# Christmas Eve

Sung Mass at 5:00 pm



# 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. 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/smokytoms*. 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. James Shire **Homilist**: Fr. Nathan Humphrey

Reader: John Fraser

Organist & Choirmaster: Elizabeth Anderson Assistant Organist & Choirmaster: Manuel Piazza

#### VOLUNTARIES

The Holy boy, John Ireland (1879-1962) In dulci jubilo, Marcel Dupré (1886-1971)

All stand at the ringing of the bell.

## **HYMN 733**

Once in royal David's city

Solo 1 Once in royal David's city
Stood a lowly cattle shed,
Where a mother laid her baby
In a manger for his bed:
Mary was that mother mild,
Jesus Christ her little Child.

Brief organ interlude

- All 2 He came down to earth from heaven Who is God and Lord of all, And his shelter was a stable, And his cradle was a stall; With the poor and mean and lowly, Lived on earth our Saviour holy.
- All 3 And through all his wondrous childhood Day by day like us he grew,
  He was little, weak and helpless,
  Tears and smiles like us he knew;
  And he feeleth for our sadness,
  And he shareth in our gladness.

- All 4 And our eyes at last shall see him,
  Through his own redeeming love,
  For that Child so dear and gentle,
  Is our Lord in heaven above;
  And he leads his children on
  To the place where he is gone.
- All 5 Not in that poor lowly stable,
  With the oxen standing by,
  We shall see him; but in heaven,
  Set at God's right hand on high,
  Where like stars his children crowned,
  All in white shall wait around.

IRBY H.J. Gauntlett (1805-1876) Mrs. C. F. Alexander (1841-1895)

#### GREETING

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

And also with you.

1 1110 0120 W11011 J C 010

The People remain standing.

# **COLLECT FOR PURITY**

Almighty God, 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.

glo - ry of God

the

ther.

men.

## Communion Service, William Mathias (1934-1992) GLORIA IN EXCELSIS DEO Glo-ry to God in the high- est, and peace to his peo-ple on 6 earth. Lord God, heav'n-ly King, al-might-y God and Fa-ther, we wor-ship you, we 12 give you thanks, we praise\_\_\_ you Lord, Christ, for\_ your glo Je - sus ry. 18 on - ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take a-way the of the 24 world: have you are seat - ed at the right\_ hand of the mer cy on us; 30 Fa - ther: re - ceive our For prayer. *37* a-lone are the Ho - ly One, a-lone are the Lord, a-lone are the Most High, you 43 Je-sus Christ, with the in the Ho ly\_\_\_\_ Spi - rit, 49

## THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Almighty God, you wonderfully created and yet more wonderfully restored our human nature. May we share the divine life of your Son Jesus Christ, who humbled himself to share our humanity, and now lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.** 

The People sit.

FIRST READING Isaiah 9.2, 6-7

A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah.

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. 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 onwards and for evermore. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The People remain seated as the Choir sings the psalm.

#### RESPONSORIAL PSALM

96.1-3, 11-13, Anglican Chant, George Garrett

The Choir sings the Refrain, which is repeated by the People. The Choir then sings the verses, and all repeat the Refrain where indicated.



Sing to the Lord a new song; sing to the Lord, all the whole earth. Sing to the Lord and bless his name; proclaim the good news of his salvation from day to day. *Refrain*.

Declare his glory among the nations and his wonders among all peoples. Let the heavens rejoice, and let the earth be glad; let the sea thunder and all that is in it; let the field be joyful and all that is therein. *Refrain*.

Then shall all the trees of the wood shout for joy before the Lord when he comes, when he comes to judge the earth. He will judge the world with righteousness and the peoples with his truth. *Refrain*.

THE EPISTLE Titus 2.11-14

A reading from St Paul's Epistle to Titus.

For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all, training us to renounce impiety and worldly passions, and in the present age to live lives that are self-controlled, upright, and godly, while we wait for the blessed hope and the manifestation of the glory of our great God and Saviour, Jesus Christ. He it is who gave himself for us that he might redeem us from all iniquity and purify for himself a people of his own who are zealous for good deeds.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The People stand. The choir will sing the first three Alleluias, followed by the people; a cantor will sing the verse and then all sing the final three Alleluias.

## **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

The Cantor sings the Alleluias, which are repeated by the People. The Cantor then sings the verse, and all repeat the Alleluias.



Verse: I bring you good news of a great joy which will come to all the people; for to you is born this day a Saviour, Christ the Lord. Repeat Alleluias.

THE HOLY GOSPEL Luke 2.1-14

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Saint Luke.

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.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

The People sit.

#### **SERMON**

After the Sermon, the People remain seated for a period of silent reflection, standing when the Celebrant stands.

