



weary world rejoices

Children's Pageant Christmas Eve

December 24, 2023
4:00pm

Christ Church Downtown

THE EVE OF THE NATIVITY

DECEMBER 24, 2023

THE CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PAGEANT AND
FAMILY EUCHARIST

4:00 PM

According to the Book of Common Prayer, Rite Two

The Rev. David Luckenbach, *Celebrant*

Mr. Jeffrey J. Ford, *Organist-Choirmaster*



Welcome to Christ Church

We are pleased you have joined us for our Christmas Eve celebration. We invite you to participate fully in the worship service, which is printed in this service leaflet. In the Episcopal Church, all baptized Christians are invited to receive Holy Communion. Please silence all cell phones. You are welcome to use video during The Nativity Story but please do not during the service. Thank you. Please silence all cell phones.

For those with young children, nursery care is available downstairs, or seating with video of the church service is provided in the Guild Hall, on the east side of the nave.

THE VOLUNTARY

THE NATIVITY STORY*

Narrators: *Hunter Jensen, James Meals*



Gabriel: *Millie Mercer*

Mary: *Evie Noteware*

Joseph: *Blake Birdwell*

Star: *Vivian Mellon*



Wisepeople:

Tyler Jensen, Archer Cassidy, Evelyn Meals

Angels:

*Louisa Boyd, Olivia Ford, Katie Meals,
Louisa Mellon, Charlotte Mercer, Olivia Pogue*



Shepherds

Matthew Ford, Celia Mellon, Elijah Pogue, Gabriel Pogue

Sheep

*Carter Boyd, Gunner Ferrell, Sim Crews Fry, Helix Mills, Ryker Mills,
Mason Shuttlesworth, Connor Whitten*



**The cast listed is at the time of printing. We reserve the right to make last minute casting changes due to illness, stage fright, or other unforeseen circumstances.*

*Merry
Christmas*

O Little Town of Bethlehem

*O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie!
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by;
Yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting Light;
The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.*

*O holy Child of Bethlehem, descend to us, we pray;
Cast out our sin and enter in, be born in us today.
We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell;
O come to us, abide with us, our Lord Emmanuel!*

Angels We Have Heard on High

*Angels we have heard on high, Singing sweetly through the night,
And the mountains in reply, Echoing their brave delight. Refrain*

Refrain Gloria in excelsis Deo. Gloria in excelsis Deo.

*Shepherds, why this jubilee? Why these songs of happy cheer?
What great brightness did you see? What glad tidings did you hear? Refrain*

*Come to Bethlehem and see him whose birth the angels sing;
Come adore in bended knee Christ, the Lord, the newborn King. Refrain*

*See him on a manger laid whom the angels praise above;
Mary, Joseph, lend your aid, while we raise our hearts in love. Refrain*

The First Nowell

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

*Refrain Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell,
Born is the King of Israel.*

*They looked up and saw a star
Shining in the east beyond them far,
And to the earth it gave great light,
And so it continued both day and night. Refrain*

Away In a Manger

*Away in a manger, no crib for a bed,
The little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head.
The stars in the sky looked down where he lay,
The little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.*

*The cattle are lowing, the baby awakes,
But little Lord Jesus no crying he makes.
I love thee, Lord Jesus! Look down from the sky,
And stay by my cradle till morning is nigh.*

*Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask thee to stay
close by me forever, and love me, I pray.
Bless all the dear children in Thy tender care,
and fit us for heaven, to live with Thee there.*

1. *O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant,
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;
Come, and behold him, born the King of angels;*

*Refrain: O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord.*
2. *God from God, Light from Light eternal
Lo, He abhors not the Virgin's womb
Only begotten Son of the Father. Refrain*
3. *Sing, choirs of angels, Sing in exultation,
Sing, all ye citizens of heav'n above;
Glory to God in the highest: Refrain*
4. *See how the shepherds, summoned to his cradle,
Leaving their flocks, draw nigh to gaze;
We too will thither, Bend our joyful footsteps: Refrain*
5. *Yea, Lord, we greet thee, Born this happy morning,
Jesus to thee be glory giv'n;
Word of the Father, Now in flesh appearing. Refrain*

THE HOMILY

The Rev. David Luckenbach, *Rector*

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, *Form IV*

The Leader and People pray responsively.

Let us pray for the Church and for the world.

Grant, Almighty God, that all who confess your Name may be united in your truth, live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

People Hear our prayer.

Guide the people of this land, and of all the nations, in the ways of justice and peace; that we may honor one another and serve the common good.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

People Hear our prayer.

