



# *Church of the Ascension*

*December 25, 2023*

## *Christmas Day*

*10:30am*

# *Welcome to the Church of the Ascension*

*We are pleased to have you worship with us.*

*By entering Church of the Ascension and by your presence here (indoors and outdoors), you consent to be photographed, filmed, livestreamed, and/or otherwise recorded. Your entry constitutes your consent to such photography, filming, livestreaming, and/or recording and to any use, in any and all media for Church of the Ascension and the Episcopal Diocese of Ohio. If you do not agree to the foregoing, please request to be seated in the no camera area.*

*The references on the right side of the bulletin are as follows:*

*BCP indicates the Book of Common Prayer.*

*EOW indicates Enriching our Worship, a supplemental liturgical material.*

*Hymn and “S” numbers indicate the Hymnal 1982*

*“S” indicates service music found at the front of the hymnal*

## **Finding Your Way**

**Elevator:** Across from the church office, exiting at the East Entrance. Handicapped parking spaces are near the entrance and in the parking lot.

**Restrooms:** *Upper Level* – Through the door to the left of the altar (NW), past the chapel, past the library, and to the right of the church office.

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If visiting or new please fill in, tear out,  
and drop in collection plate

Name

email address

Phone number

Mailing address



# *Church of the Ascension*

*December 25, 2023*

## *Christmas Day*

*Holy Eucharist, Rite II, 10:30am*

*Expansive language*

*Please note that in our liturgy when we refer to God we cannot adequately verbalize the magnitude and comprehensiveness of God's diversity and are always limited by our use of language. We acknowledge that although Jesus was born into history as a man, neither God the Father nor God the Holy Spirit were embodied with human sex. Although our language is often not all inclusive we believe God always is. God made human beings in God's own image with complexity and diversity. Thank you for sharing your diversity and complexity with us as we worship God together.*

### **The Liturgy of the Word**

*When the Voluntary begins, please maintain prayerful silence.*

**Voluntary:**     The Shepherds

Stanley E. Saxton

**Opening Hymn:**     O Come, All Ye Faithful

**H83 vs. 1, 3, 6**

**Tune: Adeste Fidelis**

*1 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.*

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

*6 Yea, Lord, we greet thee,  
born this happy morning;  
Jesus, to thee be glory given;  
Word of the Father,  
now in flesh appearing; [Refrain]*

### **The lighting of the Advent Wreath Candles**

*Presider*      Blessed are you, O God, ruler of the universe.

*People*        *You sent Jesus Christ to be the Light of the world  
and to spread light and love to all people.*

*Presider*      Let us pray.

*May the brightness of this wreath be a sign to us of the nearness of  
Christ, as we celebrate with joy our Savior's humble birth in a  
manger and prepare to receive our Messiah at his coming again in  
glory; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and  
reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.  
Amen*

### **Welcome**

### **Opening Acclamation** *(The people standing)*

*BCP 351*

*Presider*      Blessed be God: most holy, glorious and undivided Trinity.

*People*        *And blessed be God's reign, now and for ever. Amen.*

### **Song of Praise:**

**St. James Gloria**

**Tune: Angels We Have Heard on High**

*Glory be to God on high,  
To all people, peace on earth  
Angels, shepherds drawing nigh  
Join to celebrate His birth.  
Gloria in excelsis Deo!*

*Jesus Christ, we now declare  
Lamb of God and Lord of Love.  
Grant us mercy, hear our prayer,  
Give us grace from heaven above.  
Gloria in excelsis Deo!*

*Praises to the Holy One,  
Praises sing in highest heaven;  
To the Father and the Son  
And the Holy Spirit given.  
Gloria in excelsis Deo!*

### **The Collect for Christmas Day**

*Presider* God be with you.

*People* *And also with you.*

*Presider* Let us pray.

O God, you make us glad by the yearly festival of the birth of your only Son Jesus Christ: Grant that we, who joyfully receive him as our Redeemer, may with sure confidence behold him when he comes to be our Judge; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

*People sit for the reading of the lessons*

### **A Reading from Isaiah**

**9:2-7**

The people walking in darkness have seen a great light.  
On those living in a pitch-dark land, light has dawned.  
You have made the nation great;  
you have increased its joy.  
They rejoiced before you as with joy at the harvest,  
as those who divide plunder rejoice.  
As on the day of Midian, you've shattered the yoke that  
burdened them,  
the staff on their shoulders,  
and the rod of their oppressor.  
Because every boot of the thundering warriors,  
and every garment rolled in blood  
will be burned, fuel for the fire.