#### THE NICENE CREED

Let us confess our faith, as we say,

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: (Bow.) by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. (Rise.)

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.

The People may remain standing.

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

# Intercessions

Celebrant: Let us build this sacred time and place remembering the people and places of our own joys and griefs as we do those of creation.
Intercessor: God, Creator, at this holy time your Son was born in human form: renew your church, particularly, as his Body, expanding his light and love.
Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.
Intercessor: In this holy time Christians all round the world celebrate that birth: open our hearts in Thanksgiving for, and all who bear his light today.
Lord, in your mercy, <b>hear our prayer.</b>
Intercessor: In this holy time there was no room in a house for your Son: guard with your love all those who are homeless, have no safe refuge, and all who live in poverty.
Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.
Intercessor: In this holy time Mary with the pain of labour birthed your Son: hold in your hand, and all who live with sickness and distress today.
Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.
In this holy time your Christ came as a light shining in the darkness: bring comfort to, and all who suffer the sadness and stress of our world.
Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.
Intercessor: In this holy time angels sang 'Peace to God's people on Earth': strengthen all those who work for peace and justice in all creation.

*Intercessor*: In this holy time heaven has come down to earth and earth is raised to heaven: keep in your lovingkindness \_\_\_\_\_, and all those who have gone through death in faith they approach heaven.

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Merciful God, in this holy time angels and shepherds worshipped at that manger: receive the worship we offer in fellowship with Blessed Mary and all your saints as you accept these prayers for his sake, your Son, Jesus the Christ. **Amen.** 

# Invitation, Confession, & Absolution

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.

The People bow or kneel. Silence is kept.

Most merciful God, 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.

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. **Amen.** 

# THE PEACE

All standing, the Celebrant bids the Peace.

The peace of the Lord be always with you. **And also with you.** 

# The People and Choir sing:

# OFFERTORY HYMN 75 - O come, all ye faithful

- 1 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,
  O come, let us adore him,
  O come, let us adore him,
  Christ the Lord!
- 2 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.
- 3 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.
- 4 Yea, Lord, we greet thee, Born this happy morning, Jesu, to thee be glory given; Word of the Father, Now in flesh appearing: O come, let us adore him.

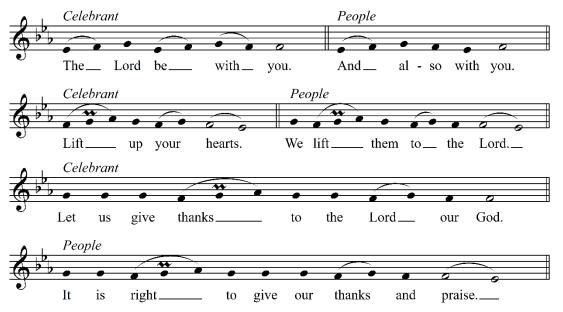
ADESTE FIDELES

J.F Wade's Cantus Diversi, 1751

#### PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS

God of peace, your Son Jesus Christ has reconciled us to you. May all we offer you today renew us as members of your household. We ask this in his name. **Amen.** 

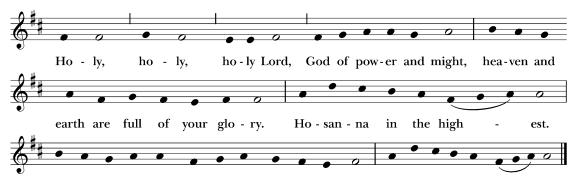
# THE GREAT THANKSGIVING



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 to sing our joyful hymn of praise to proclaim the glory of your name.

#### SANCTUS & BENEDICTUS

New Plainsong Mass, David Hurd (b. 1950)



Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high - est. Music: From *New Plainsong*; David Hurd (b. 1950). Copyright © 1981 GIA Publications, Inc.

# The People remain standing.

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."

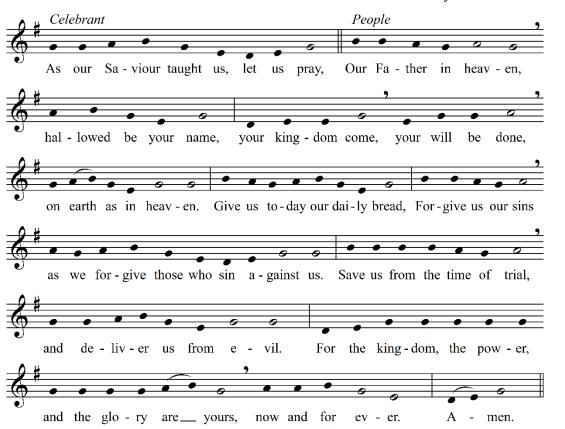
Therefore, Father, according to his command:

