

# ST. MARGARET'S CHURCH

ANNAPOLIS • MARYLAND • ESTABLISHED 1692



THE FEAST OF THE NATIVITY  
DECEMBER 24, 2019  
7:30 P.M. & 10:30 P.M.



1601 PLEASANT PLAINS ROAD  
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21409  
(410) 974-0200 OFFICE (443) 837-5463 PASTORAL EMERGENCY  
[WWW.ST-MARGARETS.ORG](http://WWW.ST-MARGARETS.ORG)  
THE REV. PETER W. MAYER, RECTOR THE REV. PATTI SACHS, ASSISTANT RECTOR  
MR. JAMES DOUGLAS, DIRECTOR OF MUSIC & ORGANIST

# WELCOME TO ST. MARGARET'S CHURCH

We are delighted that you are here with us for the celebration of the birth of Jesus Christ.

If you are visiting us for the first time, let us offer you an especially warm welcome. We hope that you will enjoy worshipping with us. If at any moment in the service you are not sure what to do, ask any of your neighbors in the congregation—they will be happy to help you. We would like to continue our relationship with you, so please fill out a Connect card (found in the pew racks) and drop the card in the collection plate or hand it to one of the clergy or ushers following the service.

All are welcome to receive bread and wine during communion, including children. To receive bread, place your hands palms-up at the communion rail. To receive wine, assist the Eucharistic Minister in guiding the chalice to your lips, or you may intinct by dipping the bread in the wine. If you do not wish to receive the bread or wine, place your arms across your chest and you will receive a blessing. Gluten-free wafers are available for communion. Indicate your wish for a gluten-free wafer by first extending your hands palms down when at the communion rail.

## PLEASE JOIN US...



### CHRISTMAS DAY SERVICE

10 A.M.

### CHRISTMAS LESSONS AND CAROLS

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 29

9:00 A.M. & 11:15 A.M.

NEW YEAR'S BRUNCH @ 10:15, BRING BREAKFAST CASSEROLE

## SERVICE PARTICIPANTS

Clergy	The Rev. Peter W. Mayer, Rector – The Rev. Patti Sachs, Assistant Rector	
Music	Mr. James Douglas, <i>Director of Music &amp; Organist</i> Members of the Chancel Choir & Motet Ensemble Gary Kirkeby, <i>organist</i> Anna Dunlap, <i>harp</i> Mel Kessler, <i>trumpet</i>	
	The Annapolis Bay Strings	Sally Amass, <i>violin</i> Cindy Carmichael, <i>viola</i> Paula Sweterlitsch, <i>violin</i> Martha Vance, <i>cello</i>
7:30pm	Lectors	Kate Callahan, Stacy Canuel
	Eucharistic Ministers	Jim Reising, Katy Strother
	Acolytes	Wes Reising, Austin Canuel, Cole Canuel, Sophia Canuel,
10:30pm	Lectors	Mel Kessler, Jeff Conover
	Eucharistic Minister	Janis Brewer
	Acolytes	Greta Lunsford-Poe, Dylan Lunsford-McBride

*With appreciation to the St. Margaret's Flower Guild:*

Stacy Canuel, Mollie Flounlacker, Shelly Hupp, Mary Kirkeby, Elizabeth Kopack, Ann Lallande, Kathy Lang, Cindy Lynch, Don and Hope Schroeder

FRONT COVER ART: JAN GOSSAERT, *THE ADORATION OF THE KINGS* (1510-15)

**PLEASE CHECK IN ON SOCIAL MEDIA AND SILENCE YOUR CELL PHONE.**



## PRELUDE

### Verbum caro factum est

Plainsong

*Verbum caro factum est: Et habitavit in nobis. Alleluia. Gloria Patri et Filio, et Spiritui Sancto.*

And the Word was made flesh: And dwelt among us. Alleluia. Glory to the Father and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

### Fantasia on 'Greensleeves'

Ralph Vaughan Williams

### Away in a manger

Normandy Traditional arr. Reginald Jacques

*Away in a manger, no crib for a bed, the little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head.  
The stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay. The little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.  
The cattle are lowing, the baby awakes, but little Lord Jesus no crying he makes.  
I love thee, Lord Jesus! Look down from the sky, and stay by my side until morning is nigh.  
Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask thee to stay close by me for ever, and love me, I pray.  
Bless all the dear children in thy tender care, and fit us for heaven, to live with thee there.*

