



HOLY EUCHARIST WITH SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

FOR

THE DAY OF CHRISTMAS

DECEMBER 25, 2020

CHRIST'S CHURCH
CATHEDRAL, HAMILTON

Worship lies at the heart of the Christian life. It is in worship that we express our theology and define our identity. It is through encountering God within worship that we are formed and transformed as the people of God. One of the glories of the Anglican Church is its liturgical worship. Liturgy refers to the patterns, forms, words and actions through which public worship is conducted.

*The people's responses are in **bold**.*

As sojourners on this land, we acknowledge the heritage and history of the Haudenosaunee and Anishinaabe nations at the time of the creation of the "Dish With One Spoon" wampum agreement. As partners with them and with all of God's Creation, we honour and respect these nations. We walk together with all whom we meet here justly, mercifully and humbly.

The Gathering of the Community

When the service is accompanied by music, it often begins with an instrumental or vocal piece of music during which the congregation can prepare for worship.

GATHERING MUSIC

An Improvised Meditation on Christmas Carols

SENTENCE

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.

Luke 2.10-11

THE OPENING ACCLAMATION

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.

THE COLLECT FOR PURITY

This prayer was an English rendering of a Latin prayer that began the liturgy in the medieval church before the Reformation. It remains a distinctive part of Anglican worship to this day.

Almighty God,
to you all hearts are open, all desires known,
and from you no secrets are hid: 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.

SONG OF PRAISE

The Song of Praise, or on occasion some other song of praise, centers the service on the God we gather to praise in our worship

To God Be the Glory

William Doane



To God be the glo - ry who great things has done! God
so loved the world, free - ly send - ing the Son, who
yield - ed his life an a - tone - ment for sin, and
o - pened the life - gate that all may go in. Praise the
Lord! Praise the Lord! Let the earth hear God's voice. Praise the Lord! Praise the
Lord! Let the peo - ple re - joice! O come to the Fa - ther through
Je - sus the Son, and give God the glo - ry, who great things has done.

THE COLLECT FOR CHRISTMAS DAY

The collect is the prayer appointed for each Sunday that “collects” the theme of the day or season of the Church year. It summarizes the attributes of God as revealed in the scriptures of the day.

The Lord be with you

And also with you.

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 Proclamation of the Word

THE FIRST READING

This reading is typically from the Old Testament (Hebrew Scriptures) which Jesus knew and from which he often referred or quoted.

Isaiah 9: 2-7

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.
You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy;
they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest,
as people exult when dividing plunder.
For the yoke of their burden, and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor,
you have broken as on the day of Midian.
For all the boots of the tramping warriors and all the garments rolled in blood
shall be burned as fuel for the fire.

For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders;
and he is named
Wonderful Counselor, 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 onward and forevermore.
The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

CAROL – Good Christian Friends, Rejoice

Text: German/Latin, medieval; Latin Hymn, 14th cent. Music: trad. German Carol 14th c. IN DULCI JUBILO

1 Good Christian friends, rejoice
with heart and soul and voice;
give ye heed to what we say:
Jesus Christ was born today.
Ox and ass before him bow,
and he is in the manger now.
Christ is born today!
Christ is born today!

2 Good Christian friends, rejoice
with heart and soul and voice;
now ye hear of endless bliss:
Jesus Christ was born for this!

He has opened heaven's door,
and we are blest forevermore.
Christ was born for this!
Christ was born for this!

3 Good Christian friends, rejoice
with heart and soul and voice;
now ye need not fear the grave:
Jesus Christ was born to save!
Calls you one and calls you all
to gain his everlasting hall.
Christ was born to save!
Christ was born to save!

THE SECOND READING

This reading, taken from the New Testament, is typically from a letter (epistle) to the early Church, the Acts of the Apostles, or the Revelation to John.

Titus 2: 11-14

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 Savior, 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 GRADUAL

Festal Flourish on "Joy to the World"

THE HOLY GOSPEL

This reading is taken from one of the four Gospels (Matthew, Mark, Luke and John) which depict the life, teachings, death, resurrection and ascension of our Lord Jesus Christ. We stand for the Gospel reading to show the particular importance placed on Jesus' words and actions.

Luke 2: 1-20

The Lord be with you.
And also with you

The Holy Gospel of our Saviour Jesus Christ according to 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 Savior, 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!”

