



# *A Colonial Candlelight Christmas*

## *Christmas Eve*

*Pohick Episcopal Church - Wednesday, December 24, 2025*

*Carols - 10:30pm*

*Holy Eucharist: Rite One - 11:00pm*

**The Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ**  
**Christmas Eve, Wednesday, December 24, 2025**

10:20 p.m. Organ Voluntary  
10:30 p.m. Christmas Eve Carols  
11:00 p.m. Midnight Eucharist of Christmas, Rite One

**ORDER OF WORSHIP**

*The congregation enters the Church in silence before the Service*  
*The Hymns may be found in The Hymnal 1982*

**ORGAN VOLUNTARY**                      Pohick Organ, *Noack, Op. 37, 1969, David M. Storey, 2006*

Concerto in F- Major, Op. 4, No. 4, *HWV 294*                      George Frideric Handel, 1685-1759  
*John Walsh, original edition, 1738*

1. Andante
2. Allegro
3. Alla siciliana
4. Presto

**CHRISTMAS EVE CAROLS**

*All are invited to sing the congregational carols*

*The congregation stands*

**I. CAROL**                      Once in royal David's city – *Irby*

*Solo*

1 Once in royal David's city  
Stood a lowly cattle shed,  
Where a mother laid her baby  
In a manger for his bed:  
Mary was that Mother mild,  
Jesus Christ her little Child.

*Choir*

2 He came down to earth from heaven  
Who is God and Lord of all,  
And his shelter was a stable,  
And his cradle was a stall:  
With the poor and mean and lowly,  
Lived on earth our Saviour holy.



*The Congregation sings stanzas 3-6*

3 And through all His wondrous childhood  
He would honour and obey,  
Love and watch the lowly maiden,  
In whose gentle arms He lay:  
Christian children all must be  
Mild, obedient, good as He.

5 And our eyes at last shall see him  
Through his own redeeming love,  
For that Child so dear and gentle,  
Is our Lord in heaven above:  
And he leads his children on  
To the place where he is gone.

4 For he is our childhood's pattern;  
Day by day like us he grew,  
He was little, weak, and helpless,  
Tears and smiles like us he knew:  
And he feeleth for our sadness,  
And he shareth in our gladness.

6 Not in that poor lowly stable,  
With the oxen standing by,  
We shall see him: but in heaven  
Set at God's right hand on high,  
Where like stars his children crowned,  
All in white shall wait around.

*Words: Cecil Frances Alexander, 1818-1895;*

*Music: melody Henry John Gauntlett, 1805-1876*

*harm. Arthur Henry Mann, 1850-1929, descant, David Willcocks, 1919-2015*

Adam lay ybounden,  
Bounden in a bond;  
Four thousand winter  
Thought he not too long.

And all was for an apple,  
An apple that he took,  
As clerkes finden  
Written in their book.

Ne had the apple taken been,  
The apple taken been,  
Ne had never our lady  
Abeen hevene' queen.

Blessed be the time  
That apple taken was,  
Therefore we moun singen,  
Deo Gratias!

*Words: 15th century anonymous*

III. CAROL   The holly and the ivy   *English traditional, arr. H. Walford Davies, 1869-1941*

The holly and the ivy,  
When they are both full grown,  
Of all the trees that are in the wood,  
The holly bears the crown:

*The congregation seated, sings the refrain:*

*Refrain:*   **O the rising of the sun  
And the running of the deer,  
The playing of the merry organ,  
Sweet singing in the choir.**

The holly bears a blossom,  
As white as any flower,  
And Mary bore sweet Jesus Christ  
To be our sweet Saviour:

*The congregation sings the refrain*

The holly bears a berry,  
As red as any blood,  
And Mary bore sweet Jesus Christ  
To do poor sinners good:

*The congregation sings the refrain*

The holly bears a prickle  
As sharp as any thorn,  
And Mary bore sweet Jesus Christ  
On Christmas Day in the morn:

*The congregation sings the refrain*

The holly bears a bark  
As bitter as any gall,  
And Mary bore sweet Jesus Christ  
For to redeem us all:

*The congregation sings the refrain*

#### IV. CAROL

Up! good Christen folk, and listen

*Piae Cantiones, 1582*

*Ding-dong, ding: Ding-a-dong-a-ding.*

Up! good christen folk, and listen  
How the merry church bells ring,  
And from steeple bid good people  
Come adore the new-born King:

