

Christmas Eve

Church Staff

Clergy — The Rev. Foster Mays

Director of Music — Justin Bays

Interim Organist — Dr. David Saunders

Sextons — Diane Reeves & Lisa Watson

Administrative Assistants — Michelle Knecht & Kim Schrinel

Financial Administrator — Gretchen Rohm

4718 Brittany Road, Toledo, Ohio 43615-2314 *Phone*: (419) 531-1616

E-mail: office@lovelearnserve.org Website: www.lovelearnserve.org

Welcome to St. Michael's in the Hills

The Nativity of Our Lord Musical Prelude

December 24, 2021 — 9:30 pm

Christmas in the Western World

Narrator:

Scott Lundgren

The Choir

Director: Justin Scott Bays

Sopranos: Julia Burtscher

Penny Cobau-Smith

Irene Ehrmin Jody Ehrmin

Grace Wipfli* Eboné Waweru Altos:

Vivian Bork Diane Braun

Kenneth Brown*

Anne Morris Gretchen Rohm Ruth Ann Sailstad

Sarah Schendel

Tenors:

David Braun

Donna Wipfli

Basses:

Ricky Becker

William Becker John Ehrmin

Joe Myers

* Section Leaders/Soloists

Andrew Payne*

The Instrumentalists

Piano: Dr. David Saunders
1st Violin: Cecilia Johnson
2nd Violin: Dana Mader

2nd Violin: Viola:

Alice Peterson

Cello: Martha Reikow

Christmas in the Western World Las Pascuas, 1967

Carols sung in the Western Hemisphere, collected and arranged by William Grant Still (1895-1978) Text by Verna Avery

- 1. A Maiden was Adoring God, the Lord (Argentina)
 - 2. Ven, Niño Divino (Nicaragua)

Grace Wipfli, soprano Kenneth Brown, countertenor Andrew Payne, Baritone

- 3. Aguinaldo (Venezuela)
- 4. Jesous Ahatonhia (Canadian Indian)

 Andrew Payne, Baritone
- 5. Tell Me, Shepherdess (French Canadian)
 Kenneth Brown, countertenor
- 6. De Virgin Mary Had a Baby Boy (Trinidad)
 - 7. Los Reyes Magos (Puerto Rico)
 Text: M. Fernandez Juncos Music: B. Dueño Colón
 - 8. La Piñata (Mexico)
 Grace Wipfli, soprano
 - 9. Glad Christmas Bells (Brazil)
 - 10. Sing! Shout! Tell The Story!

The Festival Eucharist

Congregational responses are printed in **bold type**.

Music reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-714012

Children are welcome and encouraged to share in our worship.





Opening Acclamation

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

People: And blessed be his kingdom, now and forever. Amen.

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 Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.



Music continues on the next page.



Collect for Christmas

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.
People: And also with you.
Celebrant: Let us pray, together.

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 First Lesson: Isaiah 9:2-7

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 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.

Response: Psalm 96 Cantate Domino

- 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.
- 4 For great is the Lord and greatly to be praised; * he is more to be feared than all gods.
- 5 As for all the gods of the nations, they are but idols; * but it is the Lord who made the heavens.
- 6 Oh, the majesty and magnificence of his presence! *
 Oh, the power and the splendor of his sanctuary!
- 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.
- 10 Tell it out among the nations: "The Lord is King! *
 he has made the world so firm that it cannot be moved;
 he will judge the peoples with equity."
- Il 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

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.



Celebrant: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to St. Luke.

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

The Gospel: Luke 2:1-20

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 zto 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.

Sequence Hymn 87, vs. 3 [See previous page]

The Sermon

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.

The Prayers of the People

My sisters and brothers, every gift we give and receive this day is but a small token of the gift that illuminates our darkness, the Word made flesh at Bethlehem. From grateful hearts, let us pray for all who long for this truest gift, saying: Lord, hear our prayer.

That the peace proclaimed by angels in the shepherds' field might descend upon every field of war and every street of violence, let us pray to the Lord: Lord, hear our prayer.

That the Holy Child might find in our hearts warm welcome by our openness to the needs of the homeless, the hungry, and the poor, let us pray to the Lord: Lord, hear our prayer.

That the joy of heaven would enfold us and all who are bereaved, forgotten, or alone, let us pray to the Lord: Lord, hear our prayer.

That our celebration of the Word made flesh might lead us to holiness of life and deepened communion with God and one another, let us pray to the Lord: Lord, hear our prayer.

That the compassionate touch of the Child of Bethlehem would heal all who suffer from illness or infirmity, especially Kay, Al, Dick, Elmer, Letty, Carol, Dennis, Gayle, Jackie, John, Marilyn, Lindsay, Lillian, Didi, Dixie, Evelyn, Lee, Jean, Karen, Lexi, Sandra, Nancy, Bill, Rod, Joan, Ginger, Edward, Shirley, Annette, Ginger and Dick, and any others you wish to name... Let us pray to the Lord: Lord, hear our prayer.

