

The Nativity of our Lord Jesus Christ FESTIVAL HOLY EUCHARIST

Dear friends,

Merry Christmas! We're so glad you've joined us here for a Cathedral Christmas. Please know that the doors of this Cathedral are always open to you, and that everyone has a home here in this house of prayer for all people.

During this busy time of year, I sometimes wonder what draws people to church, especially for those who rarely or never go to church for the rest of the year. There are so many demands on our time, and the places we go or the people we visit say something about what's important. So why do churches tug on our heartstrings at this time of year?

The Christmas story, at its core, is about that moment in time when God chose to dwell among us. In the church, we call it the Incarnation. Christmas is about that moment when God came closest to us, when the veil between heaven and earth slipped away and we could see and touch the very face of God.

I think churches are the same way, or at least we try to be. In this glorious Cathedral, where the majestic space draws our eyes toward Heaven, we get a glimpse of that moment when God comes close. If you pause for a moment, you can feel the same sense of the incarnate God, Emmanuel, God with us. This is a place where God feels close. Maybe that's why you're here, in this Cathedral, this Christmas.

However you got here or whatever drew you here, thank you for letting us share that experience with you, and for joining us to encounter God anew at Christmas. My prayer is that in this moment, as we journey to Bethlehem, that you will feel the touch of God upon your heart. After the holiday hustle and bustle is over, know that the Cathedral is open to you as a place where the wonder of Christmas remains, where you can meet and know God.

From all of us here at the Cathedral, have a joyous holiday, a wonderful new year, and we hope to see you again soon.

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The Very Reverend Randolph Marshall Hollerith *Dean, Washington National Cathedral*



THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST FESTIVAL HOLY EUCHARIST DECEMBER 25, 2018 • 11:15 AM

The people's responses are in **bold**.

CARILLON PRELUDE

Once in royal David's city Angels, from the realms of glory On this day earth shall ring Joy to the world! Hark! the herald angels sing

ORGAN PRELUDE

In dulci jubilo, BWV 729 Improvisation on "Adeste fideles" Christmas Suite Carillon de Westminster, Op. 54/6

INTROIT

Hodie Christus natus est Sung in Latin. Today Christ is born. Today the Saviour has appeared. Today on earth the angels sing and the archangels rejoice. Today the just exult, saying Glory to God in the highest, alleluia, Noel.

(Antiphon on the Magnificat, Vespers of Christmas Day)

Irby; arr. Milford Myhre (b. 1931) Regent Square; arr. M. Myhre Personet Hodie; arr. Edward M. Nassor (b. 1957) Antioch; arr. Frank P. Law (1918-1985) Mendelssohn; arr. Albert C. Gerken (b. 1938)

> Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750) Francis Pott (b. 1957) Gilbert Martin (b. 1941) Louis Vierne (1870-1937)

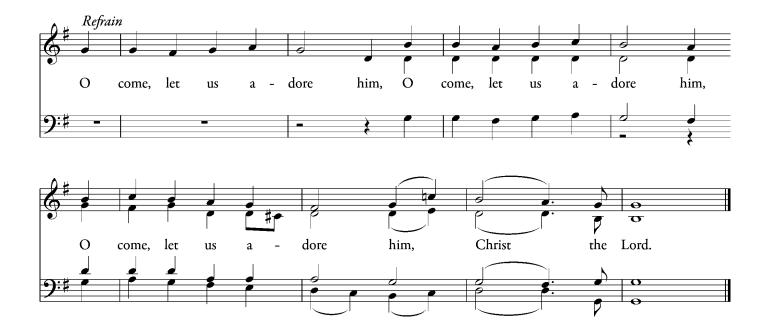
Jan Pieterszoon Sweelinck (1562-1621)

THE ENTRANCE RITE

HYMN AT THE PROCESSION

O come, all ye faithful





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 William Mathias (1934-1992) Þ 7 Glo-ry to God in the high- est, and peace to his) <u>|</u> ₽₩ 0 bp • 20. God, heaven - ly King, al - might - y God and peo-ple on earth. Lord Fa- ther, we wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we you for your glo -Lord Je-sus praise ry. be Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa- ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the 7 world: have mer you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: су on us; For you a-lone are the re-ceive our prayer. bp 20 Ho - ly One, a-lone are the Lord, a-lone are the Most High, Je-sus Christ, you you with the Ho Spi – - ly rit, in the glo - ry of $\mathbf{\delta}$ ó bs ο God the Fa ther._ A _ men.

