

CHRIST ANGLICAN CHURCH

Cashiers, North Carolina



THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST

THE HOLY EUCHARIST

25 DECEMBER 2024 | 10:00 AM

Welcome

We welcome all who are worshipping with Christ Anglican Church today. We are thankful for God's Spirit joining us together in corporate worship.

Our Guests

We invite you to complete a Connect Card (located on the pew back) with your name and pertinent contact information and any needs you would like the CAC staff to address. Please tear the card in half and place the completed portion in the offering plate or give to the Rector as you leave today. You may wear a name tag so we can greet you by name. Please sign the guest book and take one of our welcome gifts in the narthex.

Name Badge

We invite everyone to wear your name badge located in the Narthex. If you do not have one and would like one, please contact the church office and one will be created for you. You do not have to be a member of the church to receive a nametag.

Prepare for Worship

It is essential for all in worship to enter the sanctuary in quiet reverence for the triune God and cultivate a posture and spirit of prayer. You are encouraged to take a few moments in silent meditation as you prepare for worship. You may read one of the prayers on page 676 of the Book of Common prayer, read one of the hymn texts, read one of the Scriptures appointed for today, or pray your own prayers of thanksgiving and petitions as you ask the Lord to prepare your heart and mind for worship.

*The Service begins on page 123 of the **Book of Common Prayer** (BCP) or you may follow along in the service sheet. Our hymns are found in the **Worship and Rejoice Hymnal** (WRH) and the Scripture Texts are in the **Pew Bible**. If you are new to the Anglican way of worship, you will find assistance in the "Worship Overview and Preparation" handout in the narthex or under "Anglican Helps for Worship" on our website.*

THE SUMMARY OF THE LAW

BCP 124

Hear what our Lord Jesus Christ says:

You shall love the Lord your God with all your all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments depend all the Law and the Prophets. Matthew 22:37-40

THE KYRIE

BCP 124

Celebrant Lord, have mercy upon us.

People ***Christ, have mercy upon us.***

Celebrant Lord, have mercy upon us.

THE HYMN OF PRAISE

Gloria

WRH Inside Back Cover

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

BCP 125

Celebrant The Lord be with You.

People: ***And with your spirit.***

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 Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom with you and the same Spirit be honor and glory, now and for ever. **Amen.**

SERMON NOTES

The message is focused on John 1:18. No one has ever seen God; true no doubt, but it is not for want of trying. The world is full of religions, and always has been; most of them have been bad religions, but they have put up plenty of pictures of God. Why this failure? There is only one image of God that really is an image of God and not of our own imagination – and that is Jesus.

1. The Quest to Seek God (Acts 17:22; Eph 4:18)
2. The Quest to Seek Truth (John 14:6; 18:38)
3. What About Truth? (John 1:18; 12:21; Psalm 119:18)

The truth is that the story of Jesus, including the story of Bethlehem, is the story of God and that makes it applicable for everything about you. Not once in the year but every day, my life must be marked by sacrificial, self-giving love. And God offers to all humankind no superficial caring for their troubles but the peace and joy that none can take away, the peace and joy of the renewed forgiven life.

Reflection: What part of the message do I most need to integrate into my relationship with Christ and His Church? How can my participation through the ministries of Christ Anglican assist me in my obedience to the Lord's calling upon life?

Prayer: Dear Heavenly Father, As I come before you in humble reverence, my heart is filled with a deep longing to experience a personal encounter with your Son, Jesus Christ. I seek your divine presence. I yearn to know Jesus in a way that transcends knowledge and surpasses understanding. Guide me through this prayer. May your Holy Spirit intercede on my behalf, and that your grace may open the doors of my heart to the transformative power of encountering Jesus. Amen.

