

# The Holy Eucharist

## *for the First Sunday after Christmas Day*

December 26, 2021 – 10:00 a.m.



*In the name of Christ, welcome to this holy gathering of God's people called Good Shepherd. This service bulletin provides everything needed for today's worship. **Bold text**, aside from headings, indicates responses in which all are invited to heartily join. Newcomers, we're especially glad you're here. We honor your participation at whatever level is most meaningful for you. Do we have your contact information? If not, connect with us via the form on our website, the message button on our Facebook page, or by e-mailing [info@goodshepherdcovington.org](mailto:info@goodshepherdcovington.org). We'd love to be in touch and become a resource on your pilgrim journey through these anxious times! Curious about membership in The Episcopal Church at Good Shepherd? Please use the info card in the visitor packet to leave a note and/or speak to the priest: we'd love to help make official your presence among us. Curious about baptism for you or your child(ren)? Let us know: we'd be delighted to make plans with you for this rite of full initiation into Christ's Body the Church.*

### **Current precautions for indoor worship (see e-news for greater detail):**

- Face coverings are required for all, two-years-old and up.
- Sign in as you enter, in case contact tracing is needed.
- Socially distant seating is available in the transepts.

*Permission to podcast/stream the music in this service obtained from  
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**Voluntary**  
Joanne Cobb Brown, organ

Variations on *Good King Wenceslas*

- Robert Edward Smith

**The Processional Hymn**

*What child is this?*

**Hymnal, 115**

*tune: Greensleeves*

**What Child is this, who, laid to rest,  
on Mary's lap is sleeping?  
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet,  
while shepherds watch are keeping?**

*REFRAIN:*

**This, this is Christ, the King,  
whom shepherds guard and angels sing:  
Haste, haste to bring Him laud,  
the Babe, the Son of Mary!**

**Why lies He in such mean estate,  
where ox and ass are feeding?  
Good Christian, fear: for sinners here  
the silent Word is pleading.**

*REFRAIN*

**So bring Him incense, gold, and myrrh,  
Come, peasant, king to own Him.  
The King of kings salvation brings;  
Let loving hearts enthrone Him.**

*REFRAIN*

**THE WORD OF GOD**

*The people stand, as able, for*  
**The Opening Acclamation**

**BCP 355**

*Presider:* Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.  
*People:* **And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

**The Collect for Purity**

**The Gloria in Excelsis**  
*SEE INSERT*

*Glory to God in the highest*

**The Salutation & Collect of the Day**

*Presider:* The Lord be with you.  
*People:* **And also with you.**  
*Presider:* 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 Old Testament Reading: Isaiah 61:10-62:3** (*Lector: Kona Mahu*)

*The Lector concludes:* Hear what the Spirit is saying to the churches.

*People:* **Thanks be to God.**

**Psalm 147:13-21** *Laudate Dominum*

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

**The Epistle Reading: Galatians 3:23-25; 4:4-7** (*Lector: Kona Mahu*)

*The Lector concludes:* Hear what the Spirit is saying to the churches.

*People:* **Thanks be to God.**

*The people stand, as able, for*

**The Gospel**

*Before the Gospel, the Reader says:* The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to John.

*The people respond:* **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

**John 1:1-18**

*After the Gospel, the Reader says:* The Gospel of the Lord.

*The people respond:* **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

**The Sermon**

Fr. Edwin Beckham

*A period of silent reflection follows.*

*The people stand, as able, for*

**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** (*Intercessor: Kona Mahu*)

*We pray for ourselves and on behalf of others. In particular, unfailingly each week, we pray for the Universal Church, the nation and all who govern, the welfare of the world, the concerns of our community of faith, including those who are in need or suffer, and for the departed. We are reminded in prayer that we are part of a larger fellowship, the Church — the Body of Christ across space and time.*

*The Deacon (or Presider) invites the people to pray:*  
Let us pray for the Church and for the world.

*After each stanza:*

*Intercessor:* Lord, in your mercy.

