



December 27, 2020 at 10 a.m.

Liturgy of the Word for the
First Sunday after Christmas

Welcome to Christ Church!

Thank you for joining us. You can worship with us on [Facebook](#).

We invite and encourage your full participation in our worship this morning. This service bulletin is the only document you'll need to participate in this morning's liturgy.

We are blessed because of your presence here, and we want to do everything possible to make you feel at home. You are welcome here!



Loving God and neighbor, as Jesus teaches

Welcome and Announcements

This week's announcements can be found [here](#).

If you would like more information about Christ Church, please [click here](#).

Prelude for Flute and Organ

A Christmas Pastorate
Bruce Goody, flutist

Charles Callahan (b. 1951)

Hymn 100

Joy to the World

Tune: Antioch

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

1 and heaven and na - ture sing, and
2 re - peat the sound - ing joy, re -
3 far as the curse is found, far
4 and won - ders of his love, and

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.

heaven and na - ture sing,
 peat the sound - ing joy,
 as the curse is found,
 won - ders of his love,

Words: Isaac Watts (1674-1748), alt. Music: *Antioch*, George Frideric Handel (1685-1759); adapt. and arr. Lowell Mason (1792-1872)

The Opening Acclamation

Celebrant Blessed be the One, Holy, and Living God.

People And blessed be God's kingdom, now and forever. 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 inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Confession of Sin

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

A moment of silence is kept.

All 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.

Celebrant Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through the grace of Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life.

The Collect of the Day

Officiant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Officiant Let us pray.

All 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 LESSONS

The First Lesson

Isaiah 61:10-62:3

Lector I will greatly rejoice in the LORD, my whole being shall exult in my God; for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation, he has covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels. For as the earth brings forth its shoots, and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up, so the Lord GOD will cause righteousness and praise to spring up before all the nations. For Zion's sake I will not keep silent, and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest, until her vindication shines out like the dawn, and her salvation like a burning torch. The nations shall see your vindication, and all the kings your glory; and you shall be called by a new name that the mouth of the LORD will give. You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the LORD, and a royal diadem in the hand of your God.

At the conclusion of the reading:

Lector Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's People.

People Thanks be to God.

Canticle 11, The Third Song of Isaiah *Isaiah 60:1-3, 11a, 14c, 18-19*

The psalm is read responsively, breaking at the asterisk ().*

Arise, shine, for your light has come, *

and the glory of the Lord has dawned upon you.

For behold, darkness covers the land; *

deep gloom enshrouds the peoples.

But over you the Lord will rise, *

and his glory will appear upon you.

Nations will stream to your light, *

and kings to the brightness of your dawning.

Your gates will always be open; *

by day or night they will never be shut.

They will call you, The City of the Lord, *

The Zion of the Holy One of Israel.

Violence will no more be heard in your land, *

ruin or destruction within your borders.

You will call your walls, Salvation, *

and all your portals, Praise.

The sun will no more be your light by day; *

by night you will not need the brightness of the moon.

The Lord will be your everlasting light, *

and your God will be your glory.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: *

as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

The Epistle

Galatians 3:23-25; 4:4-7

Lector Now before faith came, we were imprisoned and guarded under the law until faith would be revealed. Therefore the law was our disciplinarian until Christ came, so that we might be justified by faith. But now that faith has come, we are no longer subject to a disciplinarian.

