



St. James' Episcopal Church  
Skaneateles

Christmas Eve Worship & Children's  
Pageant

December 24, 2024  
4PM





## **The Christmas Story: God is with Us!**

Special Thanks to all the families who helped make this wonderful worship possible.

### **Narrators**

Lily Sveen, Aluel Deng, Lily Winkelman, Paige Posecznick

**Speaking Angel** - Nora Williamson

**Angel Gabriel** - Jane Thomas

### **Angels**

Kylee Baleno, Aria Boden, Chiara Boden, Jackie Bova, Annie Bova, Aboul Deng, Panyang Deng, Katie Ellerton, Birdie Eriksen, Hazel Eriksen, Domino Quinn, Waverly Quinn

### **Shepherds**

Ethan Echols, Beckett Bova, Buol Deng, Charlie Thomas

### **Sheep**

Tenley Binga, Benjamin Binga, Brooks Binga, Mitchel Otterstatter, George Parnell, Charlene Parnell

### **Animals**

**Donkey**-Sofie Larkin

**Barn Cat**-Harper Otterstatter

**Unicorn** - Alyssa Baleno

**Cow** - Dane Cavender

### **The Holy Family**

**Mary** - Ella Sheridan

**Joseph** - Zach Echols

**Innkeeper** - Alex Bova

**The Wise Men (People)** -Matthew Bova, Will Sheridan, Laney Thomas

## Prelude

The Holly and the Ivy  
Away in a Manger and Once in Royal David's City

Herbert Sumsion  
Marianne Kim

## Processional Hymn

*O Come All Ye Faithful*

O come all, ye faithful, joyful and triumphant,  
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;  
Come, and behold him, born the King of angels;

Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,  
sing, all ye citizens of heaven above;  
glory to God, glory in the highest;

O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him,  
O come let us adore him, Christ the Lord.

O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him,  
O come let us adore him, Christ the Lord.

God from God, Light from Light eternal,  
lo! He abhors not the Virgin's womb;  
only begotten Son of the Father;

Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning;  
Jesus, to thee be glory given;  
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing;

O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him,  
O come let us adore him, Christ the Lord.

O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him,  
O come let us adore him, Christ the Lord.

## Welcome

*The figure of the Christ Child is placed in the manger and the Christmas candle is placed on the altar  
by the Fowler & Cavendar Family.*

## Prayer at the Christmas Crèche

Clergy      The angel of the Lord said to the shepherds, "Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people,

People      **for to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord.**

Clergy      Let us pray.

Most merciful and loving God, you have made this night holy by the birth of your Son Jesus Christ, and by the humble trust of his mother, Mary: help us to enter with joy into the celebration of this night, and may we rejoice continually because you have made us your adopted daughters and sons, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

People      **Amen.**

## Present the Children's Pageant

*All may be seated for the Children's Pageant and encouraged to sing with the children.*

**St. James' Children's Ministries Presents:**  
**The Christmas Story-God with Us**

**Scene I-The Annunciation**

**Scene 2: Journey to Bethlehem**

**All Sing: Away in a Manger**

*(Congregation join the children in song.)*

Away in a manger  
No crib for a bed  
The little Lord Jesus  
Laid down His sweet head  
The stars in the bright sky  
Looked down where He lay  
The little Lord Jesus  
Asleep on the hay

**Scene 3: The Shepherds and Angels**

**Scene 4: The Wise Men - led by Alex with the star**

**All Sing: Go Tell It on the Mountain**

*(Congregation join the children in song.)*

Go, tell it on the mountain  
Over the hills and everywhere  
Go, tell it on the mountain

That Jesus Christ is born  
While shepherds kept their watching  
O'er silent flocks by night  
Behold throughout the heavens  
There shone a Holy light

Go, tell it on the mountain  
Over the hills and everywhere  
Go, tell it on the mountain  
That Jesus Christ is born

Go, tell it on the mountain  
Over the hills and everywhere  
Go, tell it on the mountain  
That Jesus Christ is born

**Homily**

**The Rev. Pilar Padrón Parnell**

**Nicene Creed**

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only 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: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from 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 into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, 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. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He 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.**

**Prayers of the People**

**Alex Bova**

Reader In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

*Silence*

Reader For all people in their daily life and work;

**All For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.**



Reader For this community, the nation, and the world;  
**All For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.**

Reader For the just and proper use of your creation;  
**All For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.**

Reader For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;  
**All For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.**

Reader For the peace and unity of the Church of God;  
**All For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.**

Reader For Sean our Presiding Bishop, and DeDe our Bishop; and for all bishops and other ministers;  
**All For all who serve God in his Church.**

Reader For the special needs and concerns of this congregation.

