

CAROLS BY
candlelight

WASHINGTON NATIONAL CATHEDRAL

CHRISTMAS AT WASHINGTON NATIONAL CATHEDRAL

On Christmas Day, we hear again these words from John's Gospel:

"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." [John 1: 1-5]

Here is the central, historic proclamation of Christmas: God has taken on human flesh in the birth of Jesus in Bethlehem. This is perhaps Christianity's most startling proposition. It has radical consequences. God became one of us in Jesus. This means at least two things. It means that God now knows what it is like to be us. And it means that who we are and how we live is raised to a new level of divine importance. We matter. God feels our joy and our pain. The One we pray to knows what our life feels like. And more than that: all human life, all human experience, is important and holy because all human beings are holy. By becoming one of us in Jesus, God has blessed and transformed all human life.

And this blessing and transformation are at the heart of what Christmas means right now. Your life, your joys and sorrows, your work and relationships, your story—all of what makes you "you" matters because of what happened that morning in Palestine two thousand plus years ago. In our culture Christmas has not become "commercialized" so much as it has become "trivialized". We have made of it too light a thing. The reindeer antlers, the silly ties, and the Santa hats are great, but we should wear them not only at parties but out on the street, stopping traffic and giving people the good news that God has become one of us in Jesus, that their lives are now charged with divine significance, that it is OK for them to be who they are.

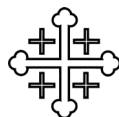
As John says at the close of the Christmas Day Gospel, "And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth." [John 1:14] Jesus' life is the light of all people, and it is available to us each and all, here and now. God has taken you into the divine mystery. You are now part of it. That is the deepest meaning of this holiday.

Merry Christmas to you, your household, and the world.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "G. R. Hall". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of the first and last names being capitalized and prominent.

Gary Hall
Dean, Washington National Cathedral

CAROLS BY CANDLELIGHT
DECEMBER 23 & 24, 2014 • 6:00 PM



CARILLON PRELUDE

O come, all ye faithful
Variations on Noel Nouvelet
O in dulci jubilo, from A Carillon Book for the Liturgical Year
Away in a manger
The first Nowell
Pastoral Symphony, from Messiah
Joy to the world
Angels we have heard on high
Once in royal David's city
O little town of Bethlehem
Hark! the herald angels sing
Silent night, holy night

Adeste fideles; arr. Ronald Barnes (1927-1997)
Edward M. Nassor (b. 1957)
William DeTurk (b. 1945)
Cradle Song; arr. Milford Myhre (b. 1931)
The First Nowell; arr. E. Nassor
George Frideric Handel (1685-1759)
Antioch; arr. Daniel Robins (1937-1970)
Gloria; arr. Frank P. Law (1918-1985)
Irby; arr. E. Nassor
St. Louis; arr. Kamiel Lefevere (1888-1974)
Mendelssohn; arr. F. Law
Stille Nacht; arr. Percival Price (1901-1985)

ORGAN PRELUDE

Noël-Étranger
Noël
Toccata on Veni Emmanuel
Toccata and Fugue in E major, BWV 566
In dulci jubilo, BWV 729
The Sussex Mummers' Christmas Carol
Bring a Torch, Jeanette Isabella

Louis-Claude Daquin (1694-1772)
L. Daquin
Andrew Carter (b. 1939)
Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)
J.S. Bach
Percy Grainger (1882-1961)
arr. Keith Chapman (1945-1989)

WELCOME

INTROIT

Tomorrow shall be my dancing day arr. David Willcocks (b. 1919)
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.

—English carol

HYMN AT THE PROCESSION

Sung by all, standing.

Adeste fideles

O come, all ye faithful

O come, all ye faith - ful, joy - ful and tri - um - phant, O
 God from God, Light from Light e - ter - nal,
 See how the shep - herds, sum - moned to his cra - dle,
 Child, for us sin - ners poor and in the man - ger,
 Sing, choirs of an - gels, sing in ex - ul - ta - tion,

come ye, O come ye to Beth - le - hem;
 lo! he ab - hors not the Vir - gin's womb;
 leav - ing their flocks, draw nigh to gaze;
 we would em - brace thee, with love and awe;
 sing, all ye ci - ti - zens of heaven a - bove;

come, and be - hold him, born the King of an - gels;
 on - ly - be - got - ten Son of the Fa - ther;
 we too will thith - er bend our joy - ful foot - steps;
 who would not love thee, lov - ing us so dear - ly?
 glo - ry to God, glo - ry in the high - est;

Refrain

O come, let us a - dore him, O come, let us a -

dore him, O come, let us a - dore him, Christ the Lord.

