



# San Jose Episcopal Church

## Christmas Eve Midnight Mass

The Holy Eucharist: Rite II  
December 24, 2025 at 10:30 p.m.



### Church Staff

The Rev. Stephen C. Britt, Rector  
The Rev. Katie Bennett, Deacon  
Brandon Michael Smith, Director of Music  
Susan Beaudin, Parish Administrator  
Cathy Richter, Assistant to the Rector  
Janice Waters, Parish Nurse  
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**San Jose Episcopal Church is a parish of the Episcopal Diocese of Florida.**

The church office is open Monday through Thursday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

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## **All are welcome at San Jose Episcopal Church**

We welcome you to San Jose Episcopal Church, a traditional parish focused on the Holy Eucharist and the best of the Anglican tradition, which welcomes all people and embraces many points of view. Our commitment is to work, worship, and minister in the service of our Lord; and with the help of the Holy Spirit, we intend to live prayerfully and joyfully in each other's company. We welcome everyone who wants to join us on any part of this holy pilgrimage. Above all, know that we are blessed to have you worship with us.

## **About Worship in the Episcopal Church**

If our liturgy (worship) is unfamiliar to you, we hope the information below will be helpful. If you require help, please inform one of our ushers or simply turn to one of your neighbors in the pews, let them know you are a visitor, and they will gladly help.

Our liturgy is rooted in the practices of ancient Christianity. Everything you see and hear today, including the prayers, music, architecture, physical postures, and responses, hold deep meaning about our beliefs, and are intentional and outward expressions of our faith.

Families with children of all ages are welcome at our worship services. There are many postures of prayer observed in the Episcopal church, usually standing or kneeling, but please do what you find most comfortable. Restrooms are located outside of the main church entrance to your right as you exit.

We now have assisted listening devices available for use during livestreamed services. Please contact an usher to request one. Users will need to supply their own headphones or earbuds. Instruction cards are available when you request a device.

## **About Receiving the Holy Communion**

All are welcome to receive Holy Communion at San Jose. If you are unable to receive at the altar rail, notify an usher and the clergy will come to your pew. If you wish to receive a blessing instead of bread, cross your arms over your chest. Please notify the clergy if you require a gluten-free wafer.

# The Word of God

*The tower bell is rung to signal a time of preparation. The people remain seated.*

## Prelude

### Opening Hymn 83

O come, all ye faithful

*Adeste Fideles*

*The people standing, the Celebrant says*

Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

*People:* **And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*The following hymn is sung, all standing*

## Gloria S 278

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth. Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory. 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.**

## The Collect of the Day

*Celebrant:* The Lord be with you.

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

*Celebrant:* Let us pray.

O God, you have caused this holy night to shine with the brightness of the true Light: Grant that we, who have known the mystery of that Light on earth, may also enjoy him perfectly in heaven; where with you and the Holy Spirit he lives and reigns, one God, in glory everlasting. **Amen.**

## First Lesson: Isaiah 9:2-7 *Please be seated.*

*Reader:* A reading from Isaiah.

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.**

## **Psalm 96** *Sung by the choir.*

Sing to the Lord a new song; sing to the Lord, all the whole earth. Sing to the Lord and bless his Name; proclaim the good news of his salvation from day to day. Declare his glory among the nations and his wonders among all peoples. For great is the Lord and greatly to be praised; he is more to be feared than all gods. As for all the gods of the nations, they are but idols; but it is the Lord who made the heavens. Oh, the majesty and magnificence of his presence! Oh, the power and the splendor of his sanctuary! Ascribe to the Lord, you families of the peoples; ascribe to the Lord honor and power. Ascribe to the Lord the honor due his Name; bring offerings and come into his courts. Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness; let the whole earth tremble before him. 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." 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. Then shall all the trees of the wood shout for joy before the Lord when he comes, when he comes to judge the earth. He will judge the world with righteousness and the peoples with his truth.

## **The Second Lesson: Titus 2:11-14**

*Reader:* A reading from Titus

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.**

## **Hymn 87**

Hark! The herald angels sing

*Mendelssohn*

## **The Holy Gospel: Luke 2:1-14**

*Celebrant:* The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

*People:* **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

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!"

*Celebrant:* The Gospel of the Lord.

*People:* **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

**The Nicene Creed** *All stand and speak in unison.*

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 Christmas Prayers**

On this most holy night we remember God's love in sending us his Son our Savior:

O Christ who comes to us, **Help us to go with you.**

Jesus came to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. May we who confess his Name, be united in his truth, live together in his love and reveal his glory in the world.

O Christ who comes to us, **Help us to go with you.**

Jesus came to this world as the King of kings and Lord of lords but arrived in the humility of a stable and manger. Help those who lead, in this nation and in the world, to lead with compassion and selflessness that all people may live into the peace of God and prosperity of the Holy Spirit.

O Christ who comes to us, **Help us to go with you.**

Jesus came to gather the sick, the suffering, the lonely, and the lost. Strengthen us to continue to seek out ways to alleviate suffering, to console grief, and to shine forth as a light to the world.

O Christ who comes to us, **Help us to go with you.**

Jesus came to end the sting of death and to show us the way to eternal life. We thank you for the souls who have gone before us, and who now celebrate this Christmastide in the very presence of the Incarnate Word.

