

Dear Parish Family and very esteemed visitors,

erry Christmas and welcome to Saint Benedict's Episcopal/Anglican Church! We are so glad you are here. At Saint Benedict's there are no strangers, only friends we have not yet met. All are welcome!

At this Christmas celebration we are blessed by your presence. I believe nothing happens by coincidence, and that God brought you here for a reason. Our prayer is that you will come to know the deep presence of God in your life. We welcome all to receive Holy Communion in this church, but if you choose not to do so, please come up and simply cross your arms so that the ministers may offer you a blessing.

God has indeed come among us! We believe, that despite the news we hear and watch each day, our world was forever changed with the birth of our Savior Jesus Christ, for in him we find forgiveness, salvation, and God's unconditional love revealed to our humanity.

From all of us here at Saint Benedict's, we wish you and yours a very Merry Christmas, and we pray that 2023 will bring us renewed hope, and a brighter future.

In the love of Jesus,

Father Albert +

The Reverend Dr. Albert R. Cutie Rector and Parish Priest Saint Benedict Episcopal Church



Saint Benedict's Episcopal Church Holy Eucharist for the Feast of the Nativity of the Lord Christmas Eve 6:00 and 10:00pm | Christmas Day 10:00 am

Welcome to Saint Benedict's Episcopal Church, a church that feels like family! We are glad to have you worship with us today. If you are a newcomer, please complete a Welcome Card and place it in the offering plate so we can extend our welcome beyond this service. Additional information about Saint Benedict's and our ministries may be found online at www.saintbenedicts.org. Congregational responses for all services are found in **bold**. The music for the service is taken from the blue Hymnal 1982 (H-1982) and the red, green, and black hymnal Lift Every Voice and Sing (LEVAS). We are a singing church; we ask that you please stand at the introduction of hymns. Prepare your hearts to celebrate in Word and Sacrament, Emmanuel, God with us.

CHRISTMAS PRELUDES

The Christmas Presentation (6:00 pm)

Led by Saint Benedict's Youth Ministry

Pre-Concert Music (10-10:30 pm)

Jazz Trio and Carol Singalong led by Music Ministry

Organ Voluntaries (all services)

Prelude (Toccata) and Fugue in E Major by J.S. Bach French Noels by various composer

ORDER OF SERVICE for FESTIVAL HOLY EUCHARIST

The Choral Introit *led by Hannah Tuckwell and choir*

Christus Natus Est by Benjamin Britten

Sung in Latin: Today is Christ born; today the Savior has appeared; today the Angels sing, the Archangels rejoice; today the righteous rejoice, saying: Glory to God in the highest. Alleluia!

The Gospel of John (1:1-14) proclaimed by the Rector, the people stand

The Lord be with you.

And also with you

In 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. 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.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to You, Lord Christ.