ACCLAMATION OF THE NATIVITY

Officiant The people who have walked in darkness
People **have seen a great light.**

Officiant For to us a child is born,
People **to us a Son is given.**

Officiant His name will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God
People **the Everlasting Father, the Prince of Peace.**

Officiant Glory to God in the highest,
People **and peace to God's people on earth.**

BIDDING PRAYER

Beloved in Christ, we come to hear again the message of the angels, and to go in heart and mind to Bethlehem; to see the loving-kindness of God, and the Holy Child, lying in a manger. Give us by your grace, O God, such love and wonder that, with shepherds and angels and pilgrims unknown, we too may adore the child Jesus: Prince of Peace, Shepherd of Hearts, Joy of the Earth.

Yet first, because this of all things would rejoice Jesus' heart, let us pray to him for the needs of the whole world, and of all people; for peace upon the earth he came to save; for love and unity within the Church he did build; for goodwill among all the nations of the earth.

And particularly at this time let us remember the poor, the cold, the hungry, the oppressed; the sick and those who mourn; the lonely and the unloved; the aged and little children; and all who know not the Lord Jesus, or who love him not, or who by sin have grieved his heart of love.

Lastly, let us remember all those who rejoice with us, but upon another shore and in a greater light, that multitude which no one can number, whose hope was in the Word made flesh, and with whom, in this Lord Jesus, we forevermore are one. **Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Officiant These prayers and praises let us humbly offer up to the throne of heaven, saying each in our own language the words that Christ himself has taught us,
People **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 people are seated.

CAROL

Sussex carol

arr. D. Willcocks

On Christmas night all Christians sing, to hear the news the angels bring—news of great joy, news of great mirth, news of our merciful King's birth. Then why should men on earth be so sad, since our Redeemer made us glad, when from our sin he set us free, all for to gain our liberty? When sin departs before his grace, then life and health come in its place; angels and men with joy may sing, all for to see the newborn King. All out of darkness we have light, which made the angels sing this night: glory to God and peace to men, now and for evermore. Amen.

—English carol

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.

CAROL

Lully, lulla

Kenneth Leighton (1929-1988)

Lully, lulla, thou little tiny child, by by, lully, lullay, thou little tiny child, by by, lully lullay. O sisters too, how may we do for to preserve this day, this poor youngling for whom we sing by by, lully lullay? Herod, the king, in his raging, charg'd he hath this day. His men of might, in his own sight, all children young to slay that woe is me, poor child for thee! And ever mourn and day, for thy parting, nor say nor sing, by by, lully lullay!

—15th century

SECOND LESSON

In which the prophet proclaims that God will come and save us

Isaiah 35:1–10

The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad, the desert shall rejoice and blossom; like the crocus it shall blossom abundantly, and rejoice with joy and singing. The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it, the majesty of Carmel and Sharon. They shall see the glory of the Lord, the majesty of our God. Strengthen the weak hands, and make firm the feeble knees. Say to those who are of a fearful heart, “Be strong, do not fear! Here is your God. He will come with vengeance, with terrible recompense. He will come and save you.” Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped; then the lame shall leap like a deer, and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy. For waters shall break forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert; the burning sand shall become a pool, and the thirsty ground springs of water; the haunt of jackals shall become a swamp, the grass shall become reeds and rushes. A highway shall be there, and it shall be called the Holy Way; the unclean shall not travel on it, but it shall be for God's people; no traveler, not even fools, shall go astray. No lion shall be there, nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it; they shall not be found there, but the redeemed shall walk there. And the ransomed of the Lord shall return, and come to Zion with singing; everlasting joy shall be upon their heads; they shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

CAROL

Chanticleer

Richard Wayne Dirksen (1921-2003)

