

# GRACE

CHURCH ON-THE-HILL

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CHRISTMAS DAY  
10 AM ON SATURDAY, DECEMBER 25<sup>TH</sup> 2021  
CHORAL EUCHARIST - ORDER OF SERVICE



*Nativity Scene from an Early Christian Sarcophagus (c. 330 AD)*

PRELUDE

*La Nativité*

JEAN LANGLAIS  
ORGANIST: THOMAS FITCHES

PROCESSIONAL

*Hodie Christus Natus Est*

BENJAMIN BRITTEN

GREETING

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

**And also with you.**

To us a child is born.

**O come, let us worship.**

HYMN 118

*O Come, All Ye Faithful*

TUNE: ADESTE FIDELES

O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant!  
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:

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

God of God, light of light,  
Lo, he abhors not the Virgin's womb;  
Very God, begotten, not created: *℞.*

Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,  
Sing, all ye citizens of Heaven above!  
Glory to God, glory in the highest: *℞.*

Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning;  
Jesus, to thee be glory given!  
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing! *℞.*

COLLECT FOR PURITY

**Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hidden. Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

HYMN 147 *Break Forth, O Beauteous Heavenly Light* TUNE: ERMUNTRE  
DICH

Break forth, O beauteous heavenly light, and usher in the morning;  
O shepherds, shrink not with affright, but hear the angel's warning.  
This child, this little helpless boy, shall be our confidence and joy,  
The power of Satan breaking, our peace eternal making.

This night of wonder, night of joy, was born the Christ, our brother;  
He comes, not mighty to destroy, to bid us love each other.  
How could he quit his kingly state for such a world of greed and hate?  
What deep humiliation secured the world's salvation!

Come, dearest child, into our hearts, and leave your crib behind you!  
Let this be where the new life starts for all who seek and find you.  
To you be honour, thanks and praise, for all your gifts this time of grace;  
Come, conquer, and deliver this world, and us, forever.

COLLECT FOR CHRISTMAS DAY

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**

LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING                      *Isaiah 62 : 6-12*                      READ BY FRANK LOFORTE

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, and give him no rest until he establishes Jerusalem and makes it  
renowned throughout the earth. 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; but those who garner it shall eat it and praise the Lord,  
and those who gather it shall drink it in my holy courts. 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. 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." They shall be called, "The Holy People, The Redeemed of the Lord"; and you shall be called, "Sought Out, A City Not Forsaken."

PSALM 96 — *Cantate Domino*

CHANT: S. WESLEY

O sing unto the Lord a new song;  
sing unto the Lord, all the whole earth.

Sing unto the Lord and praise his Name;  
be telling of his salvation from day to day.

Declare his honour among the nations,  
and his wonders among all peoples.

For the Lord is great and cannot worthily be praised;  
he is more to be feared than all gods.

As for all the gods of the peoples, they are but idols;  
but it is the Lord that made the heavens.

Honour and majesty are before him :  
strength and beauty are in his sanctuary.

Ascribe unto the Lord, O ye kindreds of the peoples,  
ascribe unto the Lord glory and power.

Give unto the Lord the honour due to his Name;  
bring presents and come into his courts.

O worship the Lord in the beauty of his holiness;  
let the whole earth stand in awe of him.

Tell it out among the nations that the Lord is King;

He hath made the round world so fast that it cannot be moved; He shall judge the people righteously.

Let the heavens rejoice and let the earth be glad;  
let the sea make a noise and all that is therein.

Let the field be joyful, and all that is in it;  
then shall all the trees of the wood rejoice before the Lord.

EPISTLE                      *Titus 3 : 4-7*                      READ BY THE REV. SUSAN MACLAREN

But when the goodness and loving kindness of God our Saviour appeared, 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. This Spirit he poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Saviour, so that, having been justified by his grace, we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life.

HYMN 148                      *See Amid the Winter Snow*                      TUNE: SEE AMID

See amid the winter's snow,  
born for us on earth below,  
see, the tender Lamb appears,  
promised from eternal years!

*℞. Hail, thou ever-blessed morn!  
Hail, redemption's happy dawn!  
Sing through all Jerusalem,  
Christ is born in Bethlehem.*

Lo, within a manger lies  
he who built the starry skies,  
who enthroned in height sublime  
sits amid the cherubim. *℞.*

Say, ye humble shepherds, say  
what your joyful news today;  
wherefore have ye left your sheep  
on the lonely mountain steep? *℞.*

"As we watched at dead of night,  
lo, we saw a wondrous light;  
angels singing 'Peace on earth'  
told us of the Saviour's birth." *R.*

Sacred infant, all divine,  
what a mighty love was thine,  
thus to come from highest bliss  
down to such a world as this! *R.*

GOSPEL

*John 1:1-14*

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

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

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

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it. 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. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God. And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

The Gospel of Christ.

