



## St. Christopher's Episcopal Church

**SEEK SERVE SHARE**

### THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST

Holy Eucharist, Rite II, Year A  
December 24, 2025 | 5:00 p.m.

**Celebrant**  
**Deacon**  
**Family Minister**  
**Verger**  
**Seminarians**  
**Music**

The Rev. Alyssa Stebbing  
The Rev. Vicki Knipp  
Lyssa Williford, Director  
Scott Cummings  
Christina Allen and Casey Clough  
Ann Vail, Director of Music  
Michael Davis, Piano  
John Cotten, Guitar  
Duane Carter, Trumpet  
Michelle Carter, Clarinet  
St. Christopher's Choir

## WELCOME GUESTS!

We are so blessed you've joined us for worship today. We hope to see you again.

Connect by text, email, phone, or guest card.

Childcare is available for Worship.

### Restrooms

Church: near the Nursery.

### Bulletins

Large print are available from an usher.

Digital are available online at [stchristophersaustin.org](http://stchristophersaustin.org)

wifi network | St. Christopher

wifi password | StChristophers8724

**Prayer Requests** Please complete a prayer card and drop it in the offering plate, or contact our office by phone, email, or on our website.



### The Connection newsletter

If you would like to be added to the mailing list, please contact the office or scan the QR code with your phone.

## Ways to support the ministry of St. Christopher's

Support the life and ministry of St. Christopher's. Contact the office for more information.

*St. Christopher's clergy and staff will never ask for an urgent favor, purchase of gift cards, or other financial items, or your personal info via email or text. Please delete these without responding.*



In Person



Automatic Giving



Online Banking



Online



Mobile



Text

Please remember to enter **pledge** on the memo line and choose **Operating Pledge** online.

**Children are invited to sit with their parents or sit in the back with Ms. Lyssa if they would like to participate in the service.**

**All children are welcome to participate.**

**Sunday** | 9a Nursery | 9a Adult Form. | 10a Children's Form. | 10a Holy Eucharist, Rite II | 11a Fellowship

**Monday** | 9a Morning Prayer **Wednesday** | noon House of Prayer; 7p Online Compline

**Office** | Mon-Thu: 9:30am – 2:30pm | 512.288.0128 | [office@stchrisatx.org](mailto:office@stchrisatx.org)

# THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST

*As the Prelude begins we invite you to you to finish conversations and find a place in the nave to prepare for worship.*

## PRELUDE

## ADVENT WREATH LIGHTING

## WELCOME

*(Please kneel as you are able)*

## MOMENT OF SILENT PRAYER

*(Please stand as you are able and join in singing.)*

## PROCESSIONAL HYMN

Hymnal 1982, # 83

1 O come, all ye faithful,  
joyful and triumphant,  
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;  
come, and behold him,  
born the King of angels;

Refrain

O come, let us adore him,  
Christ the Lord.

2 God from God,  
Light from Light eternal,  
lo! he abhors not the Virgin's womb;  
only-begotten  
Son of God the Father;  
[Refrain]

3 Sing, choirs of angels,  
sing in exultation,  
sing, all ye citizens of heaven above;  
glory to God,  
glory in the highest;  
[Refrain]

6 Yea, Lord, we greet thee,  
born this happy morning;  
Jesus, to thee be glory given;  
Word of the Father,  
now in flesh appearing;  
[Refrain]

## LITURGY OF THE WORD

## OPENING ACCLAMATION

BCP, p. 355

Celebrant	Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
People	And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

# GLORIA

Glo - ri - a

5 in ex - cel - sis De - o. Glo - ri - a

9 ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o.

13 Glo - ri - a

17 in ex - cel - sis De - o. Glo - ri - a

21 ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o.

*The Celebrant says to the people*

The Lord be with you.

**People**

**And also with you.**

**Celebrant**

Let us pray

## COLLECT FOR THE FEAST OF THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD BCP, p. 212

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.**

*(Please be seated for the pageant)*

## **IN THE STABLE**

*The animals come forward*

### **OH LITTLE TOWN OF BETHLEHEM**

Hymnal 1982, # 79

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 Holy Family arrives*

### **SILENT NIGHT**

Hymnal 1982, # 111

Silent night, holy night, all is calm, all is bright  
round yon virgin mother and child.  
Holy infant, so tender and mild,  
sleep in heavenly peace. Sleep in heavenly peace.

*Shepherds and angels appear*

### **AWAY IN A MANGER**

Hymnal 1982, # 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.

*The wise men come forward*

### **WE THREE KINGS**

Hymnal 1982, #128

We three kings of Orient are, bearing gifts we traverse afar,  
field and fountain, moor and mountain,  
following yonder star.

