Saint Thomas's Church Christmas Day

Saturday, December 25, 2021

High Mass at 10 o'clock



Nativity page from Les Très Riches Heures du Duc de Berry

Saint Thomas's Anglican Church

383 Huron Street, Toronto, Ontario M5S 2G5 416-979-2323

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CHRISTMAS FLOWERS AND DECORATIONS

ARE GIVEN TO THE GLORY OF GOD

AND IN THANKSGIVING FOR: The Nativity of our Lord, and for His coming again. For the Intercessions of the Saints, in particular the Blessed Virgin Mary, and St. Thomas our Patron, for God's faithfulness and provision, for family, parents friends, loved ones, for the birth of a child, for birthdays, for St. Thomas's parishioners, clergy, friends & associates, and in memory of those known only to God.

AND IN LOVING MEMORY OF:

John Bulicz Jozef & Romana Bulicz Warren Heaslip Murray Kingsburgh

L. Bigford R. Corbie The Hendrickson Family Pearl Phillips

Teresa Tiee-Mei Nee

Ernie & Betty Jesshope Jean & Geo Cushing

Mary Suddon Patricia Goss Lilian Wei-Chee Goh Francis Burk Sutton Dr. Audrey Noreen Crocker
John Gardham
Katherine Barber
Doreen Stanton
Dr. Celia Viets
Irene Sheridan
John Paul Napier
Ruth Mallett
Jack Hamilton Bush
John Lawson
Marjorie Rhodes Willis
Leslie Birmingham
Susan Clarke

Parents, family and friends, and those known only to God.

Celebrant & Homilist: Fr. Humphrey

Deacon: Fr. D'Angelo **Reader:** Phil Spencer

Organist & Director of Music: Matthew Whitfield

PROVISOS FOR IN-PERSON ATTENDANCE

- 1. Given recent research, cloth masks on their own, unless worn with two disposable masks, provide insufficient protection. At all times, therefore, everyone in the church must wear an N95, KN95, or an acceptable equivalent mask. If you do not have one of these qualifying masks, the minimum acceptable coverage is two disposable medical face masks properly fitted. If you do not have an acceptable mask, two disposable masks will be issued to you at the door.
- 2. Congregational singing is still allowed, but we strongly recommend that you do so softly, if at all. Tuneful humming, such as when we are enjoying a piece of music on the radio, is fine; we want you to enjoy the music and to participate in it, but with this new variant that is several times more contagious than others, we can't encourage anything more than gentle singing behind your mask(s).

MUSIC OF THE MASS – 'Corde natus ex parentis,' Healey Willan

PRELUDE: Carol-Prelude on 'Away in a Manger,' Derek Holman

Please remain seated as the choir enters the church during the prelude. At the sound of the bell, all stand for the entrance of the Sacred Ministers.

HYMN 75 - O come, all ye faithful

- 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,
 Come, let us adore him,
- 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.
- 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 See how the Shepherds, Summoned to his cradle, Leaving their flocks, draw nigh with lowly fear; We too will thither Bend our joyful footsteps: O come, let us adore him.
- 5 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
Melody probably by J.F. Wade 1711-86

Latin 18th century Tr Frederick Oakeley 1802-80 and others

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.**

The Choir sings

KYRIE ELEISON

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

Please stand.

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS DEO

Celebrant: Glory be to God on high,

People: and in earth peace, good will towards men. We praise thee, we bless thee, we worship thee, we glorify thee, we give thanks to thee for thy great glory, O Lord God, heavenly King, God the Father Almighty.

O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesu Christ; O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us. Thou that takest away the sin of the world, receive our prayer. Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy upon us.

For thou only art holy; thou only art the Lord; thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost, art most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

The Lord be with you. **And with thy spirit.**Let us pray.

COLLECT OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Almighty God, who hast given us thy only begotten Son to take our nature upon him, and as at this time to be born of a pure Virgin: Grant that we being regenerate, and made thy children by adoption and grace, may daily be renewed by thy Holy Spirit; through the same our Lord Jesus Christ, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the same Spirit, ever one God, world without end. **Amen**.

Please be seated

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 52.7-10

The First Lesson is written in the fifty-second chapter of the book of the prophet Isaiah, beginning at the seventh verse.

How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him that bringeth good tidings, that publisheth peace; that bringeth good tidings of good, that publisheth salvation; that saith unto Zion, Thy God reigneth!

Thy watchmen shall lift up the voice; with the voice together shall they sing: for they shall see eye to eye, when the Lord shall bring again Zion. Break forth into joy, sing together, ye waste places of Jerusalem: for the Lord hath comforted his people, he hath redeemed Jerusalem. The Lord hath made bare his holy arm in the eyes of all the nations; and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

The people remain seated.

