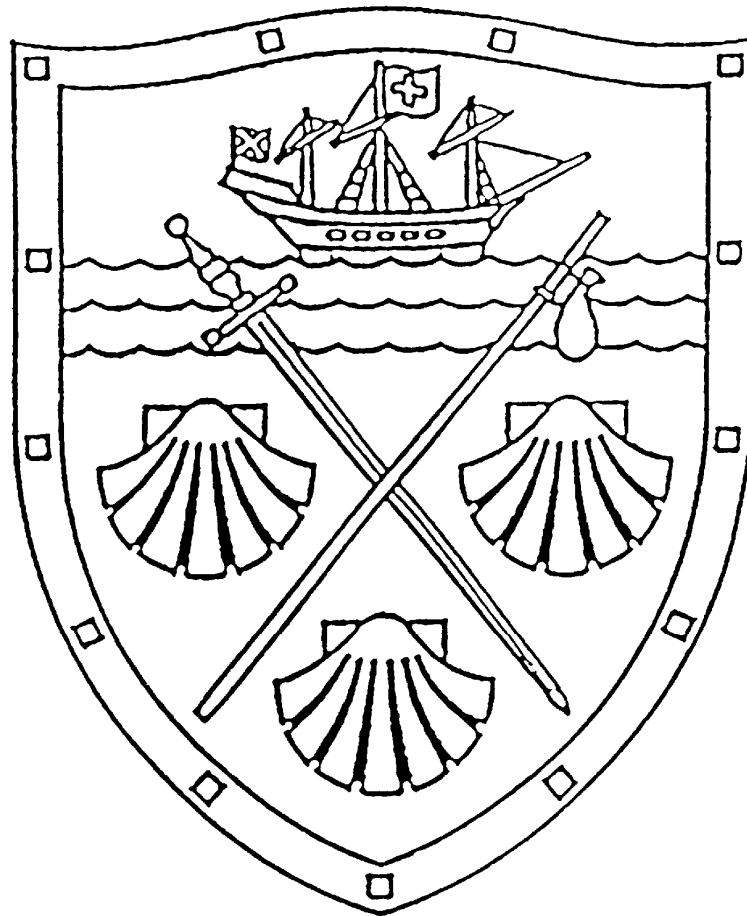


The Cathedral Church of St. James

Christmas Eve

November 24, 2020

Holy Eucharist at 7:30pm



*The Cathedral Church of St. James
Diocese of Toronto • Anglican Church of Canada*

MEMORIAL FLOWERS • CHRISTMAS 2020

The Christmas poinsettias decorating St. James Cathedral have been donated by members of the Cathedral community in memory of the following loved ones:

Gabrielle Alleyne	James F. Kennedy
Angela & David Badley	Michael Kennedy
St. Clair & Ethel Balfour	Nicol (Nic) Kingsmill
St. Clair & Helen Balfour	Aaron & Helen Klassen
John P. Bannan	Frank & Margie Kysela
Doris Emily & James Frederick Brown	Peter Leggatt
John & Illabel Carmichael	Suzanne Marie Sandor Lofft
Philip Carmichael	William Raymond &
Susan Coleman's Family	Suzanne Sweatman McNeillie
William Davidson	The Reverend John Mowat &
Paul Desjardins	The Reverend Florence Mowat
Anna & Peter Dick	Mei King Naidu
Michael Druce	Jessie Anne & Joseph Peters
The Most Reverend Terence Finlay	Edna June Prior
Mr. & Mrs. John B. Fraser	Jessica Rammell
Florence Audrey Gilchrist	Valerie Rose Rottner
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Ceci Heinrichs	The Snelgrove & Macleod Families
Markus Heinrichs	Edmund & Mary Staunton
Mary & Julius Heinrichs	Brother Michael Stonebraker, OHC
Rosemarie Heinrichs	Ramona & Douglas Strong
Kathleen (Kate) Hobbs &	Father William Turkington, OHC
Gordon Edward Hobbs	Walter Unger
The Hoopes Family	Mr. & Mrs. Bartlett Watt
Daniel Horn & Antje Horn-Reitsma	Marguerite Wilkinson
Christopher Jaaskelainen	Jean Winstanley
The Jeffrey Family	Irving Wortsman
Graeme Jones	June Yearwood
Christine Karcza	Nellie and Fred Yearwood