### Gesu Bambino

Pietro Yon

### I saw a maiden

Old Basque Noel arr. Edgar Pettman

*I saw a maiden sitten and sing: She lulled a child a sweete Lording.  
This very Lord he made alle thing: Of lordes the Lord, of kinges the King.  
There mickle melody at the childes birth: And all in heaven's bliss, they made mickle mirth.  
Angels sang that night and saiden to that child: Now blest be thou and she, both meek and mild.  
Pray we to that child and to his mother dear, His blessing to them that maken now cheer.  
Lullay, lullay, my dear son, my sweeting. Lullay, lullay, my own dear darling.*

### Interlude (from Ceremony of Carols)

Benjamin Britten

### I wonder as I wander

arr. John Jacob Niles

*I wonder as I wander, out under the sky,  
How Jesus the Savior did come for to die  
For poor on'ry people like you and like I,  
I wonder as I wander, out under the sky.  
When Mary birthed Jesus, 'twas in a cow's stall,  
With wise men and farmers and shepherds and all.  
But high from God's heaven a star's light did fall,  
And the promise of ages it then did recall.  
If Jesus had wanted for any wee thing,  
A star in the sky, or a bird on the wing,  
Or all of God's angels in heav'n for to sing,  
He surely could have it, 'cause he was the King.*

### Prelude on 'O little town of Bethlehem'

Gordon Phillips

## HYMN

O little town of Bethlehem

Forest Green

*Remaining seated, the People are invited to sing vs. 1, 2 & 4.*

- All 1. O little town of Bethlehem,  
how still we see thee lie!  
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep  
the silent stars go by.  
Yet in thy dark streets shineth  
the everlasting light;  
The hopes and fears of all the years  
are met in thee tonight.
- Choir 3. How silently, how silently,  
the wondrous gift is giv'n!  
So God imparts to human hearts  
the blessings of his heav'n.  
No ear may hear his coming;  
but in this world of sin,  
where meek souls will receive him, still  
the dear Christ enters in.
- All 2. O morning stars, together  
proclaim the holy birth,  
And praises sing to God our King,  
and peace to men on earth;  
For Christ is born of Mary  
and, gathered all above,  
while mortals sleep, the angels keep  
their watch of wond'ring love.
- All 4. O holy Child of Bethlehem,  
descend to us we pray;  
cast out our sin, and enter in,  
be born in us today.  
We hear the Christmas angels,  
the great glad tidings tell:  
O come to us, abide with us,  
our Lord Emmanuel.

**Pastoral Symphony 'Pifa'** (from *Messiah*)

George Frideric Handel

## WELCOME



## THE ENTRANCE RITE

*The People stand as they are able and sing the Hymn.*

## HYMN

O come, all ye faithful

*Adeste fideles*

1. O come, all ye faithful,  
joyful and triumphant,  
O come ye, o come ye to Bethlehem;  
Come and behold him,  
Born the King of Angels:  
*O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him,  
Christ the Lord!*
2. God of God,  
light of light eternal,  
Lo! he abhors not the Virgin's womb;  
Only-begotten,  
Son of the Father:  
*Refrain*
3. Sing, choirs of angels,  
sing in exultation,  
Sing, all ye citizens of heav'n above;  
Glory to God,  
glory in the highest:  
*Refrain*
4. Yea, Lord we greet thee,  
born this happy morning,  
Jesus, to thee be glory giv'n;  
Word of the Father,  
now in flesh appearing:  
*Refrain*

## CHRISTMAS ACCLAMATION

*Celebrant* Behold, I bring you good news of a great joy: a Savior is born to you. Alleluia.  
*People* **Unto us a child is born. Alleluia.**  
*Celebrant* Blessed be God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.  
*People* **And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

## COLLECT FOR PURITY

*Celebrant* 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.**

*The People remain standing and sing the Song of Praise.*

## SONG OF PRAISE

Angels we have heard on high

*Gloria*

1. Angels we have heard on high  
Sweetly singing o'er the plains,  
And the mountains in reply  
Echoing their joyous strains.  
*Gloria in excelsis Deo,*  
*Gloria in excelsis Deo.*
2. Come to Bethlehem and see  
Him whose birth the angels sing;  
Come, adore on bended knee  
Christ, the Lord, the newborn King.  
*Refrain*

## COLLECT OF THE NATIVITY

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.  
*People* **And also with you.**  
*Celebrant* Let us pray.

