

THE HOLY EUCHARIST Christmas Eve 5:00 PM



THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY OF THE HARBOR PROVINCETOWN



Where the Land, the Sea, and the Sacred Meet

THE REV. BRIAN RAICHE Presiding

THE REV. BRUCE MASON Deacon of the Word

Music Director:	William Carlson
Instrumentalist:	Loren Lee, Violin

Preludes

In the Bleak Midwinter	Holst/Bestor	violin & piano
Infant holy, Infant lowly	Polish Carol	choir
God rest you merry	Hymnal 105	congregation
Rocking	Czech carol	choir
What child is this?	Hymnal 115	congregation
Thou who wast rich beyond all splendor	French carol	choir
Berceuse	Louis Vierne	organ

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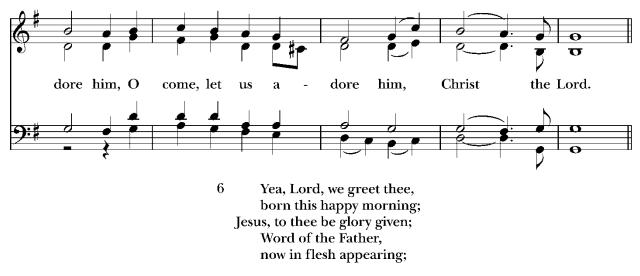
Welcome Gathering Hymn:

O Come, All Ye Faithful

Hymnal #83

Verses 1-3, 6





Refrain

Opening Acclamation

Presider: Blessed be God, Creator, Christ and Holy Spirit.People: And blessed be God's kingdom, now and forever.

Blessing of the Christmas Crèche

Presider: Most merciful and loving God, you have made this night holy by the incarnation of your Son Jesus Christ, and by the child-bearing of the Blessed Virgin Mary: Grant that we your people may enter with joy into this celebration and may also rejoice for ever as your adopted sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The figure of the Christ Child is placed in the Crèche

Presider: The word was made flesh and dwelt among us.People: And we beheld his glory.

Gloria	Angels We have Heard on High	Hymnal #96
Verses 1 & 4		
	Angels we have heard on high,	
	singing sweetly through the night,	
	and the mountains in reply	
	echoing their brave delight.	
	Gloria in excelsis Deo.	
	See him in a manger laid	
	whom the angels praise above;	
	Mary, Joseph, lend your aid,	
	while we raise our hearts in love.	
	Gloria in excelsis Deo.	

Collect of the day

Presider: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Presider: 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 Reading: Isaiah 9:2-7

A Reading from the Book of the Prophet 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.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 96

Read responsively by half verse

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.**

Second Reading: Titus 2:11-14

A Reading from the Letter of Paul to 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.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people. **Thanks be to God.**

Gradual Hymn

Go, Tell it on the Mountain

Verses 1 & 2 before the Gospel; Verse 3 after the Gospel



<u>Gospel</u>: *Luke* 2:1--20 The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke **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!"

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to You, Lord Christ.**

Christmas Sermon

The Rev. Brian Raiche

The Creed

I Believe In God Almighty



Prayers of the People

Presider: Let us pray to God, who came among us in the birth of Jesus:

As you gave Mary your Holy Spirit, filling her with the delight of your Presence; Fill us with your Spirit, and renew our lives. Lord, in your mercy, **Hear our prayer**.

As Gentiles streamed to Jesus' Light, and Kings to the brightness of his rising; Draw our nation, and all in authority, to His brightness. Lord, in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

As angels sang 'glorias' to you and proclaimed peace on earth, and goodwill among all peoples; Bring us your peace, and bring an end to terror and strife. Lord, in your mercy, **Hear our prayer**.

As Jesus was born in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn; Be especially present with those who have nowhere to lay their head, those who are vulnerable, and those who are hungry. Lord, in your mercy, **Hear our prayer**.

As the Holy Family gathered together in Bethlehem and traveled together to far off lands; Bless all families, especially the families of our parish, and protect refugees. Lord, in your mercy, **Hear our prayer**.

On this Christmas Eve, we remember the sick and suffering: May they find healing and peace: Stella Mae Bird, Mark Ward, Richard Keeling, Joan Boudreau, Ken Barry, Towanda deNagy, Priscilla McChesney, Ollie Ahmuty, Joan Walter, Chelsea Diaz, Steve Moore, Nick Craciun, William Goodbody, John Kelly, and all those listed on our Parish Prayer List. And for those who are known to us in our hearts, those known only to you, and for those whose names are spoken on our lips: (*You are invited to offer your own intentions aloud or silently*). Lord, in your mercy, **Hear our prayer**.

