

Christmas Eve



~a star, a small light in a dark sky, led
them to the birth of God amongst us~
O Come, Let Us Adore Him!

7:15 pm - Hymn Sing - Please select your favourite Christmas Hymn (not included already in tonight's service) and we'll sing a couple of verses!

Welcome

Processional Hymn - CP #140 It Came Upon a Midnight Clear

The Gathering of the Community

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.**

Opening Sentences

Behold! Our God, earth's maker, appears anew.

Let all the earth declare God's marvellous works.

A Word arrives from skies and fields, a message for a world beset by conflict, fire, flood and storm.

The heavens are glad! The earth rejoices! The seas roar! The trees sing!

This is good news, heralding the coming reign of peace for all creation.

Sing a new song of God's glory and strength, of lives made new! Let us worship God.

Opening Prayer

The Proclamation of the Word

Isaiah 9:2-7 Canticle: CP # 18 O Laughing Light, O First-Born of Creation Titus 2:11-15

The Gospel

Gospel Procession:

*O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant, O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem:
Come and behold him, born this king of angels;
O come let us adore him, O come let us adore him,
O come let us adore him, Christ the Lord*

May the Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

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

Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

The gospel is read. Luke 2: 1-14

The Gospel of Christ. **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

Gospel Recession:

*Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation, sing, all ye citizens of heaven above;
Glory to God in the highest:
O come let us adore him, O come let us adore him,
O come let us adore him, Christ the Lord*

The Homily

Choir Anthem The Prayers of the People

The Peace

The peace of the Lord be always with you. **And also with you.**

Offertory Hymn - CP #122 In the Bleak Midwinter

We are grateful for your support of our church and ministry. If you would like to make a financial contribution to the church, please place your donation in the offering plate by the sanctuary doors at the back of the church, either before or after the service. If you'd like a tax receipt for contributions over \$20, please include your address.

The Prayer over the Gifts

We offer these gifts to you, Holy God, rejoicing that your grace has appeared in Jesus Christ. May your love for all people, and your zeal for justice and peace, transform this offering into Christ's presence this Christmas season and always. Amen.

The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Worship and praise belong to you, Holy God, our Source and Ending, Alpha and Omega...

Now with all creation we raise our voices to proclaim your glory, sing your praise:

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

In these latter days, God leaned toward the earth
and spoke to us by a Son, Jesus the Beloved...

**We now obey your Son's command.
We recall his blessed passion and death,
his glorious resurrection and ascension;
and we look for the coming of his Kingdom.
Made one with him, we offer you these gifts
and with them ourselves
a single, holy, living sacrifice.**

Hear us, most merciful God...

Through Jesus Christ our Lord,
with whom, and in whom,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all honour and glory be to you, Lord of all ages,
world without end. **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

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 Breaking of the Bread

We break the bread of life, and that life is the light of the world.
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. **Thanks be to God.**

Communion

All are welcome to receive communion. Please form a line in the centre aisle, guided by the sidesperson. Communion is offered in two kinds - bread and wine. Gluten free wafers are available upon request. We do not practice intinction, so please do not dip your wafer into the wine. If you do not wish to receive from the cup, simply bow and acknowledge the cup. You may also come forward for a blessing instead of communion. If that is your wish, cross your arms in front of your chest as you come forward.

Communion Hymn - CP #132 Of Eternal Love Begotten

Prayer after Communion

Creator 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.

Closing Sentences

People of God, you have heard the good news of great joy.

It is real. It is for all the earth.

Go forth, breaking this news for all people, for all creation.

**May all who hear and see it,
reveal this good news in their lives, and be amazed!**

The Blessing

Recessional Hymn - CP #119 Silent Night

*We will light our candles while music is played before we begin to sing the hymn together.
Once the hymn is finished, please extinguish your candle and hand to the sides person
in the narthex as you leave.*

The Dismissal

Go, good people, with your great cheer and share God's love and peace, born this night!
Thanks be to God.

*We wish you and your loved ones a blessed Christmas
and a New Year filled with hope and peace.*