

Saint Thomas's Church

The Fourth Sunday in Advent

Sunday, December 20, 2020

Sung Eucharist at 11 o'clock



*Stained glass window depicting the Annunciation to Mary
from approximately AD 1150, at Chartres Cathedral*



Saint Thomas's Anglican Church

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Celebrant: Fr D'Angelo
Homilist: Fr David Brinton
Gospeller and Intercessor: Fr James Shire
Cantor: Rigzin Tute
Reader: Larry Beckwith
Organist & Director of Music: Matthew Whitfield

MUSIC OF THE MASS – Missa X: *Alma Pater*

PRELUDE: Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland, BWV 659, *J.S. Bach*

INTROIT: Psalm 19.1-6

- 1 The heavens declare the glory of God; /
and the firmament showeth his handy-work.
- 2 One day telleth another; /
and one night certifieth another.
- 3 There is neither speech nor language; /
their voice cannot be heard;
- 4 Yet their sound is gone out into all lands; /
and their words into the ends of the world.
- 5 In them hath he set a tabernacle for the sun; /
which cometh forth as a bridegroom out of his chamber, and rejoiceth as a
giant to run his course.
- 6 It goeth forth from the uttermost part of the heaven,
and runneth about unto the end of it again; /
and there is nothing hid from the heat thereof.

**GLORY be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; / As it was in
the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.**

The heavens declare the glory of God; /
and the firmament showeth his handy-work.

Please kneel

COLLECT FOR PURITY

Almighty God, unto whom all hearts be open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of thy Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love thee, and worthily magnify thy holy Name; through Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

KYRIE ELEISON

*Kyrie Eleison : Lord, have mercy upon us.
Christe Eleison : Christ, have mercy upon us.
Kyrie Eleison : Lord, have mercy upon us.*

V / The Lord be with you
R / *And with thy Spirit*

Please stand for the Collects

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Raise up, we beseech thee, O Lord, thy power, and come among us, and with great might succour us; that whereas, through our sins and wickedness, we are sore let and hindered in running the race that is set before us, thy bountiful grace and mercy may speedily help and deliver us; who with the Father and the Holy Spirit livest and reignest, one God, world without end. *Amen.*

COLLECT OF ADVENT I

Almighty God, give us grace that we may cast away the works of darkness, and put upon us the armour of light, now in the time of this mortal life, in which thy Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that in the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious Majesty, to judge both the quick and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, now and ever. *Amen.*

Please be seated

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: 2 Samuel 7.1-11, 16

Now when the king was settled in his house, and the LORD had given him rest from all his enemies around him, the king said to the prophet Nathan, 'See now, I am living in a house of cedar, but the ark of God stays in a tent.' Nathan said to the king, 'Go, do all that you have in mind; for the LORD is with you.' But that same night the word of the LORD came to Nathan: Go and tell my servant David: Thus says the LORD: Are you the one to build me a house to live in? I have not lived in a house since the day I brought up the people of Israel from Egypt to this day, but I have been moving about in a tent and a tabernacle. Wherever I have moved about among all the people of Israel, did I ever speak a word with any of the tribal leaders of Israel, whom I commanded to shepherd my people Israel, saying, 'Why have you not built me a house of cedar?' Now therefore thus you shall say to my servant David: Thus says the LORD of hosts: I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep to be prince over my people Israel; and I have been with you wherever you went, and have cut off all your enemies from before you; and I will make for you a great name, like the name of the great ones of the earth. And I will appoint a place for my people Israel and will plant them, so that they may live in their own place, and be disturbed no more; and evildoers shall afflict them no more, as formerly, from the time that I appointed judges over my people Israel; and I will give you rest from all your enemies. Moreover, the LORD declares to you that the LORD will make you a house. Your house and your kingdom shall be made sure for ever before me; your throne shall be established for ever.

