

# ***Episcopal Church of the Holy Spirit***

1305 Thomas Dr, Bellevue, NE 68005



**December 25, 2023**

**10 am**

**Christmas Morning**

**Rite II**

## **WELCOME EVERYONE**

If you are our guest today, or are a member who has been away for a while, we are glad you joined us for worship today. Please let us know you are joining us online by leaving a comment, or by emailing us so that we can say thank you.

God Bless  
Fr Tom

CHS Office (402)291-7732

Office Email: [holyspirit@chsepiscopal.org](mailto:holyspirit@chsepiscopal.org)

Fr Tom's Email: [Frtom@chsepiscopal.org](mailto:Frtom@chsepiscopal.org)

Website: <http://chsepiscopal.org>

**The Holy Eucharist Rite II****Opening Hymn***Go Tell it on the Mountain***Hymnal 99**

Welcome

Peace

*Celebrant:* Blessed be God: Father Son, and Holy Spirit.*People:* **And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever, Amen***Celebrant and People*

**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.**

*Celebrant:* Lord, have Mercy*People:* **Christ, have mercy***Celebrant:* Lord, have Mercy*Celebrant:* The Lord be with you*People :* **And also with you.***Celebrant:* Let us pray**The Collect of the Day**

Almighty God, you have given your only-begotten Son to take our nature upon him, and to be born 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 our Lord Jesus Christ, to whom with you and the same Spirit be honor and glory, now and for ever. **Amen.**

**The Liturgy of the Word****The First Lesson: Isaiah 62:6-12**

Upon your walls, O Jerusalem, I have posted sentinels; all day and all night they shall never be silent. You who remind the LORD, take no rest, and give him no rest until he establishes Jerusalem and makes it renowned throughout the earth. The LORD has sworn by his right hand and by his mighty arm: I will not again give your grain to be food for your enemies, and foreigners shall not drink the wine for which you have labored; but those who garner it shall eat it and praise the LORD, and those who gather it shall drink it in my holy courts.

Go through, go through the gates, prepare the way for the people; build up, build up the highway, clear it of stones, lift up an ensign over the peoples. The LORD has proclaimed to the end of the earth: Say to daughter Zion, "See, your salvation comes; his reward is with him, and his recompense before him."

They shall be called, "The Holy People, The Redeemed of the LORD";  
 and you shall be called, "Sought Out, A City Not Forsaken."

*Reader:* The Word of the Lord*People:* **Thanks be to God****Psalm 97**

1 The LORD is King; let the earth rejoice; \*  
 let the multitude of the isles be glad.

2 Clouds and darkness are round about him, \*  
 righteousness and justice are the foundations of his throne.

3 A fire goes before him \*  
 and burns up his enemies on every side.

4 His lightnings light up the world; \*  
 the earth sees it and is afraid.

- 5 The mountains melt like wax at the presence of the LORD, \*  
at the presence of the Lord of the whole earth.
- 6 The heavens declare his righteousness, \*  
and all the peoples see his glory.
- 7 Confounded be all who worship carved images and delight in false gods! \*  
Bow down before him, all you gods.
- 8 Zion hears and is glad, and the cities of Judah rejoice, \*  
because of your judgments, O LORD.
- 9 For you are the LORD, most high over all the earth; \*  
you are exalted far above all gods.
- 10 The LORD loves those who hate evil; \*  
he preserves the lives of his saints and delivers them from the hand of the wicked.
- 11 Light has sprung up for the righteous, \*  
and joyful gladness for those who are truehearted.
- 12 Rejoice in the LORD, you righteous, \*  
and give thanks to his holy Name.

### **The Epistle: - Titus 3:4-7**

When the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared, he saved us, not because of any works of righteousness that we had done, but according to his mercy, through the water of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit. This Spirit he poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior, so that, having been justified by his grace, we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life.

*Reader:* The Word of the Lord

*People:* **Thanks be to God**

### **The Gospel: Luke 2:8-20**

*Celebrant:* The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke

*People:* **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.

*Celebrant:* The Gospel of the Lord.

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

### **Message**

**Fr Tom**

**The Nicene Creed** *[Please stand]*

*Celebrant:* Please stand as we affirm our faith in the words of 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.**

## **Prayers of the People**

*Please kneel or be seated]*

*The reader and people pray responsively.*

In peace, we pray to your, Lord God.

*A moment of Silence*

In the Anglican Cycle of prayer, we pray for \_\_\_\_\_ ; in the Diocesan Cycle of prayer, pray for \_\_\_\_\_ in the DR for \_\_\_\_\_ . In the Parish Cycle of prayer \_\_\_\_\_ .

For all people in their daily life and work;

**For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.**

For those in positions of authority, including our President, Joe Biden, our governor, Pete Ricketts, the elected and appointed officials in our community, the nation, and the world;

**For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.**

For the just and proper use of your creation;

**For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.**

For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;

**For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.**

For the peace and unity of the Church of God;

**For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.**

For Justin, the Archbishop of Canterbury; for Michael, our Presiding Bishop; for Scott, our Bishop; for Tom, our Priest; for Terri, our postulant for the diaconate, Ted our aspirant for the diaconate and for all bishops and other ministers;

**For all who serve God in his Church.**

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation.

We pray that you stay with and strengthen all those who are ill; \_\_\_\_\_; Are there others?

For those who serve our country at home and abroad; especially those who are deployed \_\_\_\_\_: are there others? We pray that you will stay with them and their families Lord, giving them comfort and hope until they are once again reunited in peace.

