



*In the bleak midwinter, a stable place sufficed
the Lord God almighty, Jesus Christ.*

*What can I give him, poor as I am?
If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb;
If I were a wise man, I would do my part;
Yet what I can, I give him – give my heart.*

Christina Rossetti

Christmas

St Mark the Evangelist Anglican Church

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Rev Mary-Cate Garden, Priest-in-Charge

*We gather today on the traditional and unceded territory of the
Algonquin Anishnaabe Nation. May we dwell on this land with respect
and peace.*

7:00 PM, HOLY EUCHARIST,

Prelude

Sinfonia from the Christmas Oratorio

*J.S. Bach, arr.
Hesford*

Introit: Ding Dong Merrily on High

ARR C. WOOD

Opening Hymn 118 O Come, All Ye Faithful

(ADESTE FIDELES)

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;

*Refrain: O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him,
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: *Refrain*

Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,
sing, all ye citizens of heaven above;
glory to God, glory in the highest; *Refrain*

See how the shepherds, summoned to his cradle,
leaving their flocks, draw nigh with lowly fear;
we too will thither bend our joyful footsteps; *Refrain*

Yea, Lord we greet thee, born this happy morning;
Jesus, to thee be glory given:
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing: *Refrain*

Lighting of the Christ Candle

Reader 1: The waiting is over. The dreaming has given birth to a new reality.

Reader 2: The source of our healing has come near. God's promise has been fulfilled.



Reader 1: The Advent candles are all lit, forming a circle of light that reminds us of God's never-ending love.

Reader 2: Now we light the Christ candle, remembering that Jesus is in our midst, today and always.

(The Christ Candle is lit)

All: Thank you God, for coming to be with us in the form of Jesus. We rejoice that he lived as one of us, knew our joys and sorrows, our pains and hopes and dreams. As he came to show your love to us, help us to show your love to others all the year through. Amen

THE GATHERING OF THE COMMUNITY

All stand. The presiding celebrant greets the community

Celebrant The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
and the love of God,
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,
be with you all.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Almighty God,
All **to you all hearts are open,
all desires known,
and from you no secrets are hidden.
Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,
that we may perfectly love you,
and worthily magnify your holy name;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Glory be to God

R. DACEY

**Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to his people on earth.
Lord God, heavenly king,
almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.
Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,**



**Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:
receive our prayer.
For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant Let us pray.

Eternal God, this holy night is radiant with the brilliance of your one true light. As we have known the revelation of that light on earth, bring us to see the splendour of your heavenly glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

A Reading from the Book of Isaiah

ISAIAH 9:2–7

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness — on them light has shined. You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy: they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder. For the yoke of their burden, and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian. For all the boots of the tramping warriors and all the garments rolled in blood shall be burned as fuel for the fire. For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness



from this time onward and forevermore. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.

The word of the Lord.

People

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 96

WM. CROTCH



1. Sing to the Lord a ¹ n¹ew ¹ song; *
sing to the Lord, ¹ all the ¹ whole ¹ earth.
2. Sing to the Lord and ¹ bless his ¹ name; *
proclaim the good news of his sal¹vation from ¹ day to ¹ day.
3. Declare his glory a¹mong the ¹ nations *
and his ¹ wonders · a¹mong all ¹ peoples.
4. For great is the Lord and ¹ greatly · to be ¹ praised; *
he is more to be ¹ feared than ¹ all ¹ gods.
- † 5. As for all the gods of the nations, ¹ they · are but ¹ idols; *
but it is the ¹ Lord who ¹ made the ¹ heavens.
6. Oh, the majesty and ma¹gnificence · of his ¹ presence! *
Oh, the power and the ¹ splendour ¹ of his ¹ sanctuary!
7. Ascribe to the Lord, you ¹ families · of the ¹ peoples; *
ascribe to the ¹ L¹ord ¹ honour and ¹ power.
8. Ascribe to the Lord the ¹ honour · due his ¹ name; *
bring offerings and ¹ come in¹to his ¹ courts.
9. Worship the Lord in the ¹ beauty · of ¹ holiness; *
let the ¹ whole earth ¹ tremble · be¹fore him.
10. Tell it out among the nations: "The ¹ Lord is ¹ King! *
he has made the world so firm that it cannot be moved;
he will ¹ judge the ¹ peoples · with ¹ equity."



