



The Nativity of our Lord

December 24, 2025

Trinity Memorial Episcopal Church

Binghamton, New York

7:30 p.m. Prelude

Christmas favorites from MESSIAH, George Frederic Handel

Solo

Charles Burch, tenor

*Every valley shall be exalted, and every mountain and hill made low,
the crooked straight and the rough places plain.*

Chorus

*And the glory of the Lord shall be revealed,
and all flesh shall see it together; for the mouth of the Lord hath spoken it.*

Solo & Chorus

Jess Dugatkin, alto

*O thou that tellest good tidings to Zion, get thee up into the high mountain:
O thou that tellest good tidings to Jerusalem, lift up thy voice with strength;
lift it up, be not afraid; say unto the cities of Judah, Behold your God!
Arise, shine, for thy light is come, and the glory of the Lord is risen upon thee.*

Solo

Alexis McAfee, bass

*The people that walked in darkness have seen a great light.
And they that dwell in the land of the shadow of death,
upon them hath the light shined.*

Chorus

*For unto us a Child is born, unto us a Son is given and the government
shall be upon His shoulder, and His name shall be called: Wonderful Counsellor,
The Mighty God, The Everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace!*

Solo

Christina Taylor, soprano

*There were shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And lo,
the angel of the Lord came upon 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 Saviour, which is Christ the Lord. And suddenly there was with the angel a
multitude of the heav'nly host, praising God, and saying:*

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

8:00 p.m. The Holy Eucharist

Processional Hymn 83: O Come, All Ye Faithful

*O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant, O come ye, O come ye, to Bethlehem.
Come and behold him, born the King of angels;
(refrain:) O come, let us adore him. . . (repeated). . . Christ the Lord.*

*God from God, Light from Light Eternal, Lo, he abhors not the Virgin's womb;
Only begotten Son of the Father. (refrain)*

*Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation; Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!
Glory to God, all glory in the highest; (refrain)*

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

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

The Crowle Family

We have watched; We have waited in hope; We have waited for peace;
We have waited in joy! We have waited with love. Now our redemption draws near!
Our Savior is born, Jesus, the Light of the World. *Thanks be to God.*

Opening Acclamation

The Word was made flesh and dwelt among us; *And we beheld his glory.*
The glory of the Lord has been revealed;
And all flesh shall see the salvation of our God.

Hymn 96: Angels We Have Heard on High

*Angels we have heard on high singing sweetly through the night,
And the mountains in reply echoing their brave delight. Gloria, 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. Gloria...*

The Collect of the Day

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

The First Lesson

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.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Carol

A Maiden Most Gentle

Andrew Carter

A maiden most gentle and tender we sing: of Mary the mother of Jesus our King. Ave, Maria. How bless'd is the birth of her heavenly child, who came to redeem us in Mary so mild. The archangel Gabriel foretold by his call the Lord of creation, and Saviour of all. Three kings came to worship with gifts rich and rare, and marveled in awe at the babe in her care. Rejoice and be glad at this Christmas we pray; sing praise to the Saviour, sing endless 'Ave'.

The Epistle

Titus 2:11-14

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.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Hymn 110 The Snow Lay on the Ground

*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)*

The Holy Gospel Luke 2:1-20

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

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.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Sermon

The Rev. Richard Schaal

The Baptismal Covenant: The Renewal of Baptismal Vows

Do you reaffirm your renunciation of evil and renew your commitment to Jesus Christ?
I do.

Do you believe in God the Father?
I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.

Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers?
I will, with God's help.

Will you persevere in resisting evil, and, whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord? ***I will, with God's help.***

Will you proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ? ***I will, with God's help.***

Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as yourself? ***I will, with God's help.***

Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being? ***I will, with God's help.***

May Almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given us a new birth by water and the Holy Spirit, and bestowed upon us the forgiveness of sins, keep us in eternal life by his grace, in Christ Jesus our Lord. ***AMEN.***

Prayers of the People

As we welcome the coming of Jesus, let us offer prayers to God who sends his Son, born of a woman, and the Light of the world.

Come, O Christ and be our light in the world.

For the coming of Jesus Christ in glory and light.

Come, O Christ and illumine our lives.

For the coming of Wisdom to teach us and guide us.

Come, O Christ and teach us.

For the coming of Emmanuel, the hope of all the peoples.

Come, O Christ and bring us hope.

For the peace of the world, and for our unity in Christ.

Come, O Christ and give us peace.

For Dede our bishop; Richard and Kit our priests; and for all the holy people of God.

Come, O Christ and bless us.

For the church throughout the world and the faithful in every place.

Come, O Christ and hear our prayer.

For the leaders of the nations and all in authority.

Come, O Christ and show us your way.

For justice, peace and freedom among peoples of the earth.

Come, O Christ and free us.

For the sick and the suffering, the hungry and the oppressed, and for those in prison.

Come, O Christ and make us whole.

For the dying and those who have died, and for those who mourn.

Come, O Christ and comfort us.

Joining our voices with Mary and all the saints and angels of God, let us offer ourselves and one another to the living God through Christ our Lord.

Come, O Christ and save us.

