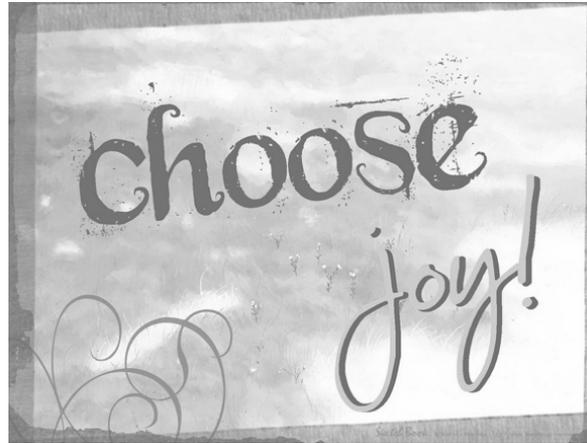


ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST ANGLICAN CHURCH

Diocese of Ottawa

Anishinabe aking ate awaso kikinawadjichigan.

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



THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

December 16th, 2018 at 10.15 am

PRELUDE

Now Come, Saviour of the Nations (J.S. Bach)

PROCESSIONAL HYMN 108

Hark! A Herald Voice is Sounding

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

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

And also with you.

"And Mary said, 'My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, for he has looked with favor on the lowliness of his servant. Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed; for the Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy is his name.'"

Today we remember Mary, innocent and powerful, sacred and scared, worried and waiting as the Savior of all grows in her womb.

She sings boldly when she might be meek;

she bears her role in history with the confidence of a warrior;

she is the beginning of a mighty revolution as the proud are brought down and the lowly lifted up.

Today we give thanks for the Marys among us,

who step out of the roles society has planned;

unintended pioneers determined to do as God asks;

**fearless and fearfully stepping out in faith,
and beckoning us to do the same.**

On this third Sunday of Advent, we light this candle as a symbol of Mary, mother of God, bearer of the Way.

The first, second, and third candles are lit.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Silence is kept.

God of power and mercy, you call us once again to celebrate the coming of your Son. Remove those things which hinder love of you, that when he comes, he may find us waiting in awe and wonder for him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE FIRST READING

Zephaniah 3:14-20

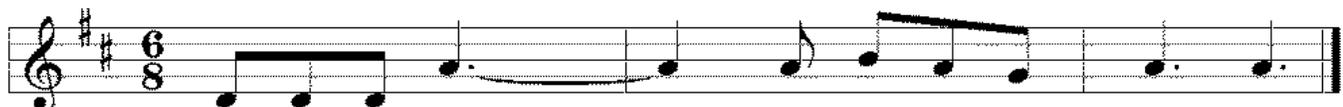
Sing aloud, O daughter Zion; shout, O Israel! Rejoice and exult with all your heart, O daughter Jerusalem! The Lord has taken away the judgements against you, he has turned away your enemies. The king of Israel, the Lord, is in your midst; you shall fear disaster no more. On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem: Do not fear, O Zion; do not let your hands grow weak. The Lord, your God, is in your midst, a warrior who gives victory; he will rejoice over you with gladness, he will renew you in his love; he will exult over you with loud singing as on a day of festival. I will remove disaster from you, so that you will not bear reproach for it. I will deal with all your oppressors at that time. And I will save the lame and gather the outcast, and I will change their shame into praise and renown in all the earth. At that time I will bring you home, at the time when I gather you; for I will make you renowned and praised among all the peoples of the earth, when I restore your fortunes before your eyes, says the Lord.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Thanks be to God.

CANTICLE 3

Isaiah 12:2-6



Cry out for joy, _____ for God is a - mong you.

Surely, it is God who saves me;
I will trust in him and not be afraid.
For the Lord is my stronghold and my sure defence,
and he will be my Saviour.

Therefore you shall draw water with rejoicing
from the springs of salvation.

And on that day you shall say,
Give thanks to the Lord and call upon his name;
make his deeds known among the peoples;
see that they remember that his name is exalted.
Sing the praises of the Lord, for he has done great things,
and this is known in all the world.

Cry aloud, inhabitants of Zion,
ring out your joy,
for the great one in the midst of you
is the Holy One of Israel.

THE SECOND READING

Philippians 4:4-7

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Thanks be to God.

GRADUAL HYMN 105

Where Jordan Cuts the Wilderness

THE GOSPEL

Luke 3:7-18

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.

John said to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruits worthy of repentance. Do not begin to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our ancestor'; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire." And the crowds asked him, "What then should we do?" In reply he said to them, "Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise." Even tax collectors came to be baptized, and they asked him, "Teacher, what should we do?" He said to them, "Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you." Soldiers also asked him, "And we, what should we do?" He said to them, "Do not extort money from anyone by threats or false accusation, and be satisfied with your wages." As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, John answered all of them by saying, "I baptize you with water; but one who is more

powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire." So, with many other exhortations, he proclaimed the good news to the people.

The Gospel of Christ.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

HOMILY

ANTHEM

Bogoroditse devo (Sergei Rachmaninoff)

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 132

Of Eternal Love Begotten

THE PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS

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. **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.

