

The Nativity of Our Lord

December 24, 2016

5:00 P.M.



CHRIST CHURCH
EPISCOPAL

THE MOTHER CHURCH OF GEORGIA
ESTABLISHED 1733





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The Book of Common Prayer, Rite II (“BCP”)

Entrance Rite

Voluntary <i>What child is this?</i>	English carol, arr. Richard Purvis
Processional	Hymnal 83
<i>O come all ye faithful</i>	John Francis Wade
Stanzas 1, 2, 3 and 6	
Opening Acclamation and Response	BCP 355
Gloria in Excelsis	Hymnal S-280
Collect of the Day	
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. <i>Amen.</i>	

Christmas Pageant

Congregation is seated

Narrator: A King James Reading from the Gospels of Luke and Matthew

And it came to pass in those days that there went out a decree from Caesar Augustus, that all the world should be taxed. All went to be taxed, every one into his own city. Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judaea, unto the city of David, which is called Bethlehem (because he was of the house and lineage of David). Joseph went to be taxed with Mary, his

espoused wife, being great with child.

Congregation sings:

*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.*

And so it was, that, while they were there, the days were accomplished that she should be delivered. And she brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the Inn.

Congregation sings:

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

*The cattle are lowing the poor baby wakes,
But little Lord Jesus no crying he makes.
I love thee, Lord Jesus, look down from the sky,
And stay by my cradle 'til morning is nigh.*



And there were in the country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flocks by night. And Lo, the angel of the Lord came among them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them, and they were sore afraid. And the angel said unto them, "Fear not; for behold -- I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, which is Christ the Lord. And this shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger." And suddenly, there was with the angel, a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying,

Congregation: *"Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men."*

And it came to pass, as the angels were gone away from them into heaven, the shepherds said one to another, "Let us now go even unto Bethlehem, and see this thing which has come to pass, which the Lord has made known unto us." And they came with haste, and found Mary, and Joseph, and the babe lying in a manger.

Congregation sings:

*Angels we have heard on high,
Singing sweetly through the night,
And the mountains in reply
Echoing their brave delight.
Glo - - - - - ria in excelsis deo.
Glo - - - - - ria in excelsis deo.*

*Come to Bethlehem and see
Him whose birth the angels sing;
Come, adore on bended knee
Christ the Lord, the newborn King.
Glo - - - - - ria in excelsis deo.
Glo - - - - - ria in excelsis deo.*

Now when Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judaea in the days of Herod the king, behold, there came wise men from the east to Jerusalem, saying, "Where is he that is born King of the Jews? For we have seen his star in the east and are come to worship him." And when Herod the king had heard these things, he

was troubled, and when he had gathered all the chief priests and scribes of the people together, he demanded of them where Christ should be born. And they said unto him, "In Bethlehem of Judaea, for thus it is written by the prophets."

And Herod sent them to Bethlehem and said, "Go and search diligently for the young child; and when ye have found him, bring me word again, that I may come and worship him also." When they had heard the king, they departed;



and, lo, the star, which they saw in the east, went before them, till it came and stood over where the young child was. When they saw the star, they rejoiced with great joy.

Congregation sings:

*We three kings of Orient are
Bearing gifts we traverse afar,
Field and fountain, moor and mountain
Following yonder star.
O -- Star of wonder, star of night,
Star with royal beauty bright;
Westward leading, still proceeding,
Guide us to thy perfect light.*

And when they were come into the house, they saw the young child with Mary his mother, and fell down and worshiped him. And when they had opened their treasures, they presented unto him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

Narrator: The Word of the Lord
People: Thanks be to God

Following the Pageant, the congregation stands and sings:

<i>Hark! The herald angels sing</i> (Charles Wesley)	Hymnal 87
Nicene Creed	BCP 358
Prayers of the People, Form III	BCP 387
Peace	

(The pageant cast returns to their families at this time)

