



Welcome to St. George's

Christmas Mass in the Midnight

December 24, 2020

10:00 PM

*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*

We are a Christian church within the Anglican tradition and we welcome people of all Christian traditions as well as people of other faiths and people of little or no faith. Welcome to our church family!

Rector	The Rev. Canon Ralph Blackman
Organist	Matthias Schmidt
Cellist	Marlena Tureski
Singers	Sarah Schmidt-McQuillan, Megan Smith, Susanne McQuillan, Ian Dickieson
Reader	Paige Keller

We wish to acknowledge that we meet on land that, at the time of contact, was held by the Attawandaron as an area of trade and ceremony by the 2 rivers. At various times the land was occupied by both Haudenosaunee from the south and Anishnaabe from the north. In more recent times the Huron Treaty gave rights to the Mississaugas of New Credit. May we who dwell on or visit this land also be good stewards and honour those who came before us.

Prelude	<i>In the Bleak Midwinter</i>	arr. E.R. Larter
	<i>Whence Is That Goodly Fragrance Flowing</i>	arr. E.R. Larter

THE GATHERING OF THE COMMUNITY

Welcome

The Great Prologue — John 1:1-14

Hymn	<i>O Little Town of Bethlehem</i>	Forest Green
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Greeting

Presider 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.

Collect

Presider Let us pray.

All Eternal God, this holy night is radiant with the brilliance of your one true light. As we have known the revelation of that light on earth, bring us to see the splendour of your heavenly glory; through Jesus Christ our Saviour, who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

THE PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

Epistle

Reader A reading from the Letter of Paul to Titus.

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 Saviour, 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.

Titus 2:11-14

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.
All Thanks be to God.

Hymn *Shepherds in the Field Abiding*

Iris

Gospel

Reader The Lord be with you.
All And also with you.

Reader The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.
All Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Reader 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 Saviour, 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. *Luke 2:1-20*

Reader The Gospel of Christ.
All Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Homily The Reverend Canon Ralph T. Blackman
(followed by silence for reflection)

Music *Sussex Carol*

arr. D. Willcocks

Prayers of the People

The Peace

THE CELEBRATION OF THE EUCHARIST

Carol *In the Bleak Midwinter*

Cranham

Prayer over the Gifts

All **Source of light and gladness, accept all we offer on this joyful feast. May we grow up in Christ who unites our lives to yours now and for ever. Amen.**

Great Thanksgiving

Presider The Lord be with you.

All **And also with you.**

Presider Lift up your hearts.

All **We lift them to the Lord.**

Presider Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Presider It is indeed right to thank you and praise you, holy and gracious God, creator of all things, ruler of heaven and earth, sustainer of life, for you are the source of all goodness, rich in mercy and abounding in love; you are faithful to your people in every generation, and your word endures for ever. Therefore with angels and archangels and the whole company of heaven, we glorify your holy name, evermore praising you and saying,

All **Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

Presider We praise you, merciful Creator, not as we ought, but as we are able, because in your tender love you gave the world your only Son, in order that the world might be saved through him. He made you known by taking the form of a servant, healing the sick, liberating the oppressed, reaching out to the lost. Betrayed, reviled, and nailed to the cross, he confronted the power of sin and disarmed it for ever. Redeemed by Christ, we have been adopted as your children; by your pardon you have made us worthy to praise you.

On the night he was betrayed, Jesus, at supper with his friends, took bread, gave you thanks, broke the bread, gave it to them, and said, "Take and eat: this is my body which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper Jesus 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."

In obedience to him and with grateful hearts we approach your holy table, remembering our Saviour's sacrifice, and rejoicing in his victory. Confident in his sovereign purpose, we declare our faith.

All **Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.**

Presider Send your Holy Spirit on us that as we receive this bread and this cup we may partake of the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, and feed on him in our hearts by faith with thanksgiving. May we be renewed in his risen life, filled with love, and strengthened in our will to serve others. Make of our lives, we pray, a pure and holy sacrifice, acceptable to you, knitting us together as one in your Son Jesus Christ, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be all honour and glory, now and forever.

All **Amen.**

Lord's Prayer

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, forever and ever. Amen.

Breaking of the Bread

Presider 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.

Invitation to Spiritual Communion

Presider You are invited to receive spiritual communion with the following prayer.

Come, Lord Jesus, and make in my heart your dwelling place and home. I seek to love you with all my heart, mind, soul and strength, and so, through your presence in bread and wine, I receive you afresh and praise you for you are my God. As you fill me, so may my love for you and for all your people, rise and overflow, that with joy and thanksgiving, I may serve you in the world you love. Amen.

Communion

Presider The gifts of God for the People of God.

All Thanks be to God.

Music during Communion

Sinfonia (from Christmas Oratorio)

J.S. Bach

Prayer after Communion

Leader Let us pray.

All Holy God, 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.

Presider 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.

Hymn *Silent Night*

Stille Nacht

Blessing

Dismissal

Leader Go in peace to love and serve the Prince of Peace.

All Thanks be to God.

Postlude *In Dulci Jubilo*

J.S. Bach

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- Scanning the QR Code to the right
- On our website (www.saintgeorge.ca)
- E-transfer to bookkeeper@saintgeorge.ca
- Cheque to our mailing address

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