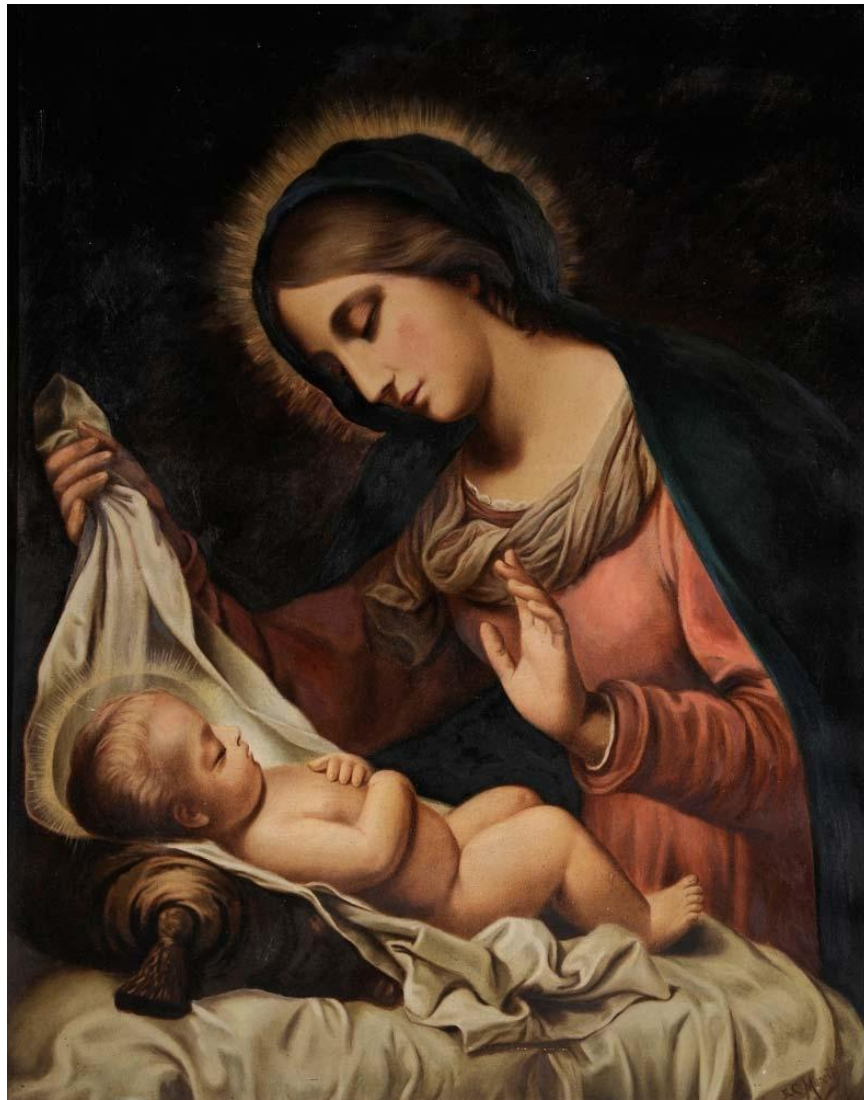


# THE FEAST OF THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD

December 24, 2025

5:00 p.m.



CHURCH OF THE HOLY CROSS  
875 COTTON STREET  
SHREVEPORT, LOUISIANA

The Rev. J. Garrett Boyte, *Celebrant*

# THE HOLY EUCHARIST: RITE II

5:00 p.m.

*The liturgy is found in the red Book of Common Prayer (Prayer Book).*

*Hymns are in the blue Hymnal 1982.*

## ORGAN PRELUDE

*In dulci jubilo* (H#107), BWV 608.....Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

*In dulci jubilo* ..... Marcel Dupré (1886-1971)

## THE WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### THE WORD OF GOD

HYMN 83 .....O come, all ye faithful (vv. 1-5) .....ADESTE FIDELES; v. 3 arr. Nicholson

*The liturgy continues on Page 355 of the Prayer Book.*

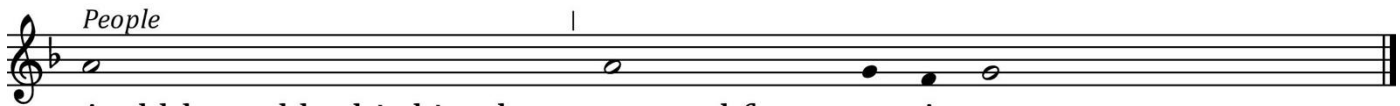
### OPENING ACCLAMATION

*Celebrant*



Bles-sed be God: Father, Son, and Ho-ly Spir-it.

