



# Christmas

*December 24, 2024 - January 5, 2025*

As part of St. John's practice of caring for God's creation and stewarding resources responsibly, this order of service is reusable.

Please return it to the ushers at the end of worship.

**The Rev. Gia Hayes-Martin** *she/her*

Rector

giahm@stjohnsworthington.org

614-846-5180, ext. 302

Usually available: Mondays to Thursdays

Sabbath: Friday

**The Rev. David Burman** *he/him*

Associate Rector

davidb@stjohnsworthington.org

614-846-5180, ext. 308

Usually available: Mondays to Thursdays

Sabbath: Friday

**Pastoral Care Emergency Phone**

to reach a priest after hours

220-219-1880

**Mr. Stephen Sollars** *he/him*

Organist

ironbuckeye@gmail.com

614-846-5180, ext. 307

**Mr. Nick Taylor** *he/him*

Choral Director

music@stjohnsworthington.org

614-846-5180, ext. 307

**Ms. Bella Olmstead** *she/her*

Parish Engagement Coordinator

bellao@stjohnsworthington.org

614-846-5180, ext. 301

**Ms. Christine Rees** *she/her*

Staff Accountant

christiner@stjohnsworthington.org

614-846-5180, ext. 306

**Mr. David Talbot** *he/him*

Facilities Manager

davidt@stjohnsworthington.org

614-846-5180, ext. 304

**Ms. Carrie Troester** *she/her*

Director, St. John's Early Education Center

earlyed@stjohnsworthington.org

614-885-2315

**Ms. Star Blackford** *she/her*

Senior Warden

blackfords@mindspring.com

**Ms. Lisa Graupmann** *she/her*

Junior Warden

lisa.graupmann@gmail.com

**Office Volunteers**

614-846-5180

Tuesday 10:00 a.m. to 12 noon

Wednesday 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Thursday 10:00 a.m. to 12 noon

Friday 10:00 a.m. to 12 noon

*To grow, heal, and serve with God's wisdom, love, and joy*

St. John's Episcopal Church  
700 High Street, Worthington, Ohio 43085  
614-846-5180  
stjohnsworthington.org

Welcome to St. John's. Please participate in our service at your own level of comfort. The congregation's responses are in **bold**.

A special welcome to those who are guests of our congregation this morning. We are glad you are here, and we hope you find something in this community that feeds your soul. We invite you to fill out a visitor card, which can be given to one of the clergy or an usher at the end of the service.

We use four books in our worship:

The Book of Common Prayer (*red, hardcover*)

The Hymnal 1982 (*blue, hardcover*)

Wonder, Love & Praise (*green, softcover*)

Lift Every Voice and Sing II (*red and black, hardcover*)

## **CHILDREN'S MINISTRY AT ST. JOHN'S**

Children are an active, vital part of the St. John's community, and they are always welcome in worship. Nursery care is available for infants, toddlers, and preschoolers on the lower level. During the 9:00 service on Sunday, children ages 3 to 11 are invited to Children's Church for the first half of the service. All professional staff and volunteers who work with children and youth are Safe Church-trained, and parents may observe children's and youth ministry at any time.

## **COMMUNION AT ST. JOHN'S**

In the Episcopal Church, anyone who is baptized, no matter what church they were baptized in or how old they are, is welcome to meet Jesus in the bread and wine. Baptized children may receive communion as soon as they can eat solid food, as their parents wish. Come forward to the altar rail when the ushers indicate it is your turn. To receive the bread, extend your hands in front of you for the priest to place a wafer in your palm. Gluten-free wafers are available by request. If you wish to receive the wine, drink directly from the chalice. Please do not dip your wafer in the wine. If you wish to receive a blessing instead of communion, cross your arms over your chest. Communion can be brought to you at your seat; just let an usher know. Receiving neither a blessing nor communion is always an option, as well. To learn more about baptism, please speak with Gia or David.

To center yourself before worship, you may wish to use this prayer:

O Almighty God, you pour out on all who desire it the spirit of grace and of supplication: Deliver us, when we draw near to you, from coldness of heart and wanderings of mind, that with steadfast thoughts and kindled affections we may worship you in spirit and in truth; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

## Voluntary

**Welcome**     *seated*

**Opening Hymn**     *standing as you are able*

\* At 9:00am on Sundays, children are invited to attend Childrens Church. They will return in time for Communion.

**Opening Acclamation S-71**     *standing as you are able*     *Book of Common Prayer, p. 355*

*Celebrant*  
Bless - ed be God: Father, Son, and Ho - ly Spi - rit.

*People*  
And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ev - er. A - men.

Music: Ambrosian chant; adapt. Mason Martens (1933-1991). Copyright © 1971 Mason Martens.

## Collect for Purity

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.**

**Song of Praise**     *standing as you are able*

**Collect of the Day**     *standing as you are able*

*Presider*     The Lord be with you.

**People**     **And also with you.**

*Presider*     Let us pray.

*The Presider prays the collect.*

**People**     **Amen.**

**First Reading**     *seated*

*Reader*     A reading from...

*After the reading*

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

**People**     **Thanks be to God.**

**Psalm**     *seated*

## **Second Reading** *seated*

*Reader* A reading from...

*After the reading*

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

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

## **Sequence Hymn** *standing as you are able*

## **Gospel** *standing as you are able*

*Priest* The Holy Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to ...

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

*After the Gospel*

*Priest* The Gospel of the Lord.

