

The Nativity of our Lord Jesus Christ FESTIVAL HOLY EUCHARIST

Dear friends,

Welcome to Washington National Cathedral! We are glad you are here with us to share in our Christian celebrations. Thank you for taking time out of your busy schedules to pause and enjoy the wonder of this special season.

Frederick Buechner in his book, *The Longing for Home: Reflections at Midlife*, writes: "Our stories are all stories of searching. We search for a good self to be and for good work to do. We search to become human in a world that tempts us always to be less than human or looks to us to be more. We search to love and to be loved. And in a world where it is often hard to believe in much of anything, we search to believe in something holy and beautiful and life-transcending that will give meaning and purpose to the lives we live."

In the birth of the Christ child, I believe we have found a source of holy, beautiful, transcendent and life-giving meaning that can give our lives great purpose. I believe that in the manger we have found the answer to all our longings and the end of all our searchings. In this miraculous event we discover that the holy and infinite God has chosen to become one of us, not in great power or prestige, but as a vulnerable child born to a poor unwed couple in the stable of a small town. God comes not to punish us but to love us, as one of us. God comes to show us the path to lives of deep meaning and purpose because in the incarnation we are not just taught about the nature of God's love — we literally see it embodied and lived out in the life of Jesus. At Chrismas, God comes to show us the way home, to a home we have never seen but a home we have longed for all our lives.

In this day and age when our culture seems to be pulling itself apart, when it is increasingly easy to demonize others rather than honor them, our God shows us a different way. On Christmas, the Holy One stoops to become one of us and in so doing shows us that deep and abiding love always involves humility, vulnerability and trust. In Christ, we are given a guide, a yardstick, to measure ourselves against and to hold up as an example of what we can be at our best. Now more than ever we need the good news of Immanuel, "God with us."

We are blessed by your presence today and we hope this service of praise and worship will be a blessing to you. No matter why you have come, please know that you are welcome here, today and always.

Merry Christmas and may God bless and keep you.

RMH6 with+

The Very Reverend Randolph Marshall Hollerith Dean, Washington National Cathedral

THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST FESTIVAL HOLY EUCHARIST DECEMBER 25, 2017 • 11:15 AM



CARILLON PRELUDE

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

ORGAN PRELUDE

Finale, from Symphony II, Op. 13/2 Gigue – Go, tell it on the mountain Partita – In dulci jubilo Chorale Prelude, 'In dulci jubilo,' BWV 729

INTROIT

Tomorrow shall be my dancing day

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:

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. (*Traditional English carol*) Adeste fideles; arr. Edward M. Nassor (b.1957) Jehan Tabourot (1519-1595); arr. E. Nassor *Personet Hodie*; arr. E. Nassor *In Dulci Jubilo*; arr. Bill DeTurk (b. 1945) *Regent Square*; arr. Milford Myhre (b. 1931) *Antioch*; arr. Frank P. Law (1918-1985) *Mendelssohn*; arr. Albert C. Gerken (b. 1938)

> Charles-Marie Widor (1844-1937) A. D. Miller (b. 1972) James Vivian (b. 1974) Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

Traditional; arr. David Willcocks (1919-2015)

THE ENTRANCE RITE

HYMN AT THE PROCESSION



THE ACCLAMATION OF THE NATIVITY

Presider	Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
People	And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.
Presider	The Word became flesh and dwelt among us;
People	And we beheld his glory.

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.
People	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. Amen.

The people are seated.

The Word of God

THE FIRST READING

Isaiah 52:7–10

Chant: Douglas Major (b. 1953)

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.

ReaderThe Word of the Lord.PeopleThanks be to God.

PSALM 98

The choir introduces the antiphon, then all repeat.



All sing the antiphon.

THE SECOND READING

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 are the same, and your years will never end."

ReaderThe Word of the Lord.PeopleThanks be to God.

The people stand.

HYMN AT THE SEQUENCE



THE HOLY GOSPEL

Deacon 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.

DeaconThe Gospel of the Lord.PeoplePraise to you, Lord Christ.

The people are seated at the invitation of the preacher.

THE SERMON

The people stand.

THE NICENE CREED

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 Very Reverend Randolph Marshall Hollerith

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Intercessor O God, the creator and preserver of all, draw all peoples to you, that your wisdom may be known to the ends o	f the
 People Hear us, we pray. 	
IntercessorStrengthen your Church, O God, to be a messenger of peace, that through its proclamation and life it may bring good news of Christ to all who are disheartened. God of love and peace, Hear us, we pray.PeopleHear us, we pray.	g the
IntercessorMake the leaders of nations, states and communities to be lovers of goodness and truth, that all your children be nurtured and protected. Uphold all who strive for justice and freedom, that their work for peace may shine your saving love. God of love and peace, Hear us, we pray.PeopleHear us, we pray.	
IntercessorRaise up those who are lowly and powerless, that the light of Christ's birth may scatter their darkness and be renewed hope. God of love and peace,PeopleHear us, we pray.	oring
IntercessorSurround with your love the lonely, bereaved, and all for whom this season is a burden, that they may know the a of your mercy. God of love and peace,PeopleHear us, we pray.	arms
IntercessorRemember those who live with fear, poverty, anxiety, illness, and all who suffer, that they may be comforted lifted up. God of love and peace,PeopleHear us, we pray.	and
IntercessorUnite us with all the saints in the light, until we join them in the brightness of your heavenly glory. God of love and peace,PeopleHear us, we pray.	
 Presider Almighty God, grant that through our prayers, our lives may radiate the presence of Christ to all who dwel earth, for he is our Lord for ever and ever. People Amen. 	ll on

THE PEACE

PresiderThe peace of Christ be always with you.PeopleAnd also with you.

