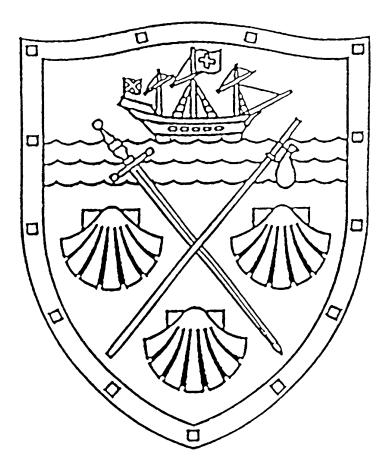
The Cathedral Church of St. James

The Third Sunday of Advent

December 17, 2023 Choral Eucharist at 11:00am



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

Welcome to St. James Cathedral

This sacred land is the territory of several Indigenous Nations - the Wendat, the Haudenosaunee, and the Anishnaabe, with special recognition to the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation. We also acknowledge that we are on the shores of Niigaani-gichigami/Lake Ontario. This territory is governed by the Dish With One Spoon Wampum Belt Treaty, an agreement between the Haudenosaunee Confederacy and the Anishnaabe Confederacy to peaceably share and sustain the life of the Great Lakes. In the spirit of that Treaty we seek to place at the centre of our gatherings the values of respectful reciprocity, diversity, peace, responsibility, and mutual aid.

Liturgical Note

In the context of Christian Liturgy, Israel does not refer to the current political state, but either to the historic Hebrews of the ancient Near East or, in Christian theology, to all people who put their faith and trust in Jesus Christ.

Want to stay informed about what is happening at your Cathedral? Sign up for **E-Connections** on our website at <u>www.stjamescathedral.ca</u> (scroll to the bottom of the page).

Questions? Speak to a sidesperson – the people wearing gold name tags.

Children & Families

Sunday School meets every week at both the 9:00am and 11:00am services. Please email Karyne Whalen at <u>kwhalen@stjamescathedral.ca</u> for more information.

Accessibility

A Wheelchair Accessible Washroom is located at the front of the Cathedral through the doors by the pulpit. **Assisted hearing devices** are available from the sidespersons.

Coffee Hour

Join us in Snell Hall following the 9:00am & 11:00am services.

Parking

There are a variety of inexpensive parking lots available around the Cathedral. Please see the leaflets at the back of the Cathedral or online at **stjamescathedral.ca/contact** for more information.

Connect with the Cathedral

Visit our website at stjamescathedral.ca |Follow us on Facebook at facebook.com/stjamesto

As this is a very public and open space please be aware of your personal belongings. Do not leave them unattended in the Cathedral or in the Cathedral Centre.

Today at St. James

Bishop of Toronto: The Right Reverend Andrew Asbil Presiding Celebrant: The Very Reverend Peter Wall Homilist: The Reverend Canon Dr. Stephen Fields Deacon of the Mass: The Reverend Canon Beth Benson Sub-Deacon: Matthew Waterman • Anointer: The Reverend Jo-Anne Billinger First Reader: Christian Kingsmill • Second Reader: Yvonne Joseph Intercessor: Sean Hopperton • Honorary Verger: Paul Seddon, ODT Sidespersons: Christian Kingsmill, Sandra Mowat, Joe Cairns, Stephen Greene & Barbara Hirst Communion Ministers: Stanley Baptiste, Yvonne Joseph & Joanne Short Director of Music & Organist: Thomas Bell • Associate Organist: Nathan Jeffery Wayne Vance Organ Scholar: Jacob Wiens • Sung by The Choir of St. James Cathedral

> The Flowers in the Cathedral are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Florence and Albert Seddon.

In Thanksgiving

We welcome Peter Farrah and his family as we give thanks for the life and ministry of their father, Canon Shafeek Farah, in whose memory the organ console, to be dedicated by Bishop Andrew Asbil, has been donated.

Canon Shafeek was born in Shafa'Amr, a town in Galilee close to Nazareth, Palestine. In 1954, he was ordained a priest in the Diocese of Jerusalem. He served parishes in Nablus (West Bank), Ramallah, Beirut, and Amman. In 1974, he and his family immigrated to Canada where he served in the Diocese of Toronto as a supply priest before becoming the Incumbent of the Church of the Annunciation, North York, until his retirement. Canon Shafeek died in 2002.