*People*



And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ev-er. A-men.

### COLLECT FOR PURITY

*The Celebrant chants the collect.*

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.



*People* A-men.

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS DEO ..... William Mathias (1934-1992)



1. Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to his peo - ple on



earth. 2. Lord God, heaven-ly King, al - might-y God and Fa - ther, we wor-ship you,



we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry. 3. Lord Je - sus Christ,



on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, 4. you take a - way the



sin of the world: have mer - cy on us; 5. you are seat - ed at the right hand of the



Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.



6. For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord, 7. you a - lone are the



Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spi - rit,



in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

THE COLLECT OF CHRISTMAS EVE

*Celebrant* *People*

The Lord be with you. And also with you. Let us pray.

*The Celebrant chants the collect.*

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* A-men.

THE FIRST LESSON ..... Isaiah 9:2-7

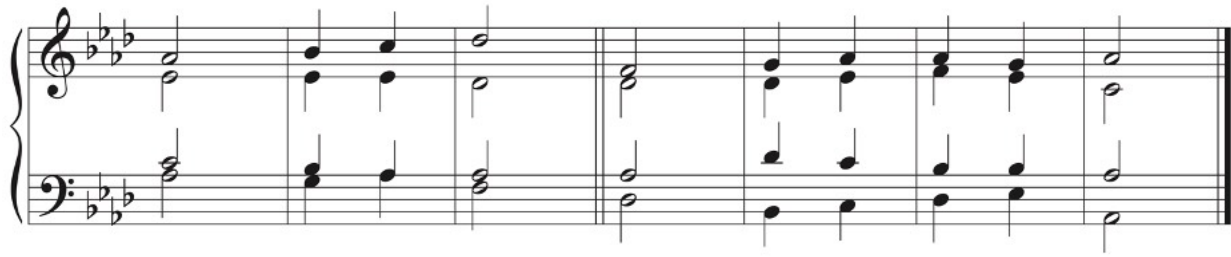
*Lector* A reading from the Book of Isaiah.

The people who walked in darkness  
 have seen a great light;  
 those who lived in a land of deep darkness—  
 on them light has shined.  
 You have multiplied the nation,  
 you have increased its joy;  
 they rejoice before you  
 as with joy at the harvest,  
 as people exult when dividing plunder.  
 For the yoke of their burden,  
 and the bar across their shoulders,  
 the rod of their oppressor,  
 you have broken as on the day of Midian.  
 For all the boots of the tramping warriors  
 and all the garments rolled in blood  
 shall be burned as fuel for the fire.

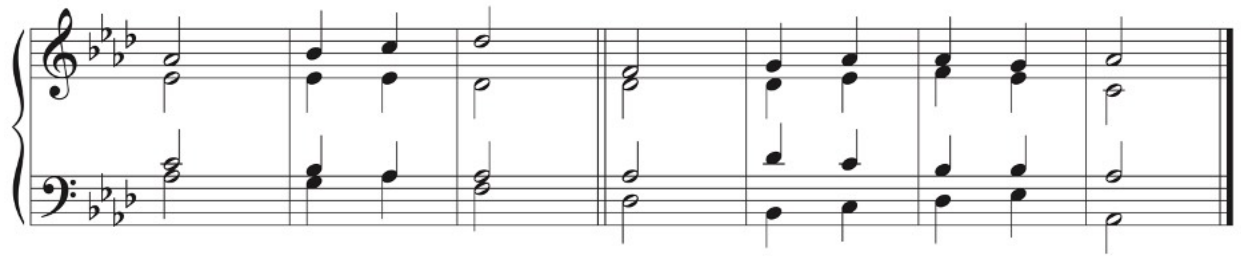
For a child has been born for us,  
 a son given to us;  
 authority rests upon his shoulders;  
 and he is named  
 Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,  
 Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.  
 His authority shall grow continually,  
 and there shall be endless peace  
 for the throne of David and his kingdom.  
 He will establish and uphold it  
 with justice and with righteousness  
 from this time onward and forevermore.  
 The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

*Lector* The Word of the Lord.

