HOLY TRINITY ANGLICAN CHURCH

December 24th, 2025 at 10PM The Nativity of the Lord



Beuronese Nativity by Nicholas Markell

I bring you good news of 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 GATHERING OF THE COMMUNITY

Introit: A Great and Mighty Wonder - Preatorius

- I. A great and mighty wonder, A full and holy cure! The virgin bears the Infant With virgin honor pure!
- pure!
 Repeat the hymn again:
 To God on high be glory
 And peace on earth to men!
- 2. The Word becomes incarnate And yet remains on high, And cherubim sing anthems To shepherds from the sky.
- 3. Since all He comes to ransom, By all be He adored, The Infant born in Bethl'em, The Savior and the Lord!

Christmas Greeting

For those walking in darkness, a new light has dawned.

All: Christ is our light, and the source of everlasting hope.

For those living in fear and dread, a new light has dawned.

All: Christ is our light and the source of everlasting peace.

For those living in hopelessness and despair, a new light has dawned.

All: Christ is our light and the source of everlasting joy.

For those living in loneliness, a new light has dawned.

All: Christ is our light and the source of everlasting love.

Tonight, by the light of candles we celebrate the birth of Christ bringing new light into a world with so much darkness. Our Advent wreath is completed as we light all five candles: hope, peace, love, and joy and, tonight, the Christ candle at the very centre of the circle. We each receive light now to remind us that we have been given God's light and bear this light into our lives and world.

Please have your candles ready. The flame will be passed from the back of the church to the front during the singing of Silent Night.

Hymn: Silent Night

- I. Silent night! holy night!All is calm, all is bright.Round yon virgin mother and child. Holy infant so tender and mild, Sleep in heavenly peace, Sleep in heavenly peace!
- 2. Silent night! holy night!
 Shepherds quake at the sight:
 Glories stream from heaven
 afar, Heavenly hosts sing
 Alleluia, Christ, the Saviour,
 is born! Christ, the Saviour, is
 born!
- 3. Silent night! holy night!
 Son of God, love's pure light
 Radiant beams from thy holy
 face, With the dawn of
 redeeming grace, Jesus, Lord,
 at thy birth. Jesus, Lord, at thy
 birth!

Sentence of the day: I bring you good news of 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*

- I. I 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
- 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
- 3. And through all his wondrous childhood
 He would honour and obey,
 Love and watch the lowly maiden,
 In whose gentle arms he lay:
 Christian children all must be Mild, obedient, good as he.

- 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
- 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;
 When like stars his children crowned
 All in white shall wait around.

Processional Hymn: Once in Royal David's City

Greeting

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

All: And also with you.

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.

You are welcome to extinguish your candles

Gloria: Angels We Have Heard on High

1. Angels we have heard on high,

Sweetly singing o'er the plains,

And the mountains in reply,

Echoing their joyous strains

Refrain: Gloria, in excelsis Deo! Gloria, in excelsis

Deo!

2. See Him in a manger laid,

Whom the choirs of angels praise;

Mary, Joseph, lend your aid,

While our hearts in love we raise.

Refrain

Collect of the Day:

Eternal God who made this most holy night to shine with the brightness of your one true light: bring us, who known the revelation of that light on earth, to see the radiance of your heavenly glory; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

A reading from Isaiah 9:2-7 read by Diana Crump

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

All: Thanks be to God.

Canticle Hymn: Joy to The World

1. Joy to the world, the Lord is	2. Joy to the earth, the	3. He rules the world with
come!	Savior reigns!	truth and grace, and makes
Let earth receive her King!	Let men their songs employ,	the nations prove
Let every heart prepare Him	while fields and floods,	the glories of His
room,	rocks, hills, and plains	righteousness and wonders
and heav'n and nature sing,	repeat the sounding joy,	of His love,
and heav'n and nature sing,	repeat the sounding joy,	and wonders of His love,
and heav'n, and heav'n and	repeat, repeat the sounding	And wonders, wonders of
nature sing.	joy.	His Love.

A reading from Titus 2:11-14 read by Lydia Neufeld

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

All: Thanks be to God.

Gradual Hymn: Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

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.

Gospel Reading

The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke 2:1-14(15-20)



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.

The Gospel of Christ.



Gospel Acclamation:



The Sermon: The Ven. Jonathan Crane

The Apostles' Creed:

Let us confess the faith of our baptism as we say,

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

The Prayers of the People led by Suzanne Oswald

Lord in your mercy...

All: Hear our prayer.

Confession and Absolution

Christ the light of the world has come to dispel the darkness of our hearts. Let us turn to the light and confess our sins. Most merciful God,

We confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have All: 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.

Absolution

The Peace

Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace to all in whom God delights.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you. All:

THE CELEBRATION OF THE EUCHARIST

Offertory Hymn: O Come, All Ye Faithful

I. O come, all ye faithful, 2. God of God Joyful and triumphant, Light of light,

O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem; Lo! he abhors not the Virgin's womb

Very God, Come and behold him

Born the king of Angels Begotten, not created: O come let us adore him (x_3) , Christ the Lord O come let us adore him ...

