

CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

CLINTON PARISH
Diocese of Washington
ESTABLISHED 1875

We place our faith in the promise of Jesus Christ, that He is the way and the truth and the life. As members of a Christian Family, we dedicate ourselves to a life of worship, prayer, study, and service. We further dedicate ourselves to bringing His teaching to the community through broader use of our facilities and resources.

THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT A SERVICE OF ADVENT LESSONS & CAROLS DECEMBER 22, 2024



The Rev. Creamilda Shirley Wulck-Nortey Yoda, Priest-in-Charge
Gail Russell, Senior Warden

The Fourth Sunday of Advent

9:00 AM

December 22, 2024

We welcome you as we join together in worship. The Service of Advent Lessons and Carols will be celebrated this morning. So we can all worship in unison, please try to speak just a little slower than the leader each time you are invited to participate in prayer. And remember to mute your microphone at all other times. For more information about the Christ Church family, speak with Rev. Creamilda Yoda (priest-in-Charge), Gail Russell (Senior Warden) or Jim Carr (Junior Warden) or an Usher.

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Prelude “O Splendor of God’s Glory Bright (W. Knapp)

All stand, if able.

NOTE: PLEASE USE THE HYMN BOOKS PROVIDED FOR ALL

HYMNS FROM THE 1982 HYMNAL

PROCESSIONAL “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel” (*Veni, Veni, Emmanuel*)

The Hymnal 1982, #56, stz. 1, 3, 5

THE LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH *by The Rev. Sheila N. McJilton,
St David's Episcopal Church, Wilmington, DE. © 2006*

Reader #1: Today is the fourth Sunday of Advent. Advent is a time of waiting. We wait for God to send divine love and light into our dark world.

Reader #2: How does this happen?

Reader #1: God's light comes through Jesus, who became a human being just like you and me, so that he could show us the way back to God's divine love and light.

***People:* Purify us, O God, by your daily visitation, so that when your Son Jesus Christ comes, he will find in us a mansion prepared for himself. We thank you for this time of waiting. We thank you that our time of waiting for Jesus is almost over. May we await the Light of the World with joyful anticipation, through Christ our Lord.**

Reader #3: A reading from the prophet Micah: "The Lord will choose one of your people to rule the nation—someone whose family goes back to ancient times. The LORD will abandon Israel only until this ruler is born, and the rest of his family returns to Israel. Like a shepherd taking care of his sheep, this ruler will lead and care for his people by the power and glorious name of the LORD his God. His people will live securely, and the whole earth will know his true greatness, because he will bring peace.

Reader #1: We continue to wait for the coming of Jesus. Each Sunday during Advent, we have begun in the dark, then we have lit candles. Today, we light all four candles.

All four Advent candles are lit. While this is being done, the following is read:

Reader #2: Each candle that we light reminds us that the Light of the World will soon come to us in the human form of Jesus. Now, at the end of Advent, all four candles burn bright with the hope of God who will come to us. On December 24, when we celebrate the birth of our Lord, we will finally light the center candle that symbolizes the Christ Child.

People: **Our time of waiting is almost over. Blessed are we who, with Mary and Elizabeth, believe there will be a fulfillment of God's promise to us. May we prepare our hearts and minds for the coming of Jesus. When he comes to us, may we be ready to help him scatter the proud, bring down the powerful, lift up the lowly. May God fill the hungry with good things. May all of God's people know fullness, justice, peace and love when the Light shines its brightness over our world, when the Word becomes flesh and dwells among us. Amen.**

THE BIDDING PRAYER The Rev. Creamilda Shirley Wulck-Nortey Yoda

All stand, if able.

Beloved in Christ, in this season of Advent, let it be our care and delight to prepare ourselves to hear again the message of the Angels, and in heart and mind to go even unto Bethlehem, to see the Babe lying in a manger.

Let us read and mark in Holy Scripture the tale of the loving purposes of God from the first days of our disobedience unto the glorious Redemption brought us by his holy Child; and let us look forward to the yearly remembrance of his birth with hymns and songs of praise.

