



ST. GEORGE'S ON-THE-HILL ANGLICAN

The Birth of the Lord: Christmas Day

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 25TH, 2021

The Gathering of the Community

Prelude: Carol of the Bells

Land Acknowledgement, Welcome and Announcements

Hymn: O Come All Ye Faithful

CP #118

O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant, O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem:
Come and behold him, born the king of angels; O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord.

God of God, Light of Light, lo, he abhors not the virgin's womb;
Very God, begotten not created: O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord.

Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation, sing, all ye citizens of heaven above;
Glory to God in the highest: O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord.

See how the shepherds, summoned to his cradle, leaving their flocks, draw nigh with lowly fear,
We too will thither bend our joyful footsteps; O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord.

Yea, Lord we greet thee, born this happy morning; Jesus, to thee be glory given;
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing: O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord.

The Greeting

Presider: "Do I not fill heaven and earth?" says the Lord.

All: Now the Word is made flesh and laid in a narrow manger.

Presider: From eternity to eternity you are God,

All: and now we see you as a newborn child.

Presider: Grace, mercy and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

The Proclamation of the Word of God

First Reading: Isaiah 52:7-10

A Reading from the Book of Isaiah.

How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of the messenger who announces peace, who brings good news, who announces salvation, who says to Zion, "Your God reigns." Listen! Your sentinels lift up their voices, together they sing for joy; for in plain sight they see the return of the Lord to Zion. Break forth together into singing, you ruins of Jerusalem; for the Lord has comforted his people, he

has redeemed Jerusalem. The Lord has bared his holy arm before the eyes of all the nations; and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God!**

(Please keep a period of silence for reflection)

Psalm 96

Winchester Old

Sing to the Lord new songs, proclaim the marvels he has done
With his right hand and holy arm, the triumph he has won.

The victory the Lord has won He has this day made known;
To all the world his righteousness has openly been shown.

The Lord recall for Israel His love and faithfulness;
To all the earth his victory sing to him and rejoice,

Shout now with joy to God the Lord; in praise lift up your voice;
All nations of the worlds as one sing to him and rejoice.

Second Reading: Hebrews 1:1-12

A Reading from the Letter to the Hebrews.

Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets, but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, through whom he also created the worlds. He is the reflection of God's glory and the exact imprint of God's very being, and he sustains all things by his powerful word. When he had made purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs. For to which of the angels did God ever say, "You are my Son; today I have begotten you"? Or again, "I will be his Father, and he will be my Son"? And again, when he brings the firstborn into the world, he says, "Let all God's angels worship him." Of the angels he says, "He makes his angels winds, and his servants flames of fire." But of the Son he says, "Your throne, O God, is forever and ever, and the righteous sceptre is the sceptre of your kingdom. You have loved righteousness and hated wickedness; therefore God, your God, has anointed you with the oil of gladness beyond your companions." And, "In the beginning, Lord, you founded the earth, and the heavens are the work of your hands; they will perish, but you remain; they will all wear out like clothing; like a cloak you will roll them up, and like clothing they will be changed. But you are the same, and your years will never end."

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God!**

(Please keep a period of silence for reflection)

The Proclamation of the Gospel: The Mystery of Christmas

Musical Reflection: I Wonder as I Wander

An Affirmation of Faith

Presider: The Lord our God, the Lord is one.

People: Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength. This is the first and great commandment. The second is like it: Love your neighbour as yourself. There is no commandment greater than these. Amen.

Presider: Having reaffirmed our faith, let us prepare to offer our prayers to God.

Christmas Day Litany

Leader: In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

Father, on this holy day your Son our Saviour was born in human flesh. Renew your Church as the Body of Christ. Holy God,

People: Hear our prayer.

Leader: On this holy day, there was no room for your Son in the inn. Protect with your love those who have no home and all who live in poverty. Holy God,

People: Hear our prayer.

Leader: On this holy day, Mary, in the pain of labour, brought your Son to birth. Hold in your hand all who are in pain or distress. Holy God,

People: Hear our prayer.

Leader: On this holy day, your Christ came as a light shining in the darkness. Bring comfort to all who suffer in the sadness of our world. Holy God,

People: Hear our prayer.

Leader: On this holy day, the angels sang, "Peace to God's people on earth." Strengthen those who work for peace and justice in all the world. Holy God,

People: Hear our prayer.

Leader: On this holy day, shepherds in the field heard good tidings of joy. Give us grace to preach the gospel of Christ's redemption. Holy God,

People: Hear our prayer.

Leader: On this holy day, strangers found the Holy Family, and saw the baby lying in the manger. Bless our homes and all whom we love. Holy God,

People: Hear our prayer.

Leader: On this holy day, heaven is come down to earth, and earth is raised to heaven. Hold in your hand all those who have passed through death in the hope of your coming kingdom. Holy God,

People: Hear our prayer.

Leader: On this holy day, Christians the world over celebrate Jesus' birth. Open our hearts that he may be born in us today. Holy God,

People: Hear our prayer.

Leader: On this holy day, angels and shepherds worshipped at the manger throne. Receive the worship we offer in fellowship with Mary, Joseph and the saints, through him who is your Word made flesh, our Saviour Jesus Christ.

All: Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Presider: And now, as our Saviour Christ has taught us, we are bold to pray,

All: **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, the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.**

Hymn: See Amid the Winter's Snow

CP #148

See amid the winter's snow, born for us on earth below,
see, the tender Lamb appears, promised from eternal years!
Hail, thou ever blessed morn! Hail, redemption's happy dawn!
Sing through all Jerusalem: Christ is born in Bethlehem.

Lo, within a manger lies he who built the starry skies,
who enthroned in height sublime sits amid the cherubim.
Hail, thou ever . . .

Say, ye holy shepherds, say what your joyful news today;
wherefore have ye left your sheep on the lonely mountain steep?
Hail, thou ever . . .

"As we watched at dead of night, lo, we saw a wondrous light;
angels, singing 'Peace on earth' told us of the Saviour's birth."
Hail, thou ever . . .

Sacred infant, all divine, what a mighty love was thine,
thus to come from highest bliss down to such a world as this!
Hail, thou ever . . .

The Blessing & Dismissal

Postlude: Today in Bethlehem

Merry Christmas!