

St. Thomas Episcopal Church

Being a light to the world.

Worship, Youth, Discipleship

Christmas Prelude 10:30pm

Hymnal No. 81 Congregational Carol

A Maiden Most Gentle arr. Andrew Carter

Yvette Petti

There is No Rose Anon., c. 1420, trans. John Stevens Nowell Sing We Anonymous English, 15th c. Carol of the Bells

Mykola Leontovych

St. Thomas Choral Scholars

Gesu Bambino Pietro Yon

McKenzie Schafer

Congregational Carol Hymnal No. 115

The Eve of the Nativity of our Lord, Jesus Christ 11:00 p.m.

The Proclamation of the Birth of Our Lord Jesus Christ

From the entrance of the church, before the procession of the liturgical ministers, the ancient text announcing the birth of Jesus Christ is chanted.

STATION AT THE CRECHE

The Glory of the Lord has been revealed. And all people will see the salvation of God.

Then all join in the following prayer.

Eternal God, in the stillness of this night you sent your almighty Word to pierce the world's darkness with the light of salvation: give to the earth the peace that we long for and fill our hearts with the joy of heaven through our Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen.

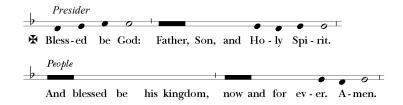
The Word was made flesh and dwelt among us. And we beheld His glory.

Hymn in Procession

Irby



THE OPENING ACCLAMATION



THE COLLECT FOR PURITY

Almighty God, unto whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid; Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of thy Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love thee, and worthily magnify thy holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The people remain standing for the Kyrie and Gloria, sung by the choir.

KYRIE ELEISON (sung by the Choir)

William Byrd

Kyrie eleison. Lord, have mercy. Christe eleison. Christ, have mercy. Kyrie eleison. Lord, have mercy.

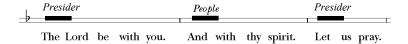
GLORIA IN EXCELSIS (sung by the Choir)

W. Byrd

Gloria in excelsis Deo, et in terra pax hominibus bonae voluntatis. Laudamus te, benedicimus te, adoramus te, glorificamus te. Gratias agimus tibi propter magnam gloriam tuam. Domine Deus, Rex caelestis, Deus Pater omnipotens, Domine Fili unigenite, Jesu Christe. Domine Deus, Agnus Dei, Filius Patris, qui tollis peccata mundi, miserere nobis, qui tollis peccata mundi suscipe deprecationem nostram, qui sedes ad dexteram patris miserere nobis. Quoniam tu solus sanctus, tu solus Dominus, tu solus Altissimus, Jesu Christe, & cum Sancto Spiritu in gloria Dei Patris. Amen.

Glory be to God on high, and on earth peace, good will towards men. We praise thee, we bless thee, we worship thee, we glorify thee, we give thanks to thee for thy great glory, O Lord God, heavenly King, God the Father Almighty. O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ; O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us. Thou that takest away the sins of the world, receive our prayer. Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy upon us. For thou only art holy; thou only art the Lord; thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost, art most high \maltese in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

THE SALUTATION AND COLLECT



O God, who hast caused this holy night to shine with the illumination of the true Light: Grant us, we beseech thee, that as we have known the mystery of that Light upon earth, so may we also perfectly enjoy him in heaven; where with thee and the Holy Spirit he liveth and reigneth, one God, in glory everlasting. **Amen.**

THE LESSONS

The people sit. Readings from the Bible are proclaimed and we share in the gift of God's Word through listening to the scriptures.

THE FIRST READING—Isaiah 62:6-12

A Reading from the Prophet Isaiah.

Upon 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."

