

# The Holy Eucharist

Gathered and Livestream: Worshiping in the Parish Hall



## The Church of the Ascension

First Sunday after Christmas

December 31, 2023

12.00 p.m.

<http://www.ascension-munich.org/>  
Seybothstrasse 4, 81545 Munich

*The Episcopal Church in the Anglican Communion*

The Reverend Daniel R. Morrow    *revdanmorrow@gmail.com*  
*Priest-in-Charge*

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Amy Jordan  
Shema Paul  
Lena Petri

Maria Ramadori-  
Volker  
Laura Smith  
Joachim Zeller

*Members of the Vestry*

Patrick Kana    *Sexton*  
Julia Gaspar    *Parish Administrator*

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**SERVING IN WORSHIP TODAY**

The Reverend Daniel R. Morrow, *Celebrant*

Nathaniel Anene    □    Charlotte Rieger    □    Martin Schaeffer

*Acolytes*

Carol Forrester

*Altar Guild*

Joachim Zeller

*Ushers*

Loren Stuckenbruck

*Organist*

Paul T. Pilgram

*Bell Ringer*

Barbara Pines

*Intercessor*

George Battrick    □    Matthew Eeda (in church)

Carol Adeney (online)

*Tech Team*

Joachim Zeller

*Key Duty*

# The Holy Eucharist

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First Sunday after Christmas

## ORDER OF SERVICE

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*A warm welcome to all!*

***Please keep your microphones muted on Zoom  
for the duration of this service.***

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The Ringing of the Bells

ORGAN PRELUDE

*All are invited to stand*

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.

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*

*Celebrant* Blessed be the one, holy, and living God.  
*People* Glory to God for ever and ever.

*The Celebrant and People together*

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 Savior. Amen

Hark! the herald angels sing

Hymn 87

1 Hark! the her-ald an - gels sing glo - ry to the new-born King!  
 2 Christ, by high-est heaven a - dored; Christ, the ev - er - last - ing Lord;  
 3 Mild he lays his glo - ry by, born that we no more may die,

Peace on earth and mer - cy mild, God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled!  
 late in time be - hold him come, off - spring of the Vir - gin's womb.  
 born to raise us from the earth, born to give us sec - ond birth.

Joy - ful, all ye na - tions, rise, join the tri - umph of the skies;  
 Veiled in flesh the God - head see; hail the in - car - nate De - i - ty.  
 Risen with heal - ing in his wings, light and life to all he brings,

with the an - gel - ic host pro - claim Christ is born in Beth - le - hem!  
 Pleased as man with us to dwell; Je - sus, our Em - man - u - el!  
 hail, the Sun of Right - eous - ness! hail, the heaven - born Prince of Peace!

*Refrain*

Hark! the her - ald an - gels sing glo - ry to the new-born King!

## The Collect of the Day

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

*People* And also with you.

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

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 Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

*People* Amen

*All are invited to be seated*

## The Lessons

The First Reading | Isaiah 61:10-62:3

*Read in German by Joachim Zeller*

I will greatly rejoice in the Lord,  
my whole being shall exult in my God;

for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation,  
he has covered me with the robe of righteousness,

as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland,  
and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.

For as the earth brings forth its shoots,  
and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up,

so the Lord God will cause righteousness and praise  
to spring up before all the nations.

For Zion's sake I will not keep silent,  
and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest,

until her vindication shines out like the dawn,  
and her salvation like a burning torch.  
The nations shall see your vindication,  
and all the kings your glory;

and you shall be called by a new name  
that the mouth of the Lord will give.

You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the Lord,  
and a royal diadem in the hand of your God.

*Reader* The Word of the Lord.

*People* Thanks be to God

**Psalm** | Laudate Dominum, 147 or 147:13-21

*Led by Cathy Pilgram*

1 Hallelujah!  
How good it is to sing praises to our God! \*

how pleasant it is to honor him with praise!

2 The Lord rebuilds Jerusalem; \*  
he gathers the exiles of Israel.

3 He heals the brokenhearted \*  
and binds up their wounds.

4 He counts the number of the stars \*  
and calls them all by their names.

5 Great is our Lord and mighty in power; \*  
there is no limit to his wisdom.

6 The Lord lifts up the lowly, \*  
but casts the wicked to the ground.

7 Sing to the Lord with thanksgiving; \*  
make music to our God upon the harp.

8 He covers the heavens with clouds \*  
and prepares rain for the earth;

9 He makes grass to grow upon the mountains \*  
and green plants to serve mankind.

10 He provides food for flocks and herds \*  
and for the young ravens when they cry.

11 He is not impressed by the might of a horse; \*  
he has no pleasure in the strength of a man;

12 But the Lord has pleasure in those who fear him, \*  
in those who await his gracious favor.]

13 Worship the Lord, O Jerusalem; \*  
praise your God, O Zion;

14 For he has strengthened the bars of your gates; \*  
he has blessed your children within you.

15 He has established peace on your borders; \*  
he satisfies you with the finest wheat.

16 He sends out his command to the earth, \*  
and his word runs very swiftly.

17 He gives snow like wool; \*  
he scatters hoarfrost like ashes.

18 He scatters his hail like bread crumbs; \*  
who can stand against his cold?

19 He sends forth his word and melts them; \*  
he blows with his wind, and the waters flow.



20 He declares his word to Jacob, \*  
his statutes and his judgments to Israel.

21 He has not done so to any other nation; \*  
to them he has not revealed his judgments.  
Hallelujah!

**The Second Reading** | Galatians 3:23-25, 4:4-7

*Read by Cathy Pilgram*

Now before faith came, we were imprisoned and guarded under the law until faith would be revealed. Therefore the law was our disciplinarian until Christ came, so that we might be justified by faith. But now that faith has come, we are no longer subject to a disciplinarian.