Tell the story how from glory  
God came down at Christmas-tide,  
Bringing gladness, chasing sadness,  
Showering blessings far and wide,

Born of mother, blest o'er other,  
*Ex Maria Virgine,*  
In a stable ('tis no fable),  
*Christus natus hodie.*

*Ding-dong, ding: Ding-a-dong-a-ding.*

*Words and harmony, George Ratcliffe Woodward, 1848-1934*

*The congregation stands and sings*

V. CAROL      The snow lay on the ground – *Venite adoremus*      **HYMN 110**

VOLUNTARY      Allemande (*Pastorale, BWV 590*)      Johann Sebastian Bach, 1685-1750

VI. CAROL      Sussex Carol      *English traditional, arr. Willcocks*

On Christmas night all Christians sing  
To hear the news the angels bring.  
News of great joy, news of great mirth,  
News of our merciful King's birth.

Then why should men on earth be so sad,  
Since our Redeemer made us glad,  
When from our sin he set us free,  
All for to gain our liberty?

*The congregation seated, sings*

**When sin departs before His grace,  
Then life and health come in its place.  
When sin departs before His grace,  
Then life and health come in its place.  
Angels and men with joy may sing  
All for to see the new-born King.**

All out of darkness we have light,  
Which made the angels sing this night:  
All out of darkness we have light,  
Which made the angels sing this night:  
"Glory to God and peace to men,  
Now and for evermore, Amen!"

*The congregation stands and sings*

VII. CAROL

O Little town of Bethlehem – *St. Louis*

**HYMN 79**

*The congregation is seated*

VIII. CAROL

Legend – *The Crown of Roses*

Pytor Illyich Tchaikovsky, 1840-1893

When Jesus Christ was yet a child  
He had a garden small and wild,  
Wherein he cherished roses fair,  
And wove them into garlands there.

Now once, as summer-time drew nigh,  
There came a troop of children by,  
And seeing roses on the tree,  
With shouts they plucked them merrily.

"Do you bind roses in your hair?"  
They cried, in scorn, to Jesus there.  
The Boy said humbly: "Take, I pray,  
All but the naked thorns away."  
Then of the thorns they made a crown,  
And with rough fingers pressed it down.  
Till on his forehead fair and young  
Red drops of blood like roses sprung.

Music: *Songs for Children*, Op. 54, 1884, *arranged for chorus*, 1889

Words: *Roses and Thorns*, Richard Henry Stoddard, 1856

*Translated to Russian*, Aleksey Pleshcheyev, 1878;

*trans. to English*, Geoffrey Dearmer, *English Carol Book*, 1913



*The congregation seated, sings*

IX. CAROL                      Away in a manger, no crib for his bed - *Cradle Song*                      **HYMN 101**

VOLUNTARY                      Lo how a rose e'er blooming                      Johannes Brahms, 1833-1897

*Candlelight Midnight Eucharist, 11:00 p.m.*

## **THE HOLY EUCHARIST: RITE ONE**

**The Book of Common Prayer, pp. 323-340**

*The Hymns and Service Music are from The Hymnal 1982*

Service Music setting: *Missa de Sancta Maria Magdalena*, Healey Willan, 1880-1968

**Opening Welcome**

**The Reverend Daniel M. Cenci, Priest-In-Charge**

## **THE WORD OF GOD**

BCP, p. 323

*The congregation stands and sings*

PROCESSIONAL                      O Come, all ye faithful – *Adeste fidelis*                      **HYMN 83**  
*descant arr. Willcocks*

OPENING ACCLAMATION

BCP, p. 323

*The people standing, the Celebrant may say*

*Celebrant*      Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.                      BCP, p. 323  
*People*        **And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

COLLECT FOR PURITY

BCP, p. 323

*Celebrant*      Almighty God, unto whom all hearts are open, all desires  
known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the  
thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of thy Holy Spirit,  
that we may perfectly love thee, and worthily magnify thy  
holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**



*Celebrant* Hear what our Lord Jesus Christ saith:

Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it: Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself. On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets.

