



St. Barnabas' Episcopal Church

THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST
CHRISTMAS EVE, DECEMBER 24, 2024 | 4:45 pm & 10:45 pm
CHRISTMAS DAY, DECEMBER 25, 2024 | 10:00 am



JESUS MAFA. The birth of Jesus with shepherds

*from **Art in the Christian Tradition**, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN.
Original source: librairie-emmanuel.fr*

God's discerning, inclusive, Christ-centered church, engaged in outreach ministry, growing discipleship, and life changing worship.

Welcome to Worship at St. Barnabas'!

All are welcome to receive communion. If you are not baptized the Spirit may be calling you to communion and baptism. Baptism is our YES to the love God enfolds us in and our pledge to live that love. We'll accompany you on a journey towards baptism (which is actually the first part of the communion service). In the meantime you are always welcome at God's table. We are glad you are here.

Distribution of bread and wine:

- The musicians are served first so they can lead us in our Communion Hymns.
- Then, starting from the balcony and then the back of the room, Ushers will invite you forward to receive the bread and wine.
- You may either stand or kneel at the rail to receive the bread. You may also cross your arms for a blessing instead of receiving the bread.
- If you prefer to drink from a common chalice then stay at the rail to do so.
- If you prefer to drink from an individual small bowl, then those are served on the main floor. Empty bowls may be placed in the baskets along the side of the room..
- If you are unable to come forward, let the ushers know so the bread can be brought to you.

Four courtyard and two narthex bathrooms are available for your use. If you have any questions or concerns, the Ushers are available to assist you.

Welcome to Online St. Barnabas!

Welcome to those joining our virtual worship with Facebook Live. We are glad to have you with us in this new way. You may access our livestream starting at 9:45 am at facebook.com/StBarnabasAG/

A recording of the live-stream will be posted on the St. Barnabas YouTube Channel (bit.ly/StBYouTube) the afternoon following the service.

Bidding (intercessory prayer) Book – If you would like to add a prayer to be read during the church service, you may add it to the “Bidding Book” located at the back of the church to the left of the doors. If you cannot join us in person and would like to add a prayer to be read during the church service you can email the name of the person to our parish office at saintbarnabas.ag@gmail.com (before Wednesday morning), or add it to the comments section on Facebook Live during the livestream.

Poinsettias and Candle Dedications – Candles are lighted by Jerri Pence in celebration of her grandson Matthew Pence.

Poinsettias have been placed on the altar by Kim Valois in loving memory of Adah Kirkpatrick.

In addition to our Sunday morning Eucharist at 8:00 am and 10:00 am, we offer the following...

Notable Events

TODAY	DEC 24	Christmas Eve 4:45 pm and 10:45 pm
WEDNESDAY	DEC 25	Christmas Day 10:00 am
	DECEMBER 25-JANUARY 1 OFFICE CLOSED	
SUNDAY	DEC 29	Christmas Lessons & Carols 10:00 am (No 8:00 am worship)
SUNDAY	JAN 5	Eucharist and Epiphany Celebration
THURSDAY	JAN 15	Begin a three-week Book Study Series

CHRISTMAS CAROL SING ALONG

On Christmas Eve we will begin each service with fifteen minutes of your favorite Christmas Carols. These hymns may be found in the Blue Hymnal in the pew rack in front of you. Christmas hymns are #77 through # 115. **Which hymns would you like to sing?** During the worship service we are already singing 94, 95, 96, 100, 101, 109, 111, 115.

VOLUNTARY

Various Christmas Carols

INTROIT

Up! Good Christian Folk, and Listen

Sung by The Choral Scholars

THE WORD OF GOD

Stand as you are able.

ENTRANCE HYMN

Joy to the world!