For all those in harm's way, especially Michael, Ian, John, Scott, and Russell, and for all victims of war, let us pray to the Lord: Lord, hear our prayer.

That the blessed hope of heaven which we celebrate at Christmas might be the fulfillment of all who have gone before us in faith, especially all those in whose memory the flowers and music are given, let us pray to the Lord: Lord, hear our prayer.

Celebrant: Almighty God, you have poured upon us the new light of your Incarnate Word: Grant that this light, enkindled in our hearts, may shine forth in our lives; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord, who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, in glory everlasting. Amen.

The Peace and Announcements

Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: And also with you.

The Holy Communion

Offertory Sentence

Our Christmas offering this year will be given to Family House.

Offertory: O Magnum Mysterium

Poulenc

Hymn 115, v. 3

Greensleeves

So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh, come, peasant, king, to own him; the King of Kings salvation brings, let loving hearts enthrone him. This, this is Christ the King whom shepherds guard and angels sing Haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mary.

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.

Celebrant: 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

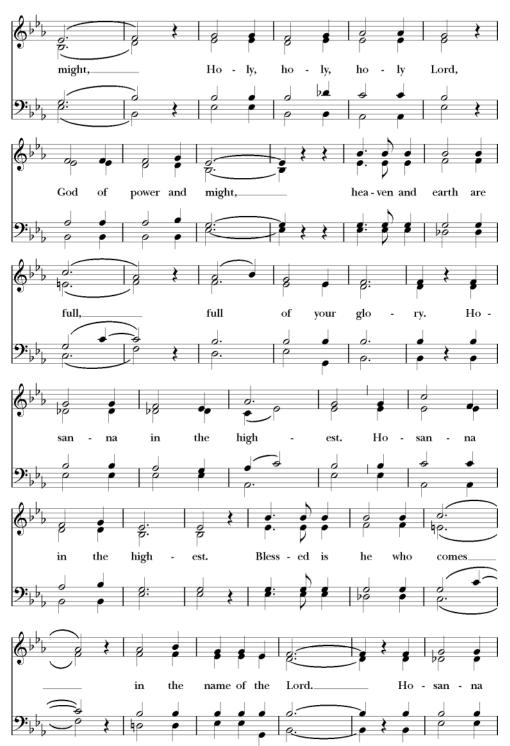
from the bondage of sin, and receive power to become your children.

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 & Benedictus qui venit (\$130)



Page 11



Page 12



Celebrant: 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;

Celebrant: 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 Mary and Joseph, Shepherds and Wisemen 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. 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.

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.

The Breaking of the Bread

Celebrant: Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

People: Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

Agnus Dei (S164)



Celebrant: The Gifts of God for the People of God.

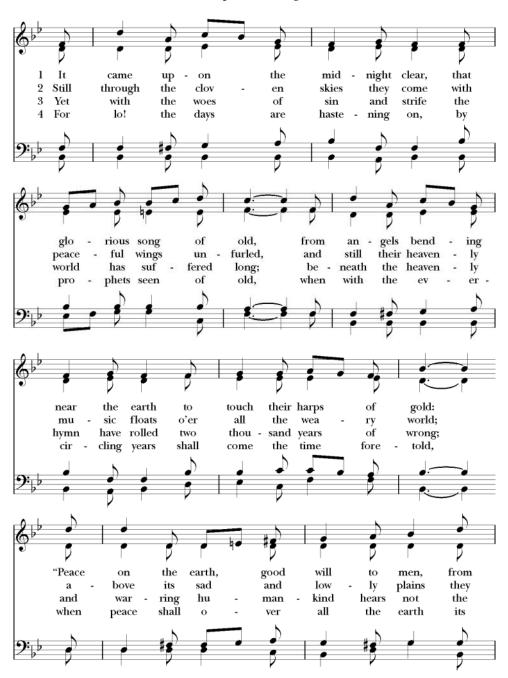
Communion Music:

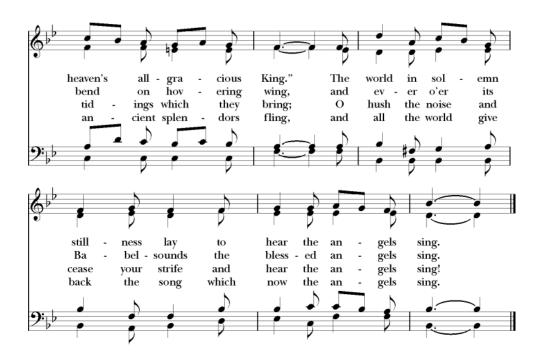
Hymn 105

God rest you merry, gentlemen

God Rest You Merry







Silent night, holy night
*All kneeling with candles lighted.



