



Christmas Eve
Family Service

SERVANTS
of **CHRIST**
ANGLICAN CHURCH

Welcome! We are so glad that you have decided to join us this Christmas Eve to celebrate the birth of our savior, Jesus. Everything you need to join in worship at this service is printed in this service guide.

Christmas is a special time of year when our normal routines are interrupted. This interruption provides space for us to reconnect with family and friends, exchange gifts, relax, and feast (pass the cookies!). But the real purpose of this interruption is for us to do what we are doing here: worship. Whether you come from a faith background or not, you have chosen to come and hear the story of the newborn King Jesus. As you hear this story for the first time or for the 100th time, my prayer is that you would be filled with wonder. Wonder at the angels and shepherds. Wonder at the Virgin Mary & Joseph. Wonder at the King in a cattle stall. Wonder at the God who became a man.

By coming here, you have made a clear choice to welcome Christ into your Christmas, to bring the story of Jesus into your present circumstances. We hope you leave knowing that God loves you, and left heaven to come to earth to be with you.

We also hope you feel welcome here at Servants. We are honored that you have chosen to come to Servants at this special time. Our pastoral & ministry staff are here to serve you. Please let us know if there is any way we can pray for or minister to you now or in the future. On this day, we gaze in wonder with the shepherds, Joseph and Mary, and at what God has done for us. O come let us adore him!

Merry Christmas!

In Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David Trautman", followed by a small cross symbol.

The Rev. David Trautman
Rector (Senior Pastor)
Servants of Christ Anglican Church

Holy Communion

Welcome & Announcements

Processional & Lighting of the Christ Candle

Please stand as you are able.

The Acclamation

Celebrant For unto us a child is born,

People **Unto us a son is given.**

The Gloria

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The Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And with your spirit.**

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.**

A Godly Play Christmas Pageant

Please be seated.

Gradual Carol: “O Little Town of Bethlehem”

Please stand as you are able.

The cross, a symbol of Christ in our worship, leads us to the altar, reminding us that our way to God is through Jesus.

With the words of acclamation we affirm to one another and God why we’ve come together to worship.

A “collect” collects our prayers together in unity. This prayer acknowledges our need for help to worship God with all our heart, soul, and mind.

The Bible is one coherent story so we read it together, desiring to hear God speak to us through His Word.

The Christmas Lesson: Luke 2:1-20

Please remain standing as you are able.

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

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

Luke 2:1-20

² In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered. ² This was the first registration when Quirinius was governor of Syria. ³ And all went to be registered, each to his own town. ⁴ And Joseph also went up from Galilee, from the town of Nazareth, to Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and lineage of David, ⁵ to be registered with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child. ⁶ And while they were there, the time came for her to give birth. ⁷ And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in swaddling cloths and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

⁸ And in the same region there were shepherds out in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. ⁹ And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with great fear. ¹⁰ And the angel said to them, "Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. ¹¹ For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. ¹² And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger." ¹³ And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying,

¹⁴ "Glory to God in the highest,
and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased!"

¹⁵ When the angels went away from them into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go over to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has made known to us." ¹⁶ And they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying in a manger. ¹⁷ And when they saw it, they made known the saying that had been told them concerning this child. ¹⁸ And all who heard it wondered at what the shepherds told them. ¹⁹ But Mary treasured up all these things, pondering them in her heart. ²⁰ And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

Deacon The Gospel of the Lord.
People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Gradual Carol: “O Little Town of Bethlehem”

The Homily

Please be seated.

The Nicene Creed

Please stand as you are able.

Celebrant Let us confess our faith in the words of the Nicene Creed:

All **We believe in one God,
 the Father, the Almighty,
 maker of heaven and earth,
 of all that is, visible and invisible.**
**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
 the only-begotten 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,
 was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and 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 in to heaven
 and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**
**He will come again in glory to judge the
living and the dead,**

We sing a chorus before and after the Gospel reading as we prepare our hearts for the sermon.

This is a sufficient statement of the Christian faith – what all Christians everywhere have always believed to be true. The term “Nicene” refers to its origins at the Council of Nicaea (a gathering of the whole Church) in 325 A.D. We say this each week as a reminder of what is most important to believe and what unites us as Christians.

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,
 who with the Father and the Son is
 worshiped and glorified,
 who 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 Prayers of the People

*We invite you to listen to each
 prompt and pray at the pause.
 If you pray aloud, please pray
 boldly and briefly so that others
 may hear and pray with you.*

Please kneel as you are able.

Reader Father, in this holy night your Son our Savior was
 born as a child among us. Renew your Church as
 the Body of Christ.

Holy God,

***People* Hear our prayer.**

Reader In this holy night there was no room for your Son
 in the inn. Protect with your love those who have
 no home and all who live in poverty.

