



1818 Monterey Boulevard · Hermosa Beach, CA 90254 · 310.376.8989 · www.stcross.org



Christmas Eve Service

December 24, 2020

6:00 pm Online

Drive-through Eucharist to follow

Welcome to St. Cross!

The members, staff, and clergy of St. Cross welcome you to this online Christmas Eve service. We are glad to have you worship with us!

If you are a guest tonight, we hope that with the help of this bulletin you will feel comfortable throughout the service. Your spoken parts are in **bold type**.

A word about communion: everyone is welcome. We will say a prayer for Spiritual Communion for those who cannot gather. **For those who wish to receive communion, you may do so at our drive-through Eucharist from 7:00-8:30 in the church parking lot.** We will also have a bit of music. We don't care if you are in your pajamas or Christmas finest, you are most welcome to drive-through for communion.

Drive-through Eucharist—St. Cross parking lot

December 24 ~ 7:00-8:30 p.m.

Christmas Favorite Hymns and Music-online

December 25 ~ 10:00 a.m.

With Guest Organist James Walker

Lessons and Carols-online

December 27 ~ 10 a.m.

Regular Online Sunday Services

Christian Education Hour ~ 9:00 a.m.

Sunday Service ~ 10:00 a.m.

Coffee Hour ~ following 10 a.m. service

Tonight's Ministers

<i>Co-Celebrant</i>	The Rev. Nathan Biornstad
<i>Co-Celebrant and Preacher</i>	The Rev. Dr. Rachel A. Nyback
<i>Assisting</i>	The Rev. Stephen Smith
<i>Deacon</i>	The Rev. Patti Angelo
<i>Reader</i>	Larry Johnson
<i>Organist and Choirmaster</i>	Sean O'Neal
<i>Cantor</i>	Dan Wilson
<i>Soloist</i>	Desiree Gonzalez

Liturgy of the Word

OPENING HYMN

VERSES 1, 2, 3, 6

1 O come, all ye faith - ful, joy - ful and tri - um - phant, O
 2 God from God, Light from Light e - ter - nal,
 3 Sing, choirs of an - gels, sing in ex - ul - ta - tion,
 *4 See how the shep - herds, sum - moned to his cra - dle,
 *5 Child, for us sin - ners poor and in the man - ger,

1 come ye, O come ye to Beth - le - hem;
 2 lo! he ab - hors not the Vir - gin's womb;
 3 sing, all ye ci - ti - zens of heaven a - bove;
 4 leav - ing their flocks, draw nigh to gaze;
 5 we would em - brace thee, with love and awe;

1 come, and be - hold him, born the King of an - gels;
 2 on - ly - be - got - ten Son of the Fa - ther;
 3 glo - ry to God, glo - ry in the high - est;
 4 we too will thith - er bend our joy - ful foot - steps;
 5 who would not love thee, lov - ing us so dear - ly?

Refrain

O come, let us a - dore him, O come, let us a -
 dore him, O come, let us a - dore him, Christ the Lord.

The musical score is written for voice and piano. It features a treble and bass clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics written below the notes. The piano accompaniment consists of chords and single notes that support the vocal line.

6 Yea, Lord, we greet thee,
 born this happy morning;
 Jesus, to thee be glory given;
 Word of the Father,
 now in flesh appearing;

Refrain

OPENING ACCLAMATION

Celebrant Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People **And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

The Celebrant and People say the Collect for Purity

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.

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.**

FIRST READING

Isaiah 9:2-4, 6-7

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 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.**

HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 2:1-20

Deacon 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.

Deacon The Gospel of the Lord.

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

SERMON

The Rev. Rachel A. Nyback

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

All the gifts we shall give and receive in these days are but small tokens of the gift that shines forth in God's Word made flesh tonight. From grateful hearts, let us pray for ourselves and all those who need our prayers, saying: Hear our prayer.

Leader Unto us a child is born, unto us a Son is given. Let us bring before God the needs of the world. Wonderful counsellor, give your wisdom to the rulers of the nations. Lord, in your joy,

People **Hear our prayer.**

Leader Mighty God, make the whole world know that the government is on your shoulders. Lord, in your wisdom,

People **Hear our prayer.**

Leader Everlasting Father, establish your reign of justice and righteousness forever. Lord, in your purpose,

People **Hear our prayer.**

Leader Prince of peace, bring in the endless kingdom of your peace. Lord, in your mercy,

People **Hear our prayer.**

Leader Emmanuel, comfort, heal, and restore all those who suffer, and welcome to your Kingdom all who have died. Lord, in your hope,

People **Hear our prayer.**

Celebrant Almighty Lord, hear our prayer and fulfil your purposes in us, as you accomplished your will in our Lord Jesus Christ.

People **Amen.**

THE PEACE OF CHRIST

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

Please greet one another in the name of Christ!

HOLY COMMUNION

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

O Holy Night

At this time we would normally take a collection for the mission and ministry of the church, you are welcome to give at stcross.org/give.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

<i>Celebrant</i>	The Lord be with you.
<i>People</i>	And also with you.
<i>Celebrant</i>	Lift up your hearts.
<i>People</i>	We lift them to the Lord.
<i>Celebrant</i>	Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
<i>People</i>	It is right to give God thanks and praise.