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

The choir introduces the antiphon, then all repeat.

To - day is born our Sav - ior, Christ___ the Lord.

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.

All sing the antiphon.

THE SECOND READING

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.

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 for ever 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.

chant: Douglas Major (b. 1953)

HYMN AT THE SEQUENCE

Once in royal David's city



Irby

THE HOLY GOSPEL

GospellerThe Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.PeopleGlory 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 as able.

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 PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Intercessor Joining our voices with all in heaven and on earth praising the Word made flesh in Jesus, let us pray for the world to which Christ comes, the Church whom Christ calls, and all people in need who Christ loves.

Silence is kept.

People	God of light, you illumine this darkened world with the radiance of your newborn Son. May this good news of great joy shine in our hearts this holy day, that all gloom and despair may be dispelled by the fullness of your grace and truth. Hear us, we pray.
Intercessor People	God of grace, you bestow your love upon the world in the birth of Jesus, so that all the ends of the earth shall see your salvation. Lead and guide the nations of the world and those who govern them, that your justice and peace may rule over all. Hear us, we pray.
Intercessor People	God of life, you enliven your Church with the story of your love, that forever we may lift up our voices and sing for joy. Renew the song of the Church that, even as the angels proclaimed the birth of Jesus, we too might proclaim the salvation of the world is with us. Hear us, we pray.
Intercessor People	God of truth, you speak and the earth trembles in awe. With all of creation, we break forth together into singing the praise of the Christ Child. Strengthen our resolve to care for all creation that its song may be clearly heard. Hear us, we pray.
Intercessor People	God of mercy and might, you show compassion to all. Shine your healing light on those who are alone and long for companionship, those who are rejected, weak, troubled or sick in body, mind, or spirit. Hear us, we pray.
Intercessor People	God with us, in every time and place the voices of saints and angels together proclaim the good news of great joy which is for all people. Blend our voices with theirs, and at the last day assemble us all around your heavenly throne to forever sing a joyful song to you. Hear us, we pray.
1 copic	
Presider	Come to us, O God, and make your home with us, in us, and through us for the sake of the One whose birth the angels sing and the shepherds proclaim, Jesus Christ our Savior.
People	Amen.

THE PEACE

Presider	The peace of Christ be always with you.
People	And 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

A babe is born

A babe is born all of a may, To bring salvation unto us. To him we sing both night and day. *Veni Creator Spiritus.* At Bethlehem, that blessed place, The child of bliss now born he was; And him to serve God give us grace, *O lux beata Trinitas.* There came three kings out of the East, To worship the King that is so free, With gold and myrrh and frankincense, *A solis ortus cardine.*

(Anonymous, 15th century)

The people stand as able.

HYMN AT THE PRESENTATION

W. Mathias

The angels came down with one cry, A fair song that night sung they In worship of that child: *Gloria tibi Domine.* A babe is born all of a may, To bring salvation unto us. To him we sing both night and day. *Veni Creator Spiritus. Noel!*



