

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

Christmas Eve

10:00 p.m. Service

Welcome & Announcements

Prelude: Renaissance tunes, performed on cello by Noah Clarke and Andras Weber
Gesù Bambino (P. Yon)

Opening Hymn: #118 O Come, All Ye Faithful

AS YOU ARE ABLE, PLEASE STAND

The cantor sings first verse in Latin; the congregation then joins in singing all 4 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.

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.**

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 Prayer for Christmas Eve

THE PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

PLEASE BE SEATED

First Reading: Isaiah 52:7-10

Read by Janet Kincaid

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 & JOIN IN SINGING

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

Read by Wendy Dimmock

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.**

Sermon: Fr. Andrew

The Prayers of the People

PLEASE STAND

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.

And now, gathering all our prayer into one, we pray as Jesus taught us:

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 Christ be always with you.

People: And also with you.

Offertory: Es ist ein Ros' entsprungen

arr. D. Cashmore & M. Praetorius

THE CELEBRATION OF THE EUCHARIST

Prayer Over the Gifts

The 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 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:

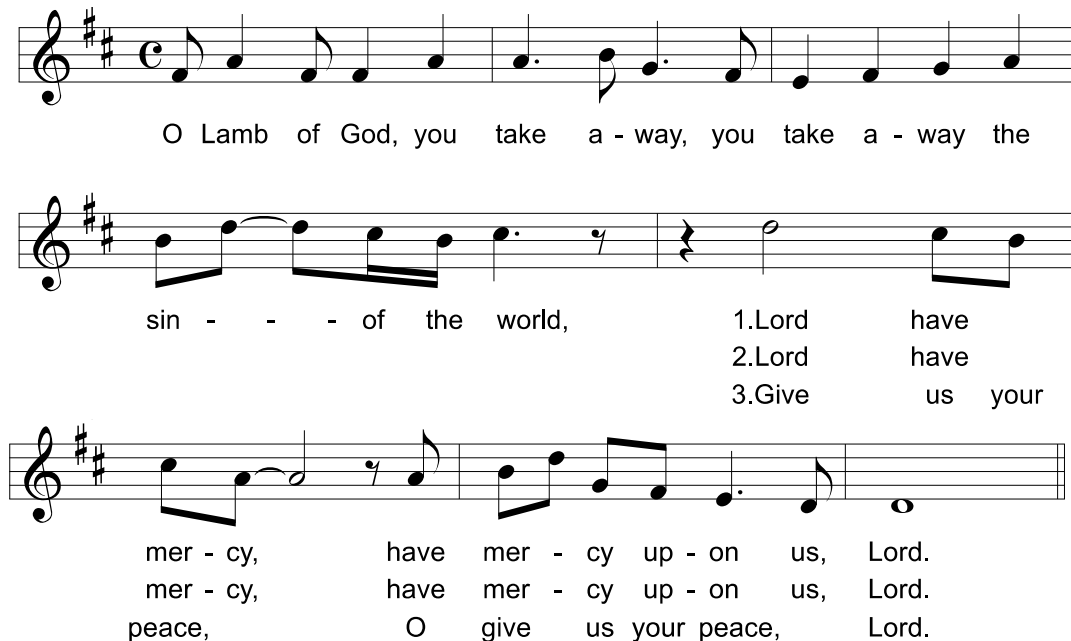
People: (sing) **Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.
Hosanna in the highest. Amen!**

The Breaking of the Bread

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

All: **God here among us, light in the midst of us, bring us to light and life.**

Song for the Breaking of the Bread



O Lamb of God, you take a - way, you take a - way the
sin - - of the world, 1.Lord have
2.Lord have
3.Give us your
mer - cy, have mer - cy up - on us, Lord.
mer - cy, have mer - cy up - on us, Lord.
peace, O give us your peace, Lord.

*Music: Carl Orff
Carmina Burana*

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

O Magnum Mysterium
The Linden Tree Carol

M. Lauridsen
arr. M. Archer

During "The Linden Tree Carol", the acolytes will light 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: #139 The First Nowell

PLEASE JOIN IN SINGING

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.
Nowell, nowell, nowell, nowell, born is the King of Israel.

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.*

Then let us all with one accord
Sing praises to our heavenly Lord,
Who has made heaven and earth of nought,
And with his blood salvation bought. *Refrain.*

Dismissal

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

All: Thanks be to God!

Postlude: Toccata on "Joy to the World"

M. Setchell

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