But first, let us pray for the needs of His whole world; for peace and goodwill over all the earth; for the mission and unity of the Church for which he died, and especially in this country and within this community of Clinton.

And because this of all things would rejoice His heart, let us at this time remember in his name the poor and the helpless; the hungry and the oppressed; the sick and those who mourn; the lonely and the unloved; the aged and the little children; and all those who know not the Lord Jesus, or who love him not, or who by sin have grieved his heart of love.

Lastly, let us remember before God His pure and lowly Mother, and all those who rejoice with us, but upon another shore and in a greater light, that multitude which no one can number, whose hope was in the Word made flesh, and with whom, in this Lord Jesus, we for evermore are one.

These prayers and praises let us humbly offer up to the throne of heaven, in the words which Christ himself hath taught us:

THE LORD'S PRAYER *Officiant and People*

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 Almighty God bless us with his grace; Christ give us the joys of everlasting life; and to the fellowship of the citizens above may the King of Angels bring us all. **Amen.**

THE LESSONS *The people sit.*

A reading from the Book of Genesis 2:4b-9, 15-25

Reading 1 (Lector)

These are the generations of the heavens and the earth when they were created. In the day that the Lord God made the earth and the heavens, when no plant of the field was yet in the earth and no herb of the field had yet sprung up—for the Lord God had not caused it to rain upon the earth, and there was no one to till the ground; but a stream would rise from the earth, and water the whole face of the ground— then the Lord God formed man from the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and the man became a living being. And the Lord God planted a garden in Eden, in the east; and there he put the man whom he had formed. Out of the ground the Lord God made to grow every tree that is pleasant to the sight and good for food, the tree of life also in the midst of the garden, and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.

The Lord God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to till it and keep it. And the Lord God commanded the man, 'You may freely eat of every tree of the garden; but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall die.' Then the Lord God said, 'It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him a helper as his partner.' So out of the ground the Lord God formed every animal of the field and every bird of the air, and brought them to the man to see what he would call them; and whatever the man called each living creature, that was its name. The man gave names to all cattle, and to the birds of the air, and to every animal of the field;

but for the man there was not found a helper as his partner. So the Lord God caused a deep sleep to fall upon the man, and he slept; then he took one of his ribs and closed up its place with flesh. And the rib that the Lord God had taken from the man he made into a woman and brought her to the man. Then the man said, 'This at last is bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; this one shall be called Woman, for out of Man this one was taken.' Therefore, a man leaves his father and his mother and clings to his wife, and they become one flesh. And the man and his wife were both naked, and were not ashamed.

Hymn "Praise to the Lord the Almighty" (Neander)

The Hymnal 1982, # 390

stz. 1 – 2

A reading from the Book of Genesis 3:1 – 15

Reading 2 (LEM 1)

Now the serpent was more crafty than any other wild animal that the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, "Did God say, 'You shall not eat from any tree in the garden'?" The woman said to the serpent, "We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden; but God said, 'You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the middle of the garden, nor shall you touch it, or you shall die.'" But the serpent said to the woman, "You will not die; for God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil." So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate; and she also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate. Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made loincloths for themselves. They heard the sound of the LORD God walking in the garden at the time of the evening breeze, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God among the trees of the garden. But the LORD God called to the man, and said to him, "Where are you?" He said, "I heard the sound of you in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked; and I hid myself." He said, "Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?" The man said, "The woman whom you gave to be with me, she gave me fruit from the tree, and I ate." Then the LORD God said to the woman, "What is this that you have

done?” The woman said, “The serpent tricked me, and I ate.” The LORD God said to the serpent, “Because you have done this, cursed are you among all animals and among all wild creatures; upon your belly you shall go, and dust you shall eat all the days of your life. I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; he will strike your head, and you will strike his heel.”

CAROL “The Tree of Life” (*Apple Tree*) [DANIEL PINKHAM]

Wonder, Love and Praise Hymnal, # 749, stz. 1 – 2

Hymn begins on next page.

