Saint Thomas's Church

The Baptism of Our Lord

Sunday, January 8, 2023

Sung Mass at 9:30 am



The Baptism of Jesus, stained glass window by Josef Aigner St. Joseph the Worker Church, Thornhill, Ontario

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 & Homilist: Fr. Humphrey

Reader: John Stuart

Interim Director of Music & Organist: Elizabeth Anderson

MUSIC OF THE MASS: Communion Service in F, Peter Aston

VOLUNTARY: Prélude sur l'Introit de l'Épiphanie, Maurice Duruflé

GREETING

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

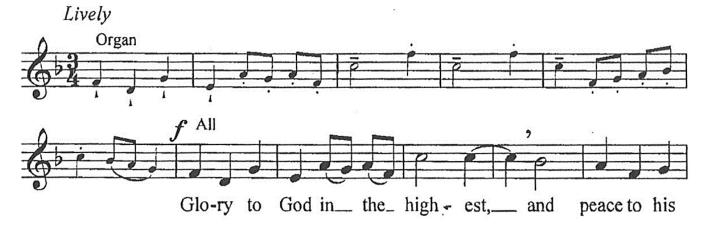
And also with you.

COLLECT FOR PURITY

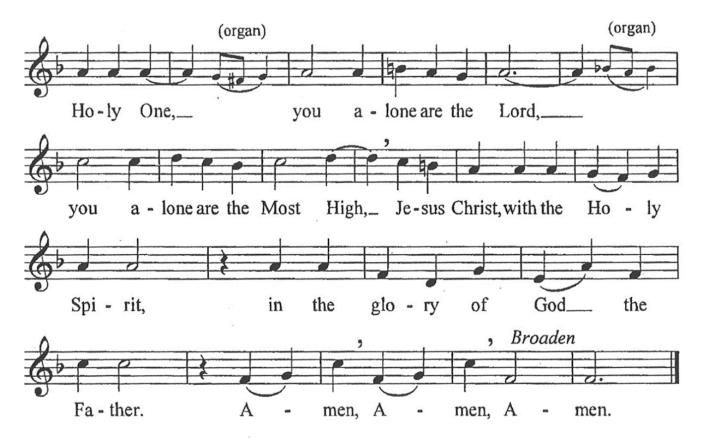
Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hidden. Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

The People stand. The People and Choir sing:

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS DEO







THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Eternal Father, who at the baptism of Jesus revealed him to be your Son, anointing him with the Holy Spirit, keep your children, born of water and the Spirit, faithful to their calling; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Please be seated.

FIRST READING: Isaiah 42.1-9

A reading from the prophet Isaiah.

Here is my servant, whom I uphold, my chosen, in whom my soul delights; I have put my spirit upon him; he will bring forth justice to the nations. He will not cry or lift up his voice, or make it heard in the street; a bruised reed he will not break, and a dimly burning wick he will not quench; he will faithfully bring forth justice. He will not grow faint or be crushed until he has established justice in the earth; and the coastlands wait for his teaching. Thus says God, the Lord, who created the heavens and stretched them out, who spread out the earth and what comes from it, who gives breath to the people upon it and spirit to those who walk in it: I am the Lord, I have called you in

righteousness, I have taken you by the hand and kept you; I have given you as a covenant to the people, a light to the nations, to open the eyes that are blind, to bring out the prisoners from the dungeon, from the prison those who sit in darkness. I am the Lord, that is my name; my glory I give to no other, nor my praise to idols. See, the former things have come to pass, and new things I now declare; before they spring forth, I tell you of them.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM 29



Ascribe to the Lord, you gods, ascribe to the Lord glory and strength. Ascribe to the Lord the glory due his name; worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness. R/.

The voice of the Lord is upon the waters; the God of glory thunders; the Lord is upon the mighty waters. The voice of the Lord is a powerful voice; the voice of the Lord is a voice of splendour. R/.

The voice of the Lord breaks the cedar trees; the Lord breaks the cedars of Lebanon; He makes Lebanon skip like a calf, and Mount Hermon like a young wild ox. The voice of the Lord splits the flames of fire; the voice of the Lord shakes the wilderness; the Lord shakes the wilderness of Kadesh. The voice of the Lord makes the oak trees writhe and strips the forests bare. And in the temple of the Lord all are crying, "Glory!" **R**/.

The Lord sits enthroned above the flood; the Lord sits enthroned as king for ever-more. The Lord shall give strength to his people; the Lord shall give his people the blessing of peace. R/.

SECOND READING: Acts 10.34-43

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

Then Peter began to speak to them: 'I truly understand that God shows no partiality, but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ - he is Lord of all. That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit

and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.'

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

Alleluia, Alleluia. A voice came from heaven, saying, "This is my beloved Son with whom I am well pleased." Alleluia. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

THE HOLY GOSPEL: Matthew 3.13-17

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

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

Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Then Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan, to be baptized by him. John would have prevented him, saying, 'I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?' But Jesus answered him, 'Let it be so now; for it is proper for us in this way to fulfil all righteousness.' Then he consented. And when Jesus had been baptized, just as he came up from the water, suddenly the heavens were opened to him and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting on him. And a voice from heaven said, 'This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased.'

