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All Saints' Episcopal Church

Artist Reflection

Let All Creation Dance

Ink dyes and gold resist on silk, with digital collage By Lisle Gwynn Garrity

This quilt square collage shows the ripple effect of joy dancing throughout all creation. In the nativity story, the birth of Christ is meant to bring universal joy and good news to all people, especially those like the shepherds who might be estranged, undervalued, or marginalized (Luke 2:10). Joy greets the Magi during their long and arduous journey; when the star stops, they know they are close (Matthew 2:10). In addition to the Christmas story, this piece is also inspired by the rich poetry of praise found throughout many Hebrew scriptures. For those enduring exile, God brings exaltation that multiplies (Isaiah 9:2-3). The psalmist sings praise for the God of the mountains and hills as well as the highest heavens and starry skies (Psalm 148). The prophet Isaiah casts a new vision of people returning home as the trees clap their hands and the mountains and hills sing shouts of praise (Isaiah 55:12-13).

For the focal point of this design, I chose an eight-pointed star, which is symbolic in many cultures and religious traditions. In Judeo-Christian traditions, the number eight symbolizes new beginnings, as seven is the number of completion. The eight points can also represent the four cardinal directions combined with the four elements: fire, air, water, and earth. For many, an eight-pointed star means harmony and balance. In this image, I wanted the landscape to feel refracted, perhaps like a prism, or even a broken mirror. The land rejoices despite forces that try to break it. The horizon expands into all directions. There is no east or west, north or south – the arms of creation reach into the cosmos. In between stars and moons, fruit trees bear their harvest and clap their hands. In many ways, this piece is a song of praise as well as a song of resistance. Creation cannot be quieted. If praise is not on your lips this day, do not fear, for we can trust that all of creation is dancing on our behalf.



Your presence today is a blessing to this parish. This bulletin has been created from the prayers found in *The Book of Common Prayer*, and it contains most of the spoken parts of worship. The blue Hymnal 1982 in your pew rack contains most of the hymns that are sung. You'll find words to the hymns that come from supplemental hymnals printed in this bulletin.

THE WORD OF GOD

Entrance Rite

Voluntary

Processional Hymn
Once in royal David's city, Vs. 1-4

The Hymnal 1982 – 102

Irby

Bidding Prayer

Beloved in Christ, in this Christmastide, let it be our care and delight to hear again the message of the Angels, and in heart and mind to go even unto Bethlehem, and see this thing which is come to pass, and the Babe lying in a manger.

Let us read and mark in Holy Scripture the tale of the loving purposes of God from the first days of our disobedience unto the glorious Redemption brought us by this holy Child; and let us make this place glad with our carols of praise.

But first, let us pray for the needs of his whole world; for peace and goodwill over all the earth; for the mission and unity of the Church for which he died, and especially in this country and within this city.

And because this of all things would rejoice his heart, let us at this time remember in his name the poor and the helpless, the hungry and the oppressed; the sick and those who mourn; the lonely and the unloved; the aged and the little children; and all those who know not the Lord Jesus, or who love him not, or who by sin have grieved his heart of love.

Lastly, let us remember before God his pure and lowly Mother, and all those who rejoice with us, but upon another shore and in a greater light, that multitude which no one can number, whose hope was in the Word made flesh, and with whom, in this Lord Jesus, we for evermore are one.

The Lessons

The people sit.

Lesson I: from Genesis 3

A Reading from the Book of Genesis.

Now the serpent was more crafty than any other wild animal that the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, "Did God say, 'You shall not eat from any tree in the garden'?" The woman said to the serpent, "We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden; but God said, 'You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the middle of the garden, nor shall you touch it, or you shall die." But the serpent said to the woman, "You will not die; for God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil." So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate; and she also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate. Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made loincloths for themselves. They heard the sound of the LORD God walking in the garden at the time of the evening breeze, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God among the trees of the garden. But the LORD God called to the man, and said to him, "Where are you?" He said, "I heard the sound of you in the garden, and I was

