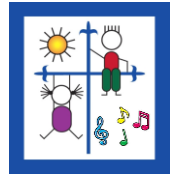




CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH
BLOOMFIELD & GLEN RIDGE



CHRISTMAS DAY

DECEMBER 25, 2022

★
For
unto
you is
born this
day in the
city of David
a saviour, which
is Christ the Lord.
Luke
2:11

3pm Holy Eucharist & Carols

Growing in faith ~ Serving our neighbors ~ Creating community

WELCOME!

We hope that you will find spiritual nourishment and fellowship with us this evening.

This bulletin will guide you through today's service step-by-step. Restrooms are located by going out the door located next to St. Mary's Chapel (which is on the right), and following the hallway through the doors.

All are handicap accessible. If you have any questions at all, our ushers will be happy to help you.

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A NOTE ABOUT INCLUSIVE LANGUAGE

You will hear Mother Diana using female pronouns for God, when the bulletin has printed in it the traditional all male language. This is to provide a balance, and to invite us all into the understanding that God is not a boy's name – God is both and neither female or male – we are all made in God's image – women and men. You may, as you feel called, use the female language too.



The Rev. Diana Wilcox, *Celebrant*
Tom Reynolds, *Livestream Host*
Scott Ziegler, *Organist*

THE WORD OF GOD

Please stand, as able.

OPENING HYMN 83 *(1982 Hymnal Words: John Frances Wade Music: Adeste Fideles)*

O come all ye faithful

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.

[Refrain]
O come, let us adore Him
O come, let us adore Him
O come, let us adore Him
Christ the Lord!

OPENING ACCLAMATION *(Church of England, liturgical supplements, pg. 74, adapt.)*

Celebrant The people who have walked in darkness

People have seen a great light.

Celebrant For to us a child is born

People to us a child is given.

Celebrant Glory to God in the highest

People and peace to God's people on earth.

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.

COLLECT FOR CHRISTMAS DAY

Celebrant God is with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Let us pray together

Almighty God, you have given your only-begotten Son to take our nature upon him, and to be born this day of a Mary: Grant that we, who have been born again and made your children by adoption and grace, may daily be renewed by your Holy Spirit; through our Lord Jesus Christ, to whom with you and the same Spirit be honor and glory, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Please be seated for the readings.

FIRST READING

ISAIAH 9:2-7

Lector The first reading is from the book of 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.

Lector Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

People Thanks be to God.

CONTEMPORARY READING

Lector The Contemporary Reading is from the book *How The Grinch Stole Christmas*
by Dr. Seuss.

Every Who down in Whoville, the tall and the small,
Was singing! Without any presents at all!
He HADN'T stopped Christmas from coming! IT CAME!
Somehow or other, it came just the same!
And the Grinch, with his grinch-feet ice-cold in the snow,
Stood puzzling and puzzling: "How could it be so?"
"It came with out ribbons! It came without tags!"
"It came without packages, boxes or bags!"
And he puzzled three hours, till his puzzler was sore.
Then the Grinch thought of something he hadn't before!
"Maybe Christmas," he thought, "doesn't come from a store."
"Maybe Christmas...perhaps...means a little bit more!"

Lector Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.
People **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand, as able.

HYMN 67 (*Hymnal 1982* Words: C. Wesley Music: Mendelssohn)

Hark! The herald angels sing

Hark! the herald angels sing glory to the new born King
Peace on earth and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!
Joyful, all ye nations, rise, join the triumph in the skies;
with the angelic host proclaim, Christ is born in Bethlehem!
Hark! the herald angels sing glory to the new-born King!

THE HOLY GOSPEL

LUKE 2: 8-20

Celebrant The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to Luke
People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

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 God 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 Jesus Christ
People **Praise to you, Lord Christ**

Please be seated.

HOMILY The Rev. Diana L. Wilcox

THE CREED *(Enriching Our Worship, p. 53)*

Note the change in the wording, most especially with regard to the Holy Spirit. These are not errors in the bulletin, but are part of our rich liturgical heritage. The wording about the procession of the Holy Spirit is part of the difference in the Eastern and Western Churches, and a source of controversy. In fact, at our 71st General Convention, it was decided to remove the words “and the Son.”

Let us stand together with Christians throughout the centuries and proclaim the basic creed of the church:

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: was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human. 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 giver of life, who proceeds from the Father. Who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified. Who 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.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE *(Adapted from Sundays and Seasons, Year A)*

- Celebrant* Rejoicing in the light of Christ that shines upon us, we pray for the church, the world, and all according to their needs.
- Leader* God of glory, fill our hearts with the joy of this day. Stir your church in every place to join the angels' song, praising you for your birth among us and your presence within us. God, in your mercy,
- People* **Hear our prayer.**
- Leader* The seas thunder, the fields rejoice, and the trees shout for joy at your coming. Renew the earth and all its creatures to declare your praise. God, in your mercy,
- People* **Hear our prayer.**
- Leader* Scatter the bitterness of hatred and fear, that all people seek your peace on earth and work to establish goodwill among the nations. We pray for our neighborhoods of Bloomfield & Glen Ridge. God, in your mercy,
- People* **Hear our prayer.**
- Leader* Shine your healing light on those who are alone and long for companionship, those who are rejected, weak, troubled, or sick. We pray especially for those on our parish prayer list. God, in your mercy,
- People* **Hear our prayer.**
- Leader* Comfort us with the gracious vision of our departed loved ones basking in the light of your eternal presence until we too inherit the fullness of your glory. God, in your mercy,
- People* **Hear our prayer.**
- Celebrant* I invite you now to offer your own intercessions or thanksgivings, either silently or aloud.

