



## First Sunday after Christmas Day December 28, 2025

### ***Welcome to St. Catherine's***

We are glad that you have joined us for worship. If you are visiting with us, we invite you to fill out a visitor card, which can be found on the back of the chair in front of you. Completed cards may be given to a greeter or placed in the collection plate.

“BCP” before a page number refers to the Book of Common Prayer in the pew racks. “H” before a page number refers to the blue hymnal. Both are in the pew.

You are very welcome to receive Holy Communion if you have been baptized in any Christian Church. Those who wish not to receive Holy Communion may come to the altar rail, fold their arms across their chests, and receive a blessing from the priest.

### **Serving Today**

The Rev. Katie Nakamura-Rengers, *Celebrant and Preacher*

Lynne Dominguez, *Vestry Person of the Day*

Sasha Johns, LEM/*Crucifer*  
Gracie Dominguez & Kayelyn

Dominguez, *Torchbearers*

Laura Chambliss, *Lector*

Jane Keeton, *Intercessor*

Lynne Dominguez & Carol Dotson,  
*Counters*

Wanda Wheeler, *Altar Guild*

Donald Bruce, *Technology*

Carol Dotson, *Greeter*



Prelude

Angels We Have Heard on High arr. Gwyneth Walker

Entrance Hymn 93

Angels from the realms of glory

## THE WORD OF GOD

Opening Acclamation

BCP 355

The Collect for Purity

BCP 355

The Gloria

### Glory Be To God On High

*Gloria [paraphrase]*

*Joyously*

*The St. James Christmas Service*



Glo - ry be to God on high,  
Je - sus Christ, we now de-clare  
Prai - ses to the Ho - ly One,  
To all peo - ple, peace on earth, An - gels, shep - herds  
Lamb of God and Lord of Love. Grant us mer - cy,  
Prai - ses sing in high - est heav'n; To the Fath - er  
draw - ing nigh, Join to ce - le - brate His birth.  
hear our prayer, Give us grace from heav'en a - bove.  
and the Son and the Ho - ly Spi - rit giv'n.  
Glo - - - - - ri - a  
1. in ex - cel - sis De - o! 2. in ex - cel - sis De o!

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, on

God, now and for ever. ***Amen.***

## THE LESSONS

### First Reading

**Isaiah 61:10-62:3**

*Reader*      A Reading from the Book of Isaiah.

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.

*Reader*      The Word of the Lord.

**People**      **Thanks be to God.**

### Psalm 147:13-21

*The Psalm will be read responsively by half verse.*

13 Worship the LORD, O Jerusalem; \*  
    **praise your God, O Zion;**  
14 For he has strengthened the bars of your gates; \*  
    **he has blessed your children within you.**  
15 He has established peace on your borders; \*  
    **he satisfies you with the finest wheat.**  
16 He sends out his command to the earth, \*  
    **and his word runs very swiftly.**  
17 He gives snow like wool; \*  
    **he scatters hoarfrost like ashes.**  
18 He scatters his hail like bread crumbs; \*  
    **who can stand against his cold?**  
19 He sends forth his word and melts them; \*  
    **he blows with his wind, and the waters flow.**  
20 He declares his word to Jacob, \*  
    **his statutes and his judgments to Israel.**  
21 He has not done so to any other nation; \*  
    **to them he has not revealed his judgments.**  
**Hallelujah!**

## Second Reading

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

*Reader* A Reading from the Letter of Paul to the Galatians.

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.

*Reader* The Word of the Lord.

**People** Thanks be to God.

*Cantor sings Alleluia; Congregation repeats Alleluia; Cantor sings verse; All repeat Alleluia.*

## CHRISTMAS SEASON GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Barbara Bridge

Adapted from the *Sussex Carol*



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

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Cantor: Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord: the Lord is God and has given us light. Alleluia!

## The Gospel

John 1:1-18

*Deacon*      The Holy Gospel of our Lord Christ according to John.  
**People**      **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

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.

