

# THE NATIVITY OF JESUS CHRIST

DECEMBER 24, 2022

**THE FLOWERS ADORNING OUR WORSHIP SPACE  
ARE GIVEN TO THE GLORY OF GOD BY**

**Lee & Andrew Barber**

*In memory of Ralph & Joan Clare, Patricia Barber,  
Patricia Clare, Joan Vanderslice.*

**Anne Donohue**

*In memory of Venita and Pamela Janello, James Pogue,  
Fred and Carolyn Donohue, and Danette Zirkle  
In Thanksgiving for Ian, Ethan, and Eleanor Donohue.*

**Dj Gunning & Adán Cortés**

*In memory of Harry & Mary Tormollan, Frances Faye Gunning, Librado Cortés Lica  
In thanksgiving for friends, family, and St. Gabriel's~San Gabriel.  
In thanksgiving for Adan's 40th birthday tomorrow.*

**The Rice Family**

*In memory of Betsy and Ken Rice.  
In thanksgiving for Alan and Deanna Himstedt*

**Fr. Daniel Vélez Rivera**

*In memory of Socorro Vélez, Ursula Reyes, Victoria & Carlos Reyes, Victor Cintrón.  
In Thanksgiving for Saint Gabriel's 20th Anniversary  
and in thanksgiving for Fr. Daniel's 10th Anniversary at St. Gabriel's*

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THE CELEBRATION OF  
**THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST**  
WITH CAROLS, COMMUNION, CANDLELIGHT, AND HOT CHOCOLATE!

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**CAROLS WITH SAINT GABRIEL'S CHOIR**

**Beautiful City**

*Stephen Schwartz*

**I Don't Know Why**

*Shawn Colvin*

**Carol of the Stable**

*Richard Jeffrey, Timothy Dudley-Smith, arr. Mark Kellner*

**Still, Still, Still**

*Marilyn Keith, Alan Bergman, arr. Norman Luboff*

**Do You Hear What I Hear?**

*Noël Regney, Gloria Shayne*

**Feliz Navidad**

*José Feliciano*



# THE HOLY EUCHARIST, RITE II

## PROCESSIONAL HYMN

## O COME, ALL YE FAITHFUL

*please stand if you are able*

1 O come, all ye faith - ful, joy - ful and tri - um - phant, O  
2 God from God, Light from Light e - ter - nal,  
3 Sing, choirs of an - gels, sing in ex - ul - ta - tion,  
\*4 See how the shep - herds, sum - moned to his cra - dle,  
\*5 Child, for us sin - ners poor and in the man - ger,

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

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

*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.

6 Yea, Lord, we greet thee,  
 born this happy morning;  
 Jesus, to thee be glory given;  
 Word of the Father,  
 now in flesh appearing;

*Refrain*



# THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

*Celebrant* Blessed be God: ✠ Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.  
*People* **And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

*Celebrant* 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* **Amen.**

## HYMN OF PRAISE

## ANGELS WE HAVE HEARD ON HIGH

1 An - gels we have heard on high, sing - ing sweet - ly through the night,  
2 Shep - herds, why this ju - bi - lee? Why these songs of hap - py cheer?  
3 Come to Beth - le - hem and see him whose birth the an - gels sing;  
4 See him in a man - ger laid whom the an - gels praise a - bove;

and the moun - tains in re - ply ech - o - ing their brave de - light.  
What great bright - ness did you see? What glad tid - ings did you hear?  
come, a - dore on bend - ed knee Christ, the Lord, the new - born King,  
Ma - ry, Jo - seph, lend your aid, while we raise our hearts in love.

*Refrain*  
Glo - - - - - ri - a

The image shows a musical score for a hymn. It consists of two systems of music, each with a treble and bass staff. The lyrics are: "in ex-cel-sis De-o. Glo-ri-a in ex-cel-sis De-o." The music is in a 4/4 time signature with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The first system covers the first two lines of the score, and the second system covers the last two lines. The lyrics are placed below the treble staff, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across multiple notes.

### THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

*People* **O God,  
 you have caused this Holy night to shine with the brightness of the true Light:  
 Grant that we, who have known the mystery of that Light on earth,  
 may also enjoy him perfectly in heaven;  
 where with you and the Holy Spirit he lives and reigns,  
 one God, in glory everlasting.  
 Amen.**

*Please be seated*

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# THE LESSONS

## THE FIRST LESSON

ISAIAH 9:2-7

*Lector* A reading from the Book of the Prophet 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.**

## THE RESPONSE

PSALM 96

*Read responsively by whole verse*

- 1 Sing to the Lord a new song; \*  
sing to the Lord, all the whole earth.
- 2 **Sing to the Lord and bless his Name; \***  
**proclaim the good news of his salvation from day to day.**
- 3 Declare his glory among the nations \*  
and his wonders among all peoples.
- 4 **For great is the Lord and greatly to be praised; \***  
**he is more to be feared than all gods.**
- 5 As for all the gods of the nations, they are but idols; \*  
but it is the Lord who made the heavens.

- 
- 6 **Oh, the majesty and magnificence of his presence! \***  
**Oh, the power and the splendor of his sanctuary!**
- 7 Ascribe to the Lord, you families of the peoples; \*  
ascribe to the Lord honor and power.
- 8 **Ascribe to the Lord the honor due his Name; \***  
**bring offerings and come into his courts.**
- 9 Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness; \*  
let the whole earth tremble before him.
- 10 **Tell it out among the nations: "The Lord is King! \***  
**he has made the world so firm that it cannot be moved;**  
**he will judge the peoples with equity."**
- 11 Let the heavens rejoice, and let the earth be glad; let the sea thunder and all that is in it; \*  
let the field be joyful and all that is therein.
- 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 SECOND LESSON

**TITUS 2:11-14**

*Lector* A reading from the letter of St. 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.**

*Please stand as you are able.*

1 Hark! the her-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 Mild he lays his glo - ry by, born that we no more may die,

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.  
 born to raise us from the earth, born to give us sec - ond birth.

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.  
 Risen with heal - ing in his wings, light and life to all he brings,

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!  
 hail, the Sun of Right - eous - ness! hail, the heaven - born Prince of Peace!

*Refrain*

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

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

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

**I**n 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!"



**P**or aquel tiempo, el emperador Augusto ordenó que se hiciera un censo de todo el mundo. Este primer censo fue hecho siendo Quirinio gobernador de Siria. Todos tenían que ir a inscribirse a su propio pueblo.

Por esto, José salió del pueblo de Nazaret, de la región de Galilea, y se fue a Belén, en Judea, donde había nacido el rey David, porque José era descendiente de David. Fue allá a inscribirse, junto con María, su esposa, que se encontraba encinta. Y sucedió que mientras estaban en Belén, le llegó a María el tiempo de dar a luz. Y allí nació su hijo primogénito, y lo envolvió en pañales y lo acostó en el establo, porque no había alojamiento para ellos en el mesón.

Cerca de Belén había unos pastores que pasaban la noche en el campo cuidando sus ovejas. De pronto se les apareció un ángel del Señor, y la gloria del Señor brilló alrededor de ellos; y tuvieron mucho miedo. Pero el ángel les dijo: "No tengan miedo, porque les traigo una buena noticia, que será motivo de gran alegría para todos: Hoy les ha nacido en el pueblo de David un salvador, que es el Mesías, el Señor. Como señal, encontrarán ustedes al niño envuelto en pañales y acostado en un

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establo." En aquel momento aparecieron, junto al ángel, muchos otros ángeles del cielo, que alababan a Dios y decían:

Gloria a Dios en las alturas!

¡Paz en la tierra entre los hombres que gozan de su favor!"

*Celebrant* The Gospel of the Lord.

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

**THE SERMON**

The Rev. Daniel Vélez Rivera  
*Vicar of St. Gabriel's~San Gabriel Episcopal Church*

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## THE NICENE CREED

*Please stand as you are able*

*People*     **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,  
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified  
and 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.**

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## THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

*Reader* God of unimaginable love,  
on the first Christmas you became incarnate in Jesus and lived among us.