COLLECT AT THE PRAYERS *(Adapted from Sundays and Seasons, Year A)*

Hear the hopes and prayers of our hearts, O God, and magnify our joy at the birth of your Light among us, Jesus Christ our Savior. **Amen.**

The people may stand or kneel, as able.

CONFESSION OF SIN (*Book of Common Prayer, p.360*)

Celebrant Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor. (*A period of silence is kept*)

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.**

ABSOLUTION (*Enriching our Worship 1, p. 56*)

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through the grace of Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

Please stand, as able.

THE PEACE (*Enriching our Worship 1, p. 56*)

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

HOLY COMMUNION

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Please stand, as able.

PRESENTATION HYMN 107 (*Hymnal 1982 Verse 1 Words: J. Mason Neale Tune: In dulci jublio*)

Good Christian friends, rejoice
with heart and soul an voice;
give ye heed to what we say:
Jesus Christ is born today;
ox and ass before him bow,
and he is in the manger now.
Christ is born today!
Christ is born today!

SURSUM CORDA (*Hymnal 1982, S120*)

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People We lift them up to the Lord.

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People It is right to give God thanks and praise.

The Celebrant continues (Book of Common Prayer, p. 367)

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 for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

THE SANCTUS

**Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

The Celebrant continues (Eucharistic Prayer B, Book of Common Prayer, p. 368)

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 we proclaim the mystery of faith:

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.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor, glory, and praise, for ever and ever. **AMEN.**

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

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**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, the power, and the glory for ever and ever. Amen.

THE FRACTION *(Enriching Our Worship, p. 69)*

Celebrant **This is the true bread which comes down from heaven and gives life to the world.**

People **Whoever eats this bread will live for ever.**

Anyone with a present to be blessed should bring it forward with them for communion, and Mother Diana will offer a blessing on it.

Please stand, as able.

COMMUNION HYMN 109 (*Hymnal 1982 Words: English Carol Music: The First Nowell*)

The first Nowell

The first Nowell the angel did say
was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay;
in fields where they lay keeping their sheep,
on a cold winter's night that was so deep.

Refrain:

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

All are welcome to come forward to have their hands anointed for the work of bearing Christ's light into the world.

THE ANOINTING OF HANDS

Standing, as able.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION (*Enriching Our Worship, p. 69*)

God of abundance,
you have fed us with the bread of life and cup of salvation;
you have united us with Christ and one another;
and you have made us one with all your people
in heaven and on earth.
Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit,
that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world
and continue for ever in the risen life of Christ our Savior. **Amen.**

THE CHRISTMAS BLESSING *(Book of Occasional Services, p. 23, adapt.)*

May Christ, who by his Incarnation gathered into one things earthly and heavenly,
fill you with his joy and peace;

And the blessing of God our Creator, Christ our Redeemer, and the Holy Spirit our
sustainer, be with you now and always. **Amen.**

We will sing the first and last verses.

CLOSING HYMN 100 *(Hymnal 1982 Words: I. Watts Music: Antioch)*

Joy to the world!

Joy to the world, the Lord is come!
Let earth receive her King;
let ev'ry heart prepare him room
and heav'n and nature sing,
and heav'n and nature sing,
and heav'n, and heav'n and nature sing.

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, wonders of his love.

DISMISSAL *(Book of Common Prayer, p. 366)*

Celebrant: Let us go forth to proclaim the good news of Christ!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

People **Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

WANT TO KNOW MORE ABOUT CHRIST CHURCH?

Here are some of the ways you can find out more:

The website: christchurchepiscopal.org

Follow on Facebook/Instagram/Twitter: cc74park

Our Sunday Paper, an insert in our Sunday Bulletin,
available on the website for download to your e-reader or
iPad.

By email: office@christchurchepiscopal.org

By SMS: Text christchurch to 313131 for event reminders
and emergency announcements.

Get on our Email List:



And the best way...come to church!

WORSHIP SCHEDULE



SUNDAY

Choral Eucharist – 10:30am

WEDNESDAYS IN ADVENT

(Nov 16 & 30, Dec 7, 14 & 21)

Labyrinth Walk & Compline – 6pm-7:30pm



THE LEADERSHIP OF CHRIST CHURCH

WARDENS

Michelle Ryndak and Tom Reynolds

VESTRY

Bill Seeman Denise Massay-Williams Ben Reynolds Leo Toledo

Two Open Seats

STAFF

The Reverend Diana Wilcox, *Rector*
Scott Ziegler, *Director of Music*
Candice Whitaker, *Director of Family Ministries*
Candice Whitaker, *Director of Communications*
Robert Ryan, *Director of Finance*
Aazhae Coleman, *Asst. Director, Nursery School*
Donald Gibson, *Sexton*

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