*Deacon*      The Gospel of the Lord.  
**People**      **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

**The Sermon**

**The Rev. Katie Nakamura-Rengers**

*A period of silence follows the sermon.*

**The Nicene Creed, *please stand as able.***

**BCP 358**

**The Prayers of the People, Form IV**

**BCP 388**

**Concluding Collect**

**The Confession and Absolution**

**BCP 360**

**The Peace**

**BCP 360**

**The Announcements**

**Offertory Music**

**J.D. Ard, tuba**

*As the offerings are brought to the altar, standing as you are able, the following is sung*

**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 HOLY COMMUNION

The Great Thanksgiving

BCP 361

Sanctus

## Holy, Holy, Holy Lord

*Sanctus*

*The St. James Christmas Service*

Gently [in One]

4

Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly Lord,  
God of pow'r and\_ might, \_\_\_\_\_ heav'n and earth are  
full of your glo-ry. Ho-san-na in the high - est.

Blessed is he, is he who comes in the  
name of the Lord. \_\_\_\_\_ Ho - san - na in the  
high - est, Ho - san - na in the high - est.

The Lord's Prayer

BCP 364

The Breaking of the Bread

BCP 364

The Fraction Anthem

**O Lamb Of God**  
*Fraction Anthem*  
*The St. James Christmas Service*

Gently [In One]

The musical score consists of eight staves of music in G major, 3/4 time. The first staff begins with a forte dynamic. The second staff starts with a piano dynamic and has a '2' above the staff. The lyrics are written in italics below the music, corresponding to the notes. The score ends with a final cadence on the eighth staff.

O Lamb of God, O Ho - ly  
Child, who takes the sin of the world a - way; Have  
mer - cy on us, lamb so mild, the babe, the  
son of Ma - ry. This, this is your bo - dy  
giv'n, Your pre - cious blood, the gift of heav'n.  
Take, eat, for we are one in the babe, the  
son of Ma - ry.

**The Invitation**

**BCP 364**

**Communion Hymn 324**

**Let all mortal flesh keep silence**

**Post-Communion Prayer**

**BCP 365**

**The Blessing**

**BOS 11**

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.***

**Post-Communion Hymn 107**

**Good Christian friends, rejoice**

**Dismissal**

**BCP 366**

**Postlude**

Appalachian Carol arr. Molly James

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**Please join us following the service for Coffee Hour!**

We pray for our Companion Diocese of Honduras and their bishop, Llyod. We pray for pre-school partners in Birmingham and Anniston; for all Diocesan Youth Ministries; and for Saint Stephen's, Birmingham; Saint Stephen's, Eutaw; Saint Stephen's, Huntsville; and Saint Stephen's, Smith Station.

We pray for those on our parish prayer list: Clydene, Steven, Heather, Wendy, Angel, Marti, Joseph, Tracy, John, Sue, Addie, Wanda, Bill, Alice, Claire, Amy, Sasha, Elizabeth, Sharon, Elizabeth, Vicki, Roger, Will, Addi, and Bethany Shae.

We pray those who serve in the military, especially John Morris.

We give thanks for all who celebrated birthdays this week, especially JD Ard. May he grow in wisdom and grace and strengthen his trust in your goodness all the days of his life.

## **S A V E   T H E   D A T E S**

**Evening Prayer every Wednesday at 6:00!**

**January 3<sup>rd</sup>—First Saturday Breakfast at 9:00 am**

**January 6<sup>th</sup>—Epiphany gifts to Kings Home Road**

**January 24<sup>th</sup>—ECW lunch and meeting at 12:00**

## NOTES



## Our Mission

*To seek, love, and serve God through worship, education, and service and to share the redeeming love of Christ with the world.*

## Our Vision

*St. Catherine's, the Episcopal Church in Chelsea, is a welcoming and inclusive family called by Christ to receive and share God's love.*

## Clergy and Staff

The Rt. Rev. Dr. Glenda S. Curry  
*Bishop of Alabama*

The Rt. Rev. Brian N. Prior  
*Assisting Bishop*

The Rev. Dillon Green  
*Rector*

The Rev. Clyde Pearce  
*Deacon*

Dr. Matthew West, *Organist/Choirmaster*  
Julie Seal  
*Parish Administrator*

## St. Catherine's Episcopal Church

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