As your Son came to proclaim the forgiveness of sins, and the gift of Life Eternal; Give to the departed eternal rest and let Light perpetual shine on them. We remember especially those who are not with us this for the first time this Christmas. Lord, in your mercy, **Hear our prayer**.

Presider: God of endless ages, we keep vigil for the dawn of salvation and the birth of your Son. With gratitude we recall his humanity and the life he shared with the children of earth. May the power of his divinity help us answer his call to love and life. We ask this through Christ our newborn King. **Amen.**

The prayers are concluded with hymn # 608, verse 1

Eternal Father, strong to save, whose arm hath bound the restless wave, who bidd'st the mighty ocean deep its own appointed limits keep: O hear us when we cry to thee for those in peril on the sea.

The Peace

Presider: The peace of the Lord be always with you. **People:** And also with you.

LITURGY OF THE TABLE

Invitation:

Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God.

Preparation of the Table

Angels we have heard on high

Traditional/Bestor

Presentation of the Gifts Hark the Herald Angels Sing Hymnal #87 1 Hark! the her-ald glo - ry an - gels sing new-born King! to the 2 Christ, by high-est Christ, the heaven a - dored; ev er last - ing Lord; --3 Mild he lays his glo - ry born that we by, no more may dic, ø Peace on earth and mer - cy mild, God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled! late in time be - hold him come, off - spring of the Vir-gin's womb. born to raise us from the earth, born to give us sec - ond birth. \overline{a} Joy - ful, all ye na - tions, rise, join the tri-umph of the skies; Veiled in flesh the God - head see; hail the in-car - nate De - i - ty. light and life to Risen with heal-ing in his wings, all he brings, with the an - gel - ic host pro-claim Christ is born in Beth - le - hem! Pleased as man with us to dwell; Je - sus, our Em - man - u - el! Sun of heaven-born Prince of Peace! hail, the Right-eous-ness! hail, the ø Refrain glo - ry Hark! the her - ald an - gels sing the new-born King! to

The Great Thanksgiving

Presider:	The Lord be with you.
People:	And also with you.
Presider:	Lift up your hearts.
People:	We lift them to the Lord.
Presider:	Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People:	It is right to give God thanks and praise.

All thanks and praise are yours at all times and in all places, our true and loving God; through Jesus Christ, your eternal Word the Wisdom from on high by whom you created all things. You laid the foundations of the world and enclosed the sea when it burst out from the womb; You brought forth all creatures of the earth and gave breath to humankind. Wondrous are you, Holy One of Blessing, all you create is a sign of hope for our journey; And so, as the morning stars sing your praises, we join the heavenly beings and all creation as we shout with joy:

Sanctus

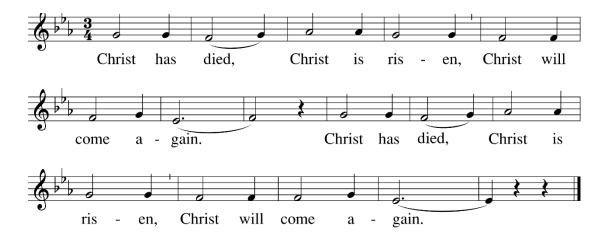
Hymnal #S130



Glory and honor are yours, Creator of all, your Word has never been silent; you called a people to yourself, as a light to the nations, you delivered them from bondage and led them to a land of promise. Of your grace, you gave Jesus to be human, to share our life, to proclaim the coming of your holy reign and give himself for us, a fragrant offering. Through Jesus Christ our Redeemer, you have freed us from sin, brought us into your life, reconciled us to you, and restored us to the glory you intend for us.

We thank you that on the night before he died for us Jesus took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, gave it to his friends and said: "Take, eat, this is my Body, broken for you. Do this for the remembrance of me." After supper Jesus took the cup of wine, said the blessing, gave it to his friends and said: "Drink this, all of you: this cup is the new Covenant in my Blood, poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me."

And so, remembering all that was done for us: the cross, the tomb, the resurrection and ascension, longing for Christ's coming in glory, and presenting to you these gifts your earth has formed and human hands have made, we acclaim you, O Christ:



Send your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these gifts of bread and wine that they may be to us the Body and Blood of your Christ. Grant that we, burning with your Spirit's power, may be a people of hope, justice and love. Giver of Life, draw us together in the Body of Christ, and in the fullness of time gather us with Blessed Mary and all your people into the joy of our true eternal home.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, we worship you our God and Creator in voices of unending praise. Blessed are you now and for ever:



The Lord's Prayer

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 Breaking of the Bread

Presider: We break this bread to share in the Body of Christ.

