

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

The First Sunday of Advent

Sunday, December 1st, 2024

10:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist

The crèche (nursery) is attended and available for babies and toddlers. It is located on the lower level.

- FULL TEXT VERSION OF LEAFLET -

Prelude: The People that Walked in Darkness

G. F. Handel

Welcome & Announcements

THE GATHERING OF THE COMMUNITY

We gather with song and prayer as the People of God.

Processional Hymn: #88 Come, Thou Long-expected Jesus

PLEASE STAND

1. 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.
2. Israel's strength and consolation, hope of all the earth thou art;
Dear desire of every nation, joy of every longing heart.
3. Born thy people to deliver; born a child and yet a King;
Born to reign in us forever: now thy gracious kingdom bring.
4. 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 forever. Amen.

Las Posadas

PLEASE BE SEATED

"Las Posadas" is a Central American and Mexican Advent tradition in which Mary and Joseph walk through town searching for shelter. They are accompanied on their journey by local church members singing and carrying bright lanterns. Turned away again and again, they finally find householders who welcome them in.

During the season of Advent, we will join with Mary and Joseph in their search for shelter and remember that the search for shelter is a reality for many in our world and our community.

(Congregation knocks three times on Mary & Joseph's cue.)

Innkeeper: What's this awful racket at this hour of the night? Who are you, stranger?

Joseph: I am Joseph, a carpenter. We are cold and tired. We've walked long and far. We have nowhere to go. Will you let us in for the night?

Innkeeper: No! You look like one of those guys who wander around here looking for work. Your accent is wrong, and I don't believe your story.

Innkeeper/Choir: Go away!

(Congregation knocks again three times on Mary & Joseph's cue.)

Innkeeper: Another one? Who are you and what do you want?

Mary: I'm Mary. I am pregnant and at the end of my strength. We don't have a lot but we can pay you a little. We're honest workers from up Nazareth way and we mean no harm. Surely you have room in that big house. Please let us in.

Innkeeper: No! You're probably trying to rip us off. We don't need your type around here.

Innkeeper/Choir: Go away!

(Congregation knocks again.)

Children: Let us in! You have money and we have none. You have a warm house and we're out in the cold street. Let us in, please!

Innkeeper: Oh, we've heard all this before and we don't believe it. Get lost or I'll call the soldiers over here.

Innkeeper/Choir: Go away!

Las Posadas Hymn

(TUNE: Good King Wenceslas)

Congregation: In the name of God, we beg: Will you let us enter?
We are tired and we're cold. May we please have shelter?

Choir: You look dirty, and you smell. Will you please keep moving?
For your kind there is no place, for our inn is decent.

Congregation: It is not by our own choice that today we travel;
But the Emperor has said that all must be counted.

Choir: For your reasons, we care not. Every room is taken.
Can't you see the place is full? You are bad for business.

The Lighting of the Advent Wreath

A child will light one candle on the Advent Wreath during the hymn. The children proceed to children's programming while the hymn is sung. They will return for communion.

Advent Hymn: Prepare the Way

Pre- pare the way of the Lord! Pre- pare the way of the Lord!

Make a stright path for him, make a straight path, pre -

pare the way of the Lord!

The Prayer of the Day

THE PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD OF GOD

We read and respond to God's message in scripture

First Reading: Jeremiah 33:14-16

PLEASE BE SEATED

A Reading from the Book of Jeremiah.

The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will fulfil the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David; and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will live in safety. And this is the name by which it will be called: "The Lord is our righteousness."

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 & JOIN IN SINGING



*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 Mannasseh, * stir up your strength and come to help us.

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

Second Reading: 1 Thessalonians 3:9-13

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

How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy that we feel before our God because of you? Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you face to face and restore whatever is lacking in your faith. Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus direct our way to you. And may the Lord make you

increase and abound in love for one another and for all, just as we abound in love for you. And may he so strengthen your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

(Please keep a period of silence for reflection)

Gospel Acclamation

PLEASE STAND

Cantor: *People:*

1. Hal-le, hal-le-lu-jah! Hal-le, ha-le-lu-jah!

Hal-le-lu-jah, ha-le-lu-jah, hal-le-lu-jah!

