

ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST ANGLICAN CHURCH

Diocese of Ottawa

Anishinabe aking ate awaso kikinawadjichigan.

This land we are upon is the traditional territory of the Algonquin people.



FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

December 2nd, 2018 at 10.15 am

PRELUDE

Deck Thyself, My Soul, With Gladness (J.S. Bach)

PROCESSIONAL HYMN 89

O Come, O Come Emmanuel

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Grace and peace to you from God our Creator, and the Lord Jesus Christ.

And also with you.

"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...
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."

Today we remember the prophets of old,
who demanded to be heard, who dared to speak of a child to come, unexpected
liberator of the people, vulnerable incarnation
of the Holiest of Holies, a new name for God.

**Today we give thanks for the prophets among us,
who bring to us surprising new visions of hope,
who challenge us to think outside the box,
who show us a future we never anticipated.**

On this first Sunday of Advent,
we light this candle as a symbol of the prophets who renew our faith
and remind us of what may be.

The first candle is lit.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Silence is kept.

God of justice and peace,
from the heavens you rain down mercy and kindness.
Raise our heads in expectation,
so that we may yearn for the coming day of the Lord
and stand without blame before your Son, Jesus Christ,
who lives and reigns for ever and ever. **Amen.**

THE FIRST READING

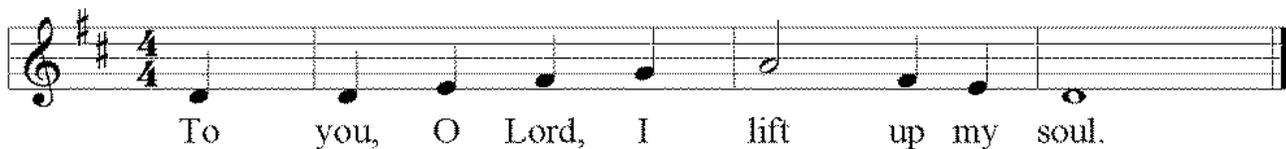
Jeremiah 33:14-16

The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will fulfil the promise
I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. In those days and at that time I
will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David; and he shall execute justice and
righteousness in the land. In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will live in
safety. And this is the name by which it will be called: "The Lord is our righteousness."

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 25:1-9



To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul;
my God, I put my trust in you;
let me not be humiliated,
nor let my enemies triumph over me.
Let none who look to you be put to shame;
let the treacherous be disappointed in their schemes.

Show me your ways, O Lord,
and teach me your paths.
Lead me in your truth and teach me,
for you are the God of my salvation; in you have I trusted all the day long.

Remember, O Lord, your compassion and love,
for they are from everlasting.

Remember not the sins of my youth and my transgressions;
remember me according to your love
and for the sake of your goodness, O Lord.

Gracious and upright is the Lord;
therefore he teaches sinners in his way.
He guides the humble in doing right
and teaches his way to the lowly.
All the paths of the Lord are love and faithfulness
to those who keep his covenant and his testimonies.

THE SECOND READING

1 Thessalonians 3:9-13

How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy that we feel before our God because of you? Night and day, we pray most earnestly that we may see you face to face and restore whatever is lacking in your faith. Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus direct our way to you. And may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, just as we abound in love for you. And may he so strengthen your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Thanks be to God.

GRADUAL HYMN 88

Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus

THE GOSPEL

Luke 21:25-36

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.

Jesus said, "There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves. People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in a cloud' with power and great glory. Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near." Then he told them a parable: "Look at the fig tree and all the trees; as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know that summer is already near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away. Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and that day catch you unexpectedly, like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to

escape all these things that will take place, and to stand before the Son of Man.”

The Gospel of Christ.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

HOMILY

ANTHEM

E'en So, Lord Jesus, Quickly Come (Paul Manz)

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION

God is love and we are God's children.

There is no room for fear in love.

We love because he loved us first.

Let us confess our sins in penitence and faith.

Silence is kept.

God our Creator,

**we confess to you and to our fellow members in the Body of Christ,
that we have sinned in thought, word and deed,
and in what we have failed to do.**

We are truly sorry.

Forgive us our sins, and deliver us from the power of evil.

For the sake of your Son who died for us, Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

God, who is both power and love, forgives you, ✠ frees you from your sins, heals and strengthens you by his Spirit, and raises you to new life in Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

OFFERTORY HYMN 97

Jesus Came, the Heavens Adoring

THE PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS

God of love and power, your word stirs within us the expectation of the coming of your Son. Accept all we offer you this day, and sustain us with your promise of eternal life. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE CELEBRATION OF THE EUCHARIST

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.

