

Saint Thomas's Church
The Fourth Sunday in Advent
Sunday, December 24, 2023
High Mass at 11:00 am



The Annunciation, Arthur Hacker, 1892
The Tate Gallery, London

Saint Thomas's Anglican Church
383 Huron Street,
Toronto, Ontario M5S 2G5
416-979-2323
www.stthomas.on.ca office@stthomas.on.ca

Welcome!

On behalf of everyone who claims St. Thomas's as their spiritual home, we are happy you are with us, whether in person or via our livestream. If you are a visitor or newcomer, or even a longtime parishioner, but find it awkward or difficult to stand or kneel at the places indicated, remaining seated is perfectly acceptable. Please assume the posture most conducive to prayer throughout this service, or simply observe.

St. Thomas's has many peculiar ways that we cherish and are happy to share. If there seems to be no rhyme or reason for something, there might not be! But feel free to ask anyone after the service; it usually makes for entertaining conversation.

You are not obliged to engage any of us in conversation, though you should know that pretty much everyone here is happy to do so when we gather. You can always slip away without any judgement, though we hope you will avail yourself of **coffee hour in the parish hall** following this service, if possible. We seem to have a lot of introverts here, so we understand the energy it takes to put yourself out there. Even if you're a raging extrovert, the experience of church can be disorienting. Relax and be yourself. Believe it or not, whether from near or far, God has led you here today. We want to honour what God is up to in your life, and we are here for you as you (re-) discover the joy and the challenge of the saving Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Fr. Nathan Humphrey, Rector

Low gluten communion hosts are available upon request. When you approach for communion, indicate to the priest that you require a low gluten host.



St. Thomas's relies on the generosity of those whose offerings reflect gratitude for God's own generosity to us. To make a secure gift online, simply scan the QR code with your phone's camera app, or visit qrco.de/smokytops. Scroll to the bottom of the webpage to fill out the online form. **We no longer pass the plate, so if you want to give the old-fashioned way, an alms basin is available in the narthex.**

Celebrant: Fr. Nathan Humphrey
Deacon: Fr. James Shire
Homilist: Fr. Theo Ipema
Reader: Jean Nichols
Organist & Choirmaster: Elizabeth Anderson
Assistant Organist & Choirmaster: Manuel Piazza

MUSIC OF THE MASS

Missa *Æterna Christi Munera*,
G.P Palestrina (c. 1525-1594)

Throughout this booklet, the People match the pitch of the Minister on the underlined syllable.

VOLUNTARY

Rorate Coeli, Jeanne Demessieux (1921-1968)

At the sound of the bell, all stand.

INTROIT An Advent Prose; *Rorate Coeli*

Mode i


Antiphon

Cantor

Drop down, ye heav'ns from a - bove, *


All


and let the skies pour down righ- teous - ness.

Verse 1(lower) 
Be not wroth ve - ry sore, O Lord, neither remember

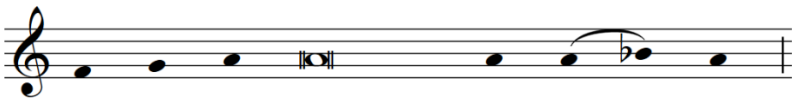

in - i - qui - ty for ev - er: thy ho - ly cities are a wilderness,


Zi-on is a wil - der-ness. Je - ru - sa-lem a de - so-la - tion:


our holy and our beau-ti-ful house, where our fa - thers prais-ed thee.

Antiphon
(all) 
Drop down, ye heav'ns from a - bove, *


and let the skies pour down righ- teous - ness.

Verse 2 (upper) 
We have sinnéd and are as an un - clean thing,



and we all do fade as a leaf: and our iniquities, like the wind,

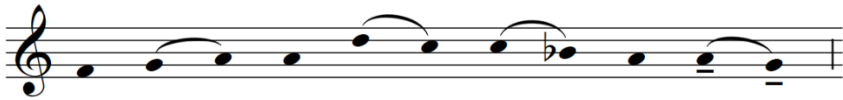


have tak - en us___ a - way; thou hast___ hid thy face from___ us:



and hast consuméd us, be- cause of our_____ in - i - qui - ties.