11. Let the heavens rejoice, and let the earth be glad;
 let the sea thunder and ¹all · that is ¹in it; *
 let the field be joyful and ¹all that ¹is there¹in.
12. Then shall all the trees of the wood shout for joy
 before the ¹Lord · when he ¹comes, *
 when he ¹comes to ¹judge the ¹earth.
13. He will judge the ¹world with ¹righteousness *
 and the ¹peoples ¹with his ¹truth.

Glory be to the Father, and ¹to the ¹Son, *
 and ¹to the ¹Holy ¹Spirit;

as it was in the beginning, is now, and ¹ever ¹shall be, *
 world without ¹end. ¹Ä'men.

A Reading from the Letter of Paul to Titus

TITUS 2:11–14

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.

The word of the Lord.

People

Thanks be to God.

Gradual Hymn 128 The Virgin Mary had a Baby Boy

(THE VIRGIN MARY)

The Virgin Mary had a baby boy,
 the Virgin Mary had a baby boy
 the Virgin Mary had a baby boy,
 and they say that his name was Jesus.

Refrain

*He come from the glory,
 he come from the glorious kingdom.
 He come from the glory,
 he come from the glorious kingdom.
 O yes, believer! O yes, believer!*



*He come from the glory,
he come from the glorious kingdom*

The angels sang when the baby was born,
the angels sang when the baby was born
the angels sang when the baby was born
and proclaim him the Saviour Jesus. *Refrain*

The wise men went where the baby was born,
the wise men went where the baby was born,
the wise men went where the baby was born
and they say that his name is Jesus. *Refrain*

Reader The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Reader The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to
Luke *LUKE 2: 1-20*

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 saying, “Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favours!”

The Gospel of Christ.

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

Sermon

Anthem: Lo in a Manger

STEPHEN CHATMAN

Prayers of the People

The Nicene Creed

The celebrant may invite the people, in these or similar words, to join in the recitation of the creed.

Celebrant Let us confess our faith as we say,

All **We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one being with the Father.**

Through him all things were made.

**For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,
and was made man.**

**For our sake he was crucified
under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.**

On the third day he rose again



**in accordance with the scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory
to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father.
With the Father and the Son
he is worshipped and glorified.
He has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic
and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism
for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

Confession and Absolution

Celebrant 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.

Silence is kept.

Celebrant 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.**

Celebrant 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.

People **Amen.**

All stand, and the presiding celebrant addresses the people.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

THE CELEBRATION OF THE EUCHARIST

The Preparation of the Gifts

Offertory Hymn 135 Shepherds in the Field Abiding

(IRIS)

Shepherds in the field abiding,
tell us, when the seraph bright
greeted you with wondrous tiding,
what you saw and heard that night.
Gloria in excelsis deo. Gloria in excelsis deo.

We beheld (it is no fable)
God incarnate, king of bliss,
swathed and cradled in a stable,
and the angel strain was this
Gloria in excelsis deo. Gloria in excelsis deo.

Choristers on high were singing
Jesus and his virgin birth,
heavenly bells the while a-ringing
"Peace, good will to all on earth."
Gloria in excelsis deo. Gloria in excelsis deo.

Thanks, good shepherds, true your story;
let us go to Bethlehem,
angels hymn the king of glory;
carol we with you and them.



Gloria in excelsis deo. Gloria in excelsis deo.

FRENCH TRAD, TR G.R. WOODWARD

The Prayer over the Gifts

Source of light and gladness, accept all we offer on this joyful feast. May we grow up in him who unites our lives to yours; for he is Lord now and for ever. **Amen**

The Great Thanksgiving

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them to the Lord.**

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

Celebrant Blessed are you, gracious God,
creator of heaven and earth;
we give you thanks and praise
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who in the mystery of his incarnation
was made perfect man
of the flesh of the Virgin Mary his mother;
in him we have seen a new and radiant vision of your glory.

Therefore with all the angels of heaven,
we lift our voices and sing our joyful hymn of praise
to proclaim the glory of your name.

All **Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.**

R. FLEMING

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

Celebrant We give thanks to you, Lord our God,
for the goodness and love
you have made known to us in creation;
in calling Israel to be your people;



in your Word spoken through the prophets;
and above all in the Word made flesh,
Jesus your Son.

