

# The Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ



## Children and Family Christmas Eucharist



Mr. Ross Neir, Director of Christian Formation for Children and Youth  
Children and Youth of Calvary Episcopal Church, Batavia

Ms. Patti Lackman, LEM

Ms. Jessica Hermann, Keyboard & Mr. John Dorhauer, Trumpet

Sunday, December 24, 2023

5:00 P.M.

## Prayer for the Mission of Our Parish



*Through your grace guide us, the people of Calvary Episcopal Church, to joyfully carry out our mission of growing faith in your Son, Jesus Christ. Fill us with your Holy Spirit that we may develop a living faith that deepens our understanding of you and strengthens our awareness of the needs of others. May we be a transforming light within our parish and within the community. All this we ask in the Name of your Son, our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen*

## Welcome to Calvary

### Join us for Worship

#### Holy Communion

Sunday: 8 AM and 10:15 AM

Monday: 5:45 PM

Tuesday: 7 AM

Wednesday: 9:30 AM

Thursday: 5:45 PM

Friday/Saturday: 9:30 AM

### Join us for Study

#### Children's Christian Ed

Sunday: 10 AM

VBS: Jul/Aug

#### Adult Christian Ed

Last Monday of the Month: 7 PM

"Everything You Wanted to Know.."

[Please See Schedule for Additional Seasonal Events]

#### Spiritual Enrichment

Seasonal Retreats

### Join us in Our Outreach Programs

Batavia Interfaith Food Pantry

Youth and Int'l Mission Assistance

Meal Assistance

Easter Baskets and Christmas Gifts

for Local Children in Need

### Join us in Fellowship

**Whenever we are together**

*Merry Christmas*



## + The Word of God +

Prelude - Ms. Josie Dalmasso & Ms. Chelsea Coventry Molina

+++

Carol - "O Come, All Ye Faithful..." [Verses 1-3] Hymnal 88

1 O come, all ye faith - ful, joy - ful and tri - um - phant, O  
2 God from God, Light from Light e - ter - nal,  
3 Sing, choirs of an - gels, sing in ex - ul - ta - tion,  
\*4 See how the shep - herds, sum - moned to his cra - dle,  
\*5 Child, for us sin - ners poor and in the man - ger,

1 come ye, O come ye to Beth - le - hem;  
2 lo! he ab - hors not the Vir - gin's womb;  
3 sing, all ye ci - ti - zens of heaven a - bove;  
4 leav - ing their flocks, draw nigh to gaze;  
5 we would em - brace thee, with love and awe;

1 come, and be - hold him, born the King of an - gels;  
2 on - ly - be - got - ten Son of the Fa - ther;  
3 glo - ry to God, glo - ry in the high - est;  
4 we too will thith - er bend our joy - ful foot - steps;  
5 who would not love thee, lov - ing us so dear - ly?

*Refrain*

O come, let us a - dore him, O come, let us a -

dore him, O come, let us a - dore him, Christ the Lord.

Translation Copyright Holder: Frederick Oakeley  
 Arrangement Copyright Holder: The English Hymnal

### *Blessing of The Crèche*

Priest: +Alleluia! Christ is born!

***People: Praise and glory to Christ the Lord forever and ever.***

Priest: The glory of the Lord has been revealed, alleluia!

***People: And all flesh shall see the salvation by our God, alleluia!***

Priest: Let us pray.

Father of all goodness, let this crib recall that Jesus is one with you as God, and yet came to be one with us as the child laid in the manger. Let his mind be in us, and let our hearts be lifted up to contemplate the glory that is your divine humanity; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever.

***People: Amen.***

*[The priest sprinkles the crèche with holy water, and honors it with incense, setting it apart as a holy reminder during the season of Christ's coming among us]*

## The Holy Gospel - Luke 2:1-14

Priest: +The Holy Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke ***People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.***

Readers:

It was about that same time that Augustus Caesar sent out an order to all people in the countries that were under Roman rule. The order said that everyone's name must be put on a list. This was the first counting of all the people while Quirinius was governor of Syria. Everyone traveled to their own hometowns to have their name put on the list.

So, Joseph left Nazareth, a town in Galilee, and went to the town of Bethlehem in Judea. It was known as the town of David. Joseph went there because he was from the family of David. Joseph was engaged to marry Mary because she was now pregnant.)