afraid, because I was naked; and I hid myself." He said, "Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?" The man said, "The woman whom you gave to be with me, she gave me fruit from the tree, and I ate." Then the LORD God said to the woman, "What is this that you have done?" The woman said, "The serpent tricked me, and I ate." The LORD God said to the serpent, "Because you have done this, cursed are you among all animals and among all wild creatures; upon your belly you shall go, and dust you shall eat all the days of your life. I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; he will strike your head, and you will strike his heel." And the LORD God made garments of skins for the man and for his wife, and clothed them. Then the LORD God said, "See, the man has become like one of us, knowing good and evil; and now, he might reach out his hand and take also from the tree of life, and eat, and live forever" - therefore the LORD God sent him forth from the garden of Eden, to till the ground from which he was taken. He drove out the man; and at the east of the garden of Eden he placed the cherubim, and a sword flaming and turning to guard the way to the tree of life.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Silence may follow.

All stand.

Carol

The Hymnal 1982 – 100

Joy to the world!, Vs. 1-3

Antioch

The people sit.

Lesson II: from Isaiah 40

A Reading from the Prophet Isaiah.

"Comfort, O comfort my people," says your God. "Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that she has served her term, that her penalty is paid, that she has received from the Lord's hand double for all her sins." A voice cries out: "In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord, make straight in the desert a highway for our God. Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain. Then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together, for the mouth of the Lord has spoken." A voice says, "Cry out!" And I said, "What shall I cry?" All people are grass, their constancy is like the flower of the field. The grass withers, the flower fades, when the breath of the Lord blows upon it; surely the people are grass. The grass withers, the flower fades; but the word of our God will stand forever. Get you up to a high mountain, O Zion, herald of good tidings; lift up your

voice with strength, O Jerusalem, herald of good tidings, lift it up, do not fear; say to the cities of Judah, "Here is your God!" See, the Lord God comes with might, and his arm rules for him; his reward is with him, and his recompense before him. He will feed his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms, and carry them in his bosom, and gently lead the mother sheep.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God. People:

All stand.

Carol

The Hymnal 1982 – 99

Go tell it on the mountain

Go Tell it on the Mountain

The people sit.

Lesson III: from Isaiah 7

A Reading from the Prophet Isaiah.

Again the LORD spoke to Ahaz, saying, Ask a sign of the LORD your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven. But Ahaz said, I will not ask, and I will not put the LORD to the test. Then Isaiah said: "Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary mortals, that you weary my God also? Therefore the Lord

himself will give you a sign. Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son, and shall name him Immanuel. He shall eat curds and honey by the time he knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

All stand.

Carol

The Hymnal 1982 – 81

Lo, how a Rose e'er blooming

Es ist in Ros

The people sit.

Lesson IV: from Luke 1

A Reading from the Gospel of Luke.

In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit and exclaimed with a loud cry, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me? For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leaped for

joy. And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her by the Lord."

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

The people stand.

Carol

The Hymnal 1982 – 437

Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord!

Birmingham

The people sit.

Lesson V: from Luke 2

A Reading from the Gospel of Luke.

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her

firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

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!"

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

The people stand.

Carol

The Hymnal 1982 – 79

O little town of Bethlehem, Vs. 1-2, 5

St. Louis

The people sit.

Lesson VI: from John 1

A Reading from the Gospel of John.

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.

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.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

The people stand.

Carol

The Hymnal 1982 – 107

Good Christian friends, rejoice, Vs. 1-2

In dulci jubilo

The people sit.

The Sermon

The Rev. Jim Bernacki

The Nicene Creed

All stand.

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 Peace BCP p. 360

All stand

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

People: And also with you.

Then the Ministers and the People may greet one another in the name of the Lord.

THE HOLY COMMUNION

A note about receiving Holy Communion: In the Episcopal Church, we understand that Christ is "really present" in the bread and wine provided from God's table. All who claim Christ as Lord are always welcome to receive the sacrament of Holy Communion in this church. Children are welcome to receive communion at the discretion of their parents. Come forward at the direction of the ushers. Receive the consecrated wafer in the palm of your outstretched hand from the first person who comes to you. To receive a gluten-free wafer, please cross your hands palms down. You may drink from the larger cup/chalice which the next person will offer you. Receive the consecrated wine by guiding the offered cup to your lips and sipping, or by intinction: lightly dip the wafer into the wine. Those who distribute the wine will wipe the chalice with a food safe sanitizer and turn it for the next person after each person receives. You may also decide to take the wafer only. If you choose not to receive communion, you may cross your arms over your chest and receive a blessing as your presence is a blessing to all of us. Once you have been blessed or received communion, you may offer a short prayer and then return to your seat. If physical limitations make it difficult to come forward, please let an usher know that we may have the honor of bringing communion to you.

