



*Nativity and Adoration of the Shepherds* (altarpiece, 1485), Domenico Ghirlandaio (ca. 1448-1494)

# THE SOLEMNITY OF THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST (CHRISTMAS DAY)

DECEMBER 25, 2023

10:00 AM



**ALL SAINTS EPISCOPAL CHURCH**  
**WOODHAVEN, NEW YORK**



¶ *Please stand at the ringing of the bell.*

## The Christmas Proclamation

Today, the twenty-fifth day of December,  
Unknown ages from the time when God created the heavens and the earth  
and then formed man and woman in his own image;  
Several thousand years after the flood,  
when God made the rainbow shine forth as a sign of the covenant;  
Twenty-one centuries from the time of Abraham and Sarah;  
Thirteen centuries after Moses led the people of Israel out of Egypt;  
Eleven hundred years from the time of Ruth and the Judges;  
One thousand years from the anointing of David as king;  
In the sixty-fifth week according to the prophecy of Daniel;  
In the one hundred and ninety-fourth Olympiad;  
The seven hundred and fifty-second year from the foundation of the city of  
Rome;  
The forty-second year of the reign of Octavian Augustus;  
The whole world being at peace:

Jesus Christ, eternal God and Son of the eternal Father,  
desiring to sanctify the world by his most merciful coming,  
being conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
and nine months having passed since his conception,

WAS BORN IN BETHLEHEM OF JUDEA OF THE VIRGIN MARY.

Today is the nativity of our Lord Jesus Christ according to the flesh.

# The “Christ” Mass

Opening Hymn (#87)

“Hark! The herald angels sing” (*Mendelssohn*)

Introit

*Puer natus*

Unto us a Child is born, unto us a Son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder; and his Name shall be called Angel of great counsel.

*Psalm.* O sing unto the LORD a new song, for he hath done marvellous things. *Gloria Patri.* Unto us a Child is born, &c. *cf. Isaiah 9:6; Psalm 98*

Opening Acclamation

℣. Blessed be God, ✠ Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

℟. *And blessed be his kingdom now and for ever. Amen.*

Collect for Purity & Summary of the Law

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

Hear what our Lord Jesus Christ saith: Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it: Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself. On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets.

Kyrie

℣. Kyrie eleison.

℟. *Kyrie eleison.*

℣. Kyrie eleison.

℟. *Christe eleison.*

℣. Christe eleison.

℟. *Christe eleison.*

℣. Kyrie eleison.

℟. *Kyrie eleison.*

℣. Kyrie eleison.

Gloria

*Gloria in excelsis Deo*

Glory be to God on high, *and on earth peace, good will towards men. We praise thee, we bless thee, we worship thee, we glorify thee, we give thanks to thee for thy great glory, O Lord God, heavenly King, God the Father Almighty. O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ; O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us. Thou that takest away the sins of the world, receive our prayer. Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy upon us. For thou only art holy; thou only art the Lord; thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost, art most high* ✠ *in the glory of God the Father. Amen.*

Collect for the Nativity of Our Lord III

℣. The Lord be with you.

℟. *And with thy spirit.*

Let us pray. Almighty God, who hast given us thy only-begotten Son to take our nature upon him, and as at this time to be born of a pure virgin: Grant that we, being regenerate and made thy children by adoption and grace, may daily be renewed by thy Holy Spirit; through the same our Lord Jesus Christ, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the same Spirit ever, one God, world without end. *Amen.*

¶ *Please be seated.*

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 52:7-10

How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of the messenger who announces peace, who brings good news, who announces salvation, who says to Zion, "Your God reigns." Listen! Your sentinels lift up their voices, together they sing for joy; for in plain sight they see the return of the LORD to Zion. Break forth together into singing, you ruins of Jerusalem; for the LORD has comforted his people, he has redeemed Jerusalem. The LORD has bared his holy arm before the eyes of all the nations; and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.

℣. The Word of the Lord.

