



ST. DAVID'S
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

BLUE CHRISTMAS
Holy Eucharist, Rite II
December 21, 2023
7:00 p.m.

Celebrant & Preacher

The Rev. Chad McCall, Associate Priest

Music

Mark Wischkaemper, Director of Music, Bethell Hall

Amanda Wischkaemper, mezzo-soprano

🌿 A very special thank you to those who have contributed to the Special Flower and Music Fund that enables decorations and special music at St. David's. We are all blessed by your generous contributions. 🌿

SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICES

All services in Historic Church

- 8 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite I**
Spoken service without music
- 9 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite II, EOW***
**Enriching Our Worship*
- 11:15 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite II**
Traditional liturgy and music
Livestreamed

Childcare is available during worship services.
8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. (2 months to 4 years), First Floor

DAILY PRAYER

Grace Chapel

- 9 a.m. Tuesdays**
- 5:15 p.m. Wednesday Evening Prayer**
Before parishes dinner
- 11:30 a.m. 1st and 3rd Thursdays**
Before public lunch

RESTROOMS

Gendered bathrooms are outside Bethell Hall and Crail Hall. Non-gendered bathrooms can be found in the 2nd-floor hallway off the lobby.

PARKING

Parking is free for Sunday services and during church events. You do not need to scan anything to park in the garage. Questions? Contact worshipevents@stdave.org.

CHURCH HOURS AND PHONE

Sundays: 7 a.m.-4 p.m.
Mon-Fri: 8 a.m.-5 p.m., Wednesdays: 8 a.m.-9 p.m.
Saturdays: Closed
Phone: 512.610.3500

VISITORS

Welcome! We're so glad you've joined us for worship today. If you'd like information about getting connected at St. David's, please fill out the guest card in front of you, or get in touch with Director of Newcomer Ministry Carter Leer by email (carter.l@stdave.org) call, or text 512.743.0799. We look forward to hearing from you!

Want to fill out the guest card online? Scan this QR code.



PRAYER REQUESTS



Request a prayer with the QR code, complete a prayer card, or call the church to let clergy know if someone is in the hospital or has a special need.

Copies of the prayer list with complete names are posted on the 2nd-floor hallway bulletin board. Please feel free to take a copy for your prayers.

FLOWER DEDICATIONS

If you would like to request a dedication for flowers that adorn the worship space, please email flowers@stdave.org to coordinate a date and payment.

- High Altar \$150
- Baptismal Table \$50
- Good Samaritan Altar (behind the organ) \$50
- Holy Angels Altar (at the back) \$35
- Grace Chapel \$50

WAYS TO GIVE

- Give online with the QR code
- Complete the giving card or envelope found in the worship spaces and place in the offering plate.
- Text **STDAVE** to 73256.



SUBSCRIBE TO OUR NEWSLETTER



Sign up for email news about special events, worship, and ways to connect with our community.

BLUE CHRISTMAS

PRELUDE: Meditation on the introit

WELCOME

(Please stand.)

OPENING ACCLAMATION

Light and peace, in Jesus Christ our Lord.

✠ **Thanks be to God.**

Jesus said, "You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hidden. No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven." *Matthew 5:14-16*

PRAYER FOR LIGHT

Let us pray.

Grant us, Lord, the lamp of charity which never fails, that it may burn in us and shed its light on those around us, and that by its brightness we may have a vision of that holy City, where dwells the true and never-failing Light, Jesus Christ our Lord. ✠ **Amen.**

The candles at the Altar are now lit, and the lights are raised, while silence is kept.

(Please join in singing.)

HYMN: O gracious Light, Lord Jesus Christ

Phos Hilaron

1 O gra - cious Light, Lord Je - sus Christ, in
2 Now sun - set comes, but light shines forth, the
3 Wor - thy are you of end - less praise, O

you the Fa - ther's glo - ry shone. Im - mor - tal, ho - ly,
lamps are lit to pierce the night. Praise Fa - ther, Son, and
Son of God, Life - giv - ing Lord; where - fore you are through

blest is he, and blest are you, his ho - ly Son.
Spi - rit: God who dwells in the e - ter - nal light.
all the earth and in the high - est heaven a - dored.