*Celebrant* 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.**

*The People are seated.*

## FIRST LESSON

Isaiah 9:2-7

A reading from the prophet Isaiah.

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.

Reader           The Word of the Lord.  
People           **Thanks be to God.**

**RESPONSE** *(said responsively by half verse)*

Psalm 96

- 1     Sing to the LORD a new song;  
      **sing to the LORD, all the whole earth.**
- 2     Sing to the LORD and bless his Name;  
      **proclaim the good news of his salvation from day to day.**
- 3     Declare his glory among the nations  
      **and his wonders among all peoples.**
- 7     Ascribe to the LORD, you families of the peoples;  
      **ascribe to the LORD honor and power.**
- 8     Ascribe to the LORD the honor due his Name;  
      **bring offerings and come into his courts.**
- 9     Worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness;  
      **let the whole earth tremble before him.**
- 11    Let the heavens rejoice, and let the earth be glad; let the sea thunder and all that is in it;  
      **let the field be joyful and all that is therein.**
- 12    Then shall all the trees of the wood shout for joy before the LORD when he comes,  
      **when he comes to judge the earth.**
- 13    He will judge the world with righteousness  
      **and the peoples with his truth.**



## SECOND LESSON

Titus 2:11-14

A reading from Paul's letter to Titus.

For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all, training us to renounce impiety and worldly passions, and in the present age to live lives that are self-controlled, upright, and godly, while we wait for the blessed hope and the manifestation of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ. He it is who gave himself for us that he might redeem us from all iniquity and purify for himself a people of his own who are zealous for good deeds.

*Reader*            The Word of the Lord.

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

*The People stand as they are able and sing the Hymn.*

### HYMN

The first Nowell

*The First Nowell*

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <p>1. The first Nowell the angel did say<br/>Was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay;<br/>In fields where they lay, keeping their sheep,<br/>On a cold winter's night that was so deep.<br/><i>Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell,<br/>born is the King of Israel.</i></p> <p>3. And by the light of that same star<br/>Three wise men came from country far;<br/>To seek for a king was their intent,<br/>And to follow the star wherever it went.<br/><i>Refrain</i></p> | <p>2. They looked up and saw a star<br/>Shining in the east beyond them far,<br/>And to the earth it gave great light,<br/>And so it continued both day and night.<br/><i>Refrain</i></p> <p>4. Then let us all with one accord.<br/>Sing praises to our heavenly Lord;<br/>That hath made Heaven and earth of nought,<br/>And with His blood our life hath bought.<br/><i>Refrain</i></p> |
|--|--|

### GOSPEL

Luke 2:1-14

*Priest*            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!"

*Priest*            The Gospel of the Lord.

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

## SERMON

The Rev. Patti Sachs (8:00pm)  
The Rev. Peter W. Mayer (11:00pm)

*A moment of silence is kept after the sermon.*

*The People stand as they are able.*

## CREED

*Celebrant* Let us declare our faith in God.

*Celebrant and People*

**We believe in God the Father,  
from whom every family  
in heaven and on earth is named.  
We believe in God the Son,  
who lives in our hearts through faith,  
and fills us with his love.  
We believe in God the Holy Spirit,  
who strengthens us with power from on high.  
We believe in one God,  
Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.**

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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*Leader*

God of light and hope; open our eyes to your glory and our hearts to your presence, that we may respond with joy to the angel song; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Lord, hear our prayer.**

Eternal God, in the stillness of this evening, you sent your almighty Word, to pierce the darkness with the light of salvation: give to the earth the peace that we long for and fill our hearts with the joy of heaven, through our Savior, Jesus Christ.

**Lord, hear our prayer.**

Lord Jesus, the Christ, whom humble shepherds worshipped, accept our praises as we celebrate your birth at Bethlehem. We ask that as we make this a holy night upon which to remember your birth on earth, so our hearts would be illuminated with the brightness of your one true light.

**Lord, hear our prayer.**

Prince of Peace, born among us. As we share together the most profound mystery of your birth among us, we pray that you would fill us with your peace. Pour into our hearts that peace which we so desperately seek, and which you alone can give. May we live as children of the same heavenly Father, willing to share our love for you and also to listen to the faith of others, that together your people may be one. Awaken in our hearts, love and gratitude for all that you have done for us and may our joyful hearts share in the message of the angels to all humankind.