A child is born to us, a son is given to us,  
and authority will be on his shoulders.  
He will be named  
Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,  
Eternal Father, Prince of Peace.  
There will be vast authority and endless peace  
for David's throne and for his kingdom,  
establishing and sustaining it  
with justice and righteousness  
now and forever.

The zeal of the Lord of heavenly forces will do this.

*Reader*        Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

*People*        ***Thanks be to God.***

### **Psalm 96 (spoken)**

Sing to the LORD a new song!

Sing to the LORD, all the earth!

<sup>2</sup> ***Sing to the LORD! Bless his name!***

***Share the news of his saving work every single day!***

<sup>3</sup> Declare God's glory among the nations;

declare his wondrous works among all people

<sup>4</sup> ***because the LORD is great and so worthy of praise.***

***He is awesome beyond all other gods***

<sup>5</sup> because all the gods of the nations are just idols,

but it is the LORD who created heaven!

<sup>6</sup> ***Greatness and grandeur are in front of him;***

***strength and beauty are in his sanctuary.***

<sup>7</sup> Give to the LORD, all families of the nations—

give to the LORD glory and power!

<sup>8</sup> ***Give to the LORD the glory due his name!***

***Bring gifts!***

***Enter his courtyards!***

<sup>9</sup> Bow down to the LORD in his holy splendor!

Tremble before him, all the earth!

- <sup>10</sup> *Tell the nations, “The LORD rules!  
Yes, he set the world firmly in place;  
it won’t be shaken.  
He will judge all people fairly.”*
- <sup>11</sup> Let heaven celebrate! Let the earth rejoice!  
Let the sea and everything in it roar!
- <sup>12</sup> *Let the countryside and everything in it celebrate!  
Then all the trees of the forest too  
will shout out joyfully*
- <sup>13</sup> before the LORD because he is coming!  
He is coming to establish justice on the earth!  
He will establish justice in the world rightly.  
He will establish justice among all people fairly.

## A Reading from Titus

2:11-14

The grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all people. It educates us so that we can live sensible, ethical, and godly lives right now by rejecting ungodly lives and the desires of this world. At the same time we wait for the blessed hope and the glorious appearance of our great God and savior Jesus Christ. He gave himself for us in order to rescue us from every kind of lawless behavior, and cleanse a special people for himself who are eager to do good actions.

*Reader* Hear what the Spirit is saying to God’s people.  
*People* ***Thanks be to God.***

*The people stand*

**Sequence Hymn:** *Hark! the Herald Angels Sing* **H87 vs 1 & 2**  
**Tune:** *Mendelssohn*

*1. 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 hosts proclaim  
Christ is born in Bethlehem!*

*Refrain:*

***Hark! the herald angels sing,  
glory to the newborn King!***

***2. Christ, by highest heaven adored;  
Christ, the everlasting Lord;  
late in time behold him come,  
offspring of the Virgin's womb.  
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see;  
hail the incarnate Deity.  
Pleased as man with us to dwell;  
Jesus, our Emmanuel! [Refrain]***

*Presider*      The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ  
according to **Luke**

**2:1-14 (15-20)**

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

In those days Caesar Augustus declared that everyone throughout the empire should be enrolled in the tax lists. This first enrollment occurred when Quirinius governed Syria. Everyone went to their own cities to be enrolled. Since Joseph belonged to David's house and family line, he went up from the city of Nazareth in Galilee to David's city, called Bethlehem, in Judea. He went to be enrolled together with Mary, who was promised to him in marriage and who was pregnant. While they were there, the time came for Mary to have her baby. She gave birth to her firstborn child, a son, wrapped him snugly, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the guestroom.

Nearby shepherds were living in the fields, guarding their sheep at night. The Lord's angel stood before them, the Lord's glory shone around them, and they were terrified.