The Offertory Hymn

The Hymnal 1982 – 82

Of the Father's love begotten

Divinum mysterium

Presentation of Gifts

All stand.

Celebrant: All things come of thee, O Lord.

People: And of thine own have we given thee.

The Great Thanksgiving

Sursum Corda

BCP p. 367

The People remain standing.

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 him thanks and praise.

The Celebrant proceeds.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

Because you gave Jesus Christ, your only Son, to be born for us; who, by the mighty power of the Holy Spirit, was made perfect Man of the flesh of the Virgin Mary his mother; so that we might be delivered from the bondage of sin, and receive power to become your children.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name: Sanctus

Hymnal 1982 – S 124

Celebrant and People

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.

The People stand or kneel.

The Celebrant continues

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me." After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

Memorial Acclamation

Hymnal 1982 – S 138

Celebrant and People

We remember his death, We proclaim his resurrection, We await his coming in glory.

The Celebrant continues

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where,

with all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **AMEN**.

The Lord's Prayer

BCP p. 363

Celebrant: As our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

People and Celebrant

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

Fraction Anthem

Hymnal 1982 – S 154

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Invitation

The Celebrant says

The Gifts of God for the People of God, and we are the people of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

Spiritual Communion Prayer

A prayer for those joining online to be unified in Communion with Christ.

In union, O Lord, with your faithful people at every altar of your Church, where the Holy Eucharist is now being celebrated, I desire to offer to you praise and thanksgiving. I remember your death, Lord Christ; I proclaim your resurrection; I await your coming in glory. And since I cannot receive you today in the Sacrament of your Body and Blood, I beseech you to come spiritually into my heart. Cleanse and strengthen me with your grace, Lord Jesus, and let me never be separated from you. May I live in you, and you in me, in this life and in the life to come. **Amen.**

Music at Communion

The Hymnal 1982 – 93

Angels, from the realms of glory

Regent Square

Post-Communion Prayer

BCP p. 366

Almighty and everliving God,
we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food
of the most precious Body and Blood
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ;
and for assuring us in these holy mysteries
that we are living members of the Body of your Son,
and heirs of your eternal kingdom.
And now, Father, send us out
to do the work you have given us to do,
to love and serve you
as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord.
To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit,
be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

Christmas Blessing

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.**

May God, who sent his angels to proclaim the glad news of the Savior's birth, fill you with joy, and make you heralds of the Gospel. **Amen.**

May God, who in the Word made flesh joined heaven to earth and earth to heaven, give you his peace and favor. **Amen.**

And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever. **Amen**

Closing Hymn

The Hymnal 1982 – 109

The first Nowell the angel did say, Vs. 1-2, 6

The First Nowell

Dismissal

Voluntary

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CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS AND GREENERY

Given to the Glory of God and in thanksgiving for

Nicholas Caleb Booth Andrew Michael Pace Nicholas, Candice, Skylar, Sophia, Celeste and Simone Mark, Tim, Chris, Phoenix, Cal, Drew, Jamie All Saints' Clergy, Family and Friends Sam & Caddie, Thomas & Maddy, Jim & Megan, and Jazzmine Cox Brenda and Scott Trott's 60th Anniversary Carolyn Aubitz and Chloe Brook Smith and Olivia Bostian Hilary Smith and Kaleb Davis Trish and Tim Harkins Tyler and Vima My wonderful family Megan R. Windisch Our wonderful family, especially our new grandson Helena Fowler

Isabella Fowler Our family Bob & Jane Wydra Chris Wydra Kerry & Jill Lovitt Tol Wydra, Lauren, Alexis, Natalie, Lucas, Sydney, Madi Sisters Imogen Robinson Our marriage, our family, our church family Elizabeth Soloman Janet Hollopeter Kris Seifiert, Mick Griswold, Carol Ann, Acelyn & Cashton Abney Kimberly, Britt, Collier, Hayes & Cannon Leatherman Walker, Jordan, Harrison & Caroline Collier Meredith, Jonathan, Charlie, Libby & Woods Ellis

CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS AND GREENERY

Given to the Glory of God and in memory of

Charles Pschier, Carol D. Booth, Kimberly B. Lewis, Donald Minter, David Minter, Kipp Pratt, Albert Mass Gladys Johnson Mary, George, Mark, Beth, Mike, Melody Patrick B Jones, Jr John S Ruffin, Sr Frances R Ruffin Charlotte Suzanne Cox Elma B. Bost Junious Lee Bost Mary Welker Trott Sabert S. Trott Bill and Jane Thomas Joe and Patsy Hunter Anne and Whitney Elizabeth Hunter Jennifer Cobb Hein & Carolyn ter Poorten Molly Coggins Robert Clancy Our Heavenly Family Members Randy Bratton Lori Shaver Love My parents Sam & Ethel Pilatos

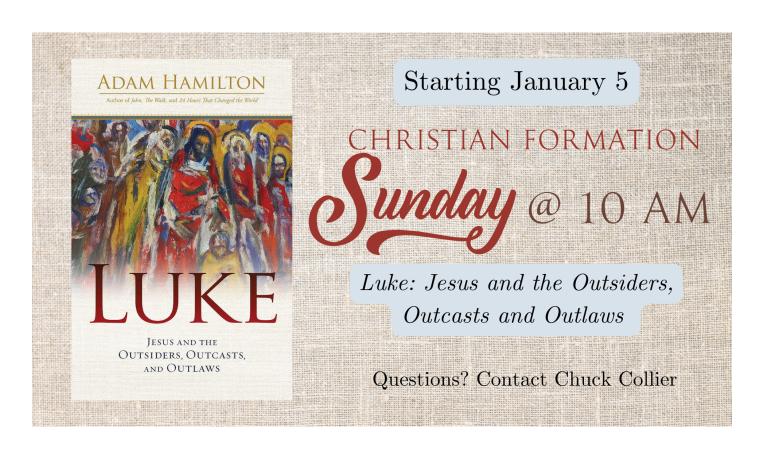
Bob Wydra Jeff Wydra Mary Lou Campo Bill & Barbara Loss Peter W. Hoadley Dianne Gullion Ericson In loving memory of our son, Matthew Bernacki Adam & Ruby Furr John Yelton B.D. & Dixie Yelton J.D. Furr Henry Garmon Jeff Roseman Baby Noah Paulding Whittemore Bill Cottrell Garland R. Vance Lyons & Muriel Hamblen Milas & Irene Bennett Benjamin Franklin Fowler Leroy and Anne Way Irvin & Gloria Beigel Arthur & Dorothy Huggins Betty & Dawn Smith Anthony J. Eichhorn Charles R. Bremer

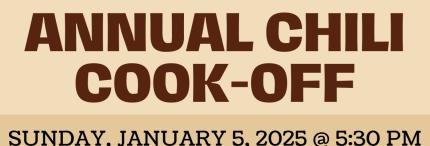
Today's Announcements

Year-End Giving | Reminder that any end-of-year giving that you'd like recorded for 2024 needs to be received in or delivered to the church office by **Tuesday, December 31 at NOON**.

As we come to the end of the year, this is the season of giving. As you review your end-of-year gifts, please consider where you stand with fulfilling your 2024 estimate, if you are able. If you have questions as to your status, please send an email to finance@allsaintsconcord.org. We need to end the year well. At the same time, we need to start the new year strong. Your Vestry will be making plans shortly for 2025. If you have not submitted an estimate of giving for next year, please do so.

Prayer Requests | Please let us know how to pray for you at <u>allsaintsconcord.org/prayer-requests/</u>. You can also request that a clergy or prayer team member contact you.





Sign up online





Fellowship gathering with Grace Lutheran at All Saints' Episcopal Church

Enjoy delicious competition - Epiphany Service - Burning of the Greens





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Nate Ernst, Communications
Melissa Goodwin, Newcomers
Andrea Holdren, Worship

REPORTING TO THE VESTRY

Jan Millar, Pastoral Care

Beth Simpson, Outreach

Victor Clark, Treasurer Kim Gordick, Vestry Clerk

For announcements and information, scan the QR code to view
All Saints' Weekly Word.

