**First Sunday after Christmas**

**December 29, 2019 at 9:00 am**

**Combined Rite Service: Morning Prayer with Carols**



*"Agnus Day lectionary comic appears with the permission of*[*www.agnusday.org*](http://www.agnusday.org)*"*

**++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++**

**INFORMATION FOR NEWCOMERS: WELCOME TO CHRIST CHURCH!**



Our motto is true whether you're here for the very first time

or you've been a member for decades –

**There is a place for you at God's Table!**

The worship service is a Combined Rite service of Morning Prayer with Christmas Carols. You will notice moments in the service when people stand, kneel, bow, and make the sign of the cross -- all of these are completely optional. You are encouraged to participate in every aspect of worship, according to your comfort level.

Children of all ages are welcome to stay in worship.

Nursery care and Children’s Chapel will return next Sunday, January 5th.

If you have not been baptized, or if you have questions about Holy Baptism, please talk to Rev. Maggie and/or Deacon Rick after the service -- the people of Christ Church would love to walk with you to your baptism and beyond!

**THE WORD OF GOD**

(\*please rise as you are comfortable)

PRELUDE: “Jesus Christ, my sure Defense” arr. J. S. Bach

\*PROCESSIONAL HYMN: “Hark! the herald angels sing” Hymnal 87

\*OPENING SENTENCE

Deacon: Behold, the tabernacle of God is with humankind, and he will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself shall be with them, and be their God. (Revelation 21:3)

CONFESSION OF SIN

Deacon: Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

People: **God of all mercy, we confess that we have sinned against you, opposing your will in our lives.  
We have denied your goodness in each other, in ourselves, and in the world you have created. We repent of the evil that enslaves us, the evil we have done, and the evil done on our behalf. Forgive, restore, and strengthen us through our Savior Jesus Christ, that we may abide in your love and serve only your will. Amen.**

Deacon:The Almighty and merciful Lord grant us absolution and remission of all our sins, true repentance, amendment of life, and the grace and consolation of the Holy Spirit. ***Amen.***

THE INVITATORY AND PSALTER

Deacon: O Lord, open thou our lips.

**People: And our mouth shall show forth thy praise.**

**Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:**

**as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen. Alleluia.**

INVITATORY PSALM 67:1-5 *WITH ANTIPHON*

Deacon: O God, be merciful to us and bless us, \*  
**All: show us the light of your countenance and come to us.**

