

Saint Christopher Episcopal Church
Fairborn, Ohio
The Episcopal Diocese of Southern Ohio



Lessons &



CAROLS

Welcome!

Be thoughtful, be silent, and be reverent,
for this is the house of God.

Before the service, speak to the Lord.

During the service, let the Lord speak to you.

After the service, speak to one another during fellowship

So we may become friends and be strangers no longer.

First Sunday after Christmas Day

December 31, 2017

The Celebration of Holy Communion

Ten o'clock in the morning

Sunday School - 9:15 AM and 10:00 AM

Nursery Care - 10:00 AM

Enter to Know Christ – Leave to Make Him Known

*~ Hail Guest! We ask not what thou art; If Friend, we greet thee, hand and heart;
If Stranger, such no longer be; If Foe, our love shall conquer thee! ~*

The Prelude

“Burgundian Carol”

The Liturgy of the Word

All as are able, standing

The Processional Hymn: # 107 “Good Christian Friends, Rejoice”

Celebrant Blessed are you, holy and living One.

People **You come to your people and set them free.**

Bidding Prayer

Dear People of God: In this Christmas Season, let it be our duty and delight to hear once more the message of the Angels, to go to Bethlehem and see the Son of God lying in a manger.

Let us hear and heed in Holy Scripture the story of God’s loving purpose from the time of our rebellion against him until the glorious redemption brought to us by his holy Child Jesus, and let us make this place glad with our carols of praise.

But first, let us pray for the needs of his whole world, for peace and justice on earth, for the unity and mission of the Church for which he died, and especially for his Church in our country and in our communities.

And because he particularly loves them, let us remember in his name the poor and helpless, the cold, the hungry and the oppressed, the sick and those who mourn, the lonely and unloved, the aged and little children, as well as all those who do not know and love the Lord Jesus Christ.

Finally, let us remember before God his pure and lowly Mother, and that whole multitude which no one can number, whose hope was in the Word made flesh, and with whom, in Jesus, we are one for evermore.

And now, to sum up all these petitions, let us pray, saying:

**The Almighty God bless us with his grace; Christ give us the joys
of everlasting life; and to the fellowship of the citizens above,
may the King of Angels bring us all. Amen.**

Christmas Lessons and Carols

(Sing only the first verse of each carol)

The First Lesson Genesis 2:4b-9, 15-25
(God creates man and woman to live in obedience to him in the Garden of Eden)

Hymn # 54 “Savior of the Nations, Come”

The Second Lesson Genesis 3:1-15
(Adam and Eve rebel against God and are cast out of the Garden of Eden)

Hymn # 60 “Creator of the Stars of Night”

The Third Lesson Isaiah 40:1-11
(God comforts his people and calls on them to prepare for redemption)

Hymn # 75 “There’s a Voice in the Wilderness Crying”

The Fourth Lesson Isaiah 7:10-15
(God promises that a child shall be conceived who will be known as “God with us”)

Hymn # 73 “The King Shall Come When Morning Dawns”

The Fifth Lesson Luke 1:5-12
(An angel announces to Zechariah that his wife Elizabeth will bear a son)

Hymn # 437 “Tell Out, My Soul, The Greatness of the Lord!”

The Sixth Lesson Luke 1:26-58
(The Angel Gabriel announces to the Virgin Mary that she will bear the Son of the Most High)

Hymn # 265 “The Angel Gabriel From Heaven Came”

The Seventh Lesson Luke 2:1-20
(Jesus is born at Bethlehem and is worshiped by angels and shepherds)

Hymn # 94 “While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks by Night”

The Eighth Lesson Luke 2:31-36
(Jesus receives his name and is presented to Simeon in the Temple)

Hymn # 128 “We Three Kings of Orient Are”

The Ninth Lesson John 1:1-18
(The Word was made flesh and we have seen his glory)

Hymn # 83 “O Come, All Ye Faithful”

The Nicene Creed

All as are able, standing.

**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 Confession and Absolution

All as are able, kneeling.

The Celebrant says

Let the desert rejoice, and let the dry land be glad,
for God has come to save us.
Let us confess our sin.

Prayer of Confession (in unison)

**God of majesty and glory, we are thirsty for your grace.
You made a way for us in the wilderness,
and still, in our foolishness, we go astray.
We hide our eyes from your presence.
We do not listen to your word.
We are lifeless when we ought to dance and speechless when we ought to sing.
Forgive us, O Lord. Speak peace to our fearful hearts,
Strengthen our weak hands, and make firm our feeble knees
as we seek to follow in your holy way. Amen.**

Celebrant:

Now return to the Lord with joy and gladness.
Sing a song of redemption!
Let sorrow and sighing be no more.
In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.
Thanks be to God.

The Peace

All as are able, standing.

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

The Prayer for a Birthday

(said in unison)

**Watch over your child N., O Lord, as *his* days increase; bless and guide *him* wherever *he* may be.
Strengthen *him* when *he* stands; comfort *him* when discouraged or sorrowful; raise *him* up if *he* fall;
and in *his* heart may your peace which passes understanding abide all the days of *his* life; through
Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

The Prayer for an Anniversary

(said in unison)

**Almighty God, who declared at the beginning that it is not good for humankind to be alone; we thank
you that, in your loving providence, you have led this couple (N. and N.) into the covenant of
marriage and have brought them to this ____ anniversary. May you bestow upon them your
abundant grace in the year to come. May their wills be knit together in your will, and their spirits in
your Spirit, that they continue to live in love and joy with one another all the days of their life:
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

“Holy, Holy, Holy Lord” Sanctus cont.