Judea. It was David. because he registered she was him. (She While Joseph

and Mary were in Bethlehem, the time came for her to have the baby. She gave birth to her first son. She wrapped him up well and laid him in a box where cattle are fed. She put him there because the guest room was full.

That night, some shepherds were out in the fields near Bethlehem watching their sheep. An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord was shining around them. The shepherds were very afraid. The angel said to them, “Don’t be afraid. I have some very good news for you—news that will make everyone happy. Today your Savior was born in David’s town. He is the Messiah, the Lord. This is how you will know him: You will find a baby wrapped in pieces of cloth and lying in a feeding box.”

Then a huge army of angels from heaven joined the first angel, and they were all praising God, saying, “Praise God in heaven, and on earth let there be peace to the people who please him.” The angels left the shepherds and went back to heaven. The shepherds said to each other, “Let’s go to Bethlehem and see this great event the Lord has told us about.”

So, they went running and found Mary and Joseph. And there was the baby, lying in the feeding box. When they saw the baby, they told what the angels said about this child. Everyone was surprised when they heard what the shepherds told them. Mary continued to think about these things, trying to understand them. The shepherds went back to their sheep, praising God and thanking him for everything they had seen and heard. It was just as the angel had told them.

Priest: The Gospel of the Lord.

***People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.***

## The Message - Mr. Ross Neir

### The Profession of Faith

Priest: Using the words of the Apostles' Creed, let us profess our faith:

Priest: Do you believe in God the Father?

**People: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

Priest: Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

**People: I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary.**

Priest: Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

**People: I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

### Prayers of the People

Priest: Come, let us adore Christ the Lord as we pray...

**Reader:** Almighty God, help us to stay away from darkness. Help us put on the armor of light. While we are alive, help us live like Jesus, who was humble. When he comes back, we know you will make us alive again. We pray this in Jesus's name.

**People: Amen.**

**Reader:** Merciful God, you sent prophets to us. They said to change and get ready for Jesus. Help us listen to them. Help us to

not sin. Help us to remember that Jesus is coming back one day. We pray this in Jesus's name.

***People: Amen.***

**Reader:** Stir up your power, O Lord, and be here with us. We need your help because of our sin. We know that you will help us. One day you will save us quickly. We pray this in Jesus's name.

***People: Amen.***

**Reader:** Make our thoughts good, Almighty God, every single day. We know that one day you will send Jesus back to us. Then, he will live with us forever. Let us remember him more and more every day. We pray this in Jesus's name.

***People: Amen.***

**Reader:** O God, you make us happy. Each year we get to remember that Jesus was born just like us. Help us to remember him and to become friends with him. Give us happy hearts so that one day, when we see him again, we are happy and not sad. We pray this in Jesus's name.

***People: Amen.***

**Reader:** O God, you have caused this holy night to shine brightly. The light of the world has come, and his name is Jesus. Help us to know Jesus more and more. And one day, bring us back together with him, so that we can see by his light. We pray this in Jesus's name.

***People: Amen.***

**Reader:** Almighty God, you gave us your only Son. He became human just like we are. He was born on this day, two thousand and twenty- three years ago. Help us to remember him. Help us to



live like your adopted children. And help us to honor you with our whole lives. We pray this in Jesus's name.

**People: Amen.**

### The Prayer for Christmas

Priest: Let us pray.

O God, abiding with you forever in glory, your only-begotten child is born among us in time: May we ever welcome your Son to the warmth of an earthly home and so open for all earth's children a path that leads us home; through the same your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who is one with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever.

**People: Amen.**

### Confession of Sin

Priest: Christmas celebrates a great mystery: Here in this gathering our God comes to us. Let us open our hearts to this mystery of redemption, and confess our sins, kneeling as we are able...

*[We silently ask God to forgive all the sins we remember]*

Priest: Lord Jesus, Son of God, who at your human birth became our brother: Lord, have mercy.

**People: Lord, have mercy.**

Priest: Christ Jesus, Son of Man, who through your human nature have experienced our weakness: Christ, have mercy.

**People: Christ, have mercy.**

Priest: Lord Jesus, Only-Begotten, who in your risen flesh have bound us into one body: Lord, have mercy.