ORDER OF SERVICE

Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

Hymn: CP 123

Text: Cecil Frances Alexander, alt.;

Music: Henry John Gauntlett; Tune: Irby

Once in Royal David's City

Cantor Once in royal David's city stood a lowly cattle shed,
where a mother laid her baby in a manger for his bed.
Mary was that mother mild, Jesus Christ, her little child.
He came down to earth from heaven who is God and Lord of all,
and his shelter was a stable, and his cradle was a stall.
With the poor and mean and lowly lived on earth our Saviour holy.

Blessing of the Crèche

Presider Blessed is the Virgin whose womb was worthy to bear Christ the Lord.
Alleluia!

The Word was made flesh

People **And dwelt among us.**

Presider Let us pray.

Almighty God, who in the Incarnation of your Son has revealed to us the holiness of creation, be pleased to bless and hallow this image of his sacred birth, so that those who gaze upon it may behold this mystery, whereby humanity shares in your very nature; through Christ our Lord.

People **Amen.**

Hymn: CP 123

Text: Cecil Frances Alexander, alt.;

Music: Henry John Gauntlett; Tune: Irby

Once in Royal David's City

Cantor And our eyes at last shall see him, through his own redeeming love;
for that child so dear and gentle is our Lord in heaven above;
and he leads his children on to the place where he is gone.

Not in that poor lowly stable, with the oxen standing by,
we shall see him, but in heaven, set at God's right hand on high,
when, like stars, his children crowned all in white shall gather round.

Greeting

Please stand, as you are able.

Presider

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 also with you.

Gloria

David Hurd

Cantor

Glory to God in the highest and peace to his people on earth. Lord God, heavenly king, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory. Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us; you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

Collect of the Day

Presider

Let us pray.

Please remain standing.

Eternal God, this holy night is radiant with the brilliance of your one true light. As we have known the revelation of that light on earth, bring us to see the splendour of your heavenly glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

People

Amen.

THE PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

Please be seated.

The First Reading

Isaiah 9: 2-7

Reader

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. You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder. For the yoke of their burden, and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian. For all the boots of the tramping warriors and all the garments rolled in blood shall be burned as fuel for the fire. For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counsellor, 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 onwards and for evermore. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.

Reader

The word of the Lord.

People

Thanks be to God.

Hymn: CP 126
Away in a Manger

Text: American (19th cent.);
Music: William James Kirkpatrick, adapt.; Tune: Cradle Song

Cantor Away in a manger, no crib for a bed,
the little Lord Jesus laid down His sweet head.
The stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay,
the little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.

The cattle are lowing, the baby awakes,
but little Lord Jesus, no crying he makes.
I love you, Lord Jesus—look down from on high
and stay by my side until morning is nigh.

Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask you to stay
close by me for ever and love me, I pray.
Bless all the dear children in your tender care,
and fit us for heaven to live with you there.

The Second Reading

Titus 2: 11-14

Reader For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all, training us to renounce impiety and worldly passions, and in the present age to live lives that are self-controlled, upright, and godly, while we wait for the blessed hope and the manifestation of the glory of our great God and Saviour, Jesus Christ. He it is who gave himself for us that he might redeem us from all iniquity and purify for himself a people of his own who are zealous for good deeds.

Reader The word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Acclamation

Please stand, as you are able.

Cantor Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

People **Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

Cantor I bring you good news of a great joy which will come to all the people;
for to you is born this day a Saviour, Christ the Lord.

People **Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

The Holy Gospel

Luke 2: 1-20

Gospeller The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

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

People **Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

Gospeller 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!' When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, 'Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.' So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

Gospeller The Gospel of Christ.

People **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

Homily

The Nicene Creed

Please stand, as you are able.

Presider Let us confess our faith, as we say,

All **We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father. With the Father and the Son he is worshipped and glorified. He has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

The Prayers of the People

Please remain standing.

Intercessor On this Holy Night, let us pray for the Church and the world.