1 Joy to the world! the Lord is come: let earth re -
 2 Joy to the world! the Sa - vior reigns; let us our
 *3 No more let sins and sor - rows grow, nor thorns in -
 4 He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the

ceive her King; let ev - ery heart pre - pare him room, and
 songs em - ploy, while fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains, re -
 fest the ground; he comes to make his bless - ings flow far
 na - tions prove the glo - ries of his right - eous - ness, and

heaven and na - ture sing, and heaven and na - ture
 peat the sound - ing joy, re - peat the sound - ing
 as the curse is found, far as the curse is
 won - ders of his love, and won - ders of his

1 and heaven and na - ture sing, and
 2 re - peat the sound - ing joy, re -
 3 far as the curse is found, far
 4 and won - ders of his love, and

sing, and heaven, and heaven and na - ture sing.
 joy, re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.
 found, far as, far as the curse is found.
 love, and won - ders, won - ders of his love.

heaven and na - ture sing,
 peat the sound - ing joy,
 as the curse is found,
 won - ders of his love,

Christmas Eve begins the short season of Christmas, a twelve day period in which we remember how Christ came into the universe as a baby boy, the first perfect union of human and divine. We know this perfect union as Jesus and his birth changed the entire universe forever, changes that we can scarcely imagine.

*The color for this season is **white** and you will see that in the hangings on the pulpit and lectern and on the stoles around the necks of the clergy.*

Introit Lyrics:

*Ding-dong, ding:
 Ding-a-dong-a-ding:
 Ding-dong, ding-dong:
 Ding-a-dong-ding.*

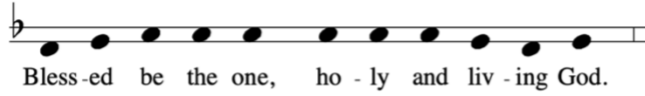
Up! good Christen folk,
 and listen how the merry
 church bells ring,
 And from steeple bid
 good people come adore
 the new-born King:

Tell the story how from
 glory God came down at
 Christmastide,
 Bringing gladness,
 chasing sadness,
 show'ring blessings far
 and wide.

Born of mother,
 blest o'er other,
Ex Maria Virgine,
 In a stable ('tis no fable),
Christus natus hodie.

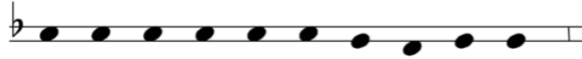
From *Piae Cantiones*,
 1582

Celebrant



Bless-ed be the one, ho - ly and liv - ing God.

People



Glo - ry to God for ev - er and ev - er.

COLLECT FOR PURITY

The Celebrant says

Dios omnipotente, para quien todos los corazones están manifiestos, todos los deseos conocidos y ningún secreto encubierto: Purifica los pensamientos de nuestros corazones con la inspiración de tu Santo Espíritu, para que perfectamente te amemos y dignamente celebremos tu Santo Nombre; por Cristo nuestro Señor. **Amén.**

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.

OPENING ANTHEM

Angels we have heard on high!

1 An - gels we have heard on high, sing - ing sweet - ly through the night,
2 Shep - herds, why this ju - bi - lee? Why these songs of hap - py cheer?
3 Come to Beth - le - hem and see him whose birth the an - gels sing;
4 See him in a man - ger laid whom the an - gels praise a - bove;

and the moun - tains in re - ply ech - o - ing their brave de - light.
What great bright - ness did you see? What glad tid - ings did you hear?
come, a - dore on bend - ed knee Christ, the Lord, the new - born King.
Ma - ry, Jo - seph, lend your aid, while we raise our hearts in love.

Refrain

Glo - ri - a

in ex - cel - sis De - o. Glo

- ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Let us pray.

Almighty God, you have given your only-begotten Son to take our nature upon him, and to be born this day of Mary: Grant that we, who have turned our lives towards you and made your children by adoption and grace, may daily be renewed by your Holy Spirit; through our Lord Jesus Christ, to whom with you and the same Spirit be honor and glory, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Collect of the Day is a prayer that “collects” and organizes our thoughts. Like a sonnet or haiku, it follows a traditional structure – a preamble (address, invocation), a petition, and a conclusion (meditation). There is often an allusion to the Gospel reading. There is a Collect of the Day for each week of the year as well as special feast days.