*The congregation sings*

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS          Glory be to God – Willan

S 202

**Glory be to God on high, and on earth peace, good will towards men.**

**We praise thee, we bless thee, we worship thee, we glorify thee, we give thanks to thee for thy great glory.**

**O Lord God, heavenly King, God the Father Almighty.**

**O Lord, the only begotten Son, Jesus Christ;**

**O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.**

**Thou that takest away the sins of the world, receive our prayer.**

**Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy upon us.**

**For thou only art holy; thou only art the Lord;**

**thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost, art most high in the glory of God the Father.**

**Amen.**

## THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

The Nativity of Our Lord: Christmas Eve

BCP, p. 161

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

*People* **And with thy spirit.**

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

O God, who makest us glad with the yearly remembrance of the birth of thy only Son Jesus Christ: Grant that as we joyfully receive him for our Redeemer, so we may with sure confidence behold him when he shall come to be our Judge; who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, one God, world without end. **Amen.**

*The congregation sits*

## THE LESSONS

### OLD TESTAMENT

**Isaiah 62:6-12**

*Reader*      A Reading from Isaiah

Upon your walls, O Jerusalem, I have posted sentinels; all day and all night they shall never be silent. You who remind the LORD, take no rest, and give him no rest until he establishes Jerusalem and makes it renowned throughout the earth. The LORD has sworn by his right hand and by his mighty arm: I will not again give your grain to be food for your enemies, and foreigners shall not drink the wine for which you have labored; but those who garner it shall eat it and praise the LORD, and those who gather it shall drink it in my holy courts. Go through, go through the gates, prepare the way for the people; build up, build up the highway, clear it of stones, lift up an ensign over the peoples. The LORD has proclaimed to the end of the earth: Say to daughter Zion, "See, your salvation comes; his reward is with him, and his recompense before him." They shall be called, "The Holy People, The Redeemed of the LORD"; and you shall be called, "Sought Out, A City Not Forsaken."

*Reader*      The Word of the Lord.

*People*      **Thanks be to God.**

THE PSALTER    *The congregation sings, seated*  
*Dominus regnavit*

**Psalm 97**, pp. 726-727  
*Old Scottish chant*



- 1    The LORD is King;  
let the | earth re|joice; \*  
let the | multitude • of the | isles be | glad.
- 2    Clouds and darkness are | round a|bout him, \*  
righteousness and justice are the foun|dations | of his | throne.



- 3 A fire | goes be|fore him \*  
and burns up his | enemies • on | every | side.
- 4 His lightnings light | up the | world; \*  
the earth | sees it • and | is a|fraid.
- 5 The mountains melt like wax at the | presence • of the | LORD, \*  
at the presence of the | Lord • of the | whole | earth.
- 6 The heavens de|clare his | righteousness, \*  
and all the | peoples | see his | glory.
- 7 Confounded be all who worship carved images and delight in | false | gods! \*  
Bow down be|fore him, | all you | gods.
- 8 Zion hears and is glad, and the cities of | Judah • re|joice, \*  
be|cause of • your | judgments, • O | LORD.
- 9 For you are the LORD, most high over | all the | earth; \*  
you are exalted | far a•bove | **all** | gods.
- 10 The LORD loves | those who • hate | evil; \*  
he preserves the lives of his saints and delivers them from the | **hand** | of the  
| wicked.
- 11 Light has sprung | up • for the | righteous, \*  
and joyful gladness for | those who • are | **true**|hearted.
- 12 Rejoice in the | LORD, you | righteous, \*  
and give | thanks to • his | holy | Name.

### *Gloria Patri*

**Glory be to the Father, and | to the | Son, \***  
**and | to the | Holy | Ghost:**  
**As it was in the beginning, is now, and | ever | shall be, \***  
**world without | end. | A|men.**

*Reader*      A Reading from Titus

When the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared, he saved us, not because of any works of righteousness that we had done, but according to his mercy, through the water of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit. This Spirit he poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior, so that, having been justified by his grace, we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life.

*Reader*      The Word of the Lord.

*People*      **Thanks be to God.**

*The congregation stands and sings*

GRADUAL    While shepherds watched their flocks by night – *Winchester Old*      **HYMN 94**

## THE HOLY GOSPEL

**Luke 2:8-20**

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

*People*      **Glory be to thee, O Lord.**

In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see-- I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!" When 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.

*Celebrant*     The Gospel of the Lord.

*People*        **Praise be to thee, O Christ.**

*After the Gospel:*     From heaven above to earth I come, *BWV 606*

J. S. Bach

*The congregation sits*

## THE SERMON

The Reverend Daniel M. Cenci, Priest-In-Charge

*A moment of silence*

## THE NICENE CREED

BCP, pp. 326-327

*Celebrant and People, All 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 PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

BCP, pp. 328-330

*The Deacon or other person appointed says*

Let us pray for the whole state of Christ's Church and the world.