Give us all a reverence for the earth as your own creation, that we may use its resources rightly in the service of others and to your honor and glory.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

People Hear our prayer.

Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, and grant that we may serve Christ in them, and love one another as he loves us.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

People Hear our prayer.

Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit; give them courage and hope in their troubles, and bring them the joy of your salvation.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

People Hear our prayer.

We commend to your mercy all who have died, that your will for them may be fulfilled; and we pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

People Hear our prayer.

The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.

THE PEACE

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you.

THE RECTOR'S GREETING

THE HOLY COMMUNION

THE SOLO AT THE OFFERTORY: *The Birthday of King*

W.H. Neidlinger

Dr. Gerald Bieritz, *bass*

THE PRESENTATION HYMN

Tunc: Old 100th

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise him, all creatures here below;
Praise him above, ye heavenly host:
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Eucharistic Prayer B

Celebrant The Lord be with you.
People *And also with you.*
Celebrant Lift up your hearts.
People *We lift them up to the Lord.*
Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People *It is right to give him thanks and praise.*
Celebrant It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

Here a Proper Preface is said.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

THE SANCTUS ET BENEDICTUS, S-130

Franz Peter Schubert

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and
might, Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord,
God of power and might, hea - ven and earth are

full, full of your glo - ry. Ho -
san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na
in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes
in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na
in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Then the Celebrant continues

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

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

The Celebrant continues

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

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. *AMEN.*

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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

Celebrant and People

*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

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

People Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

THE INVITATION TO COMMUNION

The Communion Welcome

In the Episcopal Church all baptized Christians, regardless of denominational affiliation, are invited to receive Holy Communion. To receive the host, place one hand over the other with palms facing upward. You may intinct (dip) the host into the chalice of wine, or you may consume the host and then drink from the chalice, gently guiding it to your lips by the base. If you prefer not to receive, you may come forward for a blessing. Please indicate your desire to receive a blessing by crossing your arms over your chest.

THE VOLUNTARY AT COMMUNION

Chorale Prelude on *It Came Upon The Midnight Clear*

Albert D. Schmutz

THE DUET AT COMMUNION

O Holy Night!

Adolphe Adam

Hannah Rosser, *soprano*; Chris Raney, *baritone*

THE POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Almighty and everliving God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

THE BLESSING

Following the Blessing, the People respond: Amen.

THE PROCESSIONAL HYMN

Joy to the World

*Joy to the world! The Lord is come: Let earth receive her King;
Let every heart prepare him room, and heaven and nature sing,
and heaven and nature sing, and heaven, and heaven and nature sing.*

*Joy to the world! The Savior reigns; let us our songs employ,
While fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains, repeat the sounding
joy, repeat the sounding joy, repeat, repeat the sounding joy.*

*He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the nations prove
The glories of his righteousness, and wonders of his love, and
wonders of his love, and wonders, wonders of his love.*

THE DISMISSAL

Deacon Go in peace to love and serve our Newborn King. Alleluia! Alleluia!

People Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!

THE VOLUNTARY: Setting on *O Come, All Ye Faithful*

J.F. Wade

ALTAR FLOWERS

*The flowers on this Eve of the Nativity are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of
Mr. & Mrs. Jeff Bracken and Mrs. W.M. Roberts by their children, grandchildren and great grandchildren,
and in loving memory of Dr. & Mrs. E.W. Clawater, Sr., Dr. & Mrs. E.W. Clawater, Jr.,
Mr. & Mrs. R.O. Shaw, Sr., Mr. & Mrs. R.O. Shaw, Jr. and Ro Shaw by the Clawater family.*

Lay Ministers Today

Verger/Lector/Intercessor: George Roberts

Acolytes: Jonathan Luckenbach, Katie Luckenbach, Evan Birdwell

Ushers: Craig Hughes, Laurel & Clyde Beaty, John Owen; **Greeters:** Hal & Kim Meyers

Altar Guild Team 2, 3: Julie Hicks & Carole Bergfeld



Christmas Poinsettias

In memory of . . .

Upton Beall by Trixie Beall *My husband, Jim Hill* by Pamela Hill
Nancy Berkhouse by Julie Becker *Elaine & James Miller* by Rebecca Miller
Ashley Bracken by Susan Bracken *Rev. John R. & Betty Bentley, Michael Seago*
Harold W. Francis by Debbie Finley *& Martel Shuttlesworth* by Trudy & Mark Shuttlesworth
Robert & Carolyn Fry, Dewey & Virginia Newton,
Wayne Curtis and Breck Watson
by Dorinda & Crews Fry *In loving memory of our parents Lynn & Ken Fight, and Grace*
Frank O. McClendon III by Leigh McClendon & Family *& John Russell* by Leslie Fight & Wayne Russell
My mother, Vivian Rodgers by Ginger Sawyer
Elsie Upshaw and Lola Cox by Rita & Bobby Upshaw

In thanksgiving for . . .

