



St. Paul's Anglican Church

**December 25, 2024, 3:30 pm
Christmas Day**

45 Russell St. W., Lindsay ON K9V 2W8
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Incumbent – The Rev. Bonnie Skerritt
Honorary Assistant – The Rev. Canon Greg Physick
Music Director – Arlene Gray

This service is based upon Evening Prayer
The Book of Alternative Services
Anglican Church of Canada

Prelude: Myrna Sloboda

Welcome

Processional Hymn: #153 Good Christians All, Rejoice

The Penitential Rite

Officiant: Jesus said, "I am the light of the world; whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life." John 8.12

Dear friends in Christ, as we prepare to worship almighty God, let us with penitent and obedient hearts confess our sins, that we may obtain forgiveness by his infinite goodness and mercy.

People: 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.

Officiant: 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.

People: Amen

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*

Introductory Responses

Officiant: Blessed are you, O Christ, Son of God, you were before time began and came into the world to save us. Blessed are you, Sun of righteousness; you shine with the Father's love and illumine the whole universe. Blessed are you, Son of Mary; born a child, you shared our humanity.

People: Let heaven and earth shout their praise.

Officiant: Blessed are you, Son of David; born to rule, you received gifts from the wise men. Blessed are you, Son of Man; baptized by John, you saved us from ourselves. Blessed are you, heavenly King; teaching and preaching, healing and comforting, you proclaimed the kingdom.

People: Let heaven and earth shout their praise.

Officiant: With all the voices of heaven we celebrate the coming of our Saviour.

People: Let heaven and earth shout their praise.

Officiant: With all the creatures on earth we sing and dance at his birth.

People: Praise and honour and glory to you, O Lord most high.

Psalm 96 responsive

1 Sing to the Lord a new song; sing to the Lord, all the whole earth.

2 Sing to the Lord and bless his name; proclaim the good news of his salvation from day to day.

3 Declare his glory among the nations and his wonders among all peoples.

4 For great is the Lord and greatly to be praised; he is more to be feared than all gods.

5 As for all the gods of the nations, they are but idols; but it is the Lord who made the heavens.

6 Oh, the majesty and magnificence of his presence! Oh, the power and the splendour of his sanctuary!

7 Ascribe to the Lord, you families of the peoples; ascribe to the Lord honour and power.

8 Ascribe to the Lord the honour due his name; bring offerings and come into his courts.

9 Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness; let the whole earth tremble before him.

10 Tell it out among the nations: "The Lord is king! he has made the world so firm that it cannot be moved; he will judge the peoples with equity."

11 Let the heavens rejoice, and let the earth be glad; let the sea thunder and all that is in it; let the field be joyful and all that is therein.

12 Then shall all the trees of the wood shout for joy before the Lord when he comes, when he comes to judge the earth.

13 He will judge the world with righteousness and the peoples with his truth.

We worship you, God of glory, in the beauty of holiness, and we joyfully proclaim your just and righteous rule, established for all, through your Son Jesus Christ the Lord. Amen.

The Proclamation of the Word

First Reading - 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 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.

Reader The word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Second Reading - 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 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.

Reader The word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Gradual Hymn #143 Angels, From the Realms of Glory

Holy Gospel - Luke 2:8-20

Officiant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Officiant The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

People Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

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.

Officiant The Gospel of Christ.

People Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Gradual Hymn #143 Angels, From the Realms of Glory

Reflection Rev. Bonnie Skerritt

The Nicene Creed

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.

Offertory Hymn #154 Joy to the World

The Prayer over the Gifts

Officiant 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 Prayers of the People: Litany #13

(In joy and humility let us pray to the creator of the universe, saying, "Lord, grant us peace.")

By the good news of our salvation brought to Mary by the angel, hear us, O Lord.
Lord, grant us peace.

By the mystery of the Word made flesh, hear us, O Lord. **Lord, grant us peace.**
By the birth in time of the timeless Son of God, hear us, O Lord. **Lord, grant us peace.**

By the manifestation of the King of glory to the shepherds and magi, hear us, O Lord.
Lord, grant us peace.

By the submission of the maker of the world to Mary and Joseph of Nazareth, hear us,
O Lord. **Lord, grant us peace.**

By the baptism of the Son of God in the river Jordan, hear us, O Lord.
Lord, grant us peace.

Grant that the kingdoms of this world may become the kingdom of our Lord and Saviour
Jesus Christ; hear us, O Lord. **Lord, grant us peace.**

Collect

**All: 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 Lord's Prayer

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.**

Officiant Let us bless the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Announcements

Recessional Hymn #135 Shepherds in the Field Abiding

Dismissal

Celebrant: Followers of Jesus, inspired by the Holy Spirit, go, serve the world God
loves!

All: Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

*Please note that all hymns are taken from Common Praise (1998) or are printed in the leaflet
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