Christmas Eve
December 24, 2025

Prelude:
What Child is This? Richard Purvis

Opening Hymn:
O come, all ye faithful, vs. 1-3 and 6, **Hymn 83**

The Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Celebrant: "Isaiah 9:6 – For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace."

Celebrant and People: **"O God of hope, peace, joy, and love. As Mary and Joseph welcomed you into the world, now help us welcome you into our lives. Give us courage to hope; strength to seek peace. Fill our spirits with joy; and our hearts with love. Through Jesus Christ, the Lord of all. Amen."**

The Holy Eucharist: Rite Two BCP 355

The Word of God
Celebrant: Blessed be God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
People: And blessed be his kingdom, now and forever. Amen.

Collect for Purity
Let us pray together the Collect for Purity
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
Angels we have heard on high, vs. 1-2, **Hymn 96**

Collect of The Day
Celebrant: The Lord be with you.
People: And also with you.
Celebrant: Let us pray.
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 Lessons
A Reading from: 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.

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

Psalm 96 **BCP 725**

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.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. Amen.

The Epistle 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.

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

Sequence Hymn:
Hark! the herald angels sing **Hymn 87**

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke 2:1-20

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

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.

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

Homily **Rev. Vikki Clayton**

All stand as you are able
The Nicene Creed **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.

Stand or kneel as you are able
The Prayers of the People
Gracious God, on this night we are reminded that we too, like the story of the shepherds in the field, hasten to see the presence of God's light in the world.
May we always be open to God's love.

We pray for all who work, or watch, or weep, this night.
May they find comfort in your presence.

We pray for the peace of the world.
For all who strive towards justice and reconciliation.

Tonight we pray for those in any need or trouble, and for those who seek to know you.
May they find strength in your love.

We pray for the special needs and concerns of this congregation.
Silence

Hear us, Lord;
For your mercy is great.

We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life.
Silence

We will exalt you, O God our King;
And praise your Name for ever and ever.

We pray for those on the Anglican and Diocesan Cycles of Prayer and our Parish Family and Friends
For Sarah Mullally, Archbishop of Canterbury Elect, Sean, our Presiding Bishop, Mariann our Bishop, Vikki, our Rector; and for Lauren our music and choir director, for this gathering; and for all ministers and people.

Anglican Cycle of Prayer:
The Diocese of São Paulo – Igreja Episcopal Anglicana do Brasil

Diocesan Cycle of Prayer:
St. John's Church, Broad Creek
St. John's Church, Georgetown
St. John's Church Georgetown Preschool
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

St. Stephen and the Incarnation /San Esteban y La Encarnación, DC

For our Parish Family and Friends:
Judy O'Neil, Meredith Smith, Lydia Brittle, Scott Peterson, Stevie Grimes, Janet McMurtray

For parishioners' family members and friends we pray in the quiet of our hearts:
(A moment of silence)

Carolann Guerette (V. Cross)
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)
Seth Washington (S. Grimes)
Amanda Graham (A. Fitts)
Christine Pearson (V. Cross & J. Rutherford)
Chris Fountas (J. Rutherford)
Edmund Ground (M. Smith)
Allie Ground (M. Smith)
Garry Ground (M. Smith)
Felicia Taylor Popowski (B. Taylor)
Angela McKenzie (S. Henderson)
Mercy Frederick Ozuruonye (C. Frederick)
Anna Kuhlmann (N. Row)
Deanna Wheeler (Deborah Howard)
Nicole Pappano (J. Kaufmann)
David Umsheid (J. McMurtray)
Barb and Scott McDonald (V. Cross)
Carolyn Cross (M. Wemple)
Joyce Oehmler (V. Cross)
Dave Maxham (J. & S. Hauber)

Yannick Goedde-Bosch (A. Fitts)
Nicole Bowie (N. Row)
Jim Bond (S. Bond)
Shari Champagne (V. Cross)
Donny Cooper (J. McMurtray)
Patricia DeVol (J. McMurtray)
Nancy Loy (J. Rutherford)

Celebrant:
O Lord our God, accept the fervent prayers of your people; in the multitude of your mercies, look with compassion upon us and all who turn to you for help; for you are gracious, O lover of souls, and to you we give glory, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and forever. **Amen.**

The Confession of Sin **BCP 360**
Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.
Silence may be kept.

Celebrant 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.

Celebrant:
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.**

All stand as you are able
The Peace

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

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

The Offertory
All are seated.

Choral Offertory:
O Holy Night, arr. Bryan Bourque

All stand as you are able.
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 A **BCP 361**
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 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:

Celebrant and People: 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.

Stand or kneel as you are able.
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.

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 forever. **Amen.**

Celebrant: 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, forever and ever. Amen.

The Fraction
The Celebrant breaks the bread.
(A moment of silence)

The Holy Eucharist, Fraction Anthem: Christ our Passover, #154 from *The Hymnal 1982, Service Music* — Music: From *New Plainsong*; David Hurd (b. 1950). Copyright © 1981 GIA Publications, Inc.

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 Hymns:
Lo, how a Rose e'er blooming **Hymn 81**
In the bleak midwinter **Hymn 112**

Post Communion Prayer **BCP 365**
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.

Hymn by Candlelight:
Silent night **page 17; Hymn 111**

The Blessing

Closing Hymn:
Joy to the world **Hymn 100**

The Dismissal
Lay Eucharistic Minister: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Alleluia, Alleluia.
People: Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia.

Postlude:
Postlude on 'Antioch,' arr. Gerald Peterson

Silent Night **Hymn 111**

Words: Joseph Mohr (1792-1848); tr. John Freeman Young (1820-1885). Music: *Stille Nacht*, melody Franz Xaver Gruber (1787-1863); harm. Carl H. Reinecke (1824-1910).

Serving Today
Lay Reader Deborah Howard
Lay Eucharist Minister Sharon Henderson
Choir Director, Music Director, and Organist Lauren Fisher
Usher John Kaufmann
Broadcast Technician Ann Fitts
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:
Lauren Fisher, William Fitts, Charles Frederick, John Kaufmann, David Landrith, Judith Schneider, Donna Starkweather

We wish you and all your loved ones a very Merry Christmas!

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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