All this night shrill Chanticleer, day's proclaiming trumpeter, claps his wings and loudly cries, mortals, mortals, wake and rise! See a wonder Heaven is under; from the earth is risen a Sun, shines all night though day be done. Wake, O earth, wake everything! Wake and hear the joy I bring. Wake and joy; for all this night Heaven and every twinkling light, all amazing still stand gazing. Angels, Powers and all that be, wake, and joy this Sun to see. Hail, O Sun, O blessed Light, sent into the world by night! Let thy rays and heavenly powers shine in these dark souls of ours; for most duly Thou art truly God and Man we do confess: hail, O Sun of Righteousness!

—William Austin (1587-1633)

O little town of Bethlehem

1 O lit - tle town of Beth - le - hem, how still we see thee lie!
 2 For Christ is born of Ma - ry; and gath - ered all a - bove,
 3 How si - lent - ly, how si - lent - ly, the won - drous gift is given!
 *4 Where child - ren pure and hap - py pray to the bless - ed Child,
 5 O ho - ly Child of Beth - le - hem, de - scend to us, we pray;

1 A - bove thy deep and dream - less sleep the si - lent stars go by;
 2 while mor - tals sleep, the an - gels keep their watch of won - dering love.
 3 So God im - parts to hu - man hearts the bless - ings of his heaven.
 4 where mis - er - y cries out to thee, Son of the mo - ther mild;
 5 cast out our sin and en - ter in, be born in us to - day.

1 yet in thy dark streets shin - eth the ev - er - last - ing Light;
 2 O morn - ing stars, to - geth - er pro - claim the ho - ly birth!
 3 No ear may hear his com - ing, but in this world of sin,
 4 where char - i - ty stands watch - ing and faith holds wide the door,
 5 We hear the Christ - mas an - gels the great glad tid - ings tell;

1 the hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee to - night.
 2 and prais - es sing to God the King, and peace to men on earth.
 3 where meek souls will re - ceive him, still the dear Christ en - ters in.
 4 the dark night wakes, the glo - ry breaks, and Christ - mas comes once more.
 5 O come to us, a - bide with us, our Lord Em - man - u - el!

The people are seated.

THIRD LESSON

In which the angel Gabriel appears to the Virgin Mary

Luke 1:26–38

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. And the angel came to her and said, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you." But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?" The angel said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. For nothing will be impossible with God." Then Mary said, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her.

CAROL

O magnum mysterium

Morten Lauridsen (b. 1943)

O magnum mysterium et admirabile sacramentum, ut animalia viderent Dominum natum, jacentem in praesepio!
Beata Virgo, cujus viscera meruerunt portare Dominum Christum. Alleluja.

*O great mystery and wondrous sacrament, that animals should see the birth of the Lord, and him lying in a manger.
Blessed Virgin whose womb was worthy to carry the Lord Christ. Alleluia.*

FOURTH LESSON

In which John the Baptist is born

Luke 1:57–80

Now the time came for Elizabeth to give birth, and she bore a son. Her neighbors and relatives heard that the Lord had shown his great mercy to her, and they rejoiced with her. On the eighth day they came to circumcise the child, and they were going to name him Zechariah after his father. But his mother said, "No; he is to be called John." They said to her, "None of your relatives has this name." Then they began motioning to his father to find out what name he wanted to give him. He asked for a writing tablet and wrote, "His name is John." And all of them were amazed. Immediately his mouth was opened and his tongue freed, and he began to speak, praising God. Fear came over all their neighbors, and all these things were talked about throughout the entire hill country of Judea. All who heard them pondered them and said, "What then will this child become?" For, indeed, the hand of the Lord was with him. Then his father Zechariah was filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke this prophecy: "Blessed be the Lord God of Israel, for he has looked favorably on his people and redeemed them. He has raised up a mighty savior for us in the house of his servant David, as he spoke through the mouth of his holy prophets from of old, that we would be saved from our enemies and from the hand of all who hate us. Thus he has shown the mercy promised to our ancestors, and has remembered his holy covenant, the oath that he swore to our ancestor Abraham, to grant us that we, being rescued from the hands of our enemies, might serve him without fear, in holiness and righteousness before him all our days. And you, child, will be called the prophet of the Most High; for you will go before the Lord to prepare his ways, to give knowledge of salvation to his people by the forgiveness of their sins. By the tender mercy of our God, the dawn from on high will break upon us, to give light to those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the way of peace." The child grew and became strong in spirit, and he was in the wilderness until the day he appeared publicly to Israel.