Welcome! We are glad you have joined us for worship this morning. Please ensure that cell phones are muted.
Please stand, sit or kneel as you feel comfortable during the service, including times of prayer.

THE GATHERING OF THE COMMUNITY

Mass Setting: Communion Service in E by Harold Darke

Prelude Overture to Paulus

Mendelssohn arr. Willaim Best

Welcome & Announcements

Children are invited to gather at the Advent wreath before proceeding to the Library for Godly Play; they will return at the offertory.

- *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.

The Lighting of the Advent Wreath: The Third Candle - Joy

Leader Light and peace, in Jesus Christ our Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Leader Today the candles of **HOPE** and **PEACE** continue to burn in the Advent Wreath. On this the third Sunday in Advent, we will light the candle of **JOY** as we continue to prepare ourselves for the joyful celebration of the birth of our Saviour Jesus Christ.

The prophet Isaiah said "Be glad and rejoice forever in what I am creating; for I am about to create Jerusalem as a joy, and its people as a delight." (Isaiah 65:18). As we continue our journey through Advent, let us to pray that we may, in every circumstance, find true joy in God's presence, and share this joy to others.

People Lord, kindle your joy in our hearts.

The third candle is lit.

Leader Let us pray:

People We joyfully praise you, O Lord, for the fulfillment of your promise of a Saviour and what that means in our lives. Thank you for the gift of salvation through the birth of your Son, Jesus. Create us anew as we wait and help us to see your glory as you fill our lives with peace, hope and joy. Amen.

Hymn

Hail to the Lord's anointed, great David's greater Son! Hail, in the time appointed, his reign on earth begun! He comes to break oppression, to set the captive free, to take away transgression, and rule in equity.

He shall come down like showers upon the fruitful earth, and love, joy, hope, like flowers, spring in his path to birth. Before him on the mountains shall peace the herald go, and righteousness in fountains from hill to valley flow.

Kings shall fall down before him, and gold and incense bring; all nations shall adore him, his praise all people sing. To him shall prayer unceasing and daily vows ascend, his kingdom still increasing, a kingdom without end.

O'er every foe victorious, he on his throne shall rest, from age to age more glorious, all blessing and all blest. The tide of time shall never his covenant remove. His name shall stand forever: that name to us is Love.

> Text: James Montgomery, alt. Music: Melody Johann Crüger; adapt. William Henry Monk

Presider Almighty God,

People 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.

Kyrie Eleison

Choir Lord have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us.

Collect of the Day

Presider Let us pray.

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.

People Amen.

THE PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

The First Reading

Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11

ReaderThe 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.

Reader The word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Psalm

Choir

Psalm 126

When the Lord restored the fortunes of Zion, then were we like those who dream.Then was our mouth filled with laughter and our tongue with songs of joy.Then said they among the nations, 'The Lord has done great things for them.'

The Lord has indeed done great things for us, and therefore we rejoiced. Restore again our fortunes, O Lord, as the river beds of the desert. Those who sow in tears shall reap with songs of joy. Those who go out weeping, bearing the seed, will come back with shouts of joy, bearing their sheaves with them.

The Second Reading

Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for Reader 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.

- Reader The word of the Lord.
- Thanks be to God. People

Gospel Acclamation

- People Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! The Spirit of the Lord God is upon me, because the Lord has anointed Choir me to bring good tidings to the afflicted.
- Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! People

The Holy Gospel

John 1:6-8, 19-28

Veni Emmanuel

Gospeller The Lord be with you. People And with thy spirit. Gospeller The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John. People Glory be to thee, O Lord. Gospeller 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.