For those in our community who travel, that you watch over them and keep them safe, especially: \_\_\_\_\_; are there others?

For all those with special concerns, especially; \_\_\_\_\_; are there others?

Hear us Lord;

**For your mercy is great.**

We thank you Lord, for all the blessings of this life; and we pray that you continue to pour out your blessings on those who are celebrating birthdays this week, especially; \_\_\_\_\_; are there others? We pray also for those who are celebrating anniversaries this week, especially, \_\_\_\_\_; are there others?

We will exalt you, O God our King;

**And praise your Name for ever and ever.**

We pray for all who have died, [especially for \_\_\_\_\_] are there others? That they may have a place in your eternal kingdom.

Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;

**Who put their trust in you.**

We pray to you also for the forgiveness of our sins.

*Leader and People*

**Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father; in your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone; and so uphold us by your Spirit that we may live and serve you in newness of life, to the honor and glory of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

*The Celebrant continues:*

For Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen**

Almighty God, whose will it is to hold heaven and earth in the peace of your kingdom, give peace to your church, peace among nations, peace in our homes, and peace in our hearts. All this we ask through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Walk in love as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God. **Amen**

**Offertory Hymn**

*The Snow Lay on the Ground*

**Hymnal 110**

**Doxology**

Spoken

**The Holy Communion**

**The Great Thanksgiving (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.**

*Then, facing the Holy Table, 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.

*Here a Proper Preface is sung or said on all Sundays, and on other occasions as appointed.*

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:

*Celebrant and People*

Sanctus

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

*The people may stand or kneel. Then 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.**

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 forever. **Amen.**

*The Celebrant continues*

And now, as our Savior Christ hath taught us, we are bold to say,

## **The Lord's Prayer**

**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,  
Forever and ever. Amen.**

## The Breaking of the Bread

### Fraction Hymn

**Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;  
Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia,**

*Facing the people, the Celebrant offers the following invitation:*

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

*After Communion, the Celebrant says*

Let us pray.

*The People may join in saying this prayer*

**Almighty and everliving God, 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 for ever. Amen**

### The Blessing

Announcements

Birthday & Anniversary Prayers

### Going Forth Hymn

*Joy to the World*

**Hymnal 100 (v1,2,4)**

### The Dismissal

*Celebrant:* Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

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

## Birthday/Anniversary Prayers

**Birthday Prayer:** O God, our times are in your hands: Look with favor, we pray, on *this* your servant, as *they* begin another year. Grant that *they* may grow in wisdom and grace, and strengthen *their* trust in your goodness, all the days of *their* life through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

**Anniversary Prayer:** O gracious and ever living God, look mercifully on these who have been joined together. Grant them your blessing, and assist them with your grace, that with fidelity and steadfast love they may honor and keep their promises and vows; through Jesus Christ our Savior, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen

#### **Birthdays:**

Jacob S  
Catherine W

#### **Anniversaries:**

Amanda H & Kelly G



The Nave Presence Candle is given by Toby Wingert in Thanksgiving for Megan, Jeff & Erin and in Memory of Chuck, Mary Alice, & Harry.

WEEKLY MINISTRY TEAMS			
Ministries		Dec 25	Dec 31
VPOD			Cindy P
Hospitality	Greeter Usher	Barb S Sharon J	Team 2
Altar Guild		Barb S, Sue P Carol M, Sharon J	Team 1
Spirit Hub			Kathy B
Altar Bread		Leslie N	Leslie N
LEM's	5:00 pm		Kristi S
	8:00 am		Rick S
	9:30 am	Ted P	Michele H Jan S
Recycle			Jean C
Acolytes 9:30 am	C T T	Isaiah J H	Vincent C Evelynn C Ailynn M

### This Week's Highlights

**Family Ornaments:** If your family has not done so, please place an ornament on the tree, noting your family name and the year you arrived at CHS.

**Office Closed:** The office will be closed Mon & Tues (25 & 26 Dec) in observance of the holiday.

**New Year's Eve Lock-in:** Attention youth 10-18. Come help us celebrate the new year during our annual all-night lock-in. Dinner will be served at 6pm and our lock-in will end at 8am on New Year's Day. Beginning at 7pm, we will offer childcare to youth 3-9 years old until 1am. Afterwards, there will be fun and games all night long. Signup sheets are located at the Spirit Hub for those planning to spend the night, for those who might join us between 7pm and 1am, and for adult volunteers who would like to help chaperone.

**Updating the Directory:** Have you moved or changed your phone number or email address? Would you like to update your family picture? Not sure if we have your updated info? Stop by the Spirit Hub and check out our draft 2024 directory. If everything is okay, please initial next to your name. If there are any changes, either note the change needed or contact Jean at the office so that we may update the parish directory in time for our Annual Meeting (28 Jan).

**2024 Inquirer's Class:** If you are 12 years old or older, new to CHS, and/or the Episcopal Church, you are invited to join Fr Tom for his winter Inquirer's Class beginning on Sun (21 Jan) at 11:00am. This 75-minute, eight session class, will meet every other Sundays. A schedule can be found on the bulletin board in the chapel hallway. To assist in planning, if you are interested in learning more about the faith we profess and how we live out our baptismal vows, please stop by the Spirit Hub and sign up.

**End of year Ministry Reports:** Ministry Team Leaders are asked to submit their end of year reports to the office by Sunday (14 Jan). If you have any questions, please contact Jean in the office.

**CHS Bread Bakers:** It is once again to stop by the Spirit Hub and sign-up to bake bread for our Sunday services. A copy of the recipe can be found on the bulletin board outside the church office.