THE NICENE CREED

BCP 127

All Standing, Celebrant and People say

We believe in one God,

*the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, visible and invisible.*

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,

*the only-begotten 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,
was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and 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,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who 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

All Kneeling

Reader Father, we pray for your holy Catholic Church;

People ***That we all may be one.***

Reader Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;

People ***That your Name may be glorified by all people.***

Reader We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons;

People ***That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.***

Reader We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;

People ***That there may be justice and peace on the earth.***

Reader Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;

People ***That our works may find favor in your sight.***

Reader Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;

People ***That they may be delivered from their distress.***

Reader Give to the departed eternal rest.

People ***Let light perpetual shine upon them.***

Reader We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;

People ***May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.***

The Celebrant Concludes with this Collect.

Almighty God, to whom our needs are known before we ask: Help us to ask only what accords with your will; and those good things which we dare not, or in our blindness cannot ask, grant us for the sake of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

THE CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION OF SIN

The Deacon says

Let us humbly confess our sins to Almighty God. *Silence*

All remain kneeling and say

Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.

The Celebrant says

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who in his great mercy has promised forgiveness of sins to all who sincerely repent and with true faith turn to him, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and bring you to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. ***Amen.***

THE COMFORTABLE WORDS

The Celebrant Says

Hear the Word of God to all who truly turn to him.

If anyone sins, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous. He is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world.

1 John 2:1-2

THE PEACE

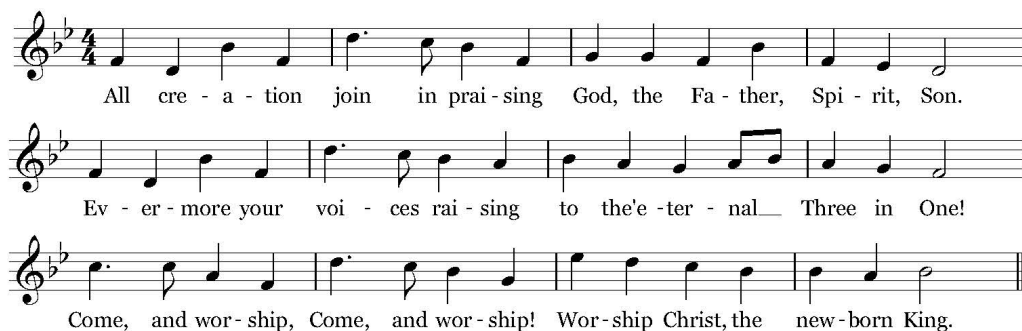
Celebrant The Peace of the Lord be always with you.

People ***And with your spirit.***

THE OFFERTORY

All stand and sing

THE DOXOLOGY



All cre - a - tion join in prai - sing God, the Fa - ther, Spi - rit, Son.
Ev - er - more your voi - ces rai - sing to the'e - ter - nal Three in One!
Come, and wor - ship, Come, and wor - ship! Wor - ship Christ, the new - born King.

Celebrant Yours, O Lord, is the greatness and the power, and the glory, and the victory, and the majesty: for everything in heaven and earth is yours; yours is the kingdom, O Lord, and you are exalted as Head above all. All things come from you, O Lord,

People ***And of your own have we given you.***

All Remain Standing

HOLY COMMUNION

THE SURSUM CORDA

BCP 132

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People ***And with your spirit.***

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People ***We lift them up to the Lord.***

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People ***It is right to give him thanks and praise.***

The Celebrant continues

It is right, our duty and our joy, 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 Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary his mother, was made

truly man, yet without the stain of sin, that we might be cleansed from sin and given the right to become your children. Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

THE SANCTUS

WRH 738

Celebrant and People Sing

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

THE PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

The People stand or kneel. The Celebrant continues

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and when we had sinned against you and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent your only Son Jesus Christ into the world for our salvation. By the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary he became flesh and dwelt among us. In obedience to your will, he stretched out his arms upon the Cross and offered himself once for all, that by his suffering and death we might be saved. By his resurrection he broke the bonds of death, trampling Hell and Satan under his feet. As our great high priest, he ascended to your right hand in glory, that we might come with confidence before the throne of grace.

