

Advent Evensong



Sunday, December 20th, 2020 @ 7 pm

All Saints' Anglican Church, Windsor ON

Words in bold are for the whole congregation.

Prelude

Introit *Let all mortal flesh keep silence*

Words offered for reflection.

Let all mortal flesh keep silence, and with fear and trembling stand.

Ponder nothing earthly minded, for with blessing in his hand

Christ our God to earth descendeth, our full homage to demand.

King of kings yet born of Mary, as of old on earth he stood,

Lord of lords in human vesture in the body and the blood:

He will give to all the faithful his own self for heav'nly food.

Rank on rank the host of heaven spreads its vanguard on the way,

as the Light of light descendeth from the realms of endless day,

that the pow'rs of earth may vanish as the darkness clears away.

At his feet the six-winged seraph, cherubim, with sleepless eye,

veil their faces to the presence, as with ceaseless voice they cry:

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia, Lord most high!

The Minister shall read aloud one or more of these Sentences of the Scriptures that follow.

The LORD is in his holy temple: let all the earth keep silence before him. (Hab 2:20)

I will arise and go to my father, and will say unto him, Father, I have sinned against heaven, and before thee, and am no more worthy to be called thy son. (Luke 15:18, 19)

The Minister, turning to the people, shall say the Exhortation in the form following.

DEARLY beloved, the Scripture moveth us in sundry places to acknowledge and confess our manifold sins and wickedness; and that we should not dissemble nor cloak them before the face of Almighty God our heavenly Father; but confess them with an humble, lowly, penitent, and obedient heart; to the end that we may obtain forgiveness of the same, by his infinite goodness and mercy. And although we ought at all times humbly to acknowledge our sins before God; yet ought we most chiefly so to do, when we assemble and meet together to render thanks for the great benefits that we have received at his hands, to set forth his most worthy praise, to hear his most holy Word, and to ask those things which are requisite and necessary, as well for the body as the soul. Wherefore I pray and beseech you, as many as are here present, to accompany me with a pure heart and humble voice unto the throne of the heavenly grace.

A general Confession to be said of the whole Congregation with the Minister, all kneeling.

ALMIGHTY and most merciful Father,

We have erred and strayed from thy ways like lost sheep, We have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts, We have offended against thy holy laws, We have left undone those things which we ought to have done, And we have done those things which we ought not to have done; And there is no health in us. But thou, O Lord, have mercy upon us, miserable offenders. Spare thou them, O God, which confess their faults. Restore thou them that are penitent; According to thy promises declared unto mankind in Christ Jesus our Lord. And grant, O most merciful Father, for his sake, That we may hereafter live a godly, righteous, and sober life, To the glory of thy holy Name. Amen

The Absolution, or Remission of sins, to be pronounced by the Priest.

Here the Lord's Prayer may be said

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, For ever and ever. Amen.

Here the Minister will pray; the people responding.

O Lord, open thou our lips.

And our mouth shall show forth thy praise.

O God, make speed to save us.

O Lord, make haste to help us.

Here, all standing up, the Minister shall pray:

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;

As it was in the beginning, is not and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

Praise ye the Lord.

The Lord's name be praised.

Responsive Psalm 116

I love the Lord, because he has heard my voice and my supplications.

Because he inclined his ear to me, therefore I will call on him as long as I live.

The snares of death encompassed me; the pangs of Sheol laid hold on me;
I suffered distress and anguish.

Then I called on the name of the Lord: 'O Lord, I pray, save my life!'

Gracious is the Lord, and righteous; our God is merciful.

The Lord protects the simple; when I was brought low, he saved me.

Return, O my soul, to your rest, for the Lord has dealt bountifully with you.

**For you have delivered my soul from death,
my eyes from tears, my feet from stumbling.**

I walk before the Lord in the land of the living.

I kept my faith, even when I said, 'I am greatly afflicted';

I said in my consternation, 'Everyone is a liar.'

What shall I return to the Lord for all his bounty to me?

I will lift up the cup of salvation and call on the name of the Lord,

I will pay my vows to the Lord in the presence of all his people.

Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of his faithful ones.

O Lord, I am your servant; I am your servant, the child of your serving maid.

You have loosed my bonds.

I will offer to you a thanksgiving sacrifice and call on the name of the Lord.

I will pay my vows to the Lord in the presence of all his people,

in the courts of the house of the Lord, in your midst, O Jerusalem.

Praise the Lord!

GLORY be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;

As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

Responsive Psalm 117

Praise the Lord, all you nations! Extol him, all you peoples!

For great is his steadfast love towards us,

and the faithfulness of the Lord endures for ever.

Praise the Lord!

GLORY be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;

As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

Then THE FIRST LESSON as appointed.

Then THE OFFICE HYMN, as appointed.