**People: Lord, have mercy.**

Priest: May God who loved the world so much that he sent his Son to be our Savior forgive you your sins [+] and make you holy to serve him in the world, through the same, his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

**People: Amen.**

### The Peace

Priest: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**People: And also with you.**

### Announcements

## + The Holy Communion +

### Offertory Prayer

**All: Lord, let praise and thanksgiving be the pure offering of this day's feast, and as your eternal Word takes up our human nature, so by a holy exchange may we be taken up into the divine life of Christ, who lives and reigns now and forever. Amen.**

Offertory Hymn - "Away in a Manger" - Sung by the Boffes Family

### The Great Thanksgiving +

Priest: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Priest: Lift up your hearts.

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

Priest: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

Priest: 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; 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 forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

**Sanctus - S 130**

The musical score is written for voice and piano. It consists of two systems of music. The first system has a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The vocal line begins with the lyrics "Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and". The piano accompaniment consists of chords and single notes. The second system continues the vocal line with "might," followed by "Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord,". The piano accompaniment continues with similar chords and notes. The key signature has two flats (B-flat and E-flat), and the time signature is 4/4.

God of power and might, heaven and earth are

full, full of your glory. Ho -

san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na

in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes

in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na



Priest:

Glory and thanksgiving be to you, most loving Father. In Jesus the Messiah you have come to us, and lived for a time among us,

that we might forever live with you. In the manger at Bethlehem, in his flight to Egypt, and as the carpenter's son, the Only-Begotten One bent low to meet us.

Obedient to your calling, he accepted death on the cross. When you exalted him on the third day, and bestowed on him the Name above all names, he opened the gates of glory that we might be your children and share in his kingdom of Peace.

*[The chime is struck to call our attention to the Institution of the Eucharist]*

Before he was given up to suffering and death, desiring to complete the work for which he came into the world, at supper with his disciples he took bread and offered you thanks. He broke the bread, and gave it to them, saying: "Take, eat. This is my Body: it is broken for you."

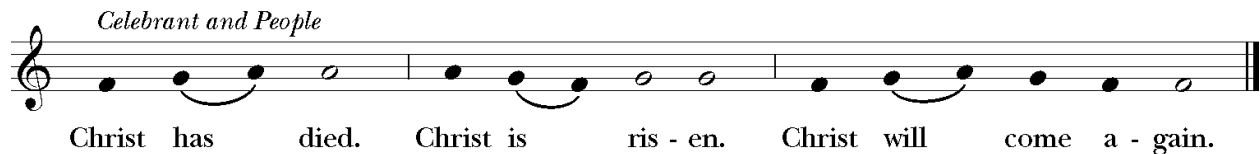
*[The chime is struck to call our attention to the presence of Christ under the form of bread]*

After supper, he took the cup, he offered you thanks, and gave it to them saying: "Drink this, all of you. This is my Blood

of the new Covenant; it is poured out for you, and for the many, that sins may be forgiven. Do this in remembrance of me.”

*[The chime is struck to call our attention to the presence of Christ under the form of wine]*

## Memorial Acclamation



Priest: Father, we now obey your Son’s command. We recall his blessed passion and death, his glorious resurrection and ascension; and we look for the coming of his Kingdom. Made one with him, we offer you these gifts and with them ourselves, a single, holy, living sacrifice.

Hear us, most merciful Father, and send your Holy Spirit upon us [~] and upon this bread and this wine, that, overshadowed by the same Spirit’s life-giving power, they may be the Body [+] and Blood of your Son, and we [+] may be kindled with the fire of your love and renewed for the service of your Kingdom.

Help us, who are baptized into the fellowship of Christ's Body to live and work to your praise and glory; may we grow together in unity and love until at last, in your new creation, we

enter into our heritage in the company of the Virgin Mary, St. Joseph, the apostles, and prophets, and of all our brothers and sisters living and departed.

### *Doxology and Great Amen*

Priest: Through Jesus Christ our Lord, by whom, with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honor and glory be to you, Almighty Father, now and forever.<sup>1</sup>

***People: Amen!***

### *The Lord's Prayer*

Priest: 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.***

### *Breaking of the Bread*

Priest: Alleluia! We break the Bread of Life, and that life is the light of the world.

