

ST. STEPHEN'S WITH ST. JAMES ANGLICAN CHURCH, CHAMBLY AND GRACE CHURCH, L'ACADIE



[image courtesy of: metro.co.uk]

THE EVE OF CHRISTMAS SERVICE 24TH DECEMBER, 2021

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

“We believe we are called by God to be a faithful ministry to God through our actions, while true to the Gospel and spiritually alive in prayer, worship and service, to reach out to our community and grow in ministry.”

HOLY EUCHARIST

Celebrant: Rev'd. Andy O'Donnell

Organist: Karl-Frédéric Bolte

Celebrant: Welcome

The service begins on Page 185 of the BAS with the "Gathering of the Community"

Sentence:

I bring you good news of a great joy which will come to all the people; for to you is born this day a Saviour, Christ the Lord. [Luke 2.10-11]

Opening Hymn: #154 "Joy to the World"

Greeting Page 185 of the BAS

Collect of the day:

Eternal God, this holy night is radiant with the brilliance of your one true light. As we have known the revelation of that light on earth, bring us to see the splendour of your heavenly glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

Lynn O'Donnell

This morning's first reading comes from Isaiah 9 beginning at the 2nd verse.

[Isaiah 9:2-7]

Listen now for the Word of God.....

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. You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder. For the yoke of their burden, and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian. For all the boots of the tramping warriors and all the garments rolled in blood shall be burned as fuel for the fire. For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onwards and for evermore. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.

For the Word of God in Scripture, for the Word of God among us, for the Word of God within us.....

THANKS BE TO GOD.

Psalm 96

Sing to the Lord a new song; sing to the Lord, all the whole earth.

Sing to the Lord and bless his name; proclaim the good news of his salvation from day to day.

Declare his glory among the nations and his wonders among all peoples.

For great is the Lord and greatly to be praised; he is more to be feared than all gods.

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

Oh, the majesty and magnificence of his presence! Oh, the power and the splendour of his sanctuary! Ascribe to the Lord, you families of the peoples; ascribe to the Lord honour and power.

Ascribe to the Lord the honour due his name; bring offerings and come into his courts.

Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness; let the whole earth tremble before him.

Tell it out among the nations: "The Lord is king! he has made the world so firm that it cannot be moved; he will judge the peoples with equity."

Let the heavens rejoice, and let the earth be glad; let the sea thunder and all that is in it; let the field be joyful and all that is therein.

Then shall all the trees of the wood shout for joy before the Lord when he comes, when he comes to judge the earth.

He will judge the world with righteousness and the peoples with his truth.

PRAYER:

We worship you, God of glory, in the beauty of holiness, and we joyfully proclaim your just and righteous rule, established for all, through your Son Jesus Christ the Lord.

This morning's second reading comes from the Book of Titus, Chapter 2, verses 11 to 14.

Listen now for the Word of God.....

For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all, training us to renounce impiety and worldly passions, and in the present age to live lives that are self-controlled, upright, and godly, while we wait for the blessed hope and the

manifestation of the glory of our great God and Saviour, Jesus Christ. He it is who gave himself for us that he might redeem us from all iniquity and purify for himself a people of his own who are zealous for good deeds.

[Silence followed by.....]

For the Word of God in Scripture, for the Word of God among us, for the Word of God within us.

THANKS BE TO GOD

Gradual Hymn: #126 "Away in a Manger"

[You are requested to stay seated for the Gospel]

The Holy Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to Saint Luke, in the 2nd Chapter, beginning at the 1st verse.

[Luke 2:1-20]

Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. 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, because there was no place for them in the inn.

In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, 'Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.'

And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, 'Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favours!' When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, 'Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.' So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ:

All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ

Homily/Homilie: Rev'd. Andy O'Donnell

The service continues on Page 188 with the Nicene Creed

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE: Dorothy Cunningham

.....With thanks to The Rev'd Lowell Grisham

Presider: Gracious and Loving God, in Jesus you have filled all humanity with your divine life: Hear our prayers of joy and thanksgiving as we offer our supplications to you, saying: Glory to God in the highest heaven, and peace to God's people on earth.

Litanist: You have entrusted the Church with good news of great joy for all people: Inspire our witness that we may spread the light of Jesus' love to all humanity.

Glory to God in the highest heaven,

and peace to God's people on earth.

Let your power and compassion guide those who exercise authority on earth, that they may be servants of peace, bringing comfort and security to all who are vulnerable.