1. The tree of life my soul hath seen, La - den with fruit, and
 2. His beau - ty doth all things ex - cel: By faith I know, but
 3. For hap - pi - ness I long have sought, And pleas - ure dear - ly
 4. I'm wear - y with my for - mer toil, Here I will sit and
 5. This fruit doth make my soul to thrive, It keeps my dy - ing

al - ways green: The trees of na - ture fruit - less be Com - pared with
 ne'er can tell the glo - ry which I now can see In Je - sus
 I have bought: I missed of all: but now I see 'Tis found in
 rest a while: Un - der the sha - dow I will be Of Je - sus
 faith a - live; Which makes my soul in hast to be With Je - sus

Christ the ap - ple tree.

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A reading from the Book of Isaiah 40:1 – 11

Reading 3 (LECTOR)

Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that she has served her term, that her penalty is paid, that she has received from the Lord's hand double for all her sins. A voice cries out: "In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD, make straight in the desert a highway for our God. Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain. Then the glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together, for the mouth of the LORD has spoken." A voice says, "Cry out!" And I said, "What shall I cry?" All people are grass, their constancy is like the flower of the field. The grass withers, the flower fades, when the breath of the LORD blows upon it; surely the people are grass. The grass withers, the flower fades; but the word of our God will stand forever. Get you up to a high mountain, O Zion, herald of good tidings; lift up your voice with strength, O Jerusalem, herald of good tidings, lift it up, do not fear; say to the cities of Judah, "Here is your God!" See, the Lord GOD comes with might, and his arm rules for him; his reward is with him, and his recompense before him. He will feed his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms, and carry them in his bosom, and gently lead the mother sheep.

CAROL "Comfort, Comfort Ye" (*Psalm 42*)

The Hymnal 1982, # 67, stz. 1 – 2

A reading from The Book of Jeremiah 31: 31 – 34

Reading 4 (Lucille Belgrave)

The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the LORD. But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, "Know the LORD," for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the LORD; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.

CAROL "Prepare Ye the Way of the Lord" [JAMES E. MOORE]

Lift Every Voice Hymnal, # 11, stz. 1

The first system of the piano accompaniment consists of four measures. The right hand (treble clef) plays chords in the first two measures and eighth-note patterns in the last two. The left hand (bass clef) plays a steady eighth-note accompaniment.

Pre - pare ye the way_____ of the Lord._____

The vocal line for the first system is a single staff with a treble clef and a common time signature. It features a melodic line with two triplet markings over the words "Pre - pare" and "ye the way".

The second system of the piano accompaniment consists of four measures, mirroring the structure of the first system with chords and eighth-note patterns in the right hand and a steady eighth-note accompaniment in the left hand.

Pre - pare ye the way_____ of the Lord._____

The vocal line for the second system is a single staff with a treble clef and a common time signature, continuing the melodic line from the first system with triplet markings.

The third system of the piano accompaniment consists of three measures, continuing the accompaniment pattern from the previous systems.

Hymn continues on next page.

1.-4. *Final ending* **Fine**

1. Make straight in the
 2. Fill ev - 'ry
 3. Go up to a
 4. Say to all

1.-4. *Final ending* **Fine**

D.S.

1. des - ert a high - way for our God.
 2. val - ley, bring all moun - tains low.
 3. moun - tain and shout with a loud voice.
 4. peo - ple, here is your God.

D.S.

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A reading from the Book of Isaiah 7: 10 – 15

Reading 5 (Bill Hicks)

Again the LORD spoke to Ahaz, saying, Ask a sign of the LORD your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven. But Ahaz said, I will not ask, and I will not put the LORD to the test. Then Isaiah said: “Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary mortals, that you weary my God also?

Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son, and shall name him Immanuel. He shall eat curds and honey by the time he knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good.

