

THE SENT: GOD'S CHURCH DEPLOYED



An Anglican online presence with parish
partnerships in the Diocese of Huron,
members of the Anglican Church of Canada.

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A Service of the Word
for

The 3rd Sunday of Advent
Sunday, December 17th, 2023

Opening Responary & Gathering of the Community

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

All And also with you.

One Let us pray.

We thank you, O God, that you have again brought us together on the Lord's Day to praise you for your goodness and to ask your blessing. Give us grace to see your hand in the week that is past, and your purpose in the week to come; through Christ our Lord.

All Amen.

Welcome

Opening Hymn CP 89 v.3 O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

One Jesus said, 'No one more important than John the Baptist has ever been born; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.'

All Amen. Come soon, Lord Jesus!

The third candle is lit

One Jesus is the light of the world.

All A light no darkness can ever put out.

Sing

Joy is a song that welcomes the dawn,
telling the world that the Saviour is born.

When God is a child there's joy in our song.
The last shall be first and the weak shall be strong,
and none shall be afraid.

Confession and Absolution

One Most merciful God,

All 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.

One Almighty God, who forgives all who truly repent, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and keep you in life eternal; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All Amen.

The Peace

One The peace of the Lord be with you.

All And also with you.

Act of Praise CP 506 Lord of All Hopefulness

Collect of the Day

One God of light, who sent the Baptist to offer hope and to face the world's scorn: open our ears to hear the cries from the margins, exposing our fears, sharpening our vision and calling us to faith; through Jesus Christ, the one who is to come.

All Amen.

The Proclamation of the Word

First Reading Isaiah 6S:1-4, 8-11

Canticle 18 The Song of Mary/Magnificat

Second Reading 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24

Gradual Hymn Magnificat (Holden)

Gospel Reading John 1:6-8, 19-28

Sermon

Apostles' Creed

All I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand

of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Intercessions and Thanksgivings

Offering

Offertory Hymn CP 102 Prepare the Way, O Zion

One Lord, we give you thanks that in the coming of Christ your steadfast love and faithfulness have met and your righteousness and peace have kissed. May the gifts we offer this day lift up those in need and prepare the way of your salvation.

All Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

One And now, as our Saviour Christ has taught us, we are bold to pray,

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.

Doxology

One Glory to God

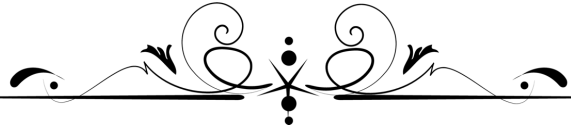
All whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine. Glory to God from generation to generation, in the Church and in Christ Jesus, for ever and ever. Amen.

Blessing & Announcements

Closing Hymn CP 88 Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

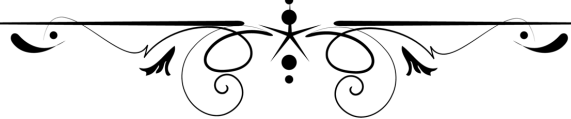
Dismissal

One The day of the Lord is coming; therefore strive to live in peace, for God's salvation is near. All Thanks be to God.



Announcements

Join us each week to worship in this form via Facebook Live and YouTube. We will be here each week to offer worship leadership. Please watch your emails and parish Facebook and webpage for updates going forward. Each participating parish will communicate changes as we move through this time. Please be in touch with our Chaplain Rev'd Paul or your parish priest should you need pastoral care, we are all available to offer support safely during this time. Your financial support of **The SENT: God's Church Deployed** is important to sustain this ministry in the wider world. Please tune in for details on how you can support this ministry.



Diocese of Huron Land Acknowledgement

The Diocese of Huron is situated on the ancestral beaver hunting grounds of the Algonquin, Haudenosaunee and Attawandaran peoples; the traditional and unceded lands of the Anishinaabe Peoples, of Walpole Island, Kettle Point and the Thames, the settled people's Haudenosaunee Confederacy, at the Grand River and the Thames and the Lenni Lenape Delaware peoples of Moraviantown and Muncey.

First Reading: Isaiah 6S:1-4, 8-11

A READING FROM THE BOOK OF ISAIAH.

The spirit of the Lord God is upon me, because the Lord has anointed me; he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed, to bind up the broken-hearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and release to the prisoners; to proclaim the year of the Lord's favour, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn; to provide for those who mourn in Zion - to give them a garland instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, the mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit. They will be called oaks of righteousness, the planting of the Lord, to display his glory. They shall build up the ancient ruins, they shall raise up the former devastations; they shall repair the ruined cities, the devastations of many generations. For I the Lord love justice, I hate robbery and wrongdoing; I will faithfully give them their recompense, and I will make an everlasting covenant with them. Their descendants shall be known among the nations, and their offspring among the peoples; all who see them shall acknowledge that they are a people whom the Lord has blessed. I will greatly rejoice in the Lord, my whole being shall exult in my God; for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation, he has covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels. For as the earth brings forth its shoots, and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up, so the Lord God will cause righteousness and praise to spring up before all the nations.

THE WORD OF THE LORD.

All: Thanks be to God

Canticle 18 – The Song of Mary/Magnificat – P:

REFRAIN My Spirit rejoices in God my Saviour.

