Sunday After Christmas

December 26, 2021



St. Cyprian's Episcopal Church



St. Cyprian's is a welcoming, inclusive, vibrant community of faith, where every person is invited to engage in our worship, mission, and ministry. This booklet contains all you will need for this morning's worship. Information about upcoming events, activities, and ministries are found on the Announcement page. If you are a visitor to our live-streaming service, we would be honored if you would leave your name and email address to keep you informed of news of our church and ministries. WELCOME!

PRELUDE

"I Wonder as I Wander"

Niles



THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

OPENING ACCLAMATION

Celebrant:Blessed be our God:People:Forever and ever. Amen.

COLLECT FOR PURITY

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.



THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Priest:The Lord be with you.People:And also with you.Priest:Let us pray.

Almighty God, you have poured upon us the new light of your incarnate Word: Grant that this light, enkindled in our hearts, may shine forth in our lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE FIRST READING:

Isaiah 61:10-62:3

¹⁰I will greatly rejoice in the LORD, my whole being shall exult in my God; for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation, he has covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels. ¹¹For as the earth brings forth its shoots, and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up, so the Lord GoD will cause righteousness and praise to spring up before all the nations. ^{62:1}For Zion's sake I will not keep silent, and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest, until her vindication shines out like the dawn, and her salvation like a burning torch. ²The nations shall see your vindication, and all the kings your glory; and you shall be called by a new name that the mouth of the LORD will give. ³You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the LORD, and a royal diadem in the hand of your God.

Reader:	Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.
People:	Amen. Amen.

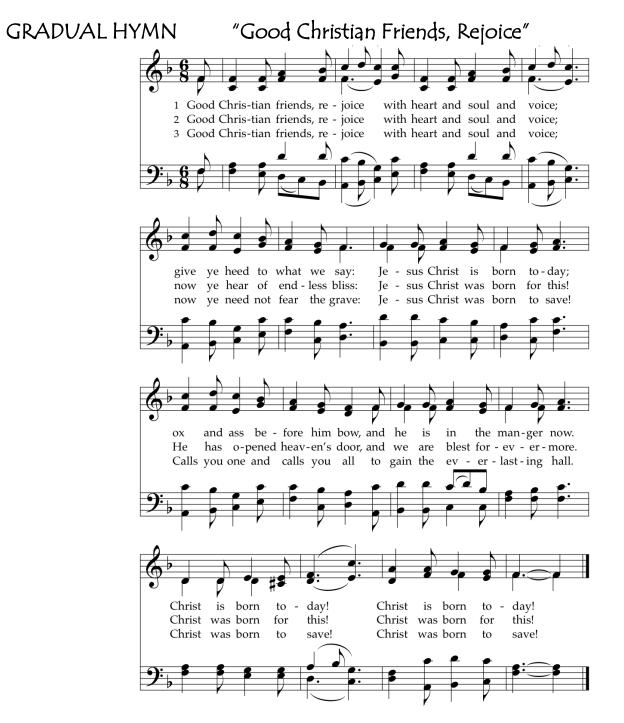
PSALM 147:13-21

¹³Worship the LORD, O Jerusalem; * praise your God, O Zion; ¹⁴For he has strengthened the bars of your gates; * he has blessed your children within you. ¹⁵He has established peace on your borders; * he satisfies you with the finest wheat. ¹⁶He sends out his command to the earth, * and his word runs very swiftly. ¹⁷He gives snow like wool; * he scatters hoarfrost like ashes. ¹⁸He scatters his hail like bread crumbs: * who can stand against his cold? ¹⁹He sends forth his word and melts them; * he blows with his wind, and the waters flow. ²⁰He declares his word to Jacob, * his statutes and his judgments to Israel. ²¹He has not done so to any other nation; * to them he has not revealed his judgments. Hallelujah!

THE SECOND READING:

²³Now before faith came, we were imprisoned and guarded under the law until faith would be revealed. ²⁴Therefore the law was our disciplinarian until Christ came, so that we might be justified by faith. ²⁵But now that faith has come, we are no longer subject to a disciplinarian. ^{4:4}But when the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, ⁵in order to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as children. ⁶And because you are children, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" ⁷So you are no longer a slave but a child, and if a child then also an heir, through God.

Reader:Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.People:Amen. Amen.



THE GOSPEL:

Priest:The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to John.People:Glory to you Lord Christ.

¹In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ²He was in the beginning with God. ³All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being ⁴in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. ⁵The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it. ⁶There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. ⁸He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. ⁹The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. ¹⁰He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. ¹¹He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. ¹²But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, ¹³who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God. ¹⁴And 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. ¹⁵(John testified to him and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks ahead of me because he was before me.'") ¹⁶From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. ¹⁷The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. ¹⁸No one has ever seen God. It is God the only Son, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known.

Priest:The Gospel of our Lord.People:Amen. Amen.