*People* Thanks be to God.



- 1 Sing to the LORD a<sup>1</sup>n<sup>1</sup>ew<sup>1</sup> song; \*  
sing to the LORD, <sup>1</sup>all the <sup>1</sup>wh<sup>1</sup>ole <sup>1</sup>earth.
- 2 Sing to the LORD and <sup>1</sup>bles<sup>1</sup>s his <sup>1</sup>Na<sup>1</sup>me; \*  
proclaim the good news of his sal<sup>1</sup>va<sup>1</sup>tion from <sup>1</sup>day to <sup>1</sup>day.
- 3 Declare his <sup>1</sup>gl<sup>1</sup>ory a<sup>1</sup>mong the <sup>1</sup>na<sup>1</sup>tions \*  
and his <sup>1</sup>w<sup>1</sup>onders a<sup>1</sup>mong all <sup>1</sup>pe<sup>1</sup>oples.
- 4 For great is the LORD and <sup>1</sup>gr<sup>1</sup>e<sup>1</sup>atly to be <sup>1</sup>pr<sup>1</sup>aised; \*  
he is more to be <sup>1</sup>fe<sup>1</sup>ared than <sup>1</sup>all <sup>1</sup>god<sup>1</sup>s.
- †5 As for all the gods of the nations, <sup>1</sup>they are but <sup>1</sup>id<sup>1</sup>ols; \*  
but it is the <sup>1</sup>L<sup>1</sup>ORD who <sup>1</sup>made the <sup>1</sup>he<sup>1</sup>avens.
- 6 Oh, the majesty and mag<sup>1</sup>n<sup>1</sup>ificence of his <sup>1</sup>pr<sup>1</sup>esence! \*  
Oh, the power and the <sup>1</sup>sp<sup>1</sup>lendor <sup>1</sup>of his <sup>1</sup>san<sup>1</sup>ctuary!
- 7 Ascribe to the LORD, you <sup>1</sup>fa<sup>1</sup>milies of the <sup>1</sup>pe<sup>1</sup>oples; \*  
ascribe to the <sup>1</sup>L<sup>1</sup>ORD <sup>1</sup>honor and <sup>1</sup>power.
- 8 Ascribe to the LORD the honor <sup>1</sup>due his <sup>1</sup>Na<sup>1</sup>me; \*  
bring offerings and <sup>1</sup>come in <sup>1</sup>to his <sup>1</sup>cour<sup>1</sup>ts.
- 9 Worship the LORD in the <sup>1</sup>be<sup>1</sup>auty of <sup>1</sup>holi<sup>1</sup>ness; \*  
let the <sup>1</sup>wh<sup>1</sup>ole earth <sup>1</sup>tr<sup>1</sup>em<sup>1</sup>ble be <sup>1</sup>fore him.
- 10 Tell it out among the nations: “The <sup>1</sup>L<sup>1</sup>ORD is <sup>1</sup>King! \*  
he has made the <sup>1</sup>world so firm that it cannot be moved;  
he will <sup>1</sup>judge the <sup>1</sup>pe<sup>1</sup>oples with <sup>1</sup>equi<sup>1</sup>ty.”
- 11 Let the heavens rejoice, and let the earth be glad;  
let the sea thunder and <sup>1</sup>all that is <sup>1</sup>in it; \*  
let the field be joyful and <sup>1</sup>all that is <sup>1</sup>there <sup>1</sup>in.



**12 Then shall all the trees of the wood shout for joy  
before the LORD when he comes, \*  
when he comes to judge the earth.**

**13 He will judge the world with righteousness \*  
and the peoples with his truth.**

THE EPISTLE.....Titus 2:11-14

*Lector* A reading from the Letter of Paul to Titus.

For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all, training us to renounce impiety and worldly passions, and in the present age to live lives that are self-controlled, upright, and godly, while we wait for the blessed hope and the manifestation of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ. He it is who gave himself for us that he might redeem us from all iniquity and purify for himself a people of his own who are zealous for good deeds.

*Lector* The Word of the Lord.

*People* Thanks be to God.

HYMN 87 .....Hark! the herald angels sing .....MENDELSSOHN; v. 3 arr. Houlihan

THE HOLY GOSPEL ..... Luke 2:1-20

*Deacon* The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

*People* Glory to you, Lord Christ.