***People: God here among us, light in the midst of us, bring us to light and life. Alleluia!***

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<sup>1</sup> Episcopal Church of Scotland: Experimental Eucharistic Prayer for Christmas, 1982, with adaptations

### [Act of Spiritual Communion - Those Unable to Receive Holy Communion in Person]

*“In union, blessed Jesus, with the Christian faithful across the world gathered at every altar of your Church where your blessed Body and Blood are offered this day, I long to offer you praise and thanksgiving, for creation and all the blessings of this life, for the redemption won for us by your life, death, and resurrection, for the means of grace and the hope of glory. And particularly for the blessings given me...[pause to give thanks in silence]...”*

*“I believe that you are truly present in the Holy Sacrament, and, since I cannot at this time receive communion, I pray you to come into my heart. I unite myself with you and embrace you with all my heart, my soul, and my mind. Let nothing separate me from you; let me serve you in this life until, by your grace, I come to your glorious kingdom and unending peace.*

*“Come Lord Jesus, and dwell in my heart in the fullness of your strength; be my wisdom and guide me in right pathways; conform my life and actions to the image of your holiness; and, in the power of your gracious might, rule over every hostile power that threatens or disturbs the growth of your kingdom, who with the Father and the Holy Spirit, lives and reigns, one God, in glory everlasting. Amen.”<sup>2</sup>*

### **Invitation to Holy Communion**

**Priest: 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.**

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<sup>2</sup> St. Augustine Prayerbook, Forward Movement Publications, 2014.



Communion Instrumental - "Good King Wenceslas" - Ms. Molly Schroeder

*Prayer after Holy Communion*

Priest: Let us pray.

**All:** *God, whose table we have shared, grant that as we rejoice to celebrate the birth of our Redeemer, so through your gift of holiness may we be made capable of receiving his glory; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*



## Candlelight Carol - "Silent Night..." Hymnal 111

1 Si - lent night, ho - ly night, all is calm,  
2 Si - lent night, ho - ly night, shep - herds quake  
3 Si - lent night, ho - ly night, Son of God,

all is bright round yon vir - gin mo - ther and child.  
at the sight, glo - ries stream from hea - ven a - far,  
love's pure light ra - diant beams from thy ho - ly face,

Ho - ly in - fant, so ten - der and mild, sleep in hea - ven - ly  
heaven - ly hosts sing al - le - lu - ia; Christ, the Sa - vior, is  
with the dawn of re - deem - ing grace, Je - sus, Lord, at thy

peace. Sleep in hea - ven - ly peace.  
born! Christ, the Sa - vior, is born!  
birth. Je - sus, Lord, at thy birth.

*[Children and Parents will pass the light to the congregation]*

### Seasonal Blessing for Christmas

Priest: May Almighty God, who sent his Son to take our nature upon him, bless you on this holy night, scatter the darkness of sin, and brighten your heart with the light of his holiness.

**People: Amen.**

Priest: May God, who sent his angels to shepherds to proclaim the glad news of the Savior's birth, fill you with joy, and make you heralds of the Gospel.

**People: Amen.**

Priest: May God, who in the Word made flesh joined heaven to earth and earth to heaven, give you his peace and favor.

**People: Amen.**

Priest: And the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son [+], and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you forever.

**People: Amen.**

### Final Carol - "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing..." Hymnal 87

1 Hark! the her-ald an - gels sing glo - ry to the new - born King!  
2 Christ, by high-est heaven a - dored; Christ, the ev - er - last - ing Lord;  
3 Mild he lays his glo - ry by, born that we no more may die,

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.

The image shows a musical score for the hymn "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing". It consists of two systems of music. Each system has a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment line (bass clef). The lyrics are written below the vocal line. The first system contains three verses of lyrics. The second system contains two lines of lyrics. The music is in a simple, homophonic style with a key signature of one flat (B-flat major or D minor).

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.  
 Risen with heal-ing in his wings, light and life to 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!  
 hail, the Sun of Right-eous-ness! hail, the heaven-born Prince of Peace!

*Refrain*

Hark! the her - ald an - gels sing glo - ry to the new - born King!

