

**GOD'S BLESSINGS AND PEACE FOR THIS  
JOYFUL CHRISTMAS!**



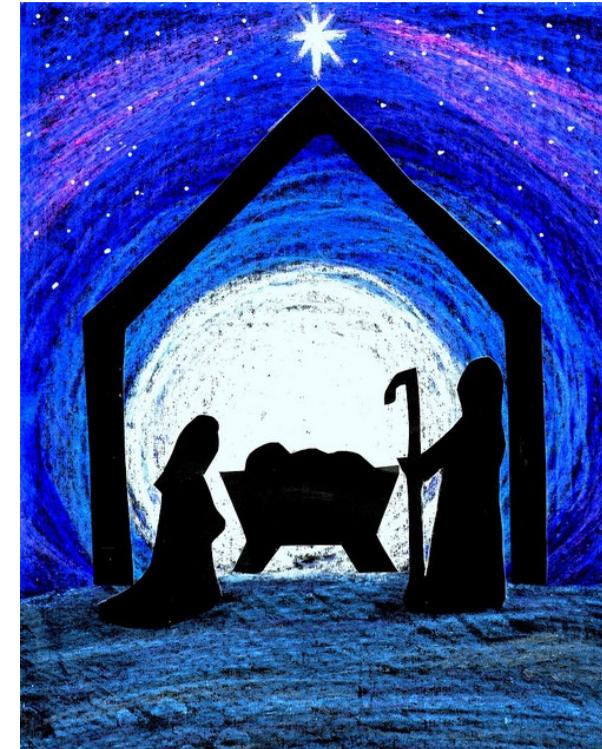
All music used under OneLicense permit #A-720720



**St. Christopher's Episcopal Church**

2800 Trimmier  
254-634-7474  
st.chris.killeen@gmail.com  
www.stchriskilleen.com

**ST. CHRISTOPHER'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
THE FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS  
DECEMBER 26, 2021**



THE RIGHT REVEREND C. ANDREW DOYLE, BISHOP OF TEXAS  
THE REVEREND STEVE KARCHER, RECTOR

ST. CHRISTOPHER'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
2800 TRIMMIER ROAD  
KILLEEN, TEXAS  
254-634-7474

ST.CHRIS.KILLEEN@GMAIL.COM  
WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/STCHRISKILLEE

**Prelude**                    “Love Divine, All Loves Excelling”                    **Organ**

**Processional**            “Joy To The World” (vs 1,2,4)                    **Hymnal 100**

**Greetings from Fr. Steve (brief announcements)**

**The Opening Sentence**                    **BCP 355**

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

**People:**     **And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. 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.**

**The Gloria (Spoken)**                    **Hymnal S-280/BCP 356**

**Glory to God in the highest,  
and peace to his people on earth.**

**Lord God, heavenly King,  
almighty God and Father,  
we worship you, we give you thanks,  
we praise you for your glory.**

**Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,  
Lord God, Lamb of God,  
you take away the sin of the world:**

**have mercy on us;  
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:  
receive our prayer.**

**For you alone are the Holy One,  
you alone are the Lord,  
you alone are the Most High,  
Jesus Christ,  
with the Holy Spirit,  
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

**Post Communion Prayer**                    **BCP 366**

**Celebrant:** Let us pray.

**Celebrant and people:**

**Almighty and ever-living 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 Blessing**                    **BCP 339**

**Celebrant:** May the peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of His Son Jesus Christ, our Lord; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, be amongst you, and each of you, and remain with you always. **Amen**

**The Recessional**                    “The First Nowell (vs 1-3)                    **Hymnal 109**

**Dismissal**

**Celebrant:** Alleluia! Alleluia! Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

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

**Postlude**                    “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”                    **Organ**

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**

**BCP 364**

**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.

*All Baptized Christians are invited to Jesus' table to receive  
Communion or a blessing.*

**Communion Music**

- "Angels We Have Heard on High"* (vs 1-4) **Hymnal 96**
- "Angels, From The Realms Of Glory"* (vs 1-4) **Hymnal 93**
- "Good Christian Friends, Rejoice!"* **Hymnal 107**