CAROL

A hymn to the Mother of God

John Tavener (1944–2013)

In You, O Woman full of grace, the angelic choirs, and the human race, all creation rejoices. O sanctified Temple, mystical Paradise, and glory of Virgins. In You, O Woman full of Grace, all creation rejoices. All praise be to You.

—*The Liturgy of St. Basil*

Joy to the world!

1 Joy to the world! the Lord is come: let earth re -
 2 Joy to the world! the Sa - vior reigns; let us our
 *3 No more let sins and sor - rows grow, nor thorns in -
 4 He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the

ceive her King; let ev - ery heart pre - pare him room, and
 songs em - ploy, while fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains, re -
 fest the ground; he comes to make his bless - ings flow far
 na - tions prove the glo - ries of his right - eous - ness, and

heaven and na - ture sing, and heaven and na - ture
 peat the sound - ing joy, re - peat the sound - ing
 as the curse is found, far as the curse is
 won - ders of his love, and won - ders of his

1 and heaven and na - ture sing, and
 2 re - peat the sound - ing joy, re -
 3 far as the curse is found, far
 4 and won - ders of his love, and

sing, and heaven, and heaven and na - ture sing.
 joy, re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.
 found, far as, far as the curse is found.
 love, and won - ders, won - ders of his love.

heaven and na - ture sing,
 peat the sound - ing joy,
 as the curse is found,
 won - ders of his love,

The people are seated.

FIFTH LESSON

In which the Messiah is born

Luke 2:1-7

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

The people stand.

HYMN

First stanza sung by soloist; the people join on second stanza.

Once in royal David's city

Irby

1 Once in roy - al Da - vid's ci - ty stood a
2 He came down to earth from hea - ven, who is
*3 We, like Ma - ry, rest con - found - ed that a
4 For he is our life - long pat - tern; dai - ly,
*5 And our eyes at last shall see him, through his
6 Not in that poor low - ly sta - ble, with the

1 low - ly cat - tle shed, where a mo - ther laid her
2 God and Lord of all, and his shel - ter was a
3 sta - ble should dis - play hea - ven's Word, the world's cre -
4 when on earth he grew, he was tempt - ed, scorned, re -
5 own re - deem - ing love; for that child who seemed so
6 ox - en stand - ing round, we shall see him; but in

1 ba - by in a man - ger for his bed: Ma - ry
2 sta - ble, and his cra - dle was a stall; with the
3 a - tor, cra - dled there on Christ - mas Day, yet this
4 ject - ed, tears and smiles like us he knew. Thus he
5 help - less is our Lord in heaven a - bove; and he
6 hea - ven, where his saints his throne sur - round: Christ, re -

1 was that mo - ther mild, — Je - sus Christ her lit - tle child. —
 2 poor, the scorned, the low - ly, lived on earth our Sa - vior ho - ly.
 3 child, our Lord and bro - ther, brought us love for one an - oth - er.
 4 feels for all our sad - ness, and he shares in all our glad - ness.
 5 leads his chil - dren on — to the place where he is gone. —
 6 vealed to faith - ful eye, — set at God's right hand on high. —

The people remain standing for the lesson and are then seated at the invitation of the homilist.

SIXTH LESSON

In which the shepherds go and worship the Christ Child

Luke 2:8-20

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 he 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.