*People* **We celebrate your love for every person in every place and time.**

*Reader* God of all humanity,  
We pray for the victims of war in Ukraine, Russia, and around the world; for the victims of the ongoing gun violence in our country, and for all women who are denied agency over their bodies; thank you for your everlasting presence in the world.

*People* **We celebrate your presence and we accept your commission to share peace and love with all people.**

*Reader* God of the shepherds,  
you announced your arrival in this world to the poorest and most humble.

*People* **We celebrate your Good News for all people and we thank you for your abundant compassion and mercy.**

*Reader* God of the manger,  
you came to us through your Son in a small and simple place.

*People* **We celebrate your presence with us in this place and with this faith community made glorious by the presence of your Holy Spirit.**

*Reader* God of deliverance,  
you came to be one of us in order to give us hope and the promise of eternal life.

*People* **We celebrate your protection and mercy for all immigrants and marginalized people; for those who are sick, sad, and lonely; and for people with limited resources.**

*Reader* God of new life,  
when you became human you poured yourself into each of us so that we may have new life in you. We bless you and thank you for all of Creation.

*People* **We celebrate this day in your Holy Name and we praise you for welcoming us into your kingdom. Keep us close to you, now and in the life to come.**

*Reader* God of mystery,  
bless us as we celebrate the birth of your Son, Jesus the Christ.  
And now, we pray for our own needs and those of others, remembering especially those who are dear to our hearts, those who have asked for our prayers, and those who have no one to pray for them.

*People* **Almighty and eternal God, ruler of all things in heaven and earth:  
Mercifully accept the prayers of your people, and strengthen us to do your will;  
through Jesus Christ, your Son and our Messiah. Amen.**

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## CONFESSION OF SIN

*Celebrant* Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*People* **Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.**

## THE ABSOLUTION

*Celebrant* 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 in eternal life.

*People* **Amen.**

## THE PEACE

*Celebrant* The peace of the Lord be always with you.

*People* **And also with you.**



## THE HOLY COMMUNION

*Each Christmas, the plate collection is designated for a local community organization whose mission aligns with ours (Encounter God, build meaningful relationships, and make a difference in the world). This year's recipient will be the **Loudoun Abused Women's Shelter (LAWS)**. More information about their services can be found on page 28 of this bulletin. Please be generous with your Christmas donations! If you wish to make an additional gift to St. Gabriel ~ San Gabriel today, please use e-giving on our website ([SaintGabriels.net](http://SaintGabriels.net)) or mail a check to our office.*

### OFFERTORY ANTHEM

ON THAT NIGHT IN BETHLEHEM  
D. Wagner, C. Lee

*On that night in Bethlehem, as so the story's told, on that night in Bethlehem was heavenly love bestowed.  
Glory, gloria, glory, gloria. On that night in Bethlehem a long time ago.*

*On that night in Bethlehem the skies their glory shone; to the earth there came a light, the brightest ever known.  
Glory, gloria, glory, gloria. On that night in Bethlehem a long time ago.*

*Still, still, still was the night that our Lord was born. Still, still, still to a people lost and forlorn.  
Then angel songs in cheerful numbers blest the holy Infant's slumber.  
Still, still, still, was the night that our Lord was born.*

*Still, still, still, stood the waiting world below; Still, still, still, like the peace of a new fallen snow.  
Then angel songs in cheerful numbers blest the holy Infant's slumber.  
Still, still, still, in Bethlehem, a long time ago. On that night, a long time ago.*

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## EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER 2

*Celebrant* All things come of thee, Oh Lord,  
*People* **and of thine own have we given thee.**

*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 God 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, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Because you gave Jesus Christ, your only Son, to be born for us;  
who, by the mighty power of the Holy Spirit, was made perfect Man of the flesh of  
the Virgin Mary his mother; so that we might be delivered from the bondage of sin,  
and receive power to become your children.

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:



San - to, san - to, san - to, mi cor - a - zon te a - do - ra! Mi  
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, my heart, my heart a - dores you! My  
cor - a - zon te sa - be de - cir: san - to e - res Se - ñor.  
heart is glad to say the words: you are ho - ly, Lord.

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*Then 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.

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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 St. Gabriel, St. James, the Blessed Virgin Mary, 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.

