

ST. ALBAN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE
DECEMBER 24, 2020

EVENING PRAYER RITE 2
THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST
ONLINE SERVICE BULLETIN

Welcome and Introduction to Evening Prayer

The lighting of the four Advent candles and the White Christmas Candle

Christmas—White Candle-Christ's Candle—"Happy birthday dear Jesus!"

Verger: Today we re-light all the previous candles and we light the center White Candle, also called the Christ Candle. "Happy birthday Jesus!" Amen.

Officiant: Light and peace, in Jesus Christ our Lord.

People: Thanks be to God

Officiant: 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.

Officiant: O 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.

People: Amen

Officiant: O God, make speed to save us.

People: O Lord, make haste to help us.

Officiant and People: Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

People: Alleluia

The Readings

Reader: A reading from the book of Isaiah

Isaiah 52:7-10

Reader: There ends the reading

People: Amen

Psalm 98

Following the Psalm with this response: Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. As it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

Reader:

A reading from the book of Hebrews

Hebrews 1:1-4

Gospel: John 1:1-14

Sermon: the Rev. Phil Loveless

The Prayers

Leader The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Leader Let us pray.

Assigned Readers

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.

Suffrages

V. Show us your mercy, O Lord;

R. And grant us your salvation.

V. Clothe your ministers with righteousness;

R. Let your people sing with joy.

V. Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;

R. For only in you can we live in safety.

V. Lord, keep this nation under your care;

R. And guide us in the way of justice and truth.

V. Let your way be known upon earth;

R. Your saving health among all nations.

V. Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;

R. Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.

V. Create in us clean hearts, O God;

R. And sustain us with your Holy Spirit.

Send, O God, into the darkness of this troubled world, the light of your Son; let the star of your hope touch the minds of all people with the bright beams of mercy and truth; and so direct our steps that we may always walk in the way revealed to us, as the shepherds of Bethlehem walked with joy to the manger where he dwelt who now and ever reigns in our hearts, Jesus Christ our Lord (John Wallace Suter, 1890 – 1977, Dean of Washington Cathedral)

Amen.

Officiant: Let us bless the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

(Close by wishing everyone a Merry Christmas! Announcements after the service)

