

Wednesday, December 20, 2017

Early Christmas

12:00 noon – Said Eucharist

## Welcome

*Large Print service leaflets are available*

Celebrant & Preacher: The Rev. Leonard Leader



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### The Gathering of the Community

#### Greeting

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

*People* **And with thy spirit.**

**Opening Hymn #118 "O Come, All Ye Faithful"** Text by John Francis Wade & Étienne-Jean-François; translation by Frederick Oakley & William T. Brooke

1 O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant,  
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem:  
come and behold him, born the king of angels;

**Refrain:** O come let us adore him,  
O come let us adore him,  
O come let us adore him,  
Christ the Lord.

2 God of God, Light of Light,  
lo, he abhors not the virgin's womb;  
very God, begotten not created:

#### Refrain

3 Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,  
sing, all ye citizens of heaven above;  
glory to God in the highest:

#### Refrain

#### Collect for Purity

*Celebrant* Almighty God, unto whom all hearts be open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of thy Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love thee, and worthily magnify thy holy name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

#### Collect of the Day

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

*People* **O God our Father, whose Word has come among us in the Holy Child of Bethlehem, may the light of faith illumine our hearts and shine in our words and deeds; through him who is Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.**

### The Proclamation of the Word

First Reading:

*Reader* A reading from the Book of Isaiah.

Isaiah 62:6–12

<sup>6</sup> Upon your walls, O Jerusalem,  
I have posted sentinels;  
all day and all night  
they shall never be silent.  
You who remind the Lord,  
take no rest,  
<sup>7</sup> and give him no rest  
until he establishes Jerusalem  
and makes it renowned throughout the earth.  
<sup>8</sup> The Lord has sworn by his right hand  
and by his mighty arm:  
I will not again give your grain  
to be food for your enemies,  
and foreigners shall not drink the wine  
for which you have laboured;  
<sup>9</sup> but those who garner it shall eat it  
and praise the Lord,  
and those who gather it shall drink it  
in my holy courts.  
<sup>10</sup> Go through, go through the gates,  
prepare the way for the people;  
build up, build up the highway,  
clear it of stones,  
lift up an ensign over the peoples.  
<sup>11</sup> The Lord has proclaimed  
to the end of the earth:  
Say to daughter Zion,  
“See, your salvation comes;  
his reward is with him,  
and his recompense before him.”  
<sup>12</sup> They shall be called, “The Holy People,  
The Redeemed of the Lord;”

and you shall be called, “Sought Out,  
A City Not Forsaken.”

*Reader* The Word of the Lord.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

Psalms 97

1 The Lord is king;  
let the earth rejoice;  
let the multitude of the isles be glad.

2 Clouds and darkness are round about him,  
righteousness and justice are the foundations of his throne.

3 A fire goes before him  
and burns up his enemies on every side.

4 His lightnings light up the world;  
the earth sees it and is afraid.

5 The mountains melt like wax at the presence of the Lord,  
at the presence of the Lord of the whole earth.

6 The heavens declare his righteousness,  
and all the peoples see his glory.

7 Confounded be all who worship carved images  
and delight in false gods!  
Bow down before him, all you gods.

8 Zion hears and is glad, and the cities of Judah rejoice,  
because of your judgements, O Lord.

9 For you are the Lord,  
most high over all the earth;  
you are exalted far above all gods.

10 The Lord loves those who hate evil;  
he preserves the lives of his saints  
and delivers them from the hand of the wicked.

11 Light has sprung up for the righteous,  
and joyful gladness for those who are truehearted.

12 Rejoice in the Lord, you righteous,  
and give thanks to his holy name.

**Almighty God, your whole creation declares your glory. May we perceive you in all your works and live in the light of your righteousness, through him who is the light of the world, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Second Reading:

Titus 3:4–7

*Reader* A reading from the Letter of Paul to Titus.

<sup>4</sup> But when the goodness and loving-kindness of God our Saviour appeared, <sup>5</sup> he saved us, not because of any works of righteousness that we had done, but according to his mercy, through the water of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit. <sup>6</sup> This Spirit he poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Saviour, <sup>7</sup> so that, having been justified by his grace, we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life.

