

Welcome to Christ Episcopal Church

in Cape Girardeau, Missouri

## The Feast of the Holy Name



January 1st 2023

# The Gathering of God's People

Prelude.....Mary Mims, Organist

Processional.....#109 The first nowell

## Christmas

*Presider:* The Word became flesh and dwelt among us, full of grace and truth. *John 1:14*

*(or)*

Behold, I bring you good news of a great joy which will come to all the people; for to you is born this day in the city of David, a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.

*Luke 2:10, 11*

*The following Confession of Sin may then be said:*

## The Confession and Absolution

*Presider:* Word of God,

*People:* We confess that we need your wholeness. We have often looked to outward gifts and measures when what we need is your love in our hearts. We have often aimed toward what we can achieve or where we stand in relation to others, when what we desire is the integrity your love bestows. We confess our need for your illumination. Be our light, O Christ.

## Assurance of Pardon

*Presider:* God forgives all our sins and heals all our infirmities. God lifts us from the low places and sets mercy and love upon us. God fills us with goodness and renews our lives.

*People:* Thanks be to God.

*The Presider offers assurance of God's forgiveness.*

*Presider:* May the Trinity of Love bring you back to God and forgive you all your sins; be assured of God's eternal love in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## The Invitatory and Psalter

*All stand.*

*Presider:* Lord, open our lips.

*People:* And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.

*On the Twelve Days of Christmas:*

**Alleluia. To us a child is born: Come let us adore him. Alleluia.**

Song of Praise.....#110 Venite Adoremus Dominum

## The Psalm of Response

Psalm 8

*Domine, Dominus noster*

- 1 O Lord our Governor, \*  
how exalted is your Name in all the world!
- 2 Out of the mouths of infants and children \*  
your majesty is praised above the heavens.
- 3 You have set up a stronghold against your adversaries, \*  
to quell the enemy and the avenger.
- 4 When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers, \*  
the moon and the stars you have set in their courses,
- 5 What is man that you should be mindful of him? \*  
the son of man that you should seek him out?
- 6 You have made him but little lower than the angels; \*  
you adorn him with glory and honor;
- 7 You give him mastery over the works of your hands; \*  
you put all things under his feet:
- 8 All sheep and oxen, \*  
even the wild beasts of the field,
- 9 The birds of the air, the fish of the sea, \*  
and whatsoever walks in the paths of the sea.
- 10 O Lord our Governor, \*  
how exalted is your Name in all the world!

## First Reading

Numbers 6:22-27

**T**he Lord spoke to Moses, saying: Speak to Aaron and his sons, saying, Thus you shall bless the Israelites: You shall say to them, The Lord bless you and keep you;  
the Lord make his face to shine upon you, and be gracious to you;  
the Lord lift up his countenance upon you, and give you peace.  
So they shall put my name on the Israelites, and I will bless them.

*Reader:* The Word of the Lord.

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

Gloria.....#96 Angels we have heard on high

## The Second Reading

Philippians 2:5-11

**L**et the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus,  
who, though he was in the form of God,

did not regard equality with God  
 as something to be exploited,  
 but emptied himself,  
     taking the form of a slave,  
     being born in human likeness.  
 And being found in human form,  
     he humbled himself  
     and became obedient to the point of death--  
     even death on a cross.  
 Therefore God also highly exalted him  
     and gave him the name  
     that is above every name,  
 so that at the name of Jesus  
     every knee should bend,  
     in heaven and on earth and under the earth,  
 and every tongue should confess  
     that Jesus Christ is Lord,  
     to the glory of God the Father.

*Reader:*           The Word of the Lord.

***People:*       Thanks be to God.**

**Song of Praise**.....#112 In the bleak midwinter

### **Third Reading**

Luke 2:15-21

**W**hen 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. After eight days had passed, it was time to circumcise the child; and he was called Jesus, the name given by the angel before he was conceived in the womb.

*Presider:*       The Word of the Lord.

***People:*       Thanks be to God**

Affirmation of Faith

*Our Advent Creed seeks to affirm our trust in God found in Jesus Christ.*

*Presider:* Let us affirm our hope in Christ our Light.

*People:* We believe in God, whose love is the source of all life and the desire of our lives whose love was given a human face in Jesus of Nazareth, whose love was crucified by the evil that seeks to enslave us all, and whose love, defeating even death, is our glorious promise of freedom.