**Lord, hear our prayer.**

We remember those for whom Christmas will be difficult. Jesus Christ, who was laid in a humble manger, because there was no room in the inn, have mercy we pray on all who cannot share our happiness this Christmas time. We are mindful of the poor and the hungry, the sick and those separated from the ones they love. By your love poured out at Bethlehem, guard, guide and comfort those for whom we pray this evening.

**Lord, hear our prayer.**

*Celebrant* May the joy of the angels, the eagerness of the shepherds, the perseverance of the magi, the obedience of Joseph and Mary, and the peace of the Christ child be yours this Christmas. And the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

## PEACE

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

*The people greet one another with a sign of God's peace and then are seated.*

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

# HOLY COMMUNION

## OFFERTORY CAROL

There is no rose

Daniel Burton

*There is no rose of such virtue As is the rose that bare Jesu; Alleluia. (Praise the Lord.)  
For in this rose contained was Heaven and earth in little space; Res miranda. (Marvelous thing.)  
By that rose we may well see That He is God in persons three, Pares forma. (Equal in form.)  
The angels sungen the shepherds to: Gloria in excelsis Deo: Gaudeamus. (Let us go.)  
Now leave we all this worldly mirth And follow we this joyful birth; Transeamus. (Let us rejoice.)*

*The people remain seated while offertory music is sung, and bread and wine are brought to the altar. An offering of gifts is collected, and along with the bread and wine, they are presented to God as thanksgiving for the blessings poured out onto us. Our gifts: bread, wine, music and money, become sacramental in God's economy.*

**To give through your cell phone, text GIVESMC to 73256.**

*The People stand as able at the direction of clergy and sing the Hymn.*

## HYMN

Joy to the world!

Antioch

1. 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.
2. Joy to the world! the Savior reigns;  
Let us our songs employ,  
While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains,  
Repeat the sounding joy,  
Repeat the sounding joy,  
Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.
3. 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.
4. 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 People remain standing as able.

## 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 God thanks and praise.**

*The Celebrant proceeds*

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:

## SANCTUS

Franz Schubert

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

san - na in the high - est. 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. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

*The Celebrant continues*

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. **Amen.**

## LORD'S PRAYER

*Celebrant* And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

*Celebrant and People*

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

## BREAKING OF THE BREAD

*Celebrant* God of promise, you have prepared a banquet for us.

*People* **Happy are those who are called to the Supper of the Lamb.**

*The Celebrant breaks the consecrated bread.*

## FRACTION ANTHEM

F. Schubert

Je - sus, Lamb of God: have mer - cy on us.

Je - sus, bear - er of our sins: have mer - cy on us.

The musical score consists of two systems of vocal lines. Each system has a soprano line (treble clef) and a bass line (bass clef). The key signature is one sharp (F#), and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are: "Je - sus, Lamb of God: have mer - cy on us." and "Je - sus, bear - er of our sins: have mer - cy on us." The music is written in a simple, homophonic style with clear harmonic support for the text.

Je - sus, re - deem - er, re - deem - er of the world:  
 give us your peace, give us your peace.

## INVITATION TO COMMUNION

*Celebrant* The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ lived and died for you and feed on him in your hearts with thanksgiving.

*Gluten-free wafers are available for communion. Indicate your wish for a gluten-free wafer by first extending your hands palms down when at the communion rail. The square wafers are kept in a separate holder and you are invited to take one from this holder.*

*The People are seated.*

## COMMUNION MUSIC

*D'un Jardin Clair (from Three Morceaux)*

*Lili Boulanger*

### Cradle Song

*Traditional Flemish arr. John Rutter*

*In Bethlehem, all in stable, Lies a newborn infant mild.  
 By his side a virgin mother Watches o'er the holy child.  
 Jesus, lying in the manger, Comes to us on earth a stranger:  
 Lullaby! O little one sleep; Angels round you watch will keep.  
 Saint Joseph stands beside the cradle, fill'd with wonder, awe, and love.  
 See, the infant King lies sleeping, Sent from God in heav'n above.  
 Ox and ass before him kneeling, Mary's love his sorrows healing:  
 'Hosanna in the highest; Peace to men on earth.'  
 Seraphim on high in chorus Greet the Saviour's joyful birth.  
 Mary's voice, in descant blending, Joins the heav'nly song unending.*