Holy God,

***People* Hear our prayer.**

Reader In this holy night Mary, in the pain of labor,
 brought your Son to birth. Hold in your hand all
 who are in pain or distress.

Holy God,

***People* Hear our prayer.**

Reader In this holy night your Christ came as a light
 shining in the darkness. Bring comfort to all who
 suffer in the sadness of our world.

Holy God,

***People* Hear our prayer.**

Reader In this holy night the angels sang, "Peace to
 God's people on earth." Strengthen those who

work for peace and justice in Gainesville, in our nation and in all the world.

Holy God,

People **Hear our prayer.**

Reader In this holy night shepherds in the field heard good tidings of joy. Give us grace to preach the gospel of Christ's redemption.

Holy God,

People **Hear our prayer.**

Reader In this holy night Christians the world over celebrate Christ's birth. Open our hearts that he may be born in us today.

Holy God,

People **Hear our prayer.**

Celebrant Father, in this holy night angels and shepherds worshiped at the manger throne. Receive the worship we offer in fellowship with Mary, Joseph and the saints, through him who is your Word made flesh, our Savior Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

The Confession

Please remain kneeling as you are able.

Deacon Let us humbly confess our sins to Almighty God.

Silence.

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

Now that we are reminded of what is broken and painful in this life, we confess our sin (our rebellion against God), because it is the underlying cause of all that pains this world.

Having confessed our sin and our need for a Savior, the priest reminds us of God's incredible mercy and forgiveness, pronouncing God's absolution (forgiveness) of our sins.

Now that we have received God's forgiveness, we express that reconciliation to God and one another by sharing the peace we now have through Jesus. We do this before the offering because Jesus says, "First be reconciled to your brother, and then come and offer your gift" (Matthew 5:24).

In response to all that God has done for us, we worship by giving of our finances & raising our voices together in song.

Literally meaning "Lift up your hearts" the Sursum Corda begins a prayer of great thanksgiving to God for the redemption of the world through Jesus Christ.

The Absolution

Celebrant Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who in his great mercy has promised forgiveness of sins to all those who sincerely repent and with true faith turn to him, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and bring you to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

The Peace

Please stand as you are able.

Celebrant Unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given,
People **And his name shall be called the Prince of Peace.**

Celebrant The Peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And with your spirit.**

The Ministers and People greet one another in the Name of the Lord. Parents may now pick up their children ages 4 and under from the nursery if they desire. Nursery is available through the end of the service.

The Offering and Doxology

During the Offertory hymns or songs may be sung. The Deacon or Priest prepares the Holy Table for the celebration.

Please be seated for the offertory hymn, then stand for the Doxology and while the offerings are presented at the altar.

The Sursum Corda

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And with your spirit.**

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them up to the Lord.**

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

Celebrant It is right, our duty and our joy, 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 Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary his mother, was made truly man, yet without the stain of sin, that we might be cleansed from sin and given the right to become your children.

Therefore we praise you, joining with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

The Sanctus

**All Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the Name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

Latin for "holy," this ancient hymn weaves together Scripture which describes the worship happening in heaven and earth (Isaiah 6:3, Psalm 118:26, Matthew 21:9, Revelation 4:8). We join with all the saints in heaven & on earth in worshipping God.

The Prayer of Consecration

Please remain standing or kneel as you are able.

Celebrant Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and when we had sinned against you and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent your only Son Jesus Christ into the world for our salvation. By the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary he became flesh and dwelt among us. In obedience to your will, he stretched out his arms upon the Cross and offered himself once for all, that by his suffering and death we might be saved. By his resurrection he broke the bonds of death, trampling Hell and Satan under his feet. As our great high priest, he ascended to your right hand in glory, that we might come with confidence before the throne of grace.

On the night that he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks, 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."

This prayer retells the story of redemption, recalling the wonderful mystery of God becoming human in the person of Jesus Christ to give His life for us and renew all things.

Likewise, after supper, Jesus took the cup, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, "Drink this, all of you; for 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 in remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

All

**Christ has died.
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.**

Celebrant

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, and we offer you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Word and Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son Jesus Christ. Sanctify us also, that we may worthily receive this holy Sacrament, and be made one body with him, that he may dwell in us and we in him. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us with all your saints into the joy of your heavenly kingdom, where we shall see our Lord face to face.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ: 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. **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

Please remain standing or kneeling as you are able.

Celebrant

And now as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to pray:

All

**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,**

Jesus taught his disciples this prayer as a model for how to pray (Luke 11:1–4). The Lord's Prayer roughly breaks down into three types of prayers: Praise (Thank you), Petition (Please), and Penitence (Sorry). We pray this each week to remind us how Jesus taught us to pray.

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

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.
People **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

As we hear the sound of the bread being broken, we remember the cost of Christ's sacrifice for us.

The Ministration of Communion

Celebrant The gifts of God for the people of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

In the Sacrament we partake of God's past, present, and future grace. The physical bread and wine nourish us with the spiritual presence of Jesus.