*People:* **Hear our prayer.**

*The Presider adds a concluding collect. All: Amen.*

**The Peace**

*The presider invites the people to share with one another the Peace of the Lord, enacting the reconciliation to which Christ has called us, purifying our hearts before making our offerings and receiving the sacrament of Holy Communion. The people are encouraged to exchange a sign of Peace, saying “The Peace of the Lord!” “God’s Peace!” or, simply, “Peace!” while maintaining their physical distance from other households.*

**Welcome & Announcements**

*Birthdays this week:* Dale Ney (30), Lee Richardson (31), Beverly Kratz (Jan. 1)

*Anniversaries this week:* Brandon & Kayla Spraggins (27)

**THE HOLY COMMUNION**

**The Offertory**

*Please remember to make your gift to honor God and support Good Shepherd’s ministry of sharing God’s love with the world. Mail a check to the office . . . use your bank’s bill-pay feature . . . give online at <https://onrealm.org/GoodShepherd/give/now> . . . or, text CGS to 73256 and follow the instructions.*

**The Offertory Hymn**  
SEE INSERT

*Good King Wenceslas*

*arr: John B. Younger*

*The people stand, as able, for*

**The Great Thanksgiving (Rite Two, Prayer B)**

*Presider:* The Lord be with you.

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

*Presider:* Lift up your hearts.

*People:* **We lift them to the Lord.**

*Presider:* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

*People:* **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

*On behalf of the entire assembly, the Presider continues our prayer, first with a preface highlighting the themes of Christmas, then drawing us to join the saints and angels as they sing unceasingly around the heavenly throne:*

*...joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your name:*

**Sanctus et Benedictus** (all sing)

**Hymnal S-125**

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

*The Presider continues our prayer, recounting the whole arc of salvation that culminates in Jesus; offers the Words of Institution over the bread & wine, taken directly from Holy Scripture; and draws all to join in the Memorial Acclamation...*

Therefore, we proclaim the mystery of faith,

*Presider and People*

**We remember his death,**

**We proclaim his resurrection,**

**We await his coming in glory;**

*The Presider continues our prayer, speaking of our "sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving" to God in this moment and invoking the presence of the Holy Spirit in all that we offer today, uniting us to Christ and through him giving us eternal life. The prayer then concludes in a great crescendo of our praise, the people joining in with gusto for the Great Amen.*

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.

*All: AMEN.*

**The Lord's Prayer**

**BCP 364**

*Presider:* And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say, **Our Father...**

**The Breaking of the Bread**

*A period of silence is kept.*

**The Fraction Anthem** (*said in unison*)

*Presider:* Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

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

All are invited to draw nearer to God by coming forward at the distribution of Holy Communion. For baptized Christians of all ages (infants included) this is a moment to enjoy the true presence of Jesus Christ in the "holy food & drink of new and unending life in Him." If receiving, stand at arm's length in front of the Eucharistic Minister or priest and accept the wafer in the flattened palm of your hand (gluten-free is available on request), then consume it as you turn to the side. Next, take a cup of consecrated wine from the tray and consume it as you move into the side aisle. Discard empty cups in the receptacle provided (they'll be rinsed out reverently prior to the recycling bin). If not receiving the sacrament, for any reason, simply cross your arms over your chest to receive God's blessing from the priest. If coming forward is physically difficult, signal an usher; the Eucharistic Ministers will gladly come to you.

So, because not all can receive communion at this time, we invite those gathered with us online to pray this prayer.

### *Act of Reception*

**In union, O Lord, with the faithful at every altar of your church where your blessed Body and Blood are being offered this day – remembering particularly my own parish – I desire to offer you praise and thanksgiving for all the blessings of this life. I present to you my soul and body, with the earnest wish that I may ever be united to you. And since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, Lord, I ask you to come spiritually into my heart. I unite myself to you and embrace you with all the affections of my soul. Let nothing ever separate me from you; let me live and die in your love. Amen.**

### **During the Distribution of Holy Communion**

*The snow lay on the ground*

**Hymn 110**

*tune: Venite adoremus*

**The snow lay on the ground, the stars shone bright,  
when Christ our Lord was born on Christmas night.**

**Venite adoremus Dominum.**

**Venite adoremus Dominum.**

*REFRAIN: Venite adoremus Dominum. Venite adoremus Dominum.*

**'Twas Mary, daughter pure of holy Anne,  
that brought into this world the God made man.  
She laid him in a stall at Bethlehem;  
the ass and oxen shared the roof with them.**

*REFRAIN*

**Saint Joseph, too, was by to tend the child;  
to guard him, and protect his mother mild;  
the angels hovered round, and sang this song,  
Venite adoremus Dominum.**

*REFRAIN*

**And thus that manger poor became a throne;  
for he whom Mary bore was God the Son.  
O come, then, let us join the heavenly host;  
to praise the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.**