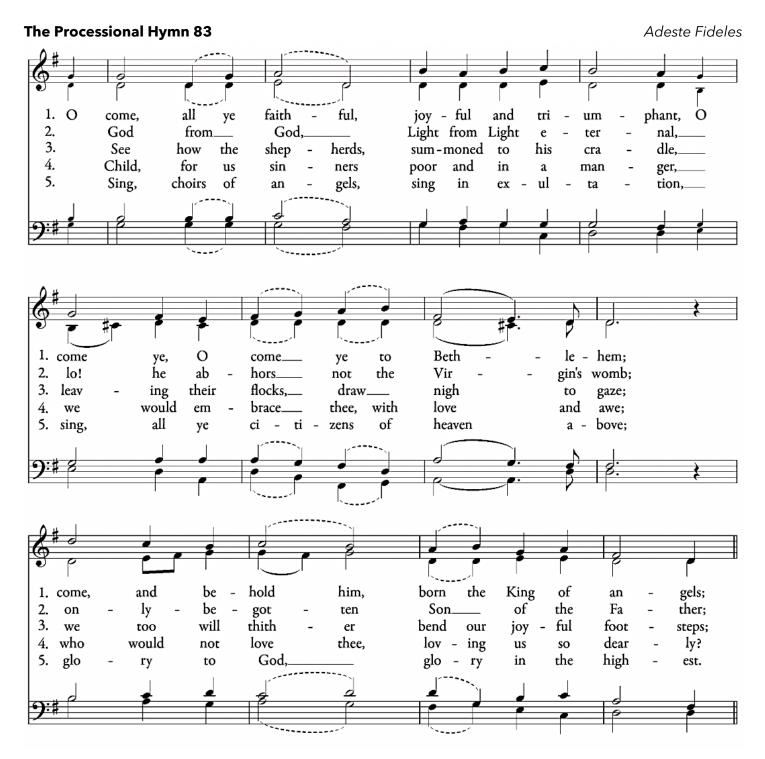
At the Manger

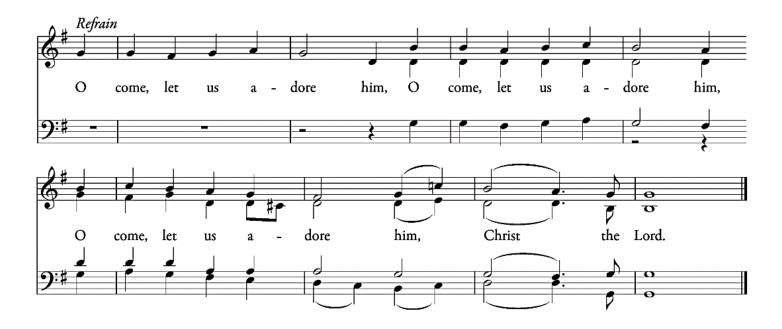
Alleluia! Unto us a Child is born:

Come, let us adore Him, Alleluia!

Most merciful and loving God, you have made this night (day) holy by the incarnation of your Son, Jesus Christ, and by the childbearing of the blessed Virgin Mary: Grant that we, your people, may enter with joy into the celebration of the day, and may also rejoice forever as your adopted daughters and sons; through the same Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The organ fanfare introduces the hymn:





6 Yea, Lord we greet Thee
Born this happy morning
Jesu, to Thee be glory given.
Word of the Father now in flesh appearing. *Refrain*

The Opening Acclamation

Blessed by God: + Father, Son, and Holy Spirit

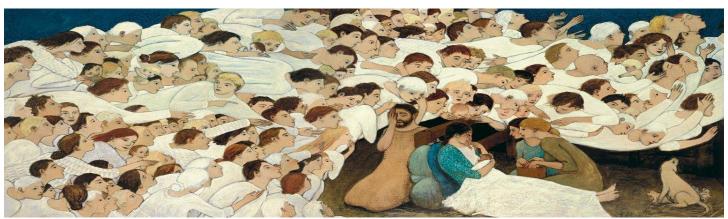
And blessed be God's kingdom, now and forever. Amen

The glory of the Lord has been revealed.

And all flesh shall see it together.

The Collect for Purity

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.**



Nativity by Brian Kershinik



At the Collect of the Mass of the Nativity of Our Lord

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

O God, you have caused this holy night (day) 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 WORD OF GOD

A reading from the Prophet Isaiah

Isaiah 9:2-4, 6-7

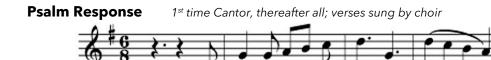
he people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness-on them light has shined. You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder. For the yoke of their burden, and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian. For 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.**

Sa-vior,

Christ

the

Lord.



Psalm 96:1-4, 11-12

1 Sing to the LORD a new song; * sing to the LORD, all the whole earth.

To - day is born our

- 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.
- 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.

A reading from the Letter to Titus

Titus 2:11-14

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.**

1. 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 the angelic hosts proclaim
Christ is born in Bethlehem!
Hark! the herald angels sing,
glory to the newborn King!

2. Christ, by highest heaven adored; Christ, the everlasting Lord; late in time behold him come, offspring of the Virgin's womb. Veiled in flesh the Godhead see; hail the incarnate Deity. Pleased as man with us to dwell; Jesus, our Emmanuel! Hark! the herald angels sing, glory to the newborn King!

At the Holy Gospel

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke (2:1-20)

+ Glory to You, Lord Christ.

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!" 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.

Hail the heaven born Prince of Peace!
Hail the Sun of Righteousness!
Light and life to all he brings,
Risen with healing in his wings.
Mild he lays his glory by,
Born that man no more may die,
Born to raise the sons of earth,
Born to give them second birth.
Hark! The herald angels sing
Glory to the newborn King!

The people sit.

The Sermon

The Reverend Albert Cutie, Rector

The Nicene Creed The people stand.

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.

(PAUSE - SILENCE)

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

Eternal God, in this holy night your Son our Savior was born in human form. Renew your Church as the Body of Christ. God, in your mercy:

Hear our prayer.

On this holy night, Christians the world over are celebrating his birth. Open our hearts that he may be born in us today. God, in your mercy:

Hear our prayer.

On this holy night, there was no room for your Son in the inn. Protect with your love those who have no home and all who live in poverty. God, in your mercy:

Hear our prayer.