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 remain standing.

INTERCESSIONS

Celebrant:

Let us call to the Lord asking, 'Lord, hear our prayers.'

Intercessor:

For the universal church - our Bishop Andrew, and the nations, that we do not grow faint or be diverted until the Lord's justice is universal and his true message has been heard by all.

Lord, hear our prayers.

In thanksgiving for this new time and the chance of renewal in all things. For --- in in our own lives.

Good Lord, Hear us!

For the sick --- that they feel within themselves the breath and spirit the Lord has given all Creation.

Lord, hear our prayers.

For the others for whom our prayers are asked --- and for those known to God alone that, these bruised reeds do not break, that he renew the fading flame of their lives, bringing forth justice among all.

Lord, hear our prayers.

For the dead --- that chosen by our Lord as servants the memory of them strengthens our journey forward into the New City, the New Jerusalem beloved of God.

Lord, hear our prayers.

Celebrant:

Almighty, ever-living God, when Christ was baptized in the river Jordan the Holy Spirit came upon him and your voice proclaimed from heaven 'This is my beloved Son.' Grant that we, who by water and the Holy Spirit are your adopted children, may continue in your love. We ask through Jesus your son, who with you and the Spirit are one God, now and ever. **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 remain standing for the hymn during the Offertory.

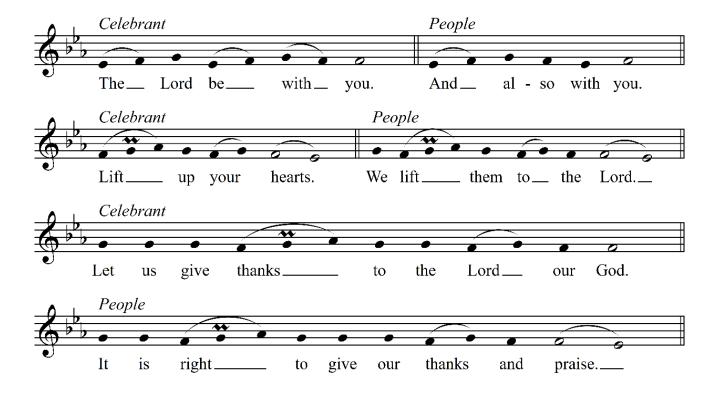
OFFERTORY HYMN 98 – Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness

- 1 Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness; Bow down before him, his glory proclaim; Gold of obedience and incense of lowliness Bring, and adore him; the Lord is his Name!
- 2 Low at his feet lay thy burden of carefulness; High on his heart he will bear it for thee, Comfort thy sorrows, and answer thy prayerfulness, Guiding thy steps as may best for thee be.
- 3 Fear not to enter his courts, in the slenderness Of the poor wealth thou canst reckon as thine; Truth in its beauty and love in its tenderness, These are the offerings to lay on his shrine.
- 4 These, though we bring them in trembling and fearfulness, He will accept for the Name that is dear, Mornings of joy give for evenings of tearfulness, Trust for our trembling, and hope for our fear.
- 5 Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness; Bow down before him, his glory proclaim; Gold of obedience and incense of lowliness Bring, and adore him; the Lord is his Name!

PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS

God of life and freedom, we celebrate the revelation of Jesus as the Christ who makes all creation new. Accept all we offer you this day and make us new in him, who is Lord for ever and ever. **Amen.**

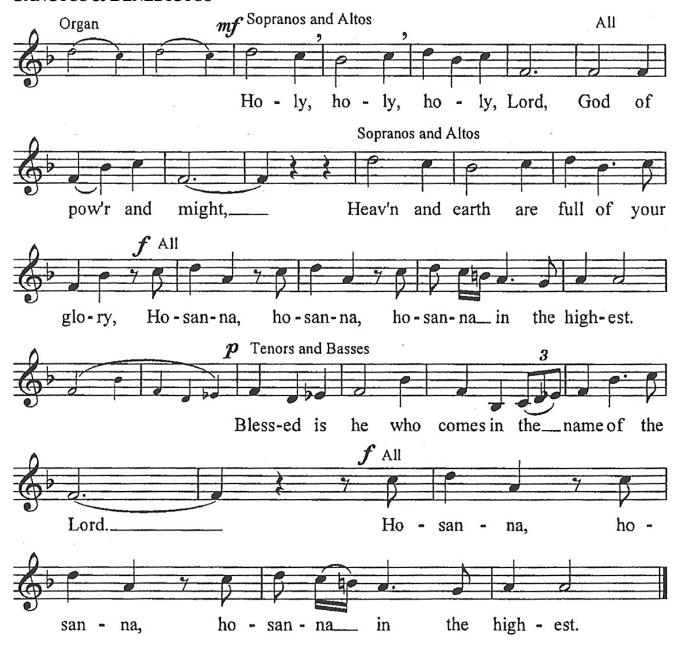
THE GREAT THANKSGIVING



Blessed are you, gracious God, creator of heaven and earth; by water and the Holy Spirit you have made us a holy people in Jesus Christ our Lord; you renew that mystery in bread and wine and nourish us, to show forth your glory in all the world.

