

**SCHEDULE OF SERVICES FOR THE  
CHRISTMAS SEASON 2024**

Dec. 24	11:00 p.m.	Christmas Eve Mass - Blessing of the Manger
Dec. 25	8:00 a.m.	Christmas Day - Solemn Eucharist
Dec. 27	9:00 a.m.	Holy Eucharist
Dec. 29	6:30 a.m.	Holy Eucharist
Dec. 29	8:00 a.m.	Solemn Eucharist
Dec. 31	11:00 p.m.	Watch Night - Holy Eucharist
Jan. 5	6:30 a.m.	2nd Sunday after Christmas - Holy Eucharist
	8:00 a.m.	2nd Sunday after Christmas - Solemn Eucharist

**The Jamaica Youth Chorale** in concert "*A New Year's Blessing*" at the Church of St. Margaret, Liguanea, January 5, 2025. Cost \$3,500 tickets are available from Audley Davidson, the ushers and at the gate.

*Diocese of Jamaica & the Cayman Islands*  
*St. Andrew Parish Church*

**CHRISTMAS SERVICES 2024**



Some years ago, someone asked me, "why can't we have a new Bible, as the Bible as we know it is so old and is something from a distant past?" While not able to articulate what that would be like, she felt that people are tired of hearing the same scriptures read and need to experience something new and current.

I believe that she is not alone, even though others may not be dismissive of the entire Bible. Notwithstanding, I sometimes feel, that as Christmas approaches, there are persons in an increasingly secular society who are indifferent to or who reject the Christmas story. They love the music of Christmas with all its nostalgia and emotions, especially the songs which speak of Santa Claus, Christmastime and the Christmas spirit, but which do not focus on the Christ Child, and the theological concept of the Incarnation.

### Worldly Versus Divine Power

And yet, I am most aware that this story speaks to the realities of life in our world today. Revisiting St. Luke's account of the birth narrative, I am struck first, by the way in which he tells the story of those who held power and shaped the life of a nation's people. At the decree of Emperor Augustus, everyone should be registered, requiring an enforced movement and dislocation for each citizen. That kind of power gives no consideration for the suffering inflicted on the citizens. So, we encounter a couple, with a pregnant wife having to make the trek during which the moment for delivery of her child arrives. In that moment, she is not afforded the dignity of giving birth in a sterile environment, but in a place shared by animals, as "there was no place for them in the inn".

But, let us not be naïve about the way in which power is exercised in oppressive and suffering-inducing ways in our world, as if it belongs only to the sphere of politics and governance. There is evident today a manifestation of Christianity which has aligned itself with certain political philosophies, structures and organizations; and which is promoting a doctrinaire perspective on the gospel that is alienating human beings without any compassion about its dehumanizing impact that is inconsistent with the gospel of Jesus Christ.

2. Why lies He in such mean estate,  
Where ox and ass are feeding?  
Good Christians, fear, for sinners here  
The silent Word is pleading. **R.**

3. So bring Him incense, gold, and myrrh,  
Come peasant king to own Him,  
The King of kings, salvation brings,  
Let loving hearts enthrone Him. **R**

**Post Communion Prayer** (See page 11)

### The Blessing

*Welcome & Notices*

**RECESSIONAL HYMN: 65** *Go tell it on the mountain*

### *Refrain*

*Go tell it on the mountain*

*Over the hills and everywhere*

*Go tell it on the mountain*

*That Jesus Christ is born*

1. While shepherds kept their watching  
O'er silent flocks by night  
Behold throughout the heavens  
There shone a holy light. **R**

2. The Shepherds feared and trembled  
When low above the earth  
Rang out the angel chorus  
That hailed the saviour's birth. **R**

3. Down in a lowly manger  
The humble Christ was born  
And brought us God's salvation  
That blessed Christmas morn. **R**

COMMUNION

Breaking of Bread

see page 10

Agnus Dei

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us  
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, grant us peace.  
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us

The Invitation

Hymns during Communion

642 Away in a manger, no crib for a bed,

1. Away in a manger, no crib for a bed,  
The little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head;  
The stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay,  
The little Lord Jesus, asleep in the hay.

2. The cattle are lowing, the baby awakes,  
But little Lord Jesus, no crying he makes;  
I love thee, Lord Jesus! Look down from the sky,  
And stay by my cradle till morning is nigh.