THE HOLY COMMUNION

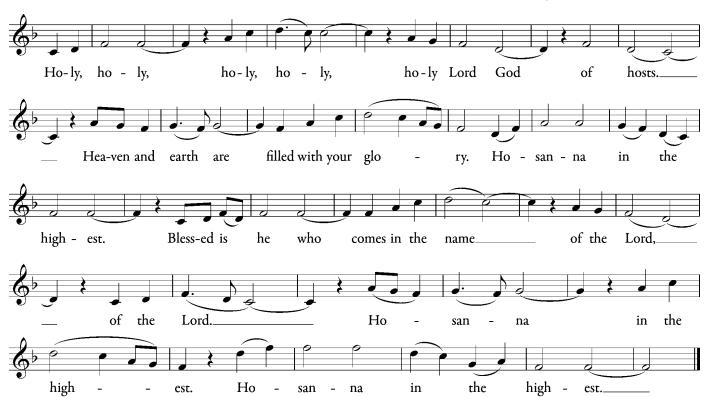
THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

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:

Grayson Warren Brown (b. 1948)



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."
People	Therefore, according to his command, O Father, We 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.

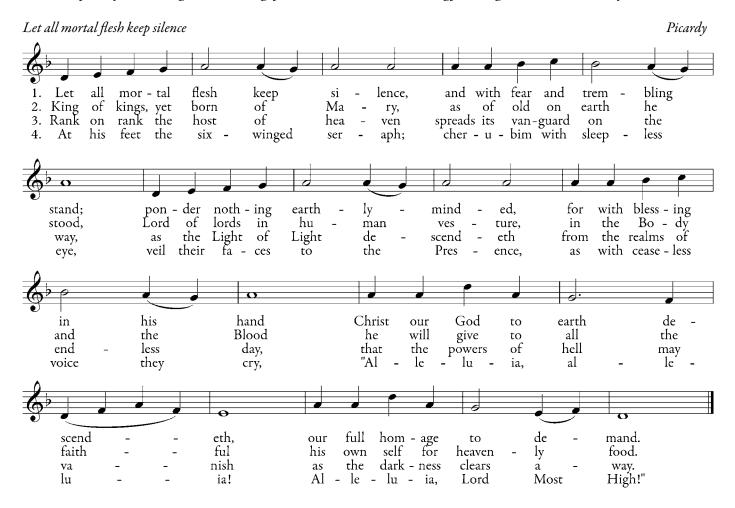
THE LORD'S PRAYER

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 $\dot{\mathcal{C}}$ the fraction anthem

Verses 1 & 2 of the hymn are sung at the breaking of the bread. Verses 3 & 4 are sung following The Invitation to Holy Communion.



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.

Those who wish to have Holy Communion brought to them at their seat should notify an usher.

The people are seated.

ANTHEM AT THE COMMUNION

Sing lullaby	Herbert Howells (1892-1983)
Sing lullaby, sing lullaby,	Sing lullaby to Jesus.
While snow doth gently fall.	Sing lullaby, sing lullaby,
Sing lullaby to Jesus	While thickly snow doth fall.
Born in an oxen's stall.	Sing lullaby to Jesus,
Sing lullaby, sing lullaby. Sing lullaby to Jesus	The Saviour of all. Sing lullaby, sing lullaby.
Born now in Bethlehem,	
The naked blackthorn's growing	
To weave his diadem.	(F.W. Harvey, 1888-1957)

HYMN AFTER COMMUNION



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	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 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



DISMISSAL

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

ORGAN POSTLUDE

Final, from Symphony No. VI

L. Vierne

* * *

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 and Maurine Stuart families.

CHRISTMAS DAY ORGAN RECITAL

I:30 P.M.

Join us later today as organists George Fergus and Thomas Sheehan play a Christmas recital of traditional and familiar holiday favorites on the Cathedral's Great Organ.

Thank you for worshiping at Washington National Cathedral, your National Cathedral.

The work of the Cathedral in service to the city, the nation, and the world is made possible entirely through private support. The gifts of people from across the country and the world are behind every worship service, concert, public program, and the daily work of maintaining this historic landmark. It is only through your generosity that the Cathedral can fully live into its priorities of welcoming, deepening, convening, and serving.

We invite you to support the mission and ministry of the Cathedral. Visit cathedral.org to sign up for our weekly newsletter. You can also make a gift to help keep the Cathedral strong — either as the plate is passed or via our website.

