

St. Philip's Episcopal Church
706 Byers Joplin, MO
Family Christmas Eve Service – 5:00 p.m.

December 24, 2023

The Rt. Rev. Diane Bruce, Bishop
The Rev. Ted Estes, Interim Rector
Julie Farmer, Choir Director
Caleb Klinzing, Organist & Assistant Choir Master
Kim Siers, Secretary

Special Thanks
to those who are serving this evening as
Lector, Eucharistic Ministers, and acolytes.

Eucharistic Ministers

Michael DeGuerre

Lector

Harvey Hutchinson

Crucifer

Lily Farmer

Gospel Book

Leo Farmer

TONIGHT'S OFFERING - *The undesignated offerings at this service go to St. Philip's Discretionary Fund. Your generous donations help pay for food, medication, and other necessities for local people in need.*



Donate to St Philip's!

Scan the QR code
and donate via PayPal!

(A PayPal account is not required)

Please turn off
your cell phone.

Holy Eucharist Rite Two

“What is this Lovely Fragrance” from *Ten Chorale Improvisations* Set VII, no 2 (Paul Manz (1919-2009)[Concordia Publishing House, St. Louis, MO: 1975])

“Of the Father’s Love Begotten” from *Six Carol Settings* (Wilbur Held (1914-2014)[Concordia Publishing House, St. Louis, MO: 1970])

“In Dulci Jublio” from *Seventy-Nine Chorales* op.28, no.51 (Marcel Dupré (1886-1971)[Alfred Publishing Co. 1932])

Processional Hymn – Hymn #83

O Come, All Ye Faithful (Adeste Fideles) all verses

----- The Candle Lighting -----

Leader: Light and peace, in Jesus Christ our Lord

All: Thanks be to God

Leader: Today is Christmas Eve. Today, we light again the candles of hope, peace, love and joy.

(Each candle will be lit as the reader speaks)

First Candle: We speak of hope – because God keeps his promises to us.

Second Candle: We work for peace – because Jesus is the “Prince of Peace” and he calls his children to work for peace in his name.

Third Candle: We share joy – because the Holy Spirit fills our hearts and minds with the presence of God.

Fourth Candle: We show love – because Jesus gave everything for us and led us to know the forgiveness of God.

Last Candle: Now we light our last candle to remember the birth of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. As the prophets promised so long ago, you have come to us once again; and with the shepherds, we are filled with wonder and amazement.

(Light the white Christ candle now.)

Leader: Lord, you come as a tiny, fragile baby; yet we know you are God and you are with us. May the flame of this candle remind us that you are the light of the world and that if we follow you, we will never walk in darkness, but will have the true light of life.

Gloria 52/8 (Matthias)

Celebrant: *Let us pray.*

O God, you make us glad by the yearly festival of the birth of your only Son Jesus Christ: Grant that we, who joyfully receive him as our Redeemer, may with sure confidence behold him when he comes to be our Judge; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

T h e L e s s o n s

Lector: *A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah. Isaiah 9:2-7*

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness-- on them light has shined. You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder. For the yoke of their burden, and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian. For all the boots of the tramping warriors and all the garments rolled in blood shall be burned as fuel for the fire. For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onward and forevermore. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

Lector: *The Word of the Lord.*

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 96

- 1 Sing to the LORD a new **song**; *
sing to the LORD, all the whole **earth**.
- 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**.
- 5 As for all the gods of the nations, they are but **idols**; *
but it is the LORD who made the **heavens**.
- 6 Oh, the majesty and magnificence of his **presence!** *
Oh, the power and the splendor of his **sanctuary!**
- 7 Ascribe to the LORD, you families of the **peoples**; *
ascribe to the LORD honor and **power**.
- 8 Ascribe to the LORD the honor due his **Name**; *
bring offerings and come into his **courts**.
- 9 Worship the LORD in the beauty of **holiness**; *
let the whole earth tremble **before him**.
- 10 Tell it out among the nations: "The LORD is **King!** *
he has made the world so firm that it cannot be moved;
he will judge the peoples with **e-quity**."
- 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**.
- 13 He will judge the world with **righteousness** *
and the peoples with his **truth**
- 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

***EM:** A reading from the Letter of Paul to Titus Titus 2:11-14*

For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all, training us to renounce impiety and worldly passions, and in the present age to live lives that are self-controlled, upright, and godly, while we wait for the blessed hope and the manifestation of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ. He it is who gave himself for us that he might redeem us from all iniquity and purify for himself a people of his own who are zealous for good deeds.