For in these last days you sent him
to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary,
to be the Saviour and Redeemer of the world.
In him, you have delivered us from evil,
and made us worthy to stand before you.
In him, you have brought us
out of error into truth,
out of sin into righteousness,
out of death into life.

On the night he was handed over
to suffering and death,
a death he freely accepted,
our Lord Jesus Christ took bread;
and when he had given thanks to you,
he broke it, and gave it to his disciples,
and said, “ Take, eat:
this is my body which is given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.”

After supper he took the cup of wine;
and when he had given thanks,
he gave it to them,
and said, “Drink this, all of you:
this is my blood of the new covenant,
which is shed for you and for many
for the forgiveness of sins.
Whenever you drink it,
do this for the remembrance of me.”

Therefore, Father, according to his command
we remember his death,
we proclaim his resurrection,
we await his coming in glory;

All

Celebrant and we offer our sacrifice
of praise and thanksgiving



to you, Lord of all;
presenting to you, from your creation,
this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God,
to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts,
that they may be the sacrament
of the body of Christ
and his blood of the new covenant.

Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice,
that we, made acceptable in him,
may be sanctified by the Holy Spirit.

In the fullness of time,
reconcile all things in Christ,
and make them new,
and bring us to that city of light
where you dwell with all your sons and daughters;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
the firstborn of all creation,
the head of the Church,
and the author of our salvation;

by whom, and with whom, and in whom,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all honour and glory are yours, almighty Father,
now and for ever. **Amen**

The Lord's Prayer

Celebrant And now, as our Saviour Christ has taught us,
we are bold to say,

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

Celebrant 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.**

The Communion

Lamb of God

R. FLEMING

Communion Hymn 125 Infant Holy, Infant Lowly

(POLISH CAROL)

Infant holy, infant lowly, for his bed a cattle stall;
oxen lowing, little knowing Christ the babe is Lord of all.
Swift are winging angels singing, nowells ringing, tidings bringing:
Christ the babe is Lord of all, Christ the babe is Lord of all!

Flocks were sleeping, shepherds keeping vigil till the morning new
saw the glory, heard the story, tidings of a gospel true.
Thus rejoicing, free from sorrow, praises singing, greet the morrow:
Christ the babe was born for you, Christ the babe was born for you!

POLISH CAROL TR E.M.G. REID

Hymn 119 Silent Night

(STILLE NACHT)

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, 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, 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. Jesus, Lord, at thy birth.

JOSEPH MOHR TR J.F. YOUNG

Anthem: Sing Noel!

ARR. VICTOR C. JOHNSON

Prayer after Communion

Celebrant Let us pray.

Father of all, tonight you have united earth and heaven in sending your Son to take our human nature. May we who have tasted heavenly things share in the life of his eternal kingdom. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Celebrant 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 Dismissal

Celebrant May the joy of the angels, the eagerness of the shepherds, the perseverance of the wise men, the obedience of Joseph and Mary, and the peace of the Christ child be yours this Christmas; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and those whom you love, this day and forever more. **Amen.**

Then the deacon or the celebrant says,

Leader Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Closing Hymn 138 Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

(MENDELSSOHN)

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 new-born King.”

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,
please 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 wing.
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*

CHARLES WESLEY

Postlude

A Joyous Christmas Medley

arr. Lani Smith for piano
and organ

*The Rector and Wardens of St Mark’s wish you and those who are dear to you,
all the blessings of this holiest of seasons.*

May you find joy in the birth of the Christ-child and peace in your heart this day



Flowers in the church at Christmas are given
To the Glory of God in loving memory of:

Our parents, Jake and Eve Adams, Kathleen and Norman Jackson, and our beloved daughter Jan from Wes & Pauline Adams and family.

Jackie & Rita from their sister, Suzanne Bisson

Lorne & Connie Bowerman, Noreen & Stanley Dee from the Bowerman & Dee Families

Derek, Joan, Andrew, and David and many loved ones here and in the UK from the Knight family

Bruce Lodge from Margaret, Sarah, Matthew and families

Brian Morphey and friends by Jenny and family

Departed loved ones of the Perkin, St Jean and Cole families from Janis & Michael Perkin

Barton Robinson, Nora and Frederick Ballam and dear relatives and friends from Greta Robinson

