Christmas Eve Service 5:00 and 6:00 p.m. December 24, 2020

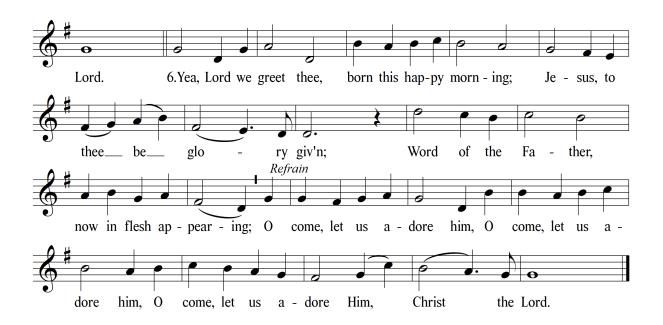
The Rev. George Adamik, Celebrant The Rev. Javier Almendárez-Bautista, Homilist

Prelude Music from St. Paul's Music Ministries

Word of Welcome

Opening Hymn: O Come, All Ye Faithful





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*.

Gospel Luke 2:1-20

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

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn. 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.

The Gospel of the Lord. *Praise to you, Lord Christ.*

Homily

People

The Rev. Javier Almendárez-Bautista

Prayers of the People

Hymn: Silent Night



Blessing

May Almighty God, whose Son was sent 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*.

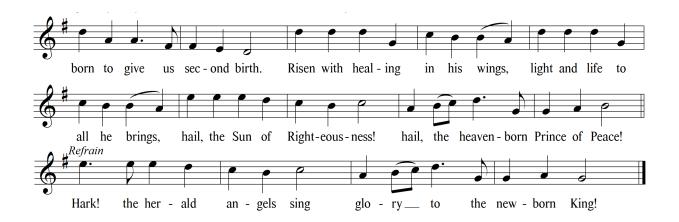
May God, who sent the angels to proclaim the glad news of the Savior's birth, fill you with joy, and make you heralds of the Gospel. *Amen*.

May God, who in the Word made flesh joined heaven to earth and earth to heaven, give you 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*.

Recessional: Hark! The Herald Angels Sing





Dismissal

Virtual Brass Ensemble: Emery Anderson, trumpets Barbara Prillaman, horn Russell McKinney, tenor and bass trombones

Tonight's music is taken from the St. Paul's Choir's Advent & Christmas CD "A Babe is Born" recorded in 2017 and from the choir's recent virtual recordings accompanied by Joanna Li, organist, with audio engineering by Russell McKinney, Minister of Music.