*REFRAIN*

*Then all pray together*  
**The Postcommunion Prayer**

**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.**

**The Blessing**

*The presider blesses the people and the people respond: Amen.*

**The Processional Hymn**     *It came upon the midnight clear*

**Hymn 89**  
*tune: Carol*

**It came upon the midnight clear, that glorious song of old,  
from angels bending near the earth, to touch their harps of gold:  
"Peace on the earth, good will to men, from heaven's all-gracious King."  
The world in solemn stillness lay, to hear the angels sing.**

**Still through the cloven skies they come with peaceful wings unfurled,  
and still their heavenly music floats o'er all the weary world;  
above its sad and lowly plains they bend on hovering wing,  
and ever o'er its Babel-sounds the blessed angels sing.**

**Yet with the woes of sin and strife the world has suffered long;  
beneath the heavenly hymn have rolled two thousand years of wrong;  
and warring humankind hears not the tidings which they bring;  
O hush the noise and cease your strife and hear the angels sing!**

**For lo! the days are hastening on, by prophets seen of old,  
when with the ever-circling years shall come the time foretold,  
when peace shall over all the earth its ancient splendors fling,  
and the whole world give back the song which now the angels sing.**

**The Dismissal**

*Presider:* Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

*People:* **Thanks be to God.**

**Voluntary**

*Angels we have heard on high*

*arr: Timothy Albrecht*

Joanne Cobb Brown, organ

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**EVERY PERFECT GIFT** campaign status: We are extremely grateful for the 46 pledges received to date, but there is still work to be done in order to adequately fund projected 2022 operating expenses. Our pledges in hand for 2022 total \$229,785. Combining these pledges with estimated non-pledge revenue, cash offerings, and miscellaneous other income would yield total estimated 2022 revenue of \$267,285, as compared to minimum annual expenses, including our mortgage loans, of approximately \$325,000. It is vitally important to reduce this gap as much as possible to limit the drain on cash reserves required to cover deficit operations. If you haven't responded, yet, please let us know your plans by placing your commitment card in the offering basket, mailing it to the church office, setting up a pledge online via Realm, or contacting bookkeeper Hallie Sway ([cgse.hallie@gmail.com](mailto:cgse.hallie@gmail.com) / 770-786-3278).

**Please pray for:**

**The healing of the sick, troubled, or bereaved:** *Steve & Brenda Bostian; Betsey Martin (sister of Gil Noice); Amanda Travis (niece of Gil Noice); Deana Graham; Bob Richardson; Evelyn Przybyszewski; Nancy Markovich (mother of Kona Mahu); Elmer & Jan Griffin (Judy Hardy's brother & sister-in-law); Leroy Berry (friend of Joy Rea); Ann Ezell; Connie Wright; Stacey & Sandy (friends of the Hutchens); Jim Varn & family (brother of Lee Richardson); Catherine Field (sister of Lee Richardson); Kay Norris (sister-in-law of Carla Prater); Nancy Morehouse Smith (friend of Carol Fulton); Mary McDonald (daughter of Claudia Spence); Jay McKibben (son of Valerie & Bill McKibben); Carolyn Wolfe (friend of Lucy Molinaro); Bart Toole; Lois Hunter (mother of Carol Fulton); Alyssa Fox (grand-niece of Gwen Maggitt); Bill, Kim & Helen (friends of Bill & Valerie McKibben); Donna Wingfield; Cheetie Halford; Bob Brown; the Rozier family (friends of Lucy Molinaro); and in Rio, Vera, Solange Alcantara, Lena Fernandes, Sandra, Evelina Skeete, Dr. Milton Genes, Sally & Karina Grillo, Noreen Smith, Bill Gray, Quiucha, Edison Tolentino.*

*Prayer requests above will remain for three weeks. Please contact the office to extend a request.*

*For confidential prayers by the Prayer Chain, contact: Maureen Noice, 770-788-6735.*

- **Parishioners, family, and friends who are home-bound or have long-term illness:**
- **Those who have departed this life ✝:**
- **December birthdays:** Emma Camfield (2), Morrighan Surret (2), David Shepherd (4), Trippe Turner (5), Cindy Hames (10), Sandra Holland (19), Peggy Horansky (20), Erik Thompson (22), Carla Prater (23), J.J. Hayden (29), Dale Ney (30), Lee Richardson (31)
- **December anniversaries:** Al & Pat Fernety (4), Ed & Lee Peterson (17), Brandon & Kayla Spraggins (27)