On this holy night, Mary, in the pain of labor, brought your Son to birth. Hold in your hand all those who are in pain or distress this night. God, in your mercy:

Hear our prayer.

On this holy night, shepherds in the field heard good tidings of joy. Give us grace to preach the gospel of Christ's redemption by word and example. God, in your mercy:

Hear our prayer.

On this holy night, the angels sang "Peace to God's people on earth." Strengthen those who work for peace and justice, here and in all the world. God, in your mercy:

Hear our prayer.

On this holy night, strangers found the Holy Family, and saw the baby lying in the manger. Bless our homes and all whom we love. God, in your mercy:

Hear our prayer.

The Celebrant prays: O God, you have given us a new revelation of your love in the coming of your Son Jesus Christ to be born of Mary: Grant that as he shared our mortality, so we may share his eternity in the glory of your kingdom, where he is alive and reigns for ever and ever. **Amen**.

The Peace

The Peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

*(8:00am Rite I): And with Thy Spirit.

Please greet your neighbor according to social distancing guidelines.

Welcome and Announcements

The people remain seated while an offering is received to support Saint Benedict's work of sharing God's love with the world. Please be generous - we count on your support year-round. Text "give7801" to 1-888-364-4483. You may also make a secure donation online at our website www.saintbenedicts.org or you can also "Zelle" your donations by using our church email: parishoffice@saintbenedicts.org

THE LORD'S TABLE

Choral Anthem (6 and 10 pm services)

On Christmas night all Christians sing, To hear the news the angels bring, News of great joy, news of great mirth, News of our merciful King's birth.

Then why should men on earth be so sad, Since our redeemer made us glad, When from our sin he set us free, All for to gain our liberty. Sussex Carol by Sir. David Willcocks

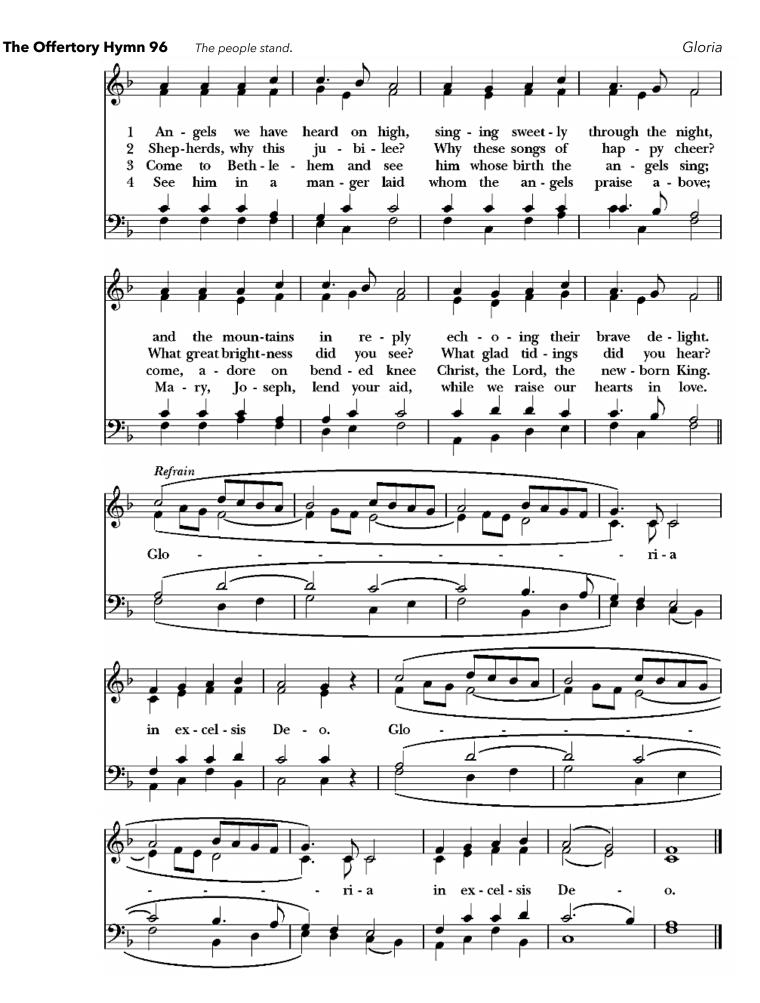
When sin departs before his grace, Then life and health come in its place; Angels and men with joy may sing, All for to see the new-born King.

All out of darkness we have light, Which made the angels sing this night: 'Glory to God and peace to men, Now and for evermore. Amen.'