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

The Lord be with you.

✠ **And also with you.**

Let us pray.

COLLECT FOR ADVENT

Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness, and put on the armor of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which your Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that in the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge both the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. ✠ **Amen.**

OLD TESTAMENT: Isaiah 40:1, 25-31

A Reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah.

Comfort, O comfort my people,
says your God.

To whom then will you compare me,
or who is my equal? says the Holy One.

Lift up your eyes on high and see:

Who created these?

He who brings out their host and numbers them,
calling them all by name;

because he is great in strength,
mighty in power,
not one is missing.

Why do you say, O Jacob,
and speak, O Israel,

‘My way is hidden from the LORD,
and my right is disregarded by my God?’

Have you not known? Have you not heard?

The LORD is the everlasting God,
the Creator of the ends of the earth.

He does not faint or grow weary;
his understanding is unsearchable.

He gives power to the faint,
and strengthens the powerless.

Even youths will faint and be weary,
and the young will fall exhausted;

but those who wait for the LORD shall renew their strength,
they shall mount up with wings like eagles,

they shall run and not be weary,
they shall walk and not faint.

The Word of the Lord.

✠ **Thanks be to God.**

RESPONSE: Psalm 121 (*The Cantor will chant the psalm.*)

I lift up my eyes to the hills;
from where is my help to come?
My help comes from the Lord,
the maker of heaven and earth.
He will not let your foot be moved
and he who watches over you will not fall asleep.
Behold, he who keeps watch over Israel
shall neither slumber nor sleep;
The Lord himself watches over you;
the Lord is your shade at your right hand,
So that the sun shall not strike you by day,
nor the moon by night.
The Lord shall preserve you from all evil;
it is he who shall keep you safe.
The Lord shall watch over your going out and
your coming in,
from this time forth for evermore.

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

✠ **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

GOSPEL: Matthew 11:28-30

‘Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.

The Gospel of the Lord.

✠ **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

HOMILY: The Rev. Chad McCall

CANDLE LIGHTING LITANY OF REMEMBRANCE

(Please stand.)

We light this Advent candle to remember those persons who have been loved and lost. We pause to remember their name, their face, their voice. We give thanks for the memory that binds them to us this season which anticipates Christmas.

✠ **May God's eternal love surround them.** *Silence*

Reader

We light the second candle to redeem the pain of loss: the loss of relationships, the loss of jobs, the loss of health. As we gather up the pain of the past, we offer it to You, O God, asking that into our open hands. You will place the gift of peace.

✠ **Refresh, restore, renew us, O God, and Lead us into your future.** *Silence*

Reader

We light this third candle to remember ourselves this Christmas time. We pause and remember the past weeks, months and for some of us, years of down times. We remember the poignancy of memories, the grief, the sadness, the hurts, the pain of reflecting on our own mortality.

✠ **Let us remember that dawn defeats darkness.** *Silence*

Reader

This fourth candle is lit to remember our faith and the gift of hope which God offers to us in the Christmas story. We remember that God who shares our life, promises us a place and time of no more pain and suffering.

✠ **Let us remember the one who shows the way and who goes with us into our tomorrow.**
Silence.

Intercessor

In the spirit of this season, let us now ask our God for what we need for ourselves as we participate in the Christmas season as people coping with our loss, pain, suffering, loneliness, grief, sadness. In response to the words, "Loving God, hear our prayer", you're invited to respond with "And in your merciful love, answer."

God, we come to you as Christmas dawns with the pain growing inside us. As the nights have been growing longer, so has the darkness wrapped itself around our hearts. In this season of our longest nights, we offer to you the pain in our hearts, the traumas that some of us cannot put into words. Loving God, hear our prayer,

✠ **And in your merciful love, answer.**

Compassionate God, there are those among us who are grieving over what might have been. A death or loss has changed our experience of Christmas. Once it was a special day for us too, but someone has died or moved away. Or we have lost a job, a dream, a goal, a cause. We find ourselves adrift, alone, lost. Loving God, hear our prayer,

✠ **And in your merciful love, answer.**

The Christmas season reminds us of all that used to be and cannot be anymore. The memories of what was, the fears of what may be, stifle us. All around us we hear the sounds of celebration. But all we experience is a sense of feeling blue. Please be near us this night. Loving God, hear our prayer,

✠ **And in your merciful love, answer.**

THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

✠ **And also with you.**

The Ministers and People may greet one another in the name of the Lord.