Holy Communion

Offertory <i>Suo Gan</i>	Traditional Welsh carol, arr. Barlow Bradford
Doxology	Hymnal 380, v. 3
Great Thanksgiving, <i>Eucharistic Prayer B</i>	BCP 367
Sanctus and Benedictus	Hymnal S-125
Lord's Prayer	BCP 364
Breaking of the Bread	
Fraction Anthem <i>Agnus Dei</i>	Hymnal S-164
Communion	
<i>Two settings of "In dulci jubilo"</i>	J. S. Bach, Marcel Dupré
<i>Mary, did you know?</i>	Mark Lowery and Buddy Greene
Dr. Bertice Berry, vocalist	
<i>The shepherds at the manger</i>	Helmut Walcha
<i>The Holy Boy</i>	John Ireland
<i>Silent night! Holy night!</i> Hymnal 111	Josef Mohr
Postcommunion Prayer	BCP 365
Processional Hymn	Hymnal 100
<i>Joy to the world! The Lord is come</i>	Isaac Watts
Postlude <i>Toccata on 'Il est né, le divin Enfant'</i>	Denis Bedard

Opposite Page Art:

Giotto. *Madonna and Child with St. Nicholas, St. John the Evangelist, St. Peter and St. Benedict*. c.1300. Galleria degli Uffizi, Florence, Italy.

Giotto, *Nativity–Birth of Jesus*, 1304–06. Scrovegni Chapel, Padua, Italy.

Announcements

Christ Church's Christmas Pageant 2016

Pageant Cast:

- *Acolytes.* Ethan White (Crucifer), Jay White (Second Cross), Christian Oelschig (torch) and Sidney Wells Logan (torch)
- *Narrators.* Matt Bailey and Sidney Wells Logan
- *Caesar and Caesar's Messengers—Directed by Molly Taylor.* Finn Taylor (Caesar), Edward Wallace (Messenger/Shepherd), Thomas Wallace (Messenger/Shepherd) and Keating Taylor (Messenger/Shepherd)
- *Inn Keeper and Banner Holders—Directed by Anne-Marie Germany.* Jack Lerch (Inn Keeper), Liv Dugas (Banner/Angel), Stella Oelschig (Banner/Angel), Liam Germany (Cow), Carrie Reeves (Cow), and Harlan Lerch (Cow)
- *Holy Family—Directed by Monica Phillips.* Tiara Sanders (Mary), Jay White (Joseph), Julia Mae Reyes (Baby Jesus) Rudy Reyes, Nora Smith (Donkey)
- *Angels—Directed by Sarah Smith and Nella Maxwell.* Ella Stone (lead angel), Isabelle Booth (lead angel), Harris Stone, Anneliese Germany, Stella Oelschig, Liv Dugas, Liza Swan, Sarah Drury, Mollie Dugas, Kate Barber, Margaret Maxwell, Gwen Blalock, Kellen Blalock, Abigail Smith, Hayden Carter, Amanda Drury, Anna Reeves and Turner Swan
- *Shepherds—Directed by Ann Lerch.* Ethan White (Lead Shepherd), Jaron Legree (Lead Shepherd), Cole Garrett, Finn Taylor, Keating Taylor, Philip Slantinsky, Edward Wallace, Thomas Wallace and Prentiss "Bubba" McMullen
- *Sheep—Directed by Melissa Bragg and Kristy Reeves.* Crawford Lerch, Bylee Bragg, Jacob Reeves, Sydney Booth and Heath Barber
- *Herod, Priests, Wisemen and Star—Directed by Tori Chandler.* Adair Garrett (Star), Eloise Logan (Herod), Michael Slantinsky (Priest), Ryan Chandler (Lead Wiseman), Jack Chandler (Wiseman), Wiley Chandler (Wiseman)
- *Costume Team—*Kelly Lancaster, Wendy Walmsley, Marie Dent and Monica Phillips
- *Rehearsal Director—*Emily Williams Burch

- *Other Leaders and Volunteers*—The Rev. Sierra Wilkinson Reyes, The Rev. Helen White, Timothy Hall, Brooke Stone, Margaret Bohnstedt, Sean Holleran and Matthew Kirby

Visitors: Extra youth costumes are available for any child who would like to participate in tonight's Christmas pageant. If you would like to participate, we ask that parents escort their child to the church's Undercroft (downstairs) before the start of the service.