3. Be near me, Lord Jesus, I ask thee to stay  
Close by me forever and love me, I pray;  
Bless all the dear children in thy tender care,  
And fit us for heaven to live with thee there.

What child is this, who, laid to rest,

1. What child is this, who, laid to rest,  
On Mary's lap is sleeping?  
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet,  
While shepherds watch are keeping?

Refrain

*This, this is Christ the King,  
Whom shepherds guard and angels sing:  
Haste, haste to bring Him laud,  
The babe, the son of Mary.*

THE SOLEMN PROCESSION Organ Voluntary

*(This represents the journey of Joseph and Mary from Nazareth to Bethlehem where Mary gave birth to her firstborn Son.)*

Station at the Manger

HYMN: 82 O Little Town of Bethlehem

1. O little town of Bethlehem,  
How still we see thee lie!  
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep  
The silent stars go by;  
Yet in thy dark streets shineth  
The everlasting Light;  
The hopes and fears of all the years  
Are met in thee tonight.

(+) Our help is in the name of the Lord.

**All: Who made heaven and earth.**

Celebrant: Brothers and sisters, listen to the words of Holy Scriptures  
according to Matthew (1:18-25)

Celebrant:

God of every nation and people,  
from the very beginning of creation  
You have manifested your love:  
When our need for a Saviour was great  
You sent your Son to be born of the Virgin Mary.  
To our lives he brings joy and peace,  
justice, mercy, and love.

**All: Amen.**

*The Manger is incensed as the hymn continues*

2. O holy Child of Bethlehem,  
Descend to us, we pray;  
Cast out our sin and enter in,  
Be born in us today.  
We hear the Christmas angels  
The great glad tidings tell:  
Oh, come to us, abide with us,  
Our Lord Emmanuel!

**Introit Hymn:** 77 O come, all ye faithful

1. O come, all ye faithful,  
joyful and triumphant,  
O come ye, O come ye,  
to Bethlehem.

Come and behold Him,  
born the King of angels.

**Refrain**

*O come, let us adore Him,  
O come, let us adore Him,  
O come, let us adore Him,  
Christ the Lord.*

2. God of God, Light of Light  
Lo, He abhors not the Virgin's womb;  
Very God, begotten, not created; **R**

3. Sing, choirs of angels,  
sing in exultation;  
Sing, all ye citizens of  
heaven above!

Glory to God, in the highest; **R**

4. Yea, Lord, we greet Thee,  
born this happy morning;  
Jesus, to Thee be glory given;  
Word of the Father, now  
in flesh appearing. **R**

**INTRODUCTION & GREETINGS**

Celebrant: Dear friends in Christ, on this most holy night we offer this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to God the almighty, for sending Jesus as Saviour to humankind. In particular, our special intention is for the Light of God to shine peace into our hearts, homes and communities by the power of the Holy Spirit. For "I bring you news of great joy, a joy to be shared by the whole people : today in the town of David a Saviour has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord" (Luke 2:10).

Celebrant: (+) Blessed be God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.  
Alleluia! Alleluia!

**People:** **And blessed be God's Kingdom, now and forever.  
Amen. Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**The Collect for Purity** BCP page 101

**Canticle of Praise:** 547 Glory to God on high!

1. Glory to God on high,  
and peace to all on earth.

We worship you, we give you thanks, our  
heavenly King.

We give you praise,  
almighty God and Father blessed in glory bright.

Celebrant: My sisters and brothers in Christ, let us offer our work and worship to our Heavenly Father, asking for His grace to transform the world and our lives for His Kingdom.

**All:** Father, we offer ... see page 8

**Sursum Corda** (Lift up your hearts) see page 9

**Sanctus & Benedictus** see page 9

**Eucharistic Rite** 'A' BCP page 135

**Acclamations**

**All: Christ has died, Alleluia.**

**Christ is risen, Alleluia.**

**Christ will come again, Alleluia.**

Celebrant: .....With Him and in Him and through Him,  
...in songs of everlasting praise:

**All: Blessing and honour, Alleluia.  
glory and power, Alleluia.  
be yours for ever and ever, Alleluia.  
Amen.**

**The Lord's Prayer**

**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 forever. Amen.**

2. The angels sang when the babe was born,  
The angels sang when the babe was born,  
The angels sang when the babe was born,  
And proclaimed him the Saviour Jesus. **R**

3. The wise men saw where the babe was born,  
The wise men saw where the babe was born,  
The wise men saw where the babe was born,  
And they saw that his name was Jesus. **R**

*The Alleluia is sung before and after the Gospel.*

**Gospel: Luke 2:1 - 14 (15-20)**

**Sermon:**

**The Nicene Creed**                      BCP                      page 104

**PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**    See page 6

**OFFERTORY HYMN: 88 The First Noel**

1. The First Noel, the Angels did say  
Was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay  
In fields where they lay keeping their sheep  
On a cold winter's night that was so deep.

