby Jesus whose love we hold dear.

It begins with Mary and Joseph, two tired refugees,
traveling to Bethlehem, as written in God's prophecy.

The story begins with the innkeeper sharing
a story of hope, faith and love, and also God's caring.

Mary and Joseph Procession

O Little Town of Bethlehem

Hymn 79

**O little town of Bethlehem,
how still we see thee lie!**

Above thy deep and dreamless sleep

The silent stars go by;

yet in thy dark streets shineth

the everlasting Light;

the hopes and fears of all the years

are met in thee tonight.

Innkeeper: Mary and Joseph standing before me, a pitiful
sight,

So tired and dirty, they gave me a fright.

"My rooms are all taken; not one empty bed.

There is no room in all Bethlehem," I said.

Mary: But our eyes told a story of hunger and need.

He felt very sorry, so he tried a good deed.

He cleaned up the stable and he cooked up a meal.

He helped all he could, at least, that's how I feel.

Joseph: He noticed that Mary was expecting very soon!
So, he prepared for delivery right under the moon.
The child came so quickly. His face seemed alight.
In this beautiful baby, God's presence shone bright.
I said softly. "It's Jesus, my friend."
God sent him to teach us and let His love in.

The Animals Procession

Hymn: *The Friendly Beasts*

**Jesus our brother, kind and good,
was humbly born in a stable rude,
And the friendly beasts around Him stood,
Jesus our brother, kind and good.
Thus every beast by some good spell
In the stable dark was glad to tell
Of the gift he gave Emmanuel,
The gift he gave Emmanuel.**

Innkeeper: My animals were calm, quieter than normal.
They often were noisy, and never too formal.
They always were eating, or else they were sleeping.
The stable required continuous sweeping.

Animal: But on Christmas night, they were strangely in
awe at the sight of the baby and all that they saw.
It's as if they knew that God had just hushed them,
Had fed and watered and carefully brushed them.
They knew, I believe, that God had been able
to work a miracle that night in that stable.

Angels Procession

Angels We Have Heard on High

Hymn 96

**Angels we have heard on high, singing sweetly through the
night,
And the mountains in reply, echoing their brave delight.
Gloria in excelsis Deo.
Gloria in excelsis Deo.**

Angel: We do not often see God's wondrous angels in flight.
But on the first Christmas, they lit up the night.
They appeared to the shepherds
saying
"Peace on earth and goodwill to all"
their sweet song to the shepherds as
they gave them their call.

Angel: With a light show that dazzled all who could see,
the angels shouted hallelujah and sang out with glee.
"To Bethlehem, shepherds!" the angels directed.
"To see Jesus the Christ, whom God has perfected."
"Go worship the Lord and follow his ways.
And you'll find Christmas joy for all of your days."

Shepherds Procession

The First Noel

Hymn 109

**The first Noel the angel did say
Was to certain poor shepherds in
fields as they lay;
In fields as they lay, keeping their
sheep
On a cold winter's night that was so
deep.
Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.**

Shepherd: The shepherds, I told you, were scared and
stunned.

"Too much hard work or too much hot sun!"

Shepherd: That's what they thought; that's how they
explained.
Perplexed and afraid, they loudly complained.
But the angels' song calmed them, and then they believed.
They rejoiced when they knew and were also relieved.
They went to the stable and worshiped the Lord.
Then they left and began to spread the good Word.

Wise Persons and Star Procession

We Three Kings

Hymn 128

**We three kings of Orient are,
bearing gifts we traverse afar,
field and fountain, moor and mountain,
following yonder star.**

**O star of wonder, star of night,
star with royal beauty bright;
westward leading, still proceeding,
guide us to thy perfect light!**

Wise Person: That shone brightly led Wise People at night
To Bethlehem's stable, to the manger's strange light.
They came bearing gifts, in worship and love,
praising God for God's wonders from heaven above.

The Wise Men were kings
and they knelt on the
straw. It was the most
wonderful of things that
ever I saw.

If kings bring him gold
and all kinds of treasure,
then maybe we too, can worship with pleasure.

Wise Person: The person of Jesus, who came to us all.
So worthy of praise, for he brings us God's call."

"I am the way, the truth, and the life,
Come to God for healing from strife.
Come unto me, all you who labor,
And I'll give you rest forever to savor."

Baby Jesus Procession

Silent Night

Hymn 111

**Silent night, holy night,
all is calm, all is bright**

**round yon virgin mother and child.
Holy infant, so tender and mild,
sleep in heavenly peace.
Sleep in heavenly peace.**

Narrator T'was the very first Christmas and there in the manger, the Christ-child was born; it could not have been stranger.

Shepherds saw angels;
Wise Men, a star.
They came to see Jesus; they came from afar.

They knew He was special – God's very own Son,
He came to the earth to teach and love everyone.

He grew up in time, the Savior, the Lord,
To be worshiped each day, to be loved and adored.

So now at Christmas we all take delight.
In the gift that God gave us that first Christmas night.

In the gifts we receive and the ones that we give,
Let us never forget, it's in Christ that we live.

Children's Recessional

Joy to the Word

Hymn 100

Joy to the world!

The Lord is Come:

**Let earth receive her King;
let every heart prepare him room,
and heaven and nature sing,
and heaven and nature sing
and heaven, and heaven and nature sing.**

The Peace

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

People: **And also with you.**

The Offertory

Celebrant Walk in love as Christ loved us and gave himself for us an offering and sacrifice to God.

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

Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.

Praise Him, all creatures here below.