1 Thessalonians 5:16-24

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,

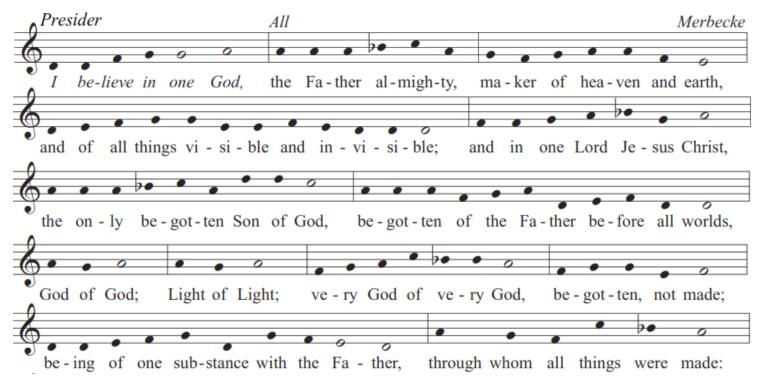
'I am the voice of one crying out in the wilderness, "Make straight the way of the Lord"', as the prophet Isaiah said.

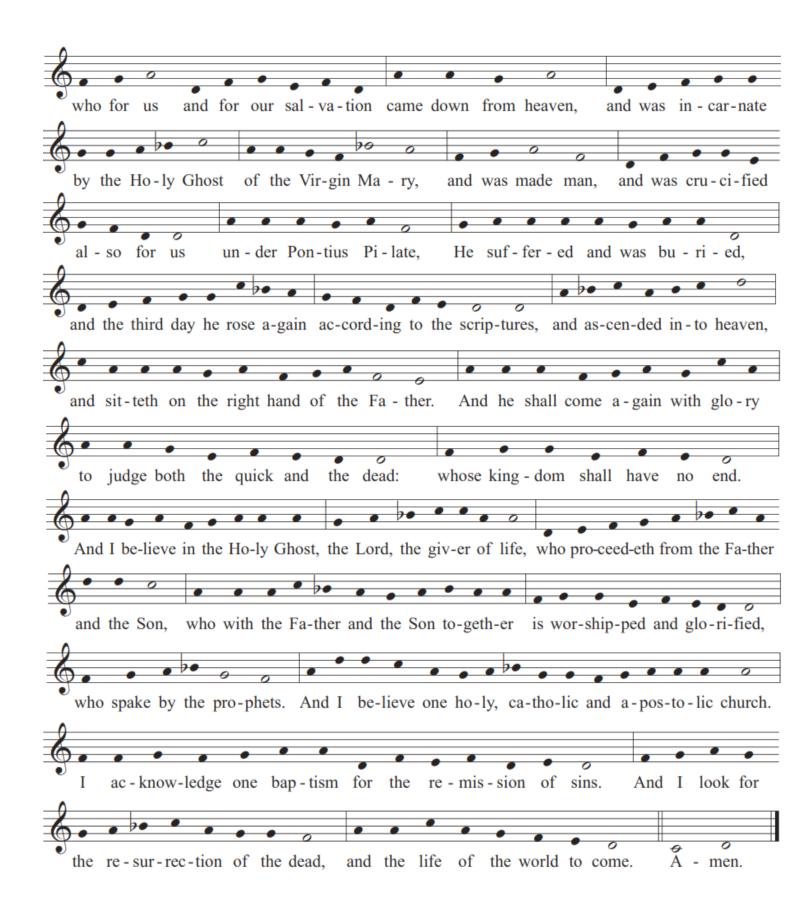
Now they had been sent from the Pharisees. They asked him, 'Why then are you baptizing if you are neither the Messiah, nor Elijah, nor the prophet?' John answered them, 'I baptize with water. Among you stands one whom you do not know, the one who is coming after me; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandal.' This took place in Bethany across the Jordan where John was baptizing.

GospellerThe Gospel of Christ.PeoplePraise be to thee, O Christ.

Homily

The Nicene Creed





Prayers of the People

Presider In joyful expectation let us pray to our Saviour and Redeemer, saying, "Lord Jesus, we await your coming!"

Pause

Intercessor Lord Jesus,

People We await your coming!

At the conclusion of the prayers.

- *Presider* Almighty and eternal God, ruler of all things in heaven and earth: Mercifully accept the prayers of your people and strengthen us to do your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord.
- People Amen.

Confession and Absolution

Presider Let us confess our sins, confident in God's forgiveness.

- All 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.
- Presider 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.
 People Amen.

Dedication of the Organ Console

- BishopPraise God in God's holy temple:PeoplePraise God for God's excellent greatness.BishopPraise God with lyre and harp:
- *People* Praise God with timbrel and dance.