Deacon: Let your ways be known upon earth, \*

**All: your saving health among all nations.**

Deacon: Let the peoples praise you, O God; \*

**All: let all the peoples praise you.**

Deacon: Let the nations be glad and sing for joy, \*

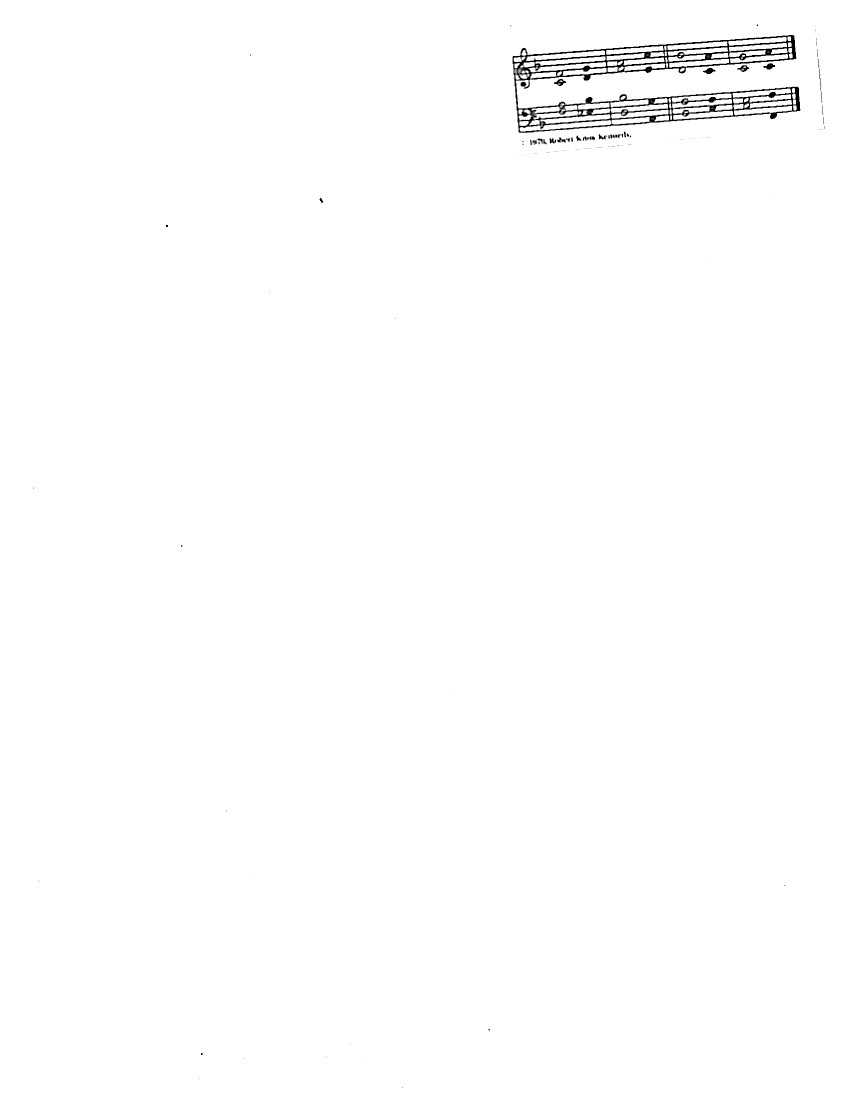
**All: for you judge the peoples with equity and guide all the nations upon earth.**

Deacon: Let the peoples praise you, O God; \*

**All: let all the peoples praise you.**

Deacon: Alleluia. Unto us a child is born:

**All: O come, let us adore him. Alleluia!**



\*THE RESPONSE Psalm 147

1 Hallelujah! How good it is to sing praises to our **God! \***  
how pleasant it is to honor him with **praise!**

2 The Lord rebuilds Je**rusalem; \***  
he gathers the exiles of **Israel.**

3 He heals the broken**hearted \***  
and binds up their **wounds.**

4 He counts the number of the **stars \***  
and calls them all by their **names**.

5 Great is our Lord and mighty in **power; \***  
there is no limit to his **wisdom.**

6 The Lord lifts up the **lowly, \***  
but casts the wicked to the **ground.**

7 Sing to the Lord with thanks**giving; \***  
make music to our God upon the **harp.**

8 He covers the heavens with **clouds \***  
and prepares rain for the **earth;**

9 He makes grass to grow upon the **mountains \***  
and green plants to serve **mankind.**

10 He provides food for flocks and **herds \***  
and for the young ravens when they **cry.**

11 He is not impressed by the might of a **horse; \***  
he has no pleasure in the strength of a **man;**

12 But the Lord has pleasure in those who **fear him, \***  
in those who await his gracious **favor.**

13 Worship the Lord, O Je**rusalem; \***  
praise your God, O **Zion;**

14 For he has strengthened the bars of your **gates; \***  
he has blessed your children with**in** **you.**

15 He has established peace on your **borders; \***  
he satisfies you with the finest **wheat.**

16 He sends out his command to the **earth, \***  
and his word runs very **swiftly.**

17 He gives snow like **wool; \***  
he scatters hoarfrost like **ashes.**

18 He scatters his hail like **bread crumbs; \***  
who can stand against his **cold?**

19 He sends forth his word and **melts** **them; \***  
he blows with his wind, and the waters **flow.**

20 He declares his word to **Jacob, \***  
his statutes and his judgments to **Israel.**

21 He has not done so to any other **nation; \***  
to them he has not revealed his judgments. Halle**lujah!**

THE FIRST LESSON Isaiah 61:10-62:3

I will greatly rejoice in the Lord,  
my whole being shall exult in my God;

for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation,  
he has covered me with the robe of righteousness,

as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland,  
and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.