On the night that he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take, eat; this is my Body, which is given for you: Do this in remembrance of me."

Likewise, after supper, Jesus took the cup, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, "Drink this, all of you; for 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 in remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Celebrant and People

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, and we offer you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Word and Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son Jesus Christ. Sanctify us also, that we may worthily receive this holy Sacrament, and be made one body with him, that he may dwell in us and we in him. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us with all your saints into the joy of your heavenly kingdom, where we shall see our Lord face to face.

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 forever. **Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

BCP 134

The Celebrant then says

And now as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to pray:

Celebrant and People together pray

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, the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

THE FRACTION

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.
People ***Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.***

THE PRAYER OF HUMBLE ACCESS

BCP 135

We do not presume to come to this your table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in your abundant and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under your table; but you are the same Lord whose character is always to have mercy. Grant us, therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of your dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that our sinful bodies may be made clean by his body, and our souls washed through his most precious blood, and that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.

THE AGNUS DEI

BCP 136

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
grant us your peace.

THE MINISTRATION OF COMMUNION

All Christians who have turned in faith to Jesus Christ and have been baptized are invited to come forward for communion. Those who are not baptized or do not wish to receive Communion are welcome to come forward for a blessing, indicated by crossing your arms over your chest. You may stand or kneel at the altar. To receive communion in the traditional manner you may consume the bread and drink from the chalice or you may dip the bread in the wine. If you desire gluten free bread, please tell the server. If you are unable to come forward, please let an usher know and Communion will be brought to you.

If you wish for additional prayer, please ask the priest as they serve you at the rail.

THE POST COMMUNION PRAYER

BCP 137

Heavenly Father, We thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the body of your 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 forever. Amen.

THE BLESSING

THE RETIRING PROCESSION *Good Christian Friends, Rejoice*

WRH 198

THE DISMISSAL

Deacon Let us go forth to love and serve the Lord.

People *Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.*

THE CLOSING VOLUNTARY *Good Christian Friends, Rejoice* arr. Alice Jordan

SERVING IN WORSHIP

Bill Maddux

Acolyte and Old Testament Lector

Robin Matlock

New Testament Lector

Dcn. Christine Maddux

Gospel Lector & Prayers of the People

Beth Acker & Deneece Harrell

Altar Guild

WEEKLY OPPORTUNITIES

Sundays 9:00 AM – Coffee and Donuts and Fellowship! Enjoy fellowship with your brothers and sisters in Christ before Christian Formation time

Sundays 9:30 AM – Adult Christian Formation. Our study and formation will center upon on one of the Sunday Lectionary texts. Join us for this time of teaching and discipleship!

Sundays 10:30 AM – Holy Eucharist

Tuesdays 9:00 AM – Morning Prayer (*Beginning January 7, 2025*)

Thursdays 12:00 Noon – Midday Prayer followed by Book Study: Emotionally Healthy Spirituality by Peter Scazzero. (*Beginning January 9, 2025*)

Online Giving: Christ Anglican Church offers online giving through our website at christanglicancashiers.org/give or you may scan the QR code to the right. You will be prompted to create a login to complete the transaction. If you have questions or need assistance, please contact the church office. Thank you for your support of the ministries of our church.



THE VESTRY OF CHRIST ANGLICAN CHURCH

Shari McGinnis, *Senior Warden*

Jim Kay, *Junior Warden*

Deneece Harrell, Crawford Jones, Bill Maddux, Ashley Royal, & Larry Wallin

THE STAFF OF CHRIST ANGLICAN CHURCH

The Rev'd Dr. Michael Matlock, *Rector*

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Mr. Jamie Bryson, *Minister of Music and Administration*

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Mr. Kevin McGinnis, *Treasurer*



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Church Office Hours: Tuesday – Thursday 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

www.christanglicancashiers.org