Sources: Charles Wesley (1707-1788), alternate Text

Meter: 77. 77. D with Refrain

Tune Name: Mendelssohn

## Dismissal

**Priest:** Alleluia! Christ is born!

**People:** *Let us glorify him! Alleluia!*

**Priest:** Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.

***People: Thanks be to God!***



**Thank you for sharing your time with us as we celebrate Christmas, 2023. We are grateful for your participation in our Holy Communion Service and are inspired by your faith which brought you here. May the Season of**

**Christmas bring you peace and joy lasting throughout the new year.**

*Merry Christmas to all our guests and to the  
Galvany Family from Ross, Phil, Mark,  
Valerie and Father Mike.*

## **Our Schedule to the New Year**

Sunday the 24 <sup>th</sup>	5:00 PM	Family Christmas Holy Eucharist with Pageant	Also on Zoom
	7:00 PM	The Christ-Mass	
Monday the 25 <sup>th</sup>	8:00 AM	Christmas Day Holy Eucharist Rite I	
	10:30 AM	Christmas Day Holy Eucharist Rite II	Also on Zoom
Tuesday the 26 <sup>th</sup>	5:45 PM	Holy Eucharist Rite II – St. Stephen, First Martyr	
Wednesday the 27 <sup>th</sup>	7:00 AM	Holy Eucharist Rite II – St. John the Evangelist	
Thursday the 28 <sup>th</sup>	9:30 AM	Holy Eucharist Rite II – Holy Innocents, Martyrs	
Friday the 29 <sup>th</sup>	5:45 PM	Holy Eucharist Rite II	
Saturday the 30 <sup>th</sup>	9:30 AM	Holy Eucharist Rite II	
Sunday the 31 <sup>st</sup>	8:00 AM	Holy Eucharist Rite I	
	10:15 AM	Holy Eucharist Rite II	Also on Zoom



	6:30 PM	Vigil Eucharist Rite II & Party in Celebration of the New Year	
Monday the 1 <sup>st</sup>	2024	The Holy Name of Jesus Christ – New Year’s Day	
	10:30 AM	Holy Eucharist Rite II	<b>Also on Zoom</b>

The Calvary Family is pleased to WELCOME you to our joyous celebration of the birth, our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ during this 2023-2024 Christmas Season.

Today, on the Eve of Christmas, our children lead our celebration of Christ’s Birth during this Family Eucharist. Later this evening at 7:00 PM, the Calvary Family will celebrate our Christ-Mass with the telling of the story of Christ’s birth accompanied by familiar Christmas hymns. Certainly, we are honored and delighted you are here to share this annual celebration with us.

Tomorrow on Christmas Day, we have two distinct liturgies (services). Both include the Eucharist (Communion). During the Christmas Season, our 8 AM Sunday Service celebrates the Eucharist with the words of our traditional Rite I Liturgy from the Episcopal Book of Common Prayer. The 10:30 AM Service uses the more contemporary language of our Rite II Liturgy.

Adults and Children of all ages are welcome to all the services at Calvary. We encourage you to try each of them and see which service fits you best. At Calvary, we believe that each member of our congregation should have an opportunity to celebrate the Eucharist. We pray that these worship experiences will be a wonderful way to connect all parishioners through a community of faith, hope and compassion at a church that welcomes all of God’s children.

Finally, you are most cordially invited to join us tomorrow for a traditional Christmas Dinner, here at Noon after the morning services. Just let Fr. Mike or one of the ushers know so we can expect you.

Please complete a visitor’s card found in the pew rack and place it in the collection tray. Thank you for worshipping with us.

The Rev. Michael D. Rasicci, Rector  
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(630) 879-3378; calvarybataviagrowingfaith@gmail.com  
www.calvaryepiscopalbatavia.church



## *Christmas Flowers - 2023*

*Thank you for your flowers in celebration of and thanksgiving for the birth of Christ.*

*Terry & Mark Allen*

*Ginger Arndt*

*Phil Prior*

*Steve & Ellie Morgenstern*

*Roger & Barb Gavin*

*Elizabeth Cress*

*Sall TreKell*

*Michele Delaney*

*Dan & Pat Hoefler*

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*Thank you for your flowers in memorial.*

*Bill & Alice Call - in memory of Kathryn Solis & Larry Finley*

*Bill & Sue Van Meter - in memory of loved ones*

*The Asay Family - in memory of Al, Marie, Linda, Larry & Heather*

*Fr. Mike - in memory of Linda Rasicci, deceased Rasicci, Urbano, D'Antonio & Merlotti  
Families*

*Melissa & Peter Nelson - Carla Nelson & Judy Nelson*

*Michelle Berkos - in memory of Patrick Berkos*

*Mary Pearce Barker - in loving memory of Nancy Newlin Pearce*

*The Van De Veire Family - in memory of Frances & Michael Todd, Frank & Margaret  
Walters, Harold & Madeline Van De Veire, Esther & Kenneth Todd*

*\*\* as of 12.19.23*