℟. *Thanks be to God*

- 1 Sing unto the LORD a new song, for he hath done marvelous things.
- 2 With his right hand and his holy arm hath he won for himself the victory.
- 3 The LORD hath made known his victory; his righteousness hath he openly shown in the sight of the nations.
- 4 He remembereth 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 ye lands; lift up your voice, rejoice, and sing.
- 6 Sing unto 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 there-in.
- 9 Let the rivers clap their hands, and let the hills ring out with joy before the LORD, when he cometh to judge the earth.
- 10 In righteousness shall he judge the world and the peoples with equity.

## The Epistle

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.”

℣. The Word of the Lord.

℟. *Thanks be to God.*

¶ *Please stand.*

Gradual

*Viderunt*

All the ends of the world have seen the salvation of our God; show yourselves joyful unto the LORD, all ye lands. *Verse.* The LORD declared his salvation; his righteousness hath he openly showed in the sight of the heathen.

*Psalm 98:4,5; 3*

Alleluia

*Dies sanctificatus*

vj. *Cantors* *All*

**A**L- LE- LU- IA. Al - le - lu - ia.

*Tract.* A hallowed day hath dawned upon us; come, all ye nations, and worship the LORD, for on this day a great light hath descended upon the earth.

*Anonymous*

The Gospel

John 1:1-14

℣. The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St. John.

℟. *Glory be to thee, O Lord.*

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. (¶ *genuflect*) And the Word became flesh and lived among us, (¶ *rise*) and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

∴. The Gospel of the Lord.

*Rx. Praise be to thee, O Christ.*

¶ *Please be seated.*

Sermon

Fr. Whitmire

The Nicene Creed

I believe in one God, *the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible.*

*And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of his Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father; by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven,*

¶ *please kneel as able, or bow*

*and was incarnate by the Holy Ghost of the Virgin Mary, and was made man;*

¶ *please rise*

*and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate; he suffered and was buried; and the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures, and ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of the Father, and he shall come again, with glory, to judge both the quick and the dead; whose kingdom shall have no end.*

*And I believe in the Holy Ghost the Lord, and Giver of Life, who proceedeth from the Father and the Son; who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified; who spake by the Prophets.*

*And I believe one holy Catholic and Apostolic Church; I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins; and I look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.*

**¶ *Please kneel, as you are able, or remain standing.***

The Prayers of the People

Response: *Lord, have mercy.*

Final Response: *To thee, O Lord, our God.*

The Confession and Absolution

*Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against thee in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved thee with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of thy Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in thy will, and walk in thy ways, to the glory of thy Name. Amen.*

The Comfortable Words

The Peace

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

℞. *And with thy spirit.*



Offertory Sentence

*Tui sunt cæli*

The heavens are thine, the earth also is thine; thou hast laid the foundation of the round world, and all that therein is; righteousness and equity are the habitation of thy seat.

*Psalm 89:11, 14*

Offertory Hymn (#82) “Of the Father’s love begotten” (*Divinum mysterium*)

Orate Fratres ac Sorores

℣. Pray, my brothers and sisters, that this sacrifice of yours and mine may be acceptable to God the Father Almighty.

℟. *May the Lord receive this sacrifice at thy hands, to the praise and glory of his holy name, both to our benefit and that of all his holy Church.*

The Secret Prayer

Sanctify, O Lord, our offerings by the new birth of thine only-begotten Son, and cleanse us from the stains of our sins; through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
*Amen.*

## **The Holy Eucharist**

(Eucharistic Prayer II)

℣. The Lord be with you.

℟. *And with thy spirit.*

℣. Lift up your hearts.

℟. *We lift them up unto the Lord.*

℣. Let us give thanks unto the Lord our God.

