

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

## Christmas Eve | 10:00pm Candlelight Eucharist

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### Welcome & Announcements

**Prelude:** Sarabande & Polonaise – Suite No. 2 in B Minor BWV 1067

J.S. Bach

Louis Papachristos, flute

Andras Weber, cello

*During the Prelude, the congregational candles will be lit*

**Opening Hymn: #118 O Come, All Ye Faithful**

AS YOU ARE ABLE, PLEASE STAND

*The cantor sings verse in Latin; the congregation then joins in singing all 5 verses:*

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 Christmas Proclamation

Presider: "Do I not fill the 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.**

### Gloria

1. Glo - ry be to God in the high - est, peace on earth in all our days.  
2. You are seat - ed with the Fath - er, hear our prayer, by all a - dored.

5 Lord and King, al - might - y Fath - er, laud and thanks to you we raise.  
You a - lone are High - est and Ho - ly, Je - sus Christ, you are the Lord,

9 *p* Je - sus Christ, the Son of the Fath - er, *f* Je - sus Christ, the Lamb of God,  
in the glo - ry of the Fath - er, with the Spi - rit ev - er - more,

13 take, O take our sins a - way.  
with the Spi - rit. A - men.

Music: Franz Schubert  
Arr. & Trans: (c) D. Cowling

## The Collect for Christmas Eve

*The congregation is asked to extinguish their candles*

## THE PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

### First Reading: Isaiah 52:7-10

PLEASE BE SEATED

*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.**

### Psalm 96 (Tune: Winchester Old)

PLEASE REMAIN SEATED

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: Titus 2:11-14

*A Reading from the Letter of Paul to Titus.*

For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all, training us to renounce impiety and worldly passions, and in the present age to live lives that are self-controlled, upright, and godly, while we wait for the blessed hope and the manifestation of the glory of our great God and Saviour, Jesus Christ. He it is who gave himself for us that he might redeem us from all iniquity and purify for himself a people of his own who are zealous for good deeds.

Reader: The word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

### The Holy Gospel: Luke 2:1-20

PLEASE STAND

People: *(sung)* Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth receive her King;  
Let every heart prepare Him room, and heaven and nature sing,  
And heaven and nature sing, and heaven, and heaven and nature sing.

Reader: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

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

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

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 Saviour, 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 singing.

**People: (sung) Glory to God, to God on high, all glory be to God!  
And peace on earth, good will to all! And peace to all on earth,  
And peace to all on earth, and peace, and peace to all on earth.**

When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us." So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

Reader: The Gospel of Christ.

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

*(sung)* **He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the nations prove  
The glories of his righteousness and wonders of his love,  
And wonders of his love, and wonders, wonders of his love.**

**Homily:** The Rev. Canon Dr. Andrew Sheldon

### **The Apostles' Creed**

PLEASE STAND

Presider: Let us confess the faith of our baptism, as we say,

**All: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

### **The Prayers of the People**

PLEASE KNEEL OR STAND AS YOU PREFER

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

Loving God, on this holy night 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 night, 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 night, 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 night, 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 night, 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 night, shepherds in the field heard good tidings of joy. Give us grace to preach the good news of Jesus. Holy God,

**People: Hear our prayer.**

Leader: On this holy night, 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 night, 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 night, 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: Gracious God, on this holy night 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. **Amen.**

### **The Peace**

PLEASE STAND AS YOU ARE ABLE

Presider: The peace of Christ be always with you!

**People: And also with you!**

### **Offertory Hymn: CP#140 It Came Upon the Midnight Clear**

It came upon the midnight clear, that glorious song of old,  
 From angels bending near the earth to touch their harps of gold:  
 "Peace on the earth, to all good will from heaven's most gracious king!"  
 The world in solemn stillness lay to hear the angels sing.

Still through the cloven skies they come with peaceful wings unfurled,  
 And still their heavenly music floats o'er all the weary world;  
 Above its sad and lowly plains they bend on hovering wing,  
 And ever o'er its Babel sounds the blessed angels sing.