*Celebrant* 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.

*People* **AMEN.**

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

*Celebrant* And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, let us pray,

*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.**

**Padre nuestro que estás en el cielo,  
santificado sea tu Nombre,  
venga a nosotros tu reino,  
hágase tu voluntad,  
en la tierra como en el cielo.  
Danos hoy nuestro pan de cada día;  
perdona nuestras ofensas,  
como también nosotros perdonamos  
a los que nos ofenden.  
No nos dejes caer en tentación  
y líbranos del mal.  
Porque tuyo es el reino,  
tuyo es el poder, y tuya es la gloria,  
ahora y por siempre. Amén.**

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## THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

*Celebrant* Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

*People* Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia!

## THE FRACTION ANTHEM

EMMANUEL, EMMANUEL

Em - man - u - el, Em - man - u - el,  
His name is called Em - man - u - el:  
God with us, re - vealed in us!  
His name is called Em - man - u - el.

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## INVITATION TO COMMUNION

*Celebrant* The Gifts of God for the People of God.

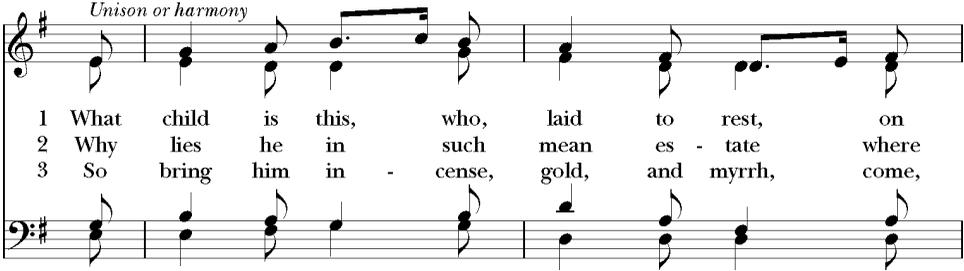
Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you,  
and feed on him in your hearts, by faith with thanksgiving.

## WELCOME TO THE TABLE OF THE LORD

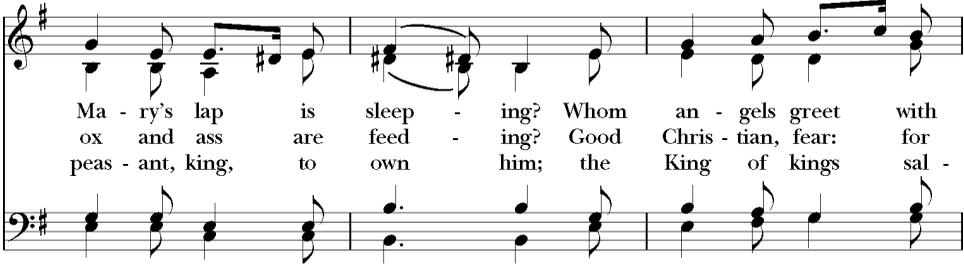
*Where all are welcome!*

*The Church affirms the real presence of Christ in the bread and wine. Believers of all denominations are invited to receive the Sacrament. To receive the bread extend your hands forward. We are not sharing a common cup at this time, so the celebrant will instinct (dip) the bread into the wine before giving it to you. If you do not wish to receive Communion today but would like a blessing, come forward during Communion, cross your arms over your chest, and you will be given a blessing in the name of God. Gluten-free wafers are available.*

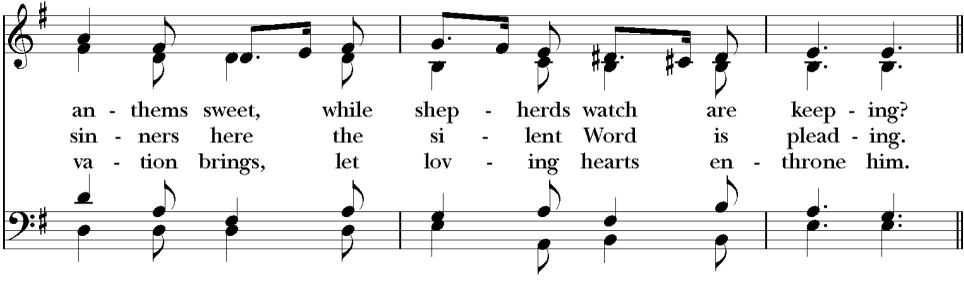
*Unison or harmony*



1 What child is this, who, laid to rest, on  
 2 Why lies he in such mean es - tate where  
 3 So bring him in - cense, gold, and myrrh, come,

