

St. Nicholas was the Bishop of Myra, an ancient port city on the west coast of Asia Minor (modern Turkey).

Nicholas was born around 270 AD to a wealthy family, and used his wealth to care for the children in his city, as well as the many sailors working in the port. He became known for secretly dropping gifts to families through windows. Late in his life he attended the Council of Nicaea in 325 AD, from which we get our Nicene Creed.

According to some accounts, he became upset during a speech by the heretic Arius, who was arguing against the full divinity of Christ, and walked up and punched him. He was sent to jail for it, but miraculously showed up at the Council the next day anyway! He died in 343 AD on December 6th, which is when his feast day is celebrated.



Prelude Two Advent Chorales by S. Karg-Elert

Station at the St. Nicolas Icon

Mark 10:13-16

Collect for St. Nicholas

Tolling of the Bell

Standing, sung by all

Opening Hymn #56 vv. 3-4 O come, O come, Emmanuel

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Celebrant Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People **And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

Collect for Purity

Confession of Sin

Kneeling, BCP p.360

Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned 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.

Absolution

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

Collect of the Day

Lesson Philippians 1:3-11

Seated

I thank my God every time I remember you, constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now. I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ. It is right for me to think this way about all of you, because you hold me in your heart, for all of you share in God's grace with me, both in my imprisonment and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel. For God is my witness, how I long for all of you with the compassion of Christ Jesus. And this is my prayer, that your love may overflow more and more with knowledge and full insight to help you to determine what is best, so that in the day of Christ you may be pure and blameless, having produced the harvest of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ for the glory and praise of God.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Canticle 16 The Song of Zechariah *Benedictus Dominus Deus*

Luke 1: 68-79

Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel; *

he has come to his people and set them free.

He has raised up for us a mighty savior, *

born of the house of his servant David.

Through his holy prophets he promised of old,

that he would save us from our enemies, *

from the hands of all who hate us.

He promised to show mercy to our fathers *

and to remember his holy covenant.

This was the oath he swore to our father Abraham, *

to set us free from the hands of our enemies,

Free to worship him without fear, *

holy and righteous in his sight all the days of our life.

You, my child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High, *

for you will go before the Lord to prepare his way,

To give his people knowledge of salvation *

by the forgiveness of their sins.

In the tender compassion of our God *

the dawn from on high shall break upon us,

To shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death, *

and to guide our feet into the way of peace.

All **Glory to the Father, and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit:**

As it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen

Standing, sung by all

Gradual Hymn #59 vv. 1-3 Hark! A thrilling voice is sounding

Gospel Luke 3:1-6

Deacon The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

In the fifteenth year of the reign of Emperor Tiberius, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was ruler of Galilee, and his brother Philip ruler of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias ruler of Abilene, during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. He went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah, "The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight. Every valley shall be filled, and every mountain and hill shall be made low, and the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough ways made smooth; and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.'"

Deacon The Gospel of the Lord.

People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

Station of the Crèche

All Children are invited to come forward for the Station of the Crèche

Sermon The Rev. Benjamin Phillips

Seated

The Nicene Creed

Standing, BCP p.358

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

Standing

The leader and people pray responsively

In peace, we pray to you, Lord God. We pray for the Universal Church, its members, and its mission.

We pray for our Nation and all in authority.

We pray for the welfare of the world, especially those regions troubled by violence or unrest.

We pray for the needs and concerns of our local community.

We pray for all who are sick or in need, and those we name at this time.

The People may add their own petitions

We give thanks especially for those who are celebrating birthdays and anniversaries.

We remember those who have died in the faith.

We pray for the special needs and concerns of this congregation.

The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.

The Peace

Standing

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

Announcements

Offertory Music We Fall Down

Sung by all

We fall down, we lay our crowns, at the feet of Jesus

The greatness of, His mercy and love, At the feet of Jesus

And we cry holy, holy, holy

We cry holy, holy, holy

We cry holy, holy, holy — Is the lamb *[Repeat all]*

The Offering *You may give your offering in the plates passed by the ushers or give online stgeorgesdayton.org or mail offerings, 5520 Far Hills Ave. Dayton, OH 45429-2204..*

Holy Communion

The Great Thanksgiving Prayer B

BCP p.367

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

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

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

Celebrant continues with Preface... 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:

Standing, sung by all

S125 Sanctus "S" denotes "Service Music" section at front of Hymnal
Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.