OFFERTORY

Offertory Sentence: 'To all of you who are called to belong to Jesus Christ: Grace to you and peace in the name of the Lord.

Offertory Hymn: *(Please join in singing, while remaining seated.)*

✦ **Comfort, comfort ye my people**

Psalm 42



1 Com - fort, com - fort ye my peo - ple, speak ye peace, thus
2 Hark, the voice of one that cri - eth in the des - ert
3 Make ye straight what long was crook - ed, make the rough - er



saith our God; com - fort those who sit in dark - ness
far and near, call - ing us to new re - pent - ance
pla - ces plain; let your hearts be true and hum - ble,



mourn - ing 'neath their sor - rows' load. Speak ye to Je -
since the king - dom now is here. Oh, that warn - ing
as be - fits his ho - ly reign. For the glo - ry



ru - sa - lem of the peace that waits for them;
cry o - bey! Now pre - pare for God a way;
of the Lord now o'er earth is shed a - broad;



tell her that her sins I cov - er,
let the val - leys rise to meet him
and all flesh shall see the to - ken



and her war - fare now is o - ver.
and the hills bow down to greet him.
that the word is nev - er bro - ken.

THE HOLY COMMUNION

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING: EUCHARISTIC PRAYER B

The Lord be with you.

✠ **And also with you.**

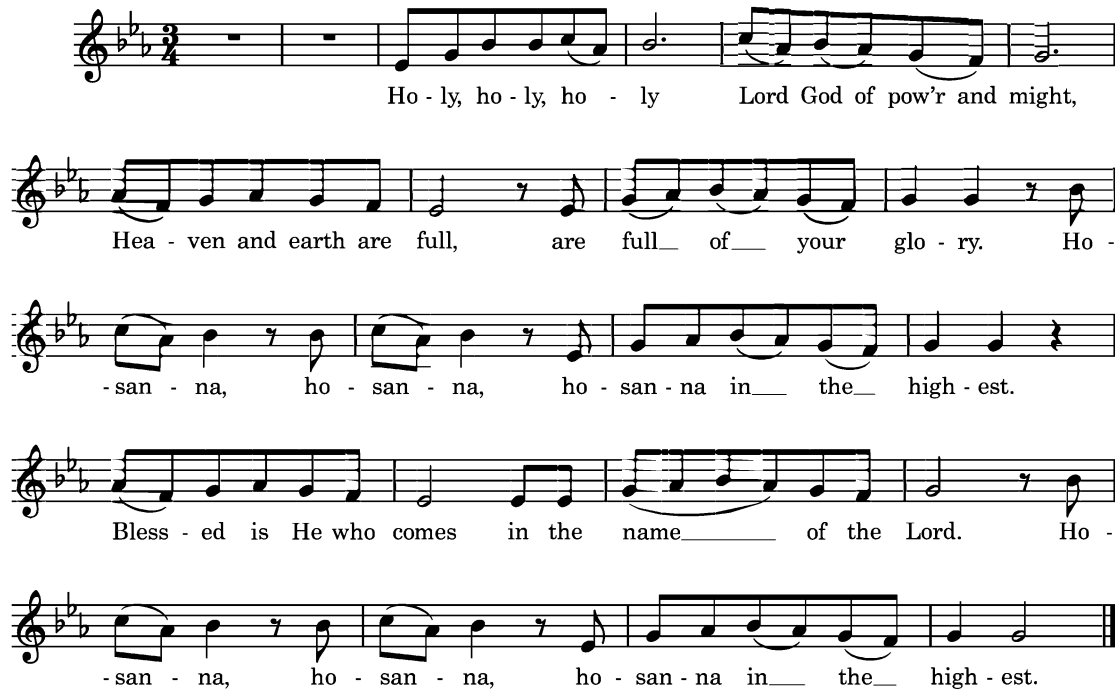
Lift up your hearts.

