

Second Sunday of Christmas
Jan 5, 2025



St. Helen's
Anglican Church of Canada
Diocese of New Westminster

GATHERING IN GOD'S NAME

All stand

OPENING HYMN As with Gladness Men of Old

CP 160

GREETING

Glory to God in the highest heaven,
and peace to all on earth.
The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

As we gather, we acknowledge with respect and gratitude
our presence on the traditional, ancestral and unceded lands
of the Musqueam People.

CONFESSION

Jesus says, 'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is close at hand.'
So let us turn away from sin and turn to Christ,
confessing our sins in penitence and faith.

The kingdom is yours, but we turn away from your just rule:

Holy God, holy and mighty, CP 707
holy immortal one, have mercy on us.

The power is yours, but we trust in our own power and strength:

Holy God, holy and mighty, CP 707
holy immortal one, have mercy on us.

The glory is yours, but we fall short of the glory of God:

Holy God, holy and mighty,

CP 707

holy immortal one, have mercy on us.

THE ABSOLUTION

May almighty God have mercy on you,

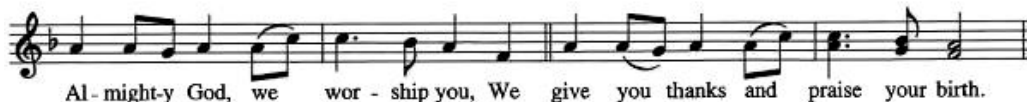
forgive you your sins,

and bring you to everlasting life.

Amen.



1. Glo - ry to God in the high - est heav - en, Peace to your peo - ple here on earth.



Al - might-y God, we wor - ship you, We give you thanks and praise your birth.

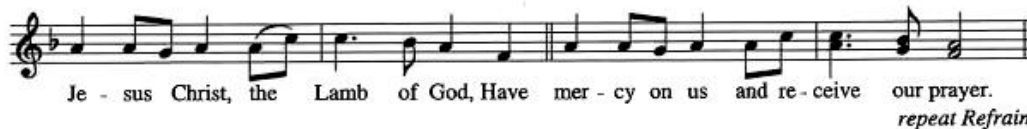
Refrain



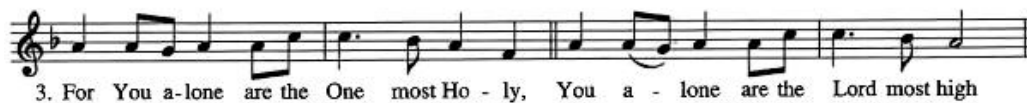
Glo - ri - a, in ex - cel - sis De - o! De - o!



2. Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of God, You take a - way the sin of the world;



Je - sus Christ, the Lamb of God, Have mer - cy on us and re - ceive our prayer.
repeat Refrain



3. For You a - lone are the One most Ho - ly, You a - lone are the Lord most high



Je - sus Christ with the Ho - ly Spi - rit In the glo - ry of God. A - men.
repeat Refrain

COLLECT OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

Gracious God,
you have redeemed us through Jesus Christ,
the first-born of all creation,
whose birth we celebrate in the child of Bethlehem.
Grant us every spiritual blessing,
so that we may live as your adopted children
and witness to your glory with praise and thanksgiving,
now and for ever. **Amen.**

Please be seated.

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING SIRACH 24:1-12

A READING FROM THE FIRST BOOK OF SIRACH

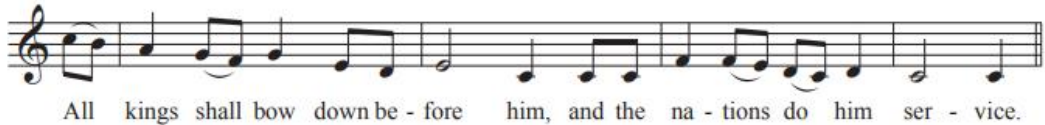
Wisdom praises herself, and tells of her glory in the midst of her people. In the assembly of the Most High she opens her mouth, and in the presence of his hosts she tells of her glory: "I came forth from the mouth of the Most High, and covered the earth like a mist. I dwelt in the highest heavens, and my throne was in a pillar of cloud. Alone I compassed the vault of heaven and traversed the depths of the abyss. Over waves of the sea, over all the earth, and over every people and nation I have held sway. Among all these I sought a resting place; in whose territory should I abide? Then the Creator of all things gave me a command, and my Creator chose the place for

my tent. He said, 'Make your dwelling in Jacob, and in Israel receive your inheritance.' Before the ages, in the beginning, he created me, and for all the ages I shall not cease to be. In the holy tent I ministered before him, and so I was established in Zion. Thus in the beloved city he gave me a resting place, and in Jerusalem was my domain. I took root in an honoured people, in the portion of the Lord, his heritage."