Hal-le-lu-jah, ha-le-lu-jah, hal-le-lu-jah! repeat v.

The Holy Gospel: Luke 21:25-36

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.**

Jesus said, "There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves. People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in a cloud' with power and great glory. Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near." Then he told them a parable: "Look at the fig tree and all the trees; as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know that summer is already near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away. Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and that day catch you unexpectedly, like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place, and to stand before the Son of Man."

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)

Musical Reflection: O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

The Prayers of the People

Please respond to the petition "We pray to the Lord," with the response, "**Lord Jesus, come soon!**"

All: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and for ever. Amen.

The Peace

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

People: And also with you!

(We encourage you to share 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: #91 People, Look East

PLEASE JOIN IN SINGING

1. People, look east! The time is near of the crowning of the year.
Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table.
People, look east and sing today: Love, the guest, is on the way.
2. Furrows, be glad! Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there:
give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flower may flourish.
People, look east and sing today: Love, the rose, is on the way.
3. Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled;
even the hour when wings are frozen God for fledging time has chosen.
People, look east and sing today: Love, the bird, is on the way.
4. Stars, keep the watch: when night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim,
shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together.
People, look east and sing today: Love, the star, is on the way.
5. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth.
Set every peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming.
People, look east and sing today: Love, the Lord, is on the way.

Prayer Over the Gifts

Eucharistic Prayer

Presider: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Presider: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Presider: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

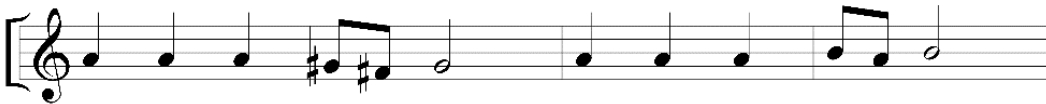
The Presiding Celebrant acclaims the life-giving power of God in the story of salvation and calls on us to join all creation in the song of the angels. We then sing verses 1-2 of the Sanctus following:



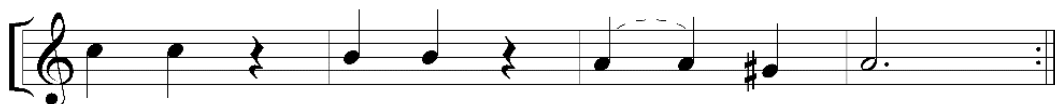
1. Lord God of pow'r and might, Lord God of pow'r and might,
 2. Bless - ed is he who comes, comes in the name of God,
 3&4. (below)



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 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 the following:

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

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

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

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 who are called to the supper of the Lamb; Alleluia!

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.
People: Thanks be to God.

The Communion

PLEASE BE SEATED

*All who seek God in Christ are welcome to receive the sacrament of holy communion.
If you would prefer a blessing, simply fold your arms across your chest to indicate this.
Gluten-free wafers are available upon request.*

Music during Communion: Nun Komm, der Heiden Helland

J. S. Bach

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.

Commissioning of Lay Ministers

Blessing

Recessional Hymn: CP #106 There's a Voice in the Wilderness

PLEASE JOIN IN SINGING

1. There's a voice in the wilderness crying, a call from the ways untrod:
Prepare in the desert a highway, a highway for our God!
The valleys shall be exalted, the lofty hills brought low;
Make straight all the crooked places where the Lord our God may go!
2. O Zion, give voice to good tidings, ascend to the heights and sing!
Proclaim to a desolate people the coming of their King.
The works of pride all perish, like flowers they shall decay;
The power and pomp of nations shall pass like a dream away.
3. But your word, O God, is faithful, your arm, O Lord, is strong;
You stand in the midst of nations, and you will right the wrong.
You will feed your flock like a shepherd, and fold the lambs to your breast;
In pastures of peace you'll lead them, and give to the weary rest.
4. There's a voice in the wilderness crying, a call from the ways untrod:
Prepare in the desert a highway, a highway for our God!
The valleys shall be exalted, the lofty hills brought low;
Make straight all the crooked places where the Lord our God may go!

Dismissal

Postlude: On Jordan's Bank

arr. M. Archer

- We welcome Andras Weber, cellist, to today's service -

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