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

## **Sermon** *seated*

*Silence is observed following the sermon.*

## **Nicene Creed** *standing as you are able*

*Book of Common Prayer, p. 358*

**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.**

**Prayers of the People** *standing as you are able*

*Common Worship* from the Church of England

*Leader*

In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

Father, [in this holy night] your Son our Savior was born in human flesh. Renew your Church as the Body of Christ.

Holy God,

*People*

**Hear our prayer.**

*Leader*

[In this holy night] there was no room for your Son in the inn. Protect with your love those who have no home and all who live in poverty.

Holy God,

*People*

**Hear our prayer.**

*Leader*

[In this holy night] Mary, in the pain of labor, brought your Son to birth. Hold in your hand all who are in pain or distress.

We pray especially for those for whom prayers have been asked...

Holy God,

*People*

**Hear our prayer.**

*Leader*

[In this holy night] your Christ came as a light shining in the darkness. Bring comfort to all who suffer in the sadness of our world.

Holy God,

*People*

**Hear our prayer.**

*Leader*

[In this holy night] the angels sang, "Peace to God's people on earth." Strengthen those who work for peace and justice in all the world.

Holy God,

*People*

**Hear our prayer.**

*Leader*

[In this holy night] shepherds in the field heard good tidings of joy. Give us grace to preach the gospel of Christ's redemption.

Holy God,

*People*

**Hear our prayer.**

*Leader* [In this holy night] strangers found the Holy Family, and saw the baby lying in the manger. Bless our homes and all whom we love.  
We remember especially those for whom prayers have been asked . . .

*(names are read from prayer list)*

For whom else do we pray?

Holy God,

*People* **Hear our prayer.**

*Leader* [In this holy night] heaven is come down to earth, and earth is raised to heaven. Hold in your hand all those who have passed through death in the hope of your coming kingdom.

We remember especially...*(names are read from prayer list)* Whom else do we remember?

Holy God,

*People* **Hear our prayer.**

*Leader* [In this holy night] Christians the world over celebrate Christ's birth. Open our hearts that he may be born in us today.

Holy God,

*People* **Hear our prayer.**

*Presider* Father, [in this holy night] angels and shepherds worshipped at the manger throne. Receive the worship we offer in fellowship with Mary, Joseph, and the saints through him who is your Word made flesh, our Savior Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

**The Peace** *standing as you are able*

*Presider* The peace of the Lord be always with you.

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

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

**Announcements** *seated*



**Announcements**



**Online Giving**

**Text GIVE to 614-418-6662.** You will receive a text with additional instructions. Tap the link to open the GIVING FORM. Select the FUND DROP DOWN and enter your dollar amount. You will need to enter your payment information.

**Birthday and Anniversary Prayer** *seated*

*Book of Common Prayer, p. 830*

O God, our times are in your hand: Look with favor, we pray, on your servants as they begin another year. Grant that they may grow in wisdom and grace, and strengthen their trust in your goodness all the days of their lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

**The Holy Communion**

**Offertory Sentence** *seated*

**Offertory Music** *seated*

**Presentation Hymn** *standing as you are able*

**Eucharistic Prayer B** *standing as you are able*

*Book of Common Prayer p. 367*

The musical notation consists of four staves, each with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The lyrics are written below the notes. The first two staves are for the Celebrant and the People, respectively. The last two staves are for the Celebrant and the People, respectively. The lyrics are: "The Lord be with you. And al - so 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 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.

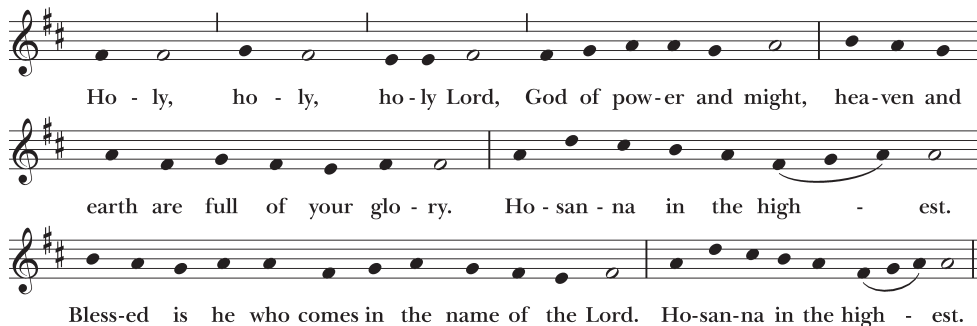
*Here a Proper Preface is sung.*

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-124

David Hurd



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might, hea - ven and  
earth are full of your glo - ry. 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.

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,

*Presider and People*

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

*The Presider 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 John 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.



*Presider*

As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray,

*All*

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your Name, your kingdom come,  
your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us  
our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial, and  
deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now  
and for ever. Amen.**

### **Fraction Anthem S-154** *standing as you are able*

David Hurd

*This setting is not used in Lent.*

A musical score for a fraction anthem. It consists of four staves of music in a treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The lyrics are: "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 music is written in a simple, melodic style with some slurs and ties.

### **The Breaking of the Bread** *standing as you are able*

*Presider*

The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died  
and rose for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

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## Communion Hymn

**Post-Communion Prayer** *standing as you are able*

*Book of Common Prayer, p. 365*

*Presider*

Let us pray.

*All*

**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 Christmas Season Blessing** *standing as you are able*

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

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

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

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

**Closing Hymn** *standing as you are able*

**Dismissal** *standing as you are able*

*Book of Common Prayer p. 366*

Deacon

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

People

**Postlude**

## **Eucharist Every Sunday**

Service, 9:00 a.m.

Service, 11:15 a.m.

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