



# TRINITY EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF ROCKY HILL

*"THE LITTLE CHURCH WITH THE BIG HEART"*



## *Second Sunday After Christmas*

January 3, 2021

Holy Eucharist (Rite II) at 10:00 a.m.

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*THE VICAR: The Rev. Dr. Jacob David*

### **PARISH VESTRY**

*Jason Flagg (Senior Warden), Pete Rayner (Junior Warden), Doris Hartmann, Jim Millar, Kim Millar, Hamilton Potter, Barbara Schweitzer, Peter Sharpless, Robert Uhrk*

### **STAFF**

*Mr. Edgar M. Newton, Choirmaster & Organist  
Mrs. Cathy Healy, Administrator  
Ms. Heidi Schweitzer, Christian Education Director*

ORGAN VOLUNTARY: *Dulci Jubilo* - Dupre

### THE WORD OF GOD

Blessed be God, Father Son and Holy Spirit.  
**And blessed be his kingdom now and forever. Amen.**

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.**

GLORIA: Hymn 96 - *Angels We Have Heard on High* - Verse 1

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

#### THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

O God, who wonderfully created, and yet more wonderfully restored, the dignity of human nature: Grant that we may share the divine life of him who humbled himself to share our humanity, your Son Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **AMEN.**

#### JEREMIAH 31:7-14

*"Here begins a reading from Jeremiah."*

Thus says the LORD: Sing aloud with gladness for Jacob, and raise shouts for the chief of the nations; proclaim, give praise, and say, "Save, O LORD, your people, the remnant of Israel." See, I am going to bring them from the land of the north, and gather them from the farthest parts of the earth, among them the blind and the lame, those with child and those in labor, together; a great company, they shall return here. With weeping they shall come, and with consolations I will lead them back, I will let them walk by brooks of water, in a straight path in which they shall not stumble; for I have become a father to Israel, and Ephraim is my firstborn. Hear the word of the LORD, O nations, and declare it in the coastlands far away; say, "He who scattered Israel will gather him, and will keep him as a shepherd a flock." For the LORD has ransomed Jacob, and has redeemed him from hands too strong for him. They shall come and sing aloud on the height of Zion, and they shall be radiant over the goodness of the LORD,

over the grain, the wine, and the oil, and over the young of the flock and the herd; their life shall become like a watered garden, and they shall never languish again. Then shall the young women rejoice in the dance, and the young men and the old shall be merry. I will turn their mourning into joy, I will comfort them, and give them gladness for sorrow. I will give the priests their fill of fatness, and my people shall be satisfied with my bounty, says the LORD.

*"The Word of the Lord."* **"Thanks be to God."**

#### PSALM 84:1-8

*"Psalm 84: 1-8 is appointed today. Let us read it alternatively."*

<sup>1</sup>How dear to me is your dwelling, O LORD of hosts! My soul has a desire and longing for the courts of the LORD; my heart and my flesh rejoice in the living God. <sup>2</sup>**The sparrow has found her a house and the swallow a nest where she may lay her young; by the side of your altars, O LORD of hosts, my King and my God.** <sup>3</sup>Happy are they who dwell in your house! they will always be praising you. <sup>4</sup>**Happy are the people whose strength is in you! whose hearts are set on the pilgrims' way.** <sup>5</sup>Those who go through the desolate valley will find it a place of springs, for the early rains have covered it with pools of water. <sup>6</sup>**They will climb from height to height, and the God of gods will reveal himself in Zion.** <sup>7</sup>LORD God of hosts, hear my prayer; hearken, O God of Jacob. <sup>8</sup>**Behold our defender, O God; and look upon the face of your Anointed.**

#### EPHESIANS 1:3-6,15-19A

*"Here begins a reading from Ephesians."*

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, just as he chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love. He destined us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will, to the praise of his glorious grace that he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved. I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe.

*"The Word of the Lord."* **"Thanks be to God."**

MATTHEW 2:1-12

*"The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew."* **"Glory to you Lord Christ."**

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage." When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet: `And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel.'" Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage." When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

*"The Gospel of the Lord."* **"Praise to you Lord Christ."**

HYMN: #84 - *Love Came Down on Christmas*

SERMON: Fr. Jacob

NICENE CREED

**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 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.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

*With joy and confidence, let us pray to the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ for the needs of all people throughout the world.*

Dear Father, thank you for the gift of your Son. Thank you for making us his brothers and sisters, and for giving us the privilege of calling you Abba. Thank you for making us your family!

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Guide and protect your Church. Let it cherish and share the gifts of life, forgiveness, and union with your dear Son. Give it grace to proclaim them boldly and faithfully; and to bestow them generously, so that the family you have created in him may grow and flourish. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Grant that your Son Jesus is always cradled in the hearts of the people in this congregation; and that we always speak and act in ways that are worthy of our calling as his sisters and brothers. We pray that more and more, we think, pray, speak, and act as your disciples, bearing the great gift of Jesus' love to everyone we meet.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

On account of Jesus, innocent children were killed by Herod. We pray for our sisters and brothers across the world who are tortured and killed because they name Jesus as Lord. Protect them from evil. Keep their faith strong and their hearts pure. By their witness to the Babe of Bethlehem, call their tormentors to repentance and to faith.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Bless all who care for the poor, sick, grieving and lonely in this season of joy. Shine the light of your love upon those in nursing homes, mental institutions, and hospitals. Grant your mercy and guidance to prisoners and to all who are addicted or despairing. Be the sure hope and protector of the homeless and refugees, especially little children; and lead them to safe shelter. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Give the leaders of the nations a holy fear of the Lord, which is the beginning of wisdom. Teach them your

ways of faithfulness and justice. Bring healing and hope to people overwhelmed by natural disasters or human malice. Help us all to live in peace with each other. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Bless and protect our military; police; first responders; and all who protect life and liberty. Grant them wisdom, integrity and courage. Let the innocent, the weak, and the vulnerable call on them confidently. Bring them safely home to their loved ones; and heal those who are wounded in body, mind or soul. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We sing of Jesus, the Sun of Righteousness, risen with healing in his wings. Let the light of his countenance shine upon everyone troubled by pain, confusion, sorrow, sin, or grief. Especially we pray for: (those on our parish list.....) Restore them to life, health and hope; and to all who love them. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Lord, keep safe those who have died trusting in your promised mercy. Comfort all whose grief runs deep during this season of joy. Keep us close to Jesus, so we know him as our wise brother as well as our mighty Savior throughout our earthly pilgrimage. You kept him, Mary and Joseph safe throughout their exile, and brought them into the Promised Land. Therefore, we pray that you would bring us through the dangers and sorrows of this life into the eternal Home you have promised to those whom you name, for Jesus' sake, your beloved children. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Hear and mercifully grant us, dear Lord, all that we ask that conforms to your good and perfect will for us, for your Name's sake. **AMEN.**

*Silence*

CONCLUDING PRAYER: Fr. Jacob

CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor:

**Have mercy upon us, most merciful God; in your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone; and so uphold us by your Spirit that we may live and serve you in newness of life, to the honor and glory of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. AMEN.**

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

The peace of the Lord be always with you.  
**And also with you.**

**THE HOLY COMMUNION**

OFFERTORY RESPONSE:

Praise God from whom all blessings flow, Praise him all creatures here below, praise him above the heavenly hosts. Praise Father, son and Holy Ghost.

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to our Lord God.

**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 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 forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

SANCTUS:

**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 people stand or kneel*

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. 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.

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.**

#### BREAKING OF THE BREAD

Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;  
Therefore, let us keep the feast.

#### AGNUS DEI:

**Jesus, Lamb of God, have mercy on us.  
Jesus, bearer of our sins, have mercy on us.  
Jesus, Redeemer of the world, grant us your peace.**

#### THE COMMUNION - “Gifts of God for people of God.”

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

#### POST COMMUNION PRAYER

**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.**

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS & THE BLESSING

CLOSING HYMN: #109 - *The First Nowell*

**OUR WORSHIP IS OVER,  
OUR SERVICE BEGINS**