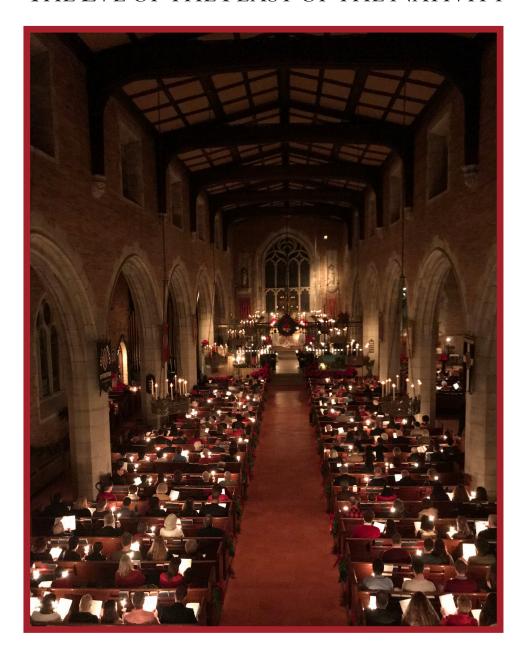
St. Peter's, Morristown The Eve of the Feast of the Nativity



HOLY EUCHARIST, RITE II at 5:00 p.m.

December 24, 2020

The Eve of the Feast of the Nativity

The Word of God

ORGAN VOLUNTARY Carol Rhapsody

9:1

Richard Purvis (1913-1994)





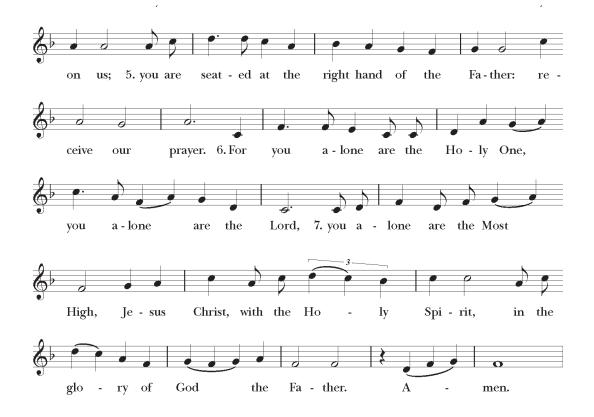
Refrain

Collect for Purity

Blessed be God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
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 IN EXCELSIS





SALUTATION & COLLECT

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

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 People are seated.

Lector A Reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah. PON your walls, O Jerusalem, I have posted sentinels; all day and all night they shall never be silent. You who remind the Lord, take no rest, and give him no rest until he establishes Jerusalem and makes it renowned throughout the earth. The Lord has sworn by his right hand and by his mighty arm: I will not again give your grain to be food for your enemies, and foreigners shall not drink the wine for which you have labored; but those who garner it shall eat it and praise the Lord, and those who gather it shall drink it in my holy courts. Go through, go through the gates, prepare the way for the people; build up, build up the highway, clear it of stones, lift up an ensign over the peoples. The Lord has proclaimed to the end of the earth: Say to daughter Zion, "See, your salvation comes; his reward is with him, and his recompense before him." They shall be called, "The Holy People, The Redeemed of the Lord"; and you shall be called, "Sought Out, A City Not Forsaken."

LectorThe Word of the Lord.PeopleThanks be to God.

HYMN "A stable lamp is lighted"

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The Second Lesson-Titus 3: 4-7

Susan D'Alessandro

Lector A Reading from the Letter of Paul to Titus.

WHEN the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared, he saved us, not because of any works of righteousness that we had done, but according to his mercy, through the water of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit. This Spirit he poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior, so that, having been justified by his grace, we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life.

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

SEQUENCE HYMN "Angels from the realms of glory"

^{No} 93 *Regent Square*



PriestThe Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.PeopleGlory to you, Lord Christ.

I N 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.

Priest	The Gospel of the Lord
People	Praise to you, Lord Christ

Sermon

The Rev. Anne C. Thatcher

THE NICENE CREED

W E 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.

THE PRAYERS

Intercessor	Let us pray to our incarnate Lord, who has brought us out of darkness and into his own marvelous light.
	Christ born for us, Son of God given for us: help us to know you, to worship and to serve you. Jesus, Savior,
People	Hear our prayer.
Intercessor	Wonderful counsellor, you order all things with your wisdom: help the Church to reveal the mystery of your love and fill her with the Spirit of truth. Jesus, Savior,
People	Hear our prayer.
Intercessor	Mighty God, the government is on your shoulders: guide the leaders of the nations and bring in your kingdom of justice and righteousness.
	Jesus, Savior,
People	Hear our prayer.
Intercessor	Everlasting father, you call us to live together in unity: protect by your mercy all your children, bless our families and renew our communities. Jesus, Savior,
People	Hear our prayer.
I Intercessor	Prince of peace, you bring reconciliation through the cross: by your healing power give to all who suffer your gift of wholeness and peace. Jesus, Savior,
People	Hear our prayer.
Intercessor	Lord Jesus Christ, Son of the Father, full of the Spirit, hear our prayer, receive our praises, fill our lives. AMEN .