CAROL “In the Bleak Midwinter” (*Cranham*) *The Hymnal 1982, # 112, stz. 1 – 2*

A reading from the Gospel of Luke 1:5 – 25

Reading 6 (Quentin Banks)

In the days of King Herod of Judea, there was a priest named Zechariah, who belonged to the priestly order of Abijah. His wife was a descendant of Aaron, and her name was Elizabeth. Both of them were righteous before God, living blamelessly according to all the commandments and regulations of the Lord. But they had no children, because Elizabeth was barren, and both were getting on in years. Once when he was serving as priest before God and his section was on duty, he was chosen by lot, according to the custom of the priesthood, to enter the sanctuary of the Lord and offer incense. Now at the time of the incense offering, the whole assembly of the people was praying outside. Then there appeared to him an angel of the Lord, standing at the right side of the altar of incense. When Zechariah saw him, he was terrified; and fear overwhelmed him. But the angel said to him, “Do not be afraid, Zechariah, for your prayer has been heard. Your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and you will name him John. You will have joy and gladness, and many will rejoice at his birth, for he will be great in the sight of the Lord. He must never drink wine or strong drink; even before his birth he will be filled with the Holy Spirit. He will turn many of the people of Israel to the Lord their God. With the spirit and power of Elijah he will go before him, to turn the hearts of parents to their children, and the disobedient to the wisdom of the righteous, to make ready a people prepared for the Lord.” Zechariah said to the angel, “How will I know that this is so? For I am an old man, and my wife is getting on in years.” The angel replied, “I am Gabriel. I stand in the presence of God, and I have been

sent to speak to you and to bring you this good news. But now, because you did not believe my words, which will be fulfilled in their time, you will become mute, unable to speak, until the day these things occur.” Meanwhile the people were waiting for Zechariah, and wondered at his delay in the sanctuary. When he did come out, he could not speak to them, and they realized that he had seen a vision in the sanctuary. He kept motioning to them and remained unable to speak. When his time of service was ended, he went to his home. After those days his wife Elizabeth conceived, and for five months she remained in seclusion. She said, “This is what the Lord has done for me when he looked favorably on me and took away the disgrace I have endured among my people.”

CAROL “The Angel Gabriel” (*Gabriel’s Message*)

The Hymnal 1982, # 265, stz. 1 – 3

A Reading from the Gospel of Luke 1:26 – 38

Reading 7 (LEM 1)

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin’s name was Mary. And he came to her and said, “Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you.” But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. The angel said to her, “Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end.” Mary said to the angel, “How can this be, since I am a virgin?” ³⁵The angel said to her, “The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. For nothing will be impossible with God.” Then Mary said, “Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word.” Then the angel departed from her.

CAROL "Of the Father's Love Begotten" (*Divinium mysterium*)

The Hymnal 1982, # 82, stz. 1 – 2

THE CONCLUDING COLLECT

Purify our conscience, Almighty God, by your daily visitation, that your Son Jesus Christ, at his coming, may find in us a mansion prepared for himself; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

CONFESSION

We pray to you also for the forgiveness of our sins.

Silence may be kept.

Leader and People

Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father; in your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone; and so uphold us by your Spirit that we may live and serve you in newness of life, to the honor and glory of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

ABSOLUTION

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.**

COLLECT FOR STRENGTH AND CONFIDENCE *BCP, P. 459*

Heavenly Father, giver of life and health: Comfort and relieve your sick servants and give your power of healing to those who minister to their needs, that they may be strengthened in their weakness and have confidence in your loving care; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

PRAYER FOR PEACE AMONG NATIONS *BCP*, p. 816, # 5

Almighty God our heavenly Father, guide the nations of the world into the way of justice and truth, and establish among them that peace which is the fruit of righteousness, that they may become the kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

PRAYER FOR BIRTHDAY BLESSINGS *BCP*, p. 830, # 50

O God, our times are in your hand: Look with favor, we pray, on your servants, Morgan Grant, Addyson Orrison, Gloria Lau, Stanley Pencola, Jim Williams, Lynne Lau, and others as they begin another year. Grant that they may grow in wisdom and grace and strengthen his/her trust in your goodness all the days of their lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

PRAYER FOR ANNIVERSARY BLESSINGS *BCP*, p. 828, # 45

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who settest the solitary in families: We commend to thy continual care the homes in which thy people dwell, especially Patrick and Karen Dunlop, Chinedu and Sandra Okeke, and others. Put far from them, we beseech thee, every root of bitterness, the desire of vain glory, and the pride of life. Fill them with faith, virtue, knowledge, temperance, patience, and godliness.