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the church.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 72



Give the king your justice, O God,
and your righteousness to the king's son;
that he may rule your people righteously
and the poor with justice;
that the mountains may bring prosperity to the people,
and the little hills bring righteousness. **R.**

He shall defend the needy among the people;
he shall rescue the poor and crush the oppressor.
He shall live as long as the sun and moon endure,
from one generation to another. **R.**

He shall come down like rain upon the mown field,
like showers that water the earth.
In his time shall the righteous flourish;
there shall be abundance of peace till the moon shall be no more. **R.**

The kings of Tarshish and of the isles shall pay tribute,
and the kings of Arabia and Saba offer gifts.
All kings shall bow down before him,
and all the nations do him service. **R.**

For he shall deliver the poor who cries out in distress,
and the oppressed who has no helper.
He shall have pity on the lowly and poor;
he shall preserve the lives of the needy.
He shall redeem their lives from oppression and violence,
and dear shall their blood be in his sight. **R.**

SECOND READING EPHESIANS 1:3-14

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Ephesians

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, just as he chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love. He destined us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will, to the praise of his glorious grace that he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved. In him we have redemption through

his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace that he lavished on us. With all wisdom and insight he has made known to us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure that he set forth in Christ, as a plan for the fullness of time, to gather up all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth. In Christ we have also obtained an inheritance, having been destined according to the purpose of him who accomplishes all things according to his counsel and will, so that we, who were the first to set our hope on Christ, might live for the praise of his glory. In him you also, when you had heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and had believed in him, were marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit; this is the pledge of our inheritance toward redemption as God's own people, to the praise of his glory.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the church.

Thanks be to God.

All stand for the Gospel

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

CP 457

Raise a song of gladness, peoples of the earth.

Christ has come, bring peace joy to every heart.

Alleluia, alleluia, joy to every heart!

Alleluia, alleluia, joy to every heart!

THE HOLY GOSPEL

LUKE 2:41-52

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

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

Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Now every year his parents went to Jerusalem for the festival of the Passover. And when he was twelve years old, they went up as usual for the festival. When the festival was ended and they started to return, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem, but his parents did not know it. Assuming that he was in the group of travellers, they went a day's journey. Then they started to look for him among their relatives and friends. When they did not find him, they returned to Jerusalem to search for him. After three days they found him in the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. And all who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers. When his parents saw him they were astonished; and his mother said to him, "Child, why have you treated us like this? Look, your father and I have been searching for you in great anxiety." He said to them, "Why were you searching for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?" But they did not understand what he said to them. Then he went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was obedient to them. His mother treasured all these things in her heart. And Jesus increased in wisdom and in years, and in divine and human favour.

The Gospel of Christ.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. (x2)

Please be seated.

SERMON

Daniel Melvill Jones

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH *(All stand)*

Let us confess our faith, as we say,

**We believe in God, the Source of Life,
by whom every being in heaven and earth
is created, named, and sustained.**

**We believe in God, the Living Word,
who restores us to relationship
and speaks to us through faith.**

**We believe in God, the Holy Spirit,
who comforts, guides, and strengthens us
to share the good news of grace.**

**We believe in God,
one, holy, undivided Trinity:
Source of Life, Living Word, Comforter:
Mystery. Amen.**

Please stand, sit or kneel as is your custom for prayer.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Hepsi Chand

After the prayers, those who wish may gather in a circle around the altar.

THE PEACE

For a child has been born for us,
a son given to us;
authority rests upon his shoulders,
and he is named
Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

The Peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

The people greet one another with signs of God's peace (a handshake, an embrace, or a nod and wave are all appropriate signs). Please remain standing.

