

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.



A CHRISTMAS EVE CELEBRATION

December 24th, 2018 at 10.30 pm

ORGAN PRELUDE

HARK! THE HERALD ANGELS SING

Common Praise #138

Hark! The herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn 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 host 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!
Hark! The herald angels sing,
"Glory to the new-born King."

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.
Hark! The herald angels sing,
"Glory to the new-born King."

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

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

And also with you.

"While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger."

Tonight, angels far and near sing tender lullabies; well-worn fabric full of years, holds in the warmth of parental love; animals and shepherds crowd in tight, glowing with adoration, while a muffled cry squeezes out to greet the world.

Tonight, we give thanks for every child among us.

Each new birth – regardless of circumstances – reminds us of the preciousness of life, the potential of tomorrow, the promise of God.

On this Christmas Eve, we light the Christ candle for the child-King, the infant-Redeemer, the lowly-Lord. And now we know . . . He is born and nothing will ever be the same!

The Christ Candle is lit.

THE COLLECT

Let us pray.

Silence is kept.

Almighty God, as we prepare with joy to celebrate the gift of the Christ-child, embrace the earth with your glory and be for us a living hope in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE FIRST READING

A reading from Isaiah.

Isaiah 52:7-10

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the church.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 98



Break forth together in singing! — The Lord is come!

THE SECOND READING

A reading from Hebrews.

Hebrews 1:1-4

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the church.

Thanks be to God.

ONCE IN ROYAL DAVID'S CITY

Common Praise #123

**Once in royal David's city stood a lowly cattle shed,
where a mother laid her baby in a manger for a bed.
Mary was that mother mild, Jesus Christ her little child.**

**He came down to earth from heaven who is God and Lord of all,
and his shelter was a stable, and his cradle was a stall.
With the poor and mean and lowly lived on earth our Saviour holy.**

**Not in that poor lowly stable, with the oxen standing by,
we shall see him, but in heaven, set at God's right hand on high,
when, like stars, his children crowned all in white shall gather round.**

THE GOSPEL

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.

John 1:1-14

The Gospel of Christ.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

SILENT NIGHT

Common Praise #119

**Silent night! Holy night!
All is calm, all is bright
round yon virgin mother and child.
Holy infant so tender and mild,
sleep in heavenly peace, sleep in heavenly peace.**

**Silent night! Holy night!
Shepherds quake at the sight:
glories stream from heaven afar,
heavenly hosts sing alleluia,
Christ the Saviour is born; Christ the Saviour is born.**

**Silent night! Holy night!
Son of God, love's pure light**

**radiant beams from thy holy face,
with the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord, at thy birth; Jesus, Lord, at thy birth.**

HOMILY

ANTHEM

New Prince, New Pomp (John Ireland)

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be always with you.
And also with you.

THE FIRST NOWELL

Common Praise #139

**The first nowell the angel did say
was to certain poor shepherds in fields where they lay,
in fields where they lay keeping their sheep
on a cold winter's night that was so deep.**

*Nowell, nowell, nowell, nowell,
born is the King of Israel.*

**They looked up and saw a star,
shining in the east, beyond them far;
and to the earth it gave great light,
and so it continued both day and night.**

Nowell, nowell...

**And by the light of that same star
three wise men came from country far;
to seek for a king was their intent,
and to follow the star wherever it went.**

Nowell, nowell...

**This star drew nigh to the northwest;
o'er Bethlehem it took its rest,
and there it did both stop and stay,
right over the place where Jesus lay.**

Nowell, nowell...

**Then entered in those wise men three,
full reverently upon their knee,
and offered there in his presence
their gold and myrrh and frankincense.**

Nowell, nowell...

**Then let us all with one accord
sing praises to our heavenly Lord,
who has made heaven and earth of nought,
and with his blood salvation bought.**

THE 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 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 creator, in every place and at
all times. You made us, all the people of the world, and everything that is.

You give us the daylight. Your Word lights up our minds. Jesus was born
among us to be light in our darkness.

Your Spirit lives in us so that we can look at the world with your eyes.

One day we will be with you in heaven, but already we laugh with the
saints and angels, and sing their joyful song:

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Ho-ly, ho-ly, ho - - ly Lord, God of pow-er, God of might, heav-en 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, ____ ho- san - na in the high - est.

Loving God, you never forget us or turn away from us, even when we fail you. You sent your Son Jesus who gave his life for us.

He healed those who were sick, cared for those who were poor, and cried with those who were sad. He forgave sinners and taught us to forgive.

For all your love we give you thanks in the way that Jesus showed us.

On the night before he died, while he was having supper with his friends, 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."