O Christ who comes to us, **Help us to go with you.**

*The celebrant adds a closing collect.*

**The Peace** *The people greet one another with a sign of God's peace.*

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

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

# The Holy Communion

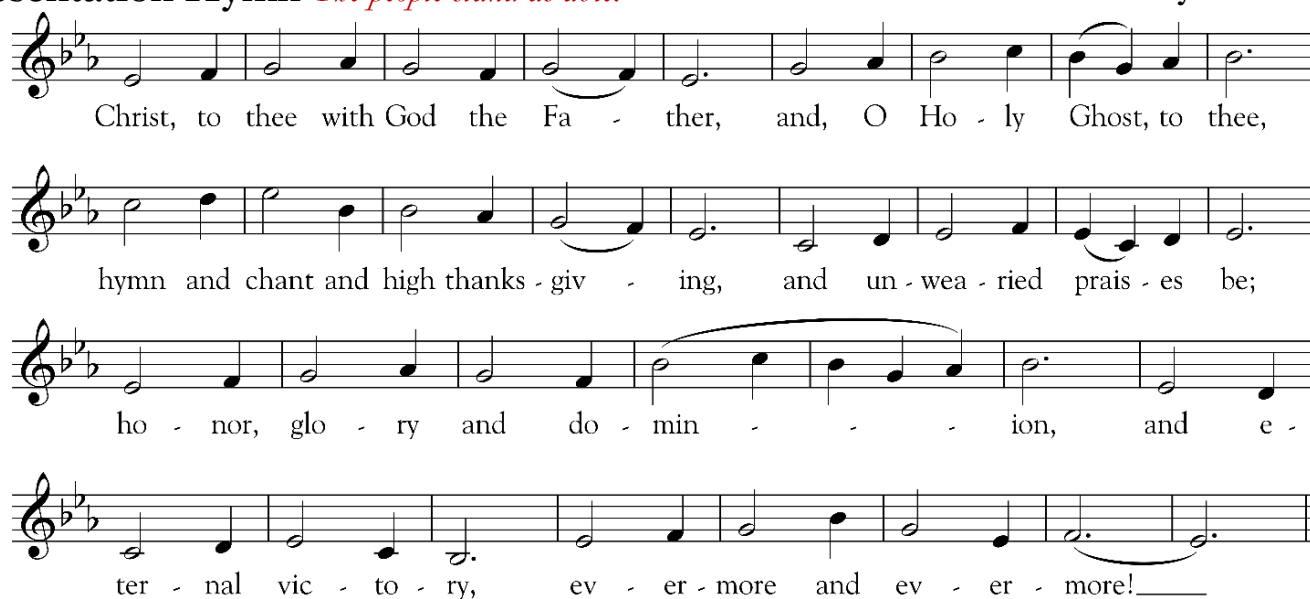
## Offertory

Before the marvel of this night

Carl Schalk

## Presentation Hymn *The people stand as able.*

Hymnal 82 v. 4



Words: Marcus Aurelius (1<sup>st</sup> cent.); tr. John Mason Neale (1818-1866) and Henry Williams Baker (1821-1877), alt.

Music: *Divinum mysterium*, Sanctus trope, 11<sup>th</sup> cent.; adapt. *Piae Cantiones*, 1582; acc. Burce Neswick (b. 1956)

## The Great Thanksgiving

## Eucharistic Prayer B



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 gave Jesus Christ, your only Son, to be born for us; who, by the mighty power of the Holy Spirit, was made perfect Man of the flesh of the Virgin Mary his mother; so that we might be delivered from the bondage of sin, and receive power to become your children.

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 *Sung by all.*

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might, Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might, Heaven and earth are full, full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord, the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.

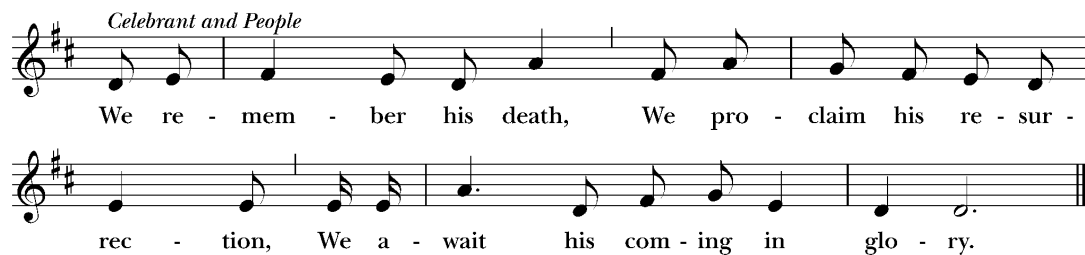
*The people stand or kneel.*

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, 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, according to his command, O Father,



And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

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.



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.**

*The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept.*

## **The Breaking of the Bread S 162**

**Jesus, Lamb of God: have mercy on us.**

**Jesus, bearer of our sins: have mercy on us.**

**Jesus, redeemer, redeemer of the world: give us your peace, give us your peace.**

## **Communion**

O Holy Night

Adolphe Adam,

*Kate Patterson and Chris Robertson*

Arr. Stephen DeCesare

*After Communion, the Celebrant says*

Let us pray.

**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 Bishop, when present, or the Priest, may bless the people.*

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.**

## **Candle Lighting**

*Those **sharing** the light, hold your candle upright. Those **receiving** the light, tip your candle to the light.*

## **Closing Hymn 111**

Silent night, holy night

*Stille nacht*

*The Deacon, or the Celebrant, dismisses the people with these, or other appropriate words*

Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

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