

The Nativity of our Lord Jesus Christ Christmas day festival holy eucharst

And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth. —John 1:14

#### Dear friends,

Welcome to Washington National Cathedral! We are glad you are here with us to share in this moment. Thank you for taking time out of your busy schedules to pause and remember what this season is all about, to make sure this holiday is centered on the holy.

The great miracle of the Christian faith is that God becomes one of us. The infinite becomes finite, and the unknowable God, beyond space and time, becomes a helpless infant totally dependent on the love and care of a young unwed couple. Why? Why would God do such a thing? Why would the Creator of all things deign to be born in a stable? Because of love. God loves us so much that God becomes one of us in order to reach us, in order to lift us toward God. In the process, God hallows all human existence and provides us, in Jesus, with a living example of what it means to be fully human.

Two thousand years ago, Mary and Joseph wandered their way through the city of Bethlehem looking for a home, searching for a safe place where they could rest. Scripture tells us they were young and in trouble—Mary wasn't supposed to be pregnant and Joseph wasn't supposed to stay with her now that she was. But they were in love and they knew that somehow God was calling them to play a role in God's plans for the world. Sometime during the night, a child was born, a special child, a child whose destiny was to be Immanuel—God with us. God with us, not God above us and beyond us, not God transcendent and mysterious, not God out of our reach and free from our experience—but God here, present in this life, in a human person, needing human love. Jesus was born to satisfy our yearnings, to fill that hole in our souls, to bring God closer to us, and to bring all of us closer to our home in God.

A child once said: "I wish I had a picture of God." This is exactly what we are granted in the birth of Jesus. God has shown us God's face. And so, as you leave the Cathedral today, take the Christ child with you. Take his humility and make it your own. Learn to be more patient, more open, more understanding and more forgiving of others in your life. Take his life of service and make it your life. Learn to take less from others; learn to give more of yourself without the thought of getting anything in return. And finally, take his love and let God's love for you become the source of your love for one another. May we all this Christmastide find the Christ child again and again, and bring him afresh into our Jesus-starved world. Because he is needed now more than ever.

Merry Christmas and may God bless and keep you this day and always.

The Very Reverend Randolph Marshall Hollerith Dean, Washington National Cathedral

RYAHO with +

# CHRISTMAS DAY FESTIVAL HOLY EUCHARIST DECEMBER 25, 2016 • 11:15 AM



#### **CARILLON PRELUDE**

O come, all ye faithful
Ding dong merrily on high
On this day the earth shall ring
Angels, from the realms of glory
Joy to the world! the Lord is come
Hark! the herald angels sing

Adeste fideles; arr. Edward M. Nassor (b.1957)
Jehan Tabourot (1519-1595); arr. E. Nassor
Personet Hodie; arr. E. Nassor
Regent Square; arr. Milford Myhre (b. 1931)
Antioch; arr. Frank P. Law (1918-1985)
Mendelssohn; arr. Albert C. Gerken (b. 1938)

#### **ORGAN PRELUDE**

Gigue – Go, tell it on the mountain Partita – In dulci jubilo Prelude and Fugue in A major, BWV 536 In dulci jubilo, BWV 729 A. D. Miller (b. 1972) James Vivian (b. 1974) Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750) J. S. Bach

#### INTROIT

Ding dong! merrily on high

Ding dong! merrily on high in heav'n the bells are ringing: Ding dong! verily the sky is riv'n with angel singing. Gloria, Hosanna in excelsis!

E'en so here below, below, let steeple bells be swungen And i-o, i-o, i-o, by priest and people sungen. Gloria, Hosanna in excelsis!

Pray you dutifully prime your matin chime, ye ringers; May you beautifully rime your evetime song, ye singers Gloria, Hosanna in excelsis!

(George R. Woodward, 1848 - 1934)

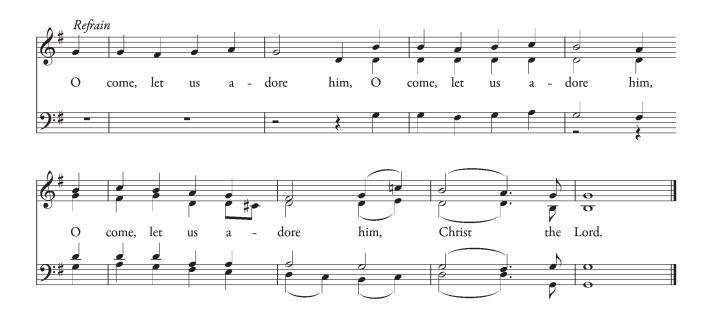
Charles Wood (1866 – 1926)

### THE ENTRANCE RITE

The people stand to sing stanzas 1-5; the procession pauses at the crèche; as the procession resumes, all continue singing.