January 22—Annual Meeting, Commissioning of Vestry, and Evening Reception

On January 22 at 5:30 p.m., we will commission the Vestry for the coming year; formally recognize those Vestry members whose terms are expiring (William F. Wallace, M.D., M. Marie Dent, Ph.D., Ann Y. Miller and J. Kurt C. Oelschig), and welcome the following new Vestry members (pictured below): Bertice Berry, Michael Franck, Laura Lawton and Gary Radke. We will also hear brief reports from the Rector and Senior Warden. A reception in the Undercroft will follow immediately thereafter.



Coming Dates

- December 25—Christmas Day service at 10:30 a.m.
- January 1—Feast of the Holy Name. 10:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist and at 6 p.m. Evening Eucharist (Note: No 8 a.m. service January 1).
- January 21—Anniversary of the Rt. Rev. Henry I. Louttit, Jr.'s consecration as the 9th Bishop of Georgia.
- January 29—Sunday School and Adult Forums resume.

About Christ Church

Christ Church is the “Mother Church of Georgia”; was founded on February 12, 1733 and is a member of the Diocese of Georgia which, in turn, is one of 110 Dioceses which composes The Episcopal Church in the United States of America and abroad. The Episcopal Church is a constituent member of the Anglican Communion, a fellowship within the One, Holy, Catholic and Apostolic Church of those duly constituted dioceses, provinces, and regional Churches in communion with the See of Canterbury. The fellowship upholds and propagates the historic Faith and Order as set forth in the Book of Common Prayer. The current church building was constructed in 1838 and is the third one on the original site. Previous rectors of our parish include John Wesley, George Whitefield, Bishop Elliott, F. Bland Tucker and George M. Maxwell.

Year-end Planning

Before the end of January, 2017 Christ Church will send you a statement showing all contributions made by you during 2016. To qualify as a 2016 contribution, your check should be dated prior to December 31 and the IRS requires that the envelope should be postmarked prior to that date as well. Thank you as always for your generosity to our church.

Christ Church’s Children’s Choir

Two weeks ago, Christ Church’s Children’s Choir made its debut. The choir is led by Emily Williams Burch and our organist and choirmaster Timothy Hall. If your child is interested in learning about music and singing, please contact Mrs. Burch at emilywilliamsburch@gmail.com.

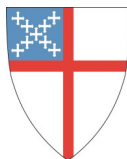


Photos from December 18, 2016—Fourth Sunday of Advent
Carols for a Cause: A Benefit Concert for Emmaus House



Photos from December 18, 2016-Fourth Sunday of Advent





CHRIST CHURCH EPISCOPAL

The Right Reverend Scott Anson Benhase, D. Min., *Bishop of Georgia*

The Reverend Michael S. White, *Rector*

The Reverend Sierra Wilkinson Reyes, *Associate Rector*

The Reverend Helen S. White, *Assistant for Children and Family Ministries*

The Reverend Liam G. Collins, *Assistant for Pastoral Care and Spiritual Life*

The Reverend Patricia Rhoads Davis, *Deacon*

The Right Reverend Henry I. Louttit, Jr., *Bishop-in-Residence*

The Reverend George M. Maxwell (1930-2016), *Rector Emeritus*

Timothy L. Hall, *Organist and Choirmaster*

Leslie D. Parker, *Parish Administrator*

Vestry

William F. Wallace, M.D., *Senior Warden*

J. Ryan Chandler, *Junior Warden*

Mary E. Raines, *Clerk of the Vestry*

Jane F. Espy, *Treasurer*

Robert M. Davenport

M. Marie Dent, Ph.D.

Celia W. Dunn

John Thomas Gennuso

Catherine M. Gussler

Kelly O. Lancaster, Ph.D.

Ann Y. Miller

J. Kurt C. Oelschig

Denton W. Stone

Andrew M. Wright

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