

Calvary Episcopal Church
Indian Rocks Beach, Florida

24 December 2021
Christmas Eve
The Children's Pageant
4:30 PM

In Person & Streamed



*Please enter into worship quietly and reverently, in consideration of others.
Cell phones should be silenced or turned off. Thank you.*

Prelude

*Selections
Christmas Medley*

**Phoenix Cahill
Colleen Rabe**

Processional Hymn

It came upon a midnight clear

Hymnal #90

1. It came upon a midnight clear, that glorious song of old,
from angels bending near the earth to touch their harps of gold;
“Peace on the earth, good will to men, from heaven’s all gracious King.”
The world in solemn stillness lay to hear the angels sing.
2. Still through the cloven skies they come with peaceful wings unfurled,
and still their heavenly music floats o’er all the weary world;
above its sad and lowly plains they bend on hovering wing,
and ever o’er its Bebel sounds the blessed angels sing.
3. Yet with the woes of sin and strife the world has suffered long;
beneath the heavenly hymn have rolled two thousand years of wrong;
and warring humankind hears not the tidings which they bring;
O hush the noise and cease your strife and hear the angels sing!
4. For lo! the days are hastening on, by prophets seen of old,
when with the ever circling years shall come the time foretold,
when peace shall over all the earth its ancient splendors fling,
and all the world give back the song which now the angels sing.

THE WORD OF GOD

Opening Acclamation

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

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

The Collect for Purity

Celebrant: 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.*

The Collect for the Eve of Christmas

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

The people sit.

The Old Testament (Isaiah 9:2-7)

Reader: A Reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah

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.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: *Thanks be to God.*

Psalm 96

Cantate Domino

Reader: Sing to the LORD a new song; *
sing to the LORD, all the whole earth.

People: Sing to the LORD and bless his Name; *
proclaim the good news of his salvation from day to day.

Reader: Declare his glory among the nations *
and his wonders among all peoples.

People: For great is the LORD and greatly to be praised; *
he is more to be feared than all gods.

Reader: As for all the gods of the nations, they are but idols; *
but it is the LORD who made the heavens.

People: Oh, the majesty and magnificence of his presence! *
Oh, the power and the splendor of his sanctuary!

Reader: Ascribe to the LORD, you families of the peoples; *
ascribe to the LORD honor and power.

People: Ascribe to the LORD the honor due his Name; *
bring offerings and come into his courts.

Reader: Worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness; *
let the whole earth tremble before him.

People: 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.

Reader: 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.

People: Then shall all the trees of the wood shout for joy
before the LORD when he comes, *
when he comes to judge the earth.

Reader: He will judge the world with righteousness *
and the peoples with his truth.

The Epistle (Titus 2:11-14)

Reader: A Reading from the Letter to Titus

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.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: *Thanks be to God.*

THE CHILDREN’S PAGEANT - GOSPEL

Congregation remains seated through the pageant and the singing of carols.

Narrator: In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth, to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David; and the virgin’s name was Mary. And he came to her and said, “Hail, O favored one, the Lord is with you!” But she was greatly troubled at the saying, and considered in her mind what sort of greeting this might be. And the angel said to her, “Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High; and the Lord God will give

to him the throne of his father David, and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever; and of his kingdom there will be no end.” And Mary said to the angel, “How shall this be, since I have no husband?” And the angel said to her, “The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be called holy, the Son of God. And behold, your kinswoman Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month with her who was called barren. For with God nothing will be impossible.” And Mary said, “Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord; let it be to me according to your word.” And the angel departed from her.

The Angel Gabriel From Heaven Came
Hymn 265, vs 1

The angel Gabriel from heaven came,
His wings as drifted snow, his eyes as flame;
“All hail,” said he to meek and lowly Mary,
“most highly favored lady.” Gloria!

Narrator: 60 miles; a three day journey. Nazareth to Bethlehem. 60 miles; a three day journey. The place of Jesus’ birth would be in Bethlehem, a small town a few miles south of Jerusalem. Bethlehem was not Joseph or Mary’s hometown. By Roman Law they had to go to Bethlehem for the census. The law stated that everyone must be counted in the towns of their ancestry. A long trip. Now Imagine you are pregnant. When Mary and Joseph finally made it to Bethlehem, the Inn was already filled with people and there was no place for Mary and Joseph to stay. But there was a stable, where the animals rested, Mary and Joseph were offered that to rest.

