



ST. CATHERINE'S
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

**First Sunday After Christmas
December 29, 2024**

Welcome to St. Catherine's

We are glad that you have joined us for worship. If you are visiting with us, we invite you to fill out a visitor card, which can be found on the back of the chair in front of you. Completed cards may be given to a greeter or placed in the collection plate.

“BCP” before a page number refers to the Book of Common Prayer. “H” before a page number refers to the hymnal. Both are in the rack in front of you.

You are very welcome to receive Holy Communion if you have been baptized in any Christian Church. Those who wish not to receive Holy Communion may come to the altar, fold their arms across their chests, and receive a blessing from the priest.

Serving Today

The Rt. Rev. Kee Sloan, *Celebrant and Preacher*

The Rev. Clyde Pearce, *Deacon*

Connie Meloun, *Vestry Person of the Day*

Sasha Johns, *LEM/ Crucifer*

Laura Chambless, *Intercessor*

Michelle Nivens, *Lector*

Michelle Caiola *Greeter*

Cathy Cawthon, *Altar Guild*

Jim Cawthon, *Technology*

Denise Armstrong & Michelle

Caiola, *Counters*

Gracie & Kaiser Dominguez,

Torchbearers

PRELUDE

ENTRANCE HYMN *Please stand.*

H 87

The Word of God

OPENING ACCLAMATION

BCP 355

THE COLLECT FOR PURITY

BCP 355

THE GLORIA

Glory Be To God On High

Gloria [paraphrase]

The St. James Christmas Service

Joyously



Glo - ry be to God on high,
Je - sus Christ, we now de - clare
Prai - ses to the Ho - ly One,



To all peo - ple, peace on earth, An - gels, shep - herds
Lamb of God and Lord of Love. Grant us mer - cy,
Prai - ses sing in high - est heav'n; To the Fath - er



draw - ing nigh, Join to ce - le - brate His birth.
hear our prayer, Give us grace from heav'en a - bove.
and the Son and the Ho - ly Spi - rit giv'n.

Glo - - - - - ri - a

1. in ex - cel - sis De - o! 2. in ex - cel - sis De o!

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

BCP 357

Almighty God, you have poured upon us the new light of your incarnate Word: Grant that this light, enkindled in our hearts, may shine forth in our lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

The Lessons *Please be seated.*

FIRST READING

A Reading from the prophet Isaiah.

Isa. 61:10-62:3

I will greatly rejoice in the Lord, my whole being shall exult in my God; for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation, he has covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels. For as the earth brings forth its shoots, and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up, so the Lord God will cause righteousness and praise to spring up before all the nations. For Zion's sake I will not keep silent, and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest, until her vindication shines out like the dawn, and her salvation like a burning torch. The nations shall see your vindication, and all the kings your glory; and you shall be called by a new name that the mouth of the Lord will give. You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the Lord, and a royal diadem in the hand of your God.

Isa. 61:10-62:3

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 147:13-21

The Psalm will be read responsively by whole verse.

13 Worship the Lord, O Jerusalem; *
praise your God, O Zion;

**14 For he has strengthened the bars of
your gates; * he has blessed your
children within you.**

15 He has established peace on your
borders; * he satisfies you with the finest
wheat.

**16 He sends out his command to the
earth, * and his word runs very swiftly.**

17 He gives snow like wool; * he scatters
hoarfrost like ashes.

**18 He scatters his hail like bread
crumbs; * who can stand against his
cold?**

19 He sends forth his word and melts
them; * he blows with his wind, and the
waters flow.

**20 He declares his word to Jacob, * his
statutes and his judgments to Israel.**

21 He has not done so to any other
nation; * to them he has not revealed his
judgments. Hallelujah!

SECOND READING

A Reading from Paul's Letter to the Galatians.

Now before faith came, we were imprisoned and guarded under the law until faith would be revealed. Therefore the law was our disciplinarian until Christ came, so that we might be justified by faith. But now that faith has come, we are no longer subject to a disciplinarian. But when the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, in order to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as children. And because you are children, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" So you are no longer a slave but a child, and if a child then also an heir, through God.

Galatians 3:23-25; 4:4-7

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

*All stand as able. Cantor sings Alleluia; Congregation repeats Alleluia; Cantor sings verse;
All repeat Alleluia.*

CHRISTMAS SEASON GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Barbara Bridge
Adapted from the *Sussex Carol*



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Cantor: Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord: the Lord is God and has given us light. Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Deacon The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

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

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. (John testified to him and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks ahead of me because he was before me.'") From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. No one has ever seen God. It is God the only Son, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known. *John 1:1-18*

Deacon The Gospel of the Lord.

