

All Saints' Anglican Church, Westboro
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All Saints' Westboro



*Photo by Christopher Dunn
Stained Glass in All Saints' Westboro, Ottawa.*

December 25th, 2020

Christmas Day

10:00 am

In-person and by Zoom

The Ven. Christopher Dunn

The Rev. Simone Hurkmans

The Rev. Deacon Jarrett Carty

Music: Edith Troup

Children and Youth: Julie Newlands

Please Note: This service is being recorded, so if you attend in-person, there is a possibility that you may appear on the recording.

Celebrant: Dear friends, we gather this morning on the traditional unceded territory of the Algonquin Anishnaabeg people.

People: May we dwell on this land with respect and peace.

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

People: And also with you.

Opening Hymn: O Come, All Ye Faithful (v.1-3, 5)

#118

Please note that the hymn will be sung by a cantor (Patricia Bays). If you are attending the in-person service, please refrain from singing as congregational singing is not permitted during the Amber Stage.

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.

Yea, Lord we greet thee, born this happy morning;
Jesus, to thee be glory given;
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing:
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord.

Celebrant: We are children of God.

People: God's Word has come into the world in Jesus.

Celebrant: God's light has enlightened the world through Jesus.

People: God's gracious gifts are received with Jesus.

Celebrant: God's love is wonderfully shown in Jesus.

People: We are children of God.

Celebrant: Almighty God,

People: 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.

Celebrant: Lord Jesus Christ,

People: your birth at Bethlehem draws us to kneel in wonder at heaven touching earth: accept our heartfelt praise as we worship you, our Saviour and our eternal God. Amen.

The First Reading is from the Prophet Isaiah (52:7-10)

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: Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

People: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 98

Celebrant: O sing to the Lord a new song, for he has done marvelous things.

People: His right hand and his holy arm have gotten him victory.

Celebrant: The Lord has made known his victory;

People: he has revealed his vindication in the sight of the nations.

Celebrant: He has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel.

People: All the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.

Celebrant: Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth;

People: break forth into joyous song and sing praises.

Celebrant: Sing praises to the Lord with the lyre, with the lyre and the sound of melody.

People: With trumpets and the sound of the horn make a joyful noise before the King, the Lord.

Celebrant: Let the sea roar, and all that fills it; the world and those who live in it.

People: Let the floods clap their hands;

Celebrant: let the hills sing together for joy at the presence of the Lord, for he is coming to judge the earth.

People: He will judge the world with righteousness, and the peoples with equity.

The Second Reading is from Hebrews (1:1-4)

Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets, but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, through whom he also created the worlds. He is the reflection of God's glory and the exact imprint of God's very being, and he sustains all things by his powerful word. When he had made purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs.

Reader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

People: Thanks be to God.

Gradual Hymn: Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

#138

Please note that the hymn will be sung by a member of the clergy. If you are attending the in-person service, please refrain from singing as congregational singing is not permitted during the Amber Stage.

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!"

*Refrain: Hark! The herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn 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,
pleased 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 wings.
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*

Reader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Reader: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John (1:1-14).

People: Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it. There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God. And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

Reader: The Gospel of Christ.

People: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Homily

Celebrant: Let us make an affirmation of faith, as we say,

All: You, O God, are supreme and holy. You create our world and give us life. Your purpose overarches everything we do. You have always been with us. You are God.

You, O God, are infinitely generous, good beyond all measure. You came to us before we came to you. You have revealed and proved your love for us in Jesus Christ, who lived and died and rose again. You are with us now. You are God.

You, O God, are Holy Spirit. You empower us to be your gospel in the world. You reconcile and heal; you overcome death. You are our God. We worship you.

Prayers of the People

(Prepared by Patricia Bays)

One: O God, on this day, with Christians all over the world, we celebrate the birth of your Son our Saviour in human form. Open our hearts that he may be born in us today. In your mercy,

All: hear our prayer.

One: There was no room for your Son in the inn. Protect with your love those who have no home, those who live in poverty and all who live on the margins of society. In your mercy,

All: hear our prayer.

One: Angels sang, "Peace on earth." Strengthen us to work for peace and justice. We give thanks for the gifts of music and story and art that embody the message the angels bring. In your mercy,

All: hear our prayer.

One: Shepherds heard good tidings of great joy, came to worship and spread the good news to everyone. In these dark pandemic times, help us to be messengers of hope and love to everyone. In your mercy,

All: hear our prayer.

One: Christ comes as light shining in the darkness. Give strength to all who suffer. Heal the sick, comfort those who mourn, and give the lonely the assurance of your presence. In your mercy,

All: hear our prayer.

One: We join with others at the manger. Bless our homes and families – though we may not be with them this Christmas, help us to know that we are joined together in your love. Keep in safety all who travel, all who care for the sick, and all who must work this day. In your mercy,

All: hear our prayer.

One: All these things we ask in the name of him who came as light in the darkness of our world, Jesus Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

Celebrant: Dear friends in Christ, God is steadfast in love and infinite in mercy; God welcomes sinners and invites them to the 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.

Celebrant: The Peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: And also with you.

When exchanging the Peace with your fellow parishioners, please remember that physical contact with those outside your bubble group is not permitted during this Amber phase. Instead, share a sign of peace with others around you by other means such as bowing or waving.