**Refrain: Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel**  
**Born is the King of Israel!**

2. And by the light of that same star  
Three Wise men came from country far  
To seek for a King was their intent  
And to follow the star wherever it went. **R**

3. Then entered in those Wise men three  
Full reverently upon their knee  
And offered there in His presence  
Their gold and myrrh and frankincense. **R**

4. Then let us all with one accord  
Sing praises to our heavenly Lord  
That hath made Heaven and earth of nought  
And with his blood mankind has bought. **R**

2. Our Saviour, Jesus Christ,  
the Father's only Son,  
the sacrificial lamb, who saves the world from sin,  
have mercy Lord.  
Beside the Father's hand enthroned, now hear  
our prayer.

3. You only are the Lord.  
You only are most high.  
You only are the holy one, Lord Jesus Christ.  
And now you reign  
With Father and with Spirit one in glorious light.

Celebrant: Let us pray...

The Collect                      BCP    page 158

**MINISTRY OF THE WORD** (sit)

**First Reading:** Isaiah 9:2 - 7                      Bruce James

**Psalm 96: 1-4, 11, 12 Ref: "Today is born the Saviour, Christ our Lord".**

**Second Reading: Titus 2:11 - 14**                      Janet Shaw

**Sequence Hymn:** Angels we have heard on high

1. Angels we have heard on high,  
Sweetly singing o'er the plains,  
And the mountains in reply  
Echoing their joyous strains.

**Refrain:**  
**Gloria in excelsis Deo.**  
**Gloria in excelsis Deo.**

2. Shepherds, why this jubilee?  
Why your joyous strains prolong?  
What the gladsome tidings be  
Which inspire your heavn'ly song? **R**

3. Come to Bethlehem and see  
Him whose birth the angels sing.  
Come, adore on bended knee  
Christ the Lord, the newborn King. **R**



**ORDER OF SERVICE**

**ENTRANCE HYMN: 73 Joy to the world**

1. Joy to the world, the Lord is come!  
Let earth receive her King;  
Let every heart prepare Him room,  
And Heaven and nature sing,  
And Heaven and nature sing,  
And Heaven, and Heaven,  
and nature sing..

3. No more let sins and sorrows grow,  
Nor thorns infest the ground;  
He comes to make His blessings flow  
Far as the curse is found,  
Far as the curse is found,  
Far as, far as, the curse is found

2. Joy to the world!  
The Saviour reigns:  
Let us our songs employ:  
While fields and floods, rocks,  
hills and plains  
Repeat the sounding joy,  
Repeat the sounding joy,  
Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

4. He rules the world with truth and  
grace,  
And makes the nations prove  
The glories of his righteousness  
And wonders of his love,  
And wonders of his love,  
And wonders, and wonders of his love

**SEASONAL SENTENCE**

The people who walked in darkness ... *Luke 2:10*

Celebrant: (+) Blessed be God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.  
Alleluia! Alleluia!

**People: And blessed be God's Kingdom, now and forever. Amen.  
Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**The Collect for Purity** BCP page 101

**Canticle of Praise:** 547 Glory to God on high!

1. Glory to God on high,  
and peace to all on earth.  
We worship you, we give you thanks,  
our heavenly King.  
We give you praise,  
almighty God and Father blessed in  
glory bright.

2. Our Saviour, Jesus Christ,  
the Father's only Son,  
the sacrificial lamb, who saves the  
world from sin,  
have mercy Lord.  
Beside the Father's hand enthroned,  
now hear our prayer.

14.

Leader: We pray for peace among nations and within our communities  
and for goodwill throughout the world, King of Glory, come  
to earth.

**All: Lord, grant us peace.**

Leader: We remember families, relatives and friends and also those who  
would be alone this Christmas time, King of Glory, come to earth.

**All: Lord, grant us peace.**

Leader: At this time of joy and rejoicing, we pray for all who are sad, and the  
despondent all whose lives are full of sorrow, fear or anxiety . We  
remember those in need of care and love ones who are ill.  
King of Glory, come to earth.