O Little Town of Bethlehem
Hymn 79 vss. 1-2

1. 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.

2. For Christ is born of Mary;
and gathered all above,
while mortals sleep, the angels keep
their watch of wondering love.
O morning stars, together
proclaim the holy birth!
and praises sing to God the King,
and peace to men on earth.

Narrator: In the stable, with only Joseph to help her, Mary gave birth to her firstborn. She wrapped him in bands of cloth and laid him in a manger.

Away in a manger

Hymn 101

1. 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.

2. The cattle are lowing, the baby awakes,
but little Lord Jesus no crying he makes.
I love thee, Lord Jesus!
Look down from the sky,
and stay by my side until morning is nigh.

Narrator: Now, it was night time and in the fields nearby, shepherds were watching their flocks. Then an angel stood before the shepherds and the glory of the Lord shone around all of them. And the shepherds were terrified. But the angel of the Lord 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." Immediately after the angel stopped speaking, there were suddenly many angels praising God and saying "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors."

Hark the Herald Angels Sing

Hymn 87 vs. 1

Hark! The herald angels sing glory to the newborn King!
Peace on earth and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!
Joyful, all ye nation, rise join the triumph of the skies:
with the angelic host proclaim Christ is born in Bethlehem!
Hark! The herald angels sing glory to the newborn King!

Narrator: Then the angels left the shepherds. Then they looked at each other and said: "Let us go to Bethlehem! Let's see this thing that has happened which the Lord has told us about."

O come all ye Faithful

Hymn 83 vss. 1, 3

1. O come all ye faithful,
joyful and triumphant,
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;
come, and behold him,
born the King of angels;
O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him, Christ, the Lord.

3. Sing, choirs of angels,
sing in exultation,
sing, all ye citizens of heaven above;
glory to God,
glory in the highest;
O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him, Christ, the Lord.

Narrator: They hurried to the village and found Mary and Joseph. And there was the baby, lying in the manger. Astonished.... Do you hear what I hear? Do you see what I see?

Do you hear what I hear?

1. Said the night wind to the little lamb
Do you see what I see?
Way up in the sky, little lamb
Do you see what I see?
A star, a star, dancing in the night
With a tail as big as a kite

2. Said the little lamb to the shepherd boy,
do you hear what I hear
Ringing through the sky, shepherd boy,
do you hear what I hear
A song, a song, high above the trees
With a voice as big as the sea

Narrator: Now when the shepherds saw Mary, Joseph and Jesus in the stable, and saw that what the angel had said to them was true about this child; they went out and made it known. All who heard the shepherds' story was astonished. They went everywhere telling the good news. They went to the cities, they went to the hills; across rivers and even went to tell it on the mountain.

Go tell it on the mountain

Hymn 99 vss 1, 2

1. While shepherds kept their watching o'er silent flocks by night,
behold, throughout the heavens there shone a holy light.
Go tell it on the mountain, over the hills everywhere;
go tell it on the mountain, that Jesus Christ is born!
2. The shepherds feared and trembled when lo! above the earth
rang out the angel chorus that hailed our Savior's birth.
Go tell it on the mountain, over the hills everywhere;
go tell it on the mountain, that Jesus Christ is born!

Narrator: The Shepherds went back to their flocks, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen. It was as the angel had told them.

Joy to the world

Hymn 100 vss. 1, 2, 4

1. 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.
2. Joy to the world! the Savior reigns; let us our songs employ;
while fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains,
repeat the sounding joy, repeat the sounding joy,
repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

4. He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the nations prove the glories of his righteousness, and wonders of his love, and wonders of his love, and wonders, and wonders of his love.

The Homily

Fr. Jon Roberts

Nicene Creed -*All stand, if able*

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.

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

People: *And also with you*

THE HOLY COMMUNION

The Offertory Sentence

Celebrant: Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God. *Ephesians 5:2*

The Offering Plate will be passed or you may make your Christmas donation electronically.

Offertory Anthem

Phoenix Cahill

The Great Thanksgiving *Eucharistic Prayer A*

BCP p. 361

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.

The Proper Preface - said by Celebrant

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 (sung)

Hymnal S-125

People: 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 may stand or kneel.