When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.” So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

The Gospel of Christ

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

THE SERMON

The Rev. Dr. Dan Tatarnic
Associate Priest
Christ's Church Cathedral, Hamilton

The sermon directly follows the Gospel because it is to be grounded in the scriptures. It illuminates the scriptural readings and relates them to daily life.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

We pray for ourselves and particularly on behalf of others. In our prayers we pray for the universal church, the nation and all who govern, the welfare of the world, the concerns of our community of faith, including those who are in need or suffer, and for the departed. We are reminded in prayer that we are a part of a larger fellowship, the Church – the Body of Christ. Please respond as directed by the Intersessor.

THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be always with you

And also with you.

The Celebration of the Eucharist

THE OFFERTORY

Having listened to the Word of God, affirmed our faith, confessed our sins, received forgiveness and shared in the peace, we are prepared for the drama and miracle of the Holy Communion. At the offertory we gratefully offer back some of what God has given us, symbolically in the elements, and in our contributions towards the work of the church.

All are invited to make a gift to support the Cathedral's ministry of sharing God's love with the world by depositing your donation in the receptacles provided just inside the nave from the narthex. You can also consider donating online at www.cathedralhamilton.ca

MUSIC AT THE OFFERTORY

“Jesu, Joy of Man’s Desiring”

J. S. Bach, arr. John Nicholas, David Pearl, and Edwin McLean

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

In the Great Thanksgiving, we do what Jesus himself asked us to do: thank God and recall all that God has done for us in the life, death, and resurrection of Christ. The Great Thanksgiving, or Eucharistic Prayer, is a long prayer with four parts. Each of these four parts corresponds to a different action of Jesus at the Last Supper, where he took, blessed, broke, and gave bread and wine as sacraments of his body and blood. We begin the Great Thanksgiving with the Sursum corda, meaning “Lift up your hearts.”

The Lord be with you
And also with you

Lift up your hearts in adoration
We lift them up to God

Let us give thanks to the Living God
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

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

Ho - ly, Ho - ly, ho - ly Lord.
God of pow'r and might, Heav'n and earth are
full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.
Bles - sed is the One who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

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

We pray together the prayer that Jesus taught his disciples to pray. The link between our daily bread and the spiritual food we receive in the Eucharist is an ancient connection.

As our Saviour taught us, let us pray,

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come, your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,
now and for ever. Amen.**

THE INVITATION TO SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

A spiritual communion is a personal devotional that anyone can pray at any time to express their desire to receive Holy Communion at that moment, but in which circumstances impede them from actually receiving Holy Communion.

The presider invites the following prayer to be said by all.

**My Jesus, I believe that you are present in the blessed sacrament.
I love you above all things and I desire you in my soul.
Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally,
come at least spiritually into my heart.
As though you were already there I embrace you,
and unite myself wholly to you.
Permit not that I should ever be separated from you. Amen.**

**Jesus,
I want to follow you: to see you more clearly;
love you more dearly; and follow you more nearly.
So come into my heart,
so that we may share life together.
Amen**

MUSIC AT COMMUNION

"In quietness and confidence"

J. S. Bach. arranged and extended by Van Denman Thompson

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

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.

THE BLESSING

THE DISMISSAL

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord

Thanks be to God

POSTLUDE

A Joyful Postlude on the tune "Go Tell It On the Mountain...that Jesus Christ Is Born"

PARTICIPANTS

PRESIDER AND PREACHER

The Rev. Dr. Dan Tatarnic

Associate Priest

Christ's Church Cathedral

LECTOR

Michael Bloss

Cathedral Director of Music

GUEST MUSICIANS

Gwen Peer, organ; Andrew Dewhurst, piano

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CHRISTMAS FLOWERS 2020

The flowers in the Cathedral are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of:

The Reverend Douglas E. & Beatrice Noel

George & Edna Down

Edith Marie Down

Ingrid Down

The Reverend Robert & Ruth Gallagher

David Lubrick

Steve Varey

Loved Ones of Paula Esteves

Jack Dougherty

Elsie & Walter Dougherty

Edith & William Lyall

Katharine Greenfield

Thomas & Lillian Delsey

The Reverend Canon Desmond Fleming

Irene & Walter Bloss

Loved Ones of Gwen Peer & Andrew Dewhurst

Mr. & Mrs. C.A. Bell

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Alan Harrison

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Family & Friends of John & Anne-Louise Watts

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