**All: Lord, grant us peace.**

Leader: By the incarnation of the Son of God, grant us true  
repentance. Hear us O, Lord.

**All: Lord, have mercy.**

**All : We confess our transgressions, for grace to be cleansed of our sins,  
to amend our lives and to further the reign of God.**

**The Absolution:**

Celebrant: *Almighty God...*

Grant that the kingdoms of this world may become the kingdom  
of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ; hear us, O Lord.

**All: Lord, grant us peace.**

Celebrant: Lord Jesus Christ you said to your ... (B.C.P page 122)

**THE GREETING OF PEACE** (*All stand*)

Celebrant: "Glory to God in the highest heaven,

**People: And peace to all persons who enjoy God's favour."**

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

**People: And also with you.**

*During the sharing of peace the following chorus is sung*

**Peace and lo-lo-lo-lo-love goodwill to all men  
Peace and lo-lo-lo-lo-love, goodwill to all men  
Peace and lo-lo-lo-lo-love,  
to all God's children  
For God sits on the throne,  
God sits on the throne.**

## OFFERING OF THE EUCHARISTIC SACRIFICE

**Offertory Hymn: 61** Christians, awake! Salute the happy morn

1. Christians, awake! Salute the happy morn,  
whereon the Saviour of the world was born;  
rise to adore the mystery of love,  
which hosts of angels chanted from above:  
with them the joyful tidings first begun  
of God Incarnate and the Virgin's Son.
2. Then to the watchful shepherds it was told,  
who heard the angelic herald's voice, 'Behold,  
I bring good tidings of a Saviour's birth  
to you and all the nations upon earth:  
this day hath God fulfilled his promised word,  
this day is born a Saviour, Christ the Lord.'
3. He spake; and straightway the celestial choir  
in hymns of joy, unknown before, conspire;  
the praises of redeeming love they sang,  
and heaven's whole orb with alleluias rang:  
God's highest glory was their anthem still,  
peace upon earth, and unto men good will.
4. To Bethlehem straight the enlightened shepherds ran,  
to see the wonder God had wrought for man,  
and found, with Joseph and the blessèd Maid,  
her Son, the Saviour, in a manger laid:  
then to their flocks, still praising God, return,  
and their glad hearts with holy rapture burn.
5. Then may we hope, the angelic hosts among,  
to sing, redeemed, a glad triumphal song:  
he that was born upon this joyful day  
around us all his glory shall display;  
saved by his love, incessant we shall sing  
eternal praise to heaven's almighty King.

Celebrant: My sisters and brothers in Christ, let us offer our work and worship to our Heavenly Father, asking for His grace to transform the world and our lives for His Kingdom.

## RECESSIONAL HYMN: 68 Hark the Herald Angels Sing

1. Hark! the herald angels sing,  
Glory to the newborn King;  
Peace on earth and mercy mild,  
God and sinners reconciled  
Joyful all ye nations rise,  
Join the triumph of the skies,  
With the angelic host proclaim,  
'Christ is born in Bethlehem'.

### *Refrain:*

*Hark! the herald angels sing,  
"Glory to the new born King."*

2. Christ, by highest heav'n adored,  
Christ, the everlasting Lord,  
Late in time behold him come  
Offspring of the virgin's womb:  
Veiled in flesh the God-head see,  
Hail the incarnate Deity!  
Pleased as man with men to  
dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel. **R**

3. Hail the heav'n born Prince of Peace!  
Hail the Son of Righteousness!  
Light and life to all he brings,  
Risen with healing in his wings;  
Mild he lays his glory by,  
Born that man no more may die,  
Born to raise the sons of earth,  
Born to give them second birth. **R**



3. Silent night, holy night!  
Son of God, love's pure light  
Radiant beams from Thy holy face  
With the dawn of redeeming grace  
Jesus Lord, at Thy birth  
Jesus Lord, at Thy birth

**Celebrant:** Behold this earth, O Lord, beloved world encircled  
by your infinite Word.

**People:** **From which a million voices rise to you in hope, love, and joy.**

Celebrant: The Word dwelt with God

**People:** **The Word was made flesh and dwelt among us.**

Celebrant: With Mary, Mother of Jesus, Michael and Gabriel the  
archangel, Andrew our Patron Saint, and all the powers of  
Heaven and all the saints,

**People: Pray for us to our most holy and beloved Redeemer,  
and Saviour, Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Celebrant: Let us pray

Pour your grace into our hearts Lord we pray; as we have known the  
incarnation of your Son through the message of an angel, so by His (+) Cross  
and passion, be brought to the glory of His resurrection, through the same  
Christ our Lord.