The angel said, "Don't be afraid! Look! I bring good news to you—wonderful, joyous news for all people. Your savior is born today in David's city. He is Christ the Lord. This is a sign for you: you will find a newborn baby wrapped snugly and lying in a manger." Suddenly a great assembly of the heavenly forces was with the angel praising God. They said, "Glory to God in heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors."



When the angels returned to heaven, the shepherds said to each other, “Let’s go right now to Bethlehem and see what’s happened. Let’s confirm what the Lord has revealed to us.” They went quickly and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying in the manger. When they saw this, they reported what they had been told about this child. Everyone who heard it was amazed at what the shepherds told them. Mary committed these things to memory and considered them carefully. The shepherds returned home, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen. Everything happened just as they had been told.

*Presider*      The Gospel of the Lord.

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

**Hymn:**            ***Hark! the Herald Angels Sing***

**H87 vs 3**  
**Tune: Mendelssohn**

***3. 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!  
Hark! the herald angels sing,  
glory to the newborn King!***

*All are seated.*

**The Sermon**

*Rev. Vincent Black*

*The people stand*

**The Nicene Creed**

**BCP 358**

*“The Creeds are statements of our basic beliefs about God” (BCP 851).*

*We say these words as a gathered community to affirm our belief in God as creator, redeemer, and sustainer of all creation, as the source of life and holiness. God has blessed humanity with relationships and*

*community which are part of God's own essence as Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. We do not say these words as some sort of litmus test but as an invitation to wrestle with the mystery and complexity of God with generations of Christians who have gone before us and with generations who will come after us.*

***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:  
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary,  
and became truly human.  
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.  
Who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified.  
Who 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 Prayers of the People, Form III**

*BCP 387*

*Stand or kneel as the Holy Spirit leads.*

*The Leader and People pray.*

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 Michael, our Presiding Bishop; Mark, Arthur, and William our Bishops; Anne, our Bishop-Coadjutor elect; Vincent, our Priest; Clarke, our intern; and 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  
(especially... *the names on the long-term prayer list are read*);

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

Give to the departed eternal rest (especially... *the names of the recently deceased are read*);

***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.*

*Presider says*

Almighty and eternal God, ruler of all things in heaven and earth:  
Mercifully accept the prayers of your people, and strengthen us to  
do your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## **The Confession of Sin**

*BCP 360*

*The Presider says*

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Silence may be kept.*

*Presider and 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 our Savior 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 Priest, stands and says*

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through  
the grace of 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*

*Presider*      The peace of Christ be always with you.

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

*Then the Ministers and People greet one another with a wave, bow, or  
appropriate gesture.*

*All are seated.*

## **Announcements**

### **The Holy Communion**

#### **The Offertory Sentence**

**Offertory Hymn:      Go Tell It on the Mountain      H99**  
**Tune: *Go Tell It on the Mountain***

*Refrain:*

*Go, tell it on the mountain,  
over the hills and everywhere;  
go, tell it on the mountain  
that Jesus Christ is born!*

*1. While shepherds kept their watching  
o'er silent flocks by night,  
behold, throughout the heavens  
there shone a holy light. (Refrain)*

*2. The shepherds feared and trembled  
when lo! above the earth  
rang out the angel chorus  
that hailed our Savior's birth. (Refrain)*

*3. Down in a lowly manger  
the humble Christ was born,  
and God sent us salvation  
that blessed Christmas morn. (Refrain)*

*All stand*

#### **The Presentation of God's Tithes and Offerings**

*The gifts of the people are brought forward at this time, including bread,  
wine and alms, as the congregation sings the Presentation Hymn.*

**Presentation: In the Bleak Midwinter**

**H112 vs. 4**  
**Tune: Cranham**

*4. 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 I give him--give my heart.*

**The Great Thanksgiving: Eucharistic Prayer B**

*BCP 367*

*Presider* May God be with you.

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

*Presider* Lift up your hearts.