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 97

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- 1 The LORD is King; let the / earth re/joice; * let the / multitude of the / isles be / glad.
- 2 Clouds and darkness are / round a/bout him, * righteousness and justice are the foun/dations / of his / throne.
- 3 A fire / goes be/fore him * and burns up his / enemies on / every / side.
- 4 His lightnings light / up the / world; * the earth / sees it and / is a/fraid.
- 5 The mountains melt like wax at the / <u>presence of the / LORD</u>, * at the presence of the / Lord of the / **whole** / earth.
- 6 The heavens de/clare his / righteousness, * and all the / peoples / see his / glory.
- 7 Confounded be all who worship carved images and delight in / false / gods! * Bow down be/fore him, / all you / gods.
- 8 Zion hears and is glad, and the cities of / <u>Judah</u> re/joice, * be/<u>cause of your / judgments</u>, O / Lord.
- 9 For you are the LORD, most high over / all the / earth; * you are exalted / <u>far above</u> / **all** / gods.
- 10 The LORD loves / those who hate / evil; *
 he preserves the lives of his saints
 and delivers them from the / hand / of the / wicked.
- 11 Light has sprung / up <u>for the</u> / righteous, * and joyful gladness for / <u>those who</u> are / **true**/hearted.
- 12 Rejoice in the / LORD, you / righteous, * and give / thanks to his / holy / Name.

The Second Reading—Titus 3:4-7

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.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.



THE GOSPEL—Luke 2:8-20

To introduce the Gospel the reader says

The ♣ Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke. Glory be to thee, O Lord.

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,

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.

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise be to thee, O Christ.**

THE SERMON

After the Gospel, one of the ministers gives the sermon, explaining how the lessons relate to our lives.

NICENE CREED

Then all stand and join in the following.

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.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

The people kneel or stand. Prayers are offered for our own needs and for those of others. After each petition the reader says

God of love and mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

The presider adds a concluding collect.

THE CONFESSION

The deacon says the following.

Let us humbly confess our sins unto Almighty God.

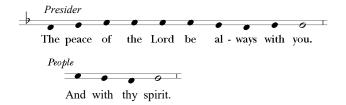
Most merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned against thee
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved thee with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.
For the sake of thy Son Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us and forgive us;
that we may delight in thy will,
and walk in thy ways,
to the glory of thy Name. Amen.

The presider stands and says,

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who of his great mercy hath promised forgiveness of sins to all those who with hearty repentance and true faith turn unto him, have mercy upon you, *P pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and bring you to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE PEACE

All stand, as they are able, and the presider introduces the Peace, saying



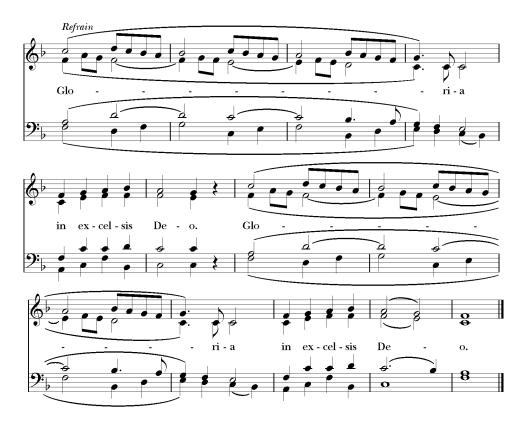
The people greet one another in the name of the Lord.

The Holy Communion

The presider introduces the offertory. An anthem is sung by the choir as the bread and wine for communion are brought forward. After the collection, the gifts of the people are presented at the altar. All join in the hymn.

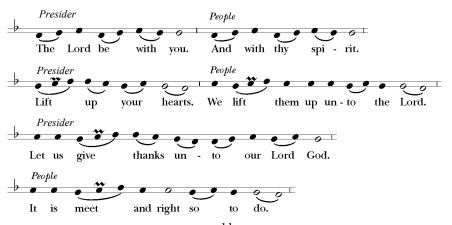
The presider offers the bread and the wine and the gifts of the people back to God, remembering that God is the source of all that we give.





THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The people remain standing.



The Presider gives thanks for god's faithfulness in creating, sustaining and redeeming humankind.

It is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord, holy father, almighty, everlasting God.