Knit together in constant affection those who, in holy wedlock, have been made one flesh. Turn the hearts of the parents to the children, and the hearts of the children to the parents; and so enkindle fervent charity among us all, that we may evermore be kindly affectioned one to another; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. *BCP*, p. 831, # 53

PRAYERS FOR THOSE TRAVELING

O God, our heavenly Father, whose glory fills the whole creation, and whose presence we find wherever we go: Preserve those who travel; surround them with your loving care; protect them from every danger; and bring them in safety to their journey's end; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

WELCOME GUESTS AND 1ST TIME VISITORS PRAYER

The Rev. Creamilda Shirley Wolck-Nortey Yoda

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Heavenly Father, our hearts are restless until they rest in you. Therefore, we thank you for our visitors. Fill them with faith, inspire them with hope, and lead them in love. Guide them to the paths that they should take. Wash them by water and your Word, joining them to the company of all faithful pilgrims, your Church. *(The sign of the cross may be made).*

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

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE EXCHANGE OF THE PEACE *All stand, if able.*

Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: **And also with you.**

THE OFFERTORY SENTENCES The Rev. Creamilda Shirley Wolck-Nortey Yoda

Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God. *Ephesians 5:2*

The ushers come to the chancel steps to receive the offering plates. The congregation place their offerings on the plates being passed along the pews.

The ushers bring the offerings to the chancel steps to be blessed

THE DOXOLOGY "Praise God" (Old 100th) *The Hymnal 1982, # 380, v. 3*

**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.**

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The crucifer places the blessed offering on the altar.

Zoom participants are invited to participate in communion by placing before you a small amount of bread or crackers and wine or juice. Place your hands on them as the Celebrant recites the words of consecration. Please, eat and drink reverently as you would do in church and don't keep any leftovers.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING *Eucharistic Prayer B*

The people remain standing, if able.

Celebrant 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.**

Then, facing the Holy Table, 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.

Because you sent your beloved Son to redeem us from sin and death, and to make us heirs in him of everlasting life; that when he shall come again in power and great triumph to judge the world, we may without shame or fear rejoice to behold his appearing.

Therefore, we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Celebrant and People sing

THE SANCTUS "Holy, Holy, Holy" (R. Proulx)

The Hymnal 1982, #S125

The people stand or kneel, if able.

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." (*Zoom participants touch the bread*)

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."
(*Zoom participants touch the cup*)

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION

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 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 forever. **Amen.**

THE GREAT AMEN "Amen" (CARL MAULTSBY, *The Saint Mary Mass*)

Lift Every Voice Hymnal, # 261

The musical score is arranged in three systems. Each system consists of a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment (grand staff with treble and bass clefs). The key signature has one flat (B-flat) and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are: "A - men, A - men, A - men, A - men, A - men." The piano accompaniment features a steady bass line and chords that support the vocal melody. The first system has a vocal line with a long note on "men," followed by a rest. The second system has a vocal line with a long note on "men," followed by a rest. The third system has a vocal line with a long note on "men," followed by a rest.

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And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to sing,
Celebrant and People

Hymn begins on the next page.

THE LORD'S PRAYER [ALBERT HAY MALOTTE]

Lift Every Voice Hymnal, #264

Unison

Our Fa - ther, which art in heav - en, hal - low - ed

The first system of musical notation for the hymn. It consists of a treble clef staff and a bass clef staff, both in 4/4 time and B-flat major. The lyrics are: "Our Fa - ther, which art in heav - en, hal - low - ed". The melody is simple and hymn-like, with a steady bass accompaniment.

be thy name, Thy king - dom come,

The second system of musical notation. The lyrics are: "be thy name, Thy king - dom come,". The melody continues with a slight rise and then a fall, ending on a half note. The bass accompaniment provides a solid harmonic foundation.