℟. *It is meet and right so to do.*

Preface of the Incarnation

It is very meet, right, and our bounden duty that we should at all times and in all places give thanks unto thee, O Lord, holy Father, almighty, everlasting God: Because thou didst give Jesus Christ, thine only Son, to be born for us; who, by the mighty power of the Holy Ghost, was made very Man of the substance of the Virgin Mary his mother; that we might be delivered from the bondage of sin, and receive power to become thy children.

Therefore with Angels and Archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious Name; evermore praising thee, and saying,

Sanctus and Benedictus

*Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Hosts:  
Heaven and earth are full of thy Glory.  
Glory be to thee, O Lord Most High.*

*Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.*

**¶ *Please kneel as you are able, or remain standing.***

**¶ *At the elevation of the Host and Chalice, you are invited to make the Sign of the Cross and say silently, “My Lord and my God,” in adoration of our Lord’s Eucharistic presence.***

The Canon of the Mass

All glory be to thee, O Lord our God, for that thou didst create heaven and earth, and didst make us in thine own image; and, of thy tender mercy, didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to take our nature upon him, and to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption. He made there a full and perfect sacrifice for the whole world; and did institute, and in his holy Gospel command us to continue, a perpetual memory of that his precious death and sacrifice, until his coming again.

For in the night in which he was betrayed, he took bread; and when he had given thanks to thee, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:

“TAKE, EAT:

THIS IS MY BODY WHICH IS GIVEN FOR YOU.

DO THIS IN REMEMBRANCE OF ME.”

Likewise, after supper he took the cup; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying,

“DRINK YE ALL OF THIS:  
FOR THIS IS MY BLOOD OF THE NEW COVENANT,  
WHICH IS SHED FOR YOU AND FOR MANY FOR THE REMISSION OF SINS.  
DO THIS, AS OFT AS YE SHALL DRINK IT, IN REMEMBRANCE OF ME.”

Wherefore, O Lord and heavenly Father, we thy people do celebrate and make, with these thy holy gifts which we now offer unto thee, the memorial thy Son hath commanded us to make; having in remembrance his blessed passion and precious death, his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension; and looking for his coming again with power and great glory.

And we most humbly beseech thee, O merciful Father, to hear us, and, with thy Word and Holy Spirit, to bless and sanctify these gifts of bread and wine, that they may be unto us the Body and Blood of thy dearly-beloved Son Jesus Christ.

And we earnestly desire thy fatherly goodness to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, whereby we offer and present unto thee, O Lord, our selves, our souls and bodies. Grant, we beseech thee, that all who partake of this Holy Communion may worthily receive the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son Jesus Christ, and be filled with thy grace and heavenly benediction; and also that we and all thy whole Church may be made one body with him, that he may dwell in us, and we in him; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord;

By whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Ghost, all honor and glory be unto thee, O Father almighty, world without end.  
*AMEN.*

The Lord's Prayer

And now, as our Savior Christ hath 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.*

## Fraction Anthem

℣. Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

℟. *Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.*

## Agnus Dei

℣. O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,

℟. *Have mercy upon us.*

℣. O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,

℟. *Have mercy upon us.*

℣. O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,

℟. *Grant us thy peace.*

## The Prayer of Humble Access

*We do not presume to come to this thy Table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in thy manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under thy Table. But thou art the same Lord whose property is always to have mercy. Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of thy dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that our sinful bodies may be made clean by his body, and our souls washed through his most precious blood, and that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.*

## *Ecce Agnus Dei & Non sum dignus*

℣. Behold the Lamb of God; behold him who taketh away the sins of the world. Happy are we who are called to his supper.

℟. *Lord, I am not worthy that thou shouldest come under my roof; but, speak the word only, and my soul shall be healed.*

## Communion Sentence

All the ends of the world have seen the salvation of our God.