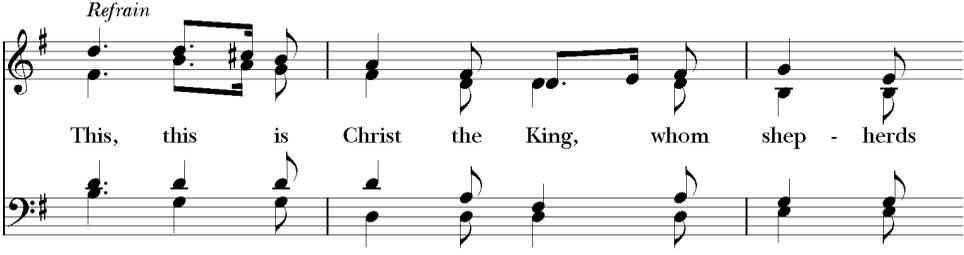


Ma - ry's lap is sleep - ing? Whom an - gels greet with  
 ox and ass are feed - ing? Good Chris - tian, fear: for  
 peas - ant, king, to own him; the King of kings sal -



an - thems sweet, while shep - herds watch are keep - ing?  
 sin - ners here the si - lent Word is plead - ing.  
 va - tion brings, let lov - ing hearts en - throne him.

*Refrain*



This, this is Christ the King, whom shep - herds

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guard and an - gels sing; haste, haste to

bring him laud, the babe, the son of Ma - ry.

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!

*Have you ever, in the silence, wondered at His birth,  
of how the Son of God was born, a Child upon the earth?  
Have you ever thought of Him at rest upon the hay,  
smiling at the faces of the creatures that He made?  
Have you ever, in the silence, wondered at the sight  
of shepherds watching in the fields upon a starlit night?  
Have you ever thought it strange they left their sheep and ran  
to a stall in Bethlehem to kneel before a Lamb?  
Have you ever, in the silence, wondered at the thought  
of how it came to pass the Wise Men chose the gifts they brought?  
Frankincense for holy ones, and gold for kings, but myrrh?  
Why a gift for tombs they brought on this, the Savior's birth, on this, the Savior's birth?*

*Have you ever, in the silence? Have you ever, in the silence?  
In the silence? Silence? Silence?*



PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

*People* **Eternal God, we thank you that in Christ you give yourself into our hands: May we who have been touched by the Word made flesh be his body for the world, his hands and feet to bring blessings, his spirit to share glory, his heart to bear the message of the promise of creation restored; in the name of the Holy Child Jesus we pray. Amen.**

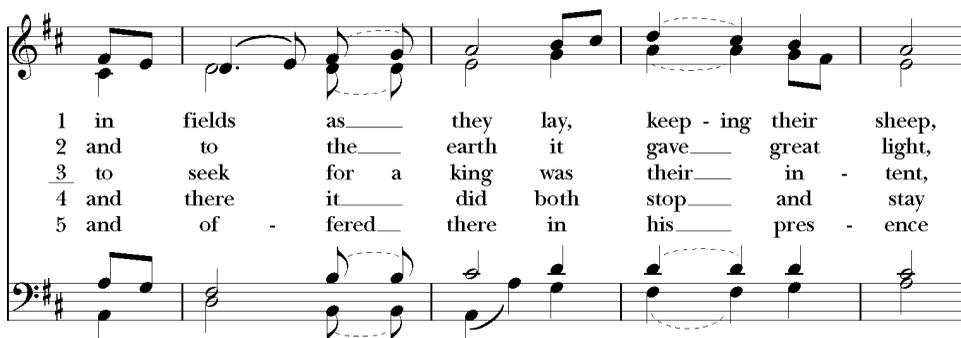
*As the hymn is sung, we will process outside for candle lighting, the final blessing, and hot chocolate.*