*Silence*

Almighty and everliving God, who in thy holy Word hast taught us to make prayers, and supplications, and to give thanks for all men: Receive these our prayers which we offer unto thy divine Majesty, beseeching thee to inspire continually the Universal Church with the spirit of truth, unity, and concord; and grant that all those who do confess thy holy Name may agree in the truth of thy holy Word, and live in unity and godly love.

Give grace, O heavenly Father, to all bishops and other ministers, especially Sarah, Archbishop of Canterbury designate; Sean, our Presiding Bishop; Mark, Gayle and Mark, our Bishops; and Daniel and Ted, our ministers; that they may, both by their life and doctrine, set forth thy true and lively Word, and rightly and duly administer thy holy Sacraments.

Give thanks for the Rev. Dr. Diane G. Murphy, on this date December 20, the 22<sup>nd</sup> anniversary of her ordination to the Priesthood.

And to all thy people give thy heavenly grace, and especially to this congregation here present; that, with meek heart and due reverence, they may hear and receive thy holy Word, truly serving thee in holiness and righteousness all the days of their life.

We beseech thee also so to rule the hearts of those who bear the authority of government in this and every land, especially Donald, our President, Glenn, our Governor, Abigail, our

governor-elect, and Jeffrey, our county chairman, that they may be led to wise decisions and right actions for the welfare and peace of the world.

Open, O Lord, the eyes of all people to behold thy gracious hand in all thy works, that, rejoicing in thy whole creation, they may honor thee with their substance, and be faithful stewards of thy bounty.

And we most humbly beseech thee, of thy goodness, O Lord, to comfort and succor all those who in this transitory life, are in trouble, sorrow, need, sickness, or any other adversity, especially those named in our Prayer List.

We pray for all those celebrating birthdays this week, especially Anne, Charles, Zach, Caroline, Kathy, Susan, and Janet.

We offer our prayers on behalf of those members of our parish who serve our country and their families, particularly those overseas; especially Ryan, Gabby, and Summer.

We pray for the victims of violence and of natural disasters worldwide. We pray for a Peaceful resolution of all global conflicts and we ask your protection for all innocent people.

We pray for all Christians who face persecution for their faith.

In the Diocese of Virginia, we pray for Grace (Cismont)-Keswick.

And we also bless thy holy Name for all thy servants departed this life in thy faith and fear, especially Anne Arnhart and Caleb Caesar, beseeching thee to grant them continual growth in thy love and service; and to grant us grace so to follow the good examples of all thy saints, that with them we may be partakers of thy heavenly kingdom.

Grant these our prayers, O Father, for Jesus Christ's sake, our only Mediator and Advocate. ***Amen.***

## CONFESSION OF SIN

BCP, pp. 330-331

*Celebrant* Let us humbly confess our sins unto almighty God.

*Celebrant and People*

**Almighty God,  
Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
maker of all things, judge of all men:  
We acknowledge and bewail our manifold sins  
and wickedness,  
which we from time to time most grievously have committed,  
by thought, word, and deed, against thy divine Majesty,  
provoking most justly thy wrath and indignation against us.**



We do earnestly repent,  
and are heartily sorry for these our misdoings;  
the remembrance of them is grievous unto us,  
the burden of them is intolerable.

Have mercy upon us,  
have mercy upon us, most merciful Father;  
for thy Son our Lord Jesus Christ's sake,  
forgive us all that is past;  
and grant that we may ever hereafter  
serve and please thee in newness of life,  
to the honor and glory of thy Name;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*Celebrant* Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who of his great mercy hath promised forgiveness of sins to all those who with hearty repentance and true faith turn unto him, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and bring you to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## THE PEACE

BCP, p. 332

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

*People* And with thy spirit.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS *The congregation sits*

## THE HOLY COMMUNION *The congregation stands*

BCP, p. 333

## THE PRESENTATION OF THE BREAD AND WINE

OFFERTORY MOTET      We have seen his star      Everett Titcomb, 1884-1968

We have seen His star in the East and are come with our offerings to worship the Lord.