PSALM 98.1-6 - Cantate Domino Tone I,2



- 1 O SING unto the Lord a **new** song: for he hath done **mar**-vel-löus things.
- With his own right hand, and with his ho-ly arm: hath he gotten him-self the vic-to-ry.
- 3 The Lord hath declared his sal-va-tion: his righteousness hath he openly shown in the sight of the nä-tiöns.
- 4 He hath remembered his mercy and his faithfulness toward the house of Is-ra-el: and all the ends of the world have seen the salva-tion of our Göd.
- 5 Show yourselves joyful unto the Lord, all **ye** lands : sing, re-**joice**, and give thänks.
- 6 Praise the Lord upon **the** harp: sing to the harp with a psalm **of** thanks-giv-ing.

THE EPISTLE: Hebrews 1.1-12

The Epistle is written in the first chapter of the epistle to the Hebrews, beginning at the first verse.

God, who at sundry times and in divers manners spake in time past unto the fathers by the prophets, Hath in these last days spoken unto us by his Son, whom he hath appointed heir of all things, by whom also he made the worlds; Who being the brightness of his glory, and the express image of his person, and upholding all things by the word of his power, when he had by himself purged our sins, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high: Being made so much better than the angels, as he hath by inheritance obtained a more excellent name than they. For unto which of the angels said he at any time, Thou art my Son, this day have I begotten thee? And again, I will be to him a Father, and he shall be to me a Son? And again, when he bringeth in the first begotten into the world, he saith, And let all the angels of God worship him. And of the angels he saith, Who maketh his angels spirits, and his ministers a flame of fire. But unto the Son he saith, Thy throne, O God, is for ever and ever: a sceptre of righteousness is the sceptre of thy kingdom. Thou hast loved righteousness, and hated iniquity; therefore God, even thy God, hath anointed thee with the oil of gladness above thy fellows. And, Thou, Lord, in the beginning hast laid the foundation of the earth; and the heavens are the works of thine hands: They shall perish; but thou remainest; and they all shall wax old as doth a garment; And as a vesture shalt thou fold them up, and they shall be changed: but thou art the same, and thy years shall not fail.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand.

SEQUENCE HYMN 823 – From east to west

- 1 From east to west, from shore to shore, Let ev'ry heart awake and sing The Holy Child whom Mary bore, The Christ, the everlasting King
- 2 Behold! the world's Creator wears The form and fashion of a slave; Our very flesh our Maker shares, His fallen creature, man, to save.
- 3 For this how wondrously he wrought! A maiden, in her lowly place, Became, in ways beyond all thought, The chosen vessel of his grace.
- 4 She bowed her to the angel's word Declaring what the Father willed, And suddenly the promised Lord That pure and hallowed temple filled.
- 5 He shrank not from the oxen's stall, He lay within the manger bed, And he whose bounty feedeth all At Mary's breast himself was fed.

- 6 And while the angels in the sky
 Sang praise above the silent field,
 To shepherds poor the Lord most high,
 The one great Shepherd, was revealed.
- 7 All glory for this blessèd morn To God the Father ever be; All praise to thee, O Virgin-born, All praise, O Holy Ghost, to thee. Alleluia.

PUER NOBIS NASCITUR

composed or adapted by M. Praetorius, 1571-1621

HOLY GOSPEL: John 1.1-14
The Lord be with you.
And with thy spirit.

The Holy Gospel is written in the first chapter of the Gospel according to Saint John, beginning at the first verse.

Glory be to thee O Lord.

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. The same was in the beginning with God. All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made. In him was life; and the life was the light of men. And the light shineth in darkness; and the darkness comprehended it not. There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. The same came for a witness, to bear witness of the Light, that all men through him might believe. He was not that Light, but was sent to bear witness of that Light. That was the true Light, which lighteth every man that cometh into the world. He was in the world, and the world was made by him, and the world knew him not. He came unto his own, and his own received him not. But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name: Which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God. And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth.

The Gospel of Christ **Praise be to thee, O Christ.**

Please be seated.

SERMON

THE NICENE CREED

Celebrant: I believe in one God

People: 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, (Kneel.) And was incarnate by the Holy Ghost of the Virgin Mary, And was made man, (Rise.) 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.

OFFERTORY

Brethren, you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that, though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, that you through his poverty might become rich.

Please remain standing for the hymn during the Offertory.

OFFERTORY HYMN 82 – O little town of Bethlehem

- O little town of Bethlehem
 How still we see thee lie;
 Above thy deep and dreamless sleep
 The silent stars go by:
 Yet in thy dark streets shineth
 The everlasting Light;
 The hopes and fears of all the years
 Are met in thee to-night
- 2 O morning stars, together
 Proclaim the holy birth,
 And praises sing to God the King,
 And peace to men on earth!
 For Christ is born of Mary;
 And gathered all above,
 While mortals sleep, the angels keep
 Their watch of wondering love.