Therefore, though we are sometimes fearful and doubting, we trust in God; and, in the Name of Jesus Christ, we commit ourselves, in the service of others, to seek justice and to live in peace, to care for the earth and to share the common wealth of God's goodness, to live in the freedom of forgiveness and the power of the Spirit of love; And in company of the faithful, to be the Church, for the glory of God. Amen.

*Presider:* As we come to the stable to adore the newborn Jesus, who was heralded in by sheep, cows, and donkeys. May we remember this humble entry and humble our hearts to find you room.

The Lord's Prayer

*The people stand or kneel.*

*Presider:* The Lord be with you.

*People:* And also with you.

*Presider:* Let us pray.

*All:* 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 Prayers of the People

*Reader:* Wonderful Counselor, please be with those who take counsel for your church, we pray especially for Deon, our bishop and Annette, our rector. Empower us to remember the sacred trust which has been given to us this night and every night.

Come all ye faithful,

***People:* Come, let us adore him.**

*Reader:* Mighty God, may they rulers of this world remember you came at night not in might, but to a humble stable with poor refugee parents fleeing from the powers of this earth. Help them to look for the poor, the least, and the struggling in everything they do.

Come all ye faithful,

***People:* Come, let us adore him.**

*Reader:* Today we lift up to you the sick, homeless, the stranger in our land. So much of legend is in young far away travelers coming to you and finding healing and wholeness. We pray especially for those we lift up to you in heart and voice (\_\_\_\_\_).

*Silence is kept for a time.*

Come all ye faithful,

***People:* Come, let us adore him.**

*Reader:* We give you thanks for all the blessings of this life. For the wonder of the night sky, for the glory of your care, and for those lifted in heart and voice.

Come all ye faithful,

***People:* Come, let us adore him.**

*Reader:* We pray for those who are in our memories this day. For those who have gone to be with you in your kingdom. May they rest in peace and rise in glory especially (\_\_\_\_\_).

*Silence is kept for a time.*

Come all ye faithful,

***People:* Come, let us adore him.**

*Reader:* Prince of Peace, enter into our hearts and minds this Christmas, so we may once again receive you as Emmanuel, God with us. **Amen.**

*Presider:* Light and peace, in Jesus Christ our Lord.

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

## The Collect of the Day

*Presider:* God is with you.

*People:* **And also with you.**

*Presider:* Let us pray:

Eternal Father, you gave to your incarnate Son the holy name of Jesus to be the sign of our salvation: Plant in every heart, we pray, the love of him who is the Savior of the world, our Lord Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, in glory everlasting. **Amen.**

## A Collect for Sundays

O God, you make us glad with the weekly remembrance of the glorious resurrection of your Son our Lord: Give us this day such blessing through our worship of you, that the week to come may be spent in your favor; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## A Collect for Mission

O God, you have made of one blood all the peoples of the earth, and sent your blessed Son to preach peace to those who are far off and to those who are near: Grant that people everywhere may seek after you and find you; bring the nations into your fold; pour out your Spirit upon all flesh; and hasten the coming of your kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Offertory.....#84 Love came down at Christmas

## General Thanksgiving

*The people remain standing.*

*People:* Almighty God, Father of all mercies, we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks for all your goodness and loving-kindness to us and to all whom you have made. We bless you for our creation, preservation, and all the blessings of this life; but above all for your immeasurable love in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ; for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory. And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies, that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise, not only with our lips, but in our lives, by giving up our selves to your service, and by walking before you in holiness and righteousness all our days; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and

the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory throughout all ages. Amen.

**A Prayer of St. Chrysostom**

*Presider:* Almighty God, you have given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplication to you; and you have promised through your well-beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name you will be in the midst of them: Fulfill now, O Lord, our desires and petitions as may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of your truth, and in the age to come life everlasting. **Amen.**

*Then may be said*

*Presider:* Let us bless the Lord.

*People:* Thanks be to God.

**The Peace**

*Presider:* The peace of the Lord be always with you.

*People:* And also with you.