But when the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, in order to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as children. And because you are children, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" So you are no longer a slave but a child, and if a child then also an heir, through God.

*Reader*        The Word of the Lord.

*People*        Thanks be to God

**Gospel Hymn** | *Good Christian friend, rejoice*

Hymn 107

1 Good Chris - tian friends, re - jice with heart and soul and voice;  
 2 Good Chris - tian friends, re - jice with heart and soul and voice;  
 3 Good Chris - tian friends, re - jice with heart and soul and voice;

give ye heed to what we say: Je - sus Christ is born to - day;  
 now ye hear of end - less bliss; Je - sus Christ was born for this!  
 now ye need not fear the grave: Je - sus Christ was born to save!

ox and ass be - fore him bow, and he is in the man - ger now.  
 He hath o - pened hea - ven's door, and we are blest for ev - er - more.  
 Calls you one and calls you all to gain his ev - er - last - ing hall.

Christ is born to - day! Christ is born to - day!  
 Christ was born for this! Christ was born for this!  
 Christ was born to save! Christ was born to save!

The Gospel | John 1:1-18

*Celebrant* The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

*People* Glory to you, Lord Christ.

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth. (John testified to him and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks ahead of me because he was before me.'")

From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. No one has ever seen God. It is God the only Son, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known.

*Celebrant* The Gospel of the Lord.

*People* Praise to you, Lord Christ.

### **The Sermon**

*The Reverend Daniel R. Morrow*

*Silence may be kept.*

*All are invited to stand*

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

Led by Barbara Pines

Let us pray to our incarnate Lord, who has brought us out of darkness and into his own marvelous light.

Christ born for us, Son of God given for us:  
help us to know you, to worship and to serve you.  
Lord, in your mercy

**hear our prayer.**

Wonderful counsellor, you order all things with your wisdom:  
help the Church to reveal the mystery of your love  
and fill her with the Spirit of truth. Lord, in your mercy

**hear our prayer.**

Mighty God, the government is on your shoulders:  
guide the leaders of the nations and bring in your kingdom of justice and righteousness.  
Lord, in your mercy

**hear our prayer.**

Everlasting Father, you call us to live together in unity:  
protect by your mercy all your children, bless our families and renew our communities.  
Lord, in your mercy

**hear our prayer.**

Prince of peace, you bring reconciliation through the cross:  
by your healing power give to all who suffer. your gift of wholeness and peace. We pray especially for\_\_\_\_\_.

Lord, in your mercy

**hear our prayer.**

Lord Jesus Christ, Son of the Father, full of the Spirit,

**hear our prayer,**

**receive our praises,**

**fill our lives. Amen.**

## General Confession and Absolution

*Celebrant* Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Silence*

*The Celebrant and People together*

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.

*Celebrant*

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. Amen.

### The Peace

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

*The People may greet one another in the name of the Lord. Please greet only those in your vicinity by reverently bowing and without moving into the aisles.*

### Welcome and Announcements

*The Reverend Daniel R. Morrow*

### The Offertory

Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us,  
an offering and sacrifice to God.

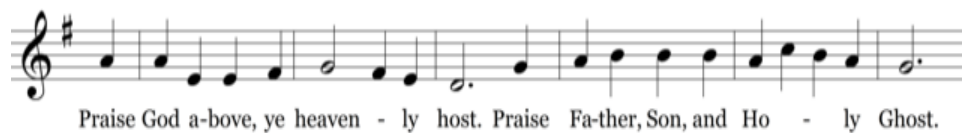
*Ephesians 5:2*

### Offertory Anthem



*Please offer your gifts to God by making a bank transfer (EUR or USD), scanning this QR code in your PayPal app or by making a regular financial commitment to Church of the Ascension using the form [http://bit.ly/financial\\_commitment\\_2024](http://bit.ly/financial_commitment_2024). Even a small amount given regularly helps.*

### Doxology | Praise God from whom all blessings flow



### The Great Thanksgiving

*Eucharistic Prayer 3*

*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 our thanks and praise.

