

New St. James Church

**Christmas Eve Communion Service
Tuesday, December 24, 2019 - 9:30 p.m.**

***please stand, if able**

Prelude *Once In Royal David's City (Irby)* R. Farlee (©2001)

* **Hymn** *Once in royal David's city (Irby)* **166**

Welcome

Lighting of the Christ Candle - PWS&D Liturgy
(read by Bruce Curtis & Alison Curtis)

Introit *Hodie Christus Natus Est* Gregorian Chant; arr. T. Chiles

Hodie Christus natus est. Today Christ is born.
Hodie salvator apparuit. Today the Saviour appeared.
Hodie in terra canunt angeli Today on earth the angels sing
laetantur archangeli. Arch angels rejoice.
Hodie exultant justi dicentes: Today the righteous rejoice saying:
gloria in excelsis Deo. Alleluia! Glory to God in the highest. Alleluia!

Unison Prayer

We come on this holy night to kneel before the Child of Peace; we come on this holy night to welcome the Child of Hope; we come on this holy night to open our hearts and present our gifts; to celebrate His birth, not only in Bethlehem, but in us, that we with the shepherds might go our way rejoicing. All this we pray in the name of Love Incarnate. Amen.

* **Hymn** *Infant holy, Infant lowly* (Polish Carol) **143**

Unison Prayer of Illumination

Dawn upon us Holy Child; dawn on us as Truth and Light; be for us the Door, the Way, North Star shining in the night. Amen.

A Reading from the Prophet Isaiah

Anthem *Love Came Down At Christmas* M. Sirett (©1998)

Love came down at Christmas, Love all lovely, Love Divine; Love was born at Christmas, stars and angels gave the sign. Worship we the Godhead, Love incarnate, Love Divine; worship we our Jesus: wherewith for sacred sign? Love shall be our token, Love be yours and Love be mine, Love to God, and Love to all, Love for plea, and gift, and sign.

A Reading from the Gospel according to St. Luke

Anthem *Night Of The Father's Love (Divinum Mysterium)* P. Choplin (©2013)

Of the Father's love begotten, ere the worlds began to be, He is Alpha and Omega. He, the source, the ending, He. Of the things that are, that have been and the future years shall see, evermore and evermore.

Sermon **The Impossible Dream** Rev. Dr. David McKane

* **Hymn** *Away in a Manger (Cradle Song)* **143**

Offering and Offertory *Divinum Mysterium* (W. Held (©1970))

Prayer of Dedication

Sacrament of Holy Communion (Red grape juice and full gluten bread are used)

Invitation

Words of Institution

Prayer of Consecration

Distribution

Prayer After Communion

* **Hymn** *Silent Night (Stille Nacht)* **154**

Benediction

Postlude *Silent Night (Stille Nacht)* J. Leavitt (©1998)



I have enjoyed these past eight weeks worshipping with you. Epiphany is a time for journeying. I wish you well in your search and joy in your new Interim. He is a fortunate man to share with such a gifted congregation. I leave you with an Epiphany poem I wrote a few years back.

Peace, David.

The Magi.

Oh, many the night we pondered why we followed that star?

And many a night we wondered if it should lead us far?

But some deep yearning drew us like salmon through the sea, to search for that peaceable kingdom that prophets dreamed would be.

Where righteousness and mercy displace despair and gloom, and justice flows like rivers to make the desert bloom.

And many a day like children we searched both high and low, and many a night like lovers we followed the starlight's glow, sensing from deep within us God's Spirit draw us on to search for that earthly dwelling where the Prince of Peace is born.

To humbly pay our homage and lay our treasures down before the King of Heaven whose Love becomes his crown.

And when the way grew dangerous or tempted us to stray from all our fruitless travels for One who is the Way, the starlight drew us onward towards the House of Bread where ancient prophets told us and heavenly angels said, that God who tossed the heavens and fixed the stars in place becomes for us an infant; Love held within a face.

David McKane.



Happy and Holy Christmas

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Minister

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Torin W. Chiles