Antiphon
(all)

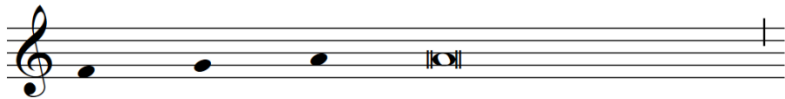


Drop down, ye heav'ns from___ a - bove, *



and let the skies pour___ down righ- teous - ness.

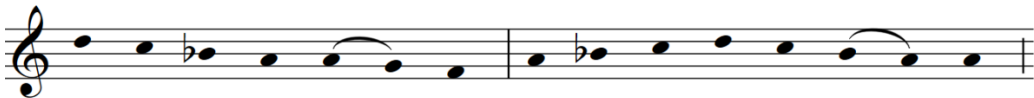
Verse 3 (lower)



Ye are my witnesses, saith the Lord,



and my servant, whom I have chos - en: that ye may



know me and be- lieve___ me; I, ev - en I, am the___ Lord,

and beside me there is___ no Sa - viour: and there__ is

none that can de - liv - er out_____ of my___ hand.

Antiphon
(all)

Drop down, ye heav'ns from__ a - bove, *

and let the skies pour__ down righ- teous - ness.

Verse 4 (upper)

Com - fort__ ye, com - fort ye, my peo - ple,

my sal - va - tion shall not tar - ry: I have blotted out

as___ a thick__ cloud thy trans - gres - sions:

Fear not,___ for I will save__ thee:___ for I___ am___ the

Lord thy__ God, the Holy One of Is - ra - el, thy__ Re - deem - er.

Antiphon
(all)

Drop down, _ ye heav'ns from__ a - bove, *

and let the skies pour__ down righ- teous - ness.

The People 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.**

THE DECALOGUE

Responses by Pelham Humfrey (1647-1674)

The People still kneeling, the Decalogue is sung by the Celebrant and Choir.

Celebrant: God spake these words and said: I am the Lord thy God who brought thee out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage. Thou shalt have none other gods but me.

Choir: Lord, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.

Celebrant: Thou shalt not make to thyself any graven image, nor the likeness of any thing that is in heaven above, or in the earth beneath, or in the water under the earth. Thou shalt not bow down to them, nor worship them.

Choir: Lord, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.

Celebrant: Thou shalt not take the Name of the Lord thy God in vain.

Choir: Lord, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.

Celebrant: Remember that thou keep holy the Sabbath day.

Choir: Lord, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.

Celebrant: Honour thy father and thy mother.

Choir: Lord, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.

Celebrant: Thou shalt do no murder.

Choir: Lord, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.

Celebrant: Thou shalt not commit adultery.

Choir: Lord, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.

Celebrant: Thou shalt not steal.

Choir: Lord, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.

Celebrant: Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbour.

Choir: Lord, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.

Celebrant: Thou shalt not covet.

Choir: Lord, have mercy upon us, and write all these thy laws in our hearts, we beseech thee.

The Choir alone sings the Kyrie, the People kneeling.

KYRIE ELEISON

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Christ, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Kyrie Eleison.

Christe Eleison.

Kyrie Eleison.

The People remain kneeling for the Collects.

COLLECT OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

And with thy spirit.

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

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.**

The People sit.

FIRST LESSON

2 Samuel 7.1-11, 16

The First Lesson is written in the seventh chapter of the second book of the prophet Samuel, beginning at the first verse.

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.

Thanks be to God.

The People remain seated for the Psalm.

PSALM 89 1-4,19-26

Misericordias Domini

I. 1.



- Cantor* 1 MY SONG shall be alway of the loving-kindness of **the** Lord :
People 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.’
- Cantor* 3 ‘I have made a covenant with my **cho**-sen :
I have sworn unto Da-**vid** my sër-vant;
- People* 4 Thy seed will I stablish for **ev**-er :
and set up thy throne from one generation **to** an-ö-ther.’
- Cantor* 19 Thou spakest 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.
- People* 20 I have found David my **ser**-vant :
with my holy oil have **I** an-oïnt-ed~him.