Praise Him above the Heavenly host.

Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost.

Amen.

Eucharistic Prayer B

The Great Thanksgiving

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. Because you sent your beloved Son to redeem us from sin and death, and to make us heirs in him of everlasting life; that when he shall come again in power and great triumph to judge the world, we may without shame or fear rejoice to behold his appearing.

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:

Sanctus

Hymn S130

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
Holy, holy, holy, Lord, God of power and might,
Heaven and earth are full, 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.

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 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 forever. **Amen.**

Celebrant: 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,
forever and ever. Amen.**

The Fraction

The Celebrant breaks the bread.

(A moment of silence)

Celebrant: Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

People: Therefore let us keep the feast.

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 Music

Creator of the Stars of Night, arr. Thomas Keesecker

Post Communion Prayer

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Celebrant and People

**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.**

The Blessing

Closing Hymn *Hark a thrilling voice is sounding!*

Hymn 59

Lay Eucharistic Minister: Go in peace to love and
serve the Lord

People: **Thanks be to God**

Postlude

From Heaven Above to Earth I Come, Johann Pachelbel

**We pray for those on the Anglican and Diocesan
Cycles of Prayer and our Parish Family and Friends**

We pray for: Justin, the Archbishop of Canterbury, Sean, Our Presiding Bishop, Mariann Our Bishop and Vikki, our Rector; for this gathering; and for all ministers and people.

Anglican Cycle of Prayer:

The Church of the Province of Uganda

Diocesan Cycle of Prayer

St. Stephen and the Incarnation

St. John's Church Broad Creek

St. John's Church Georgetown

St. John's Georgetown Pre-School

St. John's Church Lafayette Square

St. John's Church, Mt. Rainier

St. John's Church Norwood, Chevy Chase

St. John's Church, Olney

St. John's Episcopal School, Olney

St. John's Church, Zion Parish, Beltsville

For our Parish Family and Friends:

Judy O'Neil, Meredith Smith, Delbert Wemple, Lydia Brittle,
Scott Peterson, Stevie Grimes, Nancy Harding, Janet
McMurtray

Carolann Guerette (V. Cross)

Frank and Jerry Cross (V. Cross)

Susan Oliver (J. Shea)

Daniel Oliver (J. Shea)

Thomas Cooper and Mrs. Boyd (D. Burton)

Roseann Royle (N. Row)

Darcy Alt (S. Henderson)

Pam Jagusch (S. Grimes)

Jeff Weinberger (S. Henderson)

The Dodge Family (M. Wemple)

Seth Washington (S. Grimes)

Amy Morris (D. Howard)

Amanda Graham (A. Fitts)

Michele Shirron (V. Clayton & N. Row)

Gerald Holbrook (M. Wemple)
Caroline Cross (M. Wemple)
Christine Pearson (V. Cross & J. Rutherford)
Chris Fountas (J. Rutherford)
Edmund Ground (M. Smith)
Allie Ground (M. Smith)
Maurice La Marque (N. Row)
Michelle La Marque (N. Row)
Andy Burns (J. Peterson)
J.J. Sandy (M. Wemple)
Martha Beavers (J. McMurtray)
Steve MacKison (J. McMurtray)
Garry Ground (M. Smith)
Bill Tei (M. Wemple)
Felicia Taylor Popowski (B. Taylor)
Angela McKenzie (S. Henderson)
Mercy Frederick Ozuruonye (C. Frederick)
Rev. Jo-Ann Murphy (N. Row)
Anna Kuhlmann (N. Row)
Chuck Moffett (V. Cross)

December Birthdays

Melissa Dalton	December 10
Judith Schneider	December 14
Owen Jagusch	December 17
Lonnie Pera	December 18
Vickie Fisher	December 19
Lauren Fisher	December 30

Serving Today

Lay Eucharist Minister Deborah Howard

Choir Director, Music Director, and Organist Lauren Fisher

Usher Mark Wilner

Broadcast Technicians Randy and Evan Beans

Altar Guild Ann and Bill Fitts

Celebrant & Preacher The Rev. Vikki Clayton

St. Bartholomew's Choir

Jeff Bergsten, Bill Fitts, Charley Hendricks, Judy O'Neil, Maggie Ramey, Jennifer Rutherford, Judith Schneider

St. Bartholomew's Vestry

Senior Warden Lois Leigh
Junior Warden Jeff Bergsten

Vestry:

Victoria Cross, Lauren Fisher, William Fitts, Charles Frederick, David Landrith, Lauren Murtiff, Robert Palmer, Judith Schneider

Coffee Hour

Coffee hour is hosted by Lois Leigh and Nancy Row. Next week is grilled cheese and soup hosted by Lauren Fisher.

Christmas Poinsettias

Christmas poinsettias are available for purchase to decorate the altar, which you can take home on December 29th. They are \$18 for a six-inch flower. Contact Victoria (parishadmin@saintbartholomews.org) or call 301-355-7189 by Tuesday, December 17th with your dedication. Checks marked "poinsettia" or cash in an envelope marked "poinsettia" can be put in the offertory plate.

Bible Study

Bible study is on hiatus until January 9, 2025.

Food Giving Basket

There is a food giving basket for Olney Help in the entry way of the church with a "wish list" of items. Please bring the items in a bag. Thank you for your generosity.

On-Line Giving

There is now the option to contribute to the ministries of St. Bartholomew's by using this QR code:



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Rector - Rev. Victoria Clayton
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Sylvia!

Sylvia Frederick