Each Sunday, our worship includes a reading from
(a) the Old Testament,
(b) the Psalms,
(c) the New Testament,
and (d) the Gospels.

Our readings are on a pre-set three-year cycle called "The Revised Common Lectionary" or RCL. We are currently in Year C of that three-year cycle.

We respond to the reading of Scripture by thanking God for the gift it is to us.

THE LESSONS

The people sit.

FIRST READING: Isaiah 9:2-7

A Reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah.

²The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness— on them light has shined.

³You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder.

⁴For the yoke of their burden, and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian.

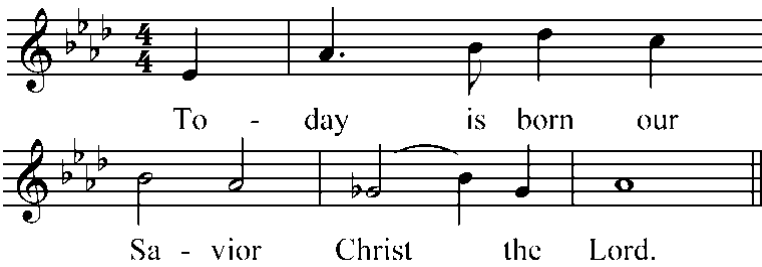
⁵For all the boots of the tramping warriors and all the garments rolled in blood shall be burned as fuel for the fire.

⁶For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

⁷His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onward and forevermore. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.

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

PSALM 96



Cantor sings Refrain
All repeat
Choral Scholars sing verses
All sing Refrain
Christmas Day – Said by All

Like the other Scripture readings in today's worship, Psalm 96 is specifically assigned to Christmas Day. This particular psalm is known as an enthronement psalm in which God is not only praised by the Hebrew people, but by all nations of the world.

- ¹Sing to the Lord a new song; *
sing to the Lord, all the whole earth.
- ²Sing to the Lord and bless his Name; *
proclaim the good news of his salvation from day to day. *Refrain.*
- ³Declare his glory among the nations *
and his wonders among all peoples.
- ⁴For great is the Lord and greatly to be praised; *
he is more to be feared than all gods. *Refrain.*
- ¹¹Let the heavens rejoice, and let the earth be glad;
let the sea thunder and all that is in it; *
let the field be joyful and all that is therein.
- ¹²Then shall all the trees of the wood shout for joy
before the Lord when he comes, * when he comes to judge the earth *Refrain.*

SECOND READING: Titus 2:11-14

A Reading from Paul's letter to Titus.

¹¹The grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all, ¹²training us to renounce impiety and worldly passions, and in the present age to live lives that are self-controlled, upright, and godly, ¹³while we wait for the blessed hope and the manifestation of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ. ¹⁴He it is who gave himself for us that he might redeem us from all iniquity and purify for himself a people of his own who are zealous for good deeds.

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

This reading is from the Apostle Paul's letter to his envoy and coworker in the early church. It is a reminder to Titus to complete the things that need to be done to spread the good news of Jesus to the people on the island of. This particular passage from the letter reasons that the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus should cause us to live our own lives differently.

SEQUENCE HYMN

What child is this

Verses 1 - 2

Unison or harmony

1 What child is this, who, laid to rest, on
 2 Why lies he in such mean es - tate where
 3 So bring him in - cense, gold, and myrrh, come,

Ma - ry's lap is sleep - ing? Whom an - gels greet with
 ox and ass are feed - ing? Good Chris - tian, fear: for
 peas - ant, king, to own him; the King of kings sal -

an - thems sweet, while shep - herds watch are keep - ing?
 sin - ners here the si - lent Word is plead - ing.
 va - tion brings, let lov - ing hearts en - throne him.