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

HOMILY

THE REV. MICAH LATIMER-DENNIS

NICENE CREED

**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.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE PEACE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

OFFERTORY MOTET

*Hodie Christus Natus Est*

MARIANO GARAU

Hodie Christus natus est, Alleluia!

Hodie Salvator apparuit, Alleluia!

Hodie in terra canunt Angeli, laetantur Arcangeli, Alleluia!

Hodie exsultant justi dicentes : Gloria in excelsis Deo, Alleluia!

*Today Christ was born, alleluia!*

*Today the Saviour has come, alleluia!*

*Today the Angels sing on earth, the Archangels rejoice, alleluia!*

*Today the righteous exult, saying: Glory to God in the highest, alleluia!*

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS

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. **Amen.**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

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 AND BENEDICTUS

MISSA BREVIS, HEALEY WILLAN

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

#### EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

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." And 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,

**we remember his death,**

**we proclaim his resurrection,**

**we await his coming in glory;**

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 sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of salvation; by whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory is yours, almighty Father, now and forever.

AMEN.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

And now, as our Saviour Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,  
**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed by 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

We break the bread of life, and that life is the light of the world.  
**God here among us, light in the midst of us, bring us to light and life.**

The gifts of God for the people of God.

**Thanks be to God.**

AGNUS DEI

MISSA BREVIS, HEALEY WILLAN

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,  
Have mercy upon us.

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,  
Have mercy upon us.

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,  
Grant us thy peace.

THE COMMUNION

HYMN 137

*What Child is This?*

TUNE: GREENSLEEVES

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?

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

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

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

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

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 BLESSING

DISMISSAL

Go in the peace of Christ. Alleluia!  
**Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

HYMN 138

*Hark! The Herald Angels Sing*

TUNE: MENDELSSOHN

Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the new-born 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 hosts 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! *℞.*

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. *℞.*

POSTLUDE

*Noel sur les jeux d'anches*

LOUIS DAQUIN

ORGANIST: THOMAS FITCHES

THE FLOWERS AT THE ALTAR ARE GIVEN TO THE GLORY OF GOD AND IN  
LOVING MEMORY OF MARILYN ELEAZAR ANDEN, RN, BScN, EDWARD W.  
H. TREMAIN, DR. G. E. PEARSON WILSON, AND ON BEHALF OF THE EVAN  
EDWARD PRICE MEMORIAL.

## UPCOMING AT GRACE CHURCH ON-THE-HILL

*Christmas at Grace* | The celebration of Christ's nativity continues at Grace. The first Sunday after Christmas, Dec. 26th, services are at 8 and 10 am.

*Food Bank* | Donations in kind and by check are accepted for the Churches on-the-Hill Food Bank, which provides food and home goods for our neighbours. Consider supporting this ministry as need has been acute during the pandemic.

*Christian Education* | Christian Education will not meet on Sunday, Dec. 26, but will resume for Epiphany, Jan. 2. A series on Jewish faith and Christian practice begins Jan. 9.

*Lay Pastoral Visitors* | Do you know someone who could use a supportive call? The Lay Pastoral Visitors of Grace help extend hospitality beyond the walls of the church. Names and notes can be sent to [pastoralcare@gracechurchonthehill.ca](mailto:pastoralcare@gracechurchonthehill.ca)

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### GRACE CHURCH ON-THE-HILL

#### *Clergy & Staff*

The Rev. Canon Peter Walker | INCUMBENT  
The Rev. Micah Latimer-Dennis | DEACON ASSISTANT  
Christopher Leonard | DIRECTOR OF ADMINISTRATION  
Jonathan Kang | THEOLOGICAL STUDENT

#### *Clergy Assistants*

The Rev. Canon Dr. Judy Paulsen  
The Rev. Lyn Youll Marshall  
The Very Rev. Douglas Stoute  
The Rev. Dr. Susan MacLaren

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CHRISTMAS DAY  
CHRISTINA ROSSETTI (1830 TO 1894)

Love came down at Christmas,  
Love all lovely, Love Divine,  
Love was born at Christmas,  
Star and Angels gave the sign.

Worship we the Godhead,  
Love Incarnate, Love Divine,  
Worship we our Jesus,  
But wherewith for sacred sign?

Love shall be our token,  
Love be yours and love be mine,  
Love to God and all men,  
Love for plea and gift and sign.