***EM:** The Word of the Lord.*

People: Thanks be to God.

The Gospel

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

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see-- I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying,

"Glory to God in the highest heaven,
and on earth peace among those whom he favors!"

[When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us." So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.]

A Capital Christmas by Gail Gaymer Martin

Please stand and sing O Come, Little Children

Found on the next page

C. v. Schmidt
Tr. H. Brueckner, 1916
Ihr kinderlein, kommet

J. A. P. Schulz

1. O come, lit - tle chil - dren, O come, one and all, O come to the
2. Be - hold, in the man - ger, that strange lit - tle bed, A Child, sweet and
3. On hay and on straw in the man - ger He lies; Both Ma - ry and
4. O kneel with the shep - herds in wor - ship - ful prayer And join the dear

man - ger in Beth - le - hem's stall And see what the Fa - ther in
gen - tle, is rest - ing His head, A Babe, clad in gar - ments so
Jo - seph, with fond, lov - ing eyes, Are gaz - ing up - on Him, and
an - gels who al - so are there; Sing glo - ry to God in the

heav - en so true Has done to pre - pare a bright Christmas for you.
pure and so white, And fair - er by far than the an - gels of light.
shep - herds draw near, While ju - bi - lant an - gels from heav - en ap - pear.
heav - ens a - bove And thank Him for Je - sus, the gift of His love.

Leader Speaks

The Letter R

The Letter C

The Letter T

O LITTLE TOWN OF BETHLEHEM

O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie!
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go
by. Yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting Light;
The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.

The Letter I

The Letter S

WHILE SHEPHERDS WATCHED THEIR FLOCKS BY NIGHT

While shepherds watch'd their flocks by night,
All seated on the ground,
The angel of the Lord came down,
And glory shone around.

The Letter A

The Letter M

AWAY IN THE MANGER

Away in a manger,
No crib for His bed
The little Lord Jesus
Laid down His sweet head

The Letter H

GOOD CHRISTIAN FRIENDS, REJOICE

Good Christian friends, rejoice
With heart and soul and voice
Give ye heed to what we say:
Jesus Christ is born today!
Ox and ass before him bow
And he is in the manger now.
Christ is born today!
Christ is born today!

The Letter S

THE CHRISTMAS POEM

GO TELL IT ON THE MOUNTAIN

Go, tell it on the mountain
Over the hills and everywhere
Go, tell it on the mountain
That Jesus Christ is born

While shepherds kept their watching
O'er silent flocks by night
Behold throughout the heavens
There shone a holy light

Special thanks to Rebecca DePriest, Pam Volkl and Julie Farmer for their work on the play.

Short Homily

The Nicene Creed

Celebrant and People: 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.**

The Prayers of the People--Form III

EM: Father, we pray for your holy Catholic Church;

People: That we all may be one.

EM: *Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;*

People: **That your Name may be glorified by all people.**

EM: *We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons;*

People: **That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.**

EM: *We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;*

People: **That there may be justice and peace on the earth.**

EM: *Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;*

People: **That our works may find favor in your sight.**

EM: *Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;*

People: **That they may be delivered from their distress.**

EM: *Give to the departed eternal rest;*

People: **Let light perpetual shine upon them.**

EM: *We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;*

People: **May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.**

EM: *Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.*

Silence

The People may add their own petitions.

Silence

Celebrant: *Hasten, O Father, the coming of your kingdom; and grant that we your servants, who now live by faith, may with joy behold your Son at his coming in glorious majesty; even Jesus Christ, our only Mediator and Advocate. Amen.*

Please, stand.



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

People: **And also with you.**

Please, be seated for the parish notices.

The Offertory

Officiant: *Offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving, and make good your vows to the Most High. Psalm 50:14.*

The Offerings and Oblations of Bread and Wine are presented at the Altar.

+ + +

The Offertory Music-Little Drummer Boy

(Harry Simeone, Henry Onorati and Katherine David

[Alfred Publishing])

Please, stand and sing

The Holy Communion

The Great Thanksgiving Eucharistic Prayer B
BCP page 367

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.

