



CHRIST CHURCH
AN EPISCOPAL CHURCH
IN THE DIOCESE OF EAST CAROLINA
FOUNDED 1715, NEW BERN, NORTH CAROLINA

Our Vision: To be a church that loves the way God Loves

THE CHRISTMAS PAGEANT AND EUCHARIST

December 24, 2024 - 3:00 PM

Please silence your cell phones.

Book of Common (BCP) and Hymnal pages are listed on the right. BCP: Book of Common Prayer (black),

S or H: Hymnal 1982 (blue)

View this service online: www.youtube.com/c/christchurchnewbern

During this service you will be invited to journey with your children and youth to Bethlehem. Let us listen and find new ways to enjoy the scripture. **NEW THIS YEAR**.... Children who would like to participate in the pageant should meet in the Narthex before the beginning of the service. Children will sit in the back rows of the pews with the Pageant Attendants and will be directed when to walk up the aisle. They will return to the pews to sit with their families during the singing of *O Come All Ye Faithful*.

Prelude

Prelude on 'Sussex Carol'

Russel Schulz-Widmar

Processional Hymn

Hark the Herald Angels Sing

[Hymnal 87](#)

**Hark the herald angels sing, glory to the newborn King!
Peace on earth and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!
Joyful, all ye nations rise, join the triumph of the skies;
with the angelic host proclaim, Christ is born in Bethlehem!**

Refrain

**Hark! The herald angels sing, glory to the newborn King!
Christ by highest heaven adored; Christ the ever lasting Lord;
late in time behold him come, off-spring of the Virgin's womb.
Veiled in flesh the God-head see; hail the incarnate Deity.
Pleased as man with us to dwell; Jesus, our Emmanuel! Refrain**

**Mild he lays his glory by, born that we no more may die,
born to raise us from the earth, born to give us second birth.
Risen with healing in his wings, light and life to all he brings,
Hail, the Sun of Righteousness! Hail, the heaven-born Prince of Peace. Refrain.**

Celebrant Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People **And blessed be God's kingdom, now and forever. Amen.**

Celebrant Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

Oh 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.**

THE LESSONS

Please remain seated until the singing of the final Hymn. During this time, the children will read the lessons through a Christmas pageant. All are welcome to sing. We ask that you stay seated until the end. You may stand during O Come All Ye Faithful.

THE PROPHETS SHOW US THE WAY.

It Came Upon the Midnight Clear

Hymnal 89

**It came upon the midnight clear, that
glorious song of old, from angels bending
near the earth to touch their harps of gold:
"Peace on the earth, good will to men,
From heaven's all gracious King." The world in solemn
stillness lay to hear the angels sing.**

**Still through the cloven skies they come with
peaceful wings unfurled, and still their heavenly
music floats o'er all the weary world;
above its sad and lowly plains they
bend on hovering wing, and ever o'er its
Babel sounds the blessed angels sing.**

**Yet with the woes of sin and strife the
world has suffered long: beneath the heavenly
hymn have rolled two thousand years of wrong;
and warring humankind hears not the
tidings which they bring; O hush the noise and
cease your strife and hear the angels sing!**

**For lo! The days are hastening on, by
prophets seen of old, when with the ever-
circling years shall come the time foretold,
when peace shall over all the earth its
ancient splendors fling, and all the world give
back the song which now the angels sing.**

THE HOLY FAMILY TRAVELS TO BETHLEHEM.

O Little Town of Bethlehem

Hymnal 79 (vs. 1, 2)

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.
For Christ is born of Mary;
and gathered all above,
while mortals sleep, the angels keep
their watch of wondering love.
O morning stars, together
proclaim the holy birth!
And praises sing to God the King,
and peace to men on earth.

THE SHEPHERDS AND ANGELS SHOW US THE WAY.