Refrain

This, this is Christ the King, whom shep - herds

guard and an - gels sing; haste, haste to

bring him laud, the babe, the son of Ma - ry.

GOSPEL: Luke 2:1-20

All stand.

Deacon

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

People

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

¹In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. ²This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. ³All went to their own towns to be registered. ⁴Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. ⁵He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. ⁶While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. ⁷And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

⁸In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. ⁹Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. ¹⁰But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: ¹¹to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. ¹²This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.” ¹³And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying,

¹⁴“Glory to God in the highest heaven,
and on earth peace among those whom he favors!”

¹⁵When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.” ¹⁶So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. ¹⁷When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; ¹⁸and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. ¹⁹But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. ²⁰The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

Deacon

The Gospel of the Lord.

People

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

SEQUENCE HYMN

What child is this

**Verse 3
Prior page**

THE SERMON

The Rev. Rob Keim

Followed by a moment of silent meditation.

This is Luke's version of the birth of Jesus. In it, Luke tries to put into words something that cannot be put into words. The birth of Jesus has changed the universe forever. The glory and majesty of that event in history is not only beyond words, it is beyond our human understanding. But we try anyway. It can be helpful to envision a shift of these words from our rational brain down to our relational heart. In this way the joy of the birth enfolds us.

The Episcopal Church does not have a separate statement of faith or list of things we believe. Instead we hold the ancient **Creeds**, such as the Apostles' and Nicene, to be our statements of faith. They contain the core of our belief as Christians, but do not limit our faith.

THE NICENE CREED

All stand.

**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 worshiped 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.**

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

All remain standing.

In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

Silence

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. In our own community we pray for:
Patty & Shawn MacRoberts, Mary Kilponen, David Martin, Donna Grenek, Jan, Patricia Bartolini, Joan, Marsha Bolyanatz, Jefferson Mendoza Sephanie and Bodie.
*(The Intercessor then reads the petitions from the bidding book and from the comment section of FB Live.)
And after a moment of silence the Deacon adds a concluding Collect.*

THE PEACE

All stand.

Celebrant The peace of Christ be always with you.
People **And also with you.**

THE HOLY COMMUNION

The Celebrant says

Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God.

**OFFERTORY ANTHEM Nativity Carol 4:45 pm Sung by the Chancel Choir
10:45 pm Sung by the Choral Scholars**

Born in a stable so bare born so long ago
Born 'neath light of star He who loved us so
Far away, silent he lay born today, your homage pay
For Christ is born for aye born on Christmas Day.

Cradled by mother so fair tender her lullaby
Over her son so dear angel hosts fill the sky
Far away, silent he lay born today, your homage pay
For Christ is born for aye born on Christmas Day.

Wise men from distant far land sheperds from starry hills
Worship this babe so rare hearts with his warmth he fills
Far away, silent he lay orn today, your homage pay
For Christ is born for aye born on Christmas Day.

Prayer requests written in the bidding book (located on the shelf at the back of the worship space) and names put into the Comment Section of Facebook Live will be included in the bulletin next week.

*In the Season of Christmas, we do not recite the **Confession** and Absolution, that would normally be in this part of our worship. Instead, we move directly to the sharing of the **Peace**.*

Love in that stable was born Into our hearts to flow
 Innocent dreaming babe make me thy love to know
 Far away, silent he lay born today, your homage pay
 For Christ is born for aye born on Christmas Day

WORDS & MUSIC BY JOHN RUTTER

DOXOLOGY

The people stand and sing




Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; Praise him, all
 crea-tures here be - low; Praise him a - bove, ye
 heav'n - ly host; Praise Fa - ther, Son and Ho - ly Ghost.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The People remain standing.

Today we are using
Eucharistic Prayer B
 from the Episcopal Book
 of Common Prayer.



Celebrant *People*
 The Lord be with you. And also with you.
Celebrant *People*
 Lift up your hearts. 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.

