

# ST. GEORGE'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH



*Worship Booklet*  
*The Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ*  
*December 24th 3 p.m.*  
*Rite II*

*Welcome to St. George's! We are blessed by your attendance at our worship today.*

The Rev. Robin Reeves-Kautz, Rector  
510 13<sup>th</sup> Avenue North  
Texas City, Texas 77590  
409/945-2583  
[www.stgeorgestc.org](http://www.stgeorgestc.org)

# The Holy Eucharist: Rite Two

Prelude Hymn                      “Mary Did You Know?”

Entrance Hymn                      *O Come, All Ye Faithful* (vs 1-3)                      Hymnal 83

## The Word of God

Opening Acclamation                      Book of Common Prayer (BCP) 355

*The people standing, the Celebrant says*

Blessed be God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

**People**                      *And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.*

*The Celebrant then says the following prayer that our hearts may be made pure for worship*

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.**

*Remain standing. The following song of praise is sung.*

## Angels We Have Heard On High (Gloria)

### Verse 1

Angels we have heard on high  
Sweetly singing o'er the plains  
And the mountains in reply  
Echoing their joyous strains

### Chorus

Gloria  
In excelsis Deo  
Gloria  
In excelsis Deo

### Verse 2

Shepherds why this jubilee  
Why your joyous strains prolong  
What the gladsome tidings be  
Which inspire your heav'nly song

### Verse 3

Come to Bethlehem and see  
Christ whose birth the angels sing  
Come adore on bended knee  
Christ the Lord the newborn King

### Verse 4

See Him in a manger laid  
Whom the choirs of angels praise  
Mary Joseph lend your aid  
While our hearts in love we raise

CCLI Song # 27721

Edward Shippen Barnes | James Chadwick

© Words: Public Domain

Music: Public Domain

For use solely with the SongSelect® [Terms of Use](#). All rights reserved. [www.ccli.com](http://www.ccli.com)

CCLI License # 2286228

## The Collect of the Day

*The Celebrant says to the people*

The Lord be with you.

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

Celebrant Let us pray.

*The Celebrant says the Collect*

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.

**People** *Amen.*

## The First Lesson

Lector      A Reading (Lesson) from Isaiah 9:2-7

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.

*At the end of the lesson, the reader will conclude with*

*The Word of the Lord.*

***People      Thanks be to God.***

*Then, all standing the Celebrant reads the Gospel, first saying*

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!"

*After the Gospel, the Celebrant says*

The Gospel of the Lord.

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

**The Sermon** *(please sit)*

**The Nicene Creed** *(please stand)*

**BCP 358**

**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.***

*It is traditional to kneel or stand for the prayers. In the course of the silence after each bidding, the People offer their own prayers, either silently or aloud.*

I ask your prayers for God's people throughout the world; for Michael our Presiding Bishop, Andy, Kai, Jeff, and Hector our bishops, Robin our rector, Joe and Carolann our deacons; for this gathering; and for all ministers and people.  
Pray for the Church.

*Silence*

I ask your prayers for peace; for goodwill among nations in the world; and for the well-being of all people.  
Pray for justice and peace.

*Silence*

I ask your prayers for the poor, the sick, the hungry, the oppressed, and those in prison.  
Pray for those in any need or trouble.

*Silence*

I ask your prayers for all who seek God, or a deeper knowledge of God.  
Pray that they may find and be found by God.

*Silence*

I ask your prayers for the departed  
Pray for those who have died.

*Silence*

I ask your prayers for St. George's Church and Parish, that we might be a light on the hill and those who have asked for our prayers and those added by those present tonight especially Amy, Susan, Joann, Dwayne, Derri & Kids, Eleanore & Herb, Mary, Carolyn, Tonya & Willie, Joy & Gary, Jim, Audrey and Bryan, Preston, Kim and family, Margie, David, Bennie, Katherine, Patti, Wayne & Charlotte, James, Mary, Meghan and Kyle, Denny & Jeannie, Brent and Charlene, Carol & Bob, Terrilynn, Ross Teaff family, Kristy, Sandy, Richard & Ruth, Chris, Greg, Sharon & Ernie, Kelly and family, Scott & Lanette, Pat, healthcare workers, prisoners, refugees, families, and youth, and for all those who have no one else to pray for them. *(Please speak out those you wish to include)*

*Silence*

I ask your thanksgiving for those celebrating birthdays and those celebrating anniversaries.  
Pray for those celebrating.

*Silence*

Praise God for those in every generation in whom Christ has been honored.  
Pray that we may have grace to glorify Christ in our own day.

*Silence*

*The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect*

O Lord our God, accept the fervent prayers of your people; in the multitude of your mercies, look with compassion upon us and all who turn to you for help; for you are gracious, O lover of souls, and to you we give glory, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, now and for ever. **Amen.**

## **Confession of Sin**

*The Celebrant says*

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

**Minister and 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**

*The Bishop when present, or the Priest, stands and says*

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. **Amen.**

## **The Peace**

*All stand. The Celebrant says to the people*

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

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

# The Holy Communion

## The Offertory

### Offertory Hymn

*O Holy Night*

### Doxology *(sung Acappella)*

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
praise him, all creatures here below;  
praise him above, ye heavenly host:  
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

### The Great Thanksgiving Eucharistic Prayer B

**BCP 367**

*At this time we share a foretaste of the coming Kingdom of God, bought for us by Jesus' death and resurrection.*

*The People remain standing. The Celebrant, faces them and sings*

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 him thanks and praise.*

*The Celebrant proceeds*

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

*Here the Celebrant inserts special thanks appropriate to the day. This is called the Proper Preface.*

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:

*Celebrant and People*

**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 people kneel or stand.*

*Then the Celebrant continues*

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

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*

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with St. George and all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

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,

*People and Celebrant*

**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.***

### **The Breaking of the Bread**

*The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept. Then may be sung or said*

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;  
***Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.***

*Facing the people, the Celebrant says the following Invitation*

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.

*The Bread and the Cup are given to the people with the following or similar words*

The Body of Christ, the bread of heaven. ***Amen.***

### **Communion Hymns**

***What Child is this?  
Away in a Manger***

## Sharing the Light of Christ While Singing Silent Night

*Candle light is passed. This is a symbol of the good news of Jesus Christ, the light of the world. As we receive this light, we then are given the opportunity to spread it to others next to us and in the world.*

### **Post-Communion Prayer** *(please kneel or stand to pray the following prayer)*

*After Communion, the Celebrant says*

Let us pray.

#### *Celebrant and **People***

**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 Priest, gives the blessing.*

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 and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. *Amen.*

*The People stand*

### **Recessional Hymn**

*Joy to the World*

**Hymnal 100**

### **The Dismissal**

Let us go forth in the power of the Spirit to love and serve the Lord.  
Alleluia. Alleluia.

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

Thank you for joining us. If you are in need of a listening ear or someone to pray with you, feel free to contact Pastor Robin at 832-922-7022.

If you'd like to learn more about St. George's, please feel free to contact Pastor Robin or Beverly Ross at 409-948-1178.