#### HYMN AT THE PROCESSION





#### THE PRAYER AT THE CRÈCHE

Presider The Word was made flesh and dwelt among us:

People And we beheld his glory.

Presider Let us pray:

Almighty and everliving God, you have given us a new revelation of your loving providence in the Coming of your Son Jesus Christ to be born of the Virgin Mary: Grant that as he shared our mortality, so we may share his eternity

in the glory of your kingdom; where he lives and reigns for ever and ever.

People Amen.

All sing the final stanza of the hymn.

#### OPENING ACCLAMATION

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

*People* And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

#### GLORIA IN EXCELSIS DEO



#### THE COLLECT OF THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST

Presider The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Presider Let us pray.

O God, you make us glad by the yearly festival of the birth of your only Son Jesus Christ: Grant that we, who joyfully receive him as our Redeemer, may with sure confidence behold him when he comes to be our Judge; who

lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

People Amen.

The people are seated.

#### THE WORD OF GOD

THE FIRST READING Isaiah 52:7–10

How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of the messenger who announces peace, who brings good news, who announces salvation, who says to Zion, "Your God reigns." Listen! Your sentinels lift up their voices, together they sing for joy; for in plain sight they see the return of the Lord to Zion. Break forth together into singing, you ruins of Jerusalem; for the Lord has comforted his people, he has redeemed Jerusalem. The Lord has bared his holy arm before the eyes of all the nations; and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.

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

PSALM 98 chant: Douglas Major (b. 1953)

The choir introduces the antiphon, then all repeat.



Sing to the Lord a new song,

for he has done marvelous things.

With his right hand and his holy arm

has he won for himself the victory.

The Lord has made known his victory;

his righteousness has he openly shown in the sight of the nations.

He remembers his mercy and faithfulness to

the house of Israel,

and all the ends of the earth have seen the

victory of our God.

Shout with joy to the Lord, all you lands;

lift up your voice, rejoice, and sing.

Sing to the Lord with the harp,

with the harp and the voice of song.

With trumpets and the sound of the horn

shout with joy before the King, the Lord.

Let the sea make a noise and all that is in it,

the lands and those who dwell therein.

Let the rivers clap their hands,

and let the hills ring out with joy before the

Lord,

when he comes to judge the earth.

In righteousness shall he judge the world

and the peoples with equity.

All sing the antiphon.

THE SECOND READING

Hebrews 1:1–12

Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets, but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, through whom he also created the worlds. He is the reflection of God's glory and the exact imprint of God's very being, and he sustains all things by his powerful word. When he had made purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs. For to which of the angels did God ever say, "You are my Son; today I have begotten you"? Or again, "I will be his Father, and he will be my Son"? And again, when he brings the firstborn into the world, he says, "Let all God's angels worship him." Of the angels he says, "He makes his angels winds, and his servants flames of fire." But of the Son he says, "Your throne, O God, is forever and ever, and the righteous scepter is the scepter of your kingdom. You have loved righteousness and hated wickedness; therefore God, your God, has anointed you with the oil of gladness beyond your companions." And, "In the beginning, Lord, you founded the earth, and the heavens are the work of your hands; they will perish, but you remain; they will all wear out like clothing; like a cloak you will roll them up, and like clothing they will be changed. But you are the same, and your years will never end."

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

The people stand.

#### HYMN AT THE SEQUENCE



THE HOLY GOSPEL John 1:1–14

Gospeller The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it. There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God. And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

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

The people are seated at the invitation of the preacher.

THE SERMON

The Very Reverend Randolph Marshall Hollerith

The people stand.

#### THE NICENE CREED

Said by all

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 Lord, 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.

#### THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Intercessor As the heavens and earth are filled with the peace and love of the Word made flesh, let us pray for the Church, the

world, and all those in need.

Intercessor O God, the creator and preserver of all, draw all peoples to you, that your wisdom may be known to the ends of

the earth. God of love and peace,

People Hear us, we pray.

Intercessor Strengthen your Church, O God, to be a messenger of peace, that through its proclamation and life it may bring

the good news of Christ to all who are disheartened. God of love and peace,

People Hear us, we pray.

