

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



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**NATIVITY OF THE LORD  
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24TH, 2023**

**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: Andy O'Donnell

Organist: Colin Langille

### ***Celebrant: Welcome***

Opening Hymn: #118 – O Come All Ye Faithful

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}**

### **Christmas Eve – Light**

Throughout this season we have lived, waited, and remembered the hope, peace, joy, and love of God found in Christ. (Light Candles) Tonight we gather together and light candles in honor of the Christ Child. With the birth of Christ, salvation has drawn near. The God who ordered the chaos of the universe has come down into the chaos of our world. The Word which was with God at the beginning came down and lived with us. While we were yet living in the valley of the shadow of death, the light of new life burst forth.

We light this candle for Christ.

**On this night, we remember God has come in the Christ Child.**

**Collect of the day:** See Page 273

## **PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD**

**Holly Dawson**

Today's first reading is taken from the book of Isaiah, Chapter 9, verses 2-7

{Isaiah 9:2-7}

Listen now to 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.

*[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.**

**The Psalm for this morning is Psalm 96 verses 1-13 found on Page 834 of the BAS. We shall read the Psalm together with the Prayer at the end.**

This morning's second reading is taken from Titus, Chapter 2 verses 11-14. Listen now to the Word of God. {Titus 2:11-14}

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: #119 – Silent Night

Rev. Andy O'Donnell: The Lord be with you.  
**People: And also, with you.**

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Saint Luke, in the 2nd Chapter, beginning at the first verse. [Luke 2:1-14, (15-20)]

**People: 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: Rev. Andy O'Donnell

**The service continues on Page 188 with the Nicene Creed**

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE WITH THANKS TO LOWELL GRISHAM**

**Devon Phillips**

Presider: Extend your greeting to your favored ones, O God, and let your Holy Spirit overshadow us, that we may proclaim your love to our generation, as we await the coming of Christ, saying: Let your faithfulness and love be with us; **for your love is established for ever.**

Litanist: Gracious and Loving One, build your Church into a house that shall be made sure forever before you, that we, like Mary, may respond in faithfulness and be bearers of the Christ Child unto all the world. Let your faithfulness and love be with us; **for your love is established for ever.**

Eternal and Infinite One, raise up just leaders, and guide the nations of the world, that all people may live in their own place, and not be disturbed; and that evildoers shall afflict them no more. Let your faithfulness and love be with us; **for your love is established for ever.**

Compassionate One, let the prophetic writings be made known to all the nations to bring release and comfort to all who are oppressed, to lift up the lowly and fill the hungry with good things. Let your faithfulness and love be with us; **for your love is established for ever.**

Loving One, empower your Holy Spirit to come upon this community, that we may be the servants of the Lord and live graciously according to your word. Let your faithfulness and love be with us; **for your love is established for ever.**

Gracious One, visit all for whom we pray with your mysterious love, and honor the intercessions of your people as we pray for especially for our Foster Children Kasu and Maria, the Agle family, the Goodfellow family, Bill and Joyce, Lynn Pearce, Olga, the McConnell family, the Stedman family, Lil and Joe Robinson, Ann Hopkins, Sylvia Dawson, Joel and Sarah, Donald Sloane, Jennifer, Derek Marchand, Ted Neville, Roslyn Macgregor, and Roy Wo. In the wider community we pray for Patrick Turgeon, Virginia, Brianna Walsh, Brahim, Kevan, David, Bob Carveth, Robbie, Mark, Dianne, Luna Utrera, Yolanda, Pauline, Jerry Prokoki, Ann Barton, Alvin Powell, Sheila & Art Atwood, Veronica Valentine, Carole Alain, Dr. and Mrs. Patenaude, Jordan, Tamara & Chris Esther, Sylvie & Guy, Sharron Edmunds Gillis, Frank Schneider, Bernard LaFleur, Nicole Dubois, Brent O'Donnell, Pauline Ulric, Bishop Mary Irwin-Gibson, Ralph Derry, and Trinity Episcopal Church Lewiston, Maine. Let your faithfulness and love be with us; **for your love is established for ever.**

Presider: Holy One, let your Word of perfect love cast out all fear, for the revelation of the mystery that was kept secret for long ages is now disclosed; guide us that we may joyfully bring about the obedience of faith in the power of the Spirit, through Jesus Christ, to whom be the glory forever. **Amen.**

In our Anglican Cycle of Prayer, we uphold in prayer Mary our Bishop, David our Metropolitan, Linda our Primate, Justin, Archbishop of Canterbury, and all Priests, Clergy, Deacons and Lay readers in the Diocese. We pray also for Montreal Alternate Members of General Synod, Mr. Randy Gates and Mrs. Nancy Greene-Grégoire. In the world we pray for the Episcopal Church in the Philippines. We also remember in prayer Rt. Rev'd. Dr. Bruce Myers, Bishop, Diocese of Quebec and for our partnerships with the Territory of the Peoples, and for the Diocese of Masasi, Bishop James Almasi and the Rev'd Linus Buriani and our developing friendship with the Diocese of Kinshasa, Bishop Achille. Lord in your mercy; **Amen**

**The service continues on Page 191 with the Confession and Absolution**

The Peace Page 192

Offertory Hymn: #138 – Hark the Herald Angels Sing

**Prayer over the gifts: Page 273**

Eucharistic Prayer #1 on Page 193

**The flowers on the Altar are in loving memory of Nan Bird from the family and for Lotty McConnell from the family.**

**The Lord's Prayer, Page 211**

The Breaking of the Bread #5, Page 212

**Prayer after Communion: Page 274**

Doxology, Pg. 214

Dismissal/Blessing: Page 215

**People: Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

**Birthdays this week:  
Chris Cunningham – Dec. 25<sup>th</sup>  
Josephine Schneider – Dec. 27<sup>th</sup>  
Elizabeth Rose O'Donnell – Dec. 27<sup>th</sup>  
Rylan Thomas – Dec. 30<sup>th</sup>**

**"Happy Birthday to you, To Jesus be True,  
May God's many blessings  
Keep falling on you."**

Closing Hymn: #154 – Joy To The World

Dismissal

Coffee will be served in Randell Hall immediately following the service courtesy of Anita & Gord.

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For Pastoral emergencies please call:  
Rev'd. Andy O'Donnell  
450-337-1040 / 450-524-1355  
Or via email: [wryce2024@gmail.com](mailto:wryce2024@gmail.com) or  
[aodonnell@montreal.anglican.ca](mailto:aodonnell@montreal.anglican.ca)

Our Church email: [ststephenschambly@gmail.com](mailto:ststephenschambly@gmail.com)  
Our Church Website: <https://st-stephens-church-chambly.org/>