*Silence-The People may add their own petitions*

Reader Hear us, Lord;  
**All For your mercy is great.**

### Confession of Sin

Clergy Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.  
*Silence may be kept.*

**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.**

### Absolution

Clergy Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life.  
**Amen.**

### The Peace

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

### Announcements

### Holy Communion

Offertory Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

Hymn 87

### The Great Thanksgiving

Celebrant The Lord be with you.  
**People And also with you.**  
Celebrant Lift up your hearts.  
**People We lift them 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 truly right to glorify you, Father, and to give you thanks; for you alone are God, living and true, dwelling in light inaccessible from before time and for ever. Fountain of life and source of all goodness, you made all things and fill them with your blessing; you created them to rejoice in the splendor of your radiance. Countless throngs of angels stand before you to serve you night and day; and, beholding the glory of your presence, they offer you unceasing praise. Joining with them, and giving voice to every creature under heaven, we acclaim you, and glorify your Name, as we sing,

**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.**

We acclaim you, holy Lord, glorious in power. Your mighty works reveal your wisdom and love. You formed us in your own image, giving the whole world into our care, so that, in obedience to you, our Creator, we might rule and serve all your creatures. When our disobedience took us far from you, you did not abandon us to the power of death. In your mercy you came to our help, so that in seeking you we might find you. Again and again you called us into covenant with you, and through the prophets you taught us to hope for salvation.

Father, you loved the world so much that in the fullness of time you sent your only Son to be our Savior. Incarnate by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, he lived as one of us, yet without sin. To the poor he proclaimed the good news of salvation; to prisoners, freedom; to the sorrowful, joy. To fulfill your purpose he gave himself up to death; and, rising from the grave, destroyed death, and made the whole creation new. And, that we might live no longer for ourselves, but for him who died and rose for us, he sent the Holy Spirit, his own first gift for those who believe, to complete his work in the world, and to bring to fulfillment the sanctification of all.

When the hour had come for him to be glorified by you, his heavenly Father, having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end; at supper with them he took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me." After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: 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 for the remembrance of me."

Father, we now celebrate this memorial of our redemption. Recalling Christ's death and his descent among the dead, proclaiming his resurrection and ascension to your right hand, awaiting his coming in glory; and offering to you, from the gifts you have given us, this bread and this cup, we praise you and we bless you.

**We praise you, we bless you,  
we give thanks to you,  
and we pray to you, Lord our God.**

Lord, we pray that in your goodness and mercy your Holy Spirit may descend upon us, and upon these gifts, sanctifying them and showing them to be holy gifts for your holy people, the bread of life and the cup of salvation, the Body and Blood of your Son Jesus Christ. Grant that all who share this bread and cup may become one body and one spirit, a living sacrifice in Christ, to the praise of your Name.

Remember, Lord, your one holy catholic and apostolic Church, redeemed by the blood of your Christ. Reveal its unity, guard its faith, and preserve it in peace.

And grant that we may find our inheritance with Mary all the saints who have found favor with you in ages past. We praise you in union with them and give you glory through your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, all honor and glory are yours, Almighty God and Father, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, for ever and ever. **AMEN.**

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

**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, 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;  
**All**      **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

*All are welcome to come to the Lord's Table. If you are unable to come forward for any reason, please let a greeter know and we are happy to bring communion to you at your seat.*

### **Music at Communion**

*In the Bleak Midwinter  
It Came Upon the Midnight Clear  
What Child is This  
Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming*

**Hymn 112  
Hymn 89  
Hymn 115  
Hymn 81**

### **Postcommunion Prayer**

God of abundance you have fed us with the bread of life and cup of salvation; you have united us with Christ and one another, and you have made us one with all your people in heaven and on earth. Now send us forth in the power of the Spirit, that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue forever in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.

*We welcome you to light your hand-held candle as the lights are dimmed.*

### **The Christmas Hymn**

*Silent Night*

**Hymn 111**

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!  
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.

### **The Christmas Blessing**

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

## Closing Carol

## *Joy to the World*

## Hymn 100

Joy to the world; the Lord is come;  
Let Earth receive her King;  
Let ev'ry Heart prepare him room,  
And Heav'n and nature sing.  
And Heav'n and nature sing.

Joy to the Earth, the Savior reigns,  
Let men their Songs employ,  
While fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains,  
Repeat the sounding joy.  
Repeat the sounding joy

No more let sins and sorrows grow,  
Nor thorns infest the ground;  
He comes to make his blessings flow  
Far as the curse is found.  
Far as the curse is found.

He rules the world with truth and grace,  
And makes the nations prove  
The glories of his righteousness,  
And wonders of his love.  
And wonders of his love

## Dismissal

Clergy            Let us go forth, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit. Alleluia, Alleluia!  
All                Thanks be to God, Alleluia, Alleluia!

## Postlude

## *Toccata on Joy to the World*

## Brenda Portman

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Rector  
Deacon  
Organist/Choirmaster  
Director of Contemporary Music & Technology  
Assistant Dir. Contemporary Music & Technology  
Family Presenting Baby Jesus  
Intercessor  
Acolyte  
Torch Bearers  
Chalice Server  
Chalice Server  
Chalice Server  
Chalice Server  
Ushers  
Ornament Ushers  
Offertory Elements  
Offertory Ushers

The Rev. Pilar Padrón Parnell  
The Rev. Dr. Chuck Stewart  
Justin Oei  
Michael Larkin  
Dr. Nick Kilkenny  
Fowler/Cavender Family  
Alex Bova  
Paige Posecznick  
Alex & Matthew Bova  
Mo Allyn  
Laura Posecznick  
Sister Marie Patricia Hughes  
Diane Steckel  
The Sveen Family  
Kylee & Alyssa Baleno  
Tenley & Benjamin Binga  
Annie, Jackie, Beckett Bova &  
Charlie & Jane Thomas



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