God, who dwells among us

People **Hear our prayer.**

Confession and Absolution

Presider Dear friends in Christ, God is steadfast in love and infinite in mercy; God welcomes sinners and invites us into loving relationship. Let us confess our sins, confident in God's forgiveness.

Please kneel, as you are able.

Presider 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.**

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

People **Amen.**

The Peace

Please stand, as you are able.

Presider The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

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THE CELEBRATION OF THE EUCHARIST

Offertory Hymn: CP 119

Text: Joseph Mohr; tr. John Freeman Young;

Silent Night

Music: Melody Franz Xaver Gruber; Tune: Stille Nacht

Cantor Silent night! Holy night! All is calm, all is bright
round yon virgin mother and child. Holy infant so tender and mild,
sleep in heavenly peace, sleep in heavenly peace.

Silent night! Holy night! Shepherds quake at the sight:
glories stream from heaven afar, heavenly hosts sing alleluia,
Christ the Saviour is born, Christ the Saviour is born.

Silent night! Holy night! Son of God, love's pure light
radiant beams from thy holy face, with the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord, at thy birth. Jesus, Lord, at thy birth.

Prayer over the Gifts

Presider Source of light and gladness, accept all we offer on this joyful feast. May we grow up in him who unites our lives to yours; for he is Lord now and for ever.

People **Amen.**

The Great Thanksgiving

Presider The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Presider Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them to the Lord.**

Presider Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Presider 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.

Sanctus & Benedictus

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

Please assume a posture of prayer that is appropriate – stand, sit or kneel.

Presider 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,

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

Presider 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 children; 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.

People **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

Officiant As our Saviour taught us, let us pray,

All **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

Presider We break the bread of life, and that life is the light of the world.

All **God here among us, light in the midst of us, bring us to light and life.**

The Communion

Presider The gifts of God for the People of God.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Motet What is This Lovely Fragrance *Healey Willan*
Cantor What is this lovely fragrance wafting like to the scents of flowers in spring?
Shepherds, O tell us, whence such beauty, hear you not heavenly caroling?
What is this lovely fragrance wafting like to the scents of flowers in spring?

What is this light so fair, so tender, breaking upon our wondering eyes?
Never the morning star so radiant followed course o'er eastern skies.
What is this light so fair, so tender, breaking upon our wondering eyes?

Shepherds, O haste with eager footsteps, seek the Saviour born today.
Low at His feet we lay our treasure, heart's adoration, love for aye.
Shepherds, O haste with eager footsteps, seek the Saviour born today.

Prayer after Communion

Presider Let us pray. *Please stand, as you are able.*
Father 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.

People **Amen.**

Presider 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.**

The Blessing

Bishop May Almighty God, who sent his Son to take our nature upon him, bless you
in this holy season, scatter the darkness of sin, and brighten your heart with
the light of his holiness.

People **Amen.**

Bishop May God, who sent his angels to proclaim the glad news of the Saviour's
birth, fill you with joy, and make you heralds of the Gospel.

People **Amen.**

Bishop May God, who in the Word made flesh joined heaven to earth and earth to
heaven, give you his peace and favour.

People **Amen.**

Bishop And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be upon you and remain with you for ever.

People **Amen.**

Hymn: CP 138

Text: Charles Wesley, alt.;

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

Music: Felix Mendelssohn-Bartholdy;

adapt. William Hayman Cummings; Tune: Mendelssohn

Cantor 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!"
Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King."

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

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

Dismissal

Presider Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude

*Presiding Celebrant: The Very Reverend Stephen Vail,
Rector of St. James Cathedral & Dean of Toronto*

*Homilist: The Right Reverend Andrew Asbil,
Bishop of Toronto*

Reader & Intercessor: Claire Latimer-Dennis

Organist: David Simon

Cantor: Rebecca Gray

Lockdown can be a lonely experience for many members of the Cathedral. Not only does it take away the opportunity for in-person worship, it adds the burdens of isolation and disconnectedness to so many who live alone. If you know anyone who would benefit from a call from our pastoral care team, please be in touch with Canon Beth Benson at bbenson@stjamescathedral.ca. Thank you.

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