The word of the Lord
R / *Thanks be to God*

PSALM 89.1-4, 19-26 - Misericordias Domini; *Tone V,1*



- 1 MY SONG shall be alway of the loving-kindness of **the** Lord :
with my mouth will I ever be showing thy faithfulness from
one generation **to** an-ö-ther.
- 2 For I have said, 'Loving-kindness shall be built up for **ev**-er :
thy faithfulness shalt thou stablish **in** the heä-vens.'
- 3 'I have made a covenant with my **cho**-sen :
I have sworn unto Da-**vid** my sër-**van**t;
- 4 Thy seed will I stablish for **ev**-er :
and set up thy throne from one generation **to** an-ö-ther.'
- 19 Thou spak-est sometime in a vision unto thy saints, **and** saidst :
'I have laid help upon one that is mighty; I have exalted
one chosen out **of** the pëo-ple.
- 20 I have found David my **ser**-vant : with my holy oil have I an-oïnt-ed him.
- 21 My hand shall hold **him** fast : and my **arm** shall strëngth-en him.
- 22 The enemy shall not be able to do him vi-o-lence :
the son of wickedness **shall** not hürt him.
- 23 I will beat down his foes before **his** face : and smite **them** that häte him.
- 24 My faithfulness also and my mercy shall be **with** him :
and in my Name shall his horn **be** ex-ält-ed.
- 25 I will set his hand also on **the** sea : and his right hand **on** the rï-vers.
- 26 He shall call me, "Thou art my **Fa**-ther :
my God and the rock of **my** sal-vä-tion."

THE EPISTLE: Romans 16.25-27

Now to God who is able to strengthen you according to my gospel and the proclamation of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery that was kept secret for long ages but is now disclosed, and through the prophetic writings is made known to all the Gentiles, according to the command of the eternal God, to bring about the obedience of faith—to the only wise God, through Jesus Christ, to whom be the glory for ever! Amen.

The word of the Lord R/ *Thanks be to God*

SEQUENCE HYMN 192 - The God whom earth, and sea, and sky

- 1 The God whom earth, and sea, and sky
Adore, and laud, and magnify,
Whose might they own, whose praise they swell,
In Mary's womb vouchsafed to dwell.
- 2 The Lord whom sun and moon obey,
Whom all things serve from day to day,
Was by the Holy Ghost conceived
Of her who through his grace believed.
- 3 How blest that Mother, in whose shrine
The world's Creator, Lord Divine,
Whose hand contains the earth and sky,
Once deigned, as in his ark, to lie;
- 4 Blest in the message Gabriel brought,
Blest by the work the Spirit wrought;
From whom the great Desire of earth
Took human flesh and human birth.
- 5 O Lord, the Virgin-born, to thee
Eternal praise and glory be,
Whom with the Father we adore
And Holy Ghost for evermore. Alleluia.

S^t AMBROSE
La Feillée's Plain Chant 1808

Tr from the 9th c. Latin
J.M. Neale

HOLY GOSPEL: Luke 1.26-38

R / *Glory be to thee O Lord*

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, 'Greetings, favoured one! The Lord is with you.' But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. The angel said to her, 'Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favour with God. And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. He will reign over the house of Jacob for ever, and of

his kingdom there will be no end.’ Mary said to the angel, ‘How can this be, since I am a virgin?’ The angel said to her, ‘The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. For nothing will be impossible with God.’ Then Mary said, ‘Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word.’ Then the angel departed from her.

The Gospel of Christ
R / *Praise be to thee, O Christ*

THE NICENE CREED

Celebrant: I believe in one God

All: the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, And of all things visible and invisible:

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, Begotten of the Father before all worlds; God, of God; Light, of Light; Very God, of very God; Begotten, not made; Being of one substance with the Father; Through whom all things were made: Who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven, And was incarnate by the Holy Ghost of the Virgin Mary, And was made man, And was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried, And the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures, And ascended into heaven, And sitteth on the right hand of the Father. And he shall come again with glory to judge both the quick and the dead: Whose kingdom shall have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Ghost, The Lord, The Giver of Life, Who proceedeth from the Father and the Son, Who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified, Who spake by the Prophets. And I believe One, Holy, Catholic, and Apostolic Church. I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins. And I look for the Resurrection of the dead, And the Life of the world to come. Amen.

SERMON

OFFERTORY

Please stand for the hymn during the Offertory, sung by the Cantor only

OFFERTORY HYMN - Lo, how a rose e'er blooming

- 1 Lo, how a rose e'er blooming
From tender stem hath sprung!
Of Jesse's lineage coming
As men of old have sung.
It came, a flower bright,
Amid the cold of winter
When half-gone was the night.
- 2 Isaiah 'twas foretold it,
The Rose I have in mind:
With Mary we behold it,
The virgin mother kind.
To show God's love aright
She bore to men a Saviour
When half-gone was the night.
- 3 This Flower, whose fragrance tender
With sweetness fills the air,
Dispels with glorious splendour
The darkness everywhere.
True man, yet very God,
From sin and death He saves us
And lightens every load.