Celebrant continues the Eucharistic Prayer...
Therefore, according to his command, O Father,
People **We remember his death,**
 We proclaim his resurrection,
 We await his coming in glory;

Celebrant continues the Eucharistic Prayer.
At the conclusion, the people join, Amen.

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

Celebrant O Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world,
People **Have mercy upon us.**
Celebrant O Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world,
People **Have mercy upon us.**
Celebrant O Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world,
People **Grant us your peace.**

Directions for receiving Holy Communion

- All Baptized Christians are welcome to receive; if you have not been baptized, you are welcome to cross your arms for a blessing.
- Gluten-free wafers are available, please indicate your need when receiving.
- If you prefer to intinct (dip) your wafer instead of drinking from the chalice, lay ministers with small intinction cups will be available on both sides. The larger chalices are only for drinking.
- If you prefer to receive only the wafer, please pass the lay ministers and return directly to your pew.

Communion Music Open our Eyes/Turn our Eyes

Prayer after Communion

Kneeling, 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.

Advent Blessing

Closing Hymn #68 Rejoice! Rejoice believers *Standing, sung by all*

Dismissal

Deacon gives a dismissal.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude Come, thou, Jesus, from Heaven to Earth by J.S. Bach

This worship service is livestreamed online. By participating you consent and authorize without restriction or compensation to the possible use of your image which may be included in future media or marketing.

The Weekly Messenger

ENVELOPES FOR CHRISTMAS FLOWER MEMORIALS



Envelopes are located in the pews and Welcome Lounge, the donation amount is voluntary. Checks should be made out to St. George's with "Christmas Flowers" in the memo line. Please include the name(s) of those in whose honor/memory the flowers are given. Memorials will be printed in the Christmas Eve bulletins if received by **Sunday, December 15**.

GIVING TREE

Thank you for so generously and enthusiastically supporting under-served children this Christmas! Please note that wrapped gifts (with corresponding ornaments attached) must be returned TODAY. Questions? Contact Sharon Oldham (soldham@woh.rr.com or 937-829-1517).



FELLOWSHIP AT LOOSE ENDS BREWERY

Dec. 19 from 4-6pm join your church family for a time of casual fellowship at Loose Ends Brewing Company, located in Centerville.



CHRISTMAS CONCERT, LUMINARY WALK, & LIVE NATIVITY



Please join us for St. George's Christmas Concert on **Sunday Dec. 15 from 5-6pm**. This free concert features the music of local Sand Dollar Music Studio. After the concert grab some hot chocolate and enjoy the luminary walk and live nativity.

HANGING OF THE GREENS

Stay after the 11:00 service on **Sun. Dec. 22** to help decorate St. George's for Christmas and enjoy festive refreshments at coffee hour.



ADVENT & CHRISTMAS TIDE AT ST. GEORGE'S

Sunday, December 15 (Third Sunday of Advent)

9:00am & 11:00am—Holy Eucharist

5:00pm - 6:00pm – Christmas Concert, Luminary Walk & Live Nativity

This free concert features the music of Sand Dollar Music Studio. After the concert grab some hot cocoa and enjoy the luminary walk and live nativity, put on by our youth and children's ministry families.

Sunday, December 22 (Fourth Sunday of Advent)

9:00am & 11:00am—Holy Eucharist

Noon—**Hanging of the Greens**

Stay after the 11:00am service to help decorate St. George's for Christmas!



Tuesday, December 24 (Christmas Eve)

6:30pm – Musical Prelude feat. St. George's Praise Team & The Miami Valley Brass

7:00pm – Christmas Eve Service w/ Holy Communion

**Nursery for ages 3 & under available

**Bring diapers & wipes which will be donated to a local women's shelter

9:30pm – Musical Prelude, featuring St. George's Choir & The Miami Valley Brass

10:00pm – Festive Holy Eucharist (w/ incense)

**Nursery closed at this service.

**Bring diapers & wipes which will be donated to a local women's shelter

Wednesday, December 25 (Christmas Day)—

Merry Christmas! No services scheduled.

December 29 (First Sunday of Christmas)

9:00am & 11:00am—Christmas Lessons & Carols with Holy Communion

January 5 (Second Sunday of Christmas)

9:00am & 11:00am—Holy Eucharist



St. George's Episcopal Church
5520 Far Hills Avenue Dayton, OH 45429
Office Hours: Mon - Thur 8am-3pm

937-434-1781

Website: stgeorgesdayton.org



St. George's is a parish of the Diocese of Southern Ohio and a member of the worldwide Anglican Communion.