THE SERMON

FR. TED VOORHEES

A DECLARATION OF FAITH

We believe in the one God who has created the land and sea and heavens and all that is in them; who established a world that is good; who gives to us the task of watchful and responsible care over it; who is certainty and truth. We believe in the one God who in Jesus Christ assumed our humanity and knew our life as child, youth, and adult; who dined with sinners and lived with the homeless; who confronted popular opinion and power; who remained obedient in temptation and suffering; whose triumph was a servant's death and resurrection. We believe in the one God who comes to us as comforter and advocate; who does not leave us as orphans; who brings peace and calms the troubled heart; who bestows gifts for serving, healing, showing compassion, and doing miracles; who alone is the power and the wisdom of our proclamation.

Amen.

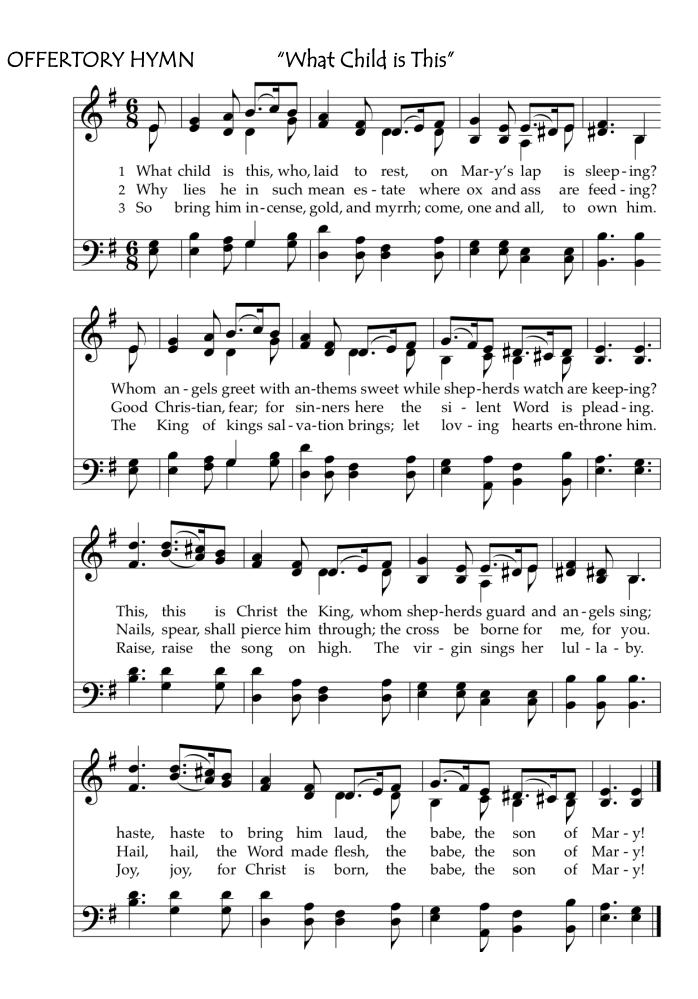
THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Leader:	In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.	
Leader:	For all people in their daily life and work;	
<i>People:</i>	For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.	
Leader:	For this community, the nation, and the world;	
<i>People:</i>	For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.	
Leader:	For the just and proper use of your creation;	
<i>People:</i>	For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.	
Leader:	For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;	
<i>People:</i>	For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.	
Leader:	For the peace and unity of the Church of God;	
<i>People:</i>	For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.	
Leader:	For Michael our Presiding Bishop, and John our Bishop; for Fr. Ted; for Clerene who is seeking ordinantion; and for all ordained and lay ministers;	
<i>People:</i>	For all who serve God in the Church.	
Leader:	For the special needs and concerns of this congregation. The people may add their own petitions aloud, or in the silence of their hearts	
Leader:	Hear us, Lord;	
<i>People:</i>	<i>For your mercy is great.</i>	
Leader:	We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life. The people may add their own thanksgivings aloud, or in the silence of their hearts	
Leader:	We will exalt you, O God our King;	
<i>People:</i>	And praise your Name for ever and ever.	
Leader:	We pray for all who have died, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom. The people may add their own prayers aloud, or in the silence of their hearts	
Leader:	Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;	
<i>People:</i>	<i>Who put their trust in you.</i>	
Leader: <i>People:</i>	We pray to you also for the forgiveness of our sins. Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father; in your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone; and so uphold us by your Spirit that we may live and serve you in newness of life, to the honor and glory of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.	
Priest:	Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you eternal life. Amen.	

THE PEACE

Priest: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: And also with you.



THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Celebrant	The Lord be with you.
People	And also with you.
Celebrant	Lift up your hearts.
People	We lift them to the Lord.
Celebrant	Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People	It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Celebrant

We praise you and we bless you, holy and gracious God, source of life abundant. From before time you made ready the creation. Your Spirit moved over the deep and brought all things into being: sun, moon, and stars; earth, winds, and waters; and every living thing.