1. O gladsome Light, O grace
of God the Father's face,
the eternal splendour wearing;
celestial, holy, blest,
our Saviour Jesus Christ,
joyful in your appearing.
2. As day fades into night,
we see the evening light,
our hymn of praise outpouring,
Father of might unknown,
Christ, his incarnate Son,
and Holy Spirit adoring.
3. To you of right belongs
all praise of holy songs,
O Son of God, life-giver;
you, therefore, O Most High,
the world will glorify,
and shall exalt forever.

Then THE SECOND LESSON as appointed.

The Magnificat (Luke 1:46-55; responsive)

1. Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord!
Unnumbered blessings give my spirit voice;
tender to me the promise of his word;
in God my Saviour shall my heart rejoice.
2. Tell out, my soul, the greatness of his name!
Make known his might, the deeds his arm has done;
his mercy sure, from age to age the same;
his holy name -- the Lord, the mighty one.
3. Tell out, my soul, the greatness of his might!
Powers and dominions lay their glory by;
proud hearts and stubborn wills are put to flight,
the hungry fed, the humble lifted high.

4. Tell out, my soul, the glories of his word!
Firm is his promise, and his mercy sure.
Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord
to children's children and forevermore!

And after that shall be said Nunc Dimittis (or the Song of Simeon), standing.

The Nunc Dimittis (Luke 2:29-32)

LORD, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace, according to thy word. For mine eyes have seen thy salvation, which thou hast prepared before the face of all people; To be a light to lighten the Gentiles, and to be the glory of thy people Israel.

GLORY be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;

As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

Then shall be said the Confession of the Faith, called the Apostles' Creed.

Apostles' Creed

I BELIEVE in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth:

And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord,

Who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, Born of the Virgin Mary,

Suffered under Pontius Pilate, Was crucified, dead, and buried:

He descended into hell;

The third day he rose again from the dead;

He ascended into heaven,

And sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty;

From thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost; The holy Catholic Church; The Communion of Saints;

The Forgiveness of sins;

The Resurrection of the body, And the Life everlasting. Amen.

Sermon The Rev'd Nancy Carle

Prayers, all devoutly kneeling, the Minister first pronouncing:

The Lord be with you.

And with thy spirit.

Let us pray. Lord, have mercy upon us.

Christ, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

OUR Father which 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. Amen.

Then the Priest standing up shall pray:

O Lord, show thy mercy upon us;
and grant us thy salvation.

O Lord, save the Queen;
and mercifully hear us when we call upon thee.

Endue thy ministers with righteousness;
and make thy chosen people joyful.

O Lord, save thy people;
and bless thine inheritance.

Give peace in our time, O Lord;
and evermore mightily defend us.

O God, make clean our hearts within us;
and take not thy Holy Spirit from us.

Then shall follow THE COLLECT OF THE DAY, together with any other Collects appointed to be said, and these two prayers in order.

God of scandalous love, as Mary consented to bear the shame and carry your Word within herself: may her courage give hope to women and men who yearn to sing new songs of justice and find the world a dwelling place for God; through Jesus Christ, the one who is to come.

Amen.

The Second Collect, for Peace.

O GOD, from whom all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works do proceed: Give unto thy servants that peace which the world cannot give; that our hearts may be set to obey thy commandments, and also that by thee we being defended from the fear of our enemies may pass our time in rest and quietness; through the merits of Jesus Christ our Saviour.

Amen.

The Third Collect, for Aid against all Perils.

LIGHTEN our darkness, we beseech thee, O Lord; and by thy great mercy defend us from all perils and dangers of this night; for the love of thy only Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

Offertory Music

The prayer over the gifts,

Gracious God, by the power of the Spirit who sanctified the mother of your Son, make holy all we offer you this day. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord.

Amen.

A prayer for peace

ALMIGHTY God, from whom all thoughts of truth and peace proceed: Kindle, we pray thee, in the hearts of all the true love of peace, and guide with thy pure and peaceable wisdom those who take

counsel for the nations of the earth; that in tranquility thy kingdom may go forward, till the earth is filled with the knowledge of thy love; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

A prayer for help to bear bereavement.

O HEAVENLY Father, help us to trust our loved ones to thy care. When sorrow darkens our lives, help us to look up to thee, remembering the cloud of witnesses by which we are compassed about. And grant that we on earth, rejoicing ever in thy presence, may share with them the rest and peace which thy presence gives; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

A Prayer of Saint Chrysostom.

ALMIGHTY God, who hast given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplications unto thee; and dost promise that when two or three are gathered together in thy Name thou wilt grant their requests: Fulfil now, O Lord, the desires and petitions of thy servants, as may be most expedient for them; granting us in this world knowledge of thy truth, and in the world to come life everlasting.

Amen.

A Priest may bless the people.

The Grace (II Corinthians 13:14)

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Ghost, be with us all evermore. Amen.

Postlude