



Emmanuel Episcopal Church  
December 24, 2025  
5:00 PM

## **The Holy Eucharist: Rite II**

### **Family Service**

**Prelude:      “Carol of the Bells”**

Leontych; Ukrainian Carol

*The baby is placed in the manger.*

*From the entrance of the church, the priest announces*

Gift-giving God, of angels and stars, magi and shepherds, promise and hope, journeys and longings; God who calls and sends, blesses and guards, hides and reveals, asks and waits, ancient love that is always new; God of Christmas, God of our hearts; may we bear the Christ to all who need him, and allow his birth in us again. Amen.

**Christmas Drama      “Jesus, Be Born in Me”**

**Narrator**

**Christmas Carol      “Once in Royal David’s City”**

*Congregation sings together*

Once in royal David’s city stood a lowly cattle shed,  
Where a mother laid her baby in a manger for his bed:  
Mary was that mother mild, Jesus Christ her little child.

He came down to earth from heaven, who is God and Lord of all,  
And his shelter was a stable, and his cradle was a stall;  
With the poor, the scorned, the lowly, lived on earth our Savior holy.

**Narrator**

**Christmas Carol      “O Little Town of Bethlehem”**

*Congregation sings together*

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.

For Christ is born of Mary; and gathered all above,  
While mortals sleep, the angels keep their watch of wondering love.  
O morning stars, together proclaim the holy birth!  
And praises sing to God the King, and peace to men on earth.

**Narrator**

**Christmas Carol      “Hark! the Herald Angels Sing”**

*Congregation sings together*

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 angelic host proclaim Christ is born in Bethlehem!  
Hark! The herald angels sing glory to the newborn King!

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 God-head see; hail the incarnate Deity,  
Pleased with man with us to dwell; Jesus, our Emmanuel!  
Hark! The Herald angels sing glory to the newborn King!

**Narrator**

**Video      “Be Born in Me”      Hope Darst**

Everything inside me cries for order.  
Everything inside me wants to hide.  
Is this shadow an angel or a warrior?  
If God is pleased with me, why am I so terrified?  
Someone tell me I am only dreaming.  
Somehow help me see with heaven's eyes.  
And before my head agrees, my heart is on its knees.  
Holy is He; Blessed Am I.

Be born in me.  
Be born in me.  
Trembling heart; somehow I believe that you chose me.  
I'll hold you in the beginning.  
You will hold me in the end.  
Every moment in the middle, make my heart your Bethlehem.

Be born in me.

All this time, we've waited for the promise.  
All this time, you've waited for my arms.  
Did you wrap yourself inside the unexpected,  
So we might know that love would go that far?

Be born in me.  
Be born in me.  
Trembling heart; somehow I believe that you chose me.  
I'll hold you in the beginning.  
You'll hold me in the end.  
Every moment in the middle, make my heart your Bethlehem.  
Be born in me.

I am not brave.  
I'll never be.  
The only thing my heart can offer is a vacancy.  
I'm just a girl and nothing more.  
But, God, I'm willing  
I am yours.

Be born in me.  
Be born in me.  
I'll hold you in the beginning.  
You will hold me in the end.  
Every moment in the middle,  
Make my heart your Bethlehem.  
Be born in me.  
Be born in me.

**Peace** *(All stand.)*

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

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

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

**Offertory: (Emmanuel Choir) “Come Jesus, Heavenly Light”** Mary  
McDonald

**Doxology**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise him all creatures here below.  
Praise him above ye heavenly hosts. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

**Great Thanksgiving** *(Eucharistic Prayer A)* BCP 361

*The people stand.*

*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.**

*The Celebrant proceeds*

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

Because you sent your beloved Son to redeem us from sin and death, and to make

us heirs in him of everlasting life; that when he shall come again in power and great triumph to judge the world, we may without shame or fear rejoice to behold his appearing.

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:

**Sanctus**

**S-130 [Schubert]**

*Celebrant and People*

**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.**

*The people stand or kneel.*

*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.

*At the following words concerning the bread, the Celebrant is to hold it, or to lay a hand upon it; and at the words concerning the cup, to hold or place a hand upon the cup and any other vessel containing wine to be consecrated.*

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.**

*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. *AMEN.*

*The Celebrant then continues*

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

*People and Celebrant*

**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 Breaking of the Bread**

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

*People:* **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

*Facing the people, the Celebrant says the following 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.

*All are welcome to receive Holy Communion. If you do not wish to drink from the common cup, you may use the intinction cup to dip the bread into the wine yourself. Those who do not wish to receive Communion, are invited to come to the altar for a blessing, indicated by placing crossed hands over the chest. Please speak to the Rector if you would like to learn more about baptism.*

**Communion Hymn 101***Away in a Manger*

[Cradle Song,

Traditional]

*Parishioners returning from communion are invited to take a candle for use during the final hymn. Families with small children may choose a smaller candle or may choose not to have their candle lighted.*

**Post-Communion Prayer**

BCP 365

*After Communion, the Celebrant says*

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.

**Blessing****Lighting of Candles****Recessional Hymn 111** *Silent night, holy night*

[Stille

Nacht]

**Dismissal**

BCP 366

*Celebrant* Alleluia, Alleluia! Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.*People* **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia!***Merry Christmas!***ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**The presence of all** who have come to celebrate Christmas adds to the joy of worshipping the Lord on this glorious night. Welcome, friends! May the full meaning of Christmas be real to us all...now and always. Our prayer for each person this Christmas season is that you may know the presence of the Christ of the manger, in your heart and in your home.

**Pageant Thank yous** to *Chris Garguilo, Rhonda Burrell Garguilo, Margaret Parker, Deacon Darlene Jackson, Emily Hawkins, Sabrina Miles, Donnie Wheeler and Cathy Combs* for their work on the Pageant. Thank you to all the “cast members” of our Christmas Pageant this year!

**Christmas Day Service** - Worship service tomorrow will be at 10am.

**Parish Finances** - December 31 is the last day for contributions to be included on the 2025 year receipting. Thank you for your financial support of the Lord’s work in this place.

**Parish Office Hours**—The office will be closed the rest of the week.

**Lessons & Carols**—January 4 at the later service. If you would like to read, please contact Margaret Parker.

**Parish Breakfast** - The monthly parish breakfast will be held on *Sunday, January 4*. Please join us.

**Chalicers:** —Sabrina Miles, Carol Bowers

**Ushers:** Andy Gurkin, Keith Harrington, Lavon & Scott Vickery

**Emmanuel Episcopal Church**  
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A parish of the Episcopal Diocese of Southern Virginia  
The Rt. Rev. Susan Haynes, Bishop

Staff  
The Rev. Rhonda E. Wheeler, Rector      The Rev. Darlene Jackson, Deacon  
Cathy Combs, Music Director  
Karen Harrington, Parish Administrator      Cary Kelly, Finance Director

Vestry  
Tim Bradley      Chris Garguilo, Sr. Warden      Margaret Parker, Jr. Warden  
Kim DeCoster      Laura L. Manigault      John Pence  
Pat Dwyer      Bill Miles      Dean Seitz  
Sabrina Miles      Charles Walker

Suzzane Jewett, Registrar      Vic Hellman, Treasurer