Therefore with angels and archangels, and with all the holy people who have served you in every age, we raise our voices to proclaim the glory of your name.

SANCTUS & BENEDICTUS



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."

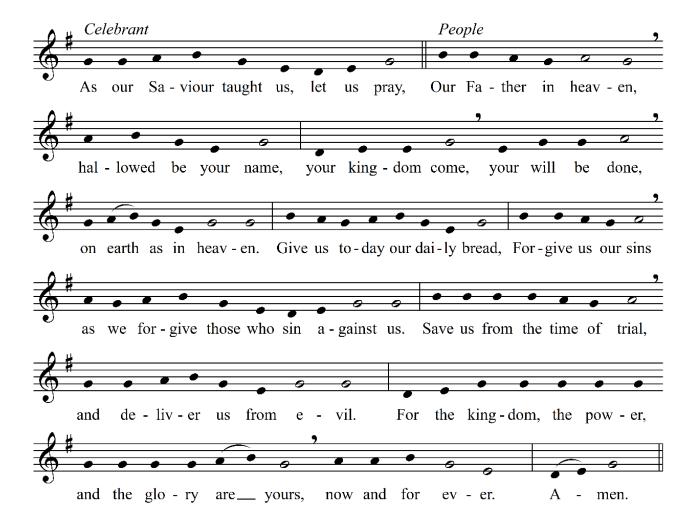
Therefore, Father, according to his command:

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



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.

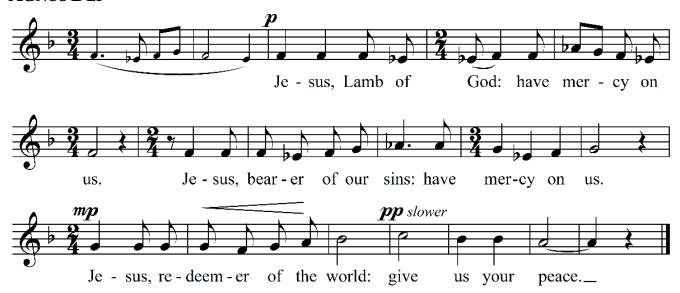
HOLY COMMUNION

The gifts of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

The Choir and People sing:

AGNUS DEI



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!

MOTET: 'Tomorrow shall be my dancing day,' Arranged by Martin Shaw

Tomorrow shall be my dancing day: I would my true love did so chance To see the legend of my play, To call my true love to my dance: *Sing O my love, O my love, my love, my love, This have I done for my true love.* Then was I born of a virgin pure, Of her I took fleshly substance; Thus was I knit to man's nature, To call my true love to my dance: *Sing O my love...* In a manger laid and wrapp'd I was, So very poor, this was my chance, Betwixt an ox and a silly poor ass, To call my true love to my dance: *Sing O my love...* Then afterwards baptized I was; The Holy Ghost on me did glance, My Father's voice heard from above, To call my true love to my dance: *Sing O my love, O my love, my love, my love; This have I done for my true love.*

(English traditional carol)

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.

Gracious God, lover of all, by this sacrament you make us one family in Christ your Son, one in the sharing of his body and blood, one in the communion of his Spirit. Help us to grow in love for one another and come to the full maturity of the Body of Christ. We ask this in his name. **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

The peace of God which passes 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 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 479 – Spirit Divine, attend our prayers

All 1 Spirit Divine, attend our prayers,
And make this house thy home;
Descend with all thy gracious powers,
O come, great Spirit, come.

Upper 2 Come as the light; to us revealVoices Our emptiness and woe:And lead us in those paths of life,Where all the righteous go.

Lower 3 Come as the fire, and purge our hearts Voices

Like sacrificial flame;

Let our whole soul an offering be

To our Redeemer's Name.

All 4 Come as the dew, and sweetly bless
This consecrated hour;
May barrenness rejoice to own
Thy fertilizing power.

All 5 Spirit Divine, attend our prayers;
Make a lost world thy home;
Descend with all thy gracious powers,
O come, great Spirit, come.

GRÄFENBURG Johann Crüger, 1653 Rev. Andrew Reed, 1829

VOLUNTARY: 'Alleluia,' from Five Liturgical Inventions, *Victor Togni (1935-1965)*

The Altar flowers are given to the honour and glory of almighty God:

Those on the High Altar in memory of Robert Gordon and Kathryn Wilma Alice Gordon, and their children, Kathryn Alice Agnes Gordon Tulk and Roberta Holmes Gordon McEachern;

and

Those on the Lady Altar are in memory of Marigrace and John David Campbell Ross, and Robert Thorne Bodie, by Robert Ross.