



**St. Christopher's Episcopal Church
Sunday, December 29, 2024**

**First Sunday After Christmas
Holy Eucharist Rite II**

9:30 a.m.

St. Christopher's Episcopal Church
10233 W. Peoria Avenue * Sun City AZ 85351
623-972-1100 * office@stchristophers-az.org

St. Christopher's Episcopal Church
Holy Eucharist Rite II
Sunday, December 29, 2024

Liturgy of the Word

Prelude		
Announcements		Bill Masters
Processional	<i>Hark! The Herald Angels Sing</i>	H-87
Opening Acclamation		BCP 355
Gloria	<i>Glory to God</i>	S-278
The Collect of the Day		Attached
First Reading	Isaiah 61: 10 - 62:3	Attached
Psalm	Psalm 147	Attached

**All: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit. As it was in the beginning,
is now and will be forever. Amen**

Second Reading	Galatians 3: 23-25; 4: 4-7	Attached
Gospel Hymn	<i>Seek Ye First</i>	H-711
Gospel	John 1: 1-18	Attached
Sermon		The Rev. Gerardo Brambila
Nicene Creed		BCP 358
Prayers of the People Form III		Attached
Absolution		BCP 360
The Peace		BCP-360
Birthdays/Anniversaries/Blessings		BCP Inside Cover
Travel Blessings		BCP 831

Offertory

Offertory Sentence		BCP 376
Offertory Anthem	<i>Behold The Lamb by Dottie Paris</i>	
Doxology	<i>Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow</i>	H-380, v. 3

The Holy Communion

Eucharistic Prayer B		BCP 367
Sanctus	<i>Holy, Holy, Holy Lord</i>	S-129
The Lord's Prayer	<i>Our Father</i>	Hymnal Inside Front Cover
Fraction Anthem	<i>Christ Our Passover</i>	S-155
The Breaking of the Bread		BCP 364

The Invitation & Distribution

Communion Hymn	<i>I Am The Bread of Life</i>	H-335
Post Communion Prayer		BCP-498
The Blessing		Celebrant's Choice
Dismissal Hymn	<i>Joy to the World</i>	H-100, Vs. 1, 2, 3
Dismissal Acclamation		BCP 366

Collect of the Day

Almighty God, you have poured upon us the new light of your incarnate Word: Grant that this light, enkindled in our hearts, may shine forth in our lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Old Testament Isaiah 61:10-62:3

I will greatly rejoice in the Lord, my whole being shall exult in my God; for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation, he has covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.

For as the earth brings forth its shoots, and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up, so the Lord God will cause righteousness and praise to spring up before all the nations.

For Zion's sake I will not keep silent, and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest, until her vindication shines out like the dawn, and her salvation like a burning torch.

The nations shall see your vindication, and all the kings your glory; and you shall be called by a new name that the mouth of the Lord will give. You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the Lord, and a royal diadem in the hand of your God.

The Psalm Psalm 147

1. Hallelujah! How good it is to sing praises to our God! *
how pleasant it is to honor him with praise!
2. The Lord rebuilds Jerusalem; *
he gathers the exiles of Israel.
3. He heals the brokenhearted *
and binds up their wounds.
4. He counts the number of the stars *
and calls them all by their names.
5. Great is our Lord and mighty in power; *
there is no limit to his wisdom.
6. The Lord lifts up the lowly, *
but casts the wicked to the ground.
7. Sing to the Lord with thanksgiving; *
make music to our God upon the harp.
8. He covers the heavens with clouds *
and prepares rain for the earth;
9. He makes grass to grow upon the mountains *
and green plants to serve mankind.

10. He provides food for flocks and herds *
and for the young ravens when they cry.
11. He is not impressed by the might of a horse; *
he has no pleasure in the strength of a man;
12. But the Lord has pleasure in those who fear him, *
in those who await his gracious favor.]
13. Worship the Lord, O Jerusalem; *
praise your God, O Zion;
14. For he has strengthened the bars of your gates; *
he has blessed your children within you.
15. He has established peace on your borders; *
he satisfies you with the finest wheat.
16. He sends out his command to the earth, *
and his word runs very swiftly.
17. He gives snow like wool; *
he scatters hoarfrost like ashes.
18. He scatters his hail like breadcrumbs; *
who can stand against his cold?
19. He sends forth his word and melts them; *
he blows with his wind, and the waters flow.
20. He declares his word to Jacob, *
his statutes and his judgments to Israel.
21. He has not done so to any other nation; *
to them he has not revealed his judgments. Hallelujah!