## HYMN

*Angels, from the realms of glory*

*Regent Square*

1. Angels, from the realms of glory,  
 Wing your flight o'er all the earth;  
 Ye, who sang creation's story,  
 Now proclaim Messiah's birth:  
*Come and worship,  
 Come and worship,  
 Worship Christ, the newborn King.*
2. Shepherds in the field abiding,  
 Watching o'er your flocks my night,  
 God with you is now residing,  
 Yonder shines the infant Light:  
*Refrain*
3. Sages, leave your contemplations;  
 Brighter visions beam afar;  
 Seek the great Desire of nations;  
 Ye have seen his natal star:  
*Refrain*
4. Saints before the altar bending,  
 Watching long in hope and fear,  
 Suddenly the Lord, descending,  
 In his temple shall appear:  
*Refrain*

**HYMN**

What child is this, who, laid to rest

Greensleeves

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <p>1. What child is this, who, laid to rest,<br/>On Mary's lap is sleeping?<br/>Whom angels greet with anthems sweet,<br/>While shepherds watch are keeping?<br/><i>This, this is Christ the King,<br/>Whom shepherds guard and angels sing;<br/>Haste, haste to bring him laud,<br/>The babe, the son of Mary.</i></p> | <p>2. Why lies he in such mean estate<br/>Where ox and ass are feeding?<br/>Good Christians, fear: for sinners here<br/>The silent Word is pleading.<br/><i>Refrain</i></p> |
| <p>3. So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh,<br/>Come, peasant, king, to own him;<br/>The King of kings salvation brings,<br/>Let loving hearts enthrone him.<br/><i>Refrain</i></p>  |   |

*The People stand as directed after communion.***POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER***The Church of England**Celebrant* Let us pray.*Celebrant and People*

**Loving God,  
whose Word has come among us  
in the Holy Child of Bethlehem:  
may the light of faith  
illumine our hearts  
and shine in our words and deeds;  
through him who is Christ the Lord. Amen.**

*After the Postcommunion Prayer, the People remain standing and sing vs. 1, 3 & 4 of the Hymn.***HYMN**

Silent night

*Stille Nacht, arr. Hal Hopson*

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <p><i>All</i> 1. Silent night, holy night,<br/>All is calm, all is bright<br/>Round yon virgin mother and child<br/>Holy infant, so tender and mild,<br/>Sleep in heavenly peace,<br/>Sleep in heavenly peace.</p>         | <p><i>Choir</i> 2. Silent night, holy night<br/>Shepherd's quake at the sight;<br/>Glories stream from heaven afar,<br/>Heavenly hosts sing Alleluia!<br/>Christ the Savior is born,<br/>Christ the Savior is born!</p> |
| <p><i>All</i> 3. Silent night, holy night,<br/>Son of God, love's pure light;<br/>Radiant beams from thy holy face<br/>With the dawn of redeeming grace,<br/>Jesus, Lord, at thy birth,<br/>Jesus, Lord, at thy birth.</p> | <p><i>All</i> 4. Silent night, holy night,<br/>Wondrous star, lend thy light;<br/>With the angels let us sing,<br/>Alleluia to our King;<br/>Christ the Savior is born,<br/>Christ the Savior is born!</p>              |

## BLESSING

And now, O God, may the light of your life be kindled in us, and lead us to the shining truth, of God with us, God for us, and God in us. **Amen.**

*The People remain standing as they are able and sing the Hymn.*

## HYMN

Hark! the herald angels sing

Mendelssohn

1. Hark! the herald angels sing,  
"Glory to the newborn King:  
Peace on earth, and mercy mild,  
God and sinners reconciled!"  
Joyful, all ye nations, rise,  
Join the triumph of the skies;  
With th'angelic hosts proclaim,  
"Christ is born in Bethlehem!"  
*Hark! the herald angels sing,  
"Glory to the newborn King!"*
2. Christ, by highest heaven adored,  
Christ, the everlasting Lord,  
Late in time behold him come,  
Offspring of the Virgin's womb:  
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see;  
Hail th'incarnate Deity,  
Pleased with us in flesh to dwell,  
Jesus, our Immanuel.  
*Refrain*
3. Hail the heaven-born Prince of Peace!  
Hail the Sun of Righteousness!  
Light and life to all he brings,  
Risen with healing in his wings.  
Mild he lays his glory by,  
Born that we no more may die,  
Born to raise us from the earth,  
Born to give us second birth.  
*Refrain*

## DISMISSAL

*Priest*

Alleluia, alleluia. Let us go forth in the name of the Newborn King.