HOMILY

*Tuesday evening
 Wednesday evening*

Canon Campbell
 Bishop Mariann

INVITING THE OFFERING

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

CAROL AT THE OFFERTORY

There is a flow'r

John Rutter (b. 1944)

There is a flow'r sprung of a tree, the root thereof is called Jesse, a flow'r of price; there is none such in paradise. This flow'r is fair and fresh of hue, it fadeth never, but ever is new; the blessed branch this flow'r on grew was Mary mild that bare Jesu; a flow'r of grace: against all sorrow it is solace. The seed hereof was Goddes sand that God himself sowed with his hand, in Nazareth, that holy land, amidst her arbour a maiden found; this blessed flow'r sprang never but in Mary's bower. When Gabriel this maid did meet, with 'Ave Maria' he did her greet; between them two this flow'r was set and safe was kept, no man should wit, till on a day in Bethlem it could spread and spray. When that fair flow'r began to spread and his sweet blossom began to bed, then rich and poor of ev'ry land, they marvell'd how this flow'r might spread, till kinges three that blessed flow'r came to see. Angels there came from heaven's tower to look upon this freshele flow'r; how fair he was in his coulour and how sweet in his savour; and to behold how such a flow'r might spring in gold. There is a flow'r sprung of a tree, the root thereof is called Jesse, a flow'r of price; there is none such in paradise.

—John Audelay (d. 1426)

CAROL AT THE CANDLELIGHTING

The Sparrows' carol

Bob Chilcott (b. 1955)

We are sparrows, sparrows in the snow, frost on feathers and ice in our bones so let us have a crumb, a crumb or two, we'll sing the sparrows' carol for you. A sparrow flew up to heaven on high, he sang for the Maker of the sky so let us have a sip, a sip or three, and a sparrow will sing from you Christmas tree! We are sparrows, sparrows in the snow, frost on our feathers and ice in our bones so let us have a crumb, a crumb or two, we'll sing the sparrows' carol for you. The sparrow who flew from Bethlehem afar sang Hallelujah, Hallelujah! so let us have a coin, a coin or four, and sparrows no longer shall be poor! We are sparrows, sparrows in the snow, frost on our feathers and ice in our bones so let us have a crumb, a crumb or two, we'll sing the sparrows' carol for you. A sparrow sang loud when the Christ was born, he sang from the holly and from the hawthorn so let us have a bite, to be of good cheer, and you shall have a Christmas to last all year! We are sparrows, sparrows in the snow, frost on our feathers and ice in our bones so let us have a crumb, a crumb or two, we'll sing the sparrows' carol for you.

—Charles Bennett (b. 1954)

The congregation's tapers will be lighted from the Advent wreath by the acolytes. To pass the light, please hold lighted tapers upright and allow others to light their wicks from the flame.

The people stand.

HYMN

Sung by all.

Silent night

Stille Nacht

Si - lent night, ho - ly night, all is calm,
 Si - lent night, ho - ly night, shep - herds quake
 Si - lent night, ho - ly night, Son of God,

all is bright round yon vir - gin mo - ther and child.
 at the sight, glo - ries stream from hea - ven a - far,
 love's pure light ra - diant beams from thy ho - ly face,

Ho - ly in - fant, so ten - der and mild, sleep in hea - ven - ly
 heaven - ly hosts— sing al - le - lu - ia; Christ, the Sa - vior, is
 with the dawn of re - deem - ing grace, Je - sus, Lord, at thy

peace. born! birth. Sleep Christ, Je - sus, in the Sa - vior, Lord, in hea - ven - ly at thy peace. born! birth.

CHRISTMAS LITANY

Officiant All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.

People **Glory to you, O Christ!**

Officiant O Christ, splendor of God's eternal glory, the mighty Word, sustaining the universe: Renew our lives by your presence.

People **Glory to you, O Christ!**

Officiant O Christ, begotten of God before all time, born in a stable at Bethlehem: May your Church be a sign of hope and joy.

People **Glory to you, O Christ!**

Officiant O Christ, truly God and truly human, born to a people in fulfillment of their expectations: Fulfill our desires in you.

People **Glory to you, O Christ!**

Officiant O Christ, born of the Virgin Mary, child of wonder and splendor, mighty God of all ages, Prince of Peace: May the whole world live in peace and justice.

