

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

The First Sunday of Advent

Sunday, December 3rd, 2023

10:30am Holy Eucharist

*The crèche (nursery) is downstairs and is available for use by parents of babies and toddlers.
Children are invited to head downstairs before the service for programming,
and will rejoin their caregivers during The Peace so they may participate together in Communion.*

Prelude: Nun Komm, der Heiden Heiland

J.S. Bach

Welcome & Announcements

THE GATHERING OF THE COMMUNITY

We gather with song and prayer as the People of God

Opening Hymn: CP #88 Come, Thou Long-expected Jesus

PLEASE STAND

Come, thou long-expected Jesus, born to set thy people free;
From our fears and sins release us; let us find our rest in thee.

Israel's strength and consolation, hope of all the earth thou art;
Dear desire of every nation, joy of every longing heart.

Born thy people to deliver; born a child and yet a King;
Born to reign in us forever: now thy gracious kingdom bring.

By thine own eternal Spirit, rule in all our hearts alone;
By thine all-sufficient merit, raise us to thy glorious throne.

Welcome & Greeting

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

People: **And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

The Lighting of the Advent Candle

The children are invited to come forward for the lighting of the Advent Wreath. During the singing of 'Advent Gathering', children may proceed downstairs for children's programming.

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 people who walked in darkness have seen a great light. They lived in a land of shadows, but now light is shining on them.

We light this candle to remind us of the hope of all people for a Saviour who will bring us freedom and peace. This hope was promised by the prophets of the Old Testament, who shared their vision of justice coming to the earth by the mighty acts of God.

The first candle is lit.

Presider: Let us pray.

Father, you awaken in us the desire for the coming of your Son Jesus. May he kindle in us the light of his love, and bring the kingdom of peace and justice you promise for the whole earth. **Amen.**

Hymn: Advent Gathering

Here in this world where darkness surrounds us,
Show us your face, O promise of dawn.
We seek a sign that you are among us.
Show us your face, O Lord Jesus, come.
Come, O hope of your people.
Come among us and stay.
Lead us in mercy up from the shadows,
Shine in our darkness, be here today.

Prayer of the Day

THE PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD OF GOD

We read and respond to God's message in scripture

First Reading: Isaiah 64:1-9

PLEASE BE SEATED

A Reading from the Book of Isaiah.

O that you would tear open the heavens and come down, so that the mountains would quake at your presence - as when fire kindles brushwood and the fire causes water to boil - to make your name known to your adversaries, so that the nations might tremble at your presence! When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect, you came down, the mountains quaked at your presence. From ages past no one has heard, no ear has perceived, no eye has seen any God besides you, who works for those who wait for him. You meet those who gladly do right, those who remember you in your ways. But you were angry, and we sinned; because you hid yourself we transgressed. We have all become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous deeds are like a filthy cloth. We all fade like a leaf, and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away. There is no one who calls on your name, or attempts to take hold of you; for you have hidden your face from us, and have delivered us into the hand of our iniquity. Yet, O Lord, you are our Father; we are the clay, and you are our potter; we are all the work of your hand. Do not be exceedingly angry, O Lord, and do not remember iniquity forever. Now consider, we are all your people.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

(Please keep a period of silence for reflection)

Psalm 80:1-5, 7

PLEASE REMAIN SEATED

In the Lord I'll be ev-er thank-ful, in the Lord - I will re-
joyce, come to God, do not be a-fraid. Lift up your
voi - ces, the Lord is near; lift up a voi - ces, the Lord is near

Music: J. Berthier
Taizé Community
© G.I.A. Publications

Choir: Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph like a flock; * shine forth, you that are enthroned upon the cherubim.

In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin, and Manasseh, * stir up your strength and come to help us.

People: **In the Lord I'll ever be thankful; in the Lord I will rejoice**
Come to God, do not be afraid.
Lift up your voices, the Lord is near;
Lift up your voices, the Lord is near.