The Celebrant continues

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:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and
 might, Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord,
 God of power and might, hea - ven and earth are
 full, full of your glo - ry. 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
 in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

The Celebrant 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 the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, 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 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, according to his command, O Father,

Celebrant and People

**We remember his death,
We proclaim his resurrection,
We await his coming in glory;**

The Celebrant continues

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord 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 to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, 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 Barnabas and all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

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.**

The Deacon says

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

People and Celebrant

**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,
forever and ever. Amen.**

At this point in the Eucharistic Prayer the Celebrant makes the sign of the cross over the bread and wine and welcomes the infusion of the Spirit. The elements are now considered blessed or consecrated.

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

Celebrant and People sing together

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.
 Christ our Pass - o - ver is sac - ri - ficed for us;
 there - fore let us keep the feast.
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

The Celebrant says

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

After receiving your bread and wine please take a candle, light it, and return to your seat with the lit candle.

COMMUNION HYMN

Away in a manger

1. A - way in a man-ger, no crib for a bed, The lit - tle Lord
 2. The cat - tle are low-ing, the Ba - by a - wakes, But lit - tle Lord
 3. Be near me, Lord Je - sus, I ask thee to stay Close by me for

1. Je - sus laid down His sweet head. The stars in the sky — looked
 2. Je - sus, no cry - ing He makes, I love thee, Lord Je - sus, Look
 3. ev - er, and love me, I pray. Bless all the dear chil - dren in

1. down where He lay, The lit - tle Lord Je - sus a - sleep on the hay.
 2. down from the sky, And stay by my cra - dle till morn-ing is nigh.
 3. thy ten - der care, And fit us for heav - en to live with thee there.

You are welcomed to join the choir in singing the Communion Hymns. Or, you may elect to listen.

COMMUNION HYMN

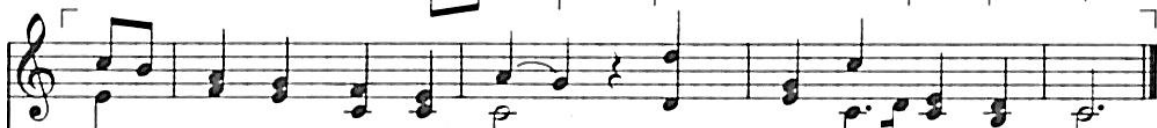
While shepherds watched their flocks



1. While shep - herds watched their flocks by night, All seat - ed on
 2. "Fear not!" said he; for might - y dread Had seized their troub -
 3. "To you, in Da - vid's town this day, Is born of Da -
 4. "The heav'n - ly Babe you there shall find To hu - man view
 5. "All glo - ry be to God on high, And to the earth



the ground, The an - gel of the Lord came down,
 led mind, "Glad ti - dings of great joy I bring
 vid's line, The Sav - ior who is Christ the Lord,
 dis - played, All mean - ly wrapped in swath - ing bands,
 be peace: Good will hence - forth from heav'n to men,



And glo - ry shone a - round, And glo - ry shone a - round.
 To you and all man - kind, To you and all man - kind.
 And this shall be the sign: And this shall be the sign:
 And in a man - ger laid; And in a man - ger laid.
 Be - gin and nev - er cease, Be - gin and nev - er cease."



DECEMBER 24 - AFTER COMMUNION

Silent night

Si - lent night, ho - ly night, all is calm,
 Si - lent night, ho - ly night, shep - herds quake
 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.

Let us pray.

Celebrant and People say together

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 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.

The blessing by the Priest is a reminder of the many blessings we already have from God. We are aware of some of the blessings and unaware of others. Our response to these blessings is gratitude and joy.