Choral Anthem (10 am service)

Psalm 150 by Cesar Franck

Alleluia! O Praise ye the Lord. Praise God in his sanctuary: praise him in the firmament of his power. Praise him for his mighty acts: praise him according to his excellent greatness. Praise him with the sound of the trumpet: praise him with the psaltery and harp. Praise him with the timbrel and dance: praise him with stringed instruments and organs. Praise him upon the loud cymbals: praise him upon the high-sounding cymbals. Let everything that hath breath praise the Lord. Praise ye the Lord. Alleluia!



To God the Father, heavenly Light, to Christ, revealed in earthly night, to God the Holy Ghost we raise our equal and unceasing praise. Amen.

The Great Thanksgiving

The service continues on p. 361 of the Book of Common Prayer.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

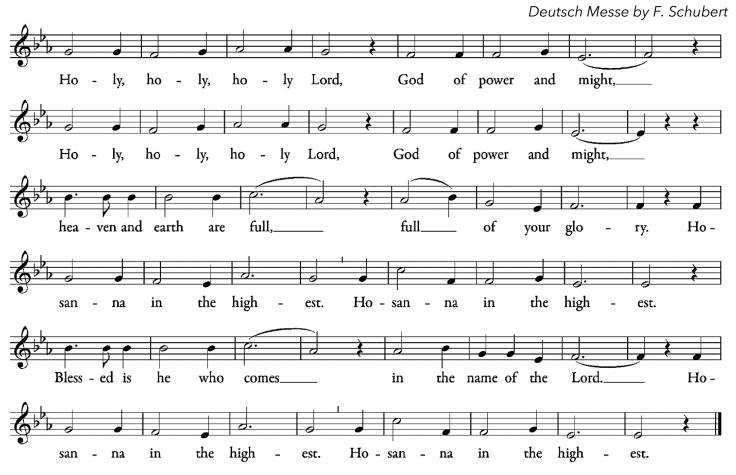
Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

The Celebrant continues with the Preface and Sanctus:



The people remain standing or kneel as the Celebrant continues with the Eucharistic Prayer, to which the congregation responds: Christ Has Died. Christ is Risen. Christ will come again, and sings: Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

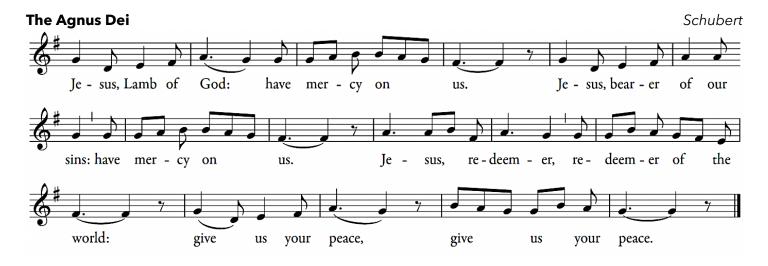
by Albert Hay Malotte

The Breaking of the Bread and Fraction Anthem

The bread is broken. Silence is kept.

Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrifed for us:

Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia!



Invitation to Holy Communion

The Celebrant says: 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.

Our Invitation to You On this Holy Night

This is the Lord's Table, where all of God's children are welcome to receive Holy Communion.

The Choral Anthems (6 and 10pm)

O Holy Night by Adolphe C. Adam

O Holy Night!

The stars are brightly shining
It is the night of the dear Savior's birth!
Long lay the world in sin and error pining
Till he appear'd and the soul felt its worth.
A thrill of hope the weary soul rejoices
For yonder breaks a new and glorious morn!

Fall on your knees

Oh hear the angel voices

Oh night divine

Oh night when Christ was born

Oh night divine

Oh night divine.

Gesu Bambino by Pietro Yon

When blossoms flowered 'mid the snows Upon a winter night Was born the Child the Christmas Rose, The King of Love and Light. The angels sang, the shepherds sang, the grateful earth rejoiced And at His blessed birth the stars Their exultation voiced.