You may be seated.

During Communion, bring your gift forward to place in the manger.

All baptized and believing Christians are invited to participate in communion. If you would like to drink from the chalice, please consume the bread when it is given to you. If you would prefer to dip your bread in the wine, please hold onto the bread and dip it in the chalice. Gluten-free bread is available. Simply cross your hands palm-down as a sign to the priest and it will be brought to you. If for any reason, you do not wish to receive communion, we invite you to come forward and cross your arms over your chest to receive a blessing from a priest. Trained members of the prayer team are available in the alcoves under the exit signs for any prayer needs that you may have.

The Agnus Dei

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We give thanks for the feast we have partaken in and prepare to go back into the world to labor for his kingdom.

The Post Communion Prayer

Please stand as you are able.

Celebrant Let us pray.

All Heavenly Father,
We thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food
of the most precious Body and Blood
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ;
and for assuring us in these holy mysteries
that we are living members of the body of your
Son,
and heirs of your eternal Kingdom.
And now, Father, send us out to do the work you
have given us to do,
to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of
Christ our Lord.
To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit,
be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

Lighting of the Candles

The last Communion song will be sung by candlelight. Please note the instructions given by the priest for lighting.

Silent Night

Words & music by Franz X. Gruber, Josef Mohr, John F. Young. © 1816 Public Domain.

Silent night holy night, all is calm all is bright
Round yon virgin mother and Child
Holy Infant so tender and mild
Sleep in heavenly peace, sleep in heavenly peace

Silent night holy night shepherds quake at the sight
Glories stream from heaven afar
Heavenly hosts sing alleluia
Christ the Savior is born, Christ the Savior is born

Silent night, Holy night, Son of God, Love's pure light
Radiant beams from Thy holy face
With the dawn of redeeming Grace
Jesus Lord at Thy birth, Jesus Lord at Thy birth

Christmas Blessing

Celebrant May the joy of the angels, the eagerness of the shepherds, the perseverance of the wise men, the obedience of Joseph and Mary, and the peace of the Christ child be yours this Christmas; and the blessing of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always.
Amen.

As we go out into the world, we receive God's blessing which empowers us to do the work before us.

Recessional

We follow the cross out into the world, remembering that Jesus goes before us in all things.

The Dismissal

Deacon All our problems:

People **We send to the cross of Christ.**

Deacon All our difficulties:

People **We send to the cross of Christ.**

Deacon All the devil's works:

People **We send to the cross of Christ.**

Deacon All our hopes:

People **We set on the risen Christ.**

Deacon Alleluia, alleluia. Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. Alleluia, alleluia.**

To honor our parish's origins in the Anglican Church of Kenya, we use the dismissal form from their Prayer Book.

Poinsettia Dedications

Fr. Bob & Dcn. Kathy Ayres

In joyous thanks for our Servants of Christ family!
Praising God for the welcome, work, and wisdom of our fellow servants.

Diana and Ken Campbell

In memory of my mother, Betty Pelletier.

Dawn Cannedy

Peace to my Dad, Jerry, and Chuck.

David Cannedy

In loving memory of Beth Cannedy. We love and miss you!

Janet Gellert

In memory of my parents, Justine and Bernard, and brother, Bobby.

Jim Hanak

In memory of my parents, Andrew and Jean Hanak.

Matt, Reid, Libby, Will Hinson

Thankful for you.

Joyce LaCagnina

In memory of and thanksgiving for the life of my husband, Rev. Michael LaCagnina.

Tracy, David, Bella, and Noah La Cagnina

In memory of our dearly missed Eric.

Poinsettia Dedications

Mary & Ken Langeland

In thanksgiving to God for all His many blessings!

The McCrea Family

Glory be to God! His love will never fail.

Joyce Munn and Anna Hongisto

For Melinda Studeman. God rest her soul.

Darden Pyron

For all God's blessings, especially the warmth and Christian fellowship of this parish.

and

For my loving children, Jane, Scottie, and Geer, and for splendid grandchildren, Riley, Ella, and Dardey who always remind me of Divine Love.

The Rhodes Family

For all of our loved ones who have gone on to glory.

Cynthia Stehouwer

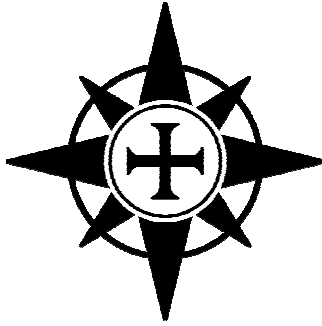
I praise God for my return to Gainesville and my daughter Veronica.

Valerie Shores

Peace to my brother, Billy.

The Trautman Family

In thanksgiving for our Servants family.



SERVANTS
of CHRIST
ANGLICAN CHURCH

Worship Sundays at 9:30 am

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