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.

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.

*Deacon*            The Gospel of the Lord.

*People*            **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

SERMON..... The Rev. Garrett Boyte

THE NICENE CREED..... Prayer Book, p. 358

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE, Form V..... Prayer Book, p. 389

CONFESSION OF SIN ..... Prayer Book, p. 360

THE PEACE

## THE HOLY COMMUNION

OFFERTORY ANTHEM ..... Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958), arr. Schweizer

What sweeter music can we bring than a carol for to sing the birth of this our heavenly King?

We see him come, and know him ours, who with his sunshine and his showers  
turns all the patient ground to flowers.

So we will give him, and bequeath this holly and this ivy wreath, to do him honor who's our King,  
and Lord of all this reveling.

Dark and dull night, fly hence away and give the honor to this day that sees December turn to May.

The darling of this world is come, and fit it is we find a room to welcome him.

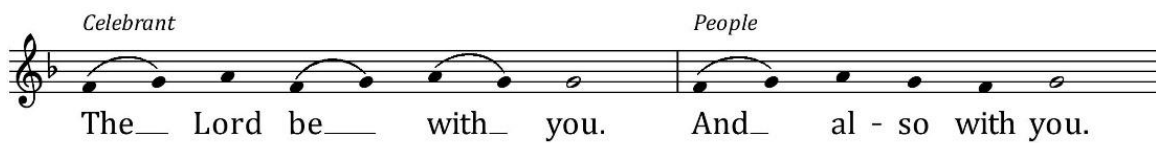
The nobler part of all the house here is the heart.

Awake the voice! What sweeter music can we bring to sing the birth of this, our heavenly King?

- Robert Herrick (1591-1674)

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING - EUCHARISTIC PRAYER B ..... Prayer Book, p. 367

*Celebrant* *People*



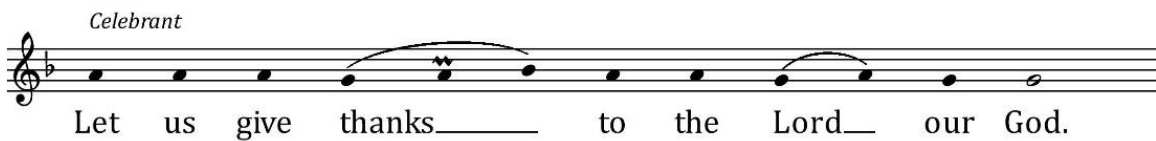
The Lord be with you. And also with you.

*Celebrant* *People*



Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

*Celebrant*



Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

*People*



It is right to give him thanks and praise.

*Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds with the Preface.*

SANCTUS..... Franz Schubert (1797-1828), *Deutsche Messe*

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and  
might. Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord,  
God of pow'r and might. Heav - en 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.

Music: *Deutsche Messe*, Franz Schubert, 1797-1828; adapt. by Richard Proulx, © 1985, 1989, GIA Publications, Inc.

*The People stand or kneel.*

*Then the Celebrant continues the Eucharistic Prayer until saying*

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

*Celebrant and People*

We remember his death,

We proclaim his resurrection,

We await his coming in glory;

*The Celebrant continues the Eucharistic Prayer until saying*

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.

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

THE LORD'S PRAYER ..... Prayer Book, p. 364

FRACTION ANTHEM..... Franz Schubert, *Deutsche Messe*



Je - sus, Lamb of God, have mer - cy on us.



Je - sus, Bear - er of our sins, have mer - cy on us.



Je - sus, Re-deem - er, Re - deem - er of the world,



give us your peace, give us your peace.

Music: *Deutsche Messe*, Franz Schubert, 1797-1828, adapt. by Richard Proulx, © 1985, 1989, GIA Publications, Inc.