The Epistle
Galatians 3:23-25; 4:4-7

Now before faith came, we were imprisoned and guarded under the law until faith would be revealed. Therefore the law was our disciplinarian until Christ came, so that we might be justified by faith. But now that faith has come, we are no longer subject to a disciplinarian.

But when the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, in order to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as children. And because you are children, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" So you are no longer a slave but a child, and if a child then also an heir, through God.

The Holy Gospel
John 1:1-18

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.

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

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. (John testified to him and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks ahead of me because he was before me.'") From his fullness we have all received grace upon grace. The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. No one has ever seen God. It is God the only Son, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known.

Prayers of the People Form III

Lector: Father, we pray for your holy Catholic Church;
People: **That we all may be one.**
Lector: Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;
People: **That your Name may be glorified by all people.**
Lector: We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons;
People: **That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.**
Lector: We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;
People: **That there may be justice and peace on the earth.**
Lector: Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;
People: **That our works may find favor in your sight.**
Lector: Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;
People: **That they may be delivered from their distress.**
Lector: Give to the departed eternal rest.
People: **Let light perpetual shine upon them.**
Lector: We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;
People: **May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.**
Lector: Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.

Silence. The People may add their own petitions.

Celebrant: Almighty and eternal God, ruler of all things in heaven and earth: Mercifully accept the prayers of your people and strengthen us to do your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.
Celebrant: Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence may be kept.

Confession of Sins:

Minister Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned
And People: against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.

The Absolution

St. Christopher's uses the following texts as worship aides:

The Book of Common Prayer = BCP
The 1982 Hymnal = H
Wonder, Love & Praise Hymnal = WLP

Today's Worship Leaders

Celebrant:	The Rev. Gerardo Brambila
Vergers:	Patty Emanuelson
Crucifer:	Judi Sock
Gospel Bearer	Betty Roddy
First Reading and Psalm	Marva Martinez
Second Reading	Beth Mayhew
Prayers of the People	Dick Young
Chalice Bearers:	Betty Roddy & Judi Sock
Music Director	Mr. Don Palm

St. Christopher's Staff

The Rev. Gerardo Brambila, Rector
Cathy Sheredy, Administrative Assistant
Arturo Jaramillo, Sexton
Don Palm, Music Director & Organist
Arturo & Isabel Jaramillo, Hispanic Music Leader & Vocalists

Vestry Members

Beth Mayhew, Senior Warden
Vacant, Junior Warden
Vacant, Clerk of the Vestry
Richard Camp, Treasurer
Jim Barnette, Member-at large
Jane Cooley, Member-at-large
Bill Masters, Member-at-Large
Mary Salgado, Member-at-large
Mike Sock, Member-at-Large
Kelly Thomas, Member-at-Large
Dick Young, Member-at-Large

Do you know someone who would benefit from prayer? Contact us! Would you like more information about something you read in the announcements? Contact us! Do you have an idea for fellowship or fund-raising? Contact us! Maybe you would like to talk with Fr. Gerardo? Contact us! Have a pastoral emergency (hospitalization, accident, family issues, something similar)? Contact us! Lots of information on the message! And you can leave one too!

But, if you have a pastoral emergency, please call Fr. Gerardo at 602-405-4588 and leave a message.

Church Office Hours:
Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday
9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
Office Phone: 623-972-1100.



St. Christopher's Episcopal Church
Weekly Announcements
December 29, 2024

Our Vision: One congregation worshipping and serving in two languages
Our Mission: We are the heart, hands, and feet of Jesus: welcoming all to worship and serving those in need to the glory of God.