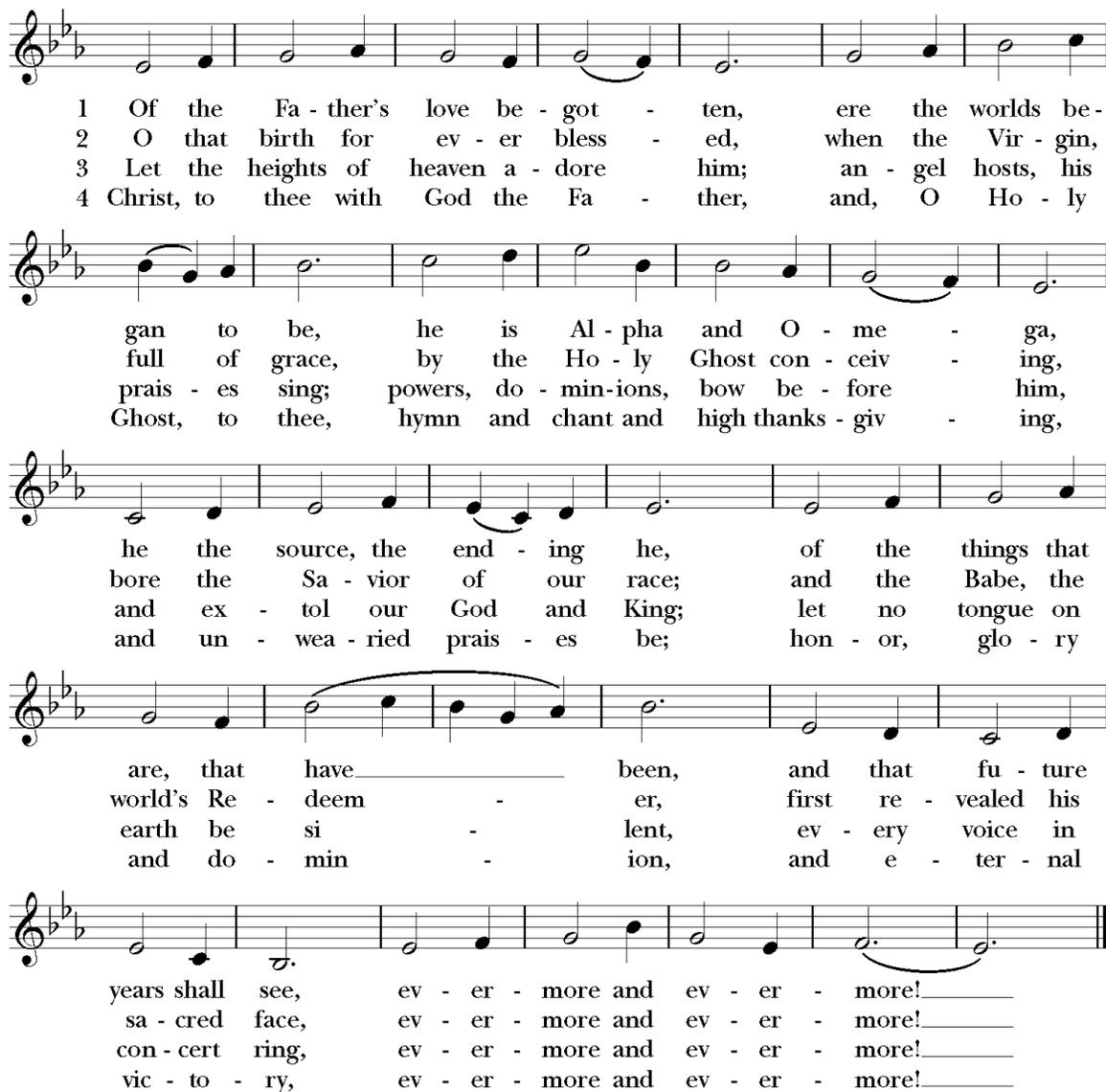
But when the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, in order to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as children. And because you are children, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" So you are no longer a slave but a child, and if a child then also an heir, through God.

At the conclusion of the reading:

Lector Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's People.

People Thanks be to God.





1 Of the Fa-ther's love be-got-ten, ere the worlds be-
 2 O that birth for ev-er bless-ed, when the Vir-gin,
 3 Let the heights of heaven a-dore him; an-gel hosts, his
 4 Christ, to thee with God the Fa-ther, and, O Ho-ly

gan to be, he is Al-pha and O-me-ga,
 full of grace, by the Ho-ly Ghost con-ceiv-ing,
 prais-es sing; powers, do-min-ions, bow be-fore him,
 Ghost, to thee, hymn and chant and high thanks-giv-ing,

he the source, the end-ing he, of the things that
 bore the Sa-rior of our race; and the Babe, the
 and ex-tol our God and King; let no tongue on
 and un-wea-ried prais-es be; hon-or, glo-ry

are, that have been, and that fu-ture
 world's Re-deem-er, first re-vealed his
 earth be-si-lent, ev-ery voice in
 and do-min-ion, and e-ter-nal

years shall see, ev-er-more and ev-er-more!
 sa-cred face, ev-er-more and ev-er-more!
 con-cert ring, ev-er-more and ev-er-more!
 vic-to-ry, ev-er-more and ev-er-more!