- Cantor* 21 My hand shall hold **him** fast : and my **arm** shall strength-en^him.
People 22 The enemy shall not be able to do him vi-o-lence :
the son of wickedness **shall** not hürt him.
Cantor 23 I will beat down his foes before **his** face :
and smite **them** that häte him.
People 24 My faithfulness also and my mercy shall be **with** him :
and in my Name shall his horn **be** ex-ält-ed.
Cantor 25 I will set his hand also on **the** sea :
and his right hand **on** the ri-vers.
People 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

The Epistle is written in the sixteenth chapter of St Paul's epistle to the Romans, beginning at the twenty-fifth verse.

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.

Thanks be to God.

The People stand.

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.

O AMOR QUAM ECSTATICUS
Old French Melody

Ascribed to Fortunatus (c.569)
Tr. By Rev. J.M. Neale

The Lord be with you.

And with thy spirit.

The Holy Gospel is written in the first chapter of the Gospel according to Saint Luke, beginning at the twenty-sixth verse.

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.

Praise be to thee, O Christ.

The People sit at the invitation of the Preacher.

SERMON

The People stand to sing the Creed. All who are able to kneel, please do so at “and was incarnate,” rising after “and was made man.”

THE NICENE CREED

Merbecke



I be-lieve in one God: The Fa-ther Al-migh-ty, Ma-ker of hea-ven and earth,
and of all things vi - si - ble and in - vi - si - ble:
And in one Lord Je - sus Christ, the on - ly be - got - ten Son of God,
Be - got - ten of the Fa - ther be - fore all worlds;
God of God, Light of Light, Ve - ry God of ve - ry God;
Be - got - ten, not made; Be - ing of one sub - stance with the Fa - ther;
Through whom all things were made. Who for us men and for our sal - va - tion
came down from Heaven,
And was in - car - nate by the Ho - ly Ghost of the Vir - gin Ma - ry, And was made man.
And was cru - ci - fi - ed al - so for us un - der Pon - tius Pi - late.
He suf - fer - red and was bu - ri - ed, And the third day he rose a - gain



ac - cord - ing to the Scrip - tures, And as - cend - ed in - to heaven,



And sit - teth on the right hand of the Fa - ther,




And he shall come a - gain with glo - ry to judge both the quick and the dead:



Whose king - dom shall have no end. And I be - lieve in the Ho - ly Ghost, the Lord,



the Giv - er of life, Who pro - ceed - eth from the Fa - ther and the Son,




Who with the Fa - ther and the Son to - geth - er is wor - ship - ped and glo - ri - fied,



Who spake by the Pro - phets. And I be - lieve One, Ho - ly, Ca - tho - lic, and A - pos - to - lic Church.



I ac - know - ledge one Bap - tism for the re - mis - sion of sins.



And I look for the Re - sur - rec - tion of the dead, And the Life of the world to come.



A - men.

OFFERTORY SENTENCE

As we have the opportunity, let us do good unto all men; and especially unto them that are of the household of faith.

The People remain standing for the hymn.

OFFERTORY HYMN 62

O Come, O come, Emmanuel



All 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.*

Lower 2 O come, thou Rod of Jesse, free
Voices Thine own from Satan's tyranny;
From depths of hell thy people save,
And give them victory o'er the grave.
*Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel.*

All 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.
*Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel.*

Upper 4 O come, thou Key of David, come,
Voices And open wide our heavenly home;
Make safe the way that leads on high,
And close the path to misery.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel.

All 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

The People stand as the thurifer approaches for the censuring.

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.**

The People kneel.

INTERCESSIONS

Sisters and brothers, as we await the glorious coming of the Christ, let us pray for the needs of the church, our community, and the world.