Celebrant: 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:

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.*

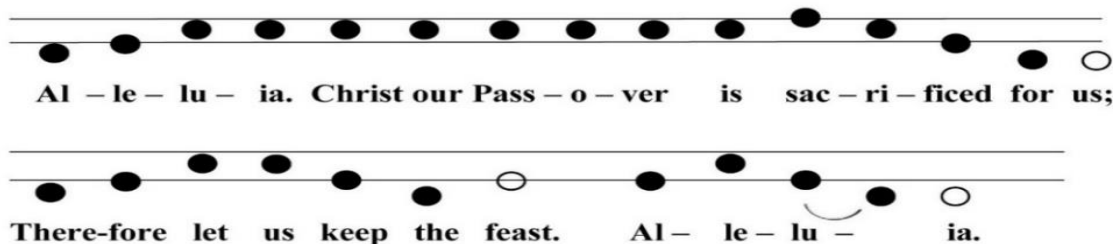
The Lord's Prayer

Celebrant: And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

All: 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 Fraction Anthem

Hymnal #S-152



A period of silence is kept.

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.

All Baptized Christians may receive Holy Communion and others are encouraged to receive a Blessing from the priest, especially young children who have not yet made their first Communion. After reception, quietly return to your pew and pray. You are receiving spiritual food on this day.

Communion Hymns

The first Nowell

Hymnal #109

Refrain

Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, born is the King of Israel.

1. The first Nowell 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. *Refrain*
2. They looked up and saw a star shining in the east beyond them far, and to the earth it gave great light, and so it continued both day and night. *Refrain*
3. And by the light of that same star three wise men came from country far; to seek for a king was their intent, and to follow the star wherever it went. *Refrain*
4. This star drew nigh to the northwest, o'er Bethlehem it took its rest, and there it did both stop and stay right over the place where Jesus lay. *Refrain*
5. Then entered in those wise men three full reverently upon their knee, and offered there in his presence their gold, and myrrh, and frankincense. *Refrain*
6. The let us all with one accord sing praises to our heavenly Lord; that hath made heaven and earth of nought, and with his blood our life hath bought. *Refrain*

Refrain

Gloria in excelsis Deo. Gloria in excelsis Deo.

1. Angles we have heard on high, singing sweetly through the night,
and the mountains in reply echoing their brave delight. *Refrain*
2. Shepherds, why this jubilee? Why these songs of happy cheer?
What great brightness did you see? What glad tidings did you hear? *Refrain*
3. Come to Bethlehem and see him whose birth the angels sing;
come, adore on bended knee Christ, the Lord, the newborn King. *Refrain*
4. See him in a manger laid whom the angels praise above;
Mary, Joseph lend your aid, while we raise our hearts in love. *Refrain*

Post Communion Prayer

Celebrant: Let us pray. Eternal God, . . .

People: 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

Celebrant: The peace of God, which passes 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 Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. *Amen.*

Processional Hymn

Silent Night

Hymnal #111

1. 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.
2. Silent night, holy night, shepherds quake at the sight,
glories stream from heaven afar,
heavenly hosts sing alleluia;
Christ, the Savior, is born! 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 Jesus, Lord, at thy birth.

Merry Christmas!

You are welcome to stay after the service to take family photos near the Sanctuary decorations. Please be respectful of those who remain to worship and converse quietly and reverently.

Thank you.

Musicians: Colleen Rabe, Phoenix Cahill, Margaret Richcreek

Calvary Episcopal Church

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Organist/Choirmaster: Mrs. Colleen Rabe	(727) 595-2374	crabe@calvaryirb.org
Parish Administrator: Ms. Lia King	(727) 595-2374	admin@calvaryirb.org
Front Desk:	(727) 595-2374	support@calvaryirb.org

PLEASE SHARE THIS CUSTOMARY WITH OTHERS TODAY!
SHARE WITH YOUR FRIENDS AND INVITE THEM TO CHURCH
AS THEY MAY WANT TO BELONG TO A CHURCH FAMILY

During this Christmas, please have a generous spirit by giving to Calvary Episcopal Church, Indian Rocks Beach. The mission statement of our church is to make Jesus Christ known throughout the year and your donation, either as a member or a visitor, helps us proclaim this

Good News!

Online giving through our website is also available at www.calvaryirb.org
Please consider giving a “Christmas Gift” that helps us continue to give to others.