This hymn may be performed in equal note values: ♩ ♪ ♪ ♪

Words: Marcus Aurelius Clemens Prudentius (348-410?); tr. John Mason Neale (1818-1866) and Henry Williams Baker (1821-1877), alt.
 Music: *Divinum mysterium*, Sanctus trope, 11th cent.; adapt. *Piae Cantiones*, 1582; acc. Bruce Neswick (b. 1956), harm. Copyright ©1984, Bruce Neswick.
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The Gospel

John 1:1-18

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

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Celebrant 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.

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. (John testified to him and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks ahead of me because he was before me.'") From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. No one has ever seen God. It is God the only Son, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known.

At the conclusion of the reading:

Celebrant The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Sermon

The Rev. Nicholas Morris-Kliment

A moment of silent reflection follows the sermon.

The Nicene Creed

Book of Common Prayer, p. 358

Please stand as comfortable, and able.

All

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.

Prayers of the People

Church of England

Please stand or kneel or sit, as able and comfortable.

Intercessor In peace let us pray to the Lord. Gracious God, Christ our Savior was born in human flesh. Renew your Church as the Body of Christ. Holy God,

People Hear our prayer.

Intercessor There was no room for your Son in the inn. Use us to protect with your love those who have no home and all who live in poverty. Holy God,

People Hear our prayer.

Intercessor Mary, in the pain of labor, brought your Son to birth. Use us to hold in your hand all who are in pain or distress. Holy God,

People Hear our prayer.

Intercessor Your Christ came as a light shining in the darkness. Inspire us to bring comfort to all who suffer in the sadness of our world. Holy God,

People Hear our prayer.

Intercessor The angels sang, 'Peace to God's people on earth.' Strengthen us to work for peace and justice in all the world. Holy God,

People Hear our prayer.

Intercessor Shepherds in the field heard good tidings of joy. Give us grace to preach the gospel of Christ's redemption. Holy God,

People Hear our prayer.

Intercessor Strangers found the Holy Family, and saw the baby lying in the manger. Bless our homes and all whom we love. Holy God,

People Hear our prayer.

Intercessor Heaven is come down to earth, and earth is raised to heaven. Hold in your hand all those who have passed through death in the hope of your coming kingdom. Holy God,

People Hear our prayer.

Intercessor Christians the world over celebrate Christ's birth. Open our hearts that Christ may be born in us today. Holy God,

People Hear our prayer.

Celebrant Holy One, angels and shepherds worshipped at the manger throne. Receive the worship we offer in fellowship with Mary, Joseph and the saints, through him who is your Word made flesh, our Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.

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

All

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.

Offertory Sentence

Officiant O Lord our God, you are worthy to receive glory and honor and power; because you have created all things, and by your will they were created and have their being. *Revelation 4:11*

Thank you for considering an offering. Your faithful giving supports our missions and serves Christ in all person, loving neighbors as ourselves. To give online [click here](#) or text "CCN123" to 73256.

Offertory Music for Flute and Organ

Pastoral Symphony: Pifa (from *Messiah*)

George Frideric Handel (1685-1759)

A General Thanksgiving

Book of Common Prayer, p. 836

All Accept, O Lord, our thanks and praise for all that you have done for us. We thank you for the splendor of the whole creation, for the beauty of this world, for the wonder of life, and for the mystery of love.

We thank you for the blessing of family and friends, and for the loving care which surrounds us on every side.

We thank you for setting us at tasks which demand our best efforts, and for leading us to accomplishments which satisfy and delight us.

We thank you also for those disappointments and failures that lead us to acknowledge our dependence on you alone.

Above all, we thank you for your Son Jesus Christ; for the truth of his Word and the example of his life; for his steadfast obedience, by which he overcame temptation; for his dying, through which he overcame death; and for his rising to life again, in which we are raised to the life of your kingdom.

Grant us the gift of your Spirit, that we may know Christ and make him known; and through him, at all times and in all places, may give thanks to you in all things. Amen.

Hymn 99

Go tell it on the mountain

Tune: *Go Tell It on the Mountain*

Refrain

Go tell it on the moun - tain, o - ver the hills and
 ev - ery - where; go tell it on the moun - tain, that
 Je - sus Christ is born!
 1 While shep - herds kept their
 2 The shep - herds feared and
 3 Down in a low - ly
 watch - ing o'er si - lent flocks by night, be -
 trem - bled when lo! a - bove the earth rang
 man - ger the hum - ble Christ was born, and

Repeat Refrain



hold, through-out the hea-vens there shone a ho-ly light.
 out the an-gel cho-rus that hailed our Sa-vior's birth.
 God sent us sal-va-tion that bless-ed Christ-mas morn.