Intercessor: O Wisdom from the mouth of God, aid thy church in showing thy love to this world; we pray for Andrew our bishop, for Riscylla and Kevin his suffragans, for _____ according to the Anglican cycle of prayer, for _____ according to the Diocesan cycle of prayer, and for _____ according to the Parish cycle of prayer; come and teach us the way of prudence. (*Silence.*)



The image shows a musical staff with a treble clef. The staff is divided into two parts by a double bar line. The first part is labeled 'Intercessor' and contains five notes: a quarter note G4, a quarter note A4, a quarter note B4, a quarter note C5, and a quarter note D5. The second part is labeled 'People' and contains five notes: a quarter note E4, a quarter note F4, a quarter note G4, a quarter note A4, and a quarter note B4. Below the staff, the lyrics are written: 'Lord, in thy mer - cy, we be - seech thee, hear our prayer.'

Intercessor: O Adonai and leader of the nations, guide and direct our governors and leaders; we pray for Charles, King of Canada and for all those in civil authority in our nation, province, and city; aid them in administering justice and peace in our world. (*Silence.*)

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

Intercessor: O Root of Jesse, standing as an ensign among the nations; grant peace to our world, particularly in Palestine, Israel, Ukraine, Sudan. Bring peace to all those who live in the shadow of war; and for all places suffering from unrest, calamity, or disaster; deliver this world and delay no longer. (*Silence.*)

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

Intercessor: O Key of David, who openest the way for all people; give comfort to the poor and all those in need; we pray for the guests and volunteers of the Friday Food Ministry and for all those who use drop-in programs, shelters, and food banks; lead us all to serve the needs of our neighbours, loving them as ourselves. (*Silence.*)

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

Intercessor: O Morning Star, splendour of light eternal and source of all blessings; we give thee thanks for the people, neighbours, and friends of this parish, and especially for all with us in person or via livestream, and for newcomers and visitors this morning, both near and far. [We give thanks especially on this day for _____.] And for all other thanksgivings we now name, silently or aloud _____. Come enlighten us to thy blessings upon our lives. (*Silence.*)

Lord, in thy mercy,
We beseech thee, hear our prayer

Intercessor: O King of the nations and our desire for strength, give healing and peace to the sick _____, we pray for all those suffering in mind, body, or estate; for elders, for prisoners, for refugees and migrants, for the oppressed, for those who mourn, and for all others for whom our prayers are asked _____. Come and save us from all ailment and peril. (*Silence.*)

Lord, in thy mercy,
We beseech thee, hear our prayer

Intercessor: O Emmanuel, our King and Lawgiver, guide the souls of the departed to their final rest, especially _____ who have died in recent days, and those whose year's mind is at this time _____. Come and save us from the shadow of death, and may the souls of the faithful departed rest in peace. (*Silence.*)

Lord, in thy mercy,
We beseech thee, hear our prayer

Celebrant: O God of promise, thou hast given us a sign of thy love through the gift of Jesus Christ, our Saviour, who wast promised from ages past. We offer our prayers for thy world, confident of thy care and mercy for all creation. All this we ask in the name of Christ Jesus, our Lord. **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.

The Celebrant alone stands to impart the Absolution.

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.**

The People remain kneeling.

EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

<i>Celebrant</i>	<i>People</i>
The__ Lord be__ with__ you;	And__ with thy__ spi - rit.
<i>Celebrant</i>	<i>People</i>
Lift__ up your hearts;	We lift__ them up un - to__ the Lord.__
<i>Celebrant</i>	<i>People</i>
Let us__ give__ thanks un - to__ our Lord God;	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 fullness 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 Choir alone sings:

SANCTUS & BENEDICTUS

Holy, Holy, Holy,
Lord God of Hosts:
Heaven and earth are full of thy glory.
Glory be to thee, O Lord Most High.
✠ Blessed is he that cometh
in the Name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

Sanctus, Sanctus, Sanctus,
Dominus Deus Sabaoth:
Pleni sunt caeli et terra gloria tua.
Hosanna in excelsis.
✠ Benedictus qui venit
in nomine Domini.
Hosanna in excelsis.