Our clergy and staff and Christ Church by Pamela Hill *Our children & grandchildren* by Madeline & Eric Jensen
Ernie Becker by Julie Becker *Our children* by Krystal & Burkitt Jensen
Our children and grandchildren by Carole & Bob Bergfeld *Bob, Connor, Alexa and Lydia* by Liz McKinney
Our families past & present, The H.C. Hood Family,
The J.L. Bergfeld Family, The Lofquist Family,
The J.A. Bergfeld Family, The Brad Bergfeld Family
by Susan & Julius Bergfeld *Joyce McGee* by Matthew, Conner, Olivia & Adelaide
Lila, Wright, Hank, Bates, Pierce
by Laura & Wayne Brown *Our children & grandchildren & all our blessings*
by Marilyn & Peyton Luckett
The blessings of family and friends
by DeeDee & John Bufe *Our children & grandchildren* by Debbie & Robert Peveto
For God's abundant grace by Leslie Fight & Wayne Russell *Our children & grandchildren* by Trudy & Mark Shuttlesworth
Alan and Laura Sanders by Ginger & Jerry Sanders
Family & friends by Elizabeth & Gregory Vadasdi

In general thanksgiving from... Honey



Christmas Music



In memory of . . .

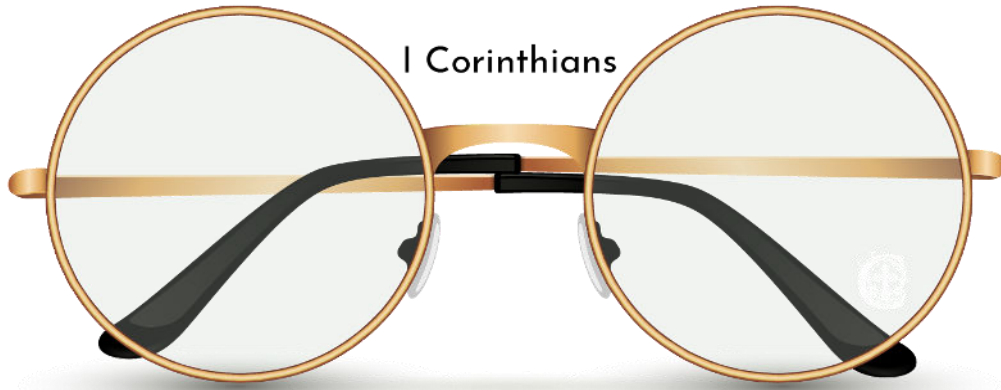
Upton Beall by Trixie Carlock *Tommy Paul* by Laura
Virginia Day & Fred R. Bufe, Marti Cason Oge,
Patricia Payne Oge, George W. Oge, Sr.
and George W. Oge, Jr. by DeeDee & John Bufe *Lola Cox and Elsie Upshaw* by Rita & Bobby Upshaw
Evelyn & Sylvan Law by Rebecca Miller *Bob Edge* by Carol & Jack Langston and Barbara Gabriel
Gary Boyd by his family

In thanksgiving for . . .

The choir and Jeffrey Ford by Pamela Hill *Our clergy & staff*
by Marilyn & Peyton Luckett
Our clergy and staff by Carole & Bob Bergfeld *My children & grandchildren*
by Leigh McClendon & Family
Lila, Wright, Hank, Bates, Pierce
by Laura & Wayne Brown *The life and ministry of my beloved wife, Laurie M. Dowell*
by The Rev. Stephen Stine
Jeffrey, A.J., and the chancel choir by Debbie Finley *Family & friends*
by Elizabeth & Gregory Vadasdi
Norma Edge Halfpenny
by Carol & Jack Langston and Barbara Gabriel

In general thanksgiving from... Sharon & James Wynne; Honey

NEW ADULT FAITH FORMATION CLASS | SUNDAY SCHOOL
begins January 7, 2024



A Call to Faithful Living

Faith formation is essential in the life of Christ Church. We hear from God's word every Sunday, and throughout the week we gather, as Archbishop Cranmer commended to 'read, mark, learn, an inwardly digest' the Holy Scriptures. Beginning Sunday January 7, we will begin a new adult faith formation class **I Corinthians: A Call to Faithful Living**. Each Sunday at 10:00am, chapter by chapter, we will study this essential epistle. Please join us in the Ascension Room downtown or Carr Hall at Christ Church South!