- 3 How silently, how silently,
 The wondrous gift is given!
 So God imparts to human hearts
 The blessings of his heaven:
 No ear may hear his coming;
 But in this world of sin,
 Where meek souls will receive him, still
 The dear Christ enters in.
- O Holy Child of Bethlehem,
 Descend to us, we pray;
 Cast out our sin, and enter in;
 Be born in us to-day.
 We hear the heavenly angels
 The great glad tidings tell:
 O come to us, abide with us,
 Our Lord Immanuel.

FOREST GREEN
English Traditional Melody

Bishop Phillip Brooks 1868

The people may be seated, but stand as the thurifer approaches for the censing.

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: Unto us a child is born, unto us a Son is given. Let us bring before God the needs of the world.

Intercessor: Father, thy Son our Saviour was born in human flesh. Renew thy Church as the Body of Christ. We pray for Andrew our bishop, for_____ according to the Anglican Cycle of Prayer, for____ according to the Diocesan Cycle of Prayer, and for all the clergy and laity who serve God's people, especially in this parish.

silence

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

Intercessor: There was no room for thy Son in the inn. Protect with thy love all those who have no home and all who live in poverty. We pray 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 **We beseech thee, hear our prayer.**

<i>Intercessor:</i> The Blessed Virgin Mary brought thy Son to birth in this world. Hold in thy hand all who are in pain or distress: for the sick, especially; for the elderly and isolated; for prisoners; for those who mourn and all others for whom we have been asked to pray, especially
silence
Lord, in thy mercy
We beseech thee, hear our prayer.
<i>Intercessor:</i> God is with us, and blesses all our lives. We give thanks for all that God has given us that we now name, silently or aloud May we be guided by angels to God's abundant love for us all.
Lord, in thy mercy
We beseech thee, hear our prayer.
Intercessor: Heaven is come down to earth, and earth is raised to heaven. Hold in thy hand all those who have passed through death in the hope of thy coming kingdom, 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 We beseech thee, hear our prayer.

Celebrant: O God, who makest us glad with the yearly remembrance of the birth of thine only son Jesus Christ: Grant that as we joyfully receive him as our Redeemer, so we may with sure confidence behold him when he shall come again to be our Judge; who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, now and for ever. 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.

EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

The Lord be with you; And with thy spirit.

Lift up your hearts; We lift them up unto the Lord.

Let us give thanks unto 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.

Because thou didst give Jesus Christ thine only Son to be born as at this time for us; who, by the operation of the Holy Spirit, was made very man of the substance of the Virgin Mary his mother; and that without spot of sin, to make us clean from all sin.

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 sings:

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.

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.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And with thy spirit.

HOLY COMMUNION

All who intend to receive Holy Communion pray together:

Celebrant: 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 sings:

AGNUS DEI

- 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.

All baptized Christians are invited to come forward to receive Holy Communion as directed by the Sidespeople.

Мотет

In the bleak midwinter, Harold Darke

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*

COMMUNION HYMN 81 – Angels, from the realms of glory

1 Angels, from the realms of glory, Wing your flight o'er all the earth; Ye who sang creation's story, Now proclaim Messiah's birth:

Refrain:

Come and worship, Worship Christ, the new-born King.

- 2 Shepherds in the fields abiding, Watching o'er your flocks by night, God with man is now residing, Yonder shines the Infant Light: *Refrain*.
- 3 Sages, leave your contemplations; Brighter visions beam afar; Seek the great Desire of nations, Ye have seen his natal star: *Refrain.*
- 4 Saints before the altar bending, Watching long in hope and fear, Suddenly the Lord, descending, In his temple shall appear: *Refrain*.
- 5 Though an infant now we view him, He shall fill his Father's throne, Gather all the nations to him; Every knee shall then bow down: *Refrain*.

REGENT SQUARE Henry Smart, 1867 James Montgomery 1771-1854

Please kneel.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Almighty God, whose blessed Son didst humble himself to share our birth and our death, and who ever permittest us in these holy mysteries to draw near with gladness unto his holy Nativity: Bring us with the shepherds and wise men to kneel before his lowly cradle, that we may come to sing with thine angels his glorious praises in heaven; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who is alive, and reigns with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **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.**

Please stand.

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.'

Refrain:

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. *Refrain*.
- 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. *Refrain*.

MENDELSSOHN From a chorus by Felix Mendelssohn-Bartholdy 1809-47 Charles Wesley 1707-88 and others

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

POSTLUDE: Vom himmel hoch, Johan Pachelbel