

ST. GEORGE'S ON-THE-HILL ANGLICAN CHURCH

The Third Sunday of Advent

December 11th, 2022
10:30am Lessons & Carols

*The crèche (nursery) is attended and available for babies and toddlers.
Children are dismissed during the service for children's programming downstairs for the entirety of the service.*

Prelude: The Heavens Declare the Glory of God

B. Marcell

The choir and chancel party will enter during the prelude

The Lighting of the Advent Candle

The children are invited to come forward for the lighting of the Advent Wreath. During the singing of the opening hymn, children may proceed downstairs for children's programming. They can be picked up from Luxton Hall following the service.

Reader: Jesus said, "I am the light of the world. Those who follow me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."

All: Come, Lord Jesus, come quickly.

Reader: The Sovereign Lord has filled me with his spirit. He has chosen me to bring good news to the poor, to heal the broken-hearted, to announce release to captives and freedom to those in prison. He has sent me to proclaim that the time has come when the Lord will save his people.

We light this candle to remind us of our task in preparing our world for the coming of the Messiah. We are also called to be prophets who will relieve suffering, promote justice, and bring hope to those who live without light and love.

The third candle is lit.

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Father, you have called us to share in Christ's ministry to a troubled world. Fill us with your Spirit, so that we may faithfully proclaim your Word in all that we say and do, until your kingdom comes upon the earth. **Amen.**

Opening Hymn: #123 Once in Royal David's City

PLEASE STAND

Once in royal David's city stood a lowly cattle shed,
Where a mother laid her baby in a manger for his bed.
Mary was that mother mild, Jesus Christ her little child.

He came down to earth from heaven who is God and Lord of all,
And his shelter was a stable, and his cradle was a stall.
With the poor and mean and lowly lived on earth our Saviour holy.

Not in that poor lowly stable, with the oxen standing by,
We shall see him, but in heaven, set at God's right hand on high,
When, like stars, his children crowned all in white shall gather round.

A Bidding Prayer

Celebrant: Dear People of God: in the season of Advent, it is our responsibility and joy to prepare ourselves to hear once more the message of the Angels, to go to Bethlehem and see the Son of God lying in a manger. Let us hear and heed in Holy Scripture the story of God's loving purpose from the time of our rebellion against him until the glorious redemption brought to us by his holy Child Jesus, and let us look forward to the yearly remembrance of his birth with hymns and songs of praise.

But first, let us pray for the needs of his whole world, for peace and justice on earth, for the unity and mission of the Church for which he died, and especially for his Church in our country and in this city. And because he particularly loves them, let us remember in his name the poor and helpless, the cold, the hungry and the oppressed, the sick and those who mourn, the lonely and unloved, the aged and little children, as well as all those who do not know and love the Lord Jesus Christ.

Finally, let us remember before God his pure and lowly Mother, and that whole multitude which no one can number, whose hope was in the Word made flesh, and with whom, in Jesus, we are one for evermore.

And now, to sum up all these petitions, let us pray in the words which Christ himself has taught us, saying:

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. Amen.

Celebrant: May the Almighty God bless us with his grace;
may Christ's light shine upon us, and give us the joys of everlasting life;
and may the King of Angels bring us all into the fellowship of the citizens of heaven above. **Amen.**

THE LESSONS & CAROLS

During this time, we ask that you stay seated for the lessons and stand for the carols, as you are able.

The First Lesson

PLEASE BE SEATED

Genesis 3:8-19 | *Adam and Eve fall from grace*

Anthem: Adam Lay Ybounden

P. Ledger

Hymn: #122 In the Bleak Midwinter

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone;
Snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long ago.

Our God, heaven cannot hold him, nor earth sustain; heaven and earth shall flee away when he comes to reign.
In the bleak midwinter a stable place sufficed the Lord God almighty, Jesus Christ.

Angels and archangels may have gathered there; cherubim and seraphim thronged the air;
But his mother only in her maiden bliss, worshipped the beloved with a kiss.

What can I give him, poor as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb;
If I were a wise man, I would do my part; yet what I can, I give him-- give my heart.

The Second Lesson

Genesis 22:15-18 | *God blesses Abraham, and will make his offspring as numerous as the stars in heaven*

Anthem: Creator of the Stars of Night

M. Archer

Hymn: #143 Angels, from the Realms of Glory

Angels, from the realms of glory, wing your flight o'er all the earth;
You who sang creation's story, now proclaim Messiah's birth:
Come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ, the new-born king.

Shepherds in the field abiding, watching o'er your flocks by night,
God with us is now residing; yonder shines the infant Light: *Refrain.*

Sages, leave your contemplations; brighter visions beam afar;
Seek the great desire of nations; you have seen his natal star: *Refrain.*

Saints before the altar bending, watching long in hope and fear,
Suddenly the Lord, descending, in his temple shall appear: *Refrain.*

Though an infant now we view him, he shall fill the eternal throne,
Gather all the nations to him; every knee shall then bow down: *Refrain.*

The Third Lesson

Isaiah 9:2-, 67 | *A new covenant is promised*

Anthem: Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence

arr. S. Cleobury

Hymn: #156 The People that in Darkness Sat

The people that in darkness sat a glorious light have seen;
The Light has shined on them who long in shades of death have been.