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

*Presider* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

*People* ***It is right to give our thanks and praise.***

*The Presider proceeds*

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Almighty God, 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 and Benedictus**

**St. James Sanctus**

**Tune: Jesus, Our Brother, Kind and Good**

*Presider and People*

***Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.***

***Hosanna in the highest.***

***Blessed is he, is he who comes in the name of the Lord,  
Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.***

*The people stand or kneel and the Presider 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 Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh. For in these last days you sent Jesus to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In Christ, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In Christ, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, our Savior 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 Jesus 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 (spoken)*

***We remember Christ's death,  
We proclaim Christ's resurrection,  
We await Christ's coming in glory;***

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Savior 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 in the sacrifice of Jesus Christ, through whom we are acceptable to you, 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 Mary, the mother of Jesus, and with all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your children; through Jesus Christ our

Savior, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, now and for ever.  
**Amen.**

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

**The Lord's Prayer** (*spoken*)

*BCP 364*

*People and Presider*

***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**

*A period of silence is kept*

**Fraction Anthem**

**St. James Agnus Dei  
Tune: What Child Is This?**

***O lamb of God, O Holy Child,  
Who takes the sin of the world away;  
Have mercy on us, lamb so mild,  
The babe, the son of Mary.***



*This, this is your body given,  
Your precious blood, the gift of heaven  
Take, eat, for we are one  
In the babe, the son of Mary.*

## **The Invitation to Communion**

*Presider says*

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 people are welcome to receive Holy Communion. Children of all ages are included in this invitation.*

*The presider invites those not receiving the sacrament to make a spiritual communion, led by the reader.*

## **Prayer for Spiritual Communion**

*from the Prayer Book for the Armed Services*

*In union, O Lord, with your faithful people at every altar of your Church, where the Holy Eucharist is now being celebrated, I desire to offer to you praise and thanksgiving. I remember your death, Lord Christ; I proclaim your resurrection; I await your coming in glory. Since I cannot receive you today in the Sacrament of your Body and Blood, I beseech you to come spiritually into my heart. Cleanse and strengthen me with your grace, Lord Jesus, and let me never be separated from you. May I live in you, and you in me, in this life and in the life to come. Amen.*

**Communion Music: O Little Town of Bethlehem**

**H79**

**Tune: St. Louis**

*1. 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.*

*2. 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.*

*3. How silently, how silently,  
the wondrous Gift is given!  
So God imparts to human hearts  
the blessings of his heaven.  
No ear may hear his coming,  
but in this world of sin,  
where meek souls will receive him, still  
the dear Christ enters in.*

*4. Where children pure and happy  
pray to the blessed Child,  
where misery cries out to thee,  
Son of the mother mild;  
where charity stand watching  
and faith holds wide the door,  
the dark night wakes, the glory breaks,  
and Christmas comes once more.*

*5. O holy Child of Bethlehem,  
descend to us, we pray;  
cast out our sin and enter in,  
be born in us today.  
We hear the Christmas angels  
the great glad tidings tell;  
O come to us, abide with us,  
our Lord Emmanuel!*

## Joy to the World

H100

Tune: Antioch

*1. 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.*

*2. Joy to the world! 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.*

*3. 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.*

*4. 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.*

*After Communion, the Presider says*

Let us pray.

**Postcommunion Prayer** (*said by all, standing*)

BCP 366

*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 Christ,  
and heirs of your eternal kingdom.  
And now, send us out to do the work you have given us to do,  
to love and serve you  
as faithful witnesses of Christ our Savior.  
To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit,  
be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.*

## Blessing

*The priest blesses the people, saying*

May Almighty God, who sent his Son to take our nature upon him, bless you in this holy season, scatter the darkness of sin, and brighten your heart with the light of his holiness. **Amen.**

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

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

And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever. **Amen.**

**Closing Hymn: God Rest You Merry, Gentlemen H105**  
**Tune: *God Rest You Merry***

*I God rest you merry, gentlemen,  
let nothing you dismay;  
remember Christ, our Savior  
was born on Christmas Day  
to save us all from Satan's pow'r  
when we were gone astray.*

*Refrain:*

*O tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy,  
O tidings of comfort and joy.*

*2 From God our heav'nly Father  
a blessed angel came  
and unto certain shepherds  
brought tidings of the same,  
how that in Bethlehem was born  
the son of God by name. [Refrain]*

*3 "Fear not," then said the angel,  
"let nothing you affright;  
this day is born a Savior,  
the true and radiant light,  
to free all those who trust in him  
from Satan's pow'r and might." [Refrain]*

*4 Now to the Lord sing praises,  
all you within this place,  
and in true love and fellowship  
each other now embrace;  
this holy tide of Christmas  
is filled with heav'nly grace. [Refrain]*