God of power and might, hea - ven and earth are

full, full of your glo - ry. Ho -

san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na

in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes

in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na

in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.



The Celebrant continues

All as are able, kneeling or standing.

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 the faith:

Celebrant and People

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

The Celebrant continues

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer 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 the 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 for ever. **Amen**

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

The Lord's Prayer *(in unison)*

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your Name,
your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.**

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil.

**For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,
now and for ever. Amen.**

The Breaking of the Bread

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

A period of reflective silence is kept.

The Fraction Anthem:

“Jesus, Lamb of God” S-164

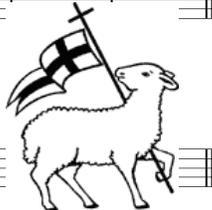
(in unison)

Je - sus, Lamb of God: have mer - cy on us.

Je - sus, bear - er of our sins: have mer - cy on us.

Je - sus, re - deem - er, re - deem - er of the world:

give us your peace, give us your peace.



The Administration of Communion

The Celebrant says

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.

~ All are welcome to the Lord’s Table: open to all who come, so all may be fed. ~

- The Communion Hymns:** # 101 “Away in a Manger”
 # 109 “The First Nowell”

The Post Communion Prayer

All as are able, kneeling.

After Communion, the Celebrant says

Let us pray *(in unison)*

Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Blessing *The Celebrant says*

May God the Creator,
Christ the Savior,
and the Holy Spirit, our Advocate,
guard your going out and your coming in;
and be your strength and help in every time of need.

The Recessional Hymn: # 105..... “God Rest You Merry, Gentlemen”

The Announcements – please see the insert in today’s bulletin.

The Dismissal

Celebrant Let us go forth into the world,
rejoicing in the power of the Spirit. Alleluia, Alleluia

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

The Postlude “O Sanctissima”



~ MISSION STATEMENT ~

**“Living the Great Commandment by Ministering
to Our Neighbors in Body, Mind and Spirit.”**

Celebrant	The Rev. David Bailey
Worship Leader	Cindy Feltz
Chalice Bearer	Toni Olgeaty
Acolyte	Iyabo Eguaroje
Reader #1:	Ann Volkmer
Reader #2:	Ann Foster
Reader #3:	John Stauffer
Reader #4:	Debbie Snavelly
Reader #5:	Judy Brainard
Reader #6:	Theresa Turner
Reader #7:	David Manship
Reader #8:	Mary Donnellan
Reader #9:	Gordon Walbroehl
Ushers	Ann Foster, Gordon Hermann
Healing Prayers	Joyce D’Allessandris
Greeters	Joyce and Ron D’Allessandris
Nursery	Faller
Altar Guild	Judy Brainard, Betty Crichton
Tellers	Deb Snavelly
Fellowship	open
Director of Music Ministries	Melody Kelley
Organist Emeritus	Connie Klarer
Senior Warden	Deb Snavelly: 937-478-3687 (C)

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**THE REV. GREGORY P. SAMMONS, SUPPLY PRIEST
Contact Information: gpsammons@gmail.com
For Pastoral emergencies only (hospitalizations, etc.) 419-350-9518
CHURCH SECRETARY – KAY MITCHELL
OFFICE HOURS: Monday through Friday, 10 AM to 2 PM**



ANNOUNCEMENTS, REMINDERS

- ☆ **Altar flowers Sunday December 31** – given by previous donations.
- ☆ **Sunday School Schedule**
 - **9:15 Sunday School:** Third Grade and up.
 - **10:00 a.m. Sunday School** for Pre-K to Second Grade.
- ☆ **Sunday December 31** – **ECW/M New Year's Eve Party.**
- ☆ **Weekly Healing Service** – Tuesdays at noon a Healing Service with Holy Communion is held in the church proper. The service is open to anyone who wants to attend.
- ☆ **Thursdays – 7:00 p.m. Choir Practice**
- ☆ **Check sign-up sheets** – On the counter in Christopher's Corner there are sign-up sheets for **altar flowers**, sanctuary candles, fellowship, ECW activities, Prayer Chain, etc. *** **Please note: our cost for Altar Flowers is now \$25, so we are asking for a \$25 donation.**
- ☆ **OUTREACH** – Remember **Box Tops for Education**. Please continue with donations for FISH; they need shampoo, tooth brushes, cereal, peanut butter, deodorant, toilet paper, sugar, and other Food items. And feed your change to our bank – for 2 cents a meal.
- ☆ **Prayer Concerns:** Please call or email Joyce D'Allessandris to activate the Prayer Chain. e-mail: dallessa@aol.com, phone: 254-0005.
- ☆ **The January Lantern** – is online at stchristophersfairborn.org.
- ☆ We are still collecting used printer cartridges. They can be recycled at the office supply stores. There is a plastic container in Christopher's corner for you to fill!!

ECW/M New Year's Eve party. It begins at 9 in the Fellowship Hall. We will have hats and noisemakers and liquid libation at midnight. We ask that you bring a snack to share and any cards, dominos or other games you might want to play.



***** Special Dates In January 2018 *****

**Community Blood Drive Saturday,
January 6, 8:30 a.m. - noon**

**Sunday January 21 – Congregational
Annual meeting and Potluck.**



We remember in prayers:

Judy, Thom, Carol, Toni, Daphne, Florence, Warren, Pat, Sandi, Joe, Frank, Jim and Ann, Vicky, Camden, Kelly, Jan, Bob and Doris, Zada, Melody, Jim, Nikki, and for all those who lost their health and freedom through addiction