**The Collect**

**BCP 213**

**Celebrant:** The Lord be with you.  
**People:** ***And also with you.***  
**Celebrant:** Let us pray.

**Celebrant:**

Almighty God, you have poured upon us the new light of your incarnate Word: Grant that this light, enkindled in our hearts, may shine forth in our lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

**The First Lesson – Old Testament**

**Reader: A Reading from the Book of Isaiah 61:10-62:3** **See Insert**

*After the reading:*

**Reader:** The Word of the Lord.  
**People:** ***Thanks be to God.***

**Psalm 147:1-10** *Laudate Dominum* **BCP 804/See Insert**

**The Second Lesson – The New Testament**

**Reader: A Reading from Paul's Letter to the Galatians 3:23-25; 4:4-7**

*After the Reading:*

**Reader:** The Word of the Lord.  
**People:** ***Thanks be to God.***

**Gospel Hymn** *"Go Tell It On The Mountain"* (vs. 1) **Hymnal 99**

**The Gospel** **John 1:1-18** **See Insert**

**Celebrant:** The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

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

*After the Gospel:*

**Celebrant:** The Gospel of the Lord.

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

**Gospel Hymn**      “Go Tell It On The Mountain” (vs. 2,3)      **Hymnal 99**

**Homily**      **Fr. Steve Karcher**

**The Nicene Creed**      **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 worshipped 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.***

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, 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 we proclaim the mystery of faith:

***Celebrant and People***

***Christ has died.***

***Christ is risen.***

***Christ will come again.***

***The Celebrant continues***

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

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.**

**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.***

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:

### **The Sanctus**

*Celebrant and People say, together:*

**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.**

### **The Prayer of Consecration**

**BCP 362**

*(Please stand or kneel as you are able)*

**Celebrant:**

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself, and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

*Silence*

### **The Prayers of the People - Form III**

**BCP 387**

*(Please stand or kneel as you are able. The Leader and People pray responsively)*

Father, we pray for your holy Catholic Church;

***That we all may be one.***

Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;

***That your Name may be glorified by all people.***

We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons;

***That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.***

We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;

***That there may be justice and peace on the earth.***

Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;

***That our works may find favor in your sight.***

Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;

***That they may be delivered from their distress.***

Give to the departed eternal rest.

***Let light perpetual shine upon them.***

We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;

***May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.***

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.

*Silence*

*The People may add their own petitions.*

**For Peace****BCP 815**

Eternal God, in whose perfect kingdom no sword is drawn but the sword of righteousness, no strength known but the strength of love: So mightily spread abroad your Spirit, that all peoples may be gathered under the banner of the Prince of Peace, as children of one Father; to whom be dominion and glory, now and for ever. **Amen.**

**For the Parish****BCP 817**

Almighty and everliving God, hear our prayers for this parish family. Grant us all things necessary for our common life, and bring us all to be of one heart and mind within your holy Church; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Prayer for those in the Armed Forces****BCP 823**

Almighty God, we commend to your gracious care and keeping all the men and women of our armed forces at home and abroad. Defend them day by day with your heavenly grace; strengthen them in their trials and temptations; give them courage to face the perils which beset them; and grant them a sense of your abiding presence wherever they may be; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Grant these our prayers, O Father, for Jesus Christ's sake, our only Mediator and Advocate. **Amen.**

*Silence*

**Celebrant:** For yours is the majesty, O Father, Son, and Holy Spirit; yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory, now and for ever. **Amen.**

**Birthdays/Anniversaries/Deployments/Prayers****Confession of Sin****BCP 360**

**Celebrant:** Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

**People:** 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.**

**The Absolution**

**Celebrant:** 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** *(all stand)***BCP 360**

**Celebrant:** The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: **And also with you.**

**The Holy Communion****Offertory Sentence**

Celebrant: Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God. *Ephesians 5:2*

**Offertory and Musical Offering**

*(Please drop your offering in the plate as it comes by)*

**Doxology (Acapella)****Hymnal 380, v.3**

***Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
praise him, all creatures here below;  
praise him above, ye heavenly host:  
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.***

**The Great Thanksgiving - Prayer A****BCP 361**

**Celebrant:** The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**