The people greet one another with a sign of God's peace and 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. The altar is prepared for Holy Communion.

ANTHEM AT THE OFFERTORY

In dulci jubilo

In dulci jubilo,	O Patris caritas,
Let us our homage show	Nati lenitas!
Our heart's joy reclineth	Deep were we stained
In praesipio,	Per nostra crimina;
And like a bright star shineth	But thou has for us gained
Matris in gremio.	Coelorum gaudia.
Alpha es et O!	O that we were there!
O Jesu parvule!	Ubi sunt gaudia,
I yearn for thee alway!	If that they be not there?
Hear me, I beseech thee,	There are angels singing
O Princeps gloriae!	Nova cantica.
My prayer, let it reach thee,	There the bells are ringing
O Puer optime!	In Regis curia:
Trahe me post te!	O that we were there!
-	(German carol, tr. R. Pearsall)

The people stand.

HYMN AT THE PRESENTATION



"Ideo gloria in excelsis Deo!" is Latin for "Therefore, glory to God in the highest!"

arr. Robert Pearsall (1795-1856)

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.

PresiderIt 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 & BENEDICTUS



Presider 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."

PresiderTherefore, according to his command, O Father,PeopleWe remember his death, we proclaim his resurrection, we await his coming in glory;

Presider 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 say,

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 \mathcal{C} the fraction anthem

Franz Schubert (1797-1828); arr. R. Proulx



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 from 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

Here is the little door

Herbert Howells (1892-1983)

Here is the little door, lift up the latch, oh lift! We need not wander more but enter with our gift; our gift of finest gold, gold that was never bought nor sold; myrrh to be strewn about His Bed; incense in clouds about His Head; all for the Child that stirs not in His sleep, but holy slumber holds with ass and sheep. Bend low about His Bed, for each he has a gift; see how His eyes awake, lift up your hands, O lift! For gold, He gives a keen-edged sword (Defend with it Thy little Lord!) For incense, smoke of battle red myrrh for the honoured happy dead; gifts for His children, terrible and sweet, touched by such tiny hands and oh such tiny feet. *(Frances Chesterton, 1869-1938)*

The people stand.

HYMN AT THE COMMUNION

Joy to the world!

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Antioch
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THE POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER

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.

THE BLESSING OF CHRISTMAS

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

HYMN AT THE CLOSING

Hark! the herald angels sing

Mendelssohn



DISMISSAL

DeaconLet us go forth in the name of Christ.PeopleThanks be to God.

ORGAN POSTLUDE

Final, from Symphony No. 1

Louis Vierne (1870-1937)

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

A gift in celebration of Christ's birth is made to the glory of God and in thanksgiving for the William Carter Dulin and Maurine Stuart Dulin families.

Christmas Day Organ Recital 1:30 PM

1.90 1 1

Join us this afternoon as Washington National Cathedral organists, the Reverend Benjamin Straley and George Fergus, play a Christmas recital of traditional and familiar holiday favorites on the Cathedral's great organ.

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Cathedral church of saint peter \dot{c} saint paul

The Right Reverend Mariann Edgar Budde Bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Washington

The Very Reverend Randolph Marshall Hollerith Dean

The Reverend Canon Jan Naylor Cope Provost

The Reverend Dana Colley Corsello Vicar

The Reverend Canon Kelly Brown Douglas Canon Theologian

MUSICIANS

Cathedral Singers Canon Michael McCarthy *Director of Music*

The Reverend Benjamin Pearce Straley Organist and Associate Director of Music

> George Fergus Assistant Organist

Dr. Edward M. Nassor *Carillonneur*

USHERS

Valerie Ciccone *Head Usher*

Angela Wilson Deputy Head Usher

Kerry Fergus Deputy Head Usher The Reverend Canon Rosemarie Logan Duncan *Canon for Worship*

The Reverend Canon Samuel Van Culin Canon Ecumenist

The Reverend Andrew K. Barnett Associate for Worship and Music

VERGERS

Dr. Torrence N. Thomas *Head Cathedral Verger*

> Kevin R. Thomas *Cathedral Verger*

Jane Gilchrist, Margaret Gordon, Joyce A. Michelini

ACOLYTES

Lilly Freemyer & Robert Shekoyan, Head Acolytes

Shannon Ayres, Alba Cordover, Clayton Gasho, Dan Huynh, Emily Kim, Clark Klitenic, Caroline Schuermann, Isabel Steinberg, Ben Vacher

> READERS Barbara Powell Johnson Michael Bray

INTERCESSOR Theodora Radcliffe

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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; ST. MARY'S CHAPEL GATES: in memory of Stephen M. Walsh; HOLY SPIRIT CHAPEL ALTAR: in memory of Ann Wilson, and in memory of Vernon Holleman and Cathie Burke; 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; CHILDREN'S CHAPEL FONT: with thanksgiving for the Captains and volunteers of the Flower Guild of Washington National Cathedral; 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 Mark Bean; 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, and in memory of Michael Byrne; PRINCE TOMB CRYPT: in honor of Frederick Henry Prince and Abigail Norman Prince; GOOD SHEPHERD CHAPEL ALTAR: in memory of Wayne and Gee Wood; **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.



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