

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

Christmas Eve | 4:00pm Family Celebration

Processional Carol: #118 O Come, All Ye Faithful

AS YOU ARE ABLE, PLEASE STAND

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.

CHRISTMAS GATHERING AND GREETING

The Christmas Proclamation

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.

The Christmas Prayer

Presider: Let us pray.

God, our heavenly Father, whose Word has come among us in the Holy Child of Bethlehem, may the light of faith glow in our hearts and shine in our words and deeds; through Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Carol: #154 Joy to the World

Joy to the world! The Lord is come: let earth receive the King;
Let every heart prepare him room, and heaven and nature sing.

Joy to the earth! The Saviour reigns: let us glad songs employ,
While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains repeat the sounding joy.

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

PLEASE BE SEATED

THE CHRISTMAS STORY

The Christmas Story is told through story and song; verses needed are below

As "O Little Town of Bethlehem" is sung, children place the animals in the crèche.

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.

As "Once in Royal David's City" is sung, children place Mary and Joseph in the crèche.

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.

As "Away in a Manger" is sung, children place Baby Jesus in the crèche.

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.

***As "Shepherds in the Field Abiding" is sung,
children place the shepherds and the angels around the crèche.***

Shepherds in the field abiding, tell us, when the seraph bright
Greeted you with wondrous tidings, what you saw and heard that night.
Gloria in excelsis Deo!

***As "We Three Kings of Orient Are" is sung,
children place the magi from the East around the crèche.***

We three kings of Orient are; bearing gifts, we traverse afar:
Field and fountain, moor and mountain, following yonder star.
O Star of wonder, star of night, star with royal beauty bright,
Westward leading, still proceeding, guide us to thy Perfect Light.

***As "Silent Night" is sung, all children (accompanied by parents, if needed)
are welcome to come and place stars around the crèche.***

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.

As "Silent Night" concludes, all children return to their families.



The Prayers of the People: The Litany of Christmas

Please respond to the petition "Holy God" with "hear our prayer."

PLEASE KNEEL OR STAND AS YOU PREFER

The Peace

PLEASE STAND AS YOU ARE ABLE

Offertory Hymn: CP#139 The First Nowell

The first nowell the angel did say was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay,
In fields where they lay keeping their sheep on a cold winter's night that was so deep.
Nowell, nowell, nowell, nowell, born is the King of Israel.

They looked up and saw a star, shining in the east, beyond them far;
And to the earth it gave great light, and so it continued both day and night. *Refrain.*

And by the light of that same star three wise men came from country far;
To seek for a king was their intent, and to follow the star wherever it went. *Refrain.*

This star drew nigh to the north-west; o'er Bethlehem it took its rest,
And there it did both stop and stay, right over the place where Jesus lay. *Refrain.*

THE CELEBRATION OF THE EUCHARIST

Prayer Over the Gifts

The Eucharistic Prayer

Presider: Let us gather at God's table. Grown-ups, are you here? Say Amen.

Grown-ups: Amen.

Presider: Children, are you here? Say Amen.

Children: Amen.

Presider: For the saints who are with us, say Amen.

All: Amen.

Presider: With all God's creation, say Amen.

All: Amen.

Presider: God most loving, God most wonderful, when there was nothing, you began creating everything in beauty and goodness. When Miriam saved her brother Moses, they endured to lead their people Israel to freedom; when Samuel heard God's voice in the night, he said "yes" and became God's helper; when Mary heard the angel's call, she joined with you and turned the world upside down; and so with all God's children the whole creation sings this song of joy:

**All: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might.
Heaven and earth are full of your glory; hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

Presider: God most loving, God most wonderful, when the world needed you, you came as Jesus, the child of our hope; when he was twelve, Jesus explained the Bible to the teachers in the temple; when he was a grown-up, he brought the children close to him. When children got sick, he came to them and made them better; when people were hungry, a boy offered his bread and fish so Jesus could feed them; because you love us, you call us into a circle of friends. On the night before he died, Jesus had supper with friends, took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and shared it with them, saying: Take and eat; this is bread for the journey—my body, given for you. Do this to remember me. After supper, Jesus took the cup of wine, gave thanks, and shared it with them saying: This is the cup of blessing—my blood, shed for you and for all people. Do this to remember me. As we remember Christ's dying, let the people say Amen.

All: Amen!

Presider: As we celebrate Christ's rising, let the people shout Amen.

All: Amen!

Presider: As we look for Christ's coming again, let the people sing Amen!

All: Amen!

Presider: God most holy, God most motherly, pour out your Spirit upon this bread and wine so we may become a community of love, joy, and friendship. May we taste and see your gift of life, shared at this table, shared with the world, here and everywhere, now and always, and let all the people say Amen.

All: AMEN.

The Lord's Prayer

Presider: Joining our prayers together, let us pray as Christ has taught us:

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.

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: These are the gifts of God, for us, the children of God.

People: Thanks be to God.

The Communion

PLEASE BE SEATED

Carols During Communion

Carol: #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.

Carol: #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.*

Carol: #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.*

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.*

Carol: Ding, Dong, Merrily on High!

Ding dong, merrily on high! In heav'n the bells are ringing;
Ding dong, verily the sky is riv'n with angel singing.
Gloria, hosannah in excelsis! Gloria, hosannah in excelsis!

E'en so here below, below, let steeple bells be swungen,
And io, io, io, by priest and people sungen. *Refrain.*

Pray ye dutifully prime your matin chime, ye ringers;
May ye beautifully rhyme your evetime song, ye singers. *Refrain.*

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

Recessional Carol: CP #138 Hark! The Herald Angels Sing
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."

PLEASE JOIN IN SINGING

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.*

The Dismissal

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

All: Thanks be to God!

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