

Saint Thomas' Episcopal Parish



Nativity by He Qi

December 24, 2010
The Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ
7:00 p.m.

WHEREVER YOU MAY BE ON YOUR FAITH JOURNEY,
THERE IS ROOM AT GOD'S TABLE FOR YOU.

A note about the Saint Helena Breviary

The Order of Saint Helena, an Order of Episcopal nuns with retreat houses in New York and Georgia, worked from 1982 through 2006 studying and rewriting the Psalter to alter the masculine language found in the psalms. They also re-worked the canticles, antiphons and hymns utilized in The Daily Office. The OSH nuns were inspired by the writings and teachings of Julian of Norwich, Hildegard of Bingen, Augustine of Hippo and Saints Bernard and Anselm among others, all of whom advocated ways of imaging God, seeing God as more than, other than masculine.

Concert and Carol Sing

I The Virgin and Child

Organ *La Vierge et L'Enfant (La Nativité)* Olivier Messiaen

Choral Response *Conçu par une Vierge* Timothy Hagy

Conceived by a Virgin, a child is born to us. To us a Son is given. Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion! A king comes to us, meek and humble.

Bailey Whiteman, alto

✕ *Sung by all*

Hymn 81 *Lo, how a Rose e'er blooming*

II The Shepherds

Organ *Les Bergers* Olivier Messiaen

Choral Response *Ayant vu l'Enfant couché dans la crèche*

Having seen the child lying in a manger, the shepherds returned glorifying and praising God.

Diane Atherton, soprano

✕ *Sung by all*

Hymn 115 *What child is this*

III Eternal designs

Organ *Desseins Éternels* Olivier Messiaen

Choral Response *Dieu, dans son amour*

God in his love, has predestined us to be his adopted children, through Jesus Christ, to the praise and the glory of his grace.

Mark Duer, bass

✕ *Sung by all*

Hymn 82 *Of the Father's love begotten*

✠ *A period of silence follows as candles are being lit. This meditation is provided as a prayer for God with us: Child of God, light that shines in the dark, child of joy and peace, help us to come to you and be born anew this holy night.*

From the New Zealand Prayer Book

The Holy Eucharist: Rite Two

This inclusive language service is adapted from Enriching Our Worship I and the Saint Helena Breviary

The Word of God

✠ *A bell rings, all stand.*

Entrance Hymn

Angels we have heard on high

Hymnal 96

✠ *The people standing, the Celebrant says,*

Celebrant Blessed are you, holy and living God.

People ***You come to your people and set them free.***

The Celebrant says,

The Word became flesh and dwelt among us, full of grace and truth; we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father. [John 1:14]

A Hymn of Praise

Timothy Hagy

From the Saint Helena Breviary, Hymn at Matins

Adapted from Julian of Norwich

You O Christ are the One: the wisdom and kindness of motherhood.
You, O Christ are the One: the light and grace of all blessed love; you are
Trinity; you are Unity. You, O Christ, are the One: the high sovereign
goodness of all manner of things. You are the One who makes us to love;
you are the One who makes us to long. You, O Christ, are the One:
endless fulfilling of all our true desires. Amen

Elizabeth Hungerford, soprano

Collect of the Day

✠ *The Celebrant says to the people*

The Lord be with you.

People ***And also with you.***

Celebrant Let us pray.

O God, you have caused this holy night to shine with the brightness of the true Light: Grant that we, who have known the mystery of that Light on earth, may also enjoy him perfectly in heaven; where with you and the Holy Spirit he lives and reigns, one God, in glory everlasting. **Amen.**

✠ *All are seated*

First Lesson

Isaiah 9:2-7

✠ *After the Reading, the Reader says*

The Word of the Lord.

People ***Thanks be to God.***

Psalm 96: 1-4, 11-12

Cantate domino



1
Sing to God a new / song; *

sing to God, all the whole / earth.

2
Sing and bless God's holy / Name; *

proclaim the good news of salvation from day to / day.

3
Declare God's glory among the / nations *

God's wonders among all / peoples.

4
For God is great and greatly to be / praised; *

more to be feared than all / gods.

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 there-/in.

12
Then shall all the trees of the wood shout for joy before God, who will / come, *

who will come to judge the / earth.

Second Lesson

Titus 2:11-14

✠ After the Reading, the Reader says

The Word of the Lord.

People *Thanks be to God.*

✠ All stand. Sing three times.

Alleluia



The Holy Gospel

Luke 2:1-20

✠ The Celebrant says,

The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ
according to Luke.

People *Glory to you, Jesus Christ.*

✠ After the Gospel, the Celebrant says

The Gospel of Christ.