Intercessor Make the leaders of nations, states and communities to be lovers of goodness and truth, that all your children may

be nurtured and protected. Uphold all who strive for justice and freedom that their work for peace may shine

with your saving love. God of love and peace,

People Hear us, we pray.

Intercessor Raise up those who are lowly and powerless, that the light of Christ's birth may scatter their darkness and bring

renewed hope. God of love and peace,

People Hear us, we pray.

Intercessor Surround with your love the lonely, bereaved, and all for whom this season is a burden, that they may know the

arms of your mercy. God of love and peace,

People Hear us, we pray.

Intercessor Remember those who live with fear, poverty, anxiety, illness, and all who suffer, that they may be comforted and

lifted up. God of love and peace,

People Hear us, we pray.

Intercessor Unite us with all the saints in the light, until we join them in the brightness of your heavenly glory.

God of love and peace,

People Hear us, we pray.

Presider Almighty God, grant that through our prayers, our lives may radiate the presence of Christ to all who dwell on

earth, for he is our Lord for ever and ever.

People Amen.

#### THE PEACE

Presider The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you.

The people greet one another with a sign of God's peace and then are seated.

#### THE OFFERTORY

The people remain seated while an offering is received to support the Cathedral's work of sharing God's love with the world.

#### ANTHEM AT THE OFFERTORY

Tomorrow shall be my dancing day

John Gardner (1917-2011)

Tomorrow shall be my dancing day: I would my true love did so chance to see the legend of my play, to call my true love to my dance:

Sing O my love, O my love, my love, my love; This have I done for my true love.

Then was I born of a virgin pure, of her I took fleshly substance; Thus was I knit to man's nature, to call my true love to my dance: *Refrain* 

In a manger laid and wrap'd I was, so very poor, this was my chance, Betwixt an ox and a silly poor ass, to call my true love to my dance: *Refrain* 

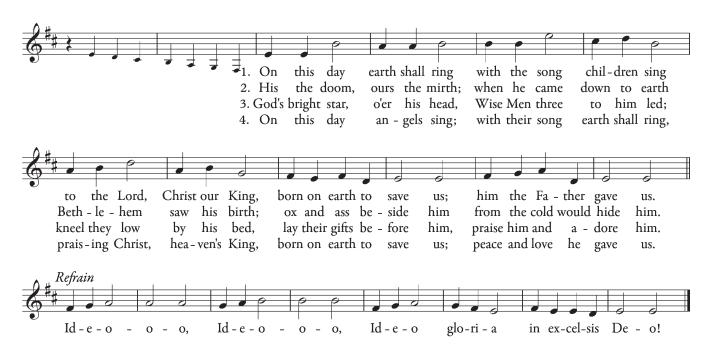
(Traditional English carol)

The people stand for the presentation hymn and remain standing.

#### HYMN AT THE PRESENTATION

On this day earth shall ring

Personent hodie



#### THE HOLY COMMUNION

#### THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Presider The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Presider Lift up your hearts.

People We lift them to the Lord.

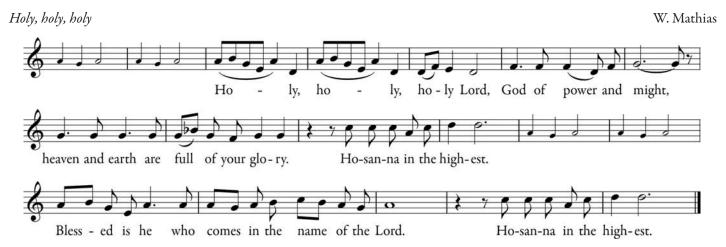
Presider Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People It is right to give God thanks and praise.

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:

#### SANCTUS AND BENEDICTUS



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."

Presider Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

*People* We remember his death, we proclaim his resurrection, we await his coming in glory;

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 blessed Mary and Joseph, Peter and Paul, our patrons, and 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. 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.

All AMEN.

#### THE LORD'S PRAYER

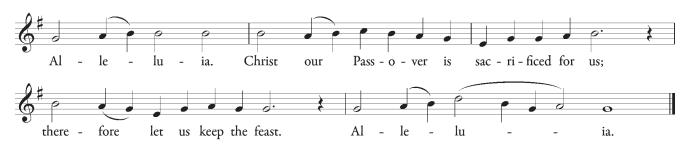
Presider And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to pray,

All Notre Père..., Padre nuestro..., Vater unser...,

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 FRACTION ANTHEM

Douglas Major (b. 1953)



The people are seated.

