

Christmas Eve

Musical Prelude ✝ 5:30pm

Holy Eucharist ✝ 6:00pm



Resurrection Episcopal Church

Merry Christmas

Thank you for being with us in worship today. However you found your way here—whether by holy habit, familiar path, curiosity, or something deeper—we’re glad you came. This community is held together not by perfect beliefs or getting everything right, but by the love of God we see in Jesus: a love that forgives, welcomes, and makes space for us just as we are. Whoever you are, however you identify, you belong here. We grow closer to one another not by pretending, but by being real—by showing up, sharing life, and serving together in Largo and beyond. If you’re new or visiting, there are cards in the Narthex to help us get to know you a little better. You can drop one in the offering plate at the back or hand it to one of the ushers on your way out.

*Please enter the Sanctuary quietly and reverently and silence your phones.
Our worship begins when we walk in the door.*

Serving Today

Celebrant:	Sandra Rogers †		Candace Holland
Servers:	Gail Nichols	Lector:	Maria Fox
	Rebecca Rogers	PoP:	Bruce Barnett
Acolytes:	Camille Gentry	Organist:	Sandra Rogers, DMA

Flowers

The chancel flowers are given in thanksgiving for Sal Gregorio
by Gail Gregorio.

Christmas Day, Thursday, December 25

10:00 am Holy Eucharist Rite II, Congregational Singing

Supplemental Resources you may use today
Book of Common Prayer (BCP – Red Book) & **Hymnal** (Blue Book)
Congregational parts are in **bold**.

THE WORD OF GOD

MUSICAL PRELUDE

Once In Bethlehem with settings of Still, Still, Still,
O Little Town of Bethlehem and Once In David's Royal City

Ruth Elaine Schram

Love Came Down with settings of In The Bleak Midwinter
and Love Came Down at Christmas

Mark Hayes

Away in a Manger

setting by Wilber Held

Gentle Mary Laid Her Child
What is This Lovely Fragrance

setting by Paul Manz
setting by Paul Manz

THE PROCESSIONAL

O Come, All Ye Faithful

Hymnal, 83

THE OPENING ACCLAMATION

Celebrant

Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People

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

GLORIA

HYMNAL, S280

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth. Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory. Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us; you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant

The Lord be with you.

People

And also with you.

Celebrant

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

TITUS 3:4-7

When the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared, he saved us, not because of any works of righteousness that we had done, but according to his mercy, through the water of

rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit. This Spirit he poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior, so that, having been justified by his grace, we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

THE PSALM

PSALM 97

- 1 The Lord is King; let the earth rejoice; *
 let the multitude of the isles be glad.
- 2 Clouds and darkness are round about him, *
 righteousness and justice are the foundations of his throne.
- 3 A fire goes before him *
 and burns up his enemies on every side.
- 4 His lightnings light up the world; *
 the earth sees it and is afraid.
- 5 The mountains melt like wax at the presence of the Lord, *
 at the presence of the Lord of the whole earth.
- 6 The heavens declare his righteousness, *
 and all the peoples see his glory.
- 7 Confounded be all who worship carved images and delight in false gods! *
 Bow down before him, all you gods.
- 8 Zion hears and is glad, and the cities of Judah rejoice, *
 because of your judgments, O Lord.
- 9 For you are the Lord, most high over all the earth; *
 you are exalted far above all gods.
- 10 The Lord loves those who hate evil; *
 he preserves the lives of his saints and delivers them from the hand of the wicked.
- 11 Light has sprung up for the righteous, *
 and joyful gladness for those who are truehearted.
- 12 Rejoice in the Lord, you righteous, *
 and give thanks to his holy Name.

THE SEQUENCE HYMN

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

Hymnal, 87

THE GOSPEL

LUKE 2:1-20

Reader At that time a proclamation was made by Cesar Augustus that all the inhabited world should be registered. This was the first census and everyone went to the town of their birth to be counted. Joseph went from Nazareth in Galilee, to David's town, Bethlehem in Judea, because he was a direct descendent of David, to be registered with his future wife Mary, who was now in the latter stages of her pregnancy.

CONGREGATION	<i>O Little Town of Bethlehem</i>	Hymnal, 79
O little town of Bethlehem		And in thy dark streets shineth
How still we see thee lie		The everlasting light
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep		The hopes and fears of all the years
The silent stars go by.		Are met in thee tonight.

Reader So it happened that while there in Bethlehem, she came to the end of her time. She gave birth to her first child, a son. And as there was no place for them to stay inside the Inn, she wrapped him up and laid him in a manger.

CONGREGATION	<i>Away in a Manger</i>	Hymnal, 101
	Away in a manger, no crib for His bed	
	the little Lord Jesus laid down His sweet head.	
	The stars in the bright sky looked down where He lay,	
	the little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.	

Reader There were some shepherds living in the same part of the country keeping guard over their flock of sheep throughout the night.

CONGREGATION	<i>While shepherds watched their flock by night</i>	Hymnal, 94
	While shepherds watched their flocks by night,	
	all seated on the ground,	
	the angel of the Lord came down,	
	and glory shone around.	

Reader Suddenly, an angel of the Lord appeared to them. The splendor of the Lord blazed around them and they were terrified. But the Angel said to them,

Gabriel "Be not afraid. I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. Today in the town of David, a Savior has been born to you. He is Christ the Lord. This will be a sign to you. You will find a baby wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a manger."