Prayer after Communion

Celebrant: Let us pray.

All:

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.

Christmas Blessing

Celebrant:

May Christ, who by his Incarnation gathered into one things earthly and heavenly, fill you with his joy and peace; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen**.

Please extinguish your candle and return it to the basket at the back of the church as you depart.

Hymn 100 [See back page for music]

Joy to the world!

Antioch

The Dismissal

Response: Thanks be to God.

<u>Postlude</u>: Vivace; Grave; Allegro - from Concerto (Fatto per la notte di natale), Op. 6, No 8.

Archangelo Corelli (1653 - 1713)

Assisting with the Service

The Rev. Foster Mays, Celebrant

Altar Guild: Dee Becker

Julia Burtscher

Lectors: Ricky Becker

Julia Burtscher

Ushers: Joe Gerhardinger

Ron Volk

We are grateful to everyone who has helped make our Christmas services so beautiful: the choir, altar guild, ushers, and lay readers. *Thank* You!

A special thank you to the Gomulinski and Walker families for providing greens to decorate the church

Gifts given to the Glory of God for Flowers

In loving memory of: From:

Ben Coe and in gratitude for all her family Puffin Coe

Tom and Carolyn Creekmore, Louise Creekmore, Dick and Vicki Creekmore

Lee and Rita Stout, Bill Stout, and Dave Stout

Scott and Susan Hendricks

Helen Pytlinski, Bill and Linda Dryer, Bob Armstrong,

Shirley Gable

Her parents and Kathy

Lucy Lambert

Her parents: Edwin and Winnie Carter Edwina Ledgard

Thomas Braithwaite and Dorothy Braithwaite Davis Henry and Sue Merce

Charles Domansky and Barbara Shirk George and Carole Shirk

Robert Roberts, Sr., Patricia Richardson Roberts, Sr.,
Patricia Richardson Roberts, Jr., Robert Roberts, Jr.

Our parents: Jim and Betsy Jones, Dan and Blanch Knaup Vicki Stouffer and Dan Knaup

James Verner, Jr. Ann Verner

Jane and George Ward, Bonnie Shepherd Terri and Mike Ward

John M. Wiley Val Wiley

Gifts given to the Glory of God for Music

In loving memory of: From:

Evelyn and Walter Bork, Vivian and Clark Endicott Charles and Vivian Bork

Beloved members of the Marvin, Bailey and Brown families Mary Anne Brown

In honor of our music ministry and hardworking staff

Julia Burtscher

Our parents: James and Juanita Carlisle James and Deborah Carlisle

David and Isabelle Carter

Mike DeBacker and all of our departed loved ones Casey-DeBacker Family

Ben Coe and in gratitude for all her family Puffin Coe

Marie and Howard Rogers, Wave and Dick Ehrmin, Irene and John Ehrmin

and Ruth Davis

Helen Pytlinski, Bill and Linda Dryer, Bob Armstrong, Scott and Susan Hendricks

Shirley Gable

Ross and Margaret McIntyre, Carl and Adele Rogers Donald and Carleen McIntyre

Henry and Helen Merce Henry and Sue Merce

The Ohlson Family and James H. Morris

Anne Morris

Loved ones David and Kate O'Connell

Maurice D. O'Connell Joan L. O'Connell and family

Joyce and Hardy Ensing and other loved ones Rohm-Ensing family

Beloved family and friends

Jeff Smith and Penny Cobau-Smith

James and Ethel Verner, Newell and Bernice Harrop Ann Verner

John M. Wiley Val Wiley

In honor of Helen and Leonard Wipfli, Donna, Steve and Grace Wipfli

Betty and Eliot Tozer

CHRISTMAS AND THE KING OF INSTRUMENTS

A public television special celebrating St. Michael's Wilhelm organ and Dr. David Saunders

WGTE Public Media and Off the Beaten Path have partnered to produce a Christmas special featuring the "Grand Organs and Sacred Spaces" of our region. A three-person camera and sound crew came to St. Michael's in early December to record Dr. Saunders' performance and to photograph our nave and magnificent organ.

The hour-long special features St. Michael's organist Dr. David Saunders, playing four pieces, all based on the carol tune, "In Dulci Jubilo," also known as "Good Christian Friends Rejoice." An intermission interview highlights Saunders' personal ties to our Wilhelm organ. Did you know that 2022 is the 30th anniversary of the organ's installation and dedication?

The program also visits the organs and sanctuaries of Epworth United Methodist Church, St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Maumee, and Rosary Cathedral.

Tune in to watch WGTE - TV30: Sunday, Dec. 26 at 7 PM & Monday, Dec. 27 at 1 PM

> <u>Or listen to WGTE 91.3 FM radio:</u> December 29 at 7 PM