*Matthew 2:2*

CAROL

In the bleak midwinter

Harold Darke, 1888-1976

In the bleak mid-winter  
Frosty wind made moan  
Earth stood hard as iron,  
Water like a stone;  
Snow had fallen, snow on snow,  
Snow on snow,  
In the bleak mid-winter  
Long ago.  
Our God, heaven cannot hold Him  
Nor earth sustain,  
Heaven and earth shall flee away  
When He comes to reign:  
In the bleak mid-winter  
A stable-place sufficed  
The Lord God Almighty Jesus Christ.

Enough for Him, whom cherubim,  
Worship night and day,  
A breastful of milk  
And a mangerful of hay;  
Enough for Him, whom Angels  
Fall down before,  
The ox and ass and camel  
Which adore.

What can I give Him,  
Poor as I am?  
If I were a Shepherd  
I would bring a lamb;  
If I were a Wise Man  
I would do my part,  
Yet what I can I give Him,  
Give my heart.

*Words: Christina Rossetti, A Christmas Carol, 1872*

*The congregation stands and sings*

DOXOLOGY      Praise God from whom all blessings flow – *Old 100<sup>th</sup>*      HYMN 380, *st. 3*

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below; praise him above, ye heavenly host: praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

BCP, p. 333

*Eucharistic Prayer I*

*Celebrant*      The Lord be with you.

*People*      **And with thy spirit.**

*Celebrant*      Lift up your hearts.

*People*      **We lift them up unto the Lord.**

*Celebrant*      Let us give thanks unto the Lord our God.

*People*      **It is meet and right so to do.**

*Celebrant*      It is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord, holy Father, almighty, everlasting God.

Because thou didst give Jesus Christ, thine only Son, to be born for us; who, by the mighty power of the Holy Ghost, was made very Man of the substance of the Virgin Mary his mother; that we might be delivered from the bondage of sin, and receive power to become thy children.

Therefore with Angels and Archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious Name; evermore praising thee, and saying,

*The congregation sings*

SANCTUS      Holy, holy, holy – Willan

S 114

**Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Hosts:**

**Heaven and earth are full of thy glory.**

**Glory be to thee, O Lord Most High.**

**Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

*Celebrant*

All glory be to thee, Almighty God, our heavenly Father, for that thou, of thy tender mercy, didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption; who made there, by his one oblation of himself once offered, a full, perfect, and sufficient sacrifice, oblation, and satisfaction, for the sins of the whole world; and did institute, and in his holy Gospel command us to continue, a perpetual memory of that his precious death and sacrifice, until his coming again.

For in the night in which he was betrayed, he took bread; and when he had given thanks, he brake it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take, eat, this is my Body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Likewise, after supper, he took the cup; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, "Drink ye all of this; for this is my Blood of the New Testament, which is shed for you, and for many, for the remission of sins. Do this, as oft as ye shall drink it, in remembrance of me."

Wherefore, O Lord and heavenly Father, according to the institution of thy dearly beloved Son our Savior Jesus Christ, we, thy humble servants, do celebrate and make here before thy divine Majesty, with these thy holy gifts, which we now offer unto thee, the memorial thy Son hath commanded us to make; having in remembrance his blessed passion and precious death, his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension; rendering unto thee most hearty thanks for the innumerable benefits procured unto us by the same.

And we most humbly beseech thee, O merciful Father, to hear us; and, of thy almighty goodness, vouchsafe to bless and sanctify, with thy Word and Holy Spirit, these thy gifts and creatures of bread and wine; that we, receiving them according to thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ's holy institution, in remembrance of his death and passion, may be partakers of his most blessed Body and Blood.

And we earnestly desire thy fatherly goodness mercifully to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving; most humbly beseeching thee to grant that, by the merits and death of thy Son Jesus Christ, and through faith in his blood, we, and all thy whole Church, may obtain remission of our sins, and all other benefits of his passion.

And here we offer and present unto thee, O Lord, our selves, our souls and bodies, to be a reasonable, holy, and living sacrifice unto thee; humbly beseeching thee that we, and all others who shall be partakers of this Holy Communion, may worthily receive the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son Jesus Christ, be filled with thy grace and

heavenly benediction, and made one body with him, that he may dwell in us, and we in him.