Choir: Restore us, O God of hosts; * show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.
O Lord God of hosts, * how long will you be angered despite the prayers of your people?

People: **In the Lord I'll ever be thankful . . .**

Choir: You have fed them with the bread of tears; * you have given them bowls of tears to drink.
Restore us, O God of hosts; * show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.

People: **In the Lord I'll ever be thankful . . .**

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 1:3-9

A Reading from the First Letter of Paul to Church in Corinth.

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind - just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you - so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

(Please keep a period of silence for reflection)

Gospel Acclamation

PLEASE STAND

The musical notation is written on three staves in G major (one sharp) and common time. The first staff is for the Cantor, with lyrics "1. Hal-le, hal-le-lu - jah! Hal-le, ha-le lu - jah!". The second staff is for the Cantor, with lyrics "Hal-le-lu-jah, ha-le-lu-jah, hal-le-lu - jah!". The third staff is for the People, with lyrics "Hal-le-lu-jah, ha-le-lu-jah, hal-le-lu - jah! repeat v.". The music consists of quarter and eighth notes, with some rests and a repeat sign at the end of the third staff.

The Holy Gospel: Mark 13:24-37

Reader: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

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

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

Jesus said, "In those days, after that suffering, the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, and the stars will be falling from heaven, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken. Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in clouds' with great power and glory. Then he will send out the angels, and gather his elect from the four

winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven. From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away. But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. Beware, keep alert; for you do not know when the time will come. It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch. Therefore, keep awake - for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or at dawn, or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake."

Reader: The Gospel of Christ.

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

Sermon: Fr. Andrew

(After the sermon, please keep a period of silence for reflection.)

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.

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

The Prayers of the People

PLEASE KNEEL OR STAND AS YOU PREFER

Please respond to the petition, "Come, O come," with the response, "let us walk in the light of the Lord."

Confession and Absolution

Presider: Dear friends in Christ, God is steadfast in love and infinite in mercy; he welcomes sinners and invites them to his table. Let us confess our sins, confident in God's forgiveness.

Most merciful God,

All: **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 neighbours 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.**

Presider: Almighty God have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and keep you in eternal life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Peace

PLEASE STAND

Presider: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: **And also with you.**

(We encourage you to share a sign of peace with those around you as you are comfortable.)

THE CELEBRATION OF THE EUCHARIST

We share God's banquet of love for this community of faith

Offertory Hymn: CP #89 O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel
that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear.

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel.

O come, O Wisdom from on high, who orders all things mightily;
to us the path of knowledge show, and teach us in her ways to go. *Refrain.*

O come, O come, great Lord of might, who to your tribes on Sinai's height
in ancient times once gave the law, in cloud and majesty and awe. *Refrain.*

O come, O Rod of Jesse's stem, from every foe deliver them
that trust your mighty power to save, and give them victory o'er the grave. *Refrain.*

O come, O Key of David, come, and open wide our heavenly home;
make safe the way that leads on high, and close the path to misery. *Refrain.*

O come, O Dayspring from on high and cheer us by your drawing nigh;
disperse the gloomy clouds of night, and death's dark shadow put to flight. *Refrain.*

O come, Desire of nations, bind in one the hearts of humankind;
O bid our bitter conflict cease, and be for us our Prince of Peace. *Refrain.*

Prayer over the Gifts

Eucharistic Prayer

The musical notation consists of three staves, each with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The first staff is labeled "Presider:" and contains the lyrics "The Lord be with you. And al - so with you." The second staff is labeled "People:" and contains the lyrics "Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord." The third staff contains the lyrics "Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is right to give our thanks and praise".

The Presiding Celebrant will begin the Eucharistic Prayer by either singing or saying the preface to the prayer. The preface will conclude with the words "to proclaim the glory of your name."