For as the earth brings forth its shoots,  
and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up,

so the Lord God will cause righteousness and praise  
to spring up before all the nations.

For Zion's sake I will not keep silent,  
and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest,

until her vindication shines out like the dawn,  
and her salvation like a burning torch.

The nations shall see your vindication,  
and all the kings your glory;

and you shall be called by a new name  
that the mouth of the Lord will give.

You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the Lord,  
and a royal diadem in the hand of your God.

Lector: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

CANTICLE 13: A Song of Praise (*Benedictus es Domine*) Hymnal S236

(front section of Hymnal)

THE SECOND LESSON Galatians 3:23-25, 4:4-7

Now before faith came, we were imprisoned and guarded under the law until faith would be revealed. Therefore the law was our disciplinarian until Christ came, so that we might be justified by faith. But now that faith has come, we are no longer subject to a disciplinarian.

But when the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, in order to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as children. And because you are children, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" So you are no longer a slave but a child, and if a child then also an heir, through God.

Lector: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

SEQUENCE HYMN: “While shepherds watched their flocks by night” Hymnal 94

\*THE HOLY GOSPEL John 1:1-18

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

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

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth. (John testified to him and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks ahead of me because he was before me.'") From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. No one has ever seen God. It is God the only Son, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known.

Deacon: The Gospel of the Lord.

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

GOSPEL HYMN: “Of the Father’s love begotten” Hymnal 82

THE SERMON The Rev. Rick Incorvati

\*THE APOSTLES’ CREED

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,**

**creator of heaven and earth;**

**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.**

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate,**

**was crucified, died, and was buried.**

**He descended to the dead.**

**On the third day he rose again.**

**He ascended into heaven,**

**and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

**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.**

\*SHARING OF THE PEACE

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

*People:* **And also with you.**

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE OFFERTORY: “Liebster Jesu” arr. Jan Ender

\*PRESENTATION HYMN: “Christians, awake, salute the happy morn” Hymnal 106 vs 1-3, 6

THE LORD’S PRAYER & PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

*Deacon:* The Lord be with you.

***All:*** **And with thy spirit.**

Deacon: Let us 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 PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Lord Jesus Christ, you came and dwelt among us, showing us the glory of the Father. Let that glory be manifest in our churches. Give us the will to be united as You prayed we would be.

***R: Lord Jesus, come and dwell within all churches.***

Lord Jesus Christ, you came and dwelt among us, serving others and not seeking your own glory. Inspire church leaders, that they may be examples of willing service. Bless Justin, Archbishop of Canterbury; Michael, our Presiding Bishop; Thomas, our Bishop; Maggie, our priest, and Rick, our deacon.

***R: Lord Jesus, come and dwell among all clergy.***

Lord Jesus Christ, you came and dwelt among us, giving us an example of true power, which lies in holiness. Direct government leaders into wise decisions that will bring forth righteousness. Give the leaders of the nations wisdom and hearts for peace.

***R: Lord Jesus, come and dwell in all government leaders.***

Lord Jesus Christ, you came and dwelt among us, choosing the company of the poor, the homeless, the hungry, and the sick, of widows and orphans, and of sinners. Help us to reach out in lovingkindness to those who are in any need or trouble. We pray for the ministries this church supports, [especially\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_].

***R: Lord Jesus, come and dwell in our acts of mercy.***

Lord Jesus Christ, you came and dwelt among us, taking on our flesh, and inhabiting both the pains and the joys of this life. We celebrate with those who have birthdays and anniversaries this week [especially\_\_\_\_].

***R: Lord Jesus, come and dwell in our moments of joy.***

Lord Jesus Christ, you came and dwelt among us, taking sickness and suffering into your own hands and transforming them. Have mercy on those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit. We pray especially for… Give special grace and power to all those who spend this holiday season working with the sick and the dying.

***R: Lord Jesus, come and dwell in our dis-ease and make us whole.***

Lord Jesus Christ, you came and dwelt among us, weeping at the death of those whom you loved. Comfort all those who have lost loved ones, and bless those departed [especially\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_].