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

Lector	Rejoicing in the love of God that has taken flesh among us in Christ Jesus, let us confidently bring to the Lord the petitions of our heart this holy night, saying: Lord, hear our prayer.
Lector	For the believing community, throughout the world, especially those in positions of leadership that they might always work to give glory to God and to bring peace to our earth, let us pray to the Lord.
People	Lord, hear our prayer.
Lector	For the church gathered in this place that we might always bear the good news of God's living presence in our world, let us pray to the Lord.
People	Lord, hear our prayer.
Lector	For those lost in the darkness of prejudice, hostility, and fear; for those burdened by the yoke of injustice, terrorism, hunger, and war; and for all our brothers and sisters in any need that the light and life that is the Lord might touch their hearts this night, let us pray to the Lord.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Lector For the homeless, and for the children born in the midst of poverty and pain, that there be room at the inn for all God's people, let us pray to the Lord.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Lector For the sick and the dying among us and for those who care for them, that the God whose love extends from the wood of the manger to the wood of the cross might bless them with the gift of peace, let us pray to the Lord.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Celebrant All loving and holy God, we thank you for the gift of your Son. Confident of your continuing love for us, we have placed our needs before you. Hear and answer our prayers, through that same Christ, newly born this night, our Lord and Savior, forever and ever. Amen.

THE PEACE

Celebrant The Peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

THE HOLY COMMUNION

THE OFFERTORY

The Snow Lay on the Ground

Winfred Douglas

THE DOXOLOGY

Hymnal, 380

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

The musical notation consists of four staves, each with a key signature of one flat (B-flat) and a common time signature (C). The first staff is for the Celebrant and the People, with the lyrics "The Lord be with you. And al - so with you." The second staff is for the Celebrant and the People, with the lyrics "Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord." The third staff is for the Celebrant, with the lyrics "Let us give thanks to the Lord our God." The fourth staff is for the People, with the lyrics "It is right to give him thanks and praise." The notation includes various musical symbols such as notes, rests, and accidentals.

Celebrant *People*
The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Celebrant *People*
Lift up your hearts. 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.

Celebrant 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:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might,

heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -

san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -

san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

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.**

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 Blessed Mary, Joseph, Dunstan 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.**

Celebrant	And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,
Our Father, who art in heaven,	as we forgive those
hallowed be thy Name,	who trespass against us.
thy kingdom come,	And lead us not into temptation,
thy will be done,	but deliver us from evil.
on earth as it is in heaven.	For thine is the kingdom,
Give us this day our daily bread.	and the power, and the glory,
And forgive us our trespasses,	for ever and ever. Amen.

BREAKING OF THE BREAD

Silence as the Celebrant breaks the consecrated bread.

THE FRACTION ANTHEM

Hymnal, S155



(All baptized persons are invited to receive Holy Communion. When it is time, approach the altar, stand or kneel at the rail. The priest will place the wafer in your palm. When the Eucharistic Minister follows with wine, you can choose to sip from the cup, have the EM take the host and intinct (dip), and place it on your tongue, or decline (cross your arms across your chest). If you desire a blessing, come forward and cross your arms across your chest. If you are unable to come forward, please alert an usher and a priest will come to you. Gluten-free wafers are provided upon request.)

COMMUNION HYMN

It came upon a midnight clear

Hymnal, 89

At this time, congregation candles will be lit.

POST-COMMUNION HYMN

Silent Night, Holy Night

Hymnal, 111

THE PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

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

Celebrant

May Christ, who by his Incarnation gathered into one things earthly and heavenly, fill you with his joy and peace; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

THE DISMISSAL

Celebrant

Let us go forth in the name of Christ. Alleluia, alleluia.

People

Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.

CLOSING HYMN

Joy to the World

Hymnal, 100

THE POSTLUDE

Up, O Shepherds (Tyrolean Carol)

setting by Hermann Schroeder



The poinsettias around the altar are given to the Glory of God
in memory of loved ones, and in thanksgiving for family and friends
and those we hold dear by:

Given By:	In Memory of and Thanksgiving for:
The Athansons	Our Precious Family
Bruce Barnett	the Barnett family
Carl Beshara	the Beshara family
Susan Brillat	Harvey Brillat
Katie Brillat and Sam Haynes	Harvey Brillat and in gratitude for Susan Brillat
Maria Fox	Deceased loved ones
Camille Gentry	Christmases Past and Present
David and Karen Hillegas	Glory of God
Polly Leibe	Leibe Family and Friends
Sandra Rogers+	Allan and Holly Rogers
Margaret and David Richcreek	David Richcreek and Richard J Nichols Bobbie Nichols
Rebecca Rogers	Blessing of this life.

YEAR END FINANCIAL GIFT TO RESURRECTION

The words of a favorite Christmas hymn, “O Little Town of Bethlehem,” speak to the reality and hope in my life this year.

As I pray for families throughout the world facing violence, the hymn responds: “Yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting Light; the hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.” When I pray for deeper spirituality, the hymn responds: “God imparts to human hearts the blessings of heaven...where those should will receive him, the dear Christ enters in.”

And so, with you I give thanks that “the dark night wakes, the glory breaks, and Christmas come once more.”

As you think about the year-end charitable giving, please remember Resurrection and our mission to proclaim the Good News. Please consider using the envelope included in this bulletin or scan the QR code below. Together in Christ, we can bring the lights where there is darkness.

“O holy child of Bethlehem be born in us today...come to us, abide with us, our Lord Emmanuel.”

God bless you and Merry Christmas,



At Resurrection, we strive to....

- bridge gaps that divide us by fostering open hearts and connected souls
- bind together through Jesus' love, transcending differences
- be the hands and feet of Christ, reflecting Christ's love and drawing others to His grace
- serve as a guiding light illuminating the path to a community that deepens connections to understand God's boundless love
- strengthen the essence of fellowship by uniting people with God and each other and harnessing the transformative and unifying power of Jesus Christ



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