#### THE INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION

All who seek God and a deeper life in Christ are welcome to receive Holy Communion. Please receive the bread in open and outstretched hands and sip the wine om the chalice, guiding it gently to your lips; or you may dip the wafer into the wine. Gluten-free wafers are available; please make your need known to the minister. Respond to receiving Communion by saying, Amen. If you prefer to receive a blessing instead, please indicate your choice by crossing your hands across your chest.

#### ANTHEM AT THE COMMUNION

Nativity carol John Rutter (b. 1945)

Born in a stable so bare, Born so long ago; Born 'neath light of star He who loved us so.

Far away silent he lay, Born today, your homage pay, For Christ is born for aye, Born on Christmas Day.

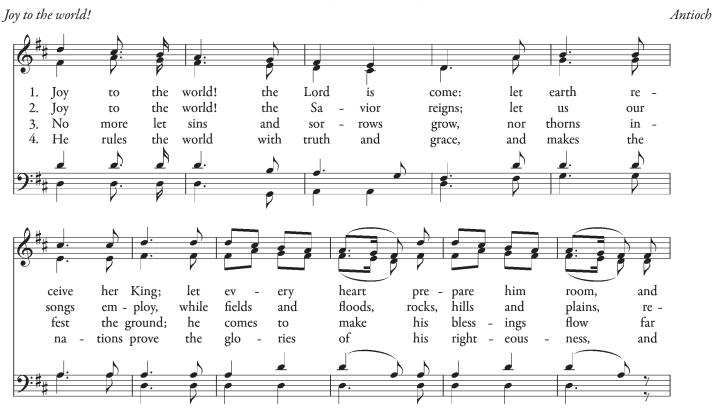
Cradled by mother so fair, Tender her lullaby; Over her son so dear Angel hosts fill the sky.

Wise men from distant far land, Shepherds from starry hills Worship this babe so rare, Hearts with his warmth he fills.

Love in that stable was born Into our hearts to flow; Innocent dreaming babe, Make me thy love to know.

#### HYMN AT THE COMMUNION

#### Sung by all, standing





#### POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER

Said by all

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.

#### **BLESSING OF CHRISTMAS**

Presider May Almighty God, who sent his Son to take our nature upon him, bless you in this holy season, scatter the darkness of sin, and brighten your heart with the light of his holiness.

People Amen.

Presider May God, who sent his angels to proclaim the glad news of the Savior's birth, fill you with joy, and make you heralds of the Gospel.

People Amen.

Presider May God, who in the Word made flesh joined heaven to earth and earth to heaven, give you his peace and favor.

People Amen.

Presider And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you

for ever.

People Amen.

Hark! the herald angels sing Mendelssohn



#### **DISMISSAL**

Gospeller Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People Thanks be to God.

#### ORGAN VOLUNTARY

Final, from Symphony No. 1

Louis Vierne (1870-1937)

Following the service, the Washington Ringing Society will attempt a quarter peal to joyfully celebrate the Great Mystery of the Incarnation.



## CHRISTMAS DAY ORGAN RECITAL 1:30 PM

Join us this afternoon as Benjamin Straley, Washington National Cathedral organist, and George Fergus, Association of Anglican Musicians Gerre Hancock Fellow in Church Music, play a Christmas recital of traditional and familiar holiday favorites on the Cathedral's great organ.

PERMISSIONS AND SOURCES: O come, all ye faithful. Words: John Francis Wade (1711-1786); tr. Frederick Oakeley (1802-1880) and others. Music: Adeste fideles, present form of melody att. John Francis Wade (1711-1786); harm. The English Hymnal, 1906. Glory to God: Gloria in excelsis. Music: William Mathias (1934-1992) Copyright: © 1976 Oxford University Press. Reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-7092803. Angels, from the realms of glory. Words: James Montgomery (1771-1854), alt. Music: Regent Square, Henry Thomas Smart (1813-1879). On this day earth shall ring. Words: Piae Cantiones, 1582; tr. Jane M. Joseph (1894-1929). Music: Personent hodie, melody from Piae Cantiones, 1582; harm. Gustav Theodore Holst (1874-1934) Copyright: Words: G. Schirmer, Inc. Reprinted by permission. Music: By permission of Oxford University Press. Holy, holy, holy: Sanctus. Setting: William Mathias (1934-1992) © 1976 Oxford University Press. Reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-7092803. Joy to the world! the Lord is come. Words: Isaac Watts (1674-1748), alt. Music: Antioch, George Frideric Handel (1685-1759); adapt. and arr. Lowell Mason (1792-1872). Hark! the herald angels sing. Words: Charles Wesley (1707-1788), alt. Music: Mendelssohn, Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847); adapt. William H. Cummings (1831-1915).