People *All praise to you, Jesus Christ.*

Sermon

The Rev. Dr. Nancy Lee Jose

Prayers of the People

Gracious God, thank you this Christmas for caring for all of humanity in their various circumstances; for caring for the whole earth and that dwell therein.

Thank you, Loving God.

For all the people in our lives, for those who love us, those who inform us, and those who inspire us.

Thank you, Loving God.

For all those like Mary, who in spite of their fear, yield to your will and your way.

Thank you, Loving God.

For those like Joseph, who know the meaning of loyalty, honor, and commitment to one another.

Thank you, Loving God.

For the innkeepers of this world, and all those who are hospitable and seek to help those without food, shelter, or employment and those who despair for their future.

Thank you, Loving God.

For the shepherds of this world, who tend to their vocations and occupations on this earth, but also hear the voice of heaven and respond.

Thank you, Loving God.

For the angels, especially the ones we know, who are “good news” in our lives, and point to the deep goodness of God.

Thank you, Loving God.

For the children of this world, for their health and good learning. May they delight in life, have hope in the future, and come to know you and serve you.

Hear us, Good Lord.

For the poor, dear Lord. For those in poor health and those whose situations are desperate in so many ways; even for those who have a poor image of you and your beckoning call.

Hear us, Good Lord.

Gracious God, most of all we are thankful that you are in this life and here to stay. We are thankful that you are present to us in so many ways. Cheer us on, that your life may be born in us, live in us, and reach fulfillment in us, even unto the Cross and the life to come.

For the blessing of life and the wonderful purpose you give to it, we thank you, Gracious God.

The Peace

✠ *The Celebrant says to the people*

The peace of Christ be always with you.

People *And also with you.*

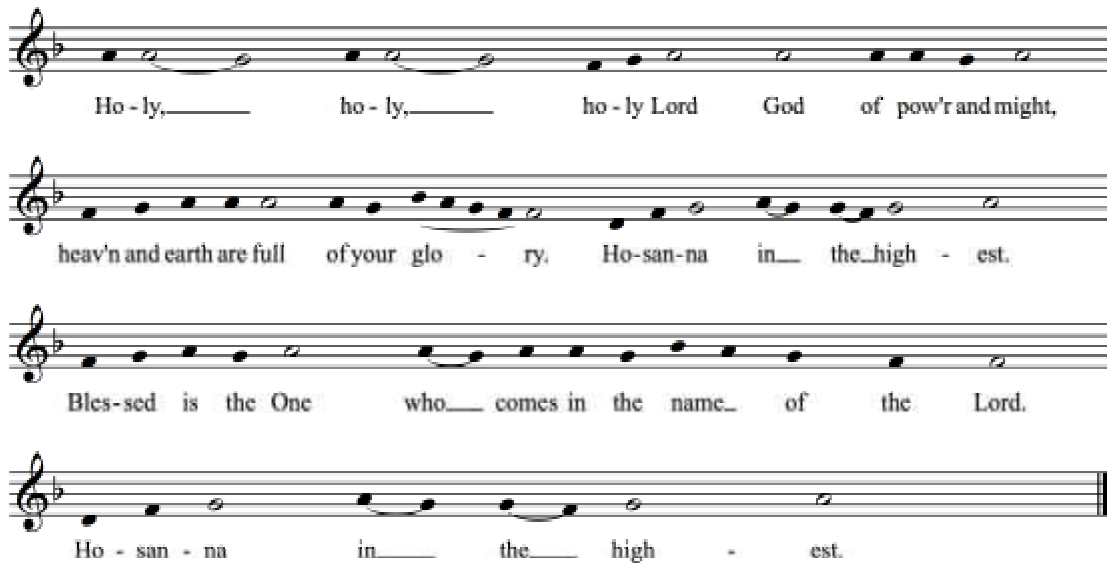
✠ *Then the Ministers and People greet one another in the name of the Lord.*

✠ *All are seated*

Announcements

Sanctus and Benedictus

Plainsong, harmonized by Maurice Duruflé



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,
Bles-sed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord.
Ho - san - na in the high - est.

The Lord's Prayer

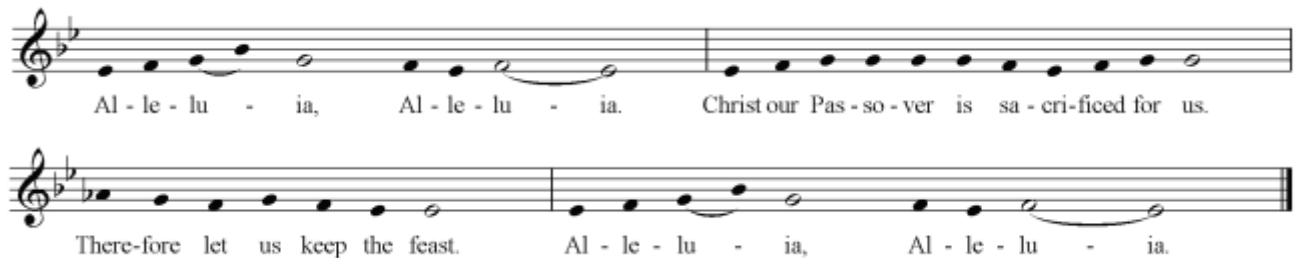
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☒ *Sung by all*