CONFESSION OF SIN

Celebrant Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

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.

THE PEACE

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

THE HOLY COMMUNION

ANTHEM

HAT sweeter musick can we bring than a carol, for to sing the birth of this our heavenly King? Awake the voice! Awake the string:

WE see him come and know Him ours, Who with his sunshine and his show'rs turns all the patient ground to flow'rs.

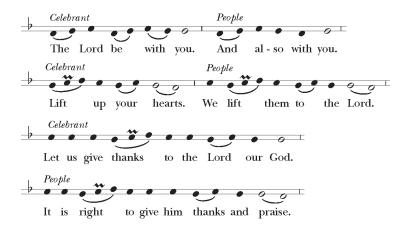
DARK and dull night, fly hence away, and give the honour to this day, that sees December turned to May, If we may ask the reason, say: William Bradley Roberts (b. 1947)

THE darling of the world is come, and fit it is we find a room 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 honor who's our King, and Lord of all this reveling.

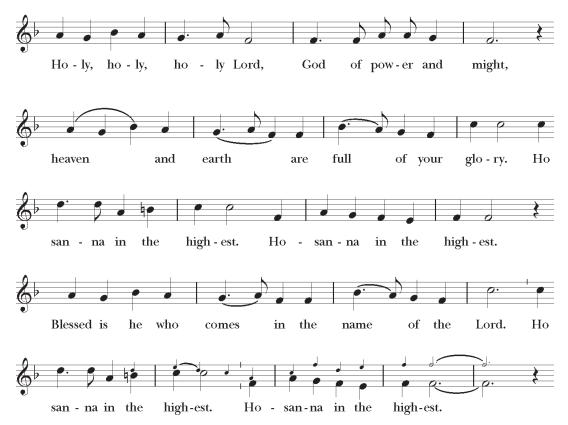
-Robert Herrick (1591-1674)

SURSUM CORDA



Celebrant It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, God 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 all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

SANCTUS & BENEDICTUS



THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

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."

Priest	Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:
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 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 Bread is broken. A period of silence is kept.

CelebrantAlleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;PeopleTherefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

AGNUS DEI



THE INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Celebrant The Gifts of God for the People of God.

A PRAYER FOR SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

CelebrantAs an act of thanksgiving for our spiritual communion, let us say
together a prayer known as the Anima Christi or Soul of Christ:PeopleJesus, may all that is in you flow into me. May your body and blood be my
food and drink. May your passion and death be my strength and life. May
the shelter I seek be the shadow of your cross. Let me not run from the love
you extend. Hold me safe from the forces of evil. On each of my dyings shed
your light and your love. Until with your saints may I praise you forever.
AMEN.

ANTHEM AT COMMUNION

I N the bleak mid-winter Frosty wind made moan; Earth stood hard as iron, Water like a stone; Snow had fallen, snow on snow, Snow on snow, In the bleak mid-winter Long ago.

OUR God, heaven cannot hold Him Nor earth sustain, Heaven and earth shall flee away When He comes to reign: In the bleak mid-winter A stable-place sufficed The Lord God Almighty Jesus Christ. ENOUGH for Him, whom Cherubim Worship night and day, A breastful of milk And a mangerful of hay; Enough for Him, whom Angels Fall down before, The ox and ass and camel Which adore.

WHAT can I give Him, Poor as I am? If I were a Shepherd I would bring a lamb; If I were a Wise Man I would do my part, Yet what I can I give Him, Give my heart.

-Christina Rossetti (1830-1894)

THE POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER

Celebrant Let us pray.

GOD of hope, faith, joy and love, we give you thanks and praise, that when we were still far off you met us in your Son and brought us home. Dying and living, he declared your love, gave us grace, and opened the gate of glory. May we who share Christ's body live his risen life; we who drink his cup bring life to others; we whom the Spirit lights give light to the world. Keep us firm in the hope you have set before us, so we and all your children shall be free, and the whole earth live to praise your name; through Christ our Lord. AMEN. POSTCOMMUNION HYMN "Silent night"

> 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.

2 Silent night, holy night, shepherds quake at the sight, glories stream from heaven afar, heavenly hosts sing alleluia; Christ, the Savior, is born!

3 Silent night, holy night, Son of God, love's pure light radiant beams from thy holy face, with the dawn of redeeming grace, Jesus, Lord, at thy birth.

THE BLESSING

AY the joy of the angels, the eagerness of the shepherds, the perseverance of the wise men, the obedience of Joseph and Mary, and the peace of the Christ-child be yours this Christmas; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit be upon you and remain with you always. **AMEN**.

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE DISMISSAL

Priest	Let us go forth into this holy night renewed by
	the presence of Christ in our midst.
People	Thanks be to God.

Hymn at the Retiring Procession

"Hark! the herald angels sing!



VOLUNTARY Sortie sur Adeste Fideles

Pierre Cochereau (1924-1984)

CHRISTMAS FLOWER & MUSIC DEDICATIONS

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