***R: Lord Jesus, come and dwell in our memories of those whom we have lost. Grant peace and light to those who have died.***

The Collect of the Day

**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.**

*A Collect for Mission*

**O God, you have made of one blood all the peoples of the earth, and sent your blessed Son to preach peace to those who are far off and to those who are near: Grant that people everywhere may seek after you and find you; bring the nations into your fold; pour out your Spirit upon all flesh; and hasten the coming of your kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen*.**

THE GENERAL THANKSGIVING

**Almighty God, Father of all mercies,   
we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks   
for all your goodness and loving-kindness   
to us and to all whom you have made.   
We bless you for our creation, preservation,   
and all the blessings of this life;   
but above all for your immeasurable love   
in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ;   
for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.   
And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies,   
that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise,   
not only with our lips, but in our lives,   
by giving up our selves to your service,   
and by walking before you   
in holiness and righteousness all our days;   
through Jesus Christ our Lord,   
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,   
be honor and glory throughout all ages. Amen.**

\*CLOSING HYMN: “On this day earth shall ring” Hymnal 92

\*THE CONCLUDING SENTENCE: May the God of hope fill us with all joy and peace in believing through the power of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.** (Romans 15:13)

POSTLUDE: “Hark the Herald Angels Sing” arr. Hugo Jester

*Please join us for Coffee Hour fellowship downstairs following the service!*

**++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++**

**Please join us next Sunday, when we return to our regular worship schedule:**

**8 am Rite I Spoken Holy Eucharist with sermon**

**10 am Rite II Holy Eucharist with organ, choir , sermon, and Children’s Chapel**

**Chalk for Epiphany home blessings will be distributed at both services!**

**Announcement: Church Office Closed**

Due to the holidays, the Church Office is closed through Friday, January 3rd and will reopen on Monday, January 6th.

**Christmas Flowers 2019**

In loving memory of Jim Beardsell by Anita Beardsell

In thanksgiving for Sarah Healy and Lucy Albright and in memory of Clarence Alright, by Joann Albright

In memory of Ben Schwartz and Dennis Sullivan by Sally Schwartz and family

In memory of Cal, Merlene and Scott Warren by Kay Koeninger and David Warren

In memory of our parents and in thanksgiving for our family by Denny and Sharon Wells

In thanksgiving for our daughters Katie and Barbie and their families by Scott & Cathy Yeazell

In memory of Donna Swafford and Jean Smith and in thanksgiving for Madison & Reilly Smith, by Lori Swafford & Rand Smith

In memory of Martin C. Hawkins III, Eugenia Nola “Lovey” Williams Ray, and in thanksgiving for Rob, Harrison, Henry, Hamilton, and Jesse, by Molly Young

**Ministers for December 29, 2019**

**Altar Guild:** Anita Beardsell and Sally Schwartz

**Acolyte:** Bill Yeazell

**Lector:** Ann Chitkara

**Prayers:** Ann Chitkara

**Ushers:** Bill Hicks and

**Coffee Hour:** Kay Koeninger and Joann Albright

**Tellers:** Marilyn Howat and Martha Chaney

**Guest Pianist:** Myra Dean Banion

**General Information**

**Rector:** The Rev.Maggie Leidheiser-Stoddard

**Deacon**: The Rev. Rick Incorvati

**Senior Warden**: Dawn Ivy

**Junior Warden**: John Richardson

**Treasurer**: Ken Bladh

**Vestry at Large**: Bonnie Bingman, Chris Oldstone-Moore, Cathy Hasecke,

Brian Shelburne, Joyce Spangler, Denise Sharp, and Chris Wells

**Parish Administrator & Program Coordinator**: Kelly Zeller

**Director of Music**: Dr. Christopher Durrenberger

**Nursery Attendant**: Jerushia Knox

**Facility Manager**: Paul McAfee

**Bookkeeper:** Tina Knox

*Thank you for worshipping at Christ Church today, and may the Lord be with you!*



**Christ Episcopal Church**

**409 East High Street**

**Springfield, Ohio 45505**

**937-323-8651**

[**www.christspringfield.org**](http://www.christspringfield.org)