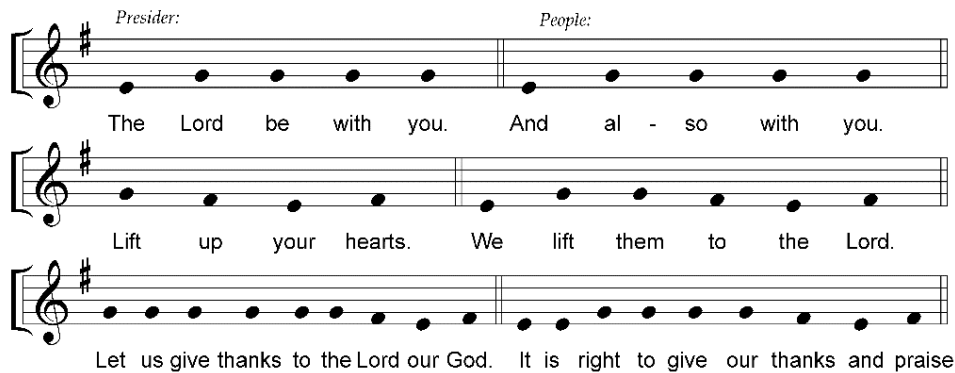
For lo, the days are hasting on, by prophets seen of old,  
 When with the ever-circling years shall come the time foretold:  
 When the new heaven and earth shall own the Prince of Peace their King,  
 And the whole world send back the song which now the angels sing.

# THE CELEBRATION OF THE EUCHARIST

## Prayer Over the Gifts

### The Great Thanksgiving

*Presider:*                      *People:*

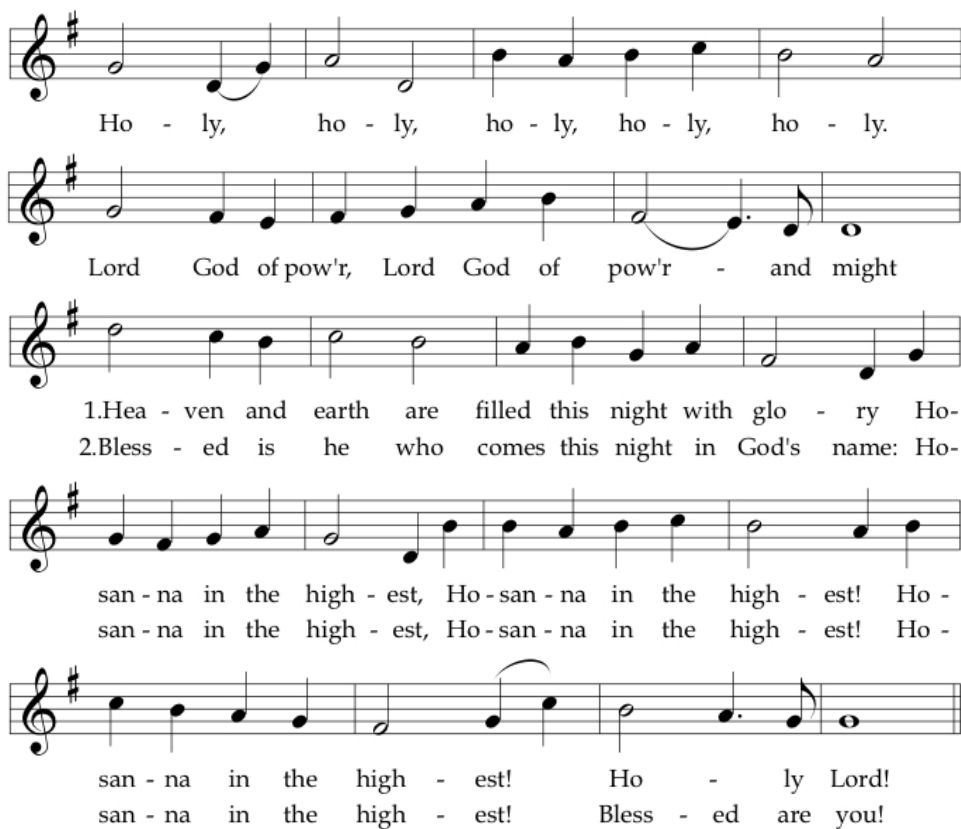


The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is right to give our thanks and praise

