



TRINITY CHURCH MYRTLE BEACH

Epiphany Processions and Carols

January 6, 2012 + 6:30 p. m.

Welcome to Trinity

A special welcome to those who are visiting; the addition of your praise and thanks to God heartens us all. If you are seeking a church home, you are welcome here.

Restrooms are located directly across from the Nave just outside of Gravely Hall, and a **Nursery** is available for infants through age five. Please do not hesitate to speak to an usher or any church member if you have any questions or need any assistance.

About This Service...

This service celebrates the Epiphany ("manifestation") of our Lord, the twelfth and final day of Christmas, which is the completion and fulfillment of the Advent and Christmas seasons. Some themes that run throughout the service:

Light: At Epiphany the wise men are led to the infant Jesus by the guiding of a star, in spite of the dark motives of those who would thwart God's loving purpose. The light of this same star—in the person of Jesus and in the form of his Word—remains undimmed as a source of guidance and illumination in our lives today.

Pilgrimage: Epiphany commemorates, among other things, the very first Christian pilgrimage. The arduous and dangerous journey of the Magi would have required great faith to undertake and even greater determination to carry out. The extended procession at the beginning of the service recalls this extraordinary act of devotion.

Tension between the Cradle and the Cross: Precursors of the ultimate purpose of Christ's incarnation are found throughout the Biblical narrative of his birth. The gift of gold symbolizes Christ's kingship, but the gift of myrrh foretells his death; the story of the Magi is followed immediately by the slaughter of the Holy Innocents; Simeon is overjoyed to the sight of the infant Messiah but warns Mary that a sword will pierce her soul.

Please silence all audible electronic devices prior to the service.

A suggested prayer upon entering the church:

Everlasting God, the radiance of faithful souls,
you brought the nations to your light
and kings to the brightness of your rising.

Fill the world with your glory, and show yourself to all the nations;
through him who is the true light and the bright and Morning Star,
even Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Gathering

PRELUDE

Marsch der heiligen drei Könige
(March of the Holy Three Kings)
Anton Wilhelm Leupold (1868-1940)

At the conclusion of the Prelude, all stand.

INVOCATION AND COLLECT

Celebrant: In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

People: **Amen.**

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

A brief Silence.

O God, who by the leading of a star didst manifest thy only-begotten Son to the peoples of the earth: Lead us, who know thee now by faith, to thy presence, where we may behold thy glory face to face; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Amen.

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

He whom shepherds once came praising

QUEMPAS CAROL

Choir: He whom shepherds once came praising, Awed by heavenly light a blazing,
Cheered by angel news amazing: "King of glory, Christ is born!"
The glorious angels came today,
Aglow with light into the night of darkness deep,
To shepherds who by moon's bright ray
Did in the field o'er sheep their silent vigil keep,
"Joy, great joy and tidings glad we bring from heav'n resounding,
For you, for you and all the world abounding."

People:

God's own Son is born a child, is born a child;
God the Fa-ther is rec - on-ciled, is rec - on ciled!

Choir:

He whom sages, westward faring, Myrrh and gold and incense bearing,
Humbly worshiped, offerings sharing: Judah's lion reigns this morn!
God's majesty has come to earth
And sent his only Son to you in human-kind;
A chosen virgin gave him birth.
In David's town the holy infant you will find,
Lying helpless in a manger, poor and bare and lowly,
To set you free from all your sorrow wholly.

People:

God's own Son is bon a child, is born a child;
God the Father is reconciled, is reconciled.

Choir:

Sing with Mary, virgin mother; Praise her Son, our newborn brother;
Angel ranks, lead one another, Hailing him in holy joy!
Then sang the angels this refrain: "To God on high alone give praise and glory,
And peace on earth again shall reign.
Let all on earth with gladness heed this story
And rejoice in his good will." The Savior came in meekness
For you, for you, to bear your flesh in weakness.

People:

God's own Son is bon a child, is born a child;
God the Father is reconciled, is reconciled.