People: We who are many are one body, for we all share in the one bread.

Fraction Anthem:



Music: From *Deutsche Messe*; Franz Peter Schubert (1797-1828); arr. Richard Proulx (b. 1937). Adaptation: Copyright © 1985 GIA Publications, Inc.

Invitation to Communion

This is the table, not of the Church, but of the Lord. It has been made ready for those who love God and for those who hope to love God more. So, come, if you have been here often, and come if you have not been here long. Come if you have followed, and come if you have stumbled. Come, because it is the Lord who invites you. It is Christ's will that those who seek him will meet him here at his table. For in this house which bears the name Mary, all are welcome to share the one she bore, Jesus the Bread of Life.

In the Bleak Mid-winter O Little Town of Bethlehem

Hymnal #112 Hymnal #79

Communion Meditation: Silent Night



Words: Joseph Mohr (1792-1848); tr. John Freeman Young (1820-1885). Music: *Stille Nacht*, melody Franz Xaver Gruber (1787-1863); harm. Carl H. Reinecke (1824-1910).

Post Communion Prayer

A Litany of Mary of Nazareth

Presider: Glory to you, God our Creator: **Breathe into us new life, new meaning.** Glory to you, God our Savior: **Lead us in the way of peace and justice.** Glory to you, healing Spirit: **Transform us to empower others.**

Litanist: Mary, wellspring of peace: Be our guide.

Model of strength: Be our guide.

Model of gentleness: **Be our guide**.

Model of trust: **Be our guide**.

Model of courage: Be our guide.

Model of patience: Be our guide.

Model of risk: **Be our guide**.

Model of perseverance: **Be our guide**.

Mary, mother of the liberator: **Pray for us.**

Mother of the homeless: **Pray for us.**

Mother of the dying: **Pray for us.**

Mother of the nonviolent: Pray for us.

Widowed mother: **Pray for us.**

Unwed mother: **Pray for us.**

Mother of a political prisoner: **Pray for us.**

Mother of the condemned: **Pray for us.**

Mother of the executed criminal: Pray for us.

Mother of the Risen Christ: Pray for us.

The Blessing

Presider: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

When he came among us, Christ scattered the darkness of this world, and filled this holy night with his glory. May the God of infinite goodness brighten your hearts with holiness. **Amen.**

God sent his angels to shepherds to herald the great joy of our Savior's birth. May God fill you with joy and make you heralds of the Gospel. **Amen.**

When the Word became flesh, earth was joined to heaven. May God give you his peace and good will, and communion with all the heavenly host. **Amen.**

May almighty God bless you, the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Amen.

Recessional



Text: Psalm 98; Isaac Watts, 1674-1748 Tune: ANTIOCH, CM; arr. from George F. Handel, 1685-1759, in T. Hawkes' Collection of Tunes, 1833

Dismissal

Deacon: Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit. Alleluia! Alleluia!People: Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Postlude Noel with Variations

Claude Louis Balbastre (1729-1798)

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS

DONOR	IN MEMORY OF/ IN HONOR OF
Betsy Corvene	In memory of Peg Williams and the Rev. John R. Williams
Rosemary Otocka	In memory of Ruth V. Clark and Ronald J. Clark
Priscilla Jackett	In memory of Anthony Jackett, Pete & Priscilla Francis
Carolyn Smith	In memory of Thomas Thomasian
Shawn Fiedler	In thanksgiving for <i>all ye faithful</i> at St. Mary of the Harbor and for your <i>joyful and triumphant</i> ministry
Brian Raiche and Loren Lee Pauline and Ernest Raiche	In memory of Rita Dargie and Germaine Raiche
Scott and Mary Fry	In memory of Charles and Carol Westcott, Charles Westcott, Jr., and Francis and Lois Fry
Katharine Bachman and Elizabeth Gawron	In memory of the Gawron Family, Christine Kosciolek, Jeanne Bachman, Peg Doherty, John Comerford, Michael Ward
Mary-Jo Avellar	In memory of Duane Steele and Justin and Mary Avellar
Martha Wilson	In memory of Catherine Stephan McCune, Joseph Cooper McCune, Rev. D. D. Snider Stephan, Martha Baumer Stephan
Cynthia M. Conroy	In memory of my parents Mr. and Mrs. A. Gordon Stephenson
Padric Meagher	In memory of Bobby Taylor
Julia Perry	In memory of my parents John and Rowie Perry
Carol and Richard Pesiri	In memory of the Anderson Family and the Pesiri Family
Thomas Thaler	In memory of Grace Yeomans Thaler
Pat and Phil Penza	In memory of our parents and grandparents and in thanksgiving for our children and grandchildren

Winter Lunches

Winter lunches for our hungry neighbors will be offered on Saturdays in January and February. Your help is welcome. A sign-up sheet is located on the credenza near the bulletin board. You can sign up to help on as many or as few Saturdays as you like.