And although we are unworthy, through our manifold sins, to offer unto thee any sacrifice, yet we beseech thee to accept this our bounden duty and service, not weighing our merits, but pardoning our offenses, through Jesus Christ our Lord;

By whom, and with whom, in the unity of the Holy Ghost, all honor and glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, world without end. **AMEN.**

And now, as our Savior Christ hath taught us, we are bold to say,

*Celebrant and People*

**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 BREAKING OF THE BREAD**

BCP, p. 337

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

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

*The congregation sings*

AGNUS DEI

Fraction Anthem: O Lamb of God - Willan

S 158

**O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.**

**O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.**

**O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, grant us thy peace.**

**We do not presume to come to this thy Table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in thy manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under thy Table. But thou art the same Lord whose property is always to have mercy. Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of thy dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.**

## THE INVITATION

BCP, p. 338

*All baptized Christians are invited to receive Communion (see back page). Please follow the direction of the ushers Communion Stations.*

## THE MINISTRATION OF THE HOLY COMMUNION

BCP, p. 338

## VOLUNTARY

Largo: Pastorale *ad libitum*

Arcangelo Corelli, 1653-1713

*(Concerto Grosso, op. 6, no. 8, 'Made for the Night of Christmas')*

*Christmas Scene, from the oratorio Messiah*

George Frideric Handel, 1685-1750

## CHORUS

For unto us a child is born

For unto us a child is born a son is given; and the government shall be upon His shoulder; and His Name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The Mighty God, The Everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace. *Isaiah 9:6*

## PIFA

*Larghetto e mezzo piano*

## RECITATIVE

There were shepherds

There were shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. *Luke 2:8*

## ACCOMPAGNATO

And lo the angel of the Lord

And lo the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them, and they were sore afraid. *Luke 2:9*

## RECITATIVE

And the angel said unto them

And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day, in the city of David, a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord. *Luke 2:10-11*

ACCOMPAGNATO

And suddenly there was with the angel

And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heav'nly host, praising God, and saying ...

*Luke 2:13*

CHORUS

Glory to God

Glory to God in the highest, and peace on earth, good will towards men. *Luke 2:14*

*The congregation sings, seated*

COMMUNION

It came upon the mid-night clear – *Carol*

**HYMN 90**

POST-COMMUNION

*Solo*

Stille Nacht, heilige Nacht,  
Alles schläft; einsam wacht  
Nur das traute hochheilige Paar.  
Holder Knabe im lockigen Haar,  
Schlaf in himmlischer Ruh!

*The congregation sits and sings*

POST-COMMUNION

Silent night, holy night – *Stille Nacht*

**HYMN 111**

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

BCP, p. 339

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

**Almighty and everliving God, we most heartily thank thee for that thou dost feed us, in these holy mysteries, with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and dost assure us thereby of thy favor and goodness towards us; and that we are very members incorporate in the mystical body of thy Son, the blessed company of all faithful people; and are also heirs, through hope, of thy everlasting kingdom. And we humbly beseech thee, O heavenly Father, so to assist us with thy grace, that we may continue in that holy fellowship, and do all such good works as thou hast prepared for us to walk in; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honor and glory, world without end. *Amen.***

BLESSING

BCP, p. 339

May Almighty God, who sent his Son to take our nature upon him, bless you in this holy season, scatter the darkness of sin, and brighten your heart with the light of his holiness. ***Amen.***





**We warmly welcome all newcomers and visitors and hope you'll introduce yourselves, receive a gift, and leave us your contact information!**

## ***PRAYERS, INTERCESSIONS, AND THANKSGIVINGS***

**For the special needs and concerns of this congregation**, especially for Craig Floyd, Wren Norwood, Andrea Godwin-Stremmler, Cathie McCall, Alisa Romero, Steve Alfieris, Jennifer Sassin, Becky Wagner, Tanya Reams, Joe Coleman, Andy, Kelly, Nissa D'Andrea, Carol Schiering, Ray Rios, Mickie Krause, Anne Derbes, Bill Hosp, D'Andrea Wooten, Brett Ward, Juan Bernal, Troy Roberson, Ann Carter, Lydia Cepeda, Terry Abrams, Steve & Mari Harding, Tom Mayberry, Jim Murphy, Barb Rader, Margo Singleton, Mary Reilly, David Urbanski, Boatner Howell, Susanne Roberts, Fred and Donna Crawford, Pat DeYoung, Barry Brown, Lara Gore, Larry Mobley, Alexander Clumpkens, Everett Wanko, Maggie Calio, Jack Oates, Anne Sayer, Jan Hover, Cheryl Maddock, Christina Cole, Rob Grant, Judy Sunderland, Sally Hogg, Anne and Tony Marsico, Jim Bartholomew, Nolan Brown, Kelly Godfrey, and Rob Lamb.

