

CHRISTMAS LESSONS & CAROLS ON THE FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS

December 31, 2023 • 10:00 AM

Welcome to St. John's, Shaughnessy! Wherever you are on your spiritual journey, and whether you are joining us in the church building or via the livestream, we are glad you are here!

If you are new here and would like to learn more, please introduce yourself to the clergy after the service. If you would like to be added to our mailing list so that we may keep you informed of upcoming events, please contact the church office. Infants and children (and their accompanying noises) enliven our services. Colouring, crafts, and quiet toys are available in the children's area, just to the left of the front pews.

We acknowledge with respect that we worship on the traditional, ancestral, and unceded territory of the Coast Salish Peoples, and we pray that we may live more deeply into the calls to action from Canada's Truth and Reconciliation Commission.

A brief organ voluntary offered a few minutes before the hour bids us all keep silence for prayer and preparation.

The people's responses are in **bold**.

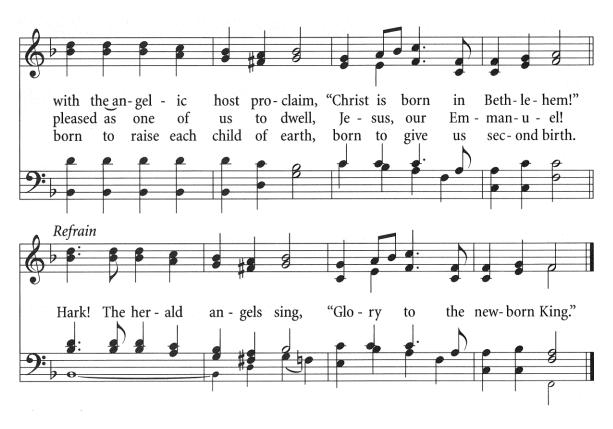
PRELUDE Prayer to Our Lady, from Gothic Suite Léon Böellman (1862-1897)

GREETING

HYMN IN PROCESSION

MENDELSSOHN





BIDDING PRAYER

My sisters and brothers in Christ, in this season when we celebrate the birth of Jesus, let it be our duty and delight to hear once more the message of the angels and go in heart and mind to Bethlehem to see the Son of God lying in a manger.

As we hear the reading of God's holy word, let us: reflect on the time of our rebellion against the creator of the universe; rejoice that the glory of the Lord has been revealed; and raise our voices with the messenger who announces good news of great joy to all people. As we mark once more the mystery of the Word made flesh, let us join with the song of angels and saints and make this place ring with our carols and hymns of praise.

But first, let us remember the poverty of the birth of the Prince of Peace, and pray for the poor, the cold, the hungry, and those among us who find that there is no room for them at the inn.

Let us remember the flight of the Holy Family into Egypt, and pray for the oppressed, refugees, the isolated, and those on the edges of our society. Let us remember that the Lord of Glory experienced the pain of life and death, and pray for the sick, the anxious, the weary, and the bereaved.

And remembering the promise that he shall reign for ever and ever, let us pray for the rulers of the nations, for peace and justice on earth, for the unity and mission of the Church, that we may be a sign that God's rule on earth has already begun.

With joy in our hearts, let us hear again the story of the birth of Christ, and join with Mary and Joseph, with shepherds and wise men, and with all our forebears in faith in offering our worship. **Amen.**

THE FIRST LESSON

Genesis 3:1-15

Adam and Eve rebel against God and are cast out of the Garden of Eden.

Now the serpent was more crafty than any other wild animal that the Lord God had made. He said to the woman, "Did God say, 'You shall not eat from any tree in the garden'?" The woman said to the serpent, "We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden; but God said, 'You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the middle of the garden, nor shall you touch it, or you shall die." But the serpent said to the woman, "You will not die; for God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil." So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate; and she also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate. Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made loincloths for themselves.