**Announcements**

*Stand for the hymn and dismissal.*

**Recessional Hymn**.....#99 Go tell it on the mountain

**Dismissal**

*The Presider may then conclude with one of the following*

*Presider:* The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all evermore. **Amen.** *2 Corinthians 13:14*

*Presider:* May the God of hope fill us with all joy and peace in believing through the power of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.** *Romans 15:13*

*Presider:* Glory to God whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine: Glory to him from generation to generation in the Church, and in Christ Jesus for ever and ever. **Amen.** *Ephesians 3:20, 21*

**Postlude**.....Mary Mims, Organist





## This Service's Servers

<i>Presider</i>	Tyler Helm
<i>Preacher</i>	Rev. Edie Bird
<i>Reader</i>	Brooke Clubbs
<i>Greeter</i>	Bob Lowe
<i>Altar Guild</i>	Mary Alice Regenhardt
<i>St. Isidore's Guild</i>	Toni Alexander
<i>Vestry Counter</i>	Cheryl Essner
<i>Organist</i>	Mary Mims

## Upcoming Sunday Servers

	Jan. 8	Jan 15	Jan. 22	Jan 29
Presider	Rev. Annette Joseph	Gina Mills	Rev. Annette Joseph	Service at St. Pauls
Eucharistic Minister	Gloria Miller		Kent Miller	
Preacher	Rev. Annette Joseph	Tyler Helm	Rev. Annette Joseph	
Verger	Chris Masters		Chris Masters	
Reader	Bob Lowe	Nancy Kennemore	Toni Alexander	
Greeter	Doc and Karen Cain	Donna Richardet	Doc and Karen Cain	
Altar Guild	Elizabeth Miller	Monica Waldon	Paula Fetherston	
St. Isidore's Guild	William and Bruce Miller	James Boyer	James Boyer	
Vestry Counter	Sue Balsamo	Toni Alexander	Gina Thomas	
Organist	Mary Mims	Mary Mims	Mary Mims	

# Notes on the Service

## The Feast of the Holy Name

Num 6:22-27 • Ps 8 • Phil 2:5-11 • Lk 2:15-21

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From the 6th c. churches observed a feast eight days after Christmas, for Jesus' circumcision. At the Reformation, that feast was retained and a collect written for it: "Almightie God, whiche madeste thy... sonne to be circumcised, and obedyente to the law.; Graunt us the true circumcision of the spirite, that our hertes and al our members, being mortified from al worldly and carnal lustes, may in al thinges obey thy blessed wil...." (sic)

In the 15th c. a separate feast of the Holy Name of Jesus had been observed on August 7. The first Prayer Book had dropped that feast, but the 1979 Prayer Book has revived it but shifted the emphasis of January 1 away from the Circumcision and to the Name, as is evident in its different collect: "Eternal Father who didst give to thine incarnate Son the holy name of Jesus to be the sign of our salvation ['sign' because Jesus, Joshua in Hebrew, means he-who-saves], plant in every heart... the love of... the Savior..." Likewise, all the scripture readings for January 1 now include mention of the Name of God or the Name of Jesus.

At the end of a chapter of ritual directions for Nazarites, people specially set aside by vows, the priestly writer of Numbers adds what has come to be called the Aaronic blessing as a way of applying God's Name to Israelites. The 1979 Prayer Book ends a Service for Evenings with it.

"Thy Name is exalted" begins and ends Psalm 8. The psalm's theme is divine glory and human dignity. Christian devotion could imagine v 2, "Out of the mouths of infants and children your majesty is praised" applying to the eight-day-old Jesus, and even to the Holy Innocents commemorated on December 28. Christian theology certainly applied vv 5-6 to Jesus, as for instance in Hebrews 2, which quotes this psalm and comments, "we do not yet see everything in subjection to [man]. But we see Jesus, who for a little while was made lower than the angels, crowned...."

Christ lowered himself from the Godhead down to the human race and then down to the bottom of human misery, crucifixion. That degradation is called by Paul, Christ's "emptying of himself." In response to that voluntary self-humiliation, God exalted Christ's Name above all others. This passage is read also on Palm Sunday and on Holy Cross Day, observing the Atonement.

Jewish law requires every eight-day old male be circumcised and named as a son of the covenant. This observant Jew, Jesus, is given his name in the context of his birth disclosed to shepherds by angels. Despite their temporary obscurity, these revelations will prove greater than those at Sinai.

**Rev. Stephen Weissman**  
Asheville, North Carolina

# Thank you for visiting Christ Episcopal Church!

## **Who are We?**

We are a community, forgiven and loved by God, joyfully called to the work of reconciliation.

Known throughout Cape Girardeau as "the Red Door Church" by those we serve, our mission is to share God's love and grace.

## **When are our Services?**

On Sundays, there are Morning Prayer services every Sunday at 8:00 AM.

Services are held 10:30 A.M. – 11:30 A.M. on Sundays and Evening Prayer is from 5:30 P.M. – 6:30 P.M. on Wednesdays.

We are hosting a Bible study group before service at 9:00 A.M. on Sundays as well.

