

Welcome

We are pleased to have you worship with us tonight! We hope that your spiritual life is deepened this Christmas.

All baptized Christians are welcome to receive Holy Communion at the Altar. If you come to the rail and cross your arms over your chest, you may receive a blessing instead of Communion.

If you would like to be baptized, please speak to the Rev. Jason Wells as soon as possible for scheduling.

Please join us for coffee and refreshments in the church hall following worship.

Contact Us

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Staff

Rector The Rev. Jason Wells
Music Minister Justine Paul
Sexton Jane Lavin

Tonight's Servers

Eucharistic Min. Audrey Rose
Acolyte Brittany Wheeler
Reader Beth Lavoie
Reader Joe Rose
Usher Margaret Perry
Usher Beth Lavoie
Coffee Hour Joe and Audrey Rose

Art Credit

Untitled painting by Banksy (2005)

GRACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Feeding you, body, mind and soul

**THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST:
DECEMBER 24, 2013, 7:00PM**



Prelude

Grace Episcopal Church Choir
Naomi Durand, *violin*
Justine Paul, *organ*

Hymn 83

O come, all ye faithful

Opening Acclamation and Prayer

Blessed be God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

Hymn 96

Angels we have heard on high

Prayer of the Day

Response: **And also with you.**

Isaiah 62:6-12

Response: **Thanks be to God.**

Psalms 97

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

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

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

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

The mountains melt like wax
at the presence of the LORD, *
at the presence of the Lord of the whole earth.

The heavens declare his righteousness, *
and all the peoples see his glory.

Confounded be all who worship carved images
and delight in false gods! *

Bow down before him, all you gods.

Zion hears and is glad,
and the cities of Judah rejoice, *
because of your judgments, O LORD.

For you are the LORD,
most high over all the earth; *
you are exalted far above all gods.

The LORD loves those who hate evil; *
he preserves the lives of his saints
and delivers them from the hand of the wicked.

Light has sprung up for the righteous, *
and joyful gladness for those who are truehearted.

Rejoice in the LORD, you righteous, *
and give thanks to his holy Name.

Titus 3:4-7

Response: **Thanks be to God.**

Hymn 87

Hark, the herald angels sing

Luke 2:1-20

First response: **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Second response: **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

Sermon

The Rev. Jason Wells

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

Response: **Lord, have mercy.**

Confession of Sin

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

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.

Peace

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

Offertory

POINSETTIA MEMORIALS

Thank you to everyone who donated to beautify our Christmas worship services! You all were very generous this year.

In memory of Ray, Jimmie and Marie

by Ray Miner

In memory of Orin Bascom

by Beth Lavoie

In memory of Sophie and Clara Moser

by Elizabeth Moser

In memory of Catherine and Laurence J. Dugan

by Sean Dugan

In memory of Emily Elizabeth Dunn

by the Holt family

In memory of Marty

by Tina Preston

In memory of Harold and Lois Williams

by Debbie Allen

In memory of mom

by Jay Hendee

In memory of Sue and Mick Hansen

by Kate Ess

In memory of George Crossier

by Edith M. Brown

In memory of Harold Perry and Sulo Maki

by Margaret Perry

In memory of Laurence Hawkes

by Ellen Little

In memory of our parents

by Charles and Sally Walker

In memory of Dr. H. Jay Monroe and Arnold Hallem

by the Monroe family

In memory of Bridget Fontaine and my parents

by Ruthann Fox

In memory of Jennifer Wells

by Father Jason Wells

In memory of Robert Gilman

by Anonymous

In memory of Helen Ives and Helen Yuskaitis

by Aini Yuskaitis

In honor of our grandchildren:

Marc, Sydney, Ava and Ella

by Will and Barb Ashworth

In thanksgiving for blessings received

by Harold and Kathleen Beliveau

by Anonymous

by Michelle Gray



If you donated, please feel free to take a poinsettia with you tonight to beautify your home for the holidays.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Welcome, all! We are glad that you have joined us in worship tonight and that God blesses your Christmas because you were here. You are invited to join us in our parish hall for coffee, cake and refreshments afterward.

Happy Birthday, Maddie!

Today Maddie Ess turns ten.

Thank you, Choir, Servers and Community Life

Special thanks to everyone who put in hard work to brighten our Christmas worship in so many ways! In your actions you share God's love with all who pass through our doors this evening.

Annual Meeting to be held Sun., Jan. 19 at 11am. That day we have no 8am service; we worship at 10am to celebrate our past year and take important votes. Light luncheon will be served. Snow date: Jan. 26.

TAKE-A-TOTE NEEDS

We are adding more protein to the weekly Take a Tote bags. Tuna fish is now in single serve 2.5 oz. pouches, reasonably priced at Walmart or Target. Chicken of the Sea also sells "To Go cups" of Chunk Light Tuna for \$1.99 at Market Basket or Shaws.

(Package contains two cups.) Please pick up either pouches or cups on your next shopping trip. Thanks for your continued support.