Thank you in advance for your generosity. Please know that your presence with us today has been a blessing.

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Cathedral church of saint peter $\dot{\mathcal{C}}$ saint paul

The Right Reverend Mariann Edgar Budde *Bishop, Episcopal Diocese of Washington*

The Very Reverend Randolph Marshall Hollerith Dean

The Reverend Canon Jan Naylor Cope Provost The Reverend Canon Rosemarie Logan Duncan *Canon for Worship*

The Reverend Canon Dana Colley Corsello *Canon Vicar*

The Reverend Canon Kelly Brown Douglas *Canon Theologian*

> The Reverend Andrew K. Barnett Associate for Worship and Music

MUSICIANS

The Cathedral Singers

Canon Michael McCarthy Director of Music

George Fergus Associate Director of Music & Assistant Organist

Thomas Sheehan Associate University Organist and Choirmaster Memorial Church, Harvard University

> Dr. Edward M. Nassor *Carillonneur*

USHERS

Kerry Fergus *Head Usher*

Angela Wilson Deputy Head Usher

Sara Kirsch Dosha LaRosa Aneisha Persaud Sarah Rockwood The Reverend Canon Leonard L. Hamlin, Sr. *Canon Missioner*

The Reverend Canon Samuel Van Culin Canon Ecumenist

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G. Scott Sanders *Cathedral Verger*

G. Stanley Utterback, Jr. Assistant Cathedral Verger

Catherine Able-Thomas

Margaret H. Gordon Joyce Michelini

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Robert S. Shekoyan, Senior Head Acolyte

Shannon A. O. Ayers & Dan Vinh Huynh, Head Acolytes

Edward Bartram, Gabrielle Cestari, Emily Kim Clark Klitenic, Mary Morgan Lilley Arrieanna Solomon, Isabel Steinberg

READERS

Barbara Powell Johnson Aaron J. Adkins

INTERCESSOR

DiAna Hart Smith



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

High Altar: in memory of Hibbard G. James; Candelabra in the High Altar Sanctuary: in loving memory of Charles and Mary Russell Bounds; Canterbury Pulpit: in thanksgiving for God's blessings; Altar in the Chapel of St. Mary the Virgin: in memory of Mr. and Mrs. Larz Anderson and in loving memory of Robert Marsden Goodchild and the Reverend & Mrs. Norman Egerton; Gates in the Chapel of St. Mary the Virgin: in loving memory of Lynn Laun Lindert; Altar in the Chapel of the Holy Spirit: in memory of Ann Wilson; Altar in the Chapel of St. John: in thanksgiving for the Charles Ray Long family and friends; Norman Prince Tomb in the Chapel of St. John: in honor of Norman Prince; Altar in Children's Chapel: in memory of Wayne Evan Matejik; Christ Child Tree: in honor of Andrew, Kurt, and Stefan Moss, Jennifer and Robert Vettori Jr., and Lydia Hynson; in honor of The Great Mystery of the Incarnation; Altar in War Memorial Chapel: 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: given in memory of J. Clifford Folger and Kathrine Dulin Folger; Altar in the Chapel of the Nativity: in honor of David, Michael, and Peter Lee; Angus Dun Font: in honor of Frederick Henry Prince and Abigail Norman Prince; Altar in the Chapel of the Charles Ray Long family and friends; Altar in the Chapel of the Good Shepherd: in memory of Bob and Bulbul Howard; Altar in the Chapel of St. Joseph of Arimathea: in memory of Senator Joseph Davies Tydings; Columbarium Gates in the Chapel of St. Joseph of Arimathea: in memory of the Seferlis and Tidball families; Ushers' carnations: in memory of Louetons in the Chapel of St. Joseph of Arimathea: in memory of the Seferlis and Tidball families; Ushers' carnations: in memory of Louetons and the Reveres and Stefan St. Soveph of Arimathea: in memory of the Seferlis and Tidball families; Ushers' carnations: in memory of Louetons.

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

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