Thy will be done on earth as it is in

The third system of musical notation. The lyrics are: "Thy will be done on earth as it is in". The melody features a prominent octave leap in the treble staff, which is supported by the bass staff. The time signature remains 4/4.

heav - en. Give us this day our dai - ly

The fourth system of musical notation. The lyrics are: "heav - en. Give us this day our dai - ly". The time signature changes to 3/4. The melody is more rhythmic and driving, with a consistent bass accompaniment.

bread. And for - give us our debts as we for - give our

The fifth system of musical notation. The lyrics are: "bread. And for - give us our debts as we for - give our". The time signature changes to 4/4. The melody concludes with a final cadence, and the bass accompaniment provides a strong harmonic support.

The hymn continues on the next page

debt - ors. And lead us not in - to temp - ta - tion, But de - liv - er us from

e - vil. For thine is the king - dom, and the pow - er, and the

glo - ry, for - ev - er. A - men.

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THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

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

AGNUS DEI "O Lamb of God" (ARR. R. PROULX)

The Hymnal 1982, # S164

1. On a hill far a - way stood an old rug - ged cross,
 2. Oh, that old rug - ged cross so de - spised by the world,
 3. In the old rug - ged cross, stained with blood so di - vine,
 4. To the old rug - ged cross I will ev - er be true,

1. The ___ em - blem of suf - f'ring ___ and shame; ___
 2. Has a won - drous at - trac - tion for me; ___
 3. A ___ won - drous beau - ty I see; ___
 4. Its ___ shame and re - proach glad - ly bear; ___

1. And I love that old cross where the dear - est and best
 2. For the dear Lamb of God left His glo - ry a - bove,
 3. For 'twas on that old cross Je - sus suf - fered and died,
 4. Then He'll call me some day to my home far a - way,

1. For a world of lost sin - ners was slain. ___
 2. To ___ bear it to dark Cal - va - ry. ___
 3. To ___ par - don and sanc - ti - fy me. ___
 4. Where His glo - ry for - ev - er I'll share. ___

Words: George Bennard (1873-1960)
 Music: George Bennard

Hymn continues on the next page.

Jesus, Lover of My Soul

1. Je - sus, lov - er of my soul, Let me to thy bo - som fly,
 2. Oth - er ref - uge have I none, Hangs my help - less soul on thee;
 3. Plen - teous grace with thee is found, Grace to cleanse from ev - 'ry sin;

1. While the near - er wa - ters roll, While the tem - pest still is high;
 2. Leave, ah! leave me not a - lone, Still sup - port and com - fort me!
 3. Let the heal - ing streams a - bound, Make and keep me pure with - in.

1. Hide me, O my Sa - vior, hide, Till the storm of life be past;
 2. All my trust on thee is stayed; All my help from thee I bring;
 3. Thou of life the foun - tain art, Free - ly let me take of thee:

1. Safe in - to the ha - ven guide, O re - ceive my soul at last.
 2. Cov - er my de - fence - less head With the sha - dow of thy wing.
 3. Spring thou up with - in my heart, Rise to all e - ter - ni - ty.

Words: Charles Wesley (1707-1788)

Music: Charles Wesley and Simeon B. Marsh (1798-1875)

POST COMMUNION 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

May he whose second Coming in power and great glory we await, make you steadfast in faith, joyful in hope, and constant in love. **Amen.**

RECESSIONAL “Joy to the World!” [G. F. HANDEL]

The Hymnal 1982, # 100, stz. 1 – 3

SUNDAY SCHOOL PRAYER

O God, give me clean hands, clean words and clean thoughts. Help me to stand for the hard right against the easy wrong. Save me from habits that harm. Teach me to work as hard, and play as fair in thy sight alone as if the whole world saw. Forgive me when I am unkind, and help me to forgive those who are unkind to me. Keep me ready to help others at some cost to myself. Send me chances to do a little good every day, and so grow more like Christ. Amen.

