

# *The Nativity of our Lord Jesus Christ*

## *Christmas Eve Pageant with Holy Eucharist*



*December 24, 2022  
5:00 P.M.*

*St Paul's Episcopal Church  
Newnan, Georgia*

## **The Opening Hymn**

*Once in royal David's city*  
Hymnal 102

*Verse One sung by PJ Saintilus*

## **The Bidding Prayer**

*The Presider says*

Dear People of God: In this Christmas Season, let it be our duty and delight to hear once more the message of the Angels, to go to Bethlehem and see the Son of God lying in a manger. Let us hear and heed in Holy Scripture the story of God's loving purpose from the time of our rebellion against him until the glorious redemption brought to us by his holy Child Jesus, and let us make this place glad with our carols of praise.

But first, let us pray for the needs of his whole world, for peace and justice on earth, for the unity and mission of the Church for which he died, and especially for his Church in our country and in this city.

And because he particularly loves them, let us remember in his name the poor and helpless, the cold, the hungry and the oppressed, the sick and those who mourn, the lonely and unloved, the aged and little children, as well as all those who do not know and love the Lord Jesus Christ.

Finally, let us remember before God his pure and lowly Mother, and that whole multitude which no one can number, whose hope was in the Word made flesh, and with whom, in Jesus, we are one for evermore.

*The Presider continues*

The Almighty God bless us with his grace; Christ give us the joys of everlasting life; and unto the fellowship of the citizens above may the King of Angels bring us all. Amen.

## **The Gloria**

Hymnal S 278

## **The Collect of the Day**

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

*People* *And also with you.*

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

O God, you have caused this holy night to shine with the brightness of the true Light: Grant that we, who have known the mystery of that Light on earth, may also enjoy him perfectly in heaven; where with you and the Holy Spirit he lives and reigns, one God, in glory everlasting. *Amen.*

## **A Reading from the book of Isaiah 9:2-7**

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness— on them light has shined. You 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. For 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. For all the boots of the tramping warriors and all the garments rolled in blood shall be burned as fuel for the fire.

For 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. His 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.

*Lector* The Word of the Lord.

*People* *Thanks be to God.*

## **The Sequence**

*Hark! the herald angels sing*  
Hymnal 87

**The Children's Pageant**     *The pageant is based on the Gospel of Luke 2:1-20*

**How Far Is It To Bethlehem?**

**arr. David W. Music**

*St. Cecilia Choir*

How far is it to Bethlehem? Not very far. Shall we find the stable room lit by a  
star?

Can we see the tiny child, is he within? If we lift the wooden latch may we go in?  
May we stroke the creatures there, oxen and sheep? May we peek like them and  
see Jesus asleep?

If we touch his tiny hand will he awake? Will he know we've come so far just for  
his sake?

Be near me Lord Jesus, I ask Thee to stay close by me forever and love me I pray;  
Bless all the dear children in Thy tender care, and fit us for heaven to live with  
Thee there.

**The Little Lord Jesus Is Sleeping**

**Ada Richter**

*Sung by the Children in the Pageant*

The little Lord Jesus is sleeping, Sing lullaby; Angels their watch are keeping, sing  
lullaby

The shepherds are come to adore Him, Sing lullaby, Wisemen are kneeling before  
Him Sing lullaby.

**Away In A Manger**

**Martin Luther**

*Sung by the Children in the Pageant*

Away in a manger, no crib for a bed, the little Lord Jesus laid down His sweet  
head.

The stars in the sky looked down where He lay, the little Lord Jesus asleep on the  
hay.

## **On Christmas Day**

**Bill Leach**

*Sung by the Children in the Pageant*

On Christmas day in Bethlehem was born the baby Jesus.  
And Mary held him in her arms and sang a song to him.  
And shepherds watching in the fields came near to worship him.  
And Joseph smiled and welcomed those who came to worship him.  
And angels sang alleluia on that first Christmas day.

## **We Three Kings**

**John H. Hopkins, Jr.**

*Sung by the Congregation; please remain seated*

Vs 2 Born a King on Bethlehem's plain, gold I bring to crown him again. King for ever, ceasing never over us all to reign. O star of wonder, star of night, star with royal beauty bright; westward leading, still proceeding, guide us to thy perfect light.

Vs 3 Frankincense to offer have I: incense owns a Deity nigh; prayer and praising gladly raising, worship him, God Most High. O star of wonder, star of night, star with royal beauty bright; westward leading, still proceeding, guide us to thy perfect light.

Vs 4 Myrrh is mine; its bitter perfume breathes a life of gathering gloom; sorrowing, sighing, bleeding, dying, sealed in the stone-cold tomb. O star of wonder, star of night, star with royal beauty bright; westward leading, still proceeding, guide us to thy perfect light.

Vs 5 Glorious now behold him arise, King and God and Sacrifice; heaven sing alleluia: alleluia the earth replies. O star of wonder, star of night, star with royal beauty bright; westward leading, still proceeding, guide us to thy perfect light.