*The closing hymn*

### **JOY TO THE WORLD**

Hymnal 1982, #100

Joy to the world! the Lord is come: let earth receive her King;  
let every heart prepare him room,  
and heaven and nature sing, and heaven and nature sing,  
and heaven, and heaven and nature sing.

*(Please kneel or stand as you are able)*

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

### *Deacon*

All things have been clothed in grace by the incarnation of our Lord Jesus Christ; all the earth has been enlightened in his dawning. Trusting in His light and grace, let us pray for all people in need and for all the world, saying, Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

### *The Leader and People pray responsively*

For the churches, which united they may be faithful in witness to your Son come among us.

We pray for the whole Anglican Communion.

We pray for our church, for Sean our Presiding Bishop, for Andy, Kai, Jeff, Brian, and Hector our bishops, and for our whole diocese.

We pray for our parish, for Alyssa our priest; Vicki our deacon, Lyssa, our family minister, Casey and Christina, our seminarians, and all our leaders and ministers.

Leader        Lord in your mercy,  
People        **hear our prayer.**

For the leaders of nations, that they may turn from ways of fear and warfare to the ways of your wisdom and grace.

Leader        Lord in your mercy,  
People        **hear our prayer.**

For the poor of the earth, for victims of violence and tyranny, that their suffering be ended, and that they may come to know joy.

Leader        Lord in your mercy,  
People        **hear our prayer.**

For all families, that they may be renewed in joy, receive the word of mercy into their hearts, and become places of hospitality to the stranger.

Leader        Lord in your mercy,  
People        **hear our prayer.**

For this congregation, that we may be renewed by the light and grace of your incarnate word.

Leader        Lord in your mercy,  
People        **hear our prayer.**

For those who have died, that their efforts continue to inspire our action and that they may rest in your care until that day when all shall rise again in your new Creation.

Leader        Lord in your mercy,  
People        **hear our prayer.**

*Silence*

*The Deacon concludes with Intercessions*

*The Ministers and People may greet one another in the name of Jesus Christ.*

*(Please be seated for the announcements)*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### HOLY COMMUNION

OFFERTORY SENTENCE

BCP, p. 376

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Children's Choir

Go Tell It on the Mountain

*(Please stand or kneel as you are able)*

*The Celebrant and people sing together.*

DOXOLOGY

Hymnal 1982, # 380

GREAT THANKSGIVING: EUCHARISTIC PRAYER A

BCP, p. 367

*(Please remain standing.)*

SURSUM CORDA

Hymnal 1982, # S120

*The Celebrant continues*

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

*The Celebrant continues with the Proper Preface*

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;

Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host;

Praise Him, all creatures here below;

Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

*(Please stand or kneel as you are able and join in singing)*

SANCTUS

Hymnal 1982, # S130

The musical notation for the Sanctus is presented in four staves. The first staff is for the Celebrant, with the lyrics "The Lord be with you." and "And al - so with you." The second staff is for 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 a key signature of one flat (B-flat) and a common time signature (C). The lyrics are written below the notes, and the staves are labeled "Celebrant" and "People" at the beginning of each line.

## *The Celebrant continues*

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself, and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, 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,

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and  
might, Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord,  
God of power and might, hea - ven and earth are  
full, full of your glo - ry. Ho -  
san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na  
in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes  
in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na  
in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.



“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 we proclaim the mystery of faith:

*Celebrant and People say together.*

**Christ has died.**

**Christ is risen.**

**Christ will come again.**

*The Celebrant continues*

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ: 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.

**GREAT AMEN**

Hymnal 1982, # S142

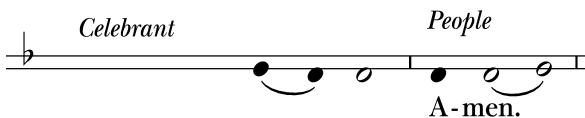
And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

**LORD’S PRAYER**

BCP, p. 364

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.

**BREAKING OF THE BREAD**



*The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread.*

*A period of silence is kept.*

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

## FRACTION ANTHEM

Hymnal 1982, # S164

*Facing the people, the Celebrant says the following Invitation*

## INVITATION

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.

*Please follow the guidance of the ushers to approach the altar to receive communion. Gluten free wafers available. If you would prefer you may receive a blessing by crossing your arms over your chest. Please ask an usher if you need communion brought to you.*

*(Please sit or kneel as you prefer after receiving Holy Communion)*

## Communion Hymn

Hymnal 1982, # 56

Je - sus, Lamb of God: have mer - cy on us.

Je - sus, bear - er of our sins: have mer - cy on us.

Je - sus, re - deem - er, re - deem - er of the world:

give us your peace, give us your peace.