- Choir:** To our king, God ever reigning, Yet of Mary manhood gaining,
Heav'ly gifts for us obtaining, Raise your hymns of homage high!
The wond'ring shepherds said: "Behold!
Let us now go with all goodspeed to Bethlehem
To see this thing the Lord has told;
The cattle leave; he will indeed take care of them."
There they found the wonder child, in lowly swaddling clothes lying,
Yet all the world with his free grace supplying.
- People:** **God's own Son is bon a child, is born a child;**
God the Father is reconciled, is reconciled.

Lessons and Carols

All SIT and remain seated through the Sixth Lesson.

FIRST LESSON

Luke 2:1-20

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. ²This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. ³All went to their own towns to be registered. ⁴Joseph 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. ⁵He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. ⁶While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. ⁷And 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.

⁸In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. ⁹Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. ¹⁰But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see — I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: ¹¹to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. ¹²This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." ¹³And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, ¹⁴"Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!"

¹⁵When 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." ¹⁶So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. ¹⁷When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; ¹⁸and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. ¹⁹But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. ²⁰The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

The Word of the Lord.

People:

Thanks be to God.

Carol

Niles, arr. Warrell

Choir:

Jesus, Jesus, rest your head, you have got a manger bed.
All the evil folk on earth sleep in feathers at their birth.

Have you heard about our Jesus? Have you heard about his fate?
How his mother came to the stable, on that Christmas Eve so late?
Winds were blowing, cows were lowing; stars were glowing, glowing.

To that manger came three wisemen, bringing things from hin and yon
For the mother and the father and that blessed little Son.
Milkmaids left their fields and flocks and sat beside the ass and ox.

- *Appalachian carol*

Hymn

94, While shepherds watched their flocks by night

WINCHESTER NEW

SECOND LESSON

Isaiah 60:1-6

Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you. ²For darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples; but the LORD will arise upon you, and his glory will appear over you. ³Nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn. ⁴Lift up your eyes and look around; they all gather together, they come to you; your sons shall come from far away, and your daughters shall be carried on their nurses' arms. ⁵Then you shall see and be radiant; your heart shall thrill and rejoice, because the abundance of the sea shall be brought to you, the wealth of the nations shall come to you. ⁶A multitude of camels shall cover you, the young camels of Midian and Ephah; all those from Sheba shall come. They shall bring gold and frankincense, and shall proclaim the praise of the LORD.

The Word of the Lord.

People:

Thanks be to God.

Carol

Jane M. Marshall

(b. 1924)

Choir:

He comes to us as one unknown, without a name. As of old, by the lakeshore, he came to those men who knew him not. He speaks to us; he speaks the same word: "Follow thou me!" in the toils, the conflicts, the sufferings, which they shall pass through in his fellowship. And as in ineffable mystery, they shall learn in their own experience who he is.

-Albert Schweitzer (1875-1965)

Hymn

73, The King shall come when morning dawns

ST. STEPHEN

THIRD LESSON

Matthew 2:1-12

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem,² asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage." ³When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; ⁴and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. ⁵They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet: ⁶'And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel.'"

⁷Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. ⁸Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage." ⁹When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. ¹⁰When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. ¹¹On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. ¹²And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

The Word of the Lord.

People:

Thanks be to God.

Carol

setting by H. Walford Davies

(1869-1941)

Choir:

O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie!
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by;
yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting Light;
the hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.
How silently, how silently, the wondrous gift is given!
So God imparts to human hearts the blessings of his heaven.
No ear may hear his coming, but in this world of sin,
where meek souls will receive him, still the dear Christ enters in.
O holy Child of Bethlehem, descend to us, we pray;
cast out our sin and enter in, be born in us today.
We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell;
O come to us, abide with us, our Lord Emmanuel!

