

# Festival of Christmas Lessons and Carols

December 29, 2024



**Episcopal Church of the Good Samaritan**  
**[www.GoodSamaritanEpiscopal.church](http://www.GoodSamaritanEpiscopal.church)**  
**The Holy Eucharist, Rite II**  
**The Rev. Dr. Richard Effinger**



**Prelude**                      Now is born the divine Christ child                      Dennis Alexander

**Hymn 102** Once in royal David's city

**Bidding Prayer**

**Reading I**                                      Adam and Eve Rebel                                      Genesis 3:1-15  
Read by: George Lamb, a Vestry member

**Hymn 66** Come, thou long expected Jesus

**Reading II**                                      A branch from Jesse                                      Isaiah 11:1-3, 4a, 6-9  
Read by: Marley Harvey, a parish youth

**Hymn 81** Lo, how a rose e're blooming

**Reading III**                                      The Annunciation                                      Luke 21:26-28  
Read by: Francisca Dawson, Thrift Store Director

**Hymn 72** Hark the glad sound

**Reading IV**                                      The Visitation                                      Luke 1:39-56  
Read by: Carol Alexander, Organist and Choirmaster

**Hymn 438** Tell out my soul

**Reading V**                                      The Nativity                                      Luke 2:1-20  
Read by: Janet Sessions, a choir member

**Hymn 115** What child is this?

**Reading VI**                                      The Word made flesh                                      John 1:1-18  
Read by: Fr. Rick Effinger, Priest

**Hymn 100** Joy to the World

## The Peace

BCP p. 360

Celebrant: The Peace of the Lord be always with you.

**People: And also with you.**

*(Share a greeting, a wave, a nod with your fellow parishioners.)*

## Announcements and Birthday and Anniversary Blessings

**Offertory Anthem**

Joyous news

Mary Lynn Lightfoot

## Doxology

**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.**

## THE HOLY COMMUNION

**The Great Thanksgiving**

Eucharistic Prayer C

BCP p. 369

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.**

God of all power, Ruler of the Universe, you are worthy of glory and praise.

**Glory to you for ever and ever.**

At your command all things came to be: the vast expanse of interstellar space, galaxies, suns, the planets in their courses, and this fragile earth, our island home.

**By your will they were created and have their being.**

From the primal elements you brought forth the human race, and blessed us with memory, reason, and skill. You made us the rulers of creation. But we turned against you, and betrayed your trust; and we turned against one another.

**Have mercy, Lord, for we are sinners in your sight.**

Again and again, you called us to return. Through prophets and sages you revealed your righteous Law. And in the fullness of time you sent your only Son, born of a woman, to fulfill your Law, to open for us the way of freedom and peace.

**By his blood, he reconciled us. By his wounds, we are healed.**

And therefore we praise you, joining with the heavenly chorus, with prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with all those in every generation who have looked to you in hope, to proclaim with them your glory, in their unending hymn:

### **Sanctus S130**

**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 as you are able)*

And so, Father, we who have been redeemed by him, and made a new people by water and the Spirit, now bring before you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ our Lord.

On the night he was betrayed he took bread, said the blessing, broke the bread, and gave it to his friends, 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, gave thanks, 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."

Remembering now his work of redemption, and offering to you this sacrifice of thanksgiving,

**We celebrate his death and resurrection, as we await the day of his coming.**

Lord God of our Fathers and Mothers: God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob; God of Sarah and Hagar, Rebecca, Leah and Rachel; God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ: Open our eyes to see your hand at work in the world about us. Deliver us from the presumption of coming to this Table for solace only, and not for strength;

for pardon only, and not for renewal. Let the grace of this Holy Communion make us one body, one spirit in Christ, that we may worthily serve the world in his name.  
**Risen Lord, be known to us in the breaking of the Bread.**

Accept these prayers and praises, Father, through Jesus Christ our great High Priest, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, your Church gives honor, glory, and worship, from generation to generation. *AMEN.*

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

**Celebrant and People:**

**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, forever and ever. Amen.**

**The Breaking of the Bread**

**S155 Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.  
Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.  
Therefore let us keep the feast.  
Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.**

**Hymn 84** Love came down at Christmas

**Post Communion Prayer**

BCP p. 366

Celebrant: Let us pray.

**Celebrant and People:**

**Almighty and everliving God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom.**

**And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord.**

**To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.**

## **The Christmas 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.**

**Hymn 96**            Angels we have heard on high

## **The Dismissal**

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

Alleluia! Alleluia!

**People: Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**Postlude**            God rest ye, merry gentlemen                                    Dennis Alexander

**Thank you for worshiping with us today**

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**(Read more in the eNews)**

### **Fellowship**

Please join us for fellowship after the service. It's a wonderful time to enjoy each other's company and have something light to eat.

**There will be no Healing Eucharist on January 1<sup>st</sup>.** The Healing Eucharist will resume on Wednesday, January 8<sup>th</sup> at 12:05 p.m. in the Chapel.

### **Holy Cow Parish Survey**

Holy Cow is open for your feedback! We'd love to hear your thoughts—please take a few minutes to complete the survey over the next couple of weeks. Your input makes a difference, and we're grateful for your participation!

### **January Outreach Collections**

Thank you for your continued generosity as we share the abundance of our blessings with others in need. Our January Outreach Collection will be soup as we celebrate a "Souper" New Year.

## ***MISSION***

*As Good Samaritans, we share God's love by welcoming and respecting all people and by nurturing individuals and the community through worship, outreach, and prayer.*