The Celebrant continues,

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,

Celebrant *People*

O Fa - ther al - might - ty, world with - out ___ end. A - men. ___

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Music by John Merbecke

Celebrant

And now, as our Sa - viour Christ hath com - mand - ed and taught us, we are bold to say:

People

Our Fa - ther, who art in heav'n, Hal - low - ed be thy Name, Thy king - dom come,
 Thy will be done, on earth, as it is in heav'n. Give us this day our dai - ly bread;
 and for - give us our tres - pass - es, As we for - give them that tres - pass a - gainst us;

And lead us not in - to temp - ta - tion, But de - li - ver us from ev - il.
 For thine is the king - dom, the pow - er and the glo - ry, For ev - er and ev - er. A - men.

FRACTION & PEACE

A period of silence is kept. The consecrated Bread is broken.

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be al - ways with you. *People* And with thy spi - rit.

PRAYER OF HUMBLE ACCESS

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 Choir alone sings:

AGNUS DEI

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.	Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi, miserere nobis.
O Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.	Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi, miserere nobis.
O Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, grant us thy peace.	Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi, dona nobis pacem.

The Celebrant turns to face the People and says,

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Behold the Lamb of God; behold him that taketh away the sin of the world.

Lord, I am not worthy that thou shouldest come under my roof, but speak the word only, and my soul shall be healed.

COMMUNION INSTRUCTIONS

All baptized Christians are warmly invited to receive Communion as directed by the Sidespeople. Please receive the host (bread) on the right palm of the hand (supported underneath by the left palm). To receive the cup, gently guide with your hand the base of the chalice. Please refrain from intinction (dipping the host into the cup), as diocesan policy does not allow us to do so.

Low gluten communion hosts are available upon request. When you approach for communion indicate to the priest that you require a low gluten host.

If you have not been baptized or are not receiving communion, please cross your arms over your chest in the shape of an X to receive a blessing.

If you wish to inquire about baptism for yourself or your child, we would love to speak with you!

COMMUNION DEVOTIONS

An Act of Spiritual Communion, which may be prayed silently by those not receiving:

My Jesus, I believe that thou art truly present in the Holy Sacrament. And since I cannot now receive thee sacramentally, I beseech thee to come spiritually into my heart. I unite myself unto thee, and embrace thee with all the affections of my soul. Let me never be separated from thee. Let me live and die in thy love. Amen.

ANIMA CHRISTI

The following devotion may be prayed silently by communicants and non-communicants.

Soul of Christ, sanctify me.
Body of Christ, save me.
Blood of Christ, inebriate me.
Water from the side of Christ, wash me.
Passion of Christ, strengthen me.
O good Jesu, hear me.
Within thy wounds hide me.
Suffer me not to be separated from thee.
From the malicious enemy defend me.
In the hour of my death call me.
And bid me come to thee,
That with thy saints I may praise thee,
For ever and ever. Amen.

MOTET

There is no rose of such virtue, John Joubert (1927-2019)

There is no rose of such virtue as is the rose that bare Jesu; *Alleluia*. For in this rose containèd was heaven and earth in little space; *Res miranda*. (thing of wonder). By that rose we may well see there be one God in persons three, *Pares forma*. (equal in form). Then leave we all this worldly mirth, and follow we this joyous birth. *Transeamus*. (Let us travel.)

The People may sit or kneel for the hymn.

COMMUNION HYMN

Gracious Lady, you are blest

The image shows three staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The first staff contains the first two lines of the melody. The second staff contains the next two lines. The third staff contains the final line of the melody, which includes the lyrics 'Hail Ma - ry, Hail Ma - ry, Hail Ma - ry.' The melody is written in a treble clef and features a mix of quarter, eighth, and half notes, with some phrases marked with slurs.

All 1 Gracious Lady, you are blest with God's favour;
In your womb all hopes shall rest - this world's Saviour;
He shall save the world from sin, as the kingdom's ushered in.
Hail Mary, Hail Mary, Hail Mary.

Upper 2 Can it be I am God's choice? (Lowly maiden)?
Voices How can God's Word use my voice to proclaim Him?
Can the great God stoop to me: that the world His grace may see?
Hail Mary, Hail Mary, Hail Mary.

Lower 3 Blessed Mother you shall be; God's own dwelling;
Voices You, the rose whose sanctity, sweetly smelling
Shall create the space on earth, for God's Son to come to birth.
Hail Mary, Hail Mary, Hail Mary.