*Reader* The Word of the Lord.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

Holy Gospel:

Luke 2:1–7

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

*People* **And with thy spirit.**

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

*People* **Glory be to thee, O Lord.**

<sup>1</sup> In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. <sup>2</sup> This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. <sup>3</sup> All went to their own towns to be registered. <sup>4</sup> 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. <sup>5</sup> He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. <sup>6</sup> While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. <sup>7</sup> 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.

*Celebrant* The Gospel of Christ.

*People* **Praise be to thee, O Christ.**

Homily

*A time for silent reflection is kept.*

## The Nicene Creed

*People* **I believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible;  
And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of the Father before all worlds, God, of God; Light, of Light; very God, of very God; begotten, not made; being of one substance with the Father; through whom all things were made: who for us and for our salvation came down from heaven, and was incarnate by the Holy Ghost of the Virgin Mary, and was made man, and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried, and the third day he rose again according to the scriptures, and ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of the Father. And he shall come again with glory to judge both the quick and the dead: whose kingdom shall have no end.  
And I believe in the Holy Ghost, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceedeth from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified, who spake by the prophets. And I believe one, holy, catholic, and apostolic Church. I acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins. And I look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

## The Prayers of the People

### Confession and Absolution

*Celebrant* Let us humbly confess our sins to almighty God.

*Silence is kept.*

*People* **Almighty God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, Maker of all things and judge of all people: We acknowledge and confess our manifold sins and wickedness, Which we from time to time most grievously have committed, By thought, word and deed, Against thy divine majesty. We do earnestly repent, and are heartily sorry for these our misdoings. Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father; For thy Son our Lord Jesus Christ's sake, Forgive us all that is past; And grant that we may ever hereafter Serve and please thee In newness of life, To the honour and glory of thy name; Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

*Celebrant* Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who of his great mercy hath promised forgiveness of sins to all them that with hearty repentance and true faith turn unto him: have mercy upon you; pardon and deliver you from all your sins; confirm and strengthen you in all goodness; and bring you to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

**The Peace**

*Celebrant* The peace of the Lord be always with you.

*People* **And with thy spirit.**

**The Celebration of the Eucharist****Offertory Hymn #137 "What Child Is This"**

Text by William Chatterton Dix

1 What child is this, who, laid to rest,  
on Mary's lap is sleeping?  
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet,  
while shepherds watch are keeping?

2 Why lies he in such mean estate  
where ox and ass are feeding?  
Good Christian, fear: for sinners here  
the silent Word is pleading.

**Refrain:**

This, this is Christ the king,  
whom shepherds guard and angels sing;  
haste, haste to bring him laud,  
the babe, the son of Mary.

**Refrain**

3 So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh;  
come peasant, king, to own him.  
The King of kings salvation brings;  
let loving hearts enthrone him.

**Refrain****The Prayer over the Gifts**

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

*People* **Generous Creator, in faith and joy we celebrate the birth of your Son. Increase our understanding and our love of the riches you have revealed in him, who is Lord now and for ever. Amen.**

**The Great Thanksgiving****Eucharistic Prayer A**

Proper Preface Christmas

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

*People* **And with thy spirit.**

*Celebrant* Lift up your hearts.

*People* **We lift them up unto the Lord.**

*Celebrant* Let us give thanks unto our Lord God.

*People* **It is meet and right so to do.**

*Celebrant* It is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord, holy Father, almighty, everlasting God, creator and preserver of all things.

Because thou didst give Jesus Christ thine only Son to be born as at this time for us; who, by the operation of the Holy Spirit, was made very man of the substance of the Virgin Mary his mother; and that without spot of sin, to make us clean from all sin.

Therefore with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious name; evermore praising thee and saying:

*People* **Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Hosts, heaven and earth are full of thy glory. Glory be to thee, O Lord most high.**

**Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord: Hosanna in the highest.**

*Celebrant* Blessing and glory and thanksgiving be unto thee, almighty God, our heavenly Father, who of thy tender mercy didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to take our nature upon him, and to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption; who made there, by his one oblation of himself once offered, a full, perfect, and sufficient sacrifice, oblation, and satisfaction, for the sins of the whole world; and did institute, and in his holy Gospel command us to continue, a perpetual memorial of that his precious death, until his coming again.

Hear us, O merciful Father, we most humbly beseech thee; and grant that we receiving these thy creatures of bread and wine, according to thy Son our Saviour Jesus Christ's holy institution, in remembrance of his death and passion, may be partakers of his most blessed body and blood; who, in the same night that he was betrayed, took bread; and, when he had given thanks, he brake it; and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you: Do this in remembrance of me."