Words: Afro-American spiritual, 19th cent.; adapt. John W. Work (b. 1901) Music: *Go Tell It on the Mountain*, Afro-American spiritual, 19th cent.; arr. Horace Clarence Boyer (b. 1935) Copyright ©1984, Horace Clarence Boyer. All rights reserved. Used with permission.

Concluding Blessing

Officiant May God, who sent the angels to proclaim the glad news of the Savior's birth, fill you with joy, and make you heralds of the Gospel; and the blessing of God Almighty, the One, Holy, and Undivided Trinity be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Postlude for Flute and Organ

Good Christian friends, rejoice

Peter Crisafulli (b. 1946)

Prayers of the People

This week in the Anglican Cycle of Prayer, we pray for the Christians in other denominations and the work of the ecumenical movement, His Holiness Pope Francis, Bishop of Rome, His All Holiness Archbishop Bartholomew of Constantinople, New Rome and Ecumenical Patriarch, The General Secretary of the World Council of Churches Bishop Ivan M Abrahams, General Secretary World Methodist Council The Reverend Chris Ferguson, and General Secretary of the World Communion of Reformed Churches. Michael, our Presiding Bishop; Alan and Gayle, our Bishops; Amy, Dean of our Cathedral; Carol, our Regional Canon; and Nick, our priest. Also, our companion parish at St. Luc's, Lazil, Haiti and our siblings at the MANNA Community in Boston.

This week in the Diocesan Cycle of Prayer, we pray the parishes of the Alewife Deanery: Church of Our Redeemer, Lexington; St. James' Church, Somerville; Christ Church, Waltham; Congregation of St. Peter at Christ Episcopal Church, Waltham; and Church of the Good Shepherd, Watertown.

In the Needham Cycle of Prayer, we pray for Temple Aliyah.



Christmas Memorial Flowers 2020

Please [click here](#) to view the names of loved ones in whose memories the Christmas Altar Flowers are given.

Thank you to those who assisted in the service today!

Charles Raines, Associate Director of Music and Organist
Bruce Goody, Flutist
Phil Bergen, Lector
Tim Lysaght, Broadcast Verger

And others to be named on air!

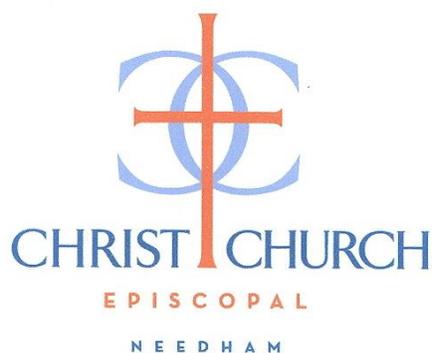
To assist during worship, please email the office (office@ccneedham.org) or sign up [here](#).



My Offering

Thank you for considering an offering. Your faithful giving supports our mission and serves Christ in all persons, loving neighbors as ourselves. To give online [click here](#) or text "CCN123" to 73256.

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WORSHIPPING † CARING † RESPONDING † GIVING

PARISH STAFF

The Rev. Nicholas M. Morris-Kliment, Rector
Pamela Goody, Director of Music Charles Raines, Associate Director of Music & Organist
Lea Peterson, Director of Youth Choir Woody Hughes, Facilities Manager
Maryann Badejo, Bookkeeper Ali Heard, Parish Administrator

ELECTED OFFICERS

Stan Hitron, Warden Jeff Murphy, Warden
Stefano Migliuolo, Treasurer David Carnahan, Clerk
Members of the Vestry: Duncan Allen, Robert Begin, Jim Black, Denise DeGross,
Janet Haines, Bob Keener, Ingrid Melvin, Michael Niden,
Annie Russell, Patty Smith, Joe Sweeney, and Ginny Yerardi.
Assistant Treasurers: Duncan Allen and Janet Haines

Monday-Friday 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

The office is closed for meetings Mondays from 11 a.m. – 12 p.m.
1132 Highland Avenue, Needham, MA 02494 • 781-444-1469
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Join us online for worship and connection Sundays at 10 a.m. on [FaceBook Live](#)