To hail thee, Sun of Righteousness, the gathering nations come;
They joy as when the reapers bear their harvest treasures home.

For thou their burden dost remove, and break the tyrant's rod,
As in the day when Midian fell before the sword of God.

For unto us a child is born, to us a Son is given,
And on his shoulder ever rests all power in earth and heaven.

His name shall be the Prince of Peace, the everlasting Lord,
The Wonderful, the Counsellor, the God by all adored.

Lord Jesus, reign in us we pray, and make us thine alone,
Who with the Father ever art and Holy Spirit one.

The Fourth Lesson

Isaiah 11:1-3a, 4a, 6-9 | *A shoot shall come out of the stump of Jesse*

Anthem: A Rose There Is A-Springing

D. Cashmore

The Fifth Lesson

Luke 1:26-35, 38 | *The Angel Gabriel tells Mary she will bear the Son of the Most High*

Anthem: Canite Tuba

F. Guerrero

Hymn: #120 O Little Town of Bethlehem

O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie!
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by;
Yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting light;
The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.

For Christ is born of Mary; and, gathered all above,
While mortals sleep, the angels keep their watch of wondering love.
O morning stars, together proclaim the holy birth,
And praises sing to God the King, and peace to all the earth.

How silently, how silently the wondrous gift is given
As love imparts to human hearts the blessings of God's heaven!
No ear may hear his coming; but in this world of sin,
Where meek souls will receive him, still the dear Christ enters in.

O holy child of Bethlehem, descend to us, we pray;
Cast out our sin and enter in; be born in us today.
We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell;
O come to us, abide with us, our Lord Emmanuel.

The Sixth Lesson

Luke 2:1, 3-7 | *All went to their towns to be registered. While Mary and Joseph were there, the time came for her to deliver her child*

Anthem: Angelus ad Virginem

arr. A. Carter

Hymn: #126 Away in a Manger

Away in a manger, no crib for a bed, the little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head.
The stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay, the little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.

The cattle are lowing, the baby awakes, but little Lord Jesus, no crying he makes.
I love you, Lord Jesus-- look down from on high and stay by my side until morning is nigh.

Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask you to stay close by me for ever and love me, I pray.
Bless all the dear children in your tender care, and fit us for heaven to live with you there.

The Seventh Lesson

Luke 2:8-16 | *The Word was made flesh and we have seen his glory*

Anthem: Rejoice in the Lord Always

anon.

Hymn: #125 Infant Holy, Infant Lowly

Infant holy, infant lowly, for his bed a cattle stall;
Oxen lowing, little knowing Christ the babe is Lord of all.
Swift are winging angels singing, nowells ringing, tidings bringing:
Christ the babe is Lord of all, Christ the babe is Lord of all!

Flocks were sleeping, shepherds keeping vigil till the morning new
Saw the glory, heard the story, tidings of a gospel true.
Thus rejoicing, free from sorrow, praises voicing greet tomorrow:
Christ the babe was born for you, Christ the babe was born for you!

The Eighth Lesson

Matthew 2:1-12 | *Three wise men from the east set out, and there ahead of them went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was*

Anthem: Jesus Christ the Apple Tree

E. Poston

Hymn: #137 What Child Is This

What child is this, who, laid to rest, on Mary's lap is sleeping?
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet, while shepherds watch are keeping?
*This, this is Christ the king, whom shepherds guard and angels sing;
Haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mary.*

Why lies he in such mean estate where ox and ass are feeding?
Good Christian, fear: for sinners here the silent Word is pleading. *Refrain.*

So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh; come, peasant, king, to own him.
The King of kings salvation brings; let loving hearts enthrone him. *Refrain.*

The Ninth Lesson

John 1:1-14 | *The Word was made flesh and we have seen his glory*

Anthem: And the Glory of the Lord

G.F. Handel

(Anyone who wishes to join in singing is welcome to come forward and join the choir at the front of the church)

Offertory Hymn: CP#118 O Come, All Ye Faithful

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.

Prayer of Thanksgiving, Greetings, and Announcements

Polychronia ("Many Years")

(Tune: Tallis' Canon)

Celebrant: Let us call down God's blessing:

**All: God give you many, many, many years to thank him for his blessings here.
And many, many, many more to pray God still his grace to pour.**

The Blessing

Celebrant: May Christ, who by his incarnation gathered into one
things earthly and heavenly,
fill you with his joy and peace;
and the blessing of God Almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Recessional Hymn: CP #138 Hark! The Herald Angels Sing
 Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the new-born King,
 Peace on earth, and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled."
 Joyful, all ye nations, rise, join the triumph of the skies;
 With the angelic host proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem!"
Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the new-born King."

Christ, by highest heaven adored; Christ, the everlasting Lord;
 Late in time behold him come, offspring of a virgin's womb.
 Veiled in flesh the Godhead see; hail, the incarnate deity,
 Pleased as one of us to dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel! *Refrain.*

Hail, the heaven-born Prince of Peace! Hail, the Sun of Righteousness!
 Light and life to all he brings, risen with healing in his wings.
 Mild he lays his glory by, born that we no more may die,
 Born to raise each child of earth, born to give us second birth. *Refrain.*

Dismissal

Celebrant: Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

All: Thanks be to God.

Postlude: Sheep May Safely Graze

J.S. Bach

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