Bible Study

WITH the Rector

1 Peter

begins the 2nd week of January

Men: Tuesdays 8:00am

Women: Thursdays 10:30am

Christ Church *Downtown*



venite
TWENTY - FORTY SOMETHINGS

Bring along your loved ones as we celebrate Epiphany with a **winter warming**

potluck feast at the home of Paige & George Lollis. The pot-luck theme is *stew + bread + beer*. Bring your favorite soup/stew or bread, along with your

favorite drink to share with folks and families of Christ Church!

When: Saturday Jan. 6th @ 6pm **Where:** 2842 Stewart Way Tyler Texas

RSVP: www.christchurchtyler.org/venite

1928

Book of Common Prayer

Holy Eucharist & Healing Service

Noon Thursdays through Epiphany

Downtown in the Nave

*Women's
Depth Group*

1ST & 3RD WED | 6PM- 8
CHRIST CHURCH SOUTH
RESUMES JANUARY 3RD

This Week *(and more)* at Christ Church

Sunday, December 24

7:30 am Holy Eucharist Rite I—CCD
11:05 am Children's Christmas Pageant—CCS*+
4:00 pm Children's Christmas Pageant—CCD*+
7:30 pm Christmas Eve Holy Eucharist—CCD*+
10:30 pm Midnight Mass—CCD~
~*Live Streamed* www.christchurchtyler.org

Monday, December 25

offices closed reopen 27th–29th 8:30-12
10:00 am Holy Eucharist—CCD

Tuesday, December 26

8:00am ~~Men's Bible Study with the Rector~~ *resumes Jan 9*

Thursday, December 28

9:00 am Yoga with Sarah Jones | CCD 4th Floor
10:30am ~~Women's Bible Study with the Rector~~ *resumes Jan 11*
Noon ~~1928 Eucharist & Healing Service~~ *resumes Jan 4*
6:00 pm Loaves & Fishes—Team 4

Sunday, December 31

7:30 am Holy Eucharist Rite I—CCD
9:00 am Holiday reception *no Christian formation* | CCD
10:00 am Holy Eucharist—CCD
10:00 am Holiday reception *no Christian formation* | CCS
11:05 am Holy Eucharist Rite II—CCS+

Monday, January 1

office closed open 8:30 am the 2nd

Sunday, January 7 *Regular service times resume*

7:30am Holy Eucharist Rite I—CCD
9:00am Holy Eucharist Rite II—CCD*+
10:00 am New Christian Formation Class | CCD & CCS*
1 Corinthians
11:00am Holy Eucharist Rite I—CCD*+
11:05am Holy Eucharist Rite II—CCS*+*

*Nursery is available at both campuses. +Children's Chapel
~*livestreamed at christchurchtyler.org*

In Our Prayers

Please consider including the Prayer List in your daily devotions.

Let us remember those who celebrate the anniversaries of their births, especially:

12/24 John Crutchfield, 12/25 Christin Morgan, 12/26 Vernon Gross, 12/26 Nan Ferguson,
12/27 Barb Markee, 12/27 Ronnie Fix, 12/28 Beth Buchinger, 12/29 Jean Morgan, 12/29 Lloyd Mercer

And those who celebrate the anniversaries of their marriages.

12/26 Randy & Deborah Moore, 12/27 Craig & Karen Hughes, 12/27 Mark & Deborah Race,
12/28 Patrick & Valerie Bonds, 12/28 Peyton & Marilyn Luckett, 12/30 Jim & Valerie Huggler

And also those with special needs and concerns, especially:

Lisa, Yeva, YK, Iryna, Nora, Yevgeny, Isabelle, Tommy, Lorelei, Cody, Paul, Lucy, Dylan, Lindzey, Amber,
Briggs, Margaret, Maggie, Jennifer, Linda, Chris, Mike, Mark, Mariam, Dalton, Verdie, Stacy

Prayer Requests

If you would like to add or take off a name on the prayer list, parishioners should notify

The Rev. Stephen Stine at ssi@tjc.edu.

Christ Church • Episcopal

Christ Church Downtown* 118 South Bois d'Arc Tyler, Texas 75702

903-597-9854 Fax: 903-597-5723 www.christchurchtyler.org

Regular Office Hours 8:30 am–5:00 pm Monday through Thursday; Friday 8:00 am–4:00 pm

**Office for downtown and south locations*

Christ Church South: 15747 Old Jacksonville Hwy Tyler, Texas 75703

www.christchurchtyler.org