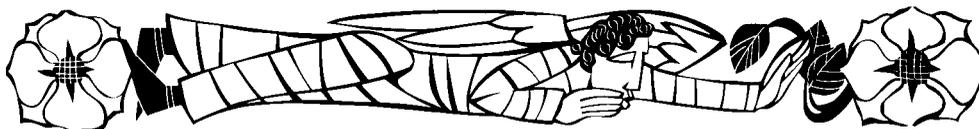
1 The first No - well the an - gel did say  
 2 They look - ed up and saw a star  
 3 And by the light of that same star  
 4 This star drew nigh to the north - west,  
 5 Then en - tered in those wise men three



1 was to cer - tain poor shep - herds in fields as they lay;  
 2 shin - ing in the east be - yond them far,  
 3 three wise men came from coun - try far;  
 4 o'er Beth - le - hem it took its rest,  
 5 full re - v - erent - ly up - on their knee,



1 in fields as they lay, keep - ing their sheep,  
 2 and to the earth it gave great light,  
 3 to seek for a king was their in - tent,  
 4 and there it did both stop and stay  
 5 and of - fered there in his pres - ence



Musical notation for the first system, consisting of a treble clef staff and a bass clef staff. The key signature is one sharp (F#). The melody is written in the treble clef, and the accompaniment is in the bass clef. The lyrics are printed below the treble staff.

1 on a cold win-ter's night that was so deep.  
2 and so it con - tin - ued both day and night.  
3 and to fol - low the star wher - ev - er it went.  
4 right o - ver the place where Je - sus lay.  
5 their gold, and myrrh, and frank - in - cense.

*Refrain*

Musical notation for the second system, consisting of a treble clef staff and a bass clef staff. The key signature is one sharp (F#). The melody is written in the treble clef, and the accompaniment is in the bass clef. The lyrics are printed below the treble staff.

No - well, No - well, No - well, No - well,

Musical notation for the third system, consisting of a treble clef staff and a bass clef staff. The key signature is one sharp (F#). The melody is written in the treble clef, and the accompaniment is in the bass clef. The lyrics are printed below the treble staff.

born is the King of Is - ra - el.

6 Then let us all with one accord  
sing praises to our heavenly Lord;  
that hath made heaven and earth of nought,  
and with his blood our life hath bought.

*Refrain*

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## LIGHTING OF CANDLES

*As the candles are lit, please pass the light to one another.*

## LESSON OF THE LIGHT

JOHN 1:1-14

**I**n 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.

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

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.



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

*A moment of silence is kept after the hymn.*

## THE CHRISTMAS BLESSING

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

*People* **Amen.**

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

*People* **Amen.**

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

*People* **Amen.**

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

*People* **Amen.**

## THE DISMISSAL

*Celebrant* Let us go forth in the name of Christ! Alleluia, Alleluia!

*People* **Thanks be to God! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

## CAROL

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

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.

*You may extinguish your candle and return them to the ushers or place in the bins.*

*Please join us for hot chocolate.*

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*Each Christmas, St. Gabriel's chooses an organization whose mission aligns with ours to benefit from the Christmas plate collections. This year, we will make a donation to LAWS. Here's a little more information about them.*



### MISSION & VISION

The mission of Loudoun Citizens for Social Justice/LAWS is to provide victims of domestic violence, sexual assault and child abuse with safety, hope, and empowerment services to live as survivors free from the effects of violence.

LAWS' vision statement is: We envision a community free of domestic violence, sexual assault, and child abuse.

### ABOUT LAWS

In 1984, LAWS was founded by three Loudoun County women with only \$3,000 in donations. The organization was incorporated under the name Loudoun Citizens for Social Justice, Inc. and began doing business as LAWS. In 1985, the founders opened the Loudoun Abused Women's Shelter—the only place in Loudoun County where women and children fleeing domestic violence could find refuge.