## **Sing Of Christmas**

**John and Phyllis Miller**

*Sung by the Children in the Pageant*

Sing of Christmas, sing of love, sing a song from heaven above. Christ is born, bless his birth, Christ the Savior of the earth. There were angels on high to tell of the joy; there were shepherds to greet the baby boy. Sing of Christmas, sing of love, sing a song from heaven above. Christ is born bless his birth, Christ the savior of the earth.

## **The 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 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**

*The Intercessor says*

Good and gracious God, on this holy night you gave us your Son, the Lord of the universe, wrapped in swaddling clothes, the Saviour of all, lying in a manger. On this holy night draw us into the mystery of your love. Join our voices with the heavenly host, that we may sing your glory on high. Give us a place among the shepherds, that we may find the one for whom we have waited, Jesus Christ, your Word made flesh, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, in the splendour of eternal light, God forever and ever. Amen.

On this holy night in which God joins heaven and earth, let us offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all those in need.

Let us pray for the Church around the world as it celebrates the birth of Christ. Bless all those who are entrusted with Christian ministry that your Word might be proclaimed with truth and courage across our world.

Bestow your wisdom on all who govern, that in honouring the earth and its diverse races, cultures, and religions, we may celebrate the light of this holy night.

Grant reconciliation to those surrounded with conflict and violence, that they may live in the peace of this holy night.

Let us pray for all who are cold, hungry, or alone this night. Embrace with your tender care all who wander alone or have no place to lay their head, they may experience the hope of this holy night.

Let us pray for all who are anxious, depressed, or ill. Draw near to those who find this season a source of pain or grief, and to all who are suffering or sick, especially those we remember in our own hearts that they may feel the comfort of this holy night.

Let us pray for parents, families, and newborn infants. Strengthen families in the bonds of love and commitment, that they may delight in the joy of this holy night.

Let us pray for ourselves and for the blessings of Christmas. Open our hearts to your presence, that we may be transformed by the new birth of this holy night.

Let us give thanks for all the faithful departed who have been bearers of the Word made flesh. Give us grace to follow your holy ones in lives of faith and commitment, that we may we join with the hosts of heaven in singing the praises of this holy night.

All these things and whatever else you see that we need, grant us, O God, for the sake of him who died and rose again, and now lives and reigns within the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. *Amen.*

### **The Peace**

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

### **The Holy Communion**

**The Offertory Anthem**    The Wise May Bring Their Learning    Pat Ballard  
*St. Cecilia Choir*

The wise may bring their learning, the rich may bring their wealth: and some may  
bring their greatness, and some bring strength and health.

We too, would bring our treasures to offer to the King. We have no wealth or  
learning: What shall we children bring?

We'll bring him hearts that love him, we'll bring him thankful praise, and young  
souls meekly striving to walk in holy ways. And these shall be the treasures we  
offer to the King, and these are gifts that even the poorest child may bring.

We'll bring the little duties we have to do each day. We'll try our best to please  
him, at home, at school at play.

And better are these treasurers to offer to the King, than richest gifts without them.  
Yet these a child may bring.

**The Presentation Hymn**

*O come, all you faithful*  
Hymnal 83

**The Great Thanksgiving**

Eucharistic Prayer A

*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:

**The Sanctus**

Hymnal S 128

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.



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.

**Silent Night** - [Sung by candlelight while kneeling]

Hymn 111

Silent night, holy night!  
All is calm, all is bright.  
Round yon Virgin, Mother and Child.  
Holy infant so tender and mild,  
Sleep in heavenly peace,  
Sleep in heavenly peace

Silent night, holy night!  
Shepherds quake at the sight.  
Glories stream from heaven afar  
Heavenly hosts sing Alleluia,  
Christ the Savior is born!  
Christ the Savior is born

Silent night, holy night!  
Son of God love's pure light.  
Radiant beams from Thy holy face  
With dawn of redeeming grace,  
Jesus Lord, at Thy birth  
Jesus Lord, at Thy birth

### **The Blessing**

May Almighty God, who sent his 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 his holiness. *Amen.*

May God, who sent his 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 his 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.*

### **The Closing Hymn**

*Joy to the world! The Lord has come*  
Hymnal 100

Joy to the world! the Lord is come;  
Let earth receive her King;  
Let every heart prepare him room,  
And heaven and nature sing,  
And heaven and nature sing,  
And heaven, and heaven, and nature sing.

Joy to the world! the Saviour reigns;  
Let men their songs employ;  
While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains  
Repeat the sounding joy,  
Repeat the sounding joy,  
Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

No more let sins and sorrows grow,  
Nor thorns infest the ground;  
He comes to make His blessings flow  
Far as the curse is found,  
Far as the curse is found,  
Far as, far as, the curse is found.

He rules the world with truth and grace,  
And makes the nations prove  
The glories of His righteousness,  
And wonders of His love,  
And wonders of His love,  
And wonders, wonders, of His love.