The Celebrant continues

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:

Celebrant and People

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life. On the night before he died for us, 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, according to his command, O Father,

Celebrant and People

**We remember his death,
We proclaim his resurrection,
We await his coming in glory;**

The Celebrant continues

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine. We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with the blessed Virgin Mary and all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

Celebrant and People

**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

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

People and Celebrant

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 Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

People **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Celebrant The Gifts of God for the People of God.

PRAYER FOR SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

A spiritual communion is a personal devotional that anyone can pray at any time to express their desire to receive Holy Communion at that moment, but in which circumstances impede them from actually receiving Holy Communion.

Celebrant Let us pray together

Jesus, I believe that you are truly present in the Blessed Sacrament of the Altar. I love you above all things, and long for you in my soul. Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. As though you have already come, I embrace you and unite myself entirely to you; never permit me to be separated from you. Amen.

(St. Alphonsus de Liguori, 1696-1787)

HYMN AFTER COMMUNION

We ask that you light your candles at home, knowing we are all doing the same, as we sing God's love together, even while apart.

Si - lent night, ho - ly night, all is calm,
Si - lent night, ho - ly night, shep - herds quake
Si - lent night, ho - ly night, Son of God,

all is bright round yon vir - gin mo - ther and child.
at the sight, glo - ries stream from hea - ven a - far,
love's pure light ra - diant beams from thy ho - ly face,

Ho - ly in - fant, so ten - der and mild, sleep in hea - ven - ly
heaven - ly hosts— sing al - le - lu - ia; Christ, the Sa - vior, is
with the dawn of re - deem - ing grace, Je - sus, Lord, at thy

peace. Sleep in hea - ven - ly peace.
born! Christ, the Sa - vior, is born!
birth. Je - sus, Lord, at thy birth.

BLESSING

May Almighty God, who sent his Son 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 his 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 his 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.**

DISMISSAL

Deacon Let us go forth in the Name of Christ! Alleluia, Alleluia!

People **Thanks be to God! Alleluia, Alleluia!**

CLOSING HYMN

1 Joy to the world! the Lord is come: let earth re -
2 Joy to the world! the Sa - vior reigns; let us our
*3 No more let sins and sor - rows grow, nor thorns in -
4 He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the
ceive her King; let ev - ery heart pre - pare him room, and
songs em - ploy, while fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains, re -
fest the ground; he comes to make his bless - ings flow far
na - tions prove the glo - ries of his right - eous - ness, and

heaven and na - ture sing, and heaven and na - ture
peat the sound - ing joy, re - peat the sound - ing
as the curse is found, far as the curse is
won - ders of his love, and won - ders of his

- 1 and heaven and na - ture sing, and
- 2 re - peat the sound - ing joy, re -
- 3 far as the curse is found, far
- 4 and won - ders of his love, and

sing, and heaven, and heaven and na - ture sing.
joy, re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.
found, far as, far as the curse is found.
love, and won - ders, won - ders of his love.

heaven and na - ture sing,
peat the sound - ing joy,
as the curse is found,
won - ders of his love,

POSTLUDE

In dulci jubilo
J.S. Bach



Christmas Flower Dedications

- In memory of Gilford Bertel Crowell, a loving father and husband, by Scott Crowell*
In thanksgiving for Loved Ones, by Michael Welch and Candace Ford
In memory of Jeffrey Terry, by Patricia Terry
In thanksgiving for our grandchildren and great-grandchildren: Gilliam, Olivia, Magnolia, Donovan, Pippa, Sylvie, Quinn, Jude, Cora, Archer, Birdie and Dolly, by Alison Wilcox
In thanksgiving for our children's teachers, by Anne and Brett Tittle
In memory of Vivian Schissel Cook, by Susan Tucker
In thanksgiving for our children, and their children, and their children, by Bill and Judy Soper
In thanksgiving for Paula, my BFF from high school, by Patsy Brierley
In memory of Dixielee and Clark Kirby, our dear friends who died this year, by Bill and Judy Soper
In memory of our parents and grandparents, by the Lyons family
In thanksgiving for Kenny, my brother who died on Christmas Day, by Patsy Brierley
In memory of Bill, by Carol and Gary Grimes
In memory of Ryan Thomas Johnson, by Kelly Johnson
In thanksgiving for our St. Cross Family, by Sherry and John Graham
In memory of Ron by Julie Rice
In memory of Michelle, beloved niece and daughter, by Julie Rice
In memory of Richard Lawrence, by Karen Lawrence
In thanksgiving for family, past and present, by Laura and Paul Geisel
In memory of Carl Johnson by Caren Brownlie
In memory of Ed Brownlie by Caren Brownlie
In memory of Joanne M. Hollingsworth by Wm. Hollingsworth and Maren Nelson
In memory of Mary and James Ingersoll and Taneko Krieg, by Roy and Debora Fisher
In memory of Mom, Dad, and Brian, by Sharon Isaac
In thanksgiving for family, by Sharon Isaac
In memory of Chuck, Gretchen, Warren, Amy, Sigrid, by Chad Druten and Rachel Nyback