### **The Blessing**

Celebrant: Christ the Son of God, born of Mary, fill you with His grace to  
trust His promises and obey His will; And the blessing of God almighty, (+)  
the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, be upon you, and remain with you  
always. **Amen.**

### **Welcome & Notices**

**All: Father, we offer you these gifts which you have given us; this  
bread, this wine, this money. With them we offer ourselves, our lives  
and our work to become through your Holy Spirit a reasonable, holy,  
and lively sacrifice. As this bread and wine become the Body and Blood  
of Christ, so may we and all your people become channels of your love;  
through the same Christ our Lord. Amen.**

### **THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER**

PRESIDENT: The Lord be with you.

**All: And also with you.**

PRESIDENT: Lift up your hearts.

**All: We lift them up to the Lord.**

PRESIDENT: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**All: It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

PRESIDENT:

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere  
to give you thanks, Father almighty, everlasting God...

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with angels and  
archangels and with all the company of heaven, who forever  
sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name.

**All:**

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,  
God of power and might  
heaven and earth are full of your glory  
Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is He who comes  
in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

PRESIDENT: Let us proclaim the mystery of our faith

**All: Christ has died. Christ is risen.  
Christ will come again. Amen.**

PRESIDENT.... In songs of everlasting praise:

**All: Blessing and honour and glory and power  
be yours for ever and ever. Amen.**

### **The Lord's Prayer**

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 forever. Amen.

### **COMMUNION**

#### **Breaking of Bread**

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President: We break this bread to share in the body of Christ

**All: Though we are many we are one body because we all share in one bread.**

#### **Agnus Dei**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, Grant us peace.**

#### **The Invitation Form B**

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President: The gifts of God for the people of God

**All: Our souls will feast and be satisfied and we will sing glad songs of  
praise to him.**

**Hymns During Communion: 62** Let us tell you about the story

1. Let us tell you about the story  
of the blessed Virgin Mary,  
she has a baby boy name of Jesus,  
born in Bethlehem of Judea,  
on the straw that was in the manger,  
and she rock the baby to sleep.

2. Cow an' horse an' donkey and sheep  
see the pretty little boy sleep,  
make no sound nor do not a thing,  
for they know that it is the King,  
King and Saviour of the whole world,  
And she rock the baby to sleep.

10.

3. Come, me pretty little baby,  
mek me rock you now to sleep,  
for the little Saviour baby  
looking down upon you from heaven  
on this Mother and on her baby,  
and she rock the baby to sleep.

4. So she rock the little King baby  
sleeping soundly and so serenely,  
she say nothing, she only sigh,  
for she know that soon he must die,  
for him come to save the whole world,  
and she rock the baby to sleep.

### **91 While shepherds watched their flocks by night**

1. While shepherds watched their  
flocks by night,  
All seated on the ground,  
The angel of the Lord came down,  
And glory shone around.

2. "Fear not," said he (for mighty  
dread  
Had seized their troubled mind);  
"Glad tidings of great joy I bring  
To you and all mankind."

3. "To you in David's town this day  
Is born of David's line  
A Saviour, who is Christ the Lord;  
And this shall be the sign:

4. "The heavenly Babe you there shall  
find  
To human view displayed,  
All meanly wrapped in swathing bands,  
And in a manger laid."

5. Thus spake the seraph; and forthwith  
Appeared a shining throng  
Of angels praising God, who thus  
Addressed their joyful song:

6. "All glory be to God on high,  
And to the earth be peace;  
Good will henceforth from heaven to  
men  
Begin and never cease."

### **Post Communion Prayer**

**All : Eternal God and Heavenly Father, we thank you for feeding us with  
the Body and Blood of your Son Jesus Christ.**

**Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and cour-  
age to love and serve you, and all persons in you, with gladness and  
singleness of heart. Through your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

### **Silent night, holy night (All kneel)**

1. Silent night, holy night!  
All is calm, all is bright  
Round yon Virgin, Mother and Child  
Holy Infant so tender and mild  
Sleep in heavenly peace  
Sleep in heavenly peace

2. Silent night, holy night!  
Shepherds quake at the sight  
Glories stream from heaven afar  
Heavenly hosts sing 'Alleluia!  
Christ the Savior is born  
Christ the Savior is born

11.