Bishop Praise God with the sound of the trumpet:

People Praise God with strings and pipe.

Bishop Let us pray.

Almighty God, before whose throne trumpets sound, and saints and angels continually sing the songs of Moses and the Lamb: In your name, we dedicate this organ console for the worship in this Cathedral Church, that with the voice of music, we may proclaim your praise and the liberating message of Jesus Christ whose birth the angelic hosts of heaven announced to an expectant and hope-filled people; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

All Amen.

- *Bishop* Hear with favor our prayers, which we humbly offer, O Lord, for the soul of Shafeek, your servant and priest, in whose memory this console has been given, that he, who devoted his life to faithful ministry to you and your church, may continue to rejoice in the perpetual company of the Blessed Virgin, Mary, James our patron and all your saints in light. This we ask in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.
- All Amen.

The Peace

We offer each other a sign of peace, as you feel comfortable.

- *Bishop* The peace of the Lord be always with you.
- *People* And with thy spirit.

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THE CELEBRATION OF THE EUCHARIST

An offering will now be taken to support the life and ministry of the Cathedral.

Offertory Hymn

There's a voice in the wilderness crying, a call from the ways untrod: Prepare in the desert a highway, a highway for our God! The valleys shall be exalted, the lofty hills brought low; Make straight all the crooked places where the Lord our God may go!

O Zion, give voice to good tidings, ascend to the heights and sing! Proclaim to a desolate people the coming of their King. The works of pride all perish, like flowers they shall decay; The power and pomp of nations shall pass like a dream away.

But your word, O God, is faithful, your arm, O Lord, is strong; You stand in the midst of nations, and you will right the wrong. You will feed your flock like a shepherd, and fold the lambs to your breast; In pastures of peace you'll lead them, and give to the weary rest.

There's a voice in the wilderness crying, a call from the ways untrod: Prepare in the desert a highway, a highway for our God! The valleys shall be exalted, the lofty hills brought low; Make straight all the crooked places where the Lord our God may go!

Presider God of hope, renew in us the joy of your salvation and make us a living sacrifice to you, for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.

People Amen.

Thanksgiving & Consecration

- *Presider* The Lord be with you.
- *People* And with thy spirit.

Presider Lift up your hearts.

- *People* We lift them up unto the Lord.
- *Presider* Let us give thanks unto our Lord God.
- *People* It is meet and right so to do.
- *Presider* 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.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord, who in the fullness of time came among us in our flesh and opened to us the way of salvation. Now we watch for the day when he will come again in power and great triumph to judge this world; that we, without shame or fear, may rejoice to behold his appearing. Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your name.

Sanctus & Benedictus

- *Choir* 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.
- *Presider* 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.

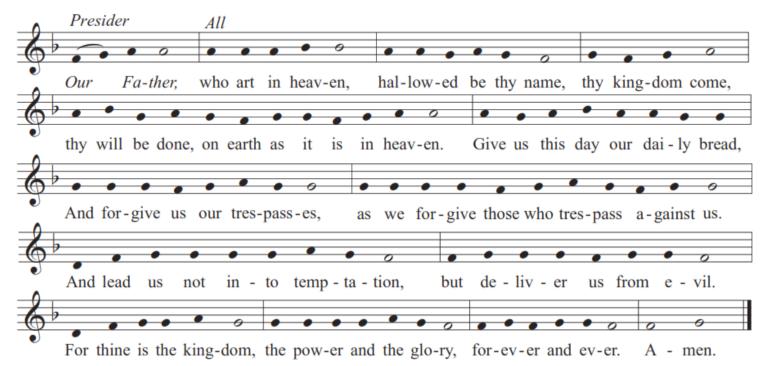
Presider And we entirely desire thy fatherly goodness mercifully to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, most humbly beseeching thee to grant, that by the merits and death of thy Son Jesus Christ, and through faith in his blood, we and all thy whole Church may obtain remission of our 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.

People Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Merbecke





The Breaking of the Bread

Presider God of promise, you prepare a banquet for us in your kingdom.*People* Happy are those who are called to the supper of the Lamb.