Please leave the music inserts and the Prayers of the People inserts in the pews or in the narthex. Thank you for helping to save administrative costs.

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY: One of the best ways to connect and grow in our church community is through small groups. Small groups are a place where we can study God's word together and support each other in our faith journeys. The Men's Bible Study takes place on **Mondays at 10:00 a.m. in the Parish Hall.** Come and join in fellowship.

CURRENT GIVING STATEMENTS: Please check your mail cart folder for your updated 2024 giving statements. If you have questions, please contact Beth at 602-435-5272. Thank you for your support!

HURRICANE RELIEF: On October 18, following weeks of intermittent grid outages, ten million people lost power. Then On October 20, during the blackout, Hurricane Oscar made landfall, flooding and damaging the island's eastern side. People in the Guantanamo and Baracoa areas had little warning that Oscar was coming because the ongoing power outages badly affected communication systems. In response to Hurricane Oscar and the ongoing power outages, Episcopal Relief & Development is working with the Episcopal Church of Cuba to provide food, hygiene products, fans, rechargeable lamps and supplies for home repairs.

On November 6, Hurricane Rafael ravaged the northwestern side of Cuba just above Havana, again knocking out the island's power grid and creating deadly flash flood and mudslide conditions. On November 10, a 6.8 magnitude earthquake shook the southern part of the island. Please pray for the people affected by the blackout, the earthquake and hurricanes Oscar and Rafael. Please consider contributing directly at www.episcopalrelief.org. Thank you.

INFORMATION FROM THE DIOCESE RE: INCREASED PHISHING SCAM ACTIVITY: You may receive multiple phishing emails and text messages in the coming weeks. As a reminder Bishop Reddall or any of her staff members will NEVER ask you for money directly, especially not in the form of gift cards, wire transfers, or crypto-currency. If you receive any emails, text messages, or social media messages such as Facebook Messenger, Bluesky, Instagram Messages, etc., that seem suspicious, do not open them. Report them as spam and make sure to delete the message and block the sender. Congregation members may also receive emails and messages from "church leaders," both clergy and lay who are asking for money in various forms. These messages usually start simple and don't directly ask for money until you engage with them. For example: The message may say, "Hey, do you have a moment to talk today?" or "Hi, I need a favor, can you reply?" If you open and reply to these messages, then they will start their scam to get you to send them money. **DO NOT**

SEND THEM MONEY of any kind. Protect yourself by paying extra attention as there are so many phishing scams at this time of year.

NAME BADGES: We ask that everyone please remember to wear your name badge as it would be of a great help for Fr. Gerardo, new parishioners, and visitors. If you need a name badge, please contact the office.

**Thank you for your promise for Saint Christopher's for 2025
Gracias por su promisa para San Cristóbal para 2025**

- * Bernabe Aguirre & Maria Salgado * Dorothy Anako * Carmen & Rey Borda * Fr. Gerardo Brambila *
- * Janet Cairo * Clive Chancey * Jane Cooley * Sallie Crill * Tad Daughters * Carole & Dudley Dickey *
- * Patty Emanuelson * Trinidad D. & Trinidad A. Fabela * Barbara Fabre * Kathryn Frantz * Wilma Hammond *
- * Marilyn Hunter * Barb & Ron Jackson * Arturo & Isobel Jaramillo * Barbara Kimball * Leona Lindvall *
- * Miguel Lopez & Elvira Vasquez * Zeferino & Maria Maciel * Marva Martinez * Bill & Carol Masters *
- * Beth Mayhew * Don Palm * Diane Plein * Charles Powley * Charlotte Powley * Feliciano Reyes *
- * Betty Roddy * Michael Rowe Joanne Mola * Frank & Susan Schlichting * Mike & Judi Sock *
- * Constance Stresing * Gail & Michael Tetric * Kelly Thomas * Anna Van Scoter * Barbara Welsh *
- * Dick & Janet Young * Katy Young *

We thank the following people who have completed the Time and Talen Form

As we share our time and talents we can accomplish much more together: Dorothy Anako, Janet Cairo, Kathryn Frantz, JP Harrison, Barbara Jackson, Barbara Kimball, Leona Lindvall, Marva Martinez, Beth Mayhew, Diane Plein, Betty Roddy, Judi Sock, Mick Sock, Anna Van Scoter, Barbara Welsh.