We remember his death, we proclaim his resurrection, we await his coming in glory. 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

Music by McNeil Robinson



## THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

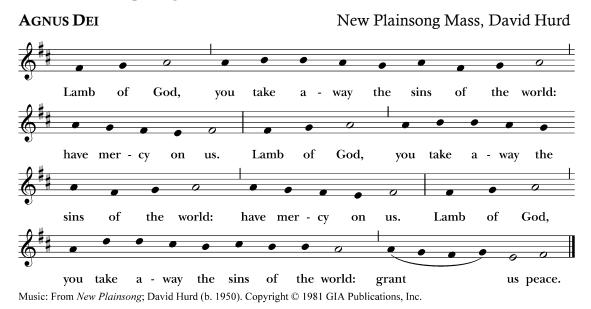
We break the bread of life, and that life is the light of the world. God here among us, light in the midst of us, bring us to light and life.

#### **HOLY COMMUNION**

The gifts of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

The Choir and People sing:



# **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 are not receiving from the cup, please pause to reverence it with a bow before returning to your pew.

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

## **MOTETS**

'In the bleak mid-winter,' Harold Darke (1888-1976)

In the bleak mid-winter frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak mid-winter long ago. Our God, heav'n cannot hold him nor earth sustain; heav'n and earth shall flee away when he comes to reign: In the bleak mid-winter a stable place sufficed the Lord God Almighty Jesus Christ. Enough for him, whom cherubim worship night and day, A breastful of milk and a mangerful of hay; enough for him whom angels fall down before, the ox and ass and camel which adore. 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 (1830-94)

The Little Road to Bethlehem, Michael Head (1900-1976)

As I walked down the road at set of sun the lambs were coming homeward one by one I heard a sheepbell softly calling them along the little road to Bethlehem beside an open door as I drew nigh I heard sweet Mary sing a lullaby. She sang about the lambs at close of day and rocked her tiny King among the hay across the air the silver sheepbells rang "The lambs are coming home," sweet Mary sang "Your star of gold, your star of gold is shining in the sky so sleep, my little King, go lullaby."

#### **COMMUNION DEVOTIONS**

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

My Jesus, I believe that you are truly present in the Holy Sacrament. And since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, I humbly ask you to come spiritually into my heart. I unite myself to you, and embrace you with all the affections of my soul. Let me never be separated from you. Let me live and die in your 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.

#### PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray. Father of all, the child born for us is the Saviour of the world. May he who made us your children welcome us into your kingdom, where he is alive and reigns with you now and for ever. **Amen.** 

## Doxology

Glory to God,

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.

## BLESSING

May Christ, who by his Incarnation, gathered into one things earthly and heavenly, fill you with his light and peace. And the blessing of God Almighty, the ♣ Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen.** 

## **DISMISSAL**

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

# **CONCLUDING HYMN 77**

Hark! the Herald Angels Sing

- 1 Hark! the herald angels sing Glory to the new-born 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.
- 2 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 Man with man to dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel. Hark! the herald angels sing Glory to the new-born King.

3 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 man no more may die, Born to raise the sons of earth, Born to give them second birth. Hark! the herald angels sing Glory to the new-born King.

MENDELSSOHN From a chorus by Felix Mendelssohn-Bartholdy (1809-1847) *Charles Wesley (1707-1788)* 

The People may be seated. Please maintain an atmosphere of reverent silence during and after the Voluntary.

VOLUNTARY

In dulci jubilo, BWV 729, J.S. Bach (1685-1750)

Please join us in the Parish Hall for warm cider, hot chocolate, and cookies.

All are welcome at St. Thomas's Midnight Mass tonight. Beginning at 9:30 pm, there will be an organ recital, followed by Midnight Mass, which will commence at 10:00 pm.

# KNOW A CHILD WHO LOVES TO SING?

The St. Thomas's Choristers welcomes all children, ages 7-17, to audition for our new children's choral program. The Choristers will be singing at the 9:30 am Mass, starting in Fall 2023. Rehearsals are on Thursdays from 4:30 to 6:30 pm. This is an extraordinary opportunity for free music education, with a focus on sacred music in the Anglican tradition. You can sign up for an audition using the Google Form at *stthomas.on.ca/choristers*, or by emailing Manuel Piazza at *mpiazza@stthomas.on.ca*.

## **UPCOMING SERVICES**

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.

## Copyright Information:

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New Plainsong Mass Music by: David Hurd

Copyright Year:1981 Publisher: G.I.A. Publications, Inc.

In the bleak mid-winter Music by: Darke, Harold

Copyright Year: 1987 Publisher: Oxford University Press

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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

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