✠ **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

✠ **It is right to give our 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 sent your beloved Son to redeem us from sin and death, and to make us heirs in him of everlasting life; that when he shall come again in power and great triumph to judge the world, we may without shame or fear rejoice to behold his appearing. 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 pow'r and might,
Hea - ven and earth are full, are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
- san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.
Bless - ed is He who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
- san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

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,

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

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 the blessed Virgin Mary, blessed David of Wales, 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.**

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

THE LORD'S PRAYER


✠ **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

✠ **Fraction Anthem**

Missa de Lumine

Cantor:



Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the

1. world Have mer - cy on us. Have mer - cy on us. 2. world,

People:

grant us peace. grant us peace.

INVITATION

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.

MINISTRATION OF COMMUNION

Please form two lines, if you want to receive Communion or receive a blessing. To indicate you want a blessing, please cross your arms over your chest. Gluten-free is available, by request.

Communion Anthem: Awake my Soul

Mumford & Sons

(Please stand.)

POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER

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.**

PRAYER FOR THE NIGHT *(Please read in unison.)*

Let us pray.

✠ **Lord,
It is night.
The night is for stillness.
Let us be still in the presence of God.
It is night after a long day.
What has been done has been done;
what has not been done has not been done; let it be.
The night is dark.
Let our fears of the darkness of the world and of our own lives rest in you.
The night is quiet.
Let the quietness of your peace enfold us,
all dear to us, and all who have no peace.
The night heralds the dawn.
Let us look expectantly to a new day, new joys, new possibilities.
In your name we pray. Amen.**

BLESSING

May the Sun of Righteousness shine upon you and scatter the darkness from before your path; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. ✠ Amen.

DISMISSAL HYMN:

✠ Abide with me: fast falls the eventide

Eventide

1 A - bide with me: fast falls the e - ven - tide;
2 I need thy pres - ence ev - ery pass - ing hour;
3 I fear no foe, with thee at hand to bless;
4 Hold thou thy cross be - fore my clos - ing eyes;

the dark - ness deep - ens; Lord, with me a - bide:
what but thy grace can foil the tempt - er's power?
ills have no weight, and tears no bit - ter - ness.
shine through the gloom, and point me to the skies;

when o - ther help - ers fail and com - forts flee,
Who, like thy - self, my guide and stay can be?
Where is death's sting? Where, grave, thy vic - to - ry?
heaven's morn - ing breaks, and earth's vain sha - dows flee;

help of the help - less, O a - bide with me.
Through cloud and sun - shine, Lord, a - bide with me.
I tri - umph still, if thou a - bide with me.
in life, in death, O Lord, a - bide with me.

DISMISSAL

Let us bless the Lord.

✠ **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE: I Still Haven't Found What I'm Looking For

U2



Feast of the Epiphany

SATURDAY, JAN. 6
7 P.M.

Celebrate the revelation of
God incarnate as Jesus Christ
as we bring the Twelve Days
of Christmas to an end.

Livestreamed.



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ADULT CLASSES

SUNDAYS, 10-11 a.m. (2nd Floor)

Crail C Lectures Guest speakers, panel discussions, and classes.

- **Dec. 24 and 31** No lectures
- **Jan. 7** St. David's Core Values lecture series begins

Ongoing Adult Christian Formation Groups

- Going Deeper in the Book of Common Prayer
- Men's Bible Study
- Reading the Bible ToGather
- Sacred Ground
- The Soul of Aging

WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY, 6:30-7:30 p.m.

Join the Rev. Kristin Braun in Guild Parlor.



Learn more on the Adult Classes and Speakers webpage.

CHILDREN AND YOUTH

Dec. 24 Christmas Eve Children's Pageant 4 p.m., Historic Church

Children are invited to dress in costume to help tell the story of the Nativity. Extra costumes will be available to borrow! Please join us for this joyous Christmas tradition.