FOOD BANK/FOOD DRIVE: Thank you for the generous donations you have given this year. The staples you have shared are very much appreciated by Valley View. And there is always a need for pasta, rice, beans, peanut butter, canned tomatoes, fruits, soups, personal hygiene products, cleaning and sanitation products. Money donations are always welcomed. Slip donation in an envelope and put in Sunday offering plate.

Monthly Food Bank Donations

	December 23, 2024	2024 Totals
Weight	63 lbs	1,841.50 lbs.
Cash	\$100.00	\$1,300.00

Monthly Thrift Shop Stats

	December 23, 2024	December Total	2024 Year Total
Bargains	\$482.00	\$2,295.00	\$23,466.90
Bookstore	\$43.90	\$147.15	\$2,948.13

COFFEE HOUR: Thank you every week to everyone who helps make coffee hour a friendly, yummy gathering! If you haven't helped with coffee hour before, please consider joining your fellow church members to help serve. You'll make new friends and have a fun time!

We really appreciate the help everyone gives each week!

This Week's Prayer List

One of the ways we care for one another in this church is through prayer. We believe that prayer is powerful and has the ability to bring comfort, healing, and peace. Today, we pray for the people below.

- * Emmanuel Anako * Isaac Anako * Noc Anako * Susana Avila * Jim & Sue Barnette * Viviana Brambila *
- * Judy Broeder * Kia Browning * Jan Browning * Tom Camper * John Card * Clive Chancey *
- * Agnes Chukwudozie * Claudio * Aubrianna Exner * Gale & Arthur Farinas * Isaiah Garcia * Ann Gay *
- * John Gibson * Cathy Gustin * Gary Gustin * Marilyn Hunter * Annamarie Jett * Jacob "JJ" Johnson (Sister Cheryl's son) * Julie Jones * Lois Jones * Ruth Jones * Judith * Dorothy Lafferty & grandson Andrew * Gene Lapham * Christina Mason * Larry Mayper * Shawn Mirigian * Joanne Mola * Mr. Monata * Bryan Nance *
- * Paul & Paula * * Joanne Porter * Audrey & Christopher Price * Ramon * * Rick & Robbie * * Javier Sanchez *
- * Socorro Sanchez * Sebastian * Charles Jay Smith & Family * * Eunice Uzokwulu * Anna Van Scoter * Victoria *

For those who have died

- * Marlys McLaughlin * Maria Payan * Judy Schneider *



Happy Anniversary in December

Denisse Rios & Miguel Saldaña	4 years
Jacinto & Ivón Nieco	27 years
Frieda Spann & Al Hensley	35 years
María & Zeferino Maciel	46 years



Happy Birthday to Everyone Celebrating in December

Theodore Anako	November 21	Lucía Cortez	December 14
Sue Schlichting	December 3	Janice Crane	December 16
Nowelle Ketzacoatl Aguire Salgado	December 4	Anthony Nieco	December 17
Stacey Cortez	December 4	Lisa Wolford	December 17
Anna Van Scoter	December 6	Miguel López	December 24
Chinenye Anako	December 7	Mario Ramirez	December 24
Diane Neverman	December 8	Hugh Duncan	December 25
Jacinto Nieco Guzmán	December 8	Arturo Jaramillo	December 29

Vestry

Beth Mayhew, Senior Warden * Vacant, Junior Warden,
Vacant, Clerk of the Vestry * Richard Camp, Treasurer

Members at Large

Jim Barnette * Jane Cooley * Bill Masters * Maria Salgado * Mike Sock * Kelly Thomas * Dick Young *

St. Christopher's Staff

The Rev. Gerardo Brambila, Rector * Cathy Sheredy, Administrative Assistant
Arturo Jaramillo, Sexton
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All changes and submissions for the bulletin and/or announcements for Sunday, January 5 needs to be in the office by Thursday, January 2 at noon to be included. Thank you!