#### WORSHIP LEADERS

The Very Reverend Randolph Marshall Hollerith Dean, Washington National Cathedral

The Reverend Canon Jan Naylor Cope Provost, Washington National Cathedral

The Reverend Canon Kelly Brown Douglas Canon Theologian, Washington National Cathedral

The Reverend Canon Rosemarie Logan Duncan Canon for Worship, Washington National Cathedral

The Reverend Canon Samuel Van Culin Canon Ecumenist, Washington National Cathedral

The Reverend Andrew K. Barnett

Associate for Worship and Music, Washington National Cathedral

#### **READERS**

Lucinda Conger Norman Pugh-Newby

INTERCESSOR

Edie Ching

#### **MUSICIANS**

The Cathedral Choir Canon Michael McCarthy *Director of Music* 

Benjamin Pearce Straley
Organist and Associate Director of Music

George Fergus

Association of Anglican Musicians Gerre Hancock Fellow in Church Music

Dr. Edward M. Nassor Carillonneur

Washington Ringing Society Beth Sinclair, Ringing Master

#### **VERGERS**

Dr. Torrence N. Thomas Head Cathedral Verger

Kevin R. Thomas *Cathedral Verger* 

Jane Gilchrist Margaret H. Gordon Joyce Michelin

#### **CATHEDRAL USHERS**

Valerie Ciccone *Head Usher* 

Angela Wilson Deputy Head Usher

#### CATHEDRAL ACOLYTES

Caroline Kim, Head Acolyte
Noah Donoghue, Assistant Head Acolyte
Guyton Harvey, II, Assistant Head Acolyte
Shannon Ayres
Lilly Freemyer
Alexandra Hohenlohe
Dan Huynh
Caroline Schuermann
Robert Shekoyan



#### FLOWERS THROUGHOUT THE CATHEDRAL ARE GIVEN TO THE GLORY OF GOD.

HIGH ALTAR: in memory of Hibbard G. James; HIGH ALTAR SANCTUARY CANDELABRA: in loving memory of Charles and Mary Russell Bounds; ST. MARY'S CHAPEL ALTAR: in memory of Mr. and Mrs. Larz Anderson, and in loving memory of Robert Marsden Goodchild and the Reverend and Mrs. Norman Egerton; HOLY SPIRIT CHAPEL ALTAR: in memory of Ann Wilson, and in loving memory of Rosanna Milner Warner and Frank J. Murray; ST. JOHN'S CHAPEL ALTAR: in thanksgiving for the Charles Ray Long family and friends; ST. JOHN'S PRINCE TOMB: in honor of Norman Prince; CHILDREN'S CHAPEL ALTAR: in memory of Wayne Evan Matejik; THE CHRIST CHILD TREE: in honor of Andrew, Kurt, and Stefan Moss; Jennifer and Robert Vettori Jr.; and Lydia Hynson, and in honor of The Great Mystery of the Incarnation; WAR MEMORIAL CHAPEL ALTAR: in memory of Margaret H. Howard; DULIN BAY: given in memory of and thanksgiving for Blanche Scott Dulin, Edward Milton Dulin Sr., and Dr. William C. Dulin; FOLGER BAY: in memory of J. Clifford Folger and Kathrine Dulin Folger; WOODROW WILSON TOMB: in thanksgiving for and in honor of President Woodrow Wilson; BETHLEHEM CHAPEL ALTAR: in honor of David, Michael and Peter Lee; ANGUS DUN FONT: in honor of Helen Barnard and in thanksgiving for her service to the Cathedral; PRINCE TOMB CRYPT: in honor of Frederick Henry Prince and Abigail Norman Prince; GOOD SHEPHERD CHAPEL ALTAR: in memory of Santiago Redd Garcia; RESURRECTION CHAPEL ALTAR: in thanksgiving for the Charles Ray Long family and friends; ST. JOSEPH'S CHAPEL COLUMBARIUM GATES: in memory of and thanksgiving for the Seferlis and Tidball families; USHERS' CARNATIONS: in memory of Lieutenant James Norbert Matthews.

COVER: Detail of reredos stone carving of the nativity in Bethlehem Chapel. Photo by Danielle E. Thomas.



Massachusetts and Wisconsin Aves, NW Washington, DC 20016-5098 www.cathedral.org