

A Reading from the Book of Isaiah 52:7-10

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.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God’s people.

Response: Thanks be to God

Psalm 98

- 1 Sing to the Lord a new song, *
for he has done marvelous things.
- 2 With his right hand and his holy arm *
has he won for himself the victory.
- 3 The Lord has made known his victory; *
his righteousness has he openly shown in the sight of the nations.
- 4 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.
- 5 Shout with joy to the Lord, all you lands; *
lift up your voice, rejoice, and sing.
- 6 Sing to the Lord with the harp, *
with the harp and the voice of song.
- 7 With trumpets and the sound of the horn *
shout with joy before the King, the Lord.
- 8 Let the sea make a noise and all that is in it, *
the lands and those who dwell therein.
- 9 Let the rivers clap their hands, *
and let the hills ring out with joy before the Lord,
when he comes to judge the earth.
- 10 In righteousness shall he judge the world *
and the peoples with equity.

Hymn: Hark! The Herald Angels Sing Hymn # 87
The Crosby Family—cute kids and mom and dad on piano and guitars.
YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=r42So2nYcII>

The Holy Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ According to Luke 2:8-20

Response: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.” And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, “Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!” When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.” So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

Response: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Sermon

The Reverend Kathy Boss

YouTube: <https://youtu.be/IMQXUBCKQ-c>

Meditation

Song::

O Holy Night - A. Adam

Jim Roan

YouTube: <https://youtu.be/IqLP.tv-Ucg>

The Nicene Creed

BCP, 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

On this holy morning, as we celebrate the birth of Jesus and his presence with us, let us pray for the Church and the world.

Almighty God, who by the glorious birth of your Son enlightened the darkness of the world: We pray that the light of his presence may shine brightly in our lives, that being filled with the spirit of goodwill, the nations may inherit the gift of peace which he came to bring.

God among us, **Hear our prayer.**

Grant us, O God, such love and wonder that, with humble shepherds, magi and pilgrims unknown, we may come and adore the holy Child, the heavenly King, and with our gifts worship and serve him.

God among us, **Hear our prayer.**

God of the nations, strengthen us in this time of conflict and fear to be people of peace. Grant relief and protection to all who suffer persecution, oppression, and fear, and give us your grace that we, by acts of kindness and words of goodwill, may spread the spirit of our infant Savior.

God among us, **Hear our prayer.**

God of all people, bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, and grant that we may serve you in them, and love another as he loves us. We give thanks for those visiting our Church this morning and ask your blessing on their travels

God among us, **Hear our prayer.**

God of healing, give your grace to those who are sick or in special need, and give us strength to come to their aid and comfort.

God among us, **Hear our prayer.**

God of mercy, we remember those who rejoice with us, but upon another shore and in a greater light. Comfort those who mourn and send your peace to their souls.

God among us, **Hear our prayer.**

God of infinite forgiveness, grant us the spirit of humility that we may never presume upon your mercy, but live as those who have been forgiven much. Make us tender and compassionate towards others; and grant that we may show in our lives your love which alone can triumph over the powers of evil.

God among us, **Hear our prayer.**

Hymn: The First Noel Hymn # 109
Episcopal Church of the Advent, Boston
YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HVfUGWAJtGI>

Blessing Fr. Curtis
YouTube: <https://youtu.be/wpJr8OEykaQ>

Hymn: Joy To The World Hymn # 100
Washington National Cathedral
YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tHS7StIzIS8>

Postlude: Joy To The World – arr. Jim Roan Jim Roan
YouTube: <https://youtu.be/6YOrHcGwVuE>

Dismissal: **Response: Thanks be to God**