Because thou didst give Jesus Christ, thine only Son, to be born for us; who, by the mighty power of the Holy Ghost, was made very Man of the substance of the Virgin Mary his mother; that we might be delivered from the bondage of sin, and receive power to become thy children.

Therefore with Angels and Archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious Name; evermore praising thee, and saying,

SANCTUS & BENEDICTUS (sung by the choir)

W. Byrd

Sanctus, Sanctus, Sanctus, Dominus Deus Sabaoth; pleni sunt coeli et terra gloria tua.
Hosanna in excelsis.

Benedictus qui venit in nomine Domini.
Hosanna in excelsis.

Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of hosts:
Heaven and earth are full of thy glory.
Glory be to thee, O Lord Most High.

♣ Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

The people stand or kneel and the presider continues

All glory be to thee, Almighty God, our heavenly Father, for that thou, of thy tender mercy, didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption; who made there, by his one oblation of himself once offered, a full, perfect, and sufficient sacrifice, oblation, and satisfaction, for the sins of the whole world; and did institute, and in his holy Gospel command us to continue, a perpetual memory of that his precious death and sacrifice, until his coming again.

For in the night in which he was betrayed, he took bread; and when he had given thanks, he brake it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take, eat, this is my Body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Likewise, after supper, he took the cup; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, "Drink ye all of this; for this is my Blood of the New Testament, which is shed for you, and for many, for the remission of sins. Do this, as oft as ye shall drink it, in remembrance of me."

Wherefore, O Lord and heavenly Father, according to the institution of thy dearly beloved Son our Savior Jesus Christ, we, thy humble servants, do celebrate and make here before thy divine Majesty, with these thy holy gifts, which we now offer unto thee, the memorial thy Son hath commanded us to make; having in remembrance his blessed passion and precious death, his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension; rendering unto thee most hearty thanks for the innumerable benefits procured unto us by the same.

And we most humbly beseech thee, O merciful Father, to hear us; and, of thy almighty goodness, vouchsafe to bless and sanctify, with thy Word and Holy Spirit, these thy gifts and creatures of bread and wine; that we, receiving them according to thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ's holy institution, in remembrance of his death and passion, may be partakers of his most blessed Body and Blood.

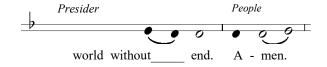
And we earnestly desire thy fatherly goodness mercifully to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving; most humbly beseeching thee to grant that, by the merits and death of thy Son Jesus Christ, and through faith in his blood, we, and all thy whole Church, may obtain remission of our sins, and all other benefits of his passion.

And here we offer and present unto thee, O Lord, our selves, our souls and bodies, to be a reasonable, holy, and living sacrifice unto thee; humbly beseeching thee that we, and all others who shall be partakers of this Holy Communion, may worthily receive the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son Jesus Christ, be filled with thy grace and heavenly benediction, and made one body with him, that he may dwell in us, and we in him.

And although we are unworthy, through our manifold sins, to offer unto thee any sacrifice, yet we beseech thee to accept this our bounden duty and service, not weighing our merits, but pardoning our offences, through Jesus Christ our Lord;

By whom, and with whom, in the unity of the Holy Ghost, all honor and glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty,

At the end of the prayer the people boldly respond.



The presider introduces the Lord's Prayer.

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 presider breaks the consecrated bread.

AGNUS DEI (sung by the Choir)

W. Byrd

Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi, miserere nobis. Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi, miserere nobis. Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi, dona nobis pacem.\

Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world, have mercy on us. Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world, have mercy on us. Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world, grant us peace.

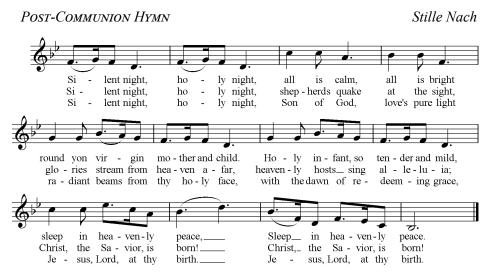
The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith with thanksgiving.