*People*

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

## POSTLUDE

Pastorale (*from Christmas Concerto*)

Arcangelo Corelli

***You are welcome to stay for the postlude.  
Should you need to leave, please do so quietly and respectfully.***



## A Christmas Message from our Presiding Bishop

In the first chapter of John's Gospel, sometimes referred to as the prologue to the Gospel, sometimes spoken of as the whole Gospel in miniature the Gospel writer says this. As he reflects on the coming of God into the world in the person of Jesus. As he reflects on Christmas. He says, the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness cannot overcome it.

I don't think it's an accident that long ago, followers of Jesus began to commemorate his coming into the world when the world seemed to be at its darkest.

It's probably not an accident that we observe Christmas soon after December 21, the winter solstice. The winter solstice being in the Northern Hemisphere the darkest time of the year.

Undoubtedly, these ancient Christians who began to celebrate the coming of God into the world, they knew very well that this Jesus, his teachings, his message, his spirit, his example, his life points us to the way of life itself, a way of life, where we take care of each other. A way of life, where we care for God's world. A way of life, where we are in a loving relationship with our God, and with each other as children of the one God, who has created us all.

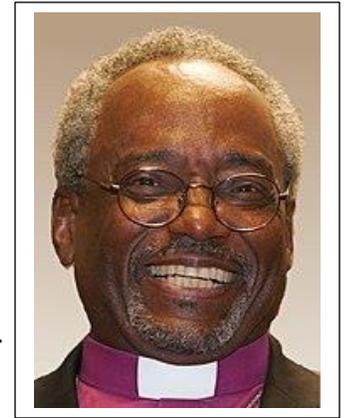
They also knew John's Gospel and John's Christmas story. Now there are no angels in John's Christmas story. There are no wise men coming from afar. There's no baby lying in a manger. There's no angel choir singing Gloria in excelsis Deo in the highest of the heavens. There are no shepherds tending their flocks by night. Matthew and Luke tell those stories. In John, it is the poetry of new possibility, born of the reality of God when God breaks into the world.

It's not an accident that long ago, followers of Jesus began to commemorate his birth, his coming into the world. When the world seemed darkest. When hope seemed to be dashed on the altar of reality. It is not an accident that we too, commemorate his coming, when things do not always look right in this world.

But there is a God. And there is Jesus. And even in the darkest night. That light once shined and will shine still. His way of love is the way of life. It is the light of the world. And the light of that love shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not, cannot, and will not overcome it.

God love you. God bless you and may you have a Merry Christmas and may this world be blessed. Amen.

The Most Rev. Michael B. Curry  
Presiding Bishop and Primate, The Episcopal Church



## CHRISTMAS FLOWERS AND WREATH DONATIONS



### IN MEMORY OF

Larry Heacock by Nancy Heacock  
CDR Albert Sidney Polk, III by Kathy Polk  
Jenna Leigh by Susan Byrom & Robert Thomas  
Barbara Lunsford, Richard Lunsford III by Virginia Lunsford & Family  
Leslie Poe Bernice McBride and William A. McBride  
by Virginia Lunsford & Family  
Our Parents by Ray & Carol Mach  
Mr. & Mrs. Clarence E. Becker and Mr. & Mrs. Robert E Hecht, Sr.  
By the Becker Family  
Susan Barnett and Ann Bell by Susan Roberts & Jim Barnett  
Sandy Robbins and Jack Higgins by Marlene Robbins  
Frank & Lucy Muller and Louis & Elizabeth Robbins  
by Marlene Robbins  
Dolores Gellici and John Moore by Janet Gellici  
Roy, Pearl, and Clarence Haugh by Anne and Judith Haugh  
Joseph and Beatrice Quirk by Anne and Judith Haugh  
Suzi Jett by The Feldmann Family  
Beth Chamberlin by The Chamberlin Family  
Husband Roger J. Hall and Mother Rita M. Chappell by Judy Hall  
Joe Robidoux by Charlie and Kathy Lang  
Our loving husband, father, and grandpa Gerd Drooff from the Drooff Family  
Our parents Jim & Marjorie Kelly and George & Ora Breeden  
By George & Barbara Breeden and Jim Kelly  
Rich Keyser by Carol Keyser  
Perry "Popeye" Stutman by the Callahan/Zuschnitt Family  
My best friend Caleigh Terrelonge by Laila Callahan  
More than 100 victims of mass shootings in the U.S. in 2019 by Brad & Kate Callahan