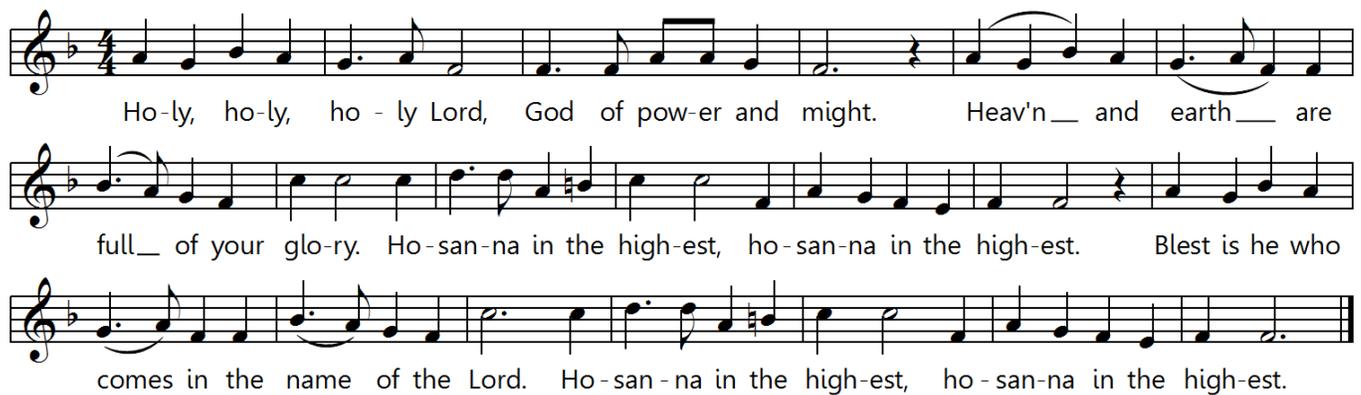
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Worship and praise belong to you, God our maker. Out of nothing, you called all worlds to be, and still you draw the universe to its fulfilment. Dawn and evening celebrate your glory till time shall be no more.

In Christ your Son the life of heaven and earth were joined, sealing the promise of a new creation, given, yet still to come.

Taught by your Spirit, we who bear your threefold likeness look for the City of Peace in whose light we are transfigured and the earth transformed.

As children of your redeeming purpose who await the coming of your Son, we offer you our praise, with angels and archangels and the whole company of heaven singing the hymn of your unending glory:



Ho-ly, ho-ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might. Heav'n__ and earth__ are
full__ of your glo-ry. Ho-san-na in the high-est, ho-san-na in the high-est. Blest is he who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san - na in the high-est, ho-san-na in the high-est.

Glory and thanksgiving be to you, most loving God. In Jesus you showed us yourself. Our hope is built on him, the first, the last, the living one. Obedient, even to accepting death, He opened the gate of glory and calls us now to share the life of heaven.

Before he was given up to suffering and death, alight with the vision of a feast that heralded a kingdom yet to come, at supper with his disciples he took bread and offered you thanks. He broke the bread, and gave it to them, saying: "Take, eat. This is my Body: it is broken for you."

After supper, he took the cup, he offered you thanks, and gave it to them saying: "Drink this, all of you. This is my Blood of the new covenant; it is poured out for you, and for all, that sins may be forgiven. Do this in remembrance of me."

We now obey your Son's command. We recall his blessed passion and death, his glorious resurrection and ascension; and we look for the coming of his Kingdom. Made one with him, we offer you these gifts with them ourselves, a single, holy, living sacrifice.

Hear us, most merciful God, and send your Holy Spirit upon us ✠ and upon this bread and this wine, that, overshadowed by his life-giving power, they may be the Body and Blood of your Son, and we may be kindled with the fire of your love and renewed for the service of your Kingdom.

Help us, to live and work to your praise and glory; may we grow together in unity and love until at last, in your new creation, we enter into our heritage in the company of the Virgin Mary, the apostles, and prophets, and of all our brothers and sisters living and departed.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord, with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory be to you, Lord of all ages, world without end. **Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

As our Saviour has taught us, so we pray:



Our Fa - ther in heav - en, hal - lowed be your name, your king - dom come, your
will be done on earth as in heav - en. Give us this day our dai - ly bread.
For - give us our sins as we for - give those who sin a - gainst us. Save us
from the time of trial, and de - liv - er us from e - vil, for the king - dom, the
pow - er and the glo - ry are yours, now and for ev - er. A - - men.

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

Silence is kept.

The living bread is broken for the life of the world.

Lord, unite us in this sign.

THE INVITATION

The gifts of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

COMMUNION

O Come, O Come Emmanuel (Natalie Sleeth)

Please request a gluten-free wafer if required or a blessing if desired.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.

Silence is kept.

God for whom we wait, you have fed us with the bread of eternal life.
Keep us ever watchful, that we may be ready to stand before the Son.
We ask this in the name of Christ the Lord. **Amen.**

Loving God,

your steadfast purpose is the completion of all things in your Son.

May we who have received the pledges of the kingdom,

live by faith, walk in hope and be renewed in love,

until the world reflects your glory and you are all in all;

through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING

Christ the Sun of Righteousness shine upon you
and scatter the darkness from before your path;
and the blessing of God be upon you ✠ this day and always. **Amen.**

RECESSIONAL HYMN 114

Lo, He Comes with Clouds Descending

DISMISSAL

Go in hope, to love and serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

From Heaven on High to Earth I Come (Johann Pachelbel)

Presider & Preacher
Deacon
Organist

The Reverend Canon Beth Bretzlaff
The Reverend Dr Caroline Ducros
Dr Gordon Johnston

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ST JOHN'S CONTACT INFO

The Reverend Canon Beth Bretzlaff, Rector

beth@stjohnsottawa.ca

The Reverend Dr Caroline Ducros, Deacon

caroline@stjohnsottawa.ca

BGen (ret'd) The Venerable John Fletcher,

The Reverend Canon Dr Gary Hauch,

The Reverend Michael Hicks,

Honourary Assistants

Dr Gordon Johnston, Organist

gordon@stjohnsottawa.ca

Laura Macdonald, Church Administrator

laura@stjohnsottawa.ca

154 Somerset Street West

Ottawa, ON, Canada, K2P 0H8

Monday to Friday, 9 am to 1 pm

(613) 232-4500 www.stjohnsottawa.ca
