

WELCOME TO THE ANGLICAN PARISH OF CHRIST CHURCH

Christmas Eve 2019

7:00 p.m.



We welcome you to our worship this night and are so glad you have joined us.

Clergy: The Venerable Susan Oliver

Crucifer: Ken Singleton

The flowers on the altar are given in loving memory of Mollie, Frank, Sandra, Alec and Geneva Richardson from Gwen Logan.

The flowers on the altar are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Cheryl Natrass from her husband Bruce and their family.

Prelude *A Christmas Antiphon with David Salmon, soloist* (Hopson)

Processional Hymn #118 *O Come, All Ye Faithful* (vs. 1-4)

The Gathering of the Community (Please stand)

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

People: And also with you.

Celebrant: Almighty God,

All: 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.

Gloria

Gloria to God, glory to God, glory in the highest.

To God be glory forever.

Alleluia, amen. Alleluia, amen. Alleluia, amen.

Celebrant: Eternal God, this holy night is radiant with the brilliance of your one true light. May that light illuminate our hearts and shine in our words and deeds. May the hope, the peace, the joy, and the love represented by the birth in Bethlehem this night fill our lives and become part of all that we say and do. May we share the divine life of your son Jesus Christ, even as he humbled himself to share our humanity. **Amen.**

The Proclamation of the Word

First Reading: Isaiah 9: 2-7

read by Margie King

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.

Hymn #121 *O Little Town of Bethlehem* vs. 1

Second Reading: Titus 2:11-14

read by Dan Domanski

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.

Hymn #121 *O Little Town of Bethlehem* vs. 2-3

Reader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Reader: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St. Luke (2: 1-20).

People: 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 favors!” 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.

Reader: The Gospel of Christ.

People: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Hymn #121 *O Little Town of Bethlehem* vs. 4

Sermon

Archdeacon Susan Oliver

Celebrant: Let us confess our faith, as we say,

All: 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: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. 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 Prayers of the People

Led by Linda Domanski

Leader: Rejoicing in the wonderful gift of the Son, we pray to the Lord. Grant that the church, in your eternal light, will shine as the servant of incarnate God. May the faith of the shepherds, the adoration of the angels and the love of the Holy Family be the ground of our worship, now and always.

People: **O Come let us adore him, O come let us adore him, O come let us adore him. Christ the Lord.**

Leader: May the love which shone from the manger bed be ours this night. In every heart, every home, every workplace, may the grace and truth of God dwell with us and draw us into his holiness. Empower us to tell out the tidings of great joy.

People: **O Come let us adore him, O come let us adore him, O come let us adore him. Christ the Lord.**

Leader: Light of God, come into the darkness of pain and suffering. May the sick find healing, the sorrowful, comfort; the despairing, hope; and the dying, assurance. Bring the wanderers and the homeless to shelter. Shield the newly born and mothers waiting for the time of birth.

People: **O Come let us adore him, O come let us adore him, O come let us adore him. Christ the Lord.**

Leader: We pray for those for whom we have been asked to pray, especially,..... and for the peace that unites earth and heaven for those who have died (esp.).

People: **O Come let us adore him, O come let us adore him, O come let us adore him. Christ the Lord.**

Leader: We offer our prayers through Christ, the Word made flesh for our salvation.

All: Amen.

Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: **And also with you.**



The Celebration of the Eucharist

Offertory Hymn #137 *What Child Is This*

Celebrant: Source of light and gladness,

All: accept all we offer on this joyful feast. May we grow up in him who unites our lives to yours; for he is Lord now and for ever. Amen.

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

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People: And also with you.

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Celebrant: 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.

All: (Music & Lyrics by Steve Bell)

**Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might,
Heaven and earth of your glory are full.**

Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna in the highest. (repeat)

Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.

Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord...

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Celebrant: 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.... Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me." Therefore, Father, according to his command,

All: we remember his death, we proclaim his resurrection, we await his coming in glory;

Celebrant: 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....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.

People: Amen.

Celebrant: And now, as our Saviour Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

All: 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 those who 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.

Celebrant: We break the bread of life, and that life is the light of the world.

All: God here among us, light in the midst of us, bring us to light and life.

Celebrant: The gifts of God for the People of God.

People: Thanks be to God.

The Communion

Those who wish to share in Holy Communion may look to the sidespeople for guidance to come forward at the appropriate time.

#701 Lamb of God

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: have mercy of us.

Lamb of God you take away the sins of the world: grant us peace.

Music during Communion

Welcome to Our World, with Breck McHan, soloist (Rice)

I Wonder As I Wander, with David Salmon, soloist (Niles)

Mary Did You Know, with Breck McHan, soloist

Hymn After Communion #119 *Silent Night*

Celebrant: Father of all,

All: tonight you have united earth and heaven in sending your Son to take our human nature. May we who have tasted heavenly things share in the life of his eternal kingdom. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Celebrant: Glory to God,

All: 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

Recessional Hymn #154 *Joy to the World*

The Dismissal

Deacon: Go forth in the name of Christ.

All: Thanks be to God.

Postlude

May you have a Happy & Blessed Christmas!

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Parish Clergy

The Venerable Susan Oliver | sue@christchurchedm.ca

The Reverend Dr. Arlene Young | arlene@christchurchedm.ca

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To our visitors joining us tonight for the celebration of the Birth of Our Lord, if you would like to make a donation to support the ministry of The Anglican Parish of Christ Church, EFT can be made using the following email address: donations@christchurchedm.ca Or by using the Christmas Envelopes.