Celebrant: It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and every-where to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. Of God the Son Through Jesus Christ our Lord:

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:

Celebrant and People

Sanctus S128 (Mathias)

Celebrant: 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;

Celebrant: 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 St. Philip 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.

The Lord's Prayer

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

Celebrant 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 Fraction (The Breaking of the Bread)

Silence

Celebrant: *Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;*

People: Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

Celebrant: *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.*

Ministration of Communion

(All baptized persons are welcome to come to receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the form of bread and wine)

Communion Hymn

Lo, How a Rose e'er blooming (Michael Praetorius)

Hymn #81

POST COMMUNION HYMN – Hymn #111

Silent Night – Gary Ames, Guitar

(Stille Nacht)

Prayer For An Act of Spiritual Communion

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.
Prayer attributed to St. Alphonsus

Post Communion Prayer

Celebrant: *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 Benediction

Celebrant: *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 holiness. Amen.*

May God, who sent his angels to proclaim the glad news of the Savior's birth, fill you with joy, and make you heralds of the Gospel. Amen.

May God, who in the Word made flesh joined heaven to earth and earth to heaven, give you his peace and favor. Amen.

And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever. Amen

Let us stand together & sing.

The Final Hymn –Hymn #100

Joy to the World! (Antioch)

The Dismissal

Celebrant: *Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Alleluia, Alleluia.*

People: *Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia.*



Postlude

“In Dulci Jublio” from *Six Carol Settings*

(Wilbur Held (1914-2014)[Concordia Publishing House, St. Louis, MO. 1971])

PLEASE NOTE: *If you want your contribution to be applied to 2023 be sure your check is in the office by 12.31.2023. Checks dated for December and given in January are not counted in your 2023 giving.*

ST. PHILIP'S CALENDAR OF EVENTS

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	F	SAT
Dec 24 Advent IV 9:00 AM Adult Forum 10:00 AM HE-Rite II 5:00 PM Christmas Eve Family Service 10:30 PM Christmas Choral 11:00 PM Christmas Eve Midnight Mass	Dec 25 Christmas 10:00AM Christmas Service  Parish Office Closed	Dec 26	Dec 27 5:30 PM HE w/unction	Dec 28 6:00PM Serving Dinner at Watered Gardens	Dec 29	Dec 30
Dec 31 Christmas 10:00 AM HE-Rite II	Jan 1  Office Closed	Jan 2 6:30 AM Choir Practice	Jan 3 5:30 PM HE w/unction	Jan 4	Jan 5	Jan 6

Notice of Annual Meeting – January 21, 2024.

If you are interested in being a Vestry Member, please call the office or talk with Fr. Ted. TWO members are needed.

Notice: We love pictures and videos, and we love sharing what we do. When attending any of our events or services, you agree to our using pictures of you and any children in your charge on social media and elsewhere. If you are not comfortable with this, please inform a member of staff before we start taking pictures or recording.

Permission to podcast/stream the music in this service obtained from One License with number A-731979

Next Week's Worship & Service Leaders

Sun, December 24th 5:00 PM		Acolytes	Crucifer: Lily Farmer
Lector:	Harvey Hutchinson		1 st Server: Lily Farmer
Eucharistic Minister	Michael DeGueere		2 nd Server: open
Camera:	Karen Ames		Gospel Book: Leo Farmer
Ushers	Wayne Stephenson	Counters	Thurifer: open Boat: open

Next Week's Worship & Service Leaders

Sun, December 24th 11:00 PM		Acolytes	Crucifer: Brenner Kumbier
Lector:	Pam Volkl		1 st Server: Bodhi Webster
Eucharistic Minister	Sharrock Dermott		2 nd Server: Grey Kumbier
Camera:	Karen Ames		Gospel Book: Beck Webster
Ushers	Phil O'Hare Blake Webster Marsha Spiare Andy Campbell	Counters	Thurifer: Micheal Fick Boat: George Webster

Next Week's Worship & Service Leaders

Sun, December 25th 10:00AM		Acolytes	Crucifer:
Lector:	open		1 st Server:
Eucharistic Minister	Judy Turner		2 nd Server:
Camera:			Gospel Book:
Ushers		Counters	Ramona Shields Judy Turner
Wed December 28th 6:00 PM	Harvey Hutchinson	Sunday School	