-Phillips Brooks (1835-1893)

Hymn

119, As with gladness men of old

DIX

FOURTH LESSON

Matthew 2:13-18

¹³Now after [the Wise Men] had left, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, "Get up, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you; for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him." ¹⁴Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother by night, and went to Egypt, ¹⁵and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet, "Out of Egypt I have called my son."

¹⁶When Herod saw that he had been tricked by the wise men, he was infuriated, and he sent and killed all the children in and around Bethlehem who were two years old or under, according to the time that he had learned from the wise men. ¹⁷Then was fulfilled what had been spoken through the prophet Jeremiah: ¹⁸"A voice was heard in Ramah, wailing and loud lamentation, Rachel weeping for her children; she refused to be consoled, because they are no more."

The Word of the Lord.

People:

Thanks be to God.

Carol

William Ballet
(17th century)

Choir: Sweet was the song the Virgin sang, when she to Bethlem Judah came
And was delivered of a son, That blessed Jesus hath to name:
Lulla, lulla, lalluby.

'Sweet babe,' sang she, 'my son, and eke a Saviour born,
Who hast vouchsafed from on high to visit us that were forlorn:
Lulla, lulla, lalluby.'

Hymn

Unto us is born a child

PUER NOBIS NASCITUR

stanzas 1 and 2 – all;

stanza 3 – men; stanza 4 – women and trebles;

stanza 5 - all



1. Un - to us is born a Son, — King of quires su - per - nal:
2. Christ, from heav'n des - cend-ing low, — Comes on earth a stran-ger;
3. This did He - rod sore af - fray, and grie - vous - ly be - wild - er,
4. Of his love and mer - cy mild — This the Christ-mas sto - ry;
5. O and A, and A and O, — Sing we now in cho - rus;



See on earth his life be - gun, Of lords the Lord e -
Ox and ass their own - er know, Be - cra - dled in the
So he gave the word to slay, And slew the lit - tle
O that Ma - ry's gen - tle Child Might lead us up to
King of Kings and Lord of Lords, Now let thy grace be



ter - nal, of lords the Lord e - ter - nal.
man - ger, be - cra - dled in the man - ger.
chil - der, and slew the lit - tle chil - der.
glo - ry, might lead us up to glo - ry!
o'er us, now let thy grace be o'er us.

FIFTH LESSON

Luke 2:22-35

²²When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, they brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord ²³(as it is written in the law of the Lord, "Every firstborn male shall be designated as holy to the Lord"), ²⁴and they offered a sacrifice according to what is stated in the law of the Lord, "a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons."

²⁵Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon; this man was righteous and devout, looking forward to the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit rested on him. ²⁶It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Messiah.

²⁷Guided by the Spirit, Simeon came into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him what was customary under the law,

²⁸Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying, ²⁹"Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace, according to your word; ³⁰for my eyes have seen your salvation, ³¹which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, ³²a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to your people Israel."

³³And the child's father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him. ³⁴Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, "This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed ³⁵so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed — and a sword will pierce your own soul too."

The Word of the Lord.

People:

Thanks be to God.

Carol

setting by George Dyson

(1883-1964)

Choir:

Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace, according to thy word.
For mine eyes have seen thy salvation, Which thou hast prepared before
the face of all people; To be a light to lighten the Gentiles, and to be the
glory of thy people Israel. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the
Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world
without end. Amen

- Luke 2:29-32

Hymn

82, Of the Father's love begotten

DIVINUM MYSTERIUM

¹¹For this is the message you have heard from the beginning, that we should love one another. ¹²We must not be like Cain who was from the evil one and murdered his brother. And why did he murder him? Because his own deeds were evil and his brother's righteous. ¹³Do not be astonished, brothers and sisters, that the world hates you. ¹⁴We know that we have passed from death to life because we love one another. Whoever does not love abides in death. ¹⁵All who hate a brother or sister are murderers, and you know that murderers do not have eternal life abiding in them. ¹⁶We know love by this, that he laid down his life for us — and we ought to lay down our lives for one another. ¹⁷How does God's love abide in anyone who has the world's goods and sees a brother or sister in need and yet refuses help?