Glory to God in the highest heaven,

and peace to God's people on earth.

Embrace with your eternal protection all who are poor: refugees and the displaced, those threatened by violence or illness, and families with no place to call their home.

Glory to God in the highest heaven,

and peace to God's people on earth.

Fill this community with hospitality and generosity, that we may care for one another and celebrate the joy of your presence in our humanity.

Glory to God in the highest heaven,

and peace to God's people on earth.

We entrust to your divine grace all for whom we pray, especially our Foster Children Kasu and Maria, Eileen, Ronnie and Gary Agle, The Goodfellow family, Bill and Joyce, Lynne Pierce, Olga, Ian McGregor, Mike, Arlene and family, Denise Dubois, Anne Veilleux, Frances Boivin-Cunningham, The McConnell family, Ralph and Bev, Mitsa, Glenn and Kiki, Lil Robinson, Ann Hopkins, Sylvia Dawson, Donald Sloane and Jennifer. In the wider community we pray for For the Steirli family, Bev and Frances Hynes, Patrick Turgeon, Della Yaxley, Virginia, Gabriel, Jerry Osborne, Patrick Osborne, Brianna Walsh, Brahim, Kevan, David, Amanda McCordic, Bob Carveth, Robbie, Mark, Beth Reid, Brandon, Sarah, Paul and Rosemary Delaney, Pete, Len Levac, Kenneth Roberts, Keith Donahue, Jerry Prokoki, and Allen Macfarlane.

We give thanks for shepherds and all the vigilant who work while others sleep. Hear our grateful thanksgiving for all the gifts and blessings in our lives, especially all of our Health Care workers.

We entrust into your eternal arms those who have died, especially Fred Agle.

*Presider: Loving God, the joyful message of the angels fills us with gladness as we celebrate the coming of the Christ child to live among us in vulnerable humility: Let your divine light so dwell within us, that we may treasure your words, ponder them in our hearts, and continue the work of Christ's incarnation in our day, through Jesus our Saviour, to whom with you and the Holy Spirit be honour and glory, now and for ever. **Amen.***

In our Anglican Cycle of Prayer we pray for Mary, our Bishop; David our Metropolitan, Linda our Primate; Justin, Archbishop of Canterbury and all Priests, Clergy, Deacons and Lay Readers in the Diocese. In the world we pray for the Diocese of Ilesa South West – The Church of Nigeria (Anglican Communion); We also remember in prayer Rt. Rev'd. Bruce Myers, Bishop, Diocese of Quebec and for our partnerships with the Territory of the Peoples, for the Diocese of Masasi, we pray for Bishop James Almasi.

*Lord in your mercy, **Hear our prayers.***

The service continues on Page 191.

The Peace [No contact – no hand shaking]

Offertory Hymn: #137 "What Child is this"

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 Lord now and forever. Amen.

The flowers on the Altar are in loving memory of Nan Bird from the family, and the Poinsettias Plants in front of the font are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Fred Agle from Eileen and family. Rest eternal grant them, O Lord.

All: And let light perpetual shine upon them.

Eucharistic Prayer #3 on Page 198 with [Preface for Christmas on Page 219]

The Lord's Prayer

The Breaking of the Bread #6

Prayer after Communion:

Father 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.

Doxology, Pg. 214

Blessing/Bénédiction:

[with thanks to The Rev'd Lowell Grisham]

May we rejoice and be glad for the goodness and love of our God. May we welcome the good news of great joy for all people, the news of the Saviour who is Messiah, the Lord. May we be filled with the Spirit and join the heavenly song, "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace and goodwill toward all."

Celebrant: And the blessing of our wonderful God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit be with you and grow in you, now and always. Amen.

Birthdays & Anniversaries:

Dec. 27th – Elizabeth Rose O'Donnell

Dec. 31st – Beverley Goodfellow and Anne Julie Regnier

**“Happy Birthday to You, To Jesus Be True,
May God’s Many Blessings, Rest Upon You”**

Announcements:

Closing Hymn: #119 “Silent Night”

Dismissal.

MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL.

St. Stephen’s with St. James Anglican Church
and Grace Church, L’Acadie
2000 avenue Bourgogne, Chambly, QC J3L 1Z4
Tel: 450-658-5882
Email: st_stephens_chambly@bellnet.ca

Website: www.st-stephens-church-chambly.org/
<https://www.facebook.com/AnglicanChurchChambly/>



[image courtesy of: uminsight.net]