People **Glory to you, O Christ!**

CONCLUDING COLLECTS

O Almighty God, by the birth of your holy child Jesus, you gave us a great light to dawn on our darkness. Grant that in his light we may see light. Bestow upon us that most excellent Christmas gift of love to all people, so that the likeness of your Son may be formed in us, and that we may have the ever-brightening hope of everlasting life, through Jesus Christ our Savior. **Amen.**

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.**

BLESSING

May Almighty God, who sent Jesus to take our nature upon himself, bless you in this holy season, scatter the darkness of sin, and brighten your heart with the light of holiness. **Amen.**

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

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

And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever. **Amen.**

HYMN AT THE CLOSING

Hark! the herald angels sing

Sung by all.

Mendelssohn

1. Hark! the he - ald an - gels sing glo - ry to the new-born King!
 2. Christ, by high - est heaven a - dored; Christ, the ev - er - last - ing Lord;
 3. Hail the heav'n - born Prince of Peace! Hail the Sun of Right-eous-ness!

Peace on earth and mer - cy mild, God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled!
 late in time be - hold him come, off-spring of the Vir - gin's womb.
 Light and life to all he brings, risen with heal - ing in his wings;

Joy - ful, all ye na - tions, rise, join the tri - umph of the skies;
 Veiled in flesh the God-head see; hail the in-car - nate De - i - ty,
 Mild he lays his glo - ry by, born that we no more may die,

with the an-gel - ic host pro-claim Christ is born in Beth - le - hem!
 Pleased as man with us to dwell: Je - sus, our Em - man - u - el!
 born to raise us from the earth, born to give us sec - ond birth.

Refrain

Hark! the her - ald an - gels sing glo - ry to the new-born King!

The congregation is asked to gently extinguish their candles and, upon exiting, place used tapers in the baskets provided.

POSTLUDE

Carillon de Westminster

Louis Vierne (1870-1937)

WORSHIP LEADERS

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

The Reverend Canon Gina Gilland Campbell
Canon Precentor, Washington National Cathedral

The Reverend Canon Jan Naylor Cope
Vicar, Washington National Cathedral

The Reverend Dr. Kelly Brown Douglas
Professor of Philosophy and Religion, Goucher College

The Very Reverend Gary Hall
Dean, Washington National Cathedral

The Reverend Preston B. Hannibal
Priest Associate for Pastoral Care, Washington National Cathedral

The Reverend Dr. Wollom A. Jensen
Office for Armed Services and Federal Ministries, The Episcopal Church

MUSICIANS

The Cathedral Choir

Canon Michael McCarthy
Director of Music, Washington National Cathedral

Christopher Betts
Organist and Associate Director of Music, Washington National Cathedral

Benjamin Straley
Organist and Associate Director of Music, Washington National Cathedral

Edward M. Nassor
Carillonneur, Washington National Cathedral

READERS

Carmen Delgado-Votaw

Tatie Radcliffe

Eddie Ching

Keeva Harmon

Tom Sjoblom

Ken Myrie

Diane Ruesch

Bob Reeg

Paula Mays

Lucinda Conger

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

High Altar: in memory of Hibbard G. James, and in loving memory of Lansing Kemton DD, Rt. Reverend Benjamin Dagwell, Philip Hulley, Margaret Hulley Watzek, C.H. Watzek, A.R. Watzek, Mr. & Mrs. Kanah Hulley; the candelabra in the High Altar sanctuary: in loving memory of Mary Russell and Charles Bounds; altar in St. Mary's Chapel: in memory of Mr. and Mrs. Larz Anderson, and in loving memory of the Reverend and Mrs. Norman Egerton and Robert Marsden Goodchild; St. Mary's Chapel gates: in loving memory of Richard Hewitt; the altar in Holy Spirit Chapel: in memory of Ann Wilson, and in loving memory of Rosanna Milner Warner and Frank J. Murray; the altar in St. John's Chapel: in thanksgiving for the Charles Ray Long family and friends; the altar in Children's Chapel: 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; 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; Woodrow Wilson tomb: in thanksgiving for and in honor of President Woodrow Wilson; the altar in Bethlehem Chapel: 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; the Prince tombs in St. John's Chapel and outside Bethlehem Chapel: in memory of and in thanksgiving for Norman Prince along with his parents, Frederick Henry Prince and Abbie Norman Prince; the altar in Resurrection Chapel: in thanksgiving for the Charles Ray Long family and friends; ushers' carnations: in memory of Lieutenant James Norbert Matthews.

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