## Communion Hymn

Hymnal 1982, # 96

## Communion Hymn

Hymnal 1982, # 89

## Communion Hymn

Hymnal 1982, # 87

## Communion Praise Song

David Graham

## Postcommunion Hymn

Hymnal 1982, # 111

*(Please kneel or stand as you are able)*

Celebrant Let us pray.

7 O come, Desire of nations, bind  
in one the hearts of all mankind;  
bid thou our sad divisions cease,  
and be thyself our King of Peace.

Refrain

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
shall come to thee, O Israel!

8 O come, O come, Emmanuel,  
and ransom captive Israel,  
that mourns in lonely exile here  
until the Son of God appear.

[Refrain]

**People Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living**

1 Angels we have heard on high,  
singing sweetly through the night,  
and the mountains in reply  
echoing their brave delight.  
Gloria in excelsis Deo.

2 Shepherds, why this jubilee?  
Why these songs of happy cheer?  
What great brightness did you see?  
What glad tidings did you hear?  
Gloria in excelsis Deo.

3 Come to Bethlehem and see  
him whose birth the angels sing;  
come, adore on bended knee  
Christ, the Lord, the newborn King.  
Gloria in excelsis Deo.

4 See him in a manger laid  
whom the angels praise above;  
Mary, Joseph, lend your aid,  
while we raise our hearts in love.  
Gloria in excelsis Deo.

**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**

1 It came upon the midnight clear,  
that glorious song of old,  
from angels bending near the earth  
to touch their harps of gold:  
“Peace on the earth, good will to men,  
from heaven’s all-gracious King.”  
The world in solemn stillness lay  
to hear the angels sing.

2 Still through the cloven skies they come  
with peaceful wings unfurled,  
and still their heavenly music floats  
o’er all the weary world;  
above its sad and lowly plains  
they bend on hovering wing,  
and ever o’er its Babel-sounds  
the blessed angels sing.

3 Yet with the woes of sin and strife  
the world has suffered long;  
beneath the heavenly hymn have rolled  
two thousand years of wrong;  
and warring humankind hears not  
the tidings which they bring;  
O hush the noise and cease your strife  
and hear the angels sing!

4 For lo! the days are hastening on,  
by prophets seen of old,  
when with the ever-circling years  
shall come the time foretold,  
when peace shall over all the earth  
its ancient splendors fling,  
and all the world give back the song  
which now the angels sing

**the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve**

1. Hark! the herald angels sing  
glory to the newborn King!  
Peace on earth and mercy mild,  
God and sinners reconciled!  
Joyful, all ye nations, rise,  
join the triumph of the skies;  
with the angelic hosts proclaim  
Christ is born in Bethlehem!

**Refrain**

Hark! the herald angels sing,  
glory to the newborn King!

2. Christ, by highest heaven adored;  
Christ, the everlasting Lord;  
late in time behold him come,  
offspring of the Virgin's womb.  
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see;  
hail the incarnate Deity.  
Pleased as man with us to dwell;  
Jesus, our Emmanuel! [Refrain]

In moments like these, I sing out a song,  
I sing out a love song to Jesus.  
In moments like these, I lift up my hands  
I lift up my hands to the Lord.  
Singing I love You, Lord  
Singing I love You, Lord,  
singing I love You, Lord.

1. Silent night, holy night,  
all is calm, all is bright  
round yon virgin mother and child.  
Holy infant, so tender and mild,  
sleep in heavenly peace.  
Sleep in heavenly peace.

2. Silent night, holy night,  
shepherds quake at the sight,  
glories stream from heaven afar,  
heavenly hosts sing alleluia;  
Christ, the Savior, is born!  
Christ, the Savior, is born!

3. Mild he lays his glory by,  
born that we no more may die,  
born to raise us from the earth,  
born to give us second birth.  
Risen with healing in his wings,  
Light and life to all he brings,  
hail, the Sun of Righteousness!  
hail, the heaven-born Prince of Peace!  
[Refrain]

En momentos así levanto mi voz,  
Levanto mi canto a Cristo.  
En momentos así levanto mi ser,  
Levanto mi alma a El.  
Cuanto te amo, Dios.  
Cuanto te amo, Dios  
Cuanto te amo, Dios

3. Silent night, holy night,  
Son of God, love's pure light  
radiant beams from thy holy face,  
with the dawn of redeeming grace,  
Jesus, Lord at thy birth.  
Jesus, Lord at thy birth.

you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen

## BLESSING

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.**

*(Please stand as you are able and join in singing)*

## RECESSIONAL HYMN

Hymnal 1982, # 100

## DISMISSAL

Deacon            Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.  
People            Thanks be to God.

