

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

The Second Sunday of Advent

Sunday, December 8th, 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: Chorale Prelude on 'Es ist ein Ros' entsprungen'

J. Brahms

Welcome & Announcements

THE GATHERING OF THE COMMUNITY

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

Processional Hymn: #102 Prepare the Way, O Zion

PLEASE STAND

1. Prepare the way, O Zion, your Christ is drawing near!
Let every hill and valley a level way appear.
Greet one who comes in glory, foretold in sacred story.
Oh, blest is Christ that came in God's most holy name.
2. He brings God's rule, O Zion; he comes from heaven above.
His rule is peace and freedom, and justice, truth, and love.
Lift high your praise resounding, for grace and joy abounding.
Oh, blest is Christ that came in God's most holy name.
3. Fling wide your gates, O Zion; your Saviour's rule embrace.
His tidings of salvation proclaim in every place.
All lands will bow before him, their voices will adore him.
Oh, blest is Christ that came in God's most holy name.

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/stomps feet 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.)

People: **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 two candles on the Advent Wreath during the hymn. The children proceed to children's programming while the hymn is sung.

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: Malachi 3:1-4

PLEASE BE SEATED

A Reading from the Book of Malachi.

See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple. The messenger of the covenant in whom you delight indeed, he is coming, says the Lord of hosts. But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears? For he is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap; he will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the descendants of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, until they present offerings to the Lord in righteousness. Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the Lord as in the days of old and as in former years.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

(Please keep a period of silence for reflection)

Psalm 85

PLEASE REMAIN SEATED & JOIN IN SINGING



In the Lord I'll be ev-er thank-ful, in the Lord - I will re -
joice, 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: Show us your mercy, O Lord, * and grant us your salvation.

I will listen to what the Lord God is saying, * for he is speaking peace to his faithful people and to those who turn their hearts to him.

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: Truly, his salvation is very near to those who fear him, * that his glory may dwell in our land.

Mercy and truth have met together; * righteousness and peace have kissed each other.

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

Choir: Truth shall spring up from the earth, * and righteousness shall look down from heaven.

The Lord will indeed grant prosperity, * and our land will yield its increase.

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

Second Reading: Philippians 1:3-11

A Reading from the Letter of Paul to the Church in Philippi.

I thank my God every time I remember you, constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now. I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ. It is right for me to think this way about all of you, because you hold me in your heart, for all of you share in God's grace with me, both in my imprisonment and in the defence and confirmation of the gospel. For God is my witness, how I long for all of you with the compassion of Christ Jesus. And this is my prayer, that your love may overflow more and more with knowledge and full insight to help you to determine what is best, so that in the day of Christ you may be pure and blameless, having produced the harvest of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ for the glory and praise of God.

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 3:1-6

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 the fifteenth year of the reign of Emperor Tiberius, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was ruler of Galilee, and his brother Philip ruler of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias ruler of Abilene, during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. He went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah, "The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight. Every valley shall be filled, and every mountain and hill shall be made low, and the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough ways made smooth; and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.'"

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 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: #108 Hark, a Herald Voice Is Sounding

PLEASE JOIN IN SINGING

1. Hark, a herald voice is sounding: "Christ is nigh," it seems to say.
"Cast away the dreams of darkness, O ye children of the day!"
2. Wakened by the solemn warning, let the earth-bound soul arise;
Christ our sun, all sloth dispelling, shines upon the morning skies.
3. Lo, the Lamb, so long expected, comes with pardon down from heaven;
Let us all, with deep repentance, pray that we may be forgiven,
4. That when next he comes with glory, and the world is wrapped in fear,
With his mercy he may shield us, and with words of love draw near.
5. Honour, glory, might, and blessing to the Father and the Son,
With the everlasting Spirit, while eternal ages run.

Prayer Over the Gifts

Eucharistic Prayer

Presider: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

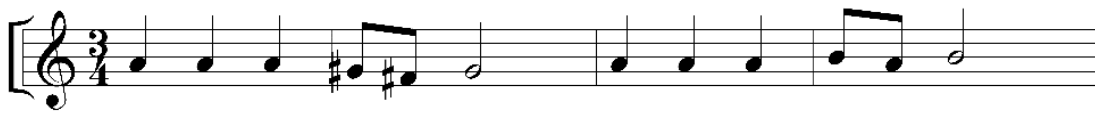
Presider: Lift up your hearts.

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.

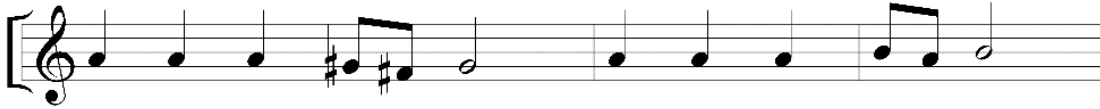
The Presiding Celebrant acclaims the life-giving power of God in the story of salvation and calls on us to join all creation in the song of the angels. We then sing verses 1-2 of the Sanctus following:



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 . . .

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: Jesus Christ the Apple Tree

A. Bullard

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.

Polychronia ("Many Years")

(Tune: Tallis' Canon)

Presider: Let us call down God's blessing:

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

Blessing

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

PLEASE JOIN IN SINGING

1. 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.
2. 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.

3. 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!
4. 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: Wachet auf, ruft uns die Stimme

J. S. Bach

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St. George's on-the-Hill Anglican Church
4600 Dundas St West, Toronto ON M9A 1A5
www.stgeorgesonthehill.ca
info@stgeorgesonthehill.ca
416.239.2341
Office Hours: Tues – Fri, 9 a.m. – 1 p.m.

The Rev'd Canon Dr. Andrew Sheldon
Priest-in-Charge
andrew@stgeorgesonthehill.ca
The Rev'd Janet Sidey, Honourary Assoc.
Michael Hartley, Lay Pastoral Associate
Ran Kim, Director of Music Ministry