Since then, LAWS has expanded to provide a full array of comprehensive services to all adult, youth and child victims of domestic and sexual violence. In addition to providing emergency shelter, LAWS also delivers assistance to victims at our Community Services Center where therapy, legal services, support groups, advocacy, and community outreach are provided. LAWS also operates a thrift store in downtown Leesburg called The Resourceful Woman and runs the Loudoun Child Advocacy Center. The Center is a public/private partnership among Loudoun County agencies and organizations dedicated to child victims of abuse and/or neglect.

On average, LAWS provides direct services to more than 1,000 adult, youth and child victims of domestic and sexual violence each year. LAWS seeks to empower victims of domestic and sexual violence so that they may live lives free from fear, anxiety, and danger. All services are confidential and free of charge.

<https://lcsj.org/>  
**24-hour hotline: 703-777-6552**

## BLESSINGS FROM ST. GABRIEL'S~SAN GABRIEL EPISCOPAL CHURCH

St. Gabriel's Episcopal Church started public worship in the Spring of 2002 to share the Good News of Jesus Christ with the growing communities of Leesburg, Lansdowne, and Ashburn in Loudoun County, Virginia. Our mission is to "Encounter God, Build Meaningful Relationships, and Make a Difference in the World" through inspiring worship, faith-building discipleship, warm fellowship, heartfelt pastoral care, active evangelism, outreach, and service. We live into our mission through word and deed, with God's help!

St. Gabriel's is a welcoming, hospitable, and inclusive faith community, open to people at any stage in their faith journey with Christ. We value human diversity and seek to be a church that reflects the breadth of those who live in our community. We are life-long Christians as well as spiritual seekers and we welcome you just as God made you, without conditions or barriers. In our worship services you can dress up or dress down, God doesn't care what you wear, nor do we! We extend an invitation to get to know you so that you can develop your faith and we hope that you will invite others to share the spiritual gifts that you find here!

St. Gabriel's is the first bilingual (English-Spanish), multicultural and multiethnic Episcopal congregation in Loudoun County. Worship takes place in four locations and in two languages: the English-language services are at the Belmont Ridge Middle School each Sunday at 10 a.m. and at Ashby Ponds on the third Tuesday of every month. The Spanish-language service is at Saint James' in Leesburg, and in warm months we worship bilingually one Saturday a month at the Chapel in the Woods beginning on Easter Sunday. We invite you to help us continue building the kingdom of God in this corner of Leesburg through prayer, love, commitment to God and community, joyful worship, and Christian service. Wherever you are on your spiritual journey, know that this is a loving community that welcomes you. Blessings and peace!

### WORSHIP

**10:00 am Sunday Mass in English**

*Belmont Ridge Middle School  
19045 Upper Belmont Place, Leesburg*

**St. Gabriel's @ Ashby Ponds Chapel**

*Third Tuesday of the month at 10:00 am  
21170 Ashby Ponds Blvd. Ashburn, VA 20147*

**3:00 pm Misa Dominical en español**

*San Gabriel en St. James'  
14 Cornwall Street NW, Leesburg*

**The Chapel in the Woods**

*Open any time you wish to pray  
Corner of Battlefield Pkwy/Ft. Evans Rd.*

### STAFF

**The Rev. Daniel Vélez-Rivera, Vicar**

*Fr.Daniel@saintgabriels.net  
Cell 571-293-0070*

**Mr. Peter Schweitzer**

*Director of Music  
music@saintgabriels.net*

**Mr. Carmelo Saavedra**

*Director of Music and Choir (Spanish)  
saavedra.hernandez.carmelo@gmail.com*

**Mr. David (Dj) Gunning, Jr.**

*Parish Administrator  
Dj@SaintGabriels.net*

**The Ven. Holly Hanback, Deacon**

*Archdeacon of the Diocese of Virginia  
DeaconHolly@saintgabriels.net*

**Mrs. Dana Jean**

*Seminarian  
djean@vts.edu*

**Ms. Abi Hernández Cruz**

*Children & Youth Minister  
Abi@saintgabriels.net*

### MAILING AND OFFICE ADDRESS

8 Cornwall Street NW | Leesburg, VA 20176 | (703) 779-3616

[WWW.SAINTGABRIELS.NET](http://WWW.SAINTGABRIELS.NET)



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[WWW.BCARTFARM.COM](http://WWW.BCARTFARM.COM)