You made us in your image, and taught us to walk in your ways. But we rebelled against you, and wandered far away; and yet, as a mother cares for her children, you would not forget us. Time and again you called us to live in the fullness of your love. And so this day we join with Saints and Angels in the chorus of praise that rings through eternity, lifting our voices to magnify you as we sing:



The Celebrant continues

Glory and honor and praise to you, holy and living God. To deliver us from the power of sin and death and to reveal the riches of your grace, you looked with favor upon Mary, your willing servant, that she might conceive and bear a son, Jesus the holy child of God. Living among us, Jesus loved us. He broke bread with outcasts and sinners, healed the sick, and proclaimed good news to the poor. He yearned to draw all the world to himself yet we were heedless of his call to walk in love. Then, the time came for him to complete upon the cross the sacrifice of his life, and to be glorified by you.

On the night before he died for us, Jesus was at table with his friends. He took bread, gave thanks to you, broke it, and gave it to them, and said: "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

As supper was ending, Jesus took the cup of wine. Again, he gave thanks to you, gave it to them, and said: "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Now gathered at your table, O God of all creation, and remembering Christ, crucified and risen, who was and is and is to come, we offer to you our gifts of bread and wine, and ourselves, a living sacrifice. Pour out your Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Body and Blood of Christ. Breathe your Spirit over the whole earth and make us your new creation, the Body of Christ given for the world you have made.

In the fullness of time bring us, with blessed Cyprian and all your saints, from every tribe and language and people and nation, to feast at the banquet prepared from the foundation of the world.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor, glory, and praise, for ever and ever. **AMEN.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray,

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your Name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

Priest: We break this bread to share in the Body of Christ.

- People: Therefore let us keep the feast.
- *Priest* The Gifts of God for the People of God.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

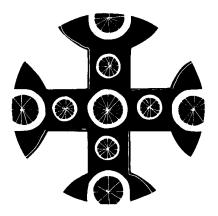
Let us pray.

Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

BLESSING

Live without fear. Your Creator has made you holy, has always protected you, and loves you with a power and a presence that is stronger than death.

May God's blessing be with you, Christ's peace be with you, and the Spirit's outpouring be with you, now and always. Amen.



CLOSING HYMN

"O Come, All Ye Faithful"



DISMISSAL

Priest: People: Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of God's Spirit. **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

"O Come All Ye Faithful"

Metzger

About Our Worship Booklet

The worship in this booklet follows the form of **Holy Eucharist: Rite II** in the **Book of Common Prayer**. The **Declaration of Faith** is from the **Moravian Book of Worship**. The **Eucharistic Prayer** is **Prayer 2** from **Enriching Our Worship**. The readings from Holy Scripture are from **Lectionary Year c** using the **New Revised Standard Version** of the Bible.

Prayer List

We pray for those known to the people of St. Cyprian's who are ill or who have asked for our prayers: Jamie, Neal, Jax, Marion, and Eldon Jones, Lelia Druzdis, Sandra Parks, Clerene Romeo-Jackson, Kirby von Egidy, Vicki Lewis, Sue Paul, Linda Larrimore, Henning Toensmann, Barb Lofquist, Jane Schwab, Carol Ann Romaine, Bobbi Miller, Bill Wall, Elise Osako, Pat Laurencelle, Jon Wiles, Jim Colee, and Beth.

We pray also for Anna Marr, Susie Calvaruso, Jeff Robinson, Maury Husic, Keira Roberts, James Mangum, Terra Williams, Bethany Ringgold Stevenson & Family, Richard & Betty Rose, Margaret Anne Payne, Michael Scott, Glenda Greene, Raymond & Leslie Stricklen, Joan Athey, Elise Loney, Holly and Mark Arnim, Mary Caldwell, Eric & Denise Glaude, Karen Mullis, Laurey & Jagger, Penny, Brian, Angela & Ariel, Bobby Morrow, Steve Larew, Rick & Margie Oney, Barbara Presha, Bob Merrell, Donna Miami, Bruce Cudworth, Hal Dockins, Marty Turner, Peter Morin, Norma Sherry, Bob Mermell, Linda Parker, Dennis O'Neill, George Libonate, Patti Morrissey, Bonnie Wahiba, Foster Swann, Peter Ripley, Debbie Gagnon, Irma Brooks, Kelli Ann Dishmon, Jim Bullock, Allison Paisley, Carrie C., Catherine Martin, and Liza Aston.

<u>About the Prayer List</u> – If you would like to add someone to our Prayer List please use the form you'll find on the table near the door. And, please let us know when to take someone's name off our Prayer List.

Announcements

Dining With Dignity

Many thanks to all who contributed food, clothing, or funds this month. We distributed food to 60+ people. In addition to a shared meal, we also handed out blankets, jackets, new hats, socks and sweatshirts. Our next Dining With Dignity is scheduled for Tuesday, January 4. Please watch the announcements in the Voice as we make our plans during this Covid-19 coronavirus crisis.

Ecumenical Food Pantry

The Ecumenical Food Pantry is now open five days a week during this Covid-19 coronavirus crisis, and the need for food is extremely high. If you want to bring food contributions for the Ecumenical Food Pantry, the church is open for prayer daily from 9am until 4:30pm, and the food basket is just inside the door. If you would like to make a monetary contribution (each \$1 buys 5lbs. of food), please mail the check to the church and put Food Pantry in the memo line.

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