St. 1-2, German (15th cent.);

St. 3, Friedrich Layritz (1808-1859);

tr. Theodore Baker (1851-1934).

tr. Harriet Reynolds Krauth Spaeth (1845-1925).

PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS

Blessed be thou, LORD God of Israel, for ever and ever. All that is in the heaven and in the earth is thine. All things come of thee, and of thine own have we given thee. *Amen.*

Please kneel

INTERCESSIONS

Celebrant: Brothers and sisters in Christ, let us pray for the Church and for the world.

silence

Lord, in thy mercy

R / *We beseech thee, hear our prayer.*

Intercessor: I bid your prayers for Andrew our bishop, Jenny our area bishop, and for all the clergy and laity who serve God's people, especially in this parish; for Justin, Archbishop of Canterbury and Linda our Primate.

silence

Lord, in thy mercy

R / *We beseech thee, hear our prayer.*

Intercessor: I bid your prayers for the Queen, and for all in authority in our country, province and city; for all entrusted with promoting and protecting our health and safety during the pandemic; for justice and peace among all people.

silence

Lord, in thy mercy

R / *We beseech thee, hear our prayer.*

Intercessor: I bid your prayers for all those in need: for the sick, especially _____; for the elderly and isolated, especially _____; for prisoners; for those who mourn and all for whom we have been asked to pray, especially _____

silence

Lord, in thy mercy

R / *We beseech thee, hear our prayer.*

Intercessor: I bid your prayers for the departed, especially_____ who have died in recent days, and on their year's mind for_____; that they may share with the Blessed Virgin Mary, Blessed Thomas, and all the saints in God's eternal kingdom.

silence

Lord, in thy mercy
R / *We beseech thee, hear our prayer.*

Celebrant: We beseech thee, Almighty God, to purify our consciences by thy daily visitation, that when thy Son Jesus Christ cometh he may find in us a mansion prepared for himself; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

INVITATION, CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Ye that do truly and earnestly repent you of your sins, and are in love and charity with your neighbours, and intend to lead the new life, following the commandments of God, and walking from henceforth in his holy ways: Draw near with faith, and take this holy Sacrament to your comfort; and make your humble confession to Almighty God, meekly kneeling upon your knees.

Almighty God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, Maker of all things, Judge of all men: We acknowledge and confess our manifold sins and wickedness, Which we from time to time most grievously have committed, By thought, word, and deed, Against thy Divine Majesty. We do earnestly repent, And are heartily sorry for these our misdoings. Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father; For thy Son our Lord Jesus Christ's sake, Forgive us all that is past; And grant that we may ever hereafter Serve and please thee In newness of life, To the honour and glory of thy Name; Through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who of his great mercy hath promised forgiveness of sins to all them that with hearty repentance and true faith turn unto him: Have mercy upon you; pardon and deliver you from all your sins; confirm and strengthen you in all goodness; and bring you to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

V / The Lord be with you; R / *And with thy spirit.*

V / Lift up your hearts; R / *We lift them up unto the Lord.*

V / Let us give thanks unto our Lord God; R / *It is meet and right so to do.*

It is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord, Holy Father, Almighty, Everlasting God, Creator and Preserver of all things.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord, who in the fulness of time came among us in our flesh and opened to us the way of salvation. Now we watch for the day when he will come again in power and great triumph to judge this world; that we, without shame or fear, may rejoice to behold his appearing.

Therefore with Angels and Archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious Name; evermore praising thee and saying: :

The Cantor sings:

*Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God of hosts, heaven and earth are full of thy glory.
Glory be to thee, O Lord most High. Blessèd is he that cometh in the Name of the
Lord: Hosanna in the highest.*

Blessing and glory and thanksgiving be unto thee Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who of thy tender mercy didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to take our nature upon him, and to suffer death upon the Cross for our redemption; who made there, by his one oblation of himself once offered, a full, perfect, and sufficient sacrifice, oblation, and satisfaction, for the sins of the whole world; and did institute, and in his holy Gospel command us to continue, a perpetual memorial of that his precious death, until his coming again.

