

# Christmas Eve



THE JORDAN SERVICE  
4:00 PM  
CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP SPACE

## WELCOME

Welcome to Christ Church this Christmas Eve for the celebration of the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ. On this holy night, we hope you find our church to be a holy place of comfort and peace, and we invite you to join Christ Church as we respond to God's presence among us. In order to prepare for this service, we ask that you silence your phone. Thank you!

## MERRY CHRISTMAS

Dear Ones,

Christmas announces something too immense for words: The one and only God-of-the-entire-Universe enters fully into humanity, our humanity. Luke's Gospel gives us the visceral, historical story—a real infant being born, a real mother giving birth, real shepherds in an actual field, the gospel breaking into history. We feel the wonder of the Incarnation (the "In-flesh-ment of God") here: God is with us in a real human body.

But John's Gospel takes us deeper into what this means. Before there was a stable or swaddling clothes, before this planet was born, before stars and galaxies were born, there was the Eternal Word—through which all things were made.

This Eternal Word, which exists outside of time, and by which the whole universe itself exists, becomes human. Not metaphorically. Not symbolically. Flesh—vulnerable, dependent, mortal flesh. The eternal enters time on Christmas Day.

Both truths matter equally. The warm mystery of Luke's shepherds watching their flocks finds its ultimate meaning in John's revelation: the shepherds watching over creation, made by the very God now lying helpless in their midst.

Christmas is the moment when mysticism and manger become one. When the cosmos enters a cradle. When we stop speculating about God and encounter Him—vulnerable, real, and present.

And all for us, for our salvation, for Love's sake. This is the divine love story that is Christmas.

Merry Christmas, Saints

*Fr. Tom*



**CHRIST  
CHURCH**  
Sunday. Every Day.

## Service Order

- Opening Prayer
- Joy to the World
- The Reading: *Isaiah 9:2-4, 6-7*
- Angels We Have Heard on High
- Gospel Reading: *Luke 2:1-20*
- Sermon: *The Reverend Laura Magevney*
- Nicene Creed
- The Prayers for the People
- The Passing of Peace
- Welcome and Announcements
- Offertory - *What Child Is This?*
- Gathering at the Table
- Eucharistic Prayer
- *O Little Town*
- *Away in a Manger*
- Candlelighting: *Silent Night*
- Closing Prayers, Blessing, Dismissal
- *Go, Tell It on the Mountain*

## Come Serve with Us



Let us know you'd like to share  
your gifts of time and talent.  
We need your helping hands!

## Pass the Plate

Make a gift or catch up on your  
pledge online. THANK YOU for  
your faithful gifts to the church,  
today and always!



## Connection Card

Please complete this card and place it in  
the offering plate. List first and last names  
of all in attendance. If you have previously  
completed a card, use this for updating  
information.

Names:

Adult \_\_\_\_\_

Children \_\_\_\_\_

First time guest? ☐

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to know more about

- ☐ Nursery
- ☐ Children
- ☐ Youth
- ☐ Young Adult
- ☐ Adult Formation
- ☐ Fine Arts/Music
- ☐ Early Learning/Preschool  
Program
- ☐ Volunteer in the church
- ☐ Volunteer in community
- ☐ Newcomer Class

For more information on ministry  
opportunities at Christ Church, please  
contact Deacon Leila Quinlan at 904-  
285-7390, ext. 223 or leila@ccpvb.org.

TEAR HERE

## Prayer Card

Rejoice always, pray without ceasing,  
give thanks in all circumstances; for this is  
the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.  
(1 Thess 5:16-18)

If you desire prayers for yourself or others,  
please fill out this card and place it in the  
offering plate.

- o Prayer Request
- o Confidential
- o Thanksgiving

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Your name

Your phone

Your email

Date



**CHRIST  
CHURCH**  
EPISCOPAL

TEAR HERE

## What's Happening at Christ Church

### Holiday Closings

The Church office will be closed December 25-26.  
For the New Year holiday, we will close Wednesday,  
December 31 at noon and reopen Friday, January 2.

### The First Sunday after Christmas Day

December 28, Worship Service Schedule

- 9:00 a.m. Main Sanctuary and livestreamed  
Traditional Rite II Holy Eucharist
- 11:15 a.m. Main Sanctuary  
Christmas Festival of Lessons & Carols

*Formation classes for children and youth will not meet.  
Continental breakfast will be available.*

### Epiphany Service + Return of the Magi

January 7, 5:30 p.m.

This family-friendly service will feature the Three Kings as  
they make their return to Christ Church, followed by  
candle lighting, Kings' Cake, and the burning of the  
greens.

For a **complete list of events**, ministry activities  
and more please visit our website.



## Stay Connected



/christchurchpvb



@ccpvb

ccpvb.org

904-285-6127

400 San Juan Drive, Ponte Vedra Beach, FL 32082

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