Likewise after supper he took the cup; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, "Drink ye all, of this; for this is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the remission of sins: Do this, as oft as ye shall drink it, in remembrance of me."

Wherefore, O Father, Lord of heaven and earth, we thy humble servants, with all thy holy Church, remembering the precious death of thy beloved Son, his mighty resurrection, and glorious ascension, and looking for his coming again in glory, do make before thee, in this sacrament of the holy bread of eternal life and the cup of everlasting salvation, the memorial which he hath commanded:

*People* **We praise thee, we bless thee, we thank thee, and we pray to thee, Lord our God.**

## 9

*Celebrant* And we entirely desire thy fatherly goodness mercifully to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, most humbly beseeching thee to grant, that by the merits and death of thy Son Jesus Christ, and through faith in his blood, we and all thy whole Church may obtain remission of our sins, and all other benefits of his passion; And we pray that by the power of thy Holy Spirit, all we who are partakers of this holy communion may be fulfilled with thy grace and heavenly benediction; through Jesus Christ our Lord, by whom and with whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, world without end. **Amen.**

### The Lord's Prayer

*Celebrant* And now, as our Saviour Christ hath taught us, we are bold to say:

*People* **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

*Celebrant* Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

*People* **Therefore, let us keep the feast. Alleluia!**

*All are invited to share in Communion. If you would rather not receive the bread and wine, please feel free to come forward for a blessing.*

### Prayer after Communion

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

*People* **Source of truth and joy, may we who have received the gift of divine life always follow the way of your Son. This we ask in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord. Amen.**

### Doxology

*Celebrant* Glory to God,

*People* **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.**

## 10

### Closing Hymn #138 "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing"

Text by Charles Wesley

1 Hark! The herald angels sing,  
"Glory to the newborn King,  
peace on earth, and mercy mild,  
God and sinners reconciled."  
Joyful, all ye nations, rise,  
join the triumph of the skies;  
with the angelic host proclaim,  
"Christ is born in Bethlehem!"

**Refrain:** Hark! The herald angels sing,  
"Glory to the newborn King."

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 one of us to dwell,  
Jesus, our Emmanuel!

### Refrain

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 we no more may die,  
born to raise each child of earth,  
born to give us second birth.

### Refrain

### Dismissal

*Celebrant* Go in peace celebrating Jesus' birth as we love and serve the Lord.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

***The Christmas Poinsettias are given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of***  
a dear husband and father, Arthur Beecham, and grandparents, Betty & Bill Woodruff,  
from Ann & Family  
  
Margaret Handley from Arnold & Family  
  
our parents, John & Helen Hunter and Stan & Gladys Pummell,  
from John & Laura Pummell  
  
***Thank you to everyone who made donations to decorate the church.***

*Please join us for lunch following the service provided by  
Delmanor Northtown Senior Community.*

## Services

Sunday	8:00 a.m.	Said Eucharist (BAS 1962)
	9:00 a.m.	Mandarin Fellowship
	10:30 a.m.	Sung Eucharist (BAS)
		3rd Sunday of the month (AAawe)

BAS 1962 (Book of Alternate Services) uses the 1962 rite which is the traditional language as in the BCP (Book of Common Prayer)

Mandarin Fellowship is offered in the Sanctuary. We hope our Mandarin Fellowship can be a "harbour for love," where we seek truth together, while experiencing and receiving the abundant grace of God.

衷心欢迎您来到圣乔治教会大家庭，我们的国语团契每周日上午9点举行主日聚会。

盼望国语团契可以成为一个爱的港湾，在这里我们一起寻求上帝的真理，一起经历上帝的同在，一起领受上帝的恩典。

BAS (Book of Alternate Services) uses contemporary, inclusive-language

AAawe (Amazing, Awesome, Alternate Worship Experience) is a Communion service that is more informal with alternative music and prayers

Interim Priest-in-Charge	The Rev. Leonard Leader
Honorary Associate	The Rev. Canon Sister Constance Joanna Gefvert, SSJD
Associate, Mandarin Ministry	Morning Wang
Organist & Director of Music	Michael Leach
Parish Administrator	Craig Gustafson
Custodian	Philip Ikhuoria