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

THE SERMON

The Rt. Rev. Kee Sloan

A period of silence follows the sermon.

THE NICENE CREED *Please stand as able.* **BCP 358**

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE, Form III **BCP 387**

CONCLUDING COLLECT

THE CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION **BCP 360**

THE PEACE *The Peace is now exchanged.* **BCP 360**

THE ANNOUNCEMENTS

OFFERTORY SENTENCE

OFFERTORY HYMN **H 82**

As the offerings are brought to the altar, standing as you are able, the following is sung:

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. Amen.

The Holy Communion

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING **BCP 361**

SANCTUS

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord

Sanctus

The St. James Christmas Service

Gently [in One]

The musical score is written on six staves of music. The first staff begins with a treble clef, a key signature of one flat (B-flat), and a 3/4 time signature. A four-measure rest is indicated above the first staff. The lyrics are: "Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and_ might, _____ heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho-san - na in the high - est. Blessed is he, is he who comes in the name of the Lord. _____ Ho - san - na in the high - est, Ho - san - na in the high - est." The lyrics are placed below the corresponding musical notes.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

BCP 364

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

BCP 364

FRACTION ANTHEM

O Lamb Of God

Fraction Anthem

The St. James Christmas Service

Gently [In One]

O Lamb of God, O Ho - ly
Child, who takes the sin of the world a - way; Have
mer - cy on us, lamb so mild, the babe, the
son of Ma - ry. This, this is your bo - dy
giv'n, Your pre - cious blood, the gift of heav'n.
Take, eat, for we are one in the babe, the
son of Ma - ry.

INVITATION

BCP 364

COMMUNION HYMN	H 324
POST-COMMUNION PRAYER	BCP 365
BLESSING	
POST-COMMUNION HYMN	H 100
DISMISSAL	BCP 366
POSTLUDE	

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Prayers of the Community

Those on our parish prayer list: Nita, Clydene, Steven, Heather, Dottie, Wendy, Angel, Marti, Dave, John, and Tristan.

Those who serve in the military, especially John Morris and Bradley Pridgen.

For those that celebrate birthdays this week.

Diocesan Cycle of Prayer

We pray for our Companion Diocese of Honduras and their bishop, Lloyd; We also pray for Children of Clergy; Pre-School Partners in Birmingham and Anniston; All Diocesan Youth Ministries; St. Stephen's, Birmingham; St. Stephen's, Eutaw; St. Stephen's, Huntsville; and St. Stephen's, Smith Station.

Announcements

Join us after the service in the parish hall for Pot Luck Sunday and conversation.

January 19th Vestry Meeting at 11:45. All are welcome!

Schedule of Supply Priests -2025

Jan 5 th	Clark Hubbard
Jan 12 th	Kelley Hudlow
Jan 19 th	Clark Hubbard
Jan 26 th	Kelley Hudlow
Feb 2 nd	Clark Hubbard
Feb 9 th	Kelley Hudlow
Feb 16 th	Clark Hubbard
Feb 23 rd	Kelley Hudlow

Upcoming Events

Loving Our Neighbors – Gifts for the Children at King’s Home

We have a tradition of sharing gifts with the girls and boys down the street at King’s Home on January 6th. Epiphany. We give them “twin size” sheets and blankets and pillowcases to use while they are residents. When they leave King’s Home they may take these gifts with them.

A few years ago we added stuffed animals to our gift list. We hope they will bring comfort to the children who have been taken from their parents as the result of abuse and then brought to live in a home with 7 other children and “house parents” who were strangers to them.

Please place your gifts under the tree at the choir room door. If you would like to join the group who will be delivering these gifts to King’s Home on January 6, please contact Bill Wheeler (205-618-9364 or 205-784-5622).

Our Mission

To seek, love, and serve God through worship, education, and service and to share the redeeming love of Christ with the world.

Our Vision

St. Catherine's, the Episcopal Church in Chelsea, is a welcoming and inclusive family called by Christ to receive and share God's love.

Clergy and Staff

The Rt. Rev. Dr. Glenda S. Curry

Bishop of Alabama

The Rt. Rev. Brian Prior

Assisting Bishop

The Rev. Clyde Pearce

Deacon

Dr. Matthew West, Ph.D., *Organist/Choirmaster*

Julie Seal

Parish Administrator

St. Catherine's Episcopal Church

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