### **The Dismissal**

## Service Participants

<b>Vestry Person</b>	Renee Powell
<b>Vergers</b>	Tony King & Jennifer Thomasson
<b>Eucharistic Ministers</b>	Lauren Gallagher, Jeff Lawhead, Marianne Lawhead, Carolyn Masters, & Elizabeth Pape
<b>Acolytes</b>	Mary Tucker Howell (1st); Julia Howell (2nd); Kate Howell (Banner); Sydney Pape (Clergy Cross); Mary Scott Fabrizi, Mary Huskison, Jaden & Zachary Reynolds (Torchbearers)
<b>Reader</b>	Renee Powell
<b>Ushers</b>	Dwight Ellison, Mike Colpoys, Brother Massenburg, Michele Mattera, & Roy Reynolds

---



### **The Christmas flowers and music are given to the glory of God by:**

The Rev. Hazel Smith Glover in thanksgiving and love for ministry we've shared at St. Paul's during my time as your priest. You will be forever written on my heart.

Caroline & John Abbey in appreciation of the community, ministry, and volunteers of St. Paul's

Mindy Benefield in honor of The Rev. Mark S. Johnson

Mindy Benefield in thanksgiving for H. Guy Benefield

The Bulford Family in loving memory of Michael Redding

The Bulford Family in thanksgiving for Annie Bulford

Kathryn Burke in loving honor of my parents, Jeanette & Richard Cureton

Paul Burke in loving memory of my parents, Tess & Bill

Rick & Jennifer Candler in thanksgiving for Rudy, Margot, Flint, Hubert, & Ruth

Sam & Betsy Candler in thanksgiving for our family

Kurt, Nicole, Elijah, & James Edwards in appreciation for The Rev. Hazel Smith Glover and Mrs. Dawn Harrison and her work with the children's choirs

Dwight & Kathy Ellison in thanksgiving for Dwight, Kimberly, Dawn, JR, Lana, Hank, Nate, & our 50<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary

Susan & Hadley Heindel in thanksgiving for our family

Dawn & Bill Harrison in love and appreciation to Mason & Elisabeth Copeland & the St. Paul's choir family

Lauren Jones in memory of Bill Jones

Mark & Wendy LeVan in thanksgiving for Joan, Nick, Megan, Ryan, Eathon, & Gabrielle LeVan

Mark & Wendy LeVan in memory of Donald K. LeVan, Glenn W. LaVaughn, & Jacqueline Eaton

Jeff & Marianne Lawhead in gratitude for our grandchildren, Adeline, Caroline & Wynne.

Kay & Brian Lewis in thanksgiving for Sam, March, & Willa

Frank & Beth Marchman in thanksgiving for our children & grandchildren

Frank & Beth Marchman in thanksgiving for Sam & Betsy

Brother & Alice Ann Massenburg in thanksgiving for our families, friends, & many blessings

The Pape Family in thanksgiving for Mrs. Dawn Harrison and her music ministry with the children of St. Paul's

Renee & Hank Powell in appreciation for The Rev. Hazel Smith Glover

Carrie, Kevin, Elise & Freddy Wendelburg in memory of our fathers/grandfathers  
Jim Hendrickson & Dick Wendelburg, and in thanksgiving for our  
mothers/grandmothers Joan Hendrickson & Margaret Wendelburg

## Parish Notice

### Annual Epiphany Party

**Abide Brewing Company**  
**130 Werz Industrial Blvd.**  
**Newnan, GA**  
**January 6, 2023**  
**5 - 8 p.m.**

Please join us as we celebrate the Feast of the Epiphany which centers on the arrival of the Magi in Bethlehem. You're invited to drop in or stay a while.



O God, by the leading of a star you manifested your only Son to the Peoples of the earth: Lead us, who know you now by faith, to your presence, where we may see your glory face to face; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. *Amen*

---

#### St. Paul's Episcopal Church

576 Roscoe Road, Newnan, GA 30263 • Phone: (770) 253-4264 • [www.stpaulsnewnan.org](http://www.stpaulsnewnan.org)

#### CLERGY AND Staff

**The Rev. Hazel Smith Glover**, Rector; **The Rev. Mark S. Johnson**, Deacon; **Mason Copeland**, Organist and Choirmaster; **Dawn Harrison**, Music Associate; **Cynthia Meisinger**, Children and Youth Director; **Elisabeth Copeland**, Children's Ministry; **Geoff Mattera**, Communications Director; **Cole Hankins**, Multimedia Associate; **Nicole Edwards**, Parish Assistant; **Kimberly Stokes**, Financial Assistant.

#### VESTRY

**Renee Powell**, Senior Warden; **Mark LeVan**, Junior Warden; **Lauren Gallagher**, Outreach Liaison; **Philip Hand**, Stewardship Liaison; **Frankey Henderson**, Parish Life Liaison; **Virginia Williams**, Communications Liaison; **Polly Hopkins**, Health and Healing Liaison; **Marianne Lawhead**, Welcoming Liaison; **Tony King**, Compliance and Documentation Liaison.