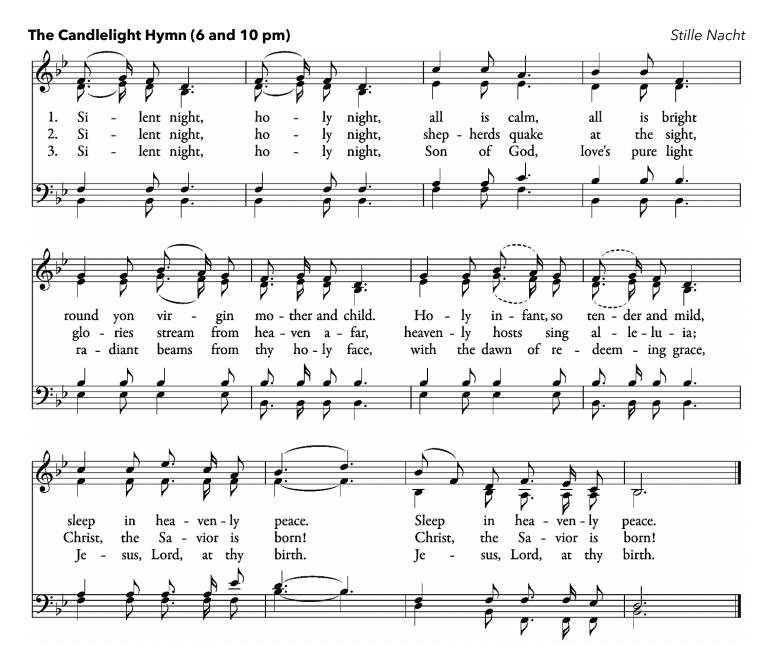
O come let us adore Him,

O come let us adore Him,

O come let us adore Him,

Christ the Lord.

Again, the heart with rapture glows to greet the holy night That gave the world its Christmas Rose, Its king of Love and Light. Let every voice acclaim His name, The grateful chorus swell From paradise to earth He came That we with Him might dwell.



You may extinguish your candles at the Rectors invitation. The people stand.

The Post Communion Prayer

Heavenly Father, whose blessed Son shared at Nazareth the life of an earthly home: help your Church to live as one family, united in love and obedience, and bring us all at last to our home in heaven; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**.

THE SENDING FORTH

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

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 goodness and love. And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father +, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you forever. **Amen.**

1 Joy to the world! The Lord is come
Let earth receive her King!
Let every heart prepare Him room
And heaven and nature sing
And heaven and nature sing
And heaven, and heaven and nature sing

2 Joy to the world! the Savior reigns Let men their songs employ While fields and floods Rocks, hills and plains Repeat the sounding joy Repeat the sounding joy Repeat, repeat the sounding joy 3 No more let sins and sorrows grow Nor thorns infest the ground He comes to make His blessings flow Far as the curse is found Far as the curse is found Far as, far as the curse is found

4 He rules the world with truth and grace
And makes the nations prove
The glories of His righteousness
And wonders of His love
And wonders of His love
And wonders, and wonders of His love

The Dismissal

Christ is born for us. Let us go forth in His name and peace. Alleluia, alleluia! **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia!**

Organ Voluntary

In dulci jubilo, BWV729 by J.S. Bach

Special Thanks to the Choirs and Youth Ministries, Instrumentalists and Soloists: Kris Winselmann (cello/guitar), Luis Santiago (drums), Sebastian Bravo (tuba), Jeston Curry (trombone), Jose Matamoros (French horn), and Benjamin Black (trumpet).



The parish family of St. Benedict's wishes you and yours a very Blessed Christmas and Prosperous New Year! Please pray about making an end-of-the-year Christmas donation and gift to this church. We recently completed paying the mortgage on this new church building, but we are still in need of large donations for ongoing maintenance and operational expenses. While we are frugal, and very careful in our spending, our day-to-day operational costs are many. Please pray and consider making a substantial offering to help us continue doing God's work. We make this appeal in the name of Jesus, because we know that God's work is done by generous and caring persons like you. Please do not forget St. Benedict's in your Last Will and Testament. God bless you for your generosity!



SAINT BENEDICT'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF SOUTHEAST FLORIDA – WORLDWIDE ANGLICAN COMMUNION

Our mission is to know Christ's love and to make His love known. Nuestra misión es conocer el amor de Cristo y darlo a conocer

WEEKLY WORSHIP SCHEDULE

SATURDAYS

6:00 PM Holy Eucharist Rite II ("Dog-friendly" Service)

SUNDAYS

8:00 AM (Rite I), 10:00 AM (Rite II), 12:00 PM (Misa en español) Holy Eucharist

TUESDAYS

Holy Eucharist 8:30 AM

WEDNESDAYS

Healing Mass and Litany 7:00 PM Bible Study 7:30 PM

THURSDAYS

Holy Eucharist 8:30 AM

OUR CLERGY AND STAFF

The Reverend Albert R. Cutié, Rector
The Reverend Debra McLaughlin, Deacon
Mr. Xavier W. Richardson, Director of Music & Organist
Ms. Wendy Williams, Parish Administrator
Mr. Mordecai Emanuel, Sexton

CONTACT US

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