*All baptized Christians are invited to receive Holy Eucharist in the Episcopal Church. If you are not comfortable receiving the Eucharist, you are invited to receive a blessing instead. Simply cross your arms over your chest at the altar rail to indicate that you would prefer a blessing. You are also welcome to remain seated. We encourage you to do what is most authentic to your beliefs and comfortable to your convictions.*

ORGAN ..... Prelude on DIVINUM MYSTERIUM (H#82)..... Craig Phillips (b. 1960)

HYMN 79 .....O little town of Bethlehem ..... ST. LOUIS

LIGHTING OF TAPERS

HYMN 111 ..... Silent night, holy night ..... STILLE NACHT

THE PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION ..... Prayer Book, p. 366

THE BLESSING AND DISMISSAL

HYMN 100 ..... Joy to the world!.....ANTIOCH

ORGAN POSTLUDE..... Noël (*Grand jeu et duo*), Op. 2, No.10..... Louis-Claude Daquin (1674-1772)

# Poinsettias are Given to the Glory of God

## and in Memory of

Charlie and Aloha Colson  
By The Colson Family

Barbara and Nick Skrivanos  
by The Colson  
and Skrivanos Families

Our grandparents:  
Daniel and Helen Hadwin, and  
Winford and Ruby Boatright;  
and all of our dearly departed  
by Elizabeth and Rick Hadwin

Pembroke Howe, Grace Moreau,  
Blanche Jolivet, William Moreau,  
and Margaret Moreau  
by Pembroke Roeder

Harry Mahlen  
by Carolyn Mahlen and children

The Lacour Family  
and the Davis Family  
by Beth Lacour

Shannon Hudson Terry  
and Boyce Pate  
by Georgie Gleason

Ralph and Irene Sharp,  
Mildred and George Hellyer  
by John and Peggy Hellyer

The Rev. James Fetterman  
by Pete Fetterman

Becky Gerardy  
by Scott Gerardy

Michael Joseph Wilkerson  
by Mike and Laura Wilkerson

Charlotte and Herschel Richard,  
Mackey and Jack Brownfield,  
The Rev. Kenneth Paul,  
Thomas Bruce Power,  
and Ronald Dean  
by The Rev. Mary  
and Herschel Richard

John Gale Horton  
James Robinson Tinsley,  
James Madison Tinsley,  
Louise Robinson Tinsley,  
Harry Bernard Donaldson  
Joyce Nadine Donaldson,  
Ian Hylton Donaldson  
James Bernard Donaldson,  
John Woodrow Davis,  
and Clara Faye Spitzer  
by Jacob Donaldson

Bob Searcy, Esmé Hipwell,  
Mamie Spence,  
Helen M. Raymond,  
T. Drummond Chantler III,  
Sam Myers,  
The Rev. G. Robert Phelan,  
Conrad Soderstrom,  
and C. Donald Hale

## and in Honor of

Dr. Austin Gleason and Judy Pate  
by Georgie Gleason  
Billie Jean Horton  
by Jacob Donaldson  
Jim Owen

## and in Celebration of

Sara and Emily Wilkerson,  
Jack and Matt Dupre  
by Mike and Laura Wilkerson  
Hope House staff and volunteers  
by Mary Barrett

## and in Thanksgiving for

Our many blessings  
by Gerald and Tommie Sue Brooks

*The flowers on the high altar are given to the glory of God  
and in memory of the Reverend Kenneth W. Paul and Kathleen Norman Paul.  
The flowers in the stands are given to the glory of God and in memory of Thomas Bruce Power.*

*Please join us tomorrow morning at 9:00 a.m. for Holy Eucharist.*

**CHURCH OF THE HOLY CROSS**

**SHREVEPORT, LOUISIANA**

The Most Reverend Sean Rowe, Ph.D., D.D.

PRESIDING BISHOP OF THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH

The Right Reverend Jacob W. Owensby, Ph.D., D.D.

IV BISHOP OF WESTERN LOUISIANA

The Reverend J. Garrett Boyte, M.Div.....	RECTOR
The Reverend Mary B. Richard.....	RECTOR EMERITA
The Reverend Donald D. Heacock.....	PRIEST ASSOCIATE
The Reverend Lois Maberry.....	DEACON
Benjamin Gessner, M.M.....	ORGANIST/CHOIRMASTER
Jacob Donaldson, M.B.A.....	PARISH ADMINISTRATOR
Ryan Eubanks.....	MULTIMEDIA MANAGER
Marie Boudreaux.....	VIDEOGRAPHER
Brian Jackson.....	SEXTON
Donna Earnest.....	HOPE HOUSE
Joy Porter.....	HOPE HOUSE
Larry Murff.....	HOPE HOUSE
Jason Goetz.....	HOPE HOUSE

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Front cover image: *The Madonna of the Veil* (19th century copy), after Carlo Dolci (1616–1686).