*Celebrant*

All thanks and praise  
are yours at all times and in all places,  
our true and loving God;  
through Jesus Christ, your eternal Word,  
the Wisdom from on high by whom you created all things.  
You laid the foundations of the world  
and enclosed the sea when it burst out from the womb;  
You brought forth all creatures of the earth  
and gave breath to humankind.  
Wondrous are you, Holy One of Blessing,  
all you create is a sign of hope for our journey;  
And so as the morning stars sing your praises  
we join the heavenly beings and all creation  
as we sing with joy:

Sanctus | Holy, holy, holy Lord (from “Deutsche Messe”) Hymnal S125

The Holy Eucharist II

S 125

Holy, holy, holy Lord *Sanctus*

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -  
san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -  
san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Setting: From *A Community Mass*; Richard Proulx (b. 1937)

*The Celebrant continues*

We thank you that on the night before he died for us  
Jesus took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it,  
gave it to his friends and said:  
“Take, eat, this is my Body, broken for you.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.”

After supper Jesus took the cup of wine,  
said the blessing, gave it to his friends and said:  
“Drink this, all of you: this cup is the new Covenant in my Blood,  
poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sin.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.”

And so, remembering all that was done for us:  
the cross, the tomb, the resurrection and ascension,  
longing for Christ's coming in glory, and presenting to you these gifts  
your earth has formed and human hands have made,  
we acclaim you, O Christ:

*Celebrant and People*

Dying, you destroyed our death.  
Rising, you restored our life.  
Christ Jesus, come in glory!

Send your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these gifts of bread and wine  
that they may be to us the Body and Blood of your Christ.

Grant that we, burning with your Spirit's power,  
may be a people of hope, justice and love.

Giver of Life, draw us together in the Body of Christ,  
and in the fullness of time gather us with all your people  
into the joy of our true eternal home.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ,  
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, we worship you our God and Creator  
in voices of unending praise.

*Celebrant and People*

Blessed are you now and forever. AMEN.

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

Our Father, who art in heaven,	Vater unser im Himmel
hallowed be thy Name,	geheiligt werde dein Name.
thy kingdom come,	Dein Reich komme.
thy will be done,	Dein Wille geschehe,
on earth as it is in	wie im Himmel so auf Erden.
heaven.	Unser tägliches Brot gib uns heute.
Give us this day our daily bread.	Und vergib uns unsere Schuld,
And forgive us our trespasses,	wie auch wir vergeben
as we forgive those	unsern Schuldigern.
who trespass against us.	Und führe uns nicht in Versuchung,
And lead us not into temptation,	sondern erlöse uns von dem Bösen.
but deliver us from evil.	Denn dein ist das Reich
For thine is the kingdom,	und die Kraft und die
and the power, and the	Herrlichkeit
glory, for ever and ever. Amen.	in Ewigkeit. Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread

*Celebrant* *Alleluia, Alleluia.* Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

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

**The Invitation to Communion**



## Celebrant

This is the banquet of Christ. In His kingdom there are no outcasts. Wherever you find yourself on the journey of faith, you are welcome at God's table.

### **A Prayer for Spiritual Communion with Those Worshiping Online**

#### *Celebrant and People*

Lord Jesus, as you promised to be with us in the bread and wine that is your body and blood, grant that we may receive you spiritually today into our hearts, minds and souls. Stay with us; be our companion in the way; kindle our hearts and awaken hope that we may know you and have confidence in your loving care, now and forever. Amen.

#### **Notes for Those Making a Physical Communion**

- We maintain a system of one-way flows. Please remain in your seat until an usher invites you to move forward up the center aisle.
- For those with gluten allergies, gluten-free communion wafers are available. Simply ask the priest as communion is offered to you.
- After receiving the bread, the chalice will be offered. Following convocation guidelines, intinction (dipping) is not allowed. Please know that the church has always taught that communion in one kind is a full and valid communion. If you do not wish to drink from the chalice, you may touch the chalice as a sign of reverence, stop and bow to the chalice, or simply return to your seat down the side aisle.

(Feel free to remain seated during the Communion Hymn.)

### **Communion Hymn | *Away in a manger, no crib for his bed***

Hymn 101



1 A - way in a man - ger, no crib for his bed,  
2 The cat - tle are low - ing, the ba - by a - wakes,  
\*3 Be near me, Lord Je - sus; I ask thee to stay

the lit - tle Lord Je - sus laid down his sweet head.  
but lit - tle Lord Je - sus no cry - ing he makes.  
close by me for ev - er, and love me I pray.

The stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay,  
I love thee, Lord Je - sus! Look down from the sky,  
Bless all the dear chil - dren in thy ten - der care,

the lit - tle Lord Je - sus a - sleep on the hay.  
and stay by my side un - til morn - ing is nigh.  
and fit us for hea - ven to live with thee there.

### **The Postcommunion Prayer** BCP p. 365

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

*Celebrant and People*

God of abundance, you have fed us with the bread of life and cup of salvation; you have united us with Christ and one another; and you have made us one with all your people in heaven and on earth. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit, that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue forever in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.

**Closing Hymn | Joy to the world! The Lord is come**

Hymn 100

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,

**The Sending and Blessing**

May the joy of the angels, the eagerness of the shepherds,

the perseverance of the wise men, the obedience of Joseph and Mary,  
and the peace of the Christ-child be yours this Christmas;  
and the blessing of God Almighty, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, be with you now and remain  
with you always. **Amen.**

*Amen.*

*Celebrant* Go in Peace to love and Serve the Lord. Alleluia. Alleluia.

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

**Organ Postlude**