So, as we do what Jesus told us, we open our hearts to him; we remember how he died and rose again to live now in us.

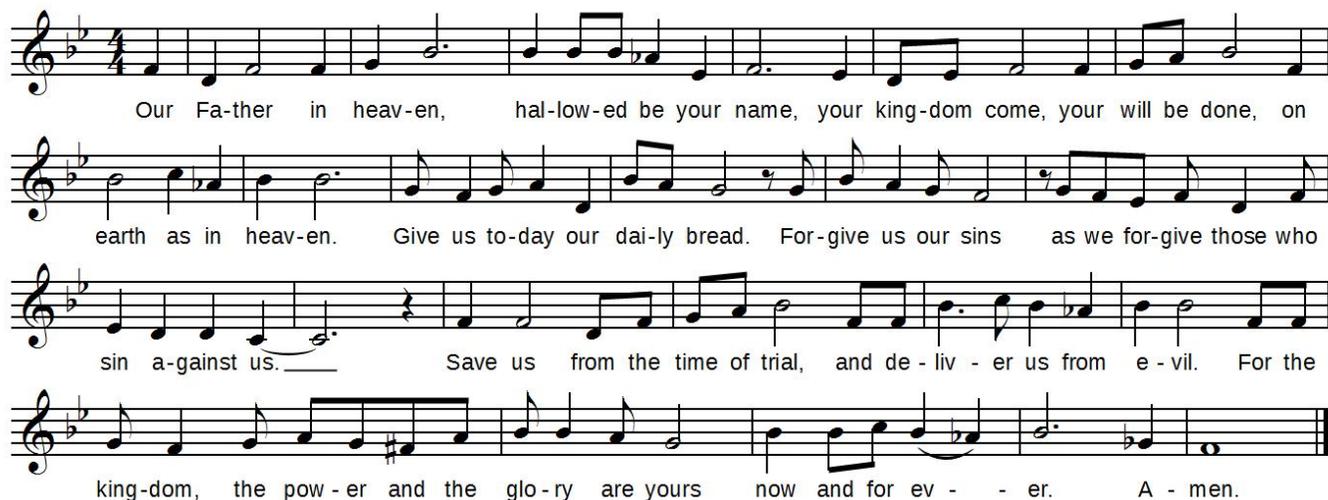
Together with him we offer you these gifts: in them we give you ourselves.

Send your Holy Spirit on us ✠ and on this bread and this wine, that they may be the body and the blood of Christ, and that, sharing your life, we may travel in your company to our journey's end.

With all your people we give you thanks and praise through the Son and in the Spirit, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

As our Saviour has taught us, so we pray:



Our Fa-ther in heav-en, hal-low-ed 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-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 gifts of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

COMMUNION

Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming (arr. Jay Rouse)

Communion is offered in both bread and wine. Simply extend your hand to receive communion; or fold your arms if you prefer to receive a blessing instead. If you prefer a gluten-free wafer, please tell the priest. If you do not wish to drink from the common cup, be assured that in the Anglican tradition, receiving only the bread is considered a complete communion. Please do not dip the bread into the communion wine.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.

Silence is kept.

God of all, tonight you have united earth and heaven in sending your Son to take our human nature. May we who have tasted heavenly things share in the life of his eternal kingdom. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our 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.**

BLESSING

Go now on this night of Jesus' birth. May the joy of his coming be in your heart; may love and hope fill your soul; and may the blessing of God, ✠ Creator, Son, and Spirit bless you, all whom you love, and all whom you meet, this night and always. **Amen.**

JOY TO THE WORLD!

Common Praise #154

**Joy to the world! The Lord is come:
let earth receive her King;
let every heart prepare him room,
and heaven and nature sing,
and heaven and nature sing,
and heaven and heaven and
nature sing.**

**Joy to the earth! The Saviour reigns:
let us glad songs employ,
while fields and floods,
rocks, hills, and plains
repeat the sounding joy,
repeat the sounding joy,
repeat, repeat the sounding joy.**

**No more let wrongs and sorrows grow,
nor thorns infest the ground;
he comes to make his blessings flow
far as our sin is found,
far as our sin is found,
far as, far as our sin is found,**

**He rules the world with truth and grace,
and makes the nations prove
the glories of his righteousness
and wonders of his love,
and wonders of his love,
and wonders, wonders of his love,**

DISMISSAL

Go forth in the light of Christ! **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

In Dulci Jubilo, BWV 729 (J.S. Bach)

Presider & Preacher

The Reverend Canon Beth Bretzlaff

Deacon

The Reverend Dr Caroline Ducros

Organist

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