3. 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 ...

4. Sing, choirs of angels

Sing in exultation,

Sing, all ye citizens of heav'n

above;

Glory to God

In the highest:

O come let us adore him ...

5. Yea, Lord we greet

Thee,

Born this happy morning,

lesus, to thee be glory

giv'n:

Word of the Father.

Now in flesh appearing

O come let us adore him ...

Prayer over the Gifts

Source of light and gladness, 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.

Eucharistic Prayer 3

The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

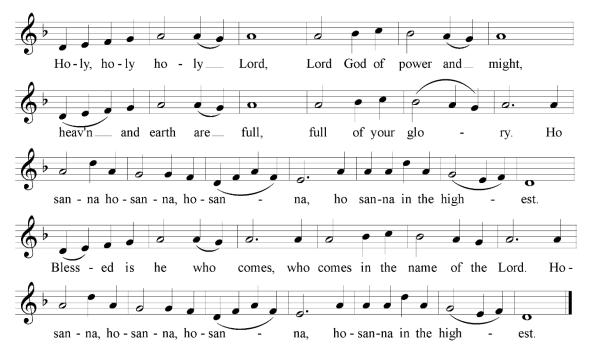
Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our Creator.

All: 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.



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.

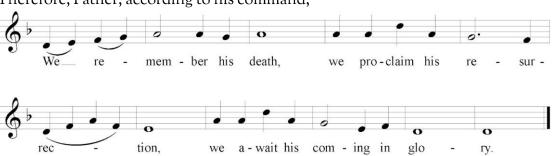
For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Saviour and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy

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."





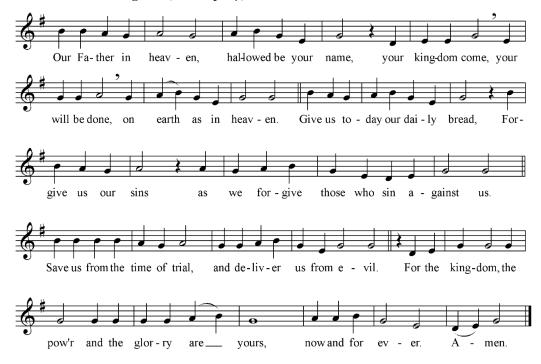
and we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine. We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts, that they may be the sacrament of the body of Christ and his blood of the new covenant. Unite 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,



The Lord's Prayer:

As our Saviour taught us, let us pray,



The Breaking of the Bread

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.

The gifts of God for the People of God.

All: Thanks be to God.

Fraction Anthem:



The table is set, all are welcome. If you would prefer a blessing, please indicate this by crossing your arms over your chest. The bread is gluten free for all to share in the One Bread, One Body.

Anthem: Unto Us is Born a Son - Wilcocks

Unto us is born a son,
 Christ, from heav'n

King of choirs supernal: descending low,

See on earth his life begun, Comes on earth a stranger;
Of lords the Lord eternal. Ox and ass their Owner know

Now cradled in a manger.

3. This did Herod sore affray,

And did him bewilder,

So he gave the word to slay,

And slew the little childer.

4. Of his love and mercy mild

Hear the Christmas story:

O that Mary's gentle Child

Might lead us up to glory!

O and A and A and O,Cantemus in choro,Let our merry organ go

Benedicamus Domino.

Prayer after Communion: God of 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**.

The Doxology:

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.

The Blessing

Closing Hymn: See Amid the Winter's Snow

I. See, amid the winter's snow,
born for us on earth below,
see the tender Lamb appears,
promised from eternal years.
Refrain:

Hail, thou ever blessed morn! Hail, redemption's happy dawn! Sing through all Jerusalem, "Christ is born in Bethlehem."

4. "As we watched at dead of night, Lo! we saw a wondrous light; angels singing 'Peace on earth' told us of the Savior's birth." [Refrain]

- 2. Lo, within a manger liesHe who built the starry skies;He who, throned in height sublime, sits amid the cherubim! [Refrain]
- 3. Say, ye holy shepherds, say, what's your joyful news today?
 Wherefore have ye left your sheep on the lonely mountain steep? [Refrain]
- 5. Teach, O teach us, Holy Child, by Thy face so meek and mild, teach us to resemble Thee, in Thy sweet humility! [Refrain]

The Dismissal

Go forth into the worth rejoicing in the birth of the newborn King.

All: Thanks be to God

Special thanks to today's guest musicians:

Trumpet: Russell Whitehead Trumpet: Joel Gray

Wishing you and those dear to you a joyous and blessed Christmas!

All are invited to join us Christmas Day, December 25th @ 10:30am for a Christmas

Day Eucharist!



The Rt. Rev. Stephen London, Bishop
The Ven. Jonathan Crane, Interim Rector
The Rev. Suzanne Oswald, Deacon
The Rev. Robin Walker, Honorary Assistant
Dr. John Brough, Director of Music
Dr. Cari Astleford, Assistant Organist
Michaela Mercer-Deadman, Parish Administrator
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