

Christmas Day

The Feast of the Nativity

Of Jesus Christ



The Nativity, c.1475 | Artist: Sandro Botticelli

Mattins

Hymn: *O Come, all ye faithful* # 83

Scripture Sentences BCP, p. 75

Confession BCP, p. 116

Invitatory BCP, p. 80

Christmas Acclamation

Let us praise the eternal Word of God, who is seated at
God's right hand, and yet was born for us in the midst of
time, saying: *"be born in us today."*

O saving Lord, God with us, born of the Virgin by the power
of the Spirit:

All **Be born in us today.**

Son of David, foretold by the prophets:

All **Be born in us today.**

Glorious offspring of Abraham, awaited by the patriarchs:

All **Be born in us today.**

Saviour of your people, proclaimed by angels:

All **Be born in us today.**

O Light eternal, giving sight to the eyes of the blind:

All **Be born in us today.**

O lover of justice and peace, ruler of all the ages:

All Be born in us today.

The Psalter *Psalm 98* *BCP. p. 727*

Following the Psalm,....

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit // As it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen

THE WORD OF GOD IN SCRIPTURE

The lessons should be announced by the lector, citing the complete citation so that people may follow along in their bibles. The following format is suggested:

“The First (...or Second) Lesson is written in (such a book), the (...such a) chapter, beginning at (...such a) verse.”

At the end of the reading the following should be said:

“Here ends the first (...Second) Lesson.”

First lesson *Hebrews 1. 1-12* *Cindy Lorenczi*

Office Hymn *The First Nowell* #109

Second lesson *John 1. 1-14* *Greg Videtic*

The Third Song of Isaiah *BCP. p. 87*

The Apostles' Creed *BCP. p.96*

Homily

Hymn *Hark the Herald Angels Sing* #87

The Prayers *BCP p.97*

Suffrages *BCP. p, 97f*

Collect

The Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ

Almighty God, you have given your only begotten Son to take our nature upon him, and to be born this day of a pure virgin: Grant that we, who have been born again and made your children by adoption and grace, may daily be renewed by your Holy Spirit; through our Lord Jesus Christ, to whom with you and the same Spirit be honor and glory, now and forever. *Amen.*

Lord, to purify our hearts, we pray, that they may be worthy to become your dwelling place. Let us never fail to find room for you, but come and abide in us, that we also may abide in you, for as at this time you were born into the world for us, and live and reign, King of kings and Lord of lords, now and forever. *Amen.*

Parish Intercession/Prayer List:

- Michael our Presiding Bishop, Mark our Bishop, Arthur and William assisting bishops; ...for clergy of this diocese, for parishes gathering this night in vigil, for those who prepare worship for this night of waiting
- For the whole world for which Jesus came to earth in great humility, ...praying especially for those who are afoot this night in search of safe lodging, a hot meal, a warm welcome; for those who

have never known the love of other, that tonight they may come to know the love of the saviour of the world

- Our parish family, ...those listed in our commemorations and in whose memory, flowers were purchased for parish members at home.
- For all who have asked our prayers: Thelma, Shirley, Georgette, Joan, Donna, Nora, Pastor Tim, Jan, Dave and Suzanne, Martin
- Faithful departed:

Intercessions

R... "Lord bear our prayer."

To us a child is born, to us a son is given; let us pray for the people he came to save.

Wonderful Counsellor, you order all things with your wisdom: help the Church to reveal the mystery of your love and fill her with the Spirit of truth: *R*

Mighty God, the government is on your shoulders: guide the leaders of the nations and bring in your kingdom of justice and righteousness: *R*

Everlasting Father, you call us to live together in unity: protect by your mercy all your children, bless our families and renew our communities: *R*

Prince of Peace, you bring reconciliation through the cross: by your healing power give to all who suffer your gift of wholeness and peace: *R*

Remembering especially in this holy night...

Let us commend the world, to which Christ came, to the mercy and protection of God. *R*

The General Thanksgiving

BCP p. 101

A Prayer of St. Chrysostom

BCP p. 102

The Grace

Hymn *Angels we have heard on high*

#96

Today's Readings

Christmas Day

Psalm 98

Cantate Domino

- 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.

FIRST READING

The first lesson is taken from the Letter to the Hebrews, the first chapter, beginning at the first verse. (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."

When the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared, he saved us, not because of any works of righteousness that we had done, but according to his mercy, through the water of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit. This Spirit he poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior, so that, having been justified by his grace, we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life.

Here ends the first lesson

SECOND READING

The second lesson is taken from the gospel of John, the first chapter beginning at the first verse. (John 1. 1-14)

John 1:1-14

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.

Here ends the second lesson

POEM FOR REFLECTION

A Poem for the Feast of the Nativity of our Lord

by Gregory Jeffers

history was rent in two that day—that day
when earth, in all her groaning,
gave birth to heaven's brightest star.

all the world had hummed along
in banal cruelty with only lightening
flashes of an alien hope.

on that night the promise of a
cosmic kairos—a nuclear flash,
the first touch—was enfleshed.

he cried his first breath in her arms,
drinking in his humanity with
the milk from his mother's breasts.

hope was born that holy night;
and with shepherds and angels
I sing: *Gloria in excelsis Deo*

Worship on Christmas Day



Best Wishes
for a
Merry Christmas

Plants & Greens given In Loving Memory of:

Arnold & Delilah Bottger	Susan Mullet
Lyman & Mary Lamb	Grace Butcher
Richard & Roberta Seaman	Doug & Carolyn Dolan
Don & Wilma Dolan	
Beloved family members	Fr Chris, Dr Greg
John Gregory	John Gregory II
Earl Kulgoske	Carmen Kulgoske

Given in Thanksgiving:

Our grandsons
Our family

By:

Susan Mullet
Andy & Debby Blackley
Kate & Gary Witosky