

Calvary Episcopal Church
Indian Rocks Beach, Florida

The Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ
Christmas Day
Friday, December 24, 2020

11:00 am



The Daily Office Morning Prayer:
Rite I

**The Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ: Christmas Day
Daily Morning Prayer: Rite One - 11:00 AM**

**The Reverend Melissa M. Sands, Officiant
Mr. Michael Alford, Homilist**

*Daily Morning Prayer is found in
the 1979 Book of Common Prayer, beginning on page 37.*

Please enter into the Sanctuary quietly and reverently. This Service seeks to maximally mitigate risk for COVID-19. Therefore, ALL congregants must remain masked, covering nose and mouth, for the entire duration of being in the Sanctuary. Physical distancing with a minimum of six (6) feet is also a requirement, except for members of the same household. Please sit in every other pew and not behind one another. Please consider these as acts of Christian charity to one another, so that vulnerable congregants can worship on this most festive day. Following these requirements on this occasion shows your concern for others.

All Cell phones should be silenced or turned off.

Thank you as we worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness.

Congregants Sit in Quiet Reflection

The Announcements and Christmas Welcome

Opening Acclamation for Christmas BCP p. 37

Officiant: Behold, the tabernacle of GOD is with all, and he will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and GOD himself shall be with them, and be their God.

Revelation 21:3

Confession of Sin

Officiant: Dearly beloved, we have come together in the presence of Almighty God our heavenly Father, to render thanks for the great benefits that we have received at his hands, to set forth his most worthy praise, to hear his holy Word, and to ask, for ourselves and on behalf of others, those things that are necessary for our life and our salvation. And so that we may prepare ourselves in heart and mind to worship him, let us kneel in silence, and with penitent and obedient hearts confess our sins, that we may obtain forgiveness by his infinite goodness and mercy.

Silence is kept

Officiant and People together, kneeling (if able)

Almighty and most merciful Father, we have erred and strayed from thy ways like lost sheep, we have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts, we have offended against thy holy laws, we have left undone those things which we ought to have done, and we have done those things which we ought not to have done. And there is no health in us.

But thou, O Lord, have mercy upon us, spare thou those who confess their faults, restore thou those who are penitent, according to thy promises declared unto mankind in Christ Jesus our Lord; and grant, O most merciful Father, for his sake, that we may hereafter live a godly, righteous, and sober life, to the glory of thy holy Name. Amen.

The Officiant alone stands and says: The Almighty and merciful Lord grant us absolution and remission of all our sins, true repentance, amendment of life, and the grace and consolation of his Holy Spirit.

Officiant and People together: Amen.

The Invitatory and Psalter

Officiant and People, standing if able

Officiant: O Lord, open thou our lips.

People: And our mouth shall show forth thy praise.

Officiant and People: Glory 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.

Antiphon, On the Twelve Days of Christmas: Alleluia. Unto us a child is born: O come, let us adore him. Alleluia.

Jubilate *Psalm 100*

Officiant and People, standing if able:

O be joyful in the Lord all ye lands; *

serve the Lord with gladness and come before his presence with a song.

Be ye sure that the Lord he is God;

it is he that hath made us and not we ourselves; *

we are his people and the sheep of his pasture.

O go your way into his gates with thanksgiving and into his courts with praise; *

be thankful unto him and speak good of his Name.

For the Lord is gracious; his mercy is everlasting; *

and his truth endureth from generation to generation.

THE PSALM APPOINTED for CHRISTMAS DAY

Psalm 96 (*Cantate Domino*)

BCP p. 725

Said responsively, by whole verse

Reader, Rebecca Alford: Sing to the Lord a new song; *

sing to the Lord, all the whole earth.

People: Sing to the Lord and bless his Name; *

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

Reader: Declare his glory among the nations *

and his wonders among all peoples.

People: For great is the Lord and greatly to be praised; *

he is more to be feared than all gods.

Reader: As for all the gods of the nations, they are but idols; *

but it is the Lord who made the heavens.

People: Oh, the majesty and magnificence of his presence! *

Oh, the power and the splendor of his sanctuary!

Reader: Ascribe to the Lord, you families of the peoples; *
ascribe to the Lord honor and power.

People: Ascribe to the Lord the honor due his Name; *
bring offerings and come into his courts.

Reader: Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness; *
let the whole earth tremble before him.

People: Tell it out among the nations: "The Lord is King! *
he has made the world so firm that it cannot be moved;
he will judge the peoples with equity."

Reader: 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 therein.

People: Then shall all the trees of the wood shout for joy
before the Lord when he comes, *
when he comes to judge the earth.

Reader: He will judge the world with righteousness *
and the peoples with his truth.

FIRST LESSON for CHRISTMAS DAY

The People are seated

Reader, Greg Donham: A Reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah (Isaiah 9:2-7)

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light;
those who lived in a land of deep darkness-- on them light has shined. You have multiplied
the nation, you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as
people exult when dividing plunder.

For the yoke of their burden, and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor,
you have broken as on the day of Midian. For all the boots of the tramping warriors and all
the garments rolled in blood shall be burned as fuel for the fire.

For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and
he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.
His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of
David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness
from this time onward and forevermore. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Silence is kept.

The First Canticle: A Song of Praise *Benedictus es, Domine*
Officiant and People together, standing, if able

Blessed art thou, O Lord God of our fathers; *
praised and exalted above all for ever.
Blessed art thou for the Name of thy Majesty; *
praised and exalted above all for ever.
Blessed art thou in the temple of thy holiness; *
praised and exalted above all for ever.
Blessed art thou that beholdest the depths,
and dwellest between the Cherubim; *
praised and exalted above all for ever.
Blessed art thou on the glorious throne of thy kingdom; *
praised and exalted above all for ever.
Blessed art thou in the firmament of heaven; *
praised and exalted above all for ever.
Blessed art thou, O Father, Son, and Holy Spirit; *
praised and exalted above all forever.