THE DISMISSAL

The Rev. Creamilda Shirley Wulck-Nortey Yoda

Let us bless the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The Postlude is the end of our service, so please remain seated and listen respectfully to the selected music.

POSTLUDE “Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates” [G. WEISSEL]

Assisting in the Service:

Director of Music: Gregory Crowe

LEMS: Quentin Banks (LEM 1); Deidre Lee (LEM 2 & POP); Gail Russell (LECTOR)

Zoom Technician: Dave Jackson

Lessons for 2:00 PM Christmas Eve, December 24, 2024, Isaiah 9: 2 – 7, Psalm 96; Titus 2: 11 – 14; Luke 2: 1 – 20

LEMs for 2:00 PM Christmas Eve, December 24, 2024:

Marvise Middleton (LEM 1) Jean Henry (LEM 2 & POP); Gail Russell (LECTOR)

THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR
DECEMBER 22 – DECEMBER 28, 2024

Today	9:00 AM Eucharist 9:00 AM Sunday School – Children’s Worship Chapel on 2nd floor 10:30 AM Coffee Hour – Dun Hall AA Meeting 7:30 PM – Dun Hall
Monday	
Tuesday	Thrift Shop is closed for the Holiday AA Meeting 1:00 PM – Dun Hall
Wednesday	Office is closed for Christmas AA Meeting 7:30 PM – Dun Hall
Thursday	AA Meeting 6:30 PM – Dun Hall
Friday	AA Meeting 1:00 PM – Dun Hall
Saturday	Food Pantry is closed for the Holiday Connie’s Corner Thrift Shop Is closed for the Holiday No Choir Rehearsal See below for Christmas Eve services

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE SANCTUARY IS OPEN. Christ Church is pleased to announce that we are open for indoor services. Worship is in person and via Zoom/Zoom conference call every Sunday at 9:00 am.

Please note that the “Join Zoom Meeting” computer login has changed to the following:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84987754393?pwd=L3dWcnZiU2YzZmdlaHhhTzI0eFV5Zz09>

Amended Zoom phone call instructions:

Telephone Number 13017158592

Meeting ID: 849 8775 4393. Press #

Passcode: 601866. Press #

Please join and invite your relatives, friends and neighbors. Remember to mute your phones unless participating in pray prayers. The bulletins will be posted on-line:

<https://christchurchclinton.org/news/>

Announcements continue on the next page

We ask that if you have been exposed to Covid or are experiencing any symptoms, please stay home. In line with new CDC, state and local Covid policies, Christ Church has revised our protocols to the following:

- 1) Masks are optional
- 2) Seating restrictions have been lifted, but please respect the space of others
- 3) Elbow bumps may be used at peace, but respect other's choices.

Sanitizer will be available for use. We will not have a common cup and plate. Individually packaged communion elements will be used. We offer non-alcoholic as well as alcoholic communion packets. Please do not congregate in the vestibule. Everyone is to proceed into the sanctuary.

PRAYER LIST. If you would like the names of loved ones, friends or colleagues added to the prayer list, please email prayer requests to either the church office at christchurchclinton@verizon.net or Gail Russell at grussell6805@gmail.com.

ANNOUNCEMENT PROCEDURE. In order to ensure that everyone receives the same information about meetings, church events, etc., all announcements must be given to Gail Russell prior to the service. Unfortunately, people attending virtually are unable to hear announcements made from the pews. Gail will forward announcements to the church office for inclusion in the bulletins. Gail's email address is grussell6805@gmail.com.

LOSS OF LOVED ONES. We announce with great sadness that Elson Johnson, a long-time, beloved member, and Betty Barclay-Hurley, the Parish Administrator and beloved staff & parishioner of Christ Church for many years, passed on to their eternal lives on November 22 & 30, 2024 respectively. Please hold their families in prayer.

NEW CHRIST CHURCH "GO GREEN" TASK FORCE. We are looking for men and women who are willing to be part of this task force to plant trees, shrubs and flowers on our building grounds for beautification and to practice creation care. Interested persons should talk with Rev. Creamilda.

BIBLE STUDY. Come join our weekly Bible Study and Evening Prayer every Tuesday, from 7:00 PM – 8:00 PM via Zoom. Led by Rev. Creamilda Yoda's high energy and shining faith, we guarantee you'll be moved to learn new things about the Bible while enjoying the fellowship of the group. The Zoom link, ID and Passcode are as follows:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82824460473?pwd=MAoVr9UWfNG9POcabJbmH5p2zHn3Lh.1>

Meeting ID: 828 2446 0473

Passcode: 669248

Dial in +1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)

POINSETTIAS. Forms are now available to donate Poinsettias for Christmas Eve. Please pick one up at church - directions are on the form.

FOOD PANTRY. The Christ Church Food Pantry needs the following items: We could use baked beans, tuna, corned beef, spam, Vienna sausage, cereal, rice, spaghetti noodles, pasta sauce, canned fruit, chicken rice/ noodle soup and jelly. All donations are accepted and greatly appreciated.

CHRIST CHURCH ANNIVERSARY. Christ Church will turn 150 years old in August 2025. Our anniversary committee is busy planning events to celebrate this milestone over the next year, so be watching for them. Let us praise God for 150 years of caring for and serving our community and each other, and let's get excited about what God has in store for us next!

DAUGHTERS OF THE KING. The Order of the Daughters of the King, The Phebe Chapter #3507, will be re-installed in February 2025. Meet the new Executives: Teresa Beall (President), Rosemary Greenaway (Vice-President), Marvise Middleton, (Secretary), Jean Henry (Treasurer).

ELECTRONIC GIVING UPDATE. We are pleased to announce that in addition to Zelle, you can now give to Christ Church via PayPal, Credit Card, or Debit Card. Go on the church website, scroll down to the bottom, and click on the PayPal link, or click on the DONATE button at the top and then click on the PayPal link at the bottom of the page.

You can use your phone or computer with your bank's online or mobile apps to access Zelle. Use the email treasurer@christchurchclinton.org and the church will receive and acknowledge your donations.

If you wish your donation to be applied to a specific fund, please designate this so we can ensure that your wishes are met. Examples include the following: General Fund, Building Fund, ECW, Pledge, Rector's Discretionary Fund, Air Conditioning Fund, etc. Need help? Don't be afraid to ask!



The Fourth Sunday of Advent, December 22nd

Advent Lessons & Carols



**Christ Church Christmas Eve Celebration!
December 24, 2024**

- 1:30 PM A Christmas musical program in the sanctuary Live Streamed on Zoom*
- 2:00 PM Celebration of Holy Eucharist Sanctuary & Live Streamed on Zoom*
- 3:00 PM Refreshments and Fellowship in Dun Hall*



NOTE: There will not be a worship service on December 25th.

**Welcome to
Christ Episcopal Church
8710 Old Branch Ave.
Clinton, MD 20735**

Phone: 301-868-1330 Fax: 301-868-2074
Email: christchurchclinton@verizon.net

Staff and Officers

Rev. Creamilda Wolck-Nortey Yoda	Email: thereverendcreamildashirley@gmail.com
Gail Russell, Senior Warden	Email: grussell6805@gmail.com
Jim Carr, Junior Warden	Email: ltccarr1@juno.com
Virginia Lindsey, Registrar	Email: vaclairelindsey@yahoo.com
Gregory Crowe, Director of Music	Email: gregory.crowe51@gmail.com
Bill Hicks, Treasurer	Email: williamhicks01@verizon.net
Church Office/Parish Administrator	Email: christchurchclinton@verizon.net



**Welcome visitors,
join us for refreshments in Dun Hall.**