THE OFFERTORY

As the altar is prepared for Holy Communion, the congregation is invited to make an offering as an expression of gratitude for God's generosity.

OFFERTORY HYMN All Poor Folk and Humble

CP 151

Please remain standing until communion.

THE HOLY COMMUNION

PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS

God of light,
in the birth of your Son we see your glory.
May we who share in this mystery
grow daily in your love.
This we ask in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

God is with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to God.

Let us give thanks to God our Creator.

We give our thanks and praise.

Creator, you made our world --- beautiful and good.

You made us to live in right relationship with you and all creation.

You sent Jesus to live among us and show us what you are like.

We give all thanks and praise to you, our true and loving God.

You laid the foundations of the earth and enclosed the seas.

You brought forth all creatures and gave breath to humankind.

Wondrous are you, Holy One.

All you create is a sign of hope for our journey.

And so, we join with the heavenly beings

and all of creation as we sing:

Introduction Ho - ly, ho - ly ho - ly Lord, Ho - ly God of pow'r and might:
Heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry. Glo - ry to You, O Lord most high.
mf Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
Broadly
rit. ff san - na in the high - est! *molto rit.* Ho - san - na in the high - est!

Glory and honour are yours, Creator of all,

your Word has never been silent.

Of your grace, you sent Jesus

to be human, to share our life,

to proclaim the coming of your holy reign,
and to give himself for us.

Through Jesus Christ you have reconciled us to you
and restored the glory you intended for us.

On the night before he died, Jesus ate supper with his friends.
He took bread, gave thanks, broke it, and gave it to them, saying:
“Take and eat. This is my very self given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.”

Then he took the cup of wine, again he gave thanks,
and gave it to them, saying:
“Drink it all of you. This cup is a new covenant
poured out for you and all people.
Do this for the remembrance of me.”

And so, we remember:
the cross, the tomb, the resurrection and ascension,
and, longing for Christ’s coming again in glory,
we present these gifts to you.
Send your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these gifts,
so that we who share this bread and wine
may be a people of hope, justice and love.

Draw us together in Christ,
and, in the fullness of time, gather us with all your people
into the joy of your eternal home.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ,
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,
we worship you our God and Creator
and give you our unending praise. **Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

As our Saviour taught us, let us pray,
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

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.

INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION

These are the gifts of God for all God's people.

Thanks be to God

Lamb of God

mf
O Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin — of the world;
Have mer - cy, have mer - cy, have mer - cy on us.

mf All
O Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin — of the world;
Lul - lay, lul - la, thou lit - tle tin - y child; Grant — us your peace.

mp *rall.* *p* *pp*

COMMUNION HYMN What Child Is This

CP 137

All stand.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray:

Source of truth and joy,

may we who have received the gift of divine life
always follow the way of your Son.

This we ask in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord.

Amen.

DOXOLOGY

Glory to God,
**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

May Christ, who by his Incarnation gathered into one
things earthly and heavenly,
fill you with his joy and peace;
and the blessing of God Almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be upon you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

DISMISSAL

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
Amen.

RECESSIONAL HYMN It Came Upon the Midnight Clear CP 140

*Please be seated for the postlude. The community disperses in silence.
In respect of those who may linger in contemplation, conversation is
reserved for the narthex.*

Thursday Afternoon Tea and Scrabble & Contemplative Prayer Returns **January 9th**

After a short break for the holidays, our Thursday afternoon tea and Contemplative Prayer gatherings will resume on Thursday, January 9th at 3:15 PM in St. Helen's side chapel.

This peaceful time of prayer and reflection is a wonderful way to center yourself in God's presence amidst the busyness of life. Whether you're a regular participant or looking to try something new, you are warmly invited to join us. We look forward to welcoming you back in the New Year!

How to Contribute to St. Helen's Financially

If you'd like to contribute financially to our shared congregational life and mission here at St. Helen's, you can:



- Use one of the envelopes available at the back of the church by the offering plate for cheques or cash
- Scan the QR code at left to contribute via credit card or Apple Pay
- Visit our website (pointgreyanglican.com/pages/give) to contribute via credit card or PayPal
- Set up a Pre-Authorized Donation (PAD). To do this, please reach out to our Envelope Secretary, Monica O'Brien via our office (sthelenswpg@gmail.com).