Hear us, O merciful Father, we most humbly beseech thee; and grant that we receiving these thy creatures of bread and wine, according to thy Son our Saviour Jesus Christ's holy institution, in remembrance of his death and passion, may be partakers of his most blessed Body and Blood; who, in the same night that he was betrayed, took Bread; and, when he had given thanks, he brake it; and gave it to his disciples, saying, Take, eat; this is my Body which is given for you: Do this in remembrance of me. Likewise after supper he took the Cup; and, when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, Drink ye all, of this; for this is my Blood

of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the remission of sins: Do this, as oft as ye shall drink it, in remembrance of me.

Wherefore, O Father, Lord of heaven and earth, we thy humble servants, with all thy holy Church, remembering the precious death of thy beloved Son, his mighty resurrection, and glorious ascension, and looking for his coming again in glory, do make before thee, in this sacrament of the holy Bread of eternal life and the Cup of everlasting salvation, the memorial which he hath commanded; And we entirely desire thy fatherly goodness mercifully to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, most humbly beseeching thee to grant, that by the merits and death of thy Son Jesus Christ, and through faith in his blood, we and all thy whole Church may obtain remission of our sins, and all other benefits of his passion; And we pray that by the power of thy Holy Spirit, all we who are partakers of this holy Communion may be fulfilled with thy grace and heavenly benediction; through Jesus Christ our Lord, by whom and with whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, world without end.
Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER, FRACTION AND PEACE

Celebrant: As our saviour Christ hath commanded and taught us we are bold to say:

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 them that 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 consecrated Bread is broken.

V / The peace of the Lord be always with you;

R / *And with thy spirit.*

HOLY COMMUNION

All who intend to receive Holy Communion pray together:

We do not presume

to come to this thy Table, O merciful Lord, Trusting in our own righteousness, But in thy manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy So much as to gather up the crumbs under thy Table. But thou art the same Lord, Whose property is always to have mercy: Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, So to eat the Flesh of thy dear Son Jesus Christ, And to drink his Blood, That our sinful bodies may be made clean by his Body, And our souls washed through his most precious Blood, And that we may evermore dwell in him, And he in us. Amen.

The Cantor sings:

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, grant us thy peace.

MOTET: Every Valley Shall Be Exalted, *G.F. Handel*

Comfort ye my people, saith your God. Speak ye comfortably to Jerusalem, and cry unto her, that her warfare is accomplished, that her iniquity is pardoned. The voice of him that crieth in the wilderness; prepare ye the way of the Lord; make straight in the desert a highway for our God. Ev'ry valley shall be exalted, and ev'ry moutain and hill made low; the crooked straight and the rough places plain. (Isaiah 40: 1-4)

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Please kneel

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Almighty and everliving God, we most heartily thank thee that thou dost graciously feed us, in these holy mysteries, with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son our Saviour Jesus Christ; assuring us thereby of thy favour and goodness towards us; and that we are living members of his mystical body, which is the blessed company of all faithful people; and are also heirs through hope of thy everlasting kingdom. And here we offer and present

unto thee, O Lord, ourselves, our souls and bodies, to be a reasonable, holy, and living sacrifice unto thee. And although we are unworthy, yet we beseech thee to accept this our bounden duty and service, not weighing our merits, but pardoning our offences; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honour and glory, world without end. *Amen.*

BLESSING

The peace of God, which passeth all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord: And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, be amongst you and remain with you always. *Amen.*

CONCLUDING HYMN 62 – O Come, O come, Emmanuel

- 1 O Come, O come, Emmanuel,
And ransom captive Israel,
That mourns in lonely exile here,
Until the Son of God appear.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel.
- 2 O come, thou Rod of Jesse, free
Thine own from Satan's tyranny;
From depths of hell thy people save,
And give them victory o'er the grave.
- 3 O come, thou Day-spring, come and cheer
Our spirits by thine Advent here;
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night,
And death's dark shadows put to flight.
- 4 O come, thou Key of David, come,
And open wide our heavenly home;
Make safe the way that leads on high,
And close the path to misery.

5 O come, O come, thou Lord of might,
Who to thy tribes, from Sinai's height,
In ancient time didst give the law
In cloud, and majesty, and awe.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel.

VENI EMMANUEL
Melody adapted from a French Missal
by Thomas Helmore 1811-90

From the 12th cent. Latin
Tr. J.M. Neale 1818-66

POSTLUDE: Fuga sopra il Magnificat, BWV 733, *J.S. Bach*