### IN HONOR OF

The St. Margaret's Family by Joan & Bob Rich  
The St. Margaret's Clergy & Staff by Beth & Tug Knorr  
Our many blessings by Anne and Judith Haugh  
My nephews and niece, Liam, Steele, Jake, Eric, and Jordin by Gwen Davis  
Sydney and Henry by Gwen Davis

## **REGULAR ACTIVITIES AT ST. MARGARET'S**

### **FAITH & FELLOWSHIP MONDAYS**

5:15 p.m. Spirit Singers Rehearsal  
5:30 p.m. Youth Chorale Rehearsal  
5:45 p.m. Acolyte Practice  
6:00 p.m. Arts & Crafts  
6:20 p.m. Fellowship Dinner  
6:45 p.m. Youth Group  
7:00 p.m. Motet Ensemble Rehearsal  
7:00 p.m. Adult Formation Class/Speaker Series

### **TUESDAY MEETINGS**

1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of the Month – Missions Commission  
2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of the Month – Brotherhood of St. Andrew  
3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the Month – Vestry

### **TUESDAY EVENING COMPLINE SERVICE**

January 28, March 24 & April 28,  
7:30 p.m. in the church

### **WEDNESDAY MORNING EUCHARIST**

7:30 a.m., Classroom B

### **EDUCATION FOR MINISTRY CLASS**

Wednesdays at 9:00 a.m. – Sept – May

### **WOMEN'S GUILD MEETINGS**

First Wednesday of the Month – Sept. – May  
Noon in the Fellowship Hall

### **THURSDAY AM BOOK STUDY**

Every Thursday from Sept. – May  
9:15 a.m., Classroom E  
Nursery care provided

**St. Margaret's Church  
Upcoming Events**

Sunday, January 5  
Children's Epiphany Pageant  
10:30 a.m. - Parish Hall

Sunday, January 12  
Youth Sunday Services  
9:00 & 11:15 a.m.

Sunday, January 26  
Visiting Youth Choir—The Madeira School, McLean, VA  
9:00 & 11:15 a.m.

February 10-17  
Winter Relief @ St. Margaret's

Wednesday, February 26  
Ash Wednesday Services  
9:00 a.m. Day School, 12:00 & 7:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary

Sunday, March 15  
Celtic Sunday Service w/ Third Sunday Band  
9:00 & 11:15 a.m.

Sunday, March 29  
Visiting Youth Choir—Saint James School, Hagerstown, MD  
9:00 & 11:15 a.m.

Sunday, April 5  
Palm Sunday  
Services @ 7:30, 9:00, 11:15 a.m.

Thursday, April 9  
Maundy Thursday w/ Third Sunday Band  
7:00 p.m.

Good Friday, April 10  
Intergenerational @ 12:00p.m.  
Service @ 7:00 p.m.

Great Vigil of Easter, April 11  
8:00 p.m.

Easter Sunday, April 12  
Services @ 7:30, 9:00, 11:15 a.m.  
Easter Egg Hunt @ 10:20 a.m.

Outdoor Bluegrass Mass, June 7  
11:15 a.m.  
Parish picnic follows

## **St. Margaret's Church**

### **Staff**

The Rev. Peter W. Mayer, Rector  
The Rev. Patti Sachs, Assistant Rector  
Elizabeth Radley, Director of Operations  
Jim Douglas, Director of Music  
Laura Tayman, Director of Communications  
Jeff Conover, Youth Ministries Leader  
Teresa McCorkle, Bookkeeper  
Tricia McVeigh, Day School Director  
Judy Hall, Churchyard Administrator  
Christine Duray Feldmann, Grants Administrator  
Jim Bowersox, Operations & Maintenance Assistant

### **Vestry Officers**

Paul O'Donnell, Senior Warden  
Steve Brennan, Junior Warden  
Charlie Lang, Treasurer  
Jim Barnett, Clerk

### **Vestry Members**

Stacia Bontempo  
Maggy Cullman  
Gwen Davis  
Barbara Friedmann  
Phil Graham  
Cory Greene  
Luke Morgan  
Rex Pingle  
Richard Schwappach  
Al Todd  
Sarah Westcott  
Brian Williams



ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND