



# San Jose Episcopal Church

## Christmas Day



The Holy Eucharist: Rite II  
December 25, 2025 at 10:30 a.m.



### Church Staff

The Rev. Stephen C. Britt, Rector  
The Rev. Katie Bennett, Deacon  
Brandon Michael Smith, Director of Music  
Susan Beaudin, Parish Administrator  
Cathy Richter, Assistant to the Rector  
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**San Jose Episcopal Church is a parish of the Episcopal Diocese of Florida.**

The church office is open Monday through Thursday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

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## **All are welcome at San Jose Episcopal Church**

We welcome you to San Jose Episcopal Church, a traditional parish focused on the Holy Eucharist and the best of the Anglican tradition, which welcomes all people and embraces many points of view. Our commitment is to work, worship, and minister in the service of our Lord; and with the help of the Holy Spirit, we intend to live prayerfully and joyfully in each other's company. We welcome everyone who wants to join us on any part of this holy pilgrimage. Above all, know that we are blessed to have you worship with us.

## **About Worship in the Episcopal Church**

If our liturgy (worship) is unfamiliar to you, we hope the information below will be helpful. If you require help, please inform one of our ushers or simply turn to one of your neighbors in the pews, let them know you are a visitor, and they will gladly help.

Our liturgy is rooted in the practices of ancient Christianity. Everything you see and hear today, including the prayers, music, architecture, physical postures, and responses, hold deep meaning about our beliefs, and are intentional and outward expressions of our faith.

Families with children of all ages are welcome at our worship services. There are many postures of prayer observed in the Episcopal church, usually standing or kneeling, but please do what you find most comfortable. Restrooms are located outside of the main church entrance to your right as you exit.

We now have assisted listening devices available for use during livestreamed services. Please contact an usher to request one. Users will need to supply their own headphones or earbuds. Instruction cards are available when you request a device.

## **About Receiving the Holy Communion**

All are welcome to receive Holy Communion at San Jose. If you are unable to receive at the altar rail, notify an usher and the clergy will come to your pew. If you wish to receive a blessing instead of bread, cross your arms over your chest. Please notify the clergy if you require a gluten-free wafer.

# The Word of God

*The tower bell is rung to signal a time of preparation. The people remain seated.*

## Prelude

### Opening Hymn 78

O little town of Bethlehem

*Forest Green*

*The people standing, the Celebrant says*

Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

*People:*      **And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

*The Celebrant may say*

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.**

*The following hymn is sung, all standing*

### Hymn 96

Angels we have heard on high

*Gloria*

## 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 a pure virgin: Grant that we, who have been born again 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.**

## First Lesson: Isaiah 52:7-10 *Please be seated.*

*Reader:*      A reading from Isaiah.

How beautiful upon the mountains  
are the feet of the messenger who announces peace,

who brings good news,  
who announces salvation,  
who says to Zion, "Your God reigns."

Listen! Your sentinels lift up their voices,  
together they sing for joy;

for in plain sight they see  
the return of the Lord to Zion.

Break forth together into singing,  
you ruins of Jerusalem;

for the Lord has comforted his people,  
he has redeemed Jerusalem.

The Lord has bared his holy arm  
before the eyes of all the nations;

and all the ends of the earth shall see  
the salvation of our God.

*Reader:* The Word of the Lord.

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

### **Psalm 98** *Spoken in unison.*

Sing to the Lord a new song, \*  
for he has done marvelous things.

With his right hand and his holy arm \*  
has he won for himself the victory.

The Lord has made known his victory; \*  
his righteousness has he openly shown in the sight of the nations.

He remembers his mercy and faithfulness to the house of Israel, \*  
and all the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.

Shout with joy to the Lord, all you lands; \*  
lift up your voice, rejoice, and sing.

Sing to the Lord with the harp, \*  
with the harp and the voice of song.

With trumpets and the sound of the horn \*  
shout with joy before the King, the Lord.

Let the sea make a noise and all that is in it, \*  
the lands and those who dwell therein.

Let the rivers clap their hands, \*  
and let the hills ring out with joy before the Lord,  
when he comes to judge the earth.

In righteousness shall he judge the world \*  
and the peoples with equity.

### **The Second Lesson: Hebrews 1:1-4**

*Reader:* A reading from Hebrews.

Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets, but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, through whom he also created the worlds. He is the reflection of God's glory and the exact imprint of God's very being, and he sustains all things by his powerful word. When he had made purification for sins, he sat down at

the right hand of the Majesty on high, having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs.

*Reader:* The Word of the Lord.

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

## Sequence Hymn 83

O come, all ye faithful

*Adeste fideles*

## The Holy Gospel: John 1:1-14

*Celebrant:* 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.

*Celebrant:* The Gospel of the Lord.

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

## Sermon

The Rev. Stephen C. Britt

## The Nicene Creed *All stand and speak in unison.*

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 Christmas Prayers

On this most holy day we remember God's love in sending us his Son our Savior:

O Christ who comes to us, **Help us to go with you.**

Jesus came to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. May we who confess his Name, be united in his truth, live together in his love and reveal his glory in the world.

O Christ who comes to us, **Help us to go with you.**

Jesus came to this world as the King of kings and Lord of lords but arrived in the humility of a stable and manger. Help those who lead, in this nation and in the world, to lead with compassion and selflessness that all people may live into the peace of God and prosperity of the Holy Spirit.

O Christ who comes to us, **Help us to go with you.**

Jesus came to gather the sick, the suffering, the lonely, and the lost. Strengthen us to continue to seek out ways to alleviate suffering, to console grief, and to shine forth as a light to the world.

O Christ who comes to us, **Help us to go with you.**

Jesus came to end the sting of death and to show us the way to eternal life. We thank you for the souls who have gone before us, and who now celebrate this Christmastide in the very presence of the Incarnate Word.

O Christ who comes to us, **Help us to go with you.**

*The celebrant adds a closing collect.*

**The Peace** *The people greet one another with a sign of God's peace.*

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

*People:* And also with you.

## The Holy Communion

### Offertory

**Presentation Hymn** *The people stand as able.*

Hymnal 82 v. 4

Christ, to thee with God the Fa - ther, and, O Ho - ly Ghost, to thee,  
hymn and chant and high thanks - giv - ing, and un - wea - ried prais - es be;  
ho - nor, glo - ry and do - min - ion, and e -  
ter - nal vic - to - ry, ev - er - more and ev - er - more!\_\_\_\_\_

Words: Marcus Aurelius (1<sup>st</sup> cent.); tr. John Mason Neale (1818-1866) and Henry Williams Baker (1821-1877), alt.

Music: *Divinum mysterium*, Sanctus trope, 11<sup>th</sup> cent.; adapt. *Piae Cantiones*, 1582; acc. Burce Neswick (b. 1956)



## The Great Thanksgiving

## Eucharistic Prayer B

*Celebrant:* The Lord be with you.

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

*Celebrant:* Lift up your hearts.

*People:* **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.**

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:

### **Sanctus S 130** *Sung by all.*

**Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might, Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might, Heaven and earth are full, full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord, the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.**

*The people stand or kneel.*

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 re - mem - ber his death, We pro - claim his re - sur -  
rec - tion, We a - wait his com - ing in glo - ry.

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 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.



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.**

*The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept.*

### **The Breaking of the Bread S 162**

**Jesus, Lamb of God: have mercy on us.**

**Jesus, bearer of our sins: have mercy on us.**

**Jesus, redeemer, redeemer of the world: give us your peace, give us your peace.**

### **Communion**

*After Communion, the Celebrant says*

Let us pray.

**Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

*The Bishop, when present, or the Priest, may bless the people.*

May Christ, who by his Incarnation gathered into one, things earthly and heavenly, fill you with his joy and peace; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

### **Closing Hymn 93**

Angels from the realms of glory

*Regent Square*

*The Deacon, or the Celebrant, dismisses the people with these, or other appropriate words*

Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

*People:*

**Thanks be to God.**

### **Postlude**