## **The Dismissal**

*Presider*      Let us go forth in the name of Christ.  
*People*        *Thanks be to God.*

**Voluntary:** The Magi

Stanley E. Saxton





## **The Ministers of the Liturgy**

Presider: Rev. Vincent Black

Music Director and Organist: Jon Peterson

Choir Director: Margie Hildebrandt

Acolytes: Derek Lewallen and Clarke Valencia Mortensen

Readers: Jan Bednarski and Julie Exline

Spiritual Eucharist Reader: Jan Bednarski

Chalice Bearers: Derek Lewallen and Clarke Valencia Mortensen

Usher: John O'Donnell

Videographer: Dave Campion



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The flowers placed at the altar are given to the glory of  
God, and in loving memory of or in thanksgiving for:

Dennis & Eleanor Black  
Mary Marcella  
Ken Black  
Tina Marcella  
Don & Gale Allore  
Bill & Rosario Barnhard  
Edgar & Esther Sommer  
Fred & Carrie Thacker  
Ed Meng  
George & Maria Sent  
Nancie McCrystal Vanah  
Donald R. Partlow  
Carrie & Arthur Krewson  
Carrie Auer McDowell & Capt.  
    Robert McDowell  
Dr. Carrie Roberta Krewson  
    Schopf  
Nancy Reid Doolittle  
Luke Madden & family  
Tom & Marilyn Bretz  
David, Richard & Esther Paisley  
Orville, Geraldine, & Janet Pelkey  
Princess Merry, Paul Sayler  
Jack & Mary Jo Flowers  
William E. Lucas  
Anne & Dean Lucas  
Joe Ivanoski  
Catherine & Joe O'Donnell  
Bonnie O'Donnell  
Ellen O'Donnell  
James P. Hendy, Sr.  
Carol Culp  
Pat Hendy  
James P. Hendy, Jr.  
Peg Meister  
Rev. Wm. Aston Thompson  
K. V. & Alice Isaacs  
Asha Isaacs Call  
Dorothy & Coles Dusenbury

Don & Larry Dusenbury  
Bill Hildebrandt  
Albert E. Fowerbaugh  
Sarah & Phil Walter  
Phyllis C. Johnson  
Philip & Adelle Bethea  
Alfred & Jessie Beyer  
Jennifer Carlson  
Carmela Piluso  
The Kane family  
The Knapp family  
Zachary Klemola  
W. J. & Hannah Davis  
Ralph & Elizabeth Hankey  
Dr. & Mrs. R. T. Gildea  
Norman & Jean Wielgosz  
W. J. Davis, Jr.  
Eva Gyler  
Ruth Conlon  
Ivan & Claire Burrell  
Bill & Trudy Cowell  
Tom Cowell  
Edward Cowell  
John, Dorothy, Russell & Ken  
    Michaels  
Ruth Thompson  
Rev. Cranston. & Elaine Gesell  
Ted & Florence Petrilli  
Ray & Helen Black  
Robert Black  
Florence Mitchell  
Shirley Armbrust  
Jean Beane  
JoAnn Poulos  
Barbara Varga  
Margaret Golnick  
Art, Betty, & Bob Mohlar  
Ronald & Nancy Weiss



## **Favorite Christmas Carols**

Next Sunday, December 31 at 10:30am we'll take requests for your favorite Christmas Carols.

## **Children's Living Nativity and 3 Kings**

On January 7 at 10:30am we'll have a Children's Living Nativity including the Three Kings

## **NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING: SUNDAY, JANUARY 21<sup>st</sup>**

There will be one service at 10:30. Lunch will be served after the service. Meeting begins after lunch, ending by 2 p.m.

**We will elect three members to serve on the Vestry,  
and one more to serve an unexpired term**

Nominations may be received from the floor when this action is called for.

**All Parishioners Are Expected to Attend**

## **Winter Convocation Feb 2 - Feb 3, 2024**

Kalahari Resorts and Convention Center

## **Church of the Ascension**

13216 Detroit Avenue  
Lakewood, Ohio 44107  
216.521.8727

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[secretary@ascension-lakewood.org](mailto:secretary@ascension-lakewood.org)