Offertory Hymn: While Shepherds Watched their Flocks by Night
#136

Please note that the hymn will be sung by a cantor (Patricia Bays). If you are attending the in-person service, please refrain from singing as congregational singing is not permitted during the Amber Stage.

While shepherds watched their flocks by night,
all seated on the ground,
the angel of the Lord came down
and glory shone around.

“Fear not,” said he, for mighty dread
had seized their troubled mind.
“Glad tidings of great joy I bring
to you and humankind.

To you in David's town this day,
is born of David's line
a Saviour, who is Christ the Lord;
and this shall be the sign:

the heavenly babe you there shall find
to human view displayed,
all meanly wrapped in swaddling bands,
and in a manger laid.”

Thus spake the seraph; and forthwith
appeared a shining throng
of angels praising God, who thus
addressed their joyful song:

“All glory be to God on high,
and to the world be peace;
good will henceforth from heaven to earth
begin, and never cease.”

Celebrant: Generous Creator,

**People: in faith and joy we celebrate the birth of your Son.
Increase our understanding and our love of the**

riches you have revealed in him, who is Lord now and forever. Amen.

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: Holy God, Lover of creation, we give you thanks and praise for in the ocean of your steadfast love you bear us and place the song of your Spirit in our hearts. When we turn from your love and defile the earth, you do not abandon us. Your Spirit speaks through Huldah and Micah, through prophets, sages, and saints in every age, to confront our sin and reveal the vision of your new creation. Joining in the song of the universe we proclaim your glory saying:

People: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

Celebrant: Gracious God, in the fullness of time you sent Jesus the Christ to share our fragile humanity. Through Jesus' life, death, and resurrection you open the path from brokenness to health, from fear to trust, from pride and conceit to reverence for you. Rejected by a world that could not bear the Gospel of life, Jesus knew death was near. His head anointed for burial by an unknown woman, Jesus gathered together those who loved him. He took bread, gave thanks to you, broke it and gave it to his friends, saying, "Take and eat: this is my body which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper, Jesus took the cup of wine, gave you thanks, and said "Drink this all of you, this is my blood of the new covenant which is shed for you and for many. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me." And now we gather at this table in response to his

commandment, to share the bread and cup of Christ's undying love, and to proclaim our faith.

People: Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

Celebrant: Breathe your Holy Spirit, the wisdom of the universe, upon these gifts that we bring to you: this bread, this cup, ourselves, our souls and bodies, that we may be signs of your love for all the world and ministers of your transforming purpose. Through Christ, with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory is yours, Creator of all, and we bless your holy name for ever.

People: Amen.

Celebrant: And now, as our Saviour Christ has taught us, we say,

People: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is 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.

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

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

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

People: Thanks be to God.

During Communion, you will remain in your seats and the clergy will bring the host to you. A sidesperson will provide you with hand sanitizer before you remove your mask to take the host and after you have received it. If you are unable to receive the wheat wafer, a rice wafer is available.

Communion Hymn: In the Bleak Midwinter (soloist – Patricia Bays)

Celebrant: Source of truth and joy,

People: may we who have received the gift of divine life always follow the way of your Son. This we ask in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Celebrant: 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.

Celebrant: Go from here as those who will shed the light of Christ.

People: We will enlighten the faith-seekers; we will give direction to the lost.

Celebrant: Confront the powerful; befriend the lonely.

People: We will advocate for those who have lost possessions or country.

Celebrant: And the blessing of God

All: Amen.

Announcements

Closing Hymn: Joy to the World

#154

Please note that the hymn will be sung by a member of the clergy. If you are attending the in-person service, please refrain from singing as congregational singing is not permitted during the Amber Stage.

Joy to the world! The Lord is come:
let earth receive the King;
let every heart prepare him room,
and heaven and nature sing.

Joy to the earth! The Saviour reigns:
let us glad songs employ,
while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains
repeat the sounding joy.

No more let wrongs and sorrows grow,
nor thorns infest the ground;
he comes to make his blessings flow
far as our sin is found.

He rules the world with truth and grace,
and makes the nations prove
the glories of his righteousness
and wonders of his love.

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

Response: Thanks be to God.

Postlude

When the service ends, please remain in your seats while the music plays. When you feel comfortable, please leave through the Richmond Road doors, keeping physical distance.

Credits:

*Opening and Closing Prayers from David Sparks Prayers to Share, Yr. C
Collects from the Common Worship: Additional Collects 2004 and Resources for Worship.*

Readings from the New Revised Standard Version of the Bible.

Psalm reprinted from A Liturgical Psalter, General Synod 2016 edition, the psalter of the Book of Alternative Services emended for contemporary liturgical use

Affirmation of faith from A New Zealand Prayer Book

Liturgical texts from The Book of Alternative Services

All Saints Anglican Church Westboro's Church CCLI License Number is 11196799

All Saints Anglican Church Westboro's Church One License Number is A-728801

The flowers decorating the Church for Christmas are given to the
Glory of God and in loving memory of:
Ken and Gretha Cavanagh by their daughter Lillian Paul
Etta Wiseman by Dan, Beth, Pat, Jamie, Sarah, and Barb and
Doug



Photo by Christopher Dunn