All are welcome at the altar. Those not receiving communion are invited to come forward for a prayer of blessing carrying this Order of Service to the altar with you. The Sacrament of the Holy Eucharist is normally reserved for baptized Christians of any denomination. For more information about baptism, please speak to the clergy.



Almighty and everliving God, we most heartily thank thee for that thou dost feed us, in these holy mysteries, with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and dost assure us thereby of thy favor and goodness towards us; and that we are very members incorporate in the mystical body of thy Son, the blessed company of all faithful people; and are also heirs, through hope, of thy everlasting kingdom. And we humbly beseech thee, O heavenly Father, so to assist us with thy grace, that we may continue in that holy fellowship, and do all such good works as thou hast prepared for us to walk in; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honor and glory, world without end. **Amen.**

The ushers will light the congregation's candles.



THE BLESSING

The peace of God, which passeth all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God Almighty, * the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, be amongst you, and remain with you always.

Amen.

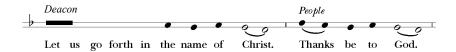
HYMN Antioch



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his

love,



VOLUNTARY

In Ducli Jubilo, BWV 729

J. S. Bach

XXX

Participants in the Liturgy

The Rev. Brian Coleman Presider & Preacher: Deacon: The Rev. Trish Harris Sub-deacon: Karmel Addis Thurifer: Mark Olmstead Crucifer: Keith Phillips Chalice: The Rev. Trish Harris & Elizabeth Schirk Keith Phillips Intercessor: Yvette Petti Lector: The St. Thomas Choir Choir: Organist & Choirmaster: Dr. Stephen White **Assisting Organist:** Colin Knapp Altar Chapter: Bob Harbert & Keith Phillips A/V Tech: Joerg Himmelreich

Music for the Mass:

The setting of the Ordinary of the Mass (those parts sung by the Choir) is the Mass for Three Voices by William Byrd All music Reprinted under All OneLicense.net #A703201.

XXX

Christmas Day

All are Welcome!

10:00 am Holy Eucharist

The Altar Flowers are given to the Glory of God by:

Ross & Kathy Dingwall In thanksgiving for the loving hand of

Fr. Brian in our lives

Tom & Gillian Ebeling In memory of Edward & Phyllis Young

and Paul & Connie Ebeling

Heather Lane-Fowler In memory of Hazel & Richard Lane &

in thanksgiving for the birth of grandson, Ronan Gerald Bucsi

Barbara Hettich & Eric Prechtel In thanksgiving for Father Brian's and

John's service to our parish

Robert Hibbard In memory of Shirley Hibbard

Barb & Tom Hibiske In memory of Charley & Blanche Baker,

Jerry Works, Art Hibiske & Ray Reed and in thanksgiving for family, friends

& God

Roy & Brenda Hillman In memory of family and in

thanksgiving for Fr. Brian and for Roy's

75th birthday

Karen Keese In memory of Robert & Faustine Snyder

The Kiess and Gray Families In memory of Gene Gray and Jim Kiess

Liz Neumeyer In memory of Ruth & Raymond

Neumeyer

Yvette Petti & Loretta Kaercher In memory of Barbara Petti and

Harriet Magenheimer

Carol A. Schelb In memory of George E. McKay, Jr.

Becky and Bernie Squires In thanksgiving for our grandchildren

St. Thomas Episcopal Church

Being a light to the world.

We seek to love and serve the Lord through our Mission Imperatives:







Worship

Youth

Discipleship

16 East Van Buren Street Battle Creek, Michigan 49017 (269) 965-2244 www.StThomasBC.org

Worship Services

Sundays 10:00 a.m., Holy Eucharist 5:00 p.m., Choral Evensong (1st Sunday)

Weekdays 9:00 a.m., Morning Prayer 5:00 p.m., Evening Prayer Wednesday - 12:00 p.m., Holy Eucharist