The people stand and the Priest blesses the people, saying

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

CONCLUDING HYMN

The first Nowell

1 The first No - well the an - gel did say
2 They look - ed up and saw a star
3 And by the light of that same star
4 This star drew nigh to the north - west,
5 Then en - tered in those wise men three

1 was to cer - tain poor shep - herds in fields as they lay;
2 shin - ing in the east be - yond them far,
3 three wise men came from coun - try far;
4 o'er Beth - le - hem it took its rest,
5 full rev - erent - ly up - on their knee,

The musical score consists of two systems of music. Each system has a treble and bass staff. The first system contains the first five lines of lyrics. The second system contains the next five lines of lyrics. The music is written in a key with one sharp (F#) and a common time signature (C). The lyrics are aligned with the notes of the melody.

1 in fields as they lay, keep - ing their sheep,
 2 and to the earth it gave great light,
 3 to seek for a king was their in - tent,
 4 and there it did both stop and stay
 5 and of - fered there in his pres - ence

1 on a cold win - ter's night that was so deep.
 2 and so it con - tin - ued both day and night.
 3 and to fol - low the star wher - ev - er it went.
 4 right o - ver the place where Je - sus lay.
 5 their gold, and myrrh, and frank - in - cense.

Refrain

No - well, No - well, No - well, No - well,

born is the King of Is - ra - el.

6 Then let us all with one accord
 sing praises to our heavenly Lord;
 that hath made heaven and earth of nought,
 and with his blood our life hath bought.

Refrain

Deacon Let us go forth in the name of Christ! Alleluia! Alleluia
People Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!

At our best we take our worship experience back out into the world so that we extend our worship throughout the rest of our day. In addition, our worship should lead to action in which we are the hands and feet and voice of Jesus in the world.

VOLUNTARY Now Sing We, Now Rejoice (*In dulci jubilo*)

LIFE AT ST. BARNABAS

2025 PLEDGE CARDS – Pledge cards were gathered on November 3rd during both services. We also received numerous cards in the collection plate and mail. If you have not yet returned your 2025 pledge card, please drop it by, put it in the collection plate, or mail it to the church office. If you need a blank card, please pick one up in the narthex or the office. Thank you all for your support of our church and the many ministries here.

SOMEONE TO LISTEN TO YOU – When was the last time someone really listened to you? We’re talking about that undistracted, full-attention kind of listening. A person in pain needs that kind help. That’s one of the ways **Stephen Ministers** care for others. They share the warmth of God’s love with those who need it most: the lonely, the depressed, the grieving. People are precious, and when they hurt or suffer, they deserve the best care and support we can offer. That’s why our congregation has Stephen Ministers. Their training, commitment, and service make them the best at providing care for people who need it. Every day you see people who are hurting: those who have lost a job, have lost a loved one, have gone through a divorce, or are battling a terminal illness. Stephen Ministers are God’s representatives who bring his love to those who are hurting. ***Do you need someone with these gifts to listen to you?*** Deacon Susan can find a Stephen Minister for you. Call the church or email her at dcnsusan.stbarnabas@gmail.com.

BOOK STUDY SERIES – On Thursday, January 15th at 7:00pm we will start a three-week series on Walter Wink’s book “The Powers That Be.”

All of us deal with the Powers That Be. They staff our hospitals, run City Hall, sit around tables in corporate boardrooms, collect our taxes, and head our families. But the Powers That Be are more than just the people who run things. They are the systems themselves, the institutions and structures that weave society into an intricate fabric of power and relationships. These Powers surround us on every side. They are necessary. They are useful. We could do nothing without them. Who wants to do without timely mail delivery or well-maintained roads? But the Powers are also the source of unmitigated evils. Corporations and governments are “creatures” whose sole purpose is to serve the general welfare. And when they refuse to do so, their spirituality becomes diseased. They become “demonic.” Furthermore, unjust systems perpetuate themselves by means of institutionalized violence. However, even these rebellious Powers can be transformed in the crucible of God’s love.