O Wisdom, breath from the mouth of God most high, who lights one end of the earth to the other, and governs all creation with strong and tender care, come and teach us the way of wisdom. Glory to you for ever. ***Amen.***

The Peace

The peace of the Lord be always with you; ***And also with you.***

The Holy Communion

The Offertory Sentence

Anthem When Christ was born of Mary free T. B. Pratt

When Christ was born of Mary free, in Bethlehem that fair city,

Angels sang with mirth and glee in excelsis gloria.

Then shepherds saw these angels bright, to them appearing with great light,

who said: "God's Son is born this night, in excelsis gloria."

This King is come to save mankind as in the Scripture truths we find,

therefore this song have we in mind, in excelsis gloria.

Then we pray, dear Lord, for thy great grace grant us the bliss to see thy face

that we may sing to thy solace, in excelsis gloria!

Presentation Hymn 93, st. 1

Angels from the realms of glory, Wing your flight o'er all the earth;

Ye, who sang creation's story, Now proclaim Messiah's birth:

Come and worship, come and worship, Worship Christ the newborn King.

The Great Thanksgiving

Prayer B

The Lord be with you; *And also with you.*

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

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God; *It is right to give him thanks and praise.*

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

Sanctus S-125

Richard Proulx

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.

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:

We remember his death, We proclaim his resurrection, We await his coming in glory.

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 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.**

The Lord's Prayer

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

***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 disciples knew the Lord Jesus

Michael McCarthy (b. 1966)



Ministration of Communion

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

All are welcome to receive Communion.

Please feel free to receive the bread and/or wine either at the crossing in front of the Chancel steps or at the Altar Rail, as you so choose. If you wish to intinct (dip) your bread, please dip it in the small chalices offered, or drink from the larger chalice.

Communion Carols *Following Communion, please take a candle from an usher.*
Away in a manger, no crib for his bed, The little Lord Jesus lay down his sweet head. The stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay, The little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.

The cattle are lowing, the baby awakes, But little Lord Jesus no crying he makes. I love thee, Lord Jesus! Look down from the sky, And stay by my cradle until morning is nigh.

*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?
This, this is Christ the King, whom shepherds guard and angels sing;
Haste, haste to bring him laud, the Babe, the Son of Mary.*

*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.*

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.

*O holy Child of Bethlehem, descend to us, we pray;
cast out our sin and enter in, be born in us today.
We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell;
O come to us, abide with us, our Lord Emmanuel!*

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Almighty and everliving God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

The torchbearers will share light along the center aisle.

Hymn 111: Silent Night

*Silent night, holy night, all is calm, all is bright round yon virgin mother and child,
Holy infant, so tender and mild, Sleep in heavenly peace, Sleep in heavenly peace.*

*Silent night, holy night, shepherds quake at the sight, Glories stream from heaven afar,
Heavenly hosts sing alleluia; Christ, the Savior, is born! Christ, the Savior, is born.*

*Silent night, holy night, Son of God, love's pure light radiant beams from thy holy face,
with the dawn of redeeming grace, Jesus, Lord at thy birth, Jesus, Lord at thy birth.*

The Christmas Blessing

“When the song of the angels is stilled,” he said. “When the star of the sky is gone, When the kings and princes are home, When the shepherds are back with their flocks: The work of Christmas begins... To find the lost, to heal the broken, to feed the hungry, to rebuild the nations, to bring peace among people; to make music in the heart.”

(Howard Thurman, Civil rights leader)

And the blessing of God Almighty, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit be with you now and always. **AMEN.**

Candles may be extinguished

Hymn 87 Hark! the Herald Angels Sing

*Hark! The herald angels sing, “Glory to the newborn King; Peace on earth,
and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!” Joyful, all ye nations rise,
Join the triumph of the skies; With th’angelic host proclaim, “Christ is born in
Bethlehem!” (refrain) Hark! the herald angels sing, “Glory to the newborn King!”*

*Christ, by highest Heav'n adored; Christ the everlasting Lord;
Late in time, behold Him come, Offspring of the Virgin's womb.
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see; Hail th'incarnate Deity,
Pleased as man with us to dwell, Jesus our Emmanuel. (refrain)*

*Mild He lays His glory by, Born that we no more may die.
Born to raise us from the earth, Born to give us second birth.
Ris'n with healing in His wings Light and life to all He brings,
Hail, the Sun of Righteousness, Hail the heaven born Prince of Peace. (refrain)*

The Dismissal

The people respond *Thanks be to God.*

Postlude

In dulci jubilo

J. S. Bach

SERVING TONIGHT

The Rev. Richard Schaal, *Celebrant and Preacher*

Timothy E. Smith, *Organist & Music Director*

Ginny Hill, *Lector* Bill Palmer, *Worship Leader*

Phyllis Amenda, Daniel Aribisala, Ken Lattimore, *Acolytes*

Philip & Cynthia Evans, *Ushers* Bob Kuzia, *Digital Minister*

Join us each Sunday morning!

8:30 Contemplative Eucharist

10:00 Eucharist with music

11:30 Adult Forum

12:00 Canteen Hot Lunch

Lessons and Carols for Epiphany

The Trinity Choir and Trinity Ringers – Sunday, January 4 at 4 p.m.

TRINITY MEMORIAL EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Mission: *To serve Christ passionately through self, family, parish and community.*

Identity: *A diverse people responding to God through worship and music,
friendship and formation, generosity and service.*

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