- We pray for all the blessings of this life, especially those celebrating birthdays this week: Anne Gailey, Charles Keeney, Zach Smith, Caroline Olmsted, Kathy Kirkland, Susan Mayberry, and Janet Hodges.
- It is with sadness that we announce that our dear, faithful, beloved friend Anne Arnhart has peacefully rejoined our creator.
- We pray for the soul of Caleb Caesar, who died December 12. He was the grandson of Sandra Caesar.
- We pray for our members who serve our country, particularly those overseas, and their families: Ryan Moatta, Gabby Rolland, and Summer Lancet.
- We pray for the victims of violence and of natural disasters worldwide. We pray for a Peaceful resolution of all global conflicts, and we ask your protection for all innocent people.
- We pray for all Christians who face persecution for their faith.
- In the Diocese of Virginia, we pray for Grace (Cismont), Keswick.

## ***ANNOUNCEMENTS***

**Welcome newcomers!** We are so delighted you've joined us for worship! All are welcome to the table at Communion! On Regular Sundays, come meet our warm and friendly community during our receptions in the Parish House after the 8 am and 10:30 am services. On Regular Sundays, Nursery Care is available from 7:45 am to 11:45 am.

- Special Christmas Offering Envelopes are available in your pews!
- Tomorrow, Christmas Day, there is a 10:00 am Church Service.
- Merry Christmas from the Pohick Vestry, Clergy and Staff.
- **Sunday, December 28<sup>th</sup>, The First Sunday after Christmas – One Service**  
**10 a.m. A Festival Service of Nine Lessons & Carols, Pohick Youth Choir & Pohick Choir**
- **Coffee N Compline** on-line Wednesdays at 7:00 pm. Fellowship, reflection and worship. Call the Parish Office at 703 339-6572 for the Microsoft Teams link. This same link is used every Wednesday.

- **Our regular Sunday Services** are at 8 am (Rite I Eucharist) and 10:30 am (Rite II Eucharist). Christian Education for all ages begins at 9:15 am. Announcements are on [pohick.org /news/weekly-announcements](http://pohick.org/news/weekly-announcements). Send your email to [adminassistant@pohick.org](mailto:adminassistant@pohick.org) to receive our weekly email.
- **Parish Office hours:** Mon-Thu 9am-3pm, Fridays 9am-noon. (Dec 22-Jan 2, 2026: hours will vary)



## Christmas Poinsettias 2025

### Dedicated by the following:

George Washington, Merry Christmas. Love Martha – given by Martha Washington.

In Thanksgiving for Phil and family and wonderful friendships – given by Beth Altman.

Ad gloriam Dei – given by Anonymous.

In Thanksgiving for our God-blessed children and their spouses/girlfriend: Dr. and Mrs. Seyis Lissie Ayorinde; Mr. Tope Ayorinde and Taylor Armand – given by Femi & Janet Ayorinde.

In loving memory of Caroline's grandparents, Doug and Angie MacMillan, Willie Dee and Pat Billingsley, Jr. – given by the Billingsley family.

In Thanksgiving for our loving Pohick family and in memory of our parents Carl and Clarissa Floyd and Arthur and Catherine Bireley – given by Jud and Nancy Bireley.

In memory and a blessing from God – Caleb Caesar – given by Sandra Caesar.

In memory of E.J. and John – given by Grace Delaune.

In Thanksgiving for all of our loved ones, including our son Ben, and our friends, and in memory of our parents Joe and Joan Egan, Owen and Margaret Wilberger, and Eleanor Egan – given by Linda and John Egan.

All the blessings in 2025 – given by Anne Gulyassy.

In memory of our loving parents, Anne and Sam Spragins and Edgar and Virginia Harding, and with Thanksgiving for our children and our grandsons, Noah and Kasper – given by Mari and Steve Harding.

In memory of Clinton and Marilyn Herbert and continued recovery of Jan Hover – given by Clint and Lisa Truesdale-Herbert.

Adrienne Shaver and David Shaver—given by Erin Hopkins.

In memory of Thomas A. Hulfish, III – given by Charles Hulfish.

In memory of America Fermin de Alayon – given by Charles Hulfish.

In memory of Cesar de Alayon – given by Charles Hulfish.

In loving memory of our parents and brother. With Thanksgiving for our amazing children and grandchildren. God's blessing on our family, friends, and Pohick Church. Wishing all a wonderful 2026 – given by Paul and Susanne Leon.