The Communion

Presider The gifts of God for the People of God.*People* Thanks be to God.

Agnus Dei

Choir Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, Grant us your peace.

> All are welcome to receive Holy Communion or a blessing. If you choose not to receive communion, simply cross your hands over your chest to indicate this to the priest. For those requiring gluten-free hosts or not wanting to walk up the chancel steps, please go to the Lady Chapel. It is not permitted to dip the bread in the wine for health reasons. Prayers for healing and anointing are available at the Lady Altar.

Communion Hymn

Tune: Besançon

People, look east! The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People, look east and sing today: Love, the guest, is on the way.

Furrows, be glad! Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there: give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flower may flourish. People, look east and sing today: Love, the rose, is on the way.

Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled; even the hour when wings are frozen God for fledging time has chosen. People, look east and sing today: Love, the bird, is on the way.

Stars, keep the watch: when night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today: Love, the star, is on the way.

Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set every peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People, look east and sing today: Love, the Lord, is on the way.

Michael Praetorius Arr. James Whitbourne

Motet A Great and Mighty Wonder

Choir

A great and mighty wonder. A full and holy cure: The Virgin bears the Infant With virgin honour pure Repeat the hymn again: "To God on high be glory And peace on earth to men!"

The Word becomes incarnate And yet remains on high, And cherubim sing anthems To shepherds from the sky. Repeat the hymn again: "To God on high be glory And peace on earth to men!"

While thus they sing your Monarch, Those bright angelic bands, Rejoice, ye vales and mountains, Ye oceans, clap your hands. Repeat the hymn again: "To God on high be glory And peace on earth to men!"

Since all He comes to ransom. By all be He adored, The Infant born in Bethlehem, The Savior and the Lord. Repeat the hymn again: "To God on high be glory And peace on earth to men!"

Prayer after Communion

Presider Let us pray.

Merciful God, may this eucharist free us from our sins, fill us with unending joy, and prepare us for the birthday of our Saviour. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ, who is Lord now and for ever.

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

- *Presider* Be steadfast in faith, joyful in hope, and untiring in love all the days of your life; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always.
- People Amen.

Hymn

Tune: Irish

"Your kingdom come"—on bended knee the passing ages pray; and faithful souls have yearned to see on earth that kingdom's day.

But the slow watches of the night not less to God belong, and for the everlasting right the silent stars are strong.

And lo, already on the hills the flags of dawn appear. Gird up your loins, ye prophet souls, proclaim the day is near:

the day in whose clear shining light all wrong shall stand revealed, when justice shall be throned in might, and every hurt be healed;

when knowledge, hand in hand with peace, shall walk the earth abroad the day of perfect righteousness, the promised day of God.

Text: Frederick Lucian Hosmer, alt.; Music: Hymns and Sacred poems, Dublin, 1749;

Dismissal

Presider Let us go to the world in peace and loving service.

People Thanks be to God.

Postlude Rhapsodie sur des Noels

Eugène Gigout

Bishop of Toronto The Right Reverend Andrew Asbil

Suffragan Bishops The Right Reverend Riscylla Shaw The Right Reverend Kevin Robertson

> *Interim Dean & Priest in Charge* The Very Reverend Peter Wall

Sub-Dean & Vicar The Reverend Canon Dr. Stephen Fields

Interim Associate Priest The Reverend Canon Beth Benson

Vicar of St. Bartholomew, Regent Park The Reverend Dr. Walter Hannam

Pastoral Associate The Reverend David Bryan Hoopes, онс

> Music Director & Organist Thomas Bell

Honorary Verger Paul D. Seddon, ODT

PRAYER CYCLE

This week, please pray for: The Anglican Church of Papua New Guinea; Susan Johnson, National Bishop, and the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada; The Anglican Church Women (ACW) – Enid Corbett, Diocesan President and the Ministry Council

PASTORAL CARE

If you know anyone who would benefit from a call from our pastoral care team, please be in touch with our Sub-Dean & Vicar, The Rev'd Canon Dr. Stephen Fields: <u>sfields@stjamescathedral.ca</u>; 416-364-7865, ext. *235 or The Reverend Canon Beth Benson: <u>bbenson@stjamescathedral.ca</u>, 416-364-7865, ext. *237

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