*The Presiding Celebrant acclaims the life-giving power of God in the story of salvation and calls on us to join all creation in the song of the angels. We then sing verses 1-2 of the Sanctus as follows:*



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly.

Lord God of pow'r, Lord God of pow'r - and might

1. Hea - ven and earth are filled this night with glo - ry Ho -  
2. Bless - ed is he who comes this night in God's name: Ho -

san - na in the high - est, Ho - san - na in the high - est! Ho -  
san - na in the high - est, Ho - san - na in the high - est! Ho -

san - na in the high - est! Ho - ly Lord!  
san - na in the high - est! Bless - ed are you!

*The Presiding Celebrant recounts God's continuing love in the history of humanity and in the sending of his son, Jesus Christ. We join Jesus as he celebrates his Last Supper and acclaim his giving of himself in the gifts of bread and wine. After the words over the cup and the elevation of the chalice, we sing:*

**People:**        *(sing)* **Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.  
Hosanna in the highest. Glory to you!**

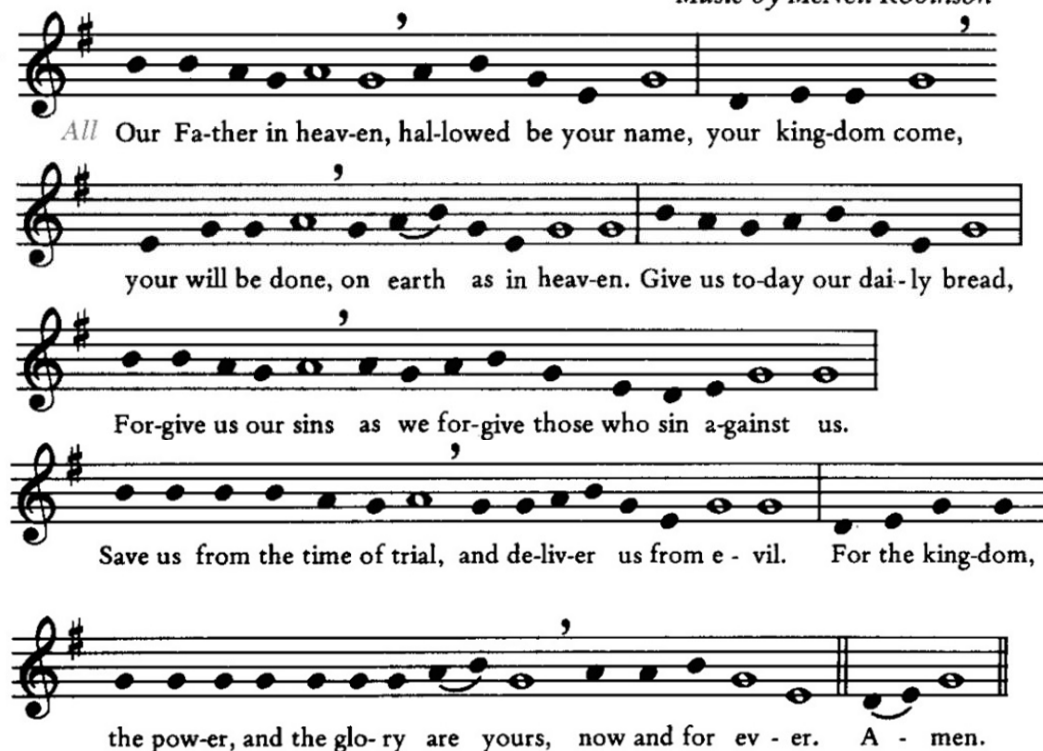
*The Presiding Celebrant calls on the Holy Spirit to bless and strengthen us, the Church, until we come to share the joys of heaven. We praise God's endless love, and at the elevation of the bread and cup, we sing:*