Upper 4 Let it be then as you say; God me raises!
Voices Let me now and every day, learn His praises.
May the 'Yes' that I have giv'n be a pathway into heav'n.
Hail Mary, Hail Mary, Hail Mary.

Lower 5 Gracious Lady, your Amen is your blessing;
Voices Your obedience, now as then love confessing.
And that Love will you sustain, through the time of trial and pain.
Hail Mary, Hail Mary, Hail Mary.

All 6 Mary, Mother of the Lord, God once called you
To bring forth His holy Word, that enthralled you,
May I too wait patiently for God's will to form in me.
Hail Mary, Hail Mary, Hail Mary.

CHISLEHURST
Sydney Nicholson (1875-1974)

Jeremy Davies, former Precentor, Salisbury Cathedral

The People kneel.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

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.**

The People stand.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

CONCLUDING HYMN 61

Jesus came – the heavens adoring

- 1 Jesus came – the heavens adoring –
Came with peace from realms on high;
Jesus came for man's redemption,
Lowly came on earth to die:
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Came in deep humility.
- 2 Jesus comes again in mercy,
When our hearts are bowed with care:
Jesus comes again in answer
To our earnest heart-felt prayer;
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Comes to save us from despair.
- 3 Jesus comes to hearts rejoicing,
Bringing news of sins forgiven;
Jesus comes in sounds of gladness,
Leadings souls redeemed to heaven;
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Now the gate of death is riven.
- 4 Jesus comes on clouds triumphant,
When the heavens shall pass away;
Jesus comes again in glory;
Let us then our homage pay,
Alleluia! ever singing
Till the dawn of endless day.

VOLUNTARY

Veni Emmanuel, Gerald Near (b. 1942)

The People may be seated for the Postlude. Please maintain an atmosphere of reverent silence in the church during and after the Postlude.

Coffee Hour follows this service in the Parish Hall.

Please join us for our Christmas Eve Services!

At 5:00 pm there will be a Sung Mass of Christmas Eve.

Beginning at 9:30 pm on Christmas Eve, there will be an organ recital, followed by Midnight Mass, which will commence at 10:00 pm.

Christmas Day Services are as follows: 7:30 am Mattins; 8:00 am Low Mass; 9:30 am Sung Mass (BAS) and 11:00 am High Mass (BCP). There will be no Evensong on Christmas Day.

On Sunday, December 31 the Services will be as follows: 7:30 am Mattins; 8:00 am Low Mass; 9:30 am Sung Mass (BAS) and 11:00 am High Mass (BCP). There will be no Evensong.

The Epiphany of Our Lord Procession and High Mass will be on Saturday, January 6, 2024 at 11:00 am.

Sunday, January 7, 2024 is the Feast of the Baptism of Our Lord. The Services will be as follows: 7:30 am Mattins; 8:00 am Low Mass; 9:30 am Sung Mass (BAS) and 11:00 am High Mass (BCP). At 5:00 pm there will be A Procession with Epiphany Carols during the course of Evensong & Benediction, followed by a small reception.

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DAILY OFFICE SCHEDULE

*Morning Prayer and Evening Prayer services generally last 15-25 minutes
and are a great way to begin and/or end the day!*

MORNING PRAYER

8:30 AM, MONDAY-FRIDAY

9:30 AM, SATURDAY

7:30 AM, SUNDAY

EVENING PRAYER

5:00 PM, MONDAY-FRIDAY

5:00 PM SUNDAY (CHORAL EVENSONG)

Choral Evensong on Sundays is followed by Eucharistic devotions.

DAILY MASS SCHEDULE

SUNDAY

LOW MASS 8:00 AM

SUNG MASS 9:30 AM

HIGH MASS 11:00 AM

WEEKDAY LOW MASS

12:15 PM, MONDAY, WEDNESDAY, FRIDAY

5:30 PM TUESDAY, THURSDAY

10:00 AM SATURDAY

Saint Thomas's Anglican Church

383 Huron Street,

Toronto, Ontario M5S 2G5

416-979-2323

www.stthomas.on.ca office@stthomas.on.ca