¹⁸Little children, let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action.

²³And this is his commandment, that we should believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as he has commanded us. ²⁴All who obey his commandments abide in him, and he abides in them. And by this we know that he abides in us, by the Spirit that he has given us.

The Word of the Lord.

People:

Thanks be to God.

Carol

Wilbur Held

(b. 1914)

Choir:

Saw you never, in the twilight, when the sun had left the skies,
Up in heaven the clear stars shining through the gloom, like silver eyes?
So of old the wise men, watching, saw a little stranger star,
And they knew the King was given, and they followed it from afar.

Heard you never of the story how they crossed the desert wild,
Journeyed on by plain and mountain, till they found the holy Child?
How they opened all their treasure, kneeling to that infant King;
Gave the gold and fragrant incense, gave the myrrh in offering?

Know ye not that lowly Baby was the bright and morning Star?
He Who came to light the Gentiles, and the darkened isles afar?
And we, too, may seek His cradle; there our hearts' best treasures bring;
Love, and faith, and true devotion for our Savior, God and King.

- Cecil Frances Alexander, 1853

All STAND and sing together:

Hymn

The Coming of God to Earth
Cuban folktune, arr. Ronald Nelson

Choir: The valleys ring, the angels sing the joyful news of Jesus' birth
so let us unite to celebrate the coming of God to earth.

People:

The world has waited long, now the angels have sung their song,
so let us unite to celebrate the coming of God to earth.

Choir: Without a crown the King comes down, without a palace to greet his birth
so let us unite to celebrate the coming of God to earth.

People: **The world had waited long, now the angels have sung their song**
so let us unite to celebrate the coming of God to earth.

Choir: He lies instead in manger bed to show the poor his own true worth
so let us unite to celebrate the coming of God to earth.

People: **The world had waited long, now the angels have sung their song**
so let us unite to celebrate the coming of God to earth.

At the conclusion of the hymn, please kneel as you are able.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

from *Common Worship*, Church of England

Celebrant: In the power of the Spirit and in union with Christ, let us pray to the Father.

A brief Silence.

Hear our prayers, O Lord our God,

People: **Lord, have mercy.**

Give us boldness to preach the gospel in all the world, and to make disciples of all the nations.

Lord, have mercy.

Enlighten Mark, our Bishop and all your ministers with knowledge and understanding, that by their teaching and their lives they may proclaim your word.

Lord, have mercy.

Bring into the way of truth all who have erred and are deceived.

Lord, have mercy.

Bless those who administer the law, that they may uphold justice, honesty and truth.

Lord, have mercy.

Keep in safety those who travel, and all who are in danger.

Lord, have mercy.

Heal the sick in body and mind, and provide for the homeless, the hungry, and the destitute.

Lord, have mercy.

Hear us as we remember those who have died in the peace of Christ, both those who have confessed the faith and those whose faith is known to you alone, and grant us with them a share in your eternal kingdom.

Lord, have mercy.

A brief Silence.

Heavenly Father, you have promised through your son Jesus Christ, that when we meet in his name, and pray according to his mind, he will be among us and hear our prayer: in your love and mercy fulfill our desires, and give us your greatest gift, which is to know you, the only true God, and your son Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

BLESSING

Celebrant: May you be filled with the wonder of Mary,
the obedience of Joseph, the joy of the angels,
the eagerness of the shepherds, the determination of the magi,
and the peace of the Christ child.

The blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be upon you and remain with you for ever.

People: **Amen.**

All stand and sing together:

HYMN

497, How bright appears the Morning Star

WIE SCHÖN LEUCHTET

Participating in this Evening's Liturgy

Officiant:

The Rev. Bruce Geary

Readers:

Margo Perl,

Stewart Haigh, Stuart Henderson,
Irene Bell, and Amy Jordan

**The mission of Trinity Church
is to inspire all people through the power of the Gospel
to become living members of the Body of Christ**

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