**People:** (sing) Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.  
Hosanna in the highest. Amen!

### The Lord's Prayer

**Presider:** As our Saviour taught us, let us pray:

*Music by McNeil Robinson*



All Our Fa-ther in heav-en, hal-lowed be your name, your king-dom come,  
your will be done, on earth as in heav-en. Give us to-day our dai-ly bread,  
For-give us our sins as we for-give those who sin a-against us.  
Save us from the time of trial, and de-liv-er us from e - vil. For the king-dom,  
the pow-er, and the glo-ry are yours, now and for ev - er. A - men.

### The Breaking of the Bread

**Presider:** We break the bread of life, and that life is the light of the world.

**All:** God here with us, light all around us, bring us to light and life.

**Presider:** The gifts of God for the people of God.

**People:** Thanks be to God.

### The Communion

PLEASE BE SEATED

*All are welcome to come forward to the altar rail. Those who are baptised may receive the sacrament of holy communion.*

*Those who do not wish to receive communion are welcome to receive a blessing. Please cross your arms over your chest to indicate this to the priest. This invitation is extended to all – children and infants included.*

*If you do not wish to drink from the chalice, please cross your hands over your chest when you are presented with the chalice.*

*Dipping the bread in the chalice is not permitted. Receiving in one kind is considered full participation in the sacrament.*

*Gluten-free wafers are available upon request.*

### Music During Communion

**Anthem:** The Angel Gabriel

arr. M. Archer

**Anthem:** Torches

J. Joubert

**Carol: #117** Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming

Lo, how a Rose e'er blooming from tender stem hath sprung,

Of Jesse's lineage coming as seers of old have sung.

It came, a blossom bright

Amid the cold of winter, when half spent was the night.

Isaiah 'twas foretold it, the Rose I have in mind;  
With Mary we behold it, the virgin mother kind.  
To show God's love aright,  
She bore to us a Saviour, when half spent was the night.

O Flower, whose fragrance tender with sweetness fills the air,  
Dispel in glorious splendour the darkness everywhere;  
True man, yet very God,  
From sin and death now save us, and share our every load.

**Solo:** O Holy Night

A. Adams

*During "O Holy Night", the acolytes will relight the congregation's candles.*

**Carol: #119 Silent Night**

Silent night! Holy night! All is calm, all is bright  
Round yon virgin mother and child. Holy infant so tender and mild,  
Sleep in heavenly peace.

Silent night! Holy night! Shepherds quake at the sight:  
Glories stream from heaven afar, heavenly hosts sing alleluia,  
Christ the Saviour is born.

Silent night! Holy night! Son of God, love's pure light  
Radiant beams from thy holy face, with the dawn of redeeming grace,  
Jesus, Lord, at thy birth.

*The congregation is asked to extinguish their candles.*

**Prayer after Communion & Doxology**

PLEASE STAND

Presider: Glory to God,

**All: whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine. Glory to God from generation to generation, in the Church and in Christ Jesus, for ever and ever. Amen.**

**The Blessing**

**Closing Hymn: CP #138** Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

PLEASE JOIN IN SINGING

Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn 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 newborn 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**

Presider: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God!**

**Postlude:** Bourrée I & II, & Badinerie

J.S. Bach

Merry Christmas!

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The Rev. Canon Dr. Andrew Sheldon, Assoc. Priest  
The Rev. Dr. P.J. Carefoote, Honourary Associate  
The Rev. Janet Sidey, Honourary Associate  
Ran Kim, Director of Music Ministry

Janet Kincaid, People's Warden  
Ruth Snowden, Deputy People's Warden  
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