

A Celebration
of
THE NATIVITY of
OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST



CHRISTMAS DAY 2022

St. James Episcopal Church
Taos, New Mexico

**Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:
receive our prayer.
For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

A READING FROM THE BOOK OF ISAIAH

Isaiah 52:7-10

How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of the messenger who announces peace, who brings good news, who announces salvation, who says to Zion, "Your God reigns." Listen! Your sentinels lift up their voices, together they sing for joy; for in plain sight they see the return of the LORD to Zion.

Break forth together into singing, you ruins of Jerusalem; for the LORD has comforted his people, he has redeemed Jerusalem. The LORD has bared his holy arm before the eyes of all the nations; and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

THE PSALM (*remain seated*)

Psalm 98

- 1 Sing to the Lord a new song,
for he has done marvelous things.**
- 2 With his right hand and his holy arm
has he won for himself the victory.**
- 3 The Lord has made known his victory;
his righteousness has he openly shown in the sight of the nations.**
- 4 He remembers his mercy and faithfulness to the house of Israel,
and all the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.**
- 5 Shout with joy to the Lord all you lands;
lift up your voice, rejoice, and sing.**
- 6 Sing to the Lord with the harp,
with the harp and the voice of song.**
- 7 With trumpets and the sound of the horn
shout with joy before the King, the Lord.**
- 8 Let the sea make a noise and all that is in it,
the lands and those who dwell therein.**
- 9 Let the rivers clap their hands,
and let the hills ring out with joy before the Lord,
when he comes to judge the earth.**
- 10 In righteousness shall he judge the world
and the peoples with equity.**

A READING FROM ST. PAUL

Hebrews 1:1-12

Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets, but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, through whom he also created the worlds. He is the reflection of God's glory and the exact imprint of God's very being, and he sustains all things by his powerful word. When he had made purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs.

For to which of the angels did God ever say, "You are my Son; today I have begotten you"? Or again, "I will be his Father, and he will be my Son"? And again, when he brings the firstborn into the world, he says, "Let all God's angels worship him." Of the angels he says, "He makes his angels winds, and his servants flames of fire."

But of the Son he says, "Your throne, O God, is forever and ever, and the righteous scepter is the scepter of your kingdom. You have loved righteousness and hated wickedness; therefore God, your God, has anointed you with the oil of gladness beyond your companions." And, "In the beginning, Lord, you founded the earth, and the heavens are the work of your hands; they will perish, but you remain; they will all wear out like clothing; like a cloak you will roll them up, and like clothing they will be changed. But you are the same, and your years will never end."

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

THE SEQUENCE #87

Hark! The herald angels sing

THE GOSPEL

John 1:1-14

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

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.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

THE SERMON

The Rev. Mike Olsen

THE NICENE CREED *(please stand)*

**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 *(stand or kneel)*

Form II

*In the course of the silence after each bidding, the People offer their
own prayers, either silently or aloud.*

I ask your prayers for God's people throughout the world ;for our Bishops; for this gathering; and for
all ministers and people.
Pray for the Church.

Silence

I ask your prayers for peace; for goodwill among nations; and for the well-being of all people.
Pray for justice and peace.

Silence

I ask your prayers for the poor, the sick, the hungry, the oppressed, and those in prison.
Pray for those in any need or trouble.

Silence

I ask your prayers for all who seek God, or a deeper knowledge of him.
Pray that they may find and be found by him.

Silence

I ask your prayers for the departed.
Pray for those who have died.

Silence

Members of the congregation may ask the prayers or the thanksgivings of those present

Silence

Praise God for those in every generation in whom Christ has been honored whom we remember today. Pray that we may have grace to glorify Christ in our own day.

Silence

THE CONCLUDING COLLECT

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

THE PEACE *(please stand)*

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

HOLY COMMUNION

Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God.

Ephesians 5:2

THE OFFERTORY

Of the Father's Love Begotten

Flor Peeters

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING *(please stand)*

Eucharistic Prayer A

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. For you are the source of light and life, you made us in your image, and called us to new life in Jesus Christ our Lord. 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:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

stand or kneel

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, "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:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen,

Christ will come again.

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. **AMEN.**

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

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.

Alleluia, Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us:

Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

Be known to us, Lord Jesus, in the breaking of the bread,

The bread which we break, Is the communion of the Body of Christ

One body are we, for though many, we share one bread.

Be known to us, Lord Jesus, in the breaking of the bread. Alleluia.

THE INVITATION

The Gifts of God for you, the People of God.

All who come in faith are invited to receive Holy Communion at St. James

We believe in the Real Presence of Christ in the Eucharist.

You may stand or kneel at the altar rail when receiving the Bread and Wine.

*You may choose to receive the bread or gluten free bread only,
or a vial of bread and wine together. Communion is complete in either form.*

Cross your arms over your breast if you wish only to receive a blessing.

The Bread & Wine are given to communicants with these words:

The Body of Christ, the bread of heaven. (Amen)

The Blood of Christ, the cup of salvation. (Amen)

THE COMMUNION CAROLS

94 - While shepherds watched their flocks

81 - Lo, how a Rose e'er blooming

78 - O Little Town of Bethlehem

THE POST COMMUNION PRAYER *(please stand)*

**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 CHRISTMAS BLESSING

Let the just rejoice for their justifier is born.

Let the infirm rejoice for their savior is born.

Let free people everywhere rejoice for their liberator is born.

Let Christians rejoice, for Jesus Christ is born.

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

THE PROCESSIONAL HYMN #100

Joy to the world

THE DISMISSAL

Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.

Thanks be to God.

THE POSTLUDE

Now Sing We, Now Rejoice

Wilbur Held

The Poinsettias
Given to the glory of God *and*

in memory of given by

Chuck & D Uerling	Brian & Jude Uerling
Walter & Rosalie Redies	Brian & Jude Uerling
Linebacker II, 50th anniversary	Toby Pugh & Elizabeth Baker
Their parents & grandparents	Christopher & Lawrel Larson
Mitzi	Gini McDermott
Jim Burns	Mary Burns

in thanksgiving for given by

Our son Matt	Don & Terry Pennington
Their children & grandchildren	Christopher & Lawrel Larson
You	Stacy Quinn
Healing	Gwen & Jim Glenn
Family	Rick & Kathy Newton
Our new friends at St. James	David & Hope Krug



THE SAINT JAMES STAFF

The Reverend Mac Brown, Rector
The Reverend Mike Olsen, Assisting Priest
The Reverend Jill Cline, Associate Priest/Youth Minister
The Reverend Jerome Williams, Deacon
LeAnna Brun, Seminarian - Diocese of Texas
Erick Brunner, Director of Music
Mary Gates, Assistant Organist
David Hines, Director of Food Pantry Ministry
Krystle Struck, Parish Administrator
Amanda Allalunis, Bookkeeper
Sydney Cline, Children's Christian Formation Coordinator
Michael Hartmann, Sexton
Rusty Gaston, Senior Warden
Harvey Yocum, Junior Warden