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord, my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour; for he has looked with favour on his lowly servant.

Refrain

From this day all generations will call me blessed: the Almighty has done great things for me, and holy is his name.

Refrain

He has mercy on those who fear him in every generation. He has shown the strength of his arm, he has scattered the proud in their conceit.

Refrain

He has cast down the mighty from their thrones, and has lifted up the lowly.

Refrain

He has filled the hungry with good things, and the rich he has sent away empty.

Refrain

He has come to the help of his servant Israel, for he has remembered his promise of mercy, the promise he made to our forebears, to Abraham and his children forever.

Refrain

Glory be to the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.

All: As it was in the beginning, is now and will be forever. Amen.

Second Reading: 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24

A READING FROM THE FIRST LETTER OF PAUL TO THE THESSALONIANS.

Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. Do not quench the Spirit. Do not despise the words of prophets, but test everything; hold fast to what is good; abstain from every form of evil. May the God of peace himself sanctify you entirely; and may your spirit and soul and body be kept sound and blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. The one who calls you is faithful, and he will do this.

THE WORD OF THE LORD.

All: Thanks be to God

The Gospel John 1:6-8, 19-28

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

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St. John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. This is the testimony given by John when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, "Who are you?" He confessed and did not deny it, but confessed, "I am not the Messiah." And they asked him, "What then? Are you Elijah?" He said, "I am not." "Are you the prophet?" He answered, "No." Then they said to him, "Who are you? Let us have an answer for those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?" He said, "I am the voice of one crying out in the wilderness, 'Make straight the way of the Lord,'" as the prophet Isaiah said. Now they had been sent from the Pharisees. They asked him, "Why then are you baptizing if you are neither the Messiah, nor Elijah, nor the prophet?" John answered them, "I baptize with water. Among you stands one whom you do not know, the one who is coming after me; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandal." This took place in Bethany across the Jordan where John was baptizing.

The gospel of Christ.

A: Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.

Hymns

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Opening Hymn CP 89 v.3

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

3 O come, O come, great Lord of might,
who to your tribes on Sinai's height
in ancient times once gave the law,
in cloud and majesty and awe.

Refrain

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to you, O Israel!

Candle Lighting

Hope is a Star

Joy is a song that welcomes the dawn,
telling the world that the Saviour is born.

When God is a child there's joy in our
song.

The last shall be first and the weak shall
be strong,
and none shall be afraid.

Act of Praise CP 506

Lord of All Hopefulness

1 Lord of all hopefulness, Lord of all joy,
Whose trust, ever child-like, no cares can
destroy,
Be there at our waking, and give us, we
pray,
Your bliss in our hearts, Lord, at the
break of the day.

2 Lord of all eagerness, Lord of all faith,
Whose strong hands were skilled at the
plane and the lathe,

Be there at our labours, and give us, we
pray,
Your strength in our hearts, Lord, at the
noon of the day.

3 Lord of all kindness, Lord of all grace,
Your hands swift to welcome, your arms
to embrace,

Be there at our homing, and give us, we
pray,
Your love in our hearts, Lord, at the eve
of the day.

4 Lord of all gentleness, Lord of all calm,
Whose voice is contentment, whose
presence is balm,

Be there at our sleeping, and give us, we
pray,
Your peace in our hearts, Lord, at the
end of the day.

Gradual Hymn

Magnificat (Holden)

1 My soul proclaims your greatness, O
God,
and my spirit rejoices in you,
You have looked with love on your
servant here,

and blessed me all my life through.
Great and mighty are you, O Holy One,
strong is your kindness evermore.
How you favor the weak and lowly one,
humbling the proud of heart.

2 You have cast the mighty down from
their thrones,
and uplifted the humble of heart,
you have filled the hungry with
wonderous things,
and left the wealthy no part.

Great and mighty are you, O Faithful
One,
strong is your justice, strong your love,
As you promised to Sarah and Abraham,
kindness forevermore.

3 My soul proclaims your greatness, O
God,
and my spirit rejoices in you,
You have looked with love on your
servant here,
and blessed me all my life through.

Offertory Hymn

CP 102

Prepare the Way, O Zion

1 Prepare the way, O Zion,
your Christ is drawing near!
Let every hill and valley
a level way appear.
Greet One who comes in glory,
foretold in sacred story.

Refrain:

O blest is Christ who came
in God's most holy name.

2 He brings God's rule, O Zion;
he comes from heaven above.
His rule is peace and freedom,
and justice, truth, and love.
Lift high your praise resounding,
for grace and joy abounding. [Refrain]

3 Fling wide your gates, O Zion;
your Savior's rule embrace,
and tidings of salvation
proclaim in every place.
All lands will bow rejoicing,
their adoration voicing. [Refrain]

Closing Song

CP88

Come, Thou Long-expected Jesus

1 Come, thou long-expected Jesus,
born to set thy people free;
from our fears and sins release us,
let us find our rest in thee.

2 Israel's strength and consolation,
hope of all the earth thou art;
dear desire of every nation,
joy of every longing heart.

3 Born thy people to deliver;
born a child and yet a King,
born to reign in us forever,
now thy gracious kingdom bring.

4 By thine own eternal Spirit
rule in all our hearts alone;
by thine all-sufficient merit,
raise us to thy glorious throne.