*Viderunt omnes*

*Psalm 98:4*

*All persons are invited to the Lord's Table. All baptized Christians, regardless of tradition, are invited to receive the Blessed Sacrament. We will offer only the host. Upon receiving the consecrated host, please move to one side, lower your mask to consume, and replace it before returning to your seat. If you prefer not to receive, you may receive a blessing from the Priest by crossing your arms over your chest.*

### **An Act of Spiritual Communion**

**¶ *If you cannot receive the Blessed Sacrament physically, you are invited to receive Jesus spiritually by making an Act of Spiritual Communion. Please pray the following prayer.***

My Jesus, I believe that thou art present in the Blessed Sacrament. I love thee above all things, and I desire thee in my soul. Since I cannot now receive thee sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace thee, as though thou wert already there, and unite myself wholly to thee; permit not that I should ever be separated from thee. Amen.

Hymn at the Ablutions (#101)

“Away in a manger” (*Cradle Song*)

Post-Communion Prayer

*Almighty and ever living God, we most heartily thank thee, for that thou dost feed us in these holy mysteries with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and dost assure us thereby of thy favor and goodness towards us; and that we are very members incorporate in the mystical body of thy Son, the blessed company of all faithful people; and are also heirs through hope of thy everlasting kingdom. And we humbly beseech thee, O heavenly Father, so to assist us with thy grace, that we may continue in that holy fellowship, and do all such good works as thou hast prepared for us to walk in; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honor and glory, world without end. Amen.*

Postcommunion Collect

Grant, we beseech thee, Almighty God, that as the Savior of the world, born today, has regenerated us to a divine life, so he may further bestow upon us the gift of immortality; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

## The Benediction

May Almighty God, who sent his Son to take our nature upon him, bless you in this holy season, scatter the darkness of sin, and brighten your heart with the light of his holiness. *Amen.*

May God, who sent his angels to proclaim the glad news of the Savior's birth, fill you with joy, and make you heralds of the Gospel. *Amen.*

May God, who in the Word made flesh joined heaven to earth and earth to heaven, give you his peace and favor. *Amen.*

And the blessing of God Almighty, ✠ the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost be upon you and remain with you for ever. *Amen.*

## The Dismissal

℣. Let us go forth in the Name of Christ.

℟. *Thanks be to God.*

## Final Hymn (#107)

“Good Christian friends, rejoice” (*In dulci jubilo*)



*The Nativity* (ca. 1408), Piero di Giovanni (1370-1425)



*The Nativity with the Prophets Isaiah and Ezekiel*, (1308-1311) Duccio di Buoninsegna (ca. 1250 - ca. 1319)



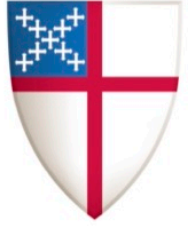
# ALL SAINTS EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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*All Saints Church is a catholic parish of the Episcopal Church within the Anglican Communion in the Diocese of Long Island*



*The mission of All Saints Church is to proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord by our participation in the Eucharist, our fellowship in oneness and diversity, by respect for each other, and through outreach into the community.*

## WEEKLY SCHEDULE

### Sunday

Low Mass	8:00 AM
La Misa en Español	9:15 AM
Sung Mass	11:00 AM
Grupo AA	3:00 PM

### Tuesday

Bible Study & Educational Forum (via Zoom)	7:30 PM
Grupo AA	8:00 PM

### Wednesday

Low Mass	7:00 PM
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### Thursday

Rosary with Walsingham Devotions via Zoom (1st Thursday)	7:00 PM
Grupo AA	8:00 PM

### Friday

Low Mass or Morning Prayer	9:30 AM
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### Saturday

Estudio Bíblico (via Zoom)	10:30 AM
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The Right Reverend Lawrence C. Provenzano  
 The Right Reverend Geralyn Wolf  
 The Right Reverend Daniel Allotey  
 The Right Reverend Bill Franklin  
 The Reverend Dr. Norman Whitmire, Jr.  
 Mr. Nicholas Russotto

Bishop of Long Island  
 Assistant Bishop  
 Assisting Bishop  
 Assisting Bishop  
 Rector  
 Organist