Angels We Have Heard on High

Hymnal 96 (vs. 1, 2)

Angels we have heard on high,
singing sweetly through the night,
and the mountains in reply
echoing their brave delight.
Gloria in excelsis Deo.
Gloria in excelsis Deo.
Shepherds, why this jubilee?
Why these songs of happy cheer?
What great brightness did you see?
What glad tidings did you hear?
Gloria in excelsis Deo.
Gloria in excelsis Deo.

We three kings of Orient are, bearing
gifts we traverse afar, field and fountain,
moor and mountain,
following yonder star.

Refrain

O star of wonder, star of night,
star with royal beauty bright; westward leading,
still proceeding, guide us to thy perfect light!

Born a King on Bethlehem's plain, gold I
bring to crown him again, King for ever,
ceasing never over us all to reign. **Refrain**

Frankincense to offer have I: incense
owns a Deity nigh; prayer and praising,
gladly raising, worship him, God Most High. **Refrain**

Myrrh is mine; its bitter perfume breathes a
life of gathering gloom; sorrowing, sighing,
bleeding, dying, sealed in the stone-cold tomb. **Refrain.**

Glorious now behold him arise, King and
God and Sacrifice; heaven sings alleluia:
alleluia the earth replies. **Refrain**

Please stand.

GOD'S GIFT TO US.

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;

Refrain

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

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

WE RESPOND TO THE WORD OF GOD

The Nicene Creed *All stand*

BCP 358

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.

The Peace *All stand.*

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

The Announcements & Offertory Sentence

Music at the Offertory

Away in a Manger

Beckett Jennings, Parker Jutras

We Three Kings

Wednesday Huff, Ruthie Jasper

Silent Night

God rest ye merry gentleman

O come all ye faithful

Henry Jutras, Ada Ruth Canady

Go Tell it on the Mountain

Cherub Choir and Ukulele Club

Receiving Communion

Christ welcomes all to communion. Those Baptized in any Christian tradition are encouraged to receive communion.

- Receive the bread in open and outstretched hands and sip the wine, guiding the chalice to your lips.
- If you do not want to sip the wine, it is also perfectly appropriate to receive the bread only. If you wish to intinct, or dip the wafer in the wine, please hold the wafer in such a way that the Eucharistic Minister can intinct it and hand it back to you. Please do not intinct the wafer yourself.
- Gluten-free wafers and grape juice are also available at the lower station.
- Respond to communion by saying "Amen."
- If you prefer a blessing, cross your hands over your chest.
- Baptism is offered several times yearly; speak to a priest to learn more.

What can I give him, poor as I am?
if I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb;
if I were a wise man, I would do my part;
yet what I can give him give my heart.

THE LITURGY OF THE TABLE HOLY COMMUNION

Eucharistic Prayer B from *the Book of Common Prayer*

BCP 367

The people now stand. The Celebrant faces them and says

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.**

Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, 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 mighty power of the Holy Spirit, was made perfect Man of the flesh of the Virgin Mary his mother; so that we might be delivered from the bondage of sin, and receive power to become your children. Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Sanctus

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and

might, heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -

san - na in the high - est. * Bless - ed 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 people stand or kneel. Then the Celebrant continues

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

At the following words concerning the bread, the Celebrant is to hold it or lay a hand upon it; and at the words concerning the cup, to hold or place a hand upon the cup and any other vessel containing wine to be consecrated.

On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ 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."

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

Celebrant and People **We remember his death,
We proclaim his resurrection,
We await his coming in glory;**

The Celebrant continues

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine. We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit.

In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation. 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 As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray,

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.

People **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia!**

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.

Invitation to Communion

We welcome to communion all who have been baptized in any Christian tradition. Gluten-free wafers and grape juice are available. Let a priest know if you wish to have them.

Post Communion Prayer

BCP 833

Celebrant Let us pray.

Almighty and everliving God, 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.

The Christmas Blessing

May Christ, who by his Incarnation gathered into one, things earthly and heavenly, fill you with his joy and peace; and the blessings of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Joy to the world! The Lord is come:
 Let earth receive her king;
 let every heart prepare him room,
 and heaven and nature sing,
 and heaven and nature sing,
 and heaven, and heaven and nature sing.

Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns!
 Let us our songs employ
 while fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains,
 repeat the sounding joy,
 repeat the sounding joy,
 repeat, 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,
 far as, 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,
 and wonders, wonders, of his love.

The Dismissal

Deacon Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude**Postlude on 'Mendelssohn' (Hark the herald-angels sing)****David Willcocks**

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The roping along the churchyard fence is given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Dr. Dale T. & Jane K. Millns, Tucker Millns, Peg Millns Ferguson, David Millns, Megan Ferguson, Kathrynne Smith, and Janice Millns and in thanksgiving for Christ Church and their families by the Millns family, Dr. & Mrs. Gerald Pelletier, Dr. & Mrs. T. Reed Underhill, and Mr. & Mrs. David Ward.

The Christmas trees are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of their parents, Thomas Brooks and Robertha Coleman, Arlys Button and Olaf Haroldson, by John & Katherine Haroldson.

The Christmas tree skirt is given to the Glory of God and in Loving Memory of Teri Dawson Campbell by the Huddle Family.

The Advent wreath is given to the glory of God by the Christ Church Altar Guild.

We give thanks for all those in whose names the poinsettias are given.

Thank you for your ongoing support of Christ Church. You can click the QR code below to make a contribution or visit <https://www.christchurchnewbern.com/give>. You can also mail a check to PO Box 1246, New Bern, NC 28563.



Christmas at Christ Church

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 24

CHRISTMAS EVE

3 pm: Children's Pageant & Eucharist

7 pm: Eucharist Rite II

10:30 pm: Choral Prelude

11 pm: Eucharist Rite II

WEDNESDAY,

DECEMBER 25

CHRISTMAS DAY

10 am: Eucharist Rite II

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 29

10 am: Christmas Lessons & Carols with Eucharist

The Offices of Christ Church will be closed December 25, December 26, December 27, and January 1.

SERVING US TODAY

Video Assistant: Nykira Williams **Verger:** Hal Stirling

Altar Guild: Sims Wayt, Lee Ann Fordyce, Margaret Shields, Mary Lynn Guidage, Gretchen DuPeza
Karen O'Connell, Barbara Rice, Margi Thompson, Carolyn Stevens, Diane Sanwick, Heather McCloud-Huff

Eucharistic Ministers / Pageant Assistants: Christie Wineholt, Patricia Holmes, Julia Sherman

Ushers: Stephen Clayton, Boland Clayton

Acolytes: Wednesday Huff, Henry Jutras, Parker Jutras

CHRIST CHURCH CLERGY AND STAFF

Rector: The Rev. H. Paul Canady III **Associate Rector:** The Rev. Suzanne Hood

Deacon: The Rev. Deacon Lisa Kirby **Director of Music:** Jacqueline Nappi

Director of Church Life: Jimi Paderick **Director of Growing in Grace:** Debbie Fodrie

Director of Christian Formation: Hannah Hutchens

Financial Coordinator: Cindy Tripp **Communications Coordinator:** Betsy Downard

Volunteer Coordinator: Sarah Risty-Davis

Nursery Staff: Heidi Powell, Allison Robinett **Custodial Services:** Terry Pitner

CHRIST CHURCH VESTRY

Term - 2024: Tony Embrey, Phyllis Fox (*Senior Warden*), Rebecca Buchanan Leahy, Susan Moffat-Thomas

Term - 2025: Randy Bogle (*Junior Warden*), Stephanie Bratton, Holly Lippitt, Kim Huddle (*Clerk*)

Term - 2026: Laura Overman, Elmer Praul, Wayne Rowe, Graham Underhill

Term - 2027 (*Starts January 1*): Vins Bowers, Liz Coble, Susan Husson, Ernie Williams

CONTACT US

Christ Church

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www.christchurchnewbern.com (252) 633-2109

MISSION

The mission of Christ Episcopal Church is to welcome and inspire all people to faith, hope and spiritual growth through worship, Christian fellowship, and service to one another and to the community beyond.