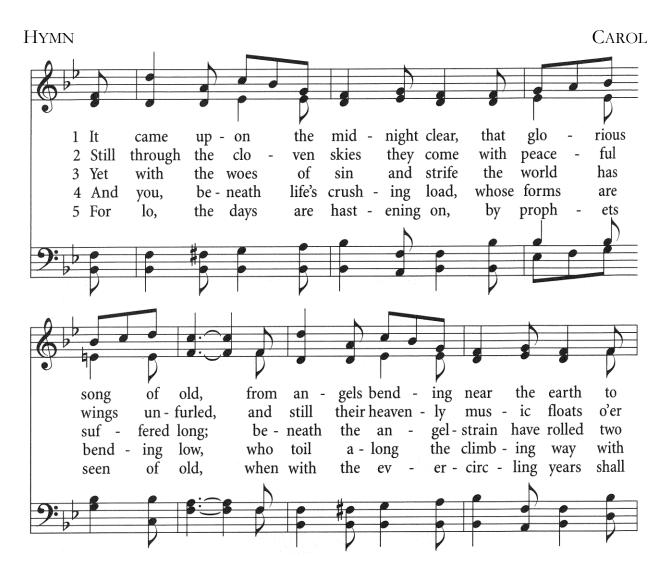
They heard the sound of the Lord God walking in the garden at the time of the evening breeze, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the Lord God among the trees of the garden. But the Lord God called to the man, and said to him, "Where are you?" He said, "I heard the sound of you in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked; and I hid myself." He said, "Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?" The man said, "The woman whom you gave to be with me, she gave me fruit from the tree, and I ate." Then the Lord God said to the woman, "What is this that you have done?" The woman said, "The serpent tricked me, and I ate." The Lord God said to the serpent, "Because you have done this, cursed are you among all animals and among all wild creatures; upon your belly you shall go, and dust you shall eat all the days of your life. I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; he will strike your head, and you will strike his heel."

HYMN GOD REST YOU MERRY God gen-tle-men, let noth-ing you dis - may; 1 rest you mer - ry, 2 From God our heaven - ly Fa ther а bless - ed an - gel came 3 noth-ing you af - fright; "Fear not, then," said the gel, "Let an -4 Now the sing you with - in this place, to Lord prais - es, all mem-ber Christ our Sa - vior born on Christ-mas Day, re was cer - tain shep - herds brought tid - ings the same: and un - to of this vir - gin bright, Sa - vior of day born pure is а а and with true love and char-i - ty each o - ther now em - brace; save us all from Sa-tan's power when we were gone a - stray. to that in Beth - le the of God by how hem was born Son name. free all those who trust in him from Sa - tan's power and might." to this ho - ly tide of Christ mas doth bring re - deem-ing grace. Refrain 0 ings fort and com-fort and tid of com joy, --0 tid ings of fort and joy! joy; com

THE SECOND LESSON

The Prophet foretells the coming of the Saviour.

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 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 THIRD LESSON

In the fullness of time, God sent God's son whose reign is for ever and ever.

Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets, but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, through whom he also created the worlds. He is the reflection of God's glory and the exact imprint of God's very being, and he sustains all things by his powerful word. When he had made purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs.

For to which of the angels did God ever say, "You are my Son; today I have begotten you"? Or again, "I will be his Father, and he will be my Son"? And again, when he brings the firstborn into the world, he says, "Let all God's angels worship him." Of the angels he says, "He makes his angels winds, and his servants flames of fire." But of the Son he says, "Your throne, O God, is for ever and ever, and the righteous sceptre is the sceptre of your kingdom. You have loved righteousness and hated wickedness; therefore God, your God, has anointed you with the oil of gladness beyond your companions." And, "In the beginning, Lord, you founded the earth, and the heavens are the work of your hands; they will perish, but you remain; they will all wear out like clothing; like a cloak you will roll them up, and like clothing they will be changed. But you are the same, and your years will never end."

Hymn

CRANHAM



THE FOURTH LESSON

Jesus is born at Bethlehem, and is worshiped by shepherds and angels.

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!"



THE FIFTH LESSON

Wise men follow a star and pay homage to Jesus.

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage." When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet: 'And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel. " Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage." When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.



THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Joining our voices with all in heaven and on earth praising the Word made flesh in Jesus, let us pray for the world to which Christ comes, the Church whom Christ calls, and all people in need whom Christ loves.

Wonderful Counselor, in the fullness of time you became one of us and your wisdom from on high came down to make a home among us. We pray that you will establish and uphold our world with your justice and righteousness.

Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Mighty God, when the time had been fulfilled, you came down from heaven and became one with your creation by taking on our humanity. Enable and empower your Church to embrace your beloved humanity in its many and varied expressions. We pray for the Anglican Church of Canada, remembering especially Linda, our Primate; Chris, the National Indigenous Archbishop; John, our Bishop; and the people and clergy of this parish. In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer, we pray for Eglise Anglicane du Rwanda. In the Diocesan Cycle of Prayer, we pray for the Parishes of St. John the Evangelist, North Vancouver; and St. John's, Shaughnessy.

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Everlasting Father, when all was in readiness, you became flesh and blood to heal and redeem the world. May the light of Christ banish the darkness of global conflicts and strife, that the nations may rejoice in your light. We lift up all who are suffering or in need, especially those we name now, silently or aloud.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Prince of Peace, at the moment of your birth the night sky rang out with the song of the angels. Preserve the earth, that peace might extend to every living creature.

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Word of life, on the night of your birth you hallowed all time and all flesh. Expand the vision of this faith community to recognize and welcome your holy face in every human being, and acknowledge your sacred presence in every living thing. We remember especially all those who have departed this life, including those we name now, silently or aloud.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Emmanuel, God with us, in every time and place the voices of saints and angels together proclaim the good news of great joy which is for all people. Blend our voices with theirs, and at the last day assemble us all around your heavenly throne to forever sing a joyful song to you.

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

The Celebrant continues

Eternal God, who by a star led wise men to the worship of your Son. Guide by your light the nations of the earth, that the whole world may know your glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE PEACE

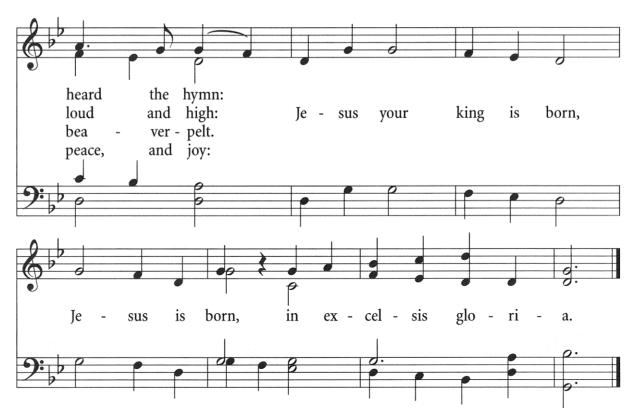
The People greet one another with signs of God's peace.

THE OFFERTORY

As the altar is prepared for Holy Communion, the congregation is invited to make an offering as an expression of gratitude for God's generosity. AQR code is provided for those who prefer to donate online.

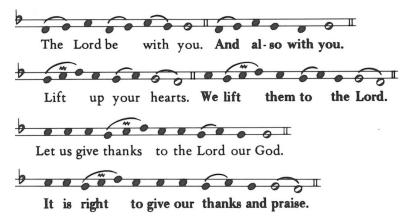




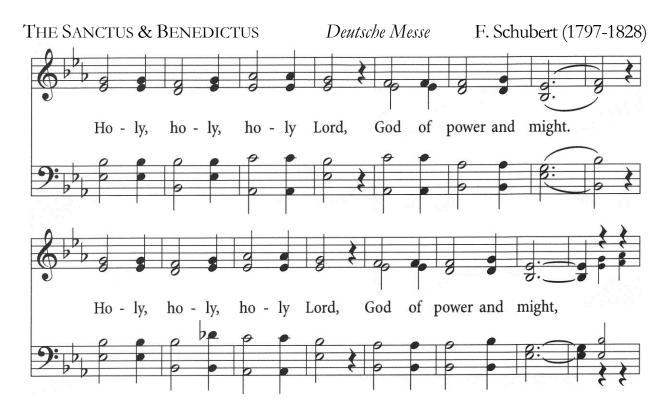


THE PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS

Gracious God, accept the offering of your Church, the hearts of your people joined in praise and thanksgiving, in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord. **Amen.** THE GREAT THANKSGIVING



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.