SECOND LESSON for CHRISTMAS DAY

The People are seated

Reader, Grace Alford: A Reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to Titus (Titus 2:11-14)

For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all, training us to renounce impiety and worldly passions, and in the present age to live lives that are self-controlled, upright, and godly, while we wait for the blessed hope and the manifestation of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ.

He it is who gave himself for us that he might redeem us from all iniquity and purify for himself a people of his own who are zealous for good deeds.

Reader: The word of the Lord.

People: *Thanks be to God*

Silence is kept.

The Second Canticle: The Song of Zechariah

Benedictus Dominus Deus Luke 1:68-79

Officiant and People together, standing, if able

Blessed be the Lord God of Israel, *
for he hath visited and redeemed his people;
And hath raised up a mighty salvation for us *
in the house of his servant David,
As he spake by the mouth of his holy prophets, *
which have been since the world began:
That we should be saved from our enemies, *
and from the hand of all that hate us;
To perform the mercy promised to our forefathers, *
and to remember his holy covenant;
To perform the oath which he sware to our forefather Abraham, *
that he would give us,
That we being delivered out of the hand of our enemies *
might serve him without fear,
In holiness and righteousness before him, *
all the days of our life.
And thou, child, shalt be called the prophet of the Highest, *
for thou shalt go before the face of the Lord to prepare his ways;
To give knowledge of salvation unto his people *
for the remission of their sins,
Through the tender mercy of our God, *
whereby the dayspring from on high hath visited us;
To give light to them that sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, *
and to guide our feet into the way of peace.

GLORIA PATRI

Glory 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.

THIRD LESSON for CHRISTMAS DAY

The People are seated

Officiant, Deacon Melissa: A Reading from Saint Luke (2:1-20)

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor

of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see-- I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying,

"Glory to God in the highest heaven,
and on earth peace among those whom he favors!"

When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us." So, they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

Deacon Melissa: The word of the Lord.

People: *Thanks be to God*

Silence is kept.

Sermon for Christmas Day Mr. Michael Alford, Seminarian

After the sermon, the people remain seated and observe a brief time of silence.

The Apostle's Creed BCP pgs. 53-54

Officiant and People together, standing, if able

I believe in God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth; And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried. He descended into hell. Morning Prayer I 53 The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father almighty. From thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

The Prayers

Officiant and People standing, if able

Officiant: The Lord be with you.

People: And with thy spirit.

Officiant: Let us pray.

Officiant 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, for ever and ever. Amen.

Suffrages A

V. O Lord, show thy mercy upon us;

R. And grant us thy salvation.

V. Endue thy ministers with righteousness;

R. And make thy chosen people joyful.

V. Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;

R. For only in thee can we live in safety.

V. Lord, keep this nation under thy care;

R. And guide us in the way of justice and truth.

V. Let thy way be known upon earth;

R. Thy saving health among all nations.

V. Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;
R. Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.
V. Create in us clean hearts, O God;
R. And sustain us with thy Holy Spirit.

The Collect for Christmas Day

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.

A Collect for Peace

O God, who art the author of peace and lover of concord, in knowledge of whom standeth our eternal life, whose service is perfect freedom: Defend us, thy humble servants, in all assaults of our enemies; that we, surely trusting in thy defense, may not fear the power of any adversaries; through the might of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

A Prayer for Mission

O God, who hast made of one blood all the peoples of the earth, and didst send thy blessed Son to preach peace to those who are far off and to those who are near:
Grant that people everywhere may seek after thee and find thee; bring the nations into thy fold; pour out thy Spirit upon all flesh; and hasten the coming of thy kingdom; through the same thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Intercessions

We pray for all those who are ill, including all those who are suffering with COVID infections and those on our parish prayer list.

We pray for all those who mourn, especially Larry Hite and his family, Martha Kelly and her family, and Bishop Dabney Smith and his family.

We pray for all the departed, especially Robin Hite, Rowena Kelly, David L. Smith, and all those in whose memory flowers have been given to beautify our sanctuary.

The people may offer prayers of intercession and thanksgiving.

The General Thanksgiving

Officiant and People remain standing, if able

Almighty God, Father of all mercies, we thine unworthy servants do give thee most humble and hearty thanks for all thy goodness and loving-kindness to us and to all. We bless thee for our creation, preservation, and all the blessings of this life; but above all for thine inestimable love in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ, for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory. And, we beseech thee, give us that due sense of all thy mercies, that our hearts may be unfeignedly thankful; and that we show forth thy praise, not only with our lips, but in our lives, by giving up our selves to thy service, and by walking before thee in holiness and righteousness all our days; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honor and glory, world without end. **Amen.**

A Prayer of St. Chrysostom

Almighty God, who hast given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplication unto thee, and hast promised through thy well-beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name thou wilt be in the midst of them: Fulfill now, O Lord, the desires and petitions of thy servants as may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of thy truth, and in the world to come life everlasting.

Amen.

Officiant: Let us bless the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

The Dismissal

Officiant: May the God of hope fill us with all joy and peace in believing through the power of the Holy Spirit. (Romans 15:13)

People: **Amen.**

The People silently and reverently leave the Sanctuary filled with the Spirit of Christmas!

Those Who Serve on Christmas Day, 2020

Officiant
The Rev. Melissa Sands

Homilist

Mr. Michael Alford

Lectors

Mr. Greg Donham

Ms. Grace Alford

Mrs. Rebecca Alford

Altar Guild

Mrs. Cathy Athanson

Mrs. Karen Hillegas

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