In loving memory of June MacDonald – given by Chuck MacDonald.

In loving memory of our father and husband, Harold McCullough, and our parents and grandparents, Dot and Evans McCreery, Frank and Frances McCullough and Francis X. and Demetra Riley -- given by Brad and Carney McCullough and Patrick Riley.

In loving memory of Marcel and Ethel Pfalzgraf and in Thanksgiving for the love of our family-Kristina, Kim, Greg, Danielle, Carleigh and Chase – given by Dennis and Connie Myers.

In Thanksgiving for our sons Andy and John, their spouses Carmen and Kyla, and our beloved granddaughter Helena – given by Harry and Caroline Olmsted.

In Thanksgiving for our amazing choir – given by Jeff and Helen Parker.

In Memory and Thanksgiving for our parents, Hazel and Leroy and Georgia Lee and Lenni – given by Mrs. and Dr. Reams (Tanya and Gary)

In Thanksgiving for our wonderful family: Erica, Alex, Sage, Finn, Kelsey, Mike, Callahan, Isaac, Emily, Rachel and Larry Rose– given by Susan & Pehr Pehrsson.

In loving memory of Bill Poad and Rebecca Fry – given by Anne Poad.

In Thanksgiving for our children, Rose and Rhett, and for our godchildren, Rebecca Booth Gregory and Maggie Calio – given by Rod & Jen Strawderman.

In thanksgiving for our Grammy and Grandma and in memory of our Poppy and granddad – given by Rose & Rhett Strawderman.

In Thanksgiving for our grandchildren Lily and Finn – given by Fuzzy and Jane Thurston.

In Thanksgiving for Zachary, Dane, Taryn, Tom, and Raife – given by Ted & Melody Yezek.

In Memory of Sacha Homer — given by Ted & Melody Yezek.

In memory and thanks for my parents Howard and Lynn York who started my life at Pohick in 1966 – given by Jim York.

## INSTRUCTIONS FOR RECEIVING COMMUNION

*In the Episcopal tradition, all baptized Christians are welcomed to receive Communion at the Lord's Table; simply come to the altar rail and kneel to receive if you are able, or you may stand. If you are unable to come to the rail, please indicate to an usher that you would like communion brought to you.*

*The options for receiving communion are:*

*You may hold out both hands to receive bread and drink from the cup;*

*To receive by intinction, please leave the bread in your open palm and the Chalice bearer will dip the bread in the chalice for you and place it back in your hand.*

*To reduce germ exposure in the chalice medical authorities have suggested, and the Diocese recommends, only the Chalice Bearer intinct the bread in the Common Cup.*

*If you prefer to receive only bread, simply cross one arm across your chest as you hold out your hand for bread.*

*You may cross your arms over your chest and simply receive a blessing.*

### Vestry of Pohick Church

<u>Member</u>	<u>Elected Position and Commissions</u>
Neil Hogg	Senior Warden
Dave Billingsley	Junior Warden / Building & Grounds
Andrea Gurrola	Treasurer
Tom Mayberry	Register
Chris Brown	Communication & Digital Ministry
Beth Cooke	Service & Fellowship / Outreach
Dan Derbes	
Molly Diaz	Young Adult & Family Ministry
Rick Church	
Kathy Kirkland	Pastoral Care / Worship / Education
Jeff Schavland	Resources / Stewardship / Policy
Barbara Schavland	(youth rep 25/26)
Hal Yarwood	

### Staff of Pohick Church

Priest-In-Charge:	The Reverend Daniel M. Cenci
Assistant Rector/	
Youth Minister:	The Reverend Ted Renaud
Minister of Music:	Ronald Butts Boehmer
Director of Education:	Susan Pehrsson
Finance Admin.:	Julie Ramacciotti
Sexton:	Clint Herbert
Administrative Asst.:	Kara Faunt
Cemetery Warden:	Sandra Caesar
Communications Mgr:	Deborah Hennig
Nursery Supervisor:	Jennifer Tatum

**QR Code is set up for one-time giving for visitors or guests.**



## **Pohick Episcopal Church**

*The Reverend Daniel M. Cenci, Priest-In-Charge*

9301 Richmond Highway

Lorton, VA 22079

703-339-6572 • [pohick.org](http://pohick.org)

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“Follow” us on Instagram at Pohick

**Home Church of George Washington  
and George Mason**