The Celebrant continues

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."

Therefore, Father, according to his command,

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

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, almighty Father, now and for ever. **Amen.** THE LORD'S PRAYER

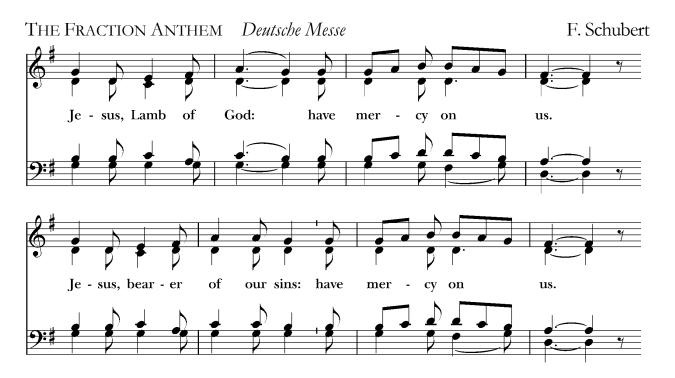
And now as our Saviour taught us, we are bold to say,

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.

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated 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 INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION

The gifts of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God.**

We invite all baptized Christians to receive the sacrament of Holy Communion. Gluten-free wafers are available upon request. If you prefer to receive a blessing instead of the bread and wine, you may indicate that desire by crossing your arms over your chest. If you are unable to come forward, please ask a sidesperson to have the sacrament brought to you.

ANTHEM AT THE COMMUNION Thou Shalt Know Him

Mark Sirett

Thou shalt know him when he comes Not by any din of drums, Not his manners nor his airs, Nor by anything he wears.

Thou shalt know him when he comes, Not by crown or by his gown, But his coming known shall be By the holy harmony which his coming makes in thee. Thou shalt know him when he comes.

Please stand as you are able.

THE PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

God of all the nations of the earth, guide us with your light. Help us to recognize Christ as he comes to us in this eucharist and in our neighbours. May we welcome him with love, for he is Lord now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE DOXOLOGY

Glory to God, 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.

Please be seated.

THE NOTICES

Please stand as you are able.

THE BLESSING

May Christ, who by his Incarnation gathered into one things earthly and heavenly, fill you with his joy and peace; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

HYMN AT THE CLOSING KINGS OF ORIENT 1 We three kings of O - ri - ent are, bear - ing 2 King Beth - le - hem's gold Born on plain, Ι а of - fer 3 Frank - in cense to have I: in cense bit - ter breathes 4 Myrrh is fume mine; its per a Glo - rious be hold him King 5 now a rise, and gifts far, field and foun - tain, we tra - verse a 1 2 bring _ King for crown him gain, ev - er, to а 3 owns а De - i - ty nigh; prayer and prais - ing, 4 life of gath - er - ing gloom; sor rowing, sigh - ing, 5 God Sac fice; heaven sings al - le and ri



THE DISMISSAL

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Thanks be to God.

Please remain standing as the procession leaves the church. We hope you will join us for coffee and refreshments in the Trendell Lounge after the service.

POSTLUDE Prelude in G major BWV 541

JS Bach (1685-1750)

ST. JOHN'S, SHAUGHNESSY STAFF AND LEADERSHIP

Please contact the parish office if you would like to be added to our mailing list, so that we may let you know about upcoming events.

Clergy and Staff

The Reverend Terry Shields Dirbas, Rectorterry.dirbas@sjs.netThe Reverend James Hwang, Curatejhwang@sjs.netThe Reverend Dr. Marilyn Hames, Honorary Assisting PriestThe Reverend Karin Fulcher, Honorary DeaconThe Reverend Pitman Potter, Honorary DeaconThe Reverend Pitman Potter, Honorary DeaconDr. Graeme Langager, Choral Directorgraeme.langager@sjs.netMichael Dirk, Principal Organist and Artist-in-Residenceorganist@sjs.netDeanna Ferguson, Parish Administratorchurch.office@sjs.net

Trustees

The Rev. Terry Shields Dirbas, RectorKen Pepin, Rector's WardenJoan Stewart, People's WardenMike DezellCatherine Holmencatherine.h

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