Strength for the Journey

As a strong outreach for St. Mary of the Harbor, Our Strength for the Journey service is emailed through the country or we meet in person during the summer season. For further information, please contact Carolyn Smith at carjans@charter.net or Gerri Spinella at gerri.spinella@gmail.com.

Helping our Women (HOW)

Peer Support Group: Tuesdays 11:00AM-12:30 PM (Parish Hall)

A.A. Support Groups

Nicholson Hall: Monday 7:00 P.M; Tuesday 6:00 P.M.; Wednesday 6:30 P.M.

UU Food Pantry

On the first Sunday of each month, we collect donations for the "Little Free Pantry" hosted by our friends at the Unitarian Universalist Meeting House. That pantry provides non-perishable grocery and toiletry items for anyone in need. Please consider picking up an extra item or two when you shop. Items may be left in the basket by the baptismal font at any time. Please, no perishables, no glass containers and please check expiration dates. The Pantry cannot use expired items.

Parish Prayer List

We pray for healing and comfort for:

Parishioners: Stella Mae Bird, Mark Ward, Richard Keeling, Joan Boudreau, Ken Barry, Towanda deNagy, Priscilla McChesney, Ollie Ahmuty, Joan Walter, Chelsea Diaz, Steve Moore, Nick Craciun, William Goodbody, John Kelly

Family and Friends: Jim Neely and Ann English, Kent Taylor, Hyacinth Rance, Margo Kent, Michael Mason, Terry Monaghan, Donna Pickener, Marcia McClure, Marsha Davies, Carol Studley, Marge and Donna, Patty Davenport, Peter Swanson, Scotty Townsend

Vestry Officers

Sharon Inger, Senior Warden srwarden@stmaryoftheharbor.org

John Carroll-Yagel, Junior Warden jrwarden@stmaryoftheharbor.org

John Loftin, Treasurer treasurer@stmaryoftheharbor.org

Brendan O'Neill, Clerk clerk@stmaryoftheharbor.org

Vestry Members

Mary-Jo Avellar Kathy Bachman Phil Franchini; Alex Glowacki Anita McGahan Janet Whelan

This Sunday's Leadership

- Crucifer: Brendan O'Neill
- First Reader (First Reading and Psalms): Beth Chapman
- Second Reader (Second Reading): Loren Lee
- Healer: Andrea Sawyer
- Ushers: Bob Crook and Peter Falconer
- Altar Guild: John Carroll and John Loftin
- Livestream: John Carroll-Yagel

THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY OF THE HARBOR

517 Commercial Street, Provincetown, MA 02657

Welcome to St. Mary of the Harbor

Here at St. Mary's, we welcome you with open arms and open hearts, to share with you the love with which Christ has welcomed us. Whoever you are, wherever you may be in life, there is a place for you here. In this beautiful place, you will find sojourners like yourself who are searching for truth, meaning, and purpose. And we invite you to explore and experience the gift of God's love in this place where the land, the sea, and the sacred meet.

Everything you need to guide you through today's service will be found in this bulletin, or in the hymnals in the chair just in front of you.

Land Acknowledgement

At St. Mary's, we remember the Nauset and Wampanoag people on whose unceded land we now gather. We acknowledge the injustice done to them. We give thanks for their witness to living honorably and in balance with the sacred order. May we always remember that the Earth does not belong to us, that we belong to the Earth, and that we are all relatives in life. Help us to be instruments of justice and peace for all people in today's world, particularly the original Indigenous inhabitants.

> The Rev. Brian Raiche, Rector revbrian@stmaryoftheharbor.org Cell: (508) 717-9002

The Rev. Bruce Mason, Deacon Bill Carlson, Music Director

Julia Perry, Office Manager office@stmaryoftheharbor.org

Office Hours: Tuesday (9-12), Wednesday (1-5 pm), Friday (9-12, 1-5 pm)

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