Jesus’ gospel is God’s answer to that system of domination. It offers an alternative more radical and thoroughgoing than any other in human history. Jesus himself, in his own life, broke the endless spiral of violence by absorbing its impact in his own flesh, and in his teachings about nonviolence he showed us a new way of living. Nonviolence leads not just to a new politics and a new society, however; it also involves the very personal task of forgiving our enemies. And it requires a deep spirituality centered in prayer that can liberate us from the illusions spun over us by the Powers and that can free us to create a society more friendly to life. In a world sinking into ever-deeper injustice and violence, Jesus offers an alternative

Purchase the book from your favorite bookseller and read the Introduction and Chapter 1 before the first class. Each of the one hour classes will review several chapters from the book and segue into a discuss about how we be the hands and feet and voice of Jesus in the world to reclaim our society for God.

UPCOMING WORSHIP SERVICES

Tuesday, December 24 – 4:45 pm and 10:45 pm – Christmas Eve Eucharist

Wednesday, December 25 – 10:00 am – Christmas Day Eucharist

Sunday, December 29 – (no 8:00 worship) – 10:00 am Christmas Lessons & Carols

Sunday, January 5 – 8:00 am and 10:00 Eucharist and Epiphany celebration

OPPORTUNITIES TO GATHER VIRTUALLY

Sunday morning WORSHIP at 10:00 am – We live-stream our Sunday 10:00 am worship services on the St. Barnabas' Facebook page: facebook.com/StBarnabasAG/

All you need is a computer or device with an internet connection and speakers to watch the live stream; you do not need to have a Facebook account. A recording of the live stream will be posted on the St. Barnabas YouTube Channel: (bit.ly/StYouTube) following the service.

If you would like to participate more fully in the service, the order of service booklet is available for download on the St. Barnabas website by clicking the big blue "Weekly Bulletin" button on our website. Sunday morning worship bulletin is available starting at 1:00 pm on Thursday.

TUESDAY MORNING PRAYER at 9:30 am – Now Hybrid on Zoom and the church library in person. If you have a Book of Common Prayer at home that will be useful to have on hand.

Click this link to attend via your computer or device:

bit.ly/stbarnabasmorningprayer

To dial in call 1-669-900-6833. When prompted put in the Meeting ID of **878 6513 4138#** and when prompted for a password put in **365072#**, and then hit **#** a second time.

BIBLE STUDY Tuesdays at 10:00 am – Now Hybrid on Zoom and the church library in person. Bible Study will start at 10:00 am immediately following Morning Prayer. The Zoom login is the same as Morning Prayer (above). We are looking at the book of Mark. Feel free to contact Gerti Garner at ggrgarner@gmail.com for more information.

Friday 4:00 pm CENTERING PRAYER – Each Friday afternoon at 4pm we will hold a Centering Prayer Service. After first gathering for a few minutes, we practice our 20 minutes of silent Centering Prayer. Following the practice, we will be reading and discussing a passage from Thérèse of Lisieux. Her "little way" is a hard way, but one that is easily recognized by most of us who know that we are not among the great souls of history, and who are more used to gray days than hours spent bathed in blazing spiritual light. We are using Simply Surrender, an edited collection of prayers and reflections from her autobiography.

We meet every Friday from 4:00 pm -5:00 pm. We next meet **in person** next on **Friday, January 10th** (and every 2nd Friday) at St Barnabas. On all other Fridays we meet via Zoom: bit.ly/stbarnabascenteringprayer.

To dial in call 1-669-900-6833. When prompted put in the Meeting ID of **867 7756 1670#** and when prompted for a password put in **034979#**, and then hit **#** a second time.

MAKING DONATIONS TO ST. BARNABAS

ELECTRONIC TRANSFER: You can make an electronic transfer to St. Barnabas using Quick Pay with Zelle set up. Many banks and financial institutions offer this method of funds transfer. Donations can be set up as one-time or recurring. To transfer money, use the email address of the Financial Secretary (stbarnabas.financial@gmail.com) as the recipient. If you have questions or difficulties setting it up, call Janette Sofranko at 805-801-4526. There are no fees associated with this type of transfer.