Children (Age 3 to 5th Grade):

Sundays, 10-11 a.m. (starting Sept. 10), First Floor classrooms

- Junior Journeys
- Catechesis of the Good Shepherd

Youth (Grades 6-12): Meet twice a week

- Sundays, 10-11 a.m., Youth Room 170, First Floor
- Wednesdays: 5:30-7 p.m. Meet in Sumners Hall for Episcopal Youth Community dinner and fellowship.

St. David's Episcopal Day School

18 month-Pre-K, small class sizes

For 25 years our NAEYC-accredited early childhood education program has been serving downtown Austin.

Schedule a tour: dayschool@stdave.org



Get the latest news about our new program year of classes, special events, Episcopal Youth Community, service opportunities, and fun on the Children & Youth webpage.

HOSPITALITY

ENJOY COFFEE IN HOLY GROUNDS

Sundays, 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. (Lobby)

Our newly-renovated Holy Grounds is open during church hours as a community space. Coffee is served on Sundays.

Sumners Hall (Third Floor)

HAVE SUNDAY BREAKFAST WITH US

8:30 a.m.-11 a.m.

This isn't your typical church coffee hour.

We serve a homemade, hot meal, prepared by our in-house professional chef. Everyone is welcome.

Large plate 8.00, Small plate 6.00

Donuts/Pastry/Fruit a la carte 1.50

Let the cashier know if it is your first visit and your meal is on us!

WEDNESDAY DINNER

Resumes: Jan. 10

5:30-6:30 p.m., Sumners Hall

All are welcome!

THURSDAY LUNCH

1st and 3rd Thursdays

11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. (Open to the public) Take a break from work and come by for Chef Ray's delicious food! Parking is validated for those eating lunch.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

TRINITY CENTER AND NEXT-TO-NEW

Donate cold-weather clothing, travel toiletries, and small household goods in the large lobby bin near the elevator.

TRINITY STREETS MEAL AND WORSHIP

Sunday, Dec. 24 (Christmas Eve)

2 p.m., Trinity Center

St. David's volunteers will prepare a meal for the Trinity

Streets Community, bless the Eucharist, and then serve lunch.

People of all ages are welcome.



Learn more on the Community Engagement webpage.



2023 End-of-Year Gifts

MUST be RECEIVED or POSTMARKED
on or before Saturday, Dec. 30, 2023,

to have your gift recorded
as part of your 2023 giving.

-Thank you for your continued generosity to your
faith family at St. David's Episcopal Church



Join us as we celebrate the arrival of that for which we have longed –
communion, fellowship, and the coming of the Christ Child!

Visit stdave.org to access livestreamed services.

Christmas Eve, Sunday, Dec. 24

10:30 a.m., Historic Church

Holy Eucharist, Rite II, for the Fourth Sunday of Advent

4 p.m. Children's Christmas Pageant with Holy Eucharist
Enriching Our Worship
*Children are invited to dress in costume to help tell the story
of the Nativity. Extra costumes will be available to borrow.*

7 p.m. Christmas Eve Festive Holy Eucharist
Rite II, with Extended Prelude; Brass, Organ, and Choir

10 p.m. Christmas Eve Festive Holy Eucharist
Rite II, with Extended Prelude; Brass, Organ, and Choir
Livestreamed

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24 CHRISTMAS EVE

MONDAY, DECEMBER 25 CHRISTMAS DAY

*Church building and offices will be closed after this service
through Dec. 26*

10:30 a.m. Christmas Day Holy Eucharist
Rite II, with Organ
Livestreamed

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 31 FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS

10:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist
Rite II, with Organ
*Livestreamed, We will offer a service with Holy Communion
at 10:30 a.m., replacing our 8, 9, and 11:15 a.m. services.*

MONDAY, JANUARY 1 FEAST OF THE HOLY NAME

*Church building and offices will be closed before
this service on Jan. 1.*

7 p.m. Holy Eucharist
Rite II, with Organ
Bethell Hall, Livestreamed