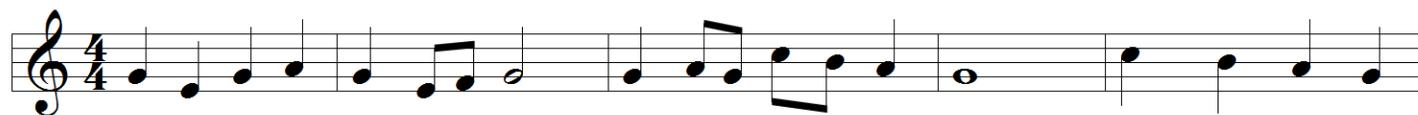
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

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. Bless - ed is he who



comes in the name of the Lord. 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.

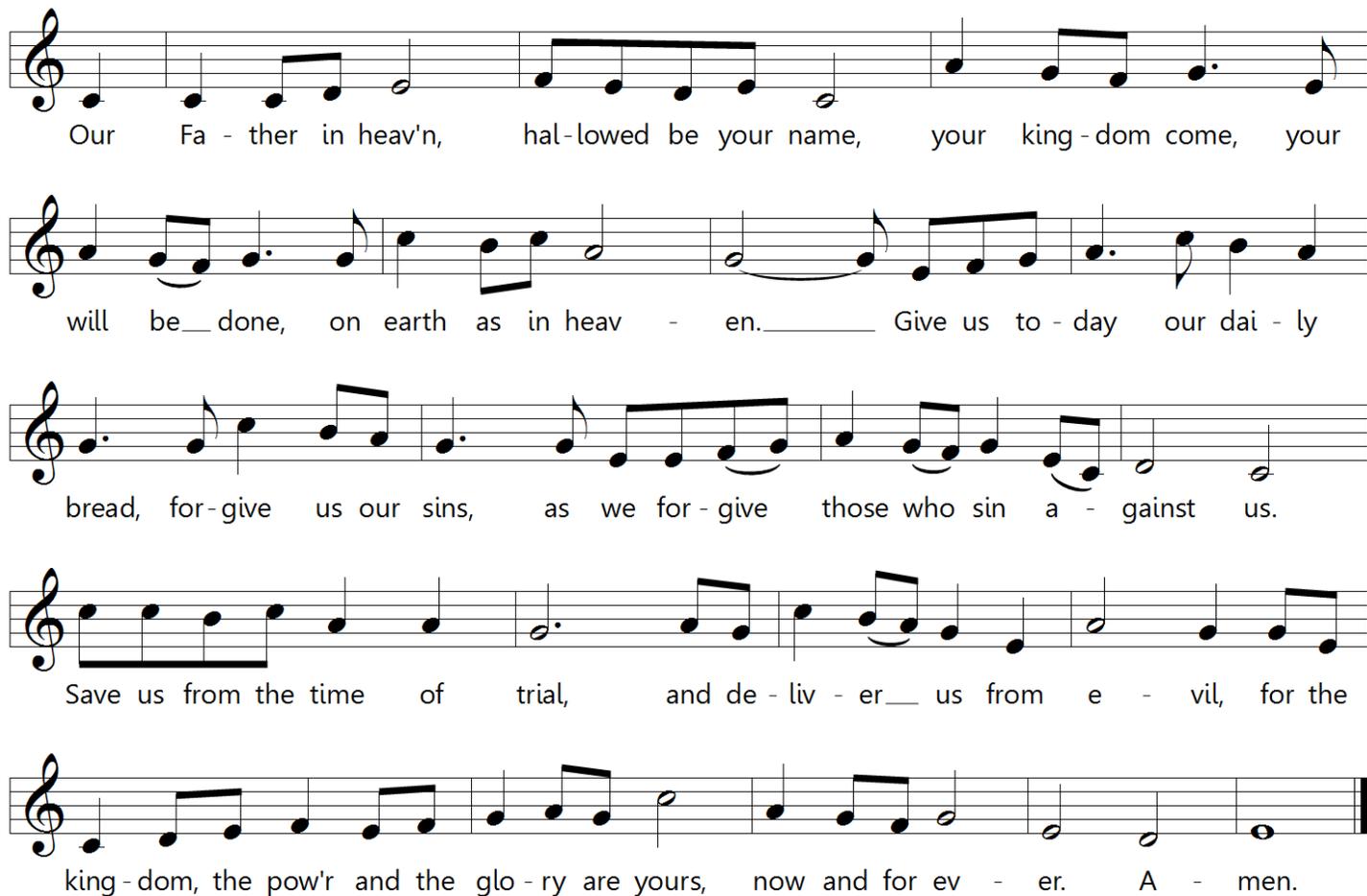
Hear us, most merciful God, and send your Holy Spirit upon us ✠ and upon this bread and this wine, that, overshadowed by his life-giving power, they may be the Body and Blood of your Son, and we may be kindled with the fire of your love and renewed for the service of your Kingdom.

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'n, hal - lowed be your name, your king - dom come, your
will be done, on earth as in heav - en. Give us to - 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'r 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

Advent Antiphon (Gordon Johnston)

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

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.

Silence is kept.

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.

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 joy, to love and serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

O How Shall I Receive Thee (Carman Milligan)

Presider
Preacher
Organist

The Reverend Canon Beth Bretzlaff
The Reverend Canon Dr Gary Hauch
Dr Gordon Johnston

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