PayPal is another option for electronic transfer. You can find St. Barnabas using the email address of the Financial Secretary: stbarnabas.financial@gmail.com PayPal does charge St. Barnabas a processing fee.

AUTO PAY FROM YOUR FINANCIAL INSTITUTION: Many banks and financial institutions offer a service often called Auto Pay or Bill Pay. It's fairly easy to set up online or at the bank. The donation can be set up as one-time or recurring. The bank will issue the check on the date you give them and mail the check to St. Barnabas.

MAIL YOUR CHECK: You can also mail your check to St. Barnabas. Please put "Attn Financial Secretary" on the envelope. The address is: 301 Trinity Ave., Arroyo Grande, CA 93420

If you have any questions on how to make your donation, please feel free to contact Janette Sofranko, Financial Secretary, at 805-801-4526. You can also send an email to stbarnabas.financial@gmail.com. Thank you for your continued support of St. Barnabas.



DONATIONS OF TIME AND TALENT ARE JUST AS IMPORTANT AS FINANCIAL DONATIONS.

THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO HELPS SERVE EACH SUNDAY!

Vestry Members – The governing board of our parish is made up of the following:

Class of 2025 – Rachel Mann, Carlos Ortiz (Jr. Warden), Brian Petersen

Class of 2026 – Robert Merritt, Sheila Miller, Tracy Schiro (Sr. Warden)

Class of 2027 – Leslie Campbell, Tom DeNatale, Corey Kielan

Altar Guild Teams:

Jane Delgadillo, Pam Pano, Jerri Pence, Gerti Garner, Charmaine Petersen

Marigay Ross, Barbara Conry, Paula Mason

Janette Sofranko, Ann Mathias, Michele Davenport, Susan DeNatale

Tricia Ottesen, Marsha Fasse, Paula Smith

Sunday School Teachers:

Pam & Aly Pano

Thank you to last week's Coffee Hour Ministry:

8:00 am Karen Reinecke, Ken Kaisch

10:00 am Gerti Garner, Chris Williams

CALENDAR

Week of December 24 – December 29

OFFICE CLOSED THIS WEEK AND REOPENING ON DECEMBER 31

TODAY	In-Person Liturgy of the Word.....	8:00 am
	In-Person Liturgy of the Word*.....	10:00 am
	Children's Sunday School.....	10:00 am
	Christmas Eve Eucharist (childcare provided).....	4:45 pm
	Christmas Eve Eucharist	10:45 pm
WEDNESDAY	Christmas Day Holy Communion.....	10:00 am
FRIDAY	Centering Prayer (on Zoom).....	4:00 pm
SUNDAY	In-Person Christmas Lessons & Carols.....	10:00 am
	Children's Sunday School.....	10:00 am

** In-person and via Facebook Live*

SERVING TODAY

Presider/Preacher The Rev. Rob Keim
Deacon The Rev. Dcn. Susan Arnold

Minister of Music Janis Johnson
Choral Scholars Ava Portz, Regan Rowins, Rachel Mann,
William Dison, Taylor Hatch
Livestream Producer Jeff Diehl, Corey Kielan

4:45 pm

Eucharistic Minister Karen Reinecke
Lector Carlos Ortiz
Chalices Debbie Miller, Pamela Jones
Ushers Pat & Penny Chamber, Tom Bormes

10:45 pm

Eucharistic Minister Kevin Pence
Lector Paula Smith
Chalices David Murray,
Acolyte Adrienne Kielan
Ushers David & Susan Murray

10:00 am Christmas Day

Eucharistic Minister Lynne Schulz
Lector Tricia Ottesen
Chalices Gerti Garner, Tom Bormes, Pamela Jones
Ushers Pat & Penny Chambers, Ann Mathias



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