## POSTLUDE

*Thank you for joining us in worship today.*

1. Joy to the world! the Lord is come:  
let earth receive her King;  
let every heart prepare him room,  
and heaven and nature sing,  
and heaven and nature sing,  
and heaven, and heaven and nature sing.

2. Joy to the world! the Savior reigns;  
let us our songs employ,  
while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and  
plains,  
repeat the sounding joy,  
repeat the sounding joy,  
repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

3. No more let sins and sorrows grow,  
nor thorns infest the ground;  
he comes to make his blessings flow  
far as the curse is found,  
far as the curse is found,  
far as, far as the curse is found.

4. He rules the world with truth and grace,  
and makes the nations prove  
the glories of his righteousness,  
and wonders of his love,  
and wonders of his love,  
and wonders, wonders of his love.

Hallelujah 5x  
Amen

*Please know that your participation  
with us has been a blessing.*

Prayers of the People are from Hear Our Prayer, Church Pub Inc. Kindle  
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Cover Artwork: O Holy Night Nativity of Jesus Christ icon by Brother Simeon Davis

## PRAYER REQUESTS

*Your help is needed in keeping our Prayer List current. Please send any updates for the Prayer List to the office at [office@stchristophersaustin.org](mailto:office@stchristophersaustin.org)*

**Prayers for Healing, Comfort, and Peace:** Sally, Mike, Elizabeth, Bob, George, Finn, Hailey, Judy, Ian, Elena, Paula, Bobby, Mary, Caroline, Alison, Ward, Mary, MJ, Erin, Robert, Pam, Joe, Hank, Cheryl, Ray, Michael, Nick, Samuel, Nicholas, Jean, Nate, Rachel, Khloe, Emily, Jorge, Julie, Vanessa, Aly, Shannon

**Prayers for God's Protection:** Kenyon, Daniel, Cale, Joshua, Joyce

**Prayers for Expectant Mothers:** Pam

**Prayers for the Deceased:** Reynard, Robert

**ANNOUNCEMENTS** scan the QR for the newsletter

**Christmas Services** (all services livestreamed)

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service | Wed, Dec 24, 7p

Christmas Day Service | Thu, Dec 25, 10a

Christmas Lessons and Carols | Sun, Dec 28, 10a

**Holiday Office Hours**

Mon 22nd - Tue 23rd | 9:30a - 2:30p

Wed 24th - Fri 26th | closed

Mon 29th - Tue 30th | 9:30a - 2:30p

Wed 31st - Fri 2nd | closed

**Upcoming Events in 2026**

Women's Lunch | Jan 4th

Feast of the Epiphany | Jan 6th

Community Meal | Jan 8th

Vestry Installation | Jan 18th

Bishop's Visit | Feb 1st

Annual Parish Meeting | Feb 8th

Vestry Retreat | Feb 21st

Diocesan Council | Feb 27th - 28th



## **POINSETTIA DEDICATIONS**

In Celebration of Our Six Grandchildren  
by Sally and Bill Corbett

In Celebration of Family and in Thanksgiving for all of God's Blessings



by The Knapp Family

In Celebration and Thanksgiving for Family and Friends  
by Ann Vail

For My Grandkids, Charlotte, Sunny, and Parker  
by Cathy Shuler Collins

In Memory of Roy Lee and Mae Beth Bishop  
by Steve Bishop

In Memory of Larry Jenkins and Mark Jenkins  
by Roberta Jenkins

In Memory of Robert Osborn  
by Althea Osborn

In Celebration of Family and Friends  
by Mary Lois and Michael Davis

In Memory of Francis, Gilbert, Charles, Marie, Gary, and Donna  
by Mike and Kathy Berry

In Memory of David Brown and Sylvia Brown  
by Joseph Brown

In Honor of those devoted to saving preborn babies  
by John and Helen Green

In Memory of Thomas A Kirwan, Jr  
by Nancy Kirwan

In Memory of David Williford  
by Lyssa Williford

In Memory of Arion and Mary Nibbelink  
by Mark Nibbelink

In Memory of Kenneth and Virginia Greenlee  
by Vicki, Erin, and Kyle Knipp

In Honor of the Rappaport Family  
by the Rappaport Family

In Memory of Joy Kelly  
by Christian and Mateo Moore

In Memory of Ann Samuels  
by Christian and Mateo Moore

In Memory of Maria Carmen Chan  
by Annie Tufton

In Celebration of Liv and Lucy Emr, Granddaughters  
by Tom Emr and Pat McDermott

In Memory of David Owens  
by Colin and Alyssa Stebbing, Virginia Owens

For Derek and Joan Stebbing  
by Colin and Alyssa Stebbing

For the Guillen/Velasquez family  
by Linda Velasquez and Estella Guillen

In Memory of Connor A Smith  
by Lynne Blaker