Fraction Anthem

Alleluia. Christ our Passover

Plainsong, Tone VII



Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia. Christ our Pas - so - ver is sa - cri-ficed for us.
There-fore let us keep the feast. Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia.

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

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

and may add

Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

☒ *Communion will be directed by the ushers.*

Communion Anthem

Lullay my Liking

Gustav Holst

Lullay my liking, my dear Son, my Sweeting: lullay my dear Heart, mine own dear Darling. I saw a fair maiden sitten and sing: She lulled a little child, A sweete Lording. That eternal Lord is He That made alle thing; Of alle Lordes He is Lord, of Every King He's King. There was mickle melody At that childes birth: though the songsters were heavenly They made a mickle mirth. Angels bright they sang that night And saide to that Child "Bleesed be Thou and so be she That is so meek and mild". Pray we now to that Child, As to His Mo-ther dear, God grant them all His blessing That now maken cheer.

Soloists: Bethie Hungerford, Kyle Burke, Bailey Whiteman,
Diane Atherton

Communion Hymn

Silent night, holy night

Hymnal 111

✘ *All stand*

Post Communion Prayer

✘ *The Celebrant says,*
Let us pray.

✘ *Celebrant and People*

Most loving God, we give you thanks for this foretaste of your glory. Through Christ, and with all your saints, we offer ourselves and our lives to your service. Send us out in the power of your Spirit, to stand with you in your world. We ask this through Jesus Christ, your servant, our friend and our brother. Amen.

Christmas Blessing

Recessional Hymn

Hark! The herald angels sing

Hymnal 87

Dismissal

✘ *The Celebrant, dismisses the people with these words*

Grace be with you.

People Thanks be to God

Celebrant Go in peace.

Amen. We go in the name of Christ.

✠ *All are seated*

Postlude

Improvisation

Et tout à coup apparut, aux côtés de l'ange, une multitude d'anges de l'armée céleste qui chantaient les louanges de Dieu: Gloire à Dieu au plus haut des cieux! Et paix sur la terre aux hommes qu'il aime.



Worship Leaders Tonight

Celebrant: The Rev. Dr. Nancy Lee Jose

Sermon: The Rev. Dr. Nancy Lee Jose

Readers: Matt Cloninger, John Stanton

Prayers: Louie Stewart

Vergers: John Carter

Eucharistic

Ministers: John Johnson, Peter Kronenberg

Ushers: Tim Mahoney, Trey Spencer

Altar Guild: Dennis Hobb, Pepin Tuma

Greeters: Dan Costello, Steve Schembs

Please refer to the Special Flower Insert for the Christmas Memorials and Honorariums



ST. THOMAS' PARISH
DUPONT CIRCLE ✠ WASHINGTON, DC

We're a **community of Christians on a spiritual journey**. Our worship and *life together* provides a pathway towards a deeper understanding of the risen and transforming Christ. Through joyful singing, engaging preaching, prayer and silence, we come together to share in **one bread, one body**.

A place to find and be found by God.

The People of St. Thomas'

Vestry

John Johnson, Senior Warden (2013); *Matt Cloninger*, Junior Warden (2012)
Aaron Adkins (2013), *Clinton Anderson* (2012),
Mary Hager (2011), *Jean Holman* (2012), *Kristin Jones* (2013),
Ivan Santos-Sansfaute (2013), *Dave Swanson* (2013), *Joe Zuniga* (2011)

St. Thomas' Parish ✠ 1772 Church Street NW ✠ Washington, DC 20036
www.stthomasdc.org

<p>Parish Office Hours 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. MWF, 3:00pm – 5:00pm TTh.</p> <p>Ms. Nicole Garner, Bookkeeper Mr. Esteban Mares, Sexton Mr. Kevin Montgomery, Interim Parish Executive Secretary Mr. Timothy Hagy, Music Director</p> <p>The Rev. Dr. Nancy Lee Jose, Rector</p> <p>The Right Reverend John Bryson Chane Bishop of Washington</p>	<p>202-332-0607</p> <p>nicole@garnergore.com maresbravo@aol.com kmontgomery@stthomasdc.org timhagy@comcast.net</p> <p>rector@stthomasdc.org</p> <p>jchane@edow.org</p>
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