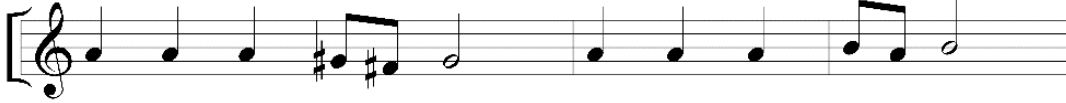
We then sing verses 1-2 of the Sanctus as follows:



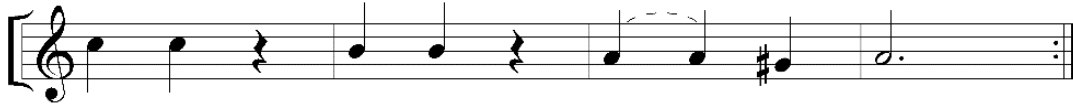
1. Lord God of pow'r and might, Lord God of pow'r and might,
 2. Bless - ed is he who comes, comes in the name of God,
 3&4. (below)



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord!
 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord!



Your glo - ry fills the heav'n, your glo - ry fills the earth,
 Ho - san - na ev - er - more, ho - san - na ev - er - more,
 3. Glo - ry to you, O Lord, glo - ry for ev - er - more!
 4. Glo - ry to you, O Lord, glo - ry for ev - er - more!



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord!
 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord!
 Glo - ry, glo - ry, Glo - ry to you!
 A - men, A - men, A - men.

The Presiding Celebrant continues the Eucharistic Prayer.

After the words over the cup and the elevation of the chalice, we sing verse 3 of the Sanctus:

People: (verse 3) **Glory to you, O Lord; glory for evermore!**
Glory, glory, glory to you!

*The Presiding Celebrant concludes the Eucharistic Prayer,
 and at the elevation of the bread and cup, we sing verse 4 of the Sanctus:*

People: (verse 4) **Glory to you, O Lord; glory for evermore!**
Amen, amen, 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 #5

Presider: God of promise, you prepare a banquet for us in your kingdom.

All: **Happy are those who are called to the supper of the Lamb.**

Song for the Breaking of Bread

Sing 5 times:

Ha-py are those who are called to the sup - per of the Lamb;
Al - le - lu - - - ia! ia, A - men!

*Music: D. Cowling
• copyright 1995*

Choir: Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us.

All: **Happy are those . . .**

Choir: Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us.

All: **Happy are those . . .**

Choir: Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: grant us peace.

All: **Happy are those . . .**

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

All: **Thanks be to God.**

The Communion

PLEASE BE SEATED

All who are baptized are welcome to receive the sacrament of communion in the Anglican Church. Those who are not yet baptized are encouraged to come forward to the altar for a blessing – simply fold your arms across your chest as an indication of your desire for a blessing. This invitation is extended to all – children and infants included. Gluten-free wafers are available upon request.

Music during Communion: O Come, Divine Messiah

G. Ridout

Prayer after Communion

PLEASE STAND

Doxology

Presider: Glory to God,

People: **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, forever and ever. Amen.**

The Blessing

Closing Hymn: CP #114 Lo, He Comes with Clouds Descending

JOIN IN SINGING

Lo, he comes with clouds descending, once for favoured sinners slain;
Thousand thousand saints attending swell the triumph of his train:
Hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah! God appears on earth to reign.

Every eye shall now behold him, robed in dreadful majesty;
All who set at nought and sold him, pierced, and nailed him to the tree,
Deeply grieving, deeply grieving, deeply grieving, shall the true Messiah see.

Now redemption, long expected, see in solemn pomp appear;
All his saints, on earth rejected, thrill the trumpet sound to hear:
Hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah! See the day of God appear!

Yea, amen, let all adore thee, high on thine eternal throne;
Saviour, take the power and glory; claim the kingdom for thine own:
O come quickly! O come quickly! O come quickly! Hallelujah! Come, Lord, come!

Dismissal

Postlude: Now Sing We, Now Rejoice

J.S. Bach

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