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.



THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

November 29th, 2020 at 9.30 am

PRELUDE

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

THE GATHERING OF THE COMMUNITY

Dear friends, we gather this morning on the traditional territory of the Algonquin Nation, and we recognize the continuing presence of First Nations, Métis and Inuit in this region.

May we dwell on this land with respect and peace.

Here let heaven and earth embrace.

Here may God's people find home.

A WORD OF WELCOME

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

And also with you.

In the darkness before creation, you made all that lives and breathes. In the darkness of Mary's womb, you formed Jesus, bringer of light. In the darkness of our world, your spirit sustains us.

O God, you are with us in darkness and in light.

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Isaiah the Prophet cried out to God,

I wish you would open the heavens that separate us and come down, making the mountains quake because you are here.

Make your name known to all who are against you.

Make the nations tremble because of your presence.

You came before and did awesome deeds that we did not expect; you made our world shake at the sight of you.

In all the history of the world, no ears have heard and no eyes have seen any God other than you.

You work for those who wait for you.

We wait and hope, as we light this candle.

The first candle (hope) is lit.

Loving God,

come and shine your light in the world!

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Silence is kept.

Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness and put on the armour of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which your Son Jesus Christ came to us in great humility, that on the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge both the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

THE FIRST READING

Isaiah 64:1-9

O that you would tear open the heavens and come down, so that the mountains would quake at your presence - as when fire kindles brushwood and the fire causes water to boil - to make your name known to your adversaries, so that the nations might tremble at your presence! When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect, you came down, the mountains quaked at your presence. From ages past no one has heard, no ear has perceived, no eye has seen any God besides you, who works for those who wait for him. You meet those who gladly do right, those who remember you in your ways. But you were angry, and we sinned; because you hid yourself we transgressed. We have all become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous deeds are like a filthy cloth. We all fade like a leaf, and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away. There is no one who calls on your name, or attempts to take hold of you; for you have hidden your face from us, and have delivered us into the hand of our iniquity. Yet, O Lord, you are our Father; we are the clay, and you are our potter; we are all the work of your hand. Do

not be exceedingly angry, O Lord, and do not remember iniquity forever. Now consider, we are all your people.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 80:1-7, 16-18

Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph like a flock; shine forth, you that are enthroned upon the cherubim. In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin, and Manasseh, stir up your strength and come to help us.

Restore us, O God of hosts; show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.

O Lord God of hosts,

how long will you be angered despite the prayers of your people? You have fed them with the bread of tears; you have given them bowls of tears to drink. You have made us the derision of our neighbours, and our enemies laugh us to scorn.

Restore us, O God of hosts; show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.

Let your hand be upon the man of your right hand, the son of man you have made so strong for yourself. And so will we never turn away from you; give us life, that we may call upon your Name.

Restore us, O God of hosts; show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.

THE SECOND READING

1 Corinthians 1:3-9

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

I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind – just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you – so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Thanks be to God.

THE GOSPEL Mark 13:24-37

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.

Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

'But in those days, after that suffering, the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, and the stars will be falling from heaven, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken. Then they will see "the Son of Man coming in clouds" with great power and glory. Then he will send out the angels, and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven.

'From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

'But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. Beware, keep alert; for you do not know when the time will come. It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch. Therefore, keep awake – for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or at dawn, or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake.'

The Gospel of Christ.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

HOMILY

SOLO

Deck Thyself, My Soul, With Gladness (Johannes Brahms)

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 God 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, forgive you

and free you from your sins, heal and strengthen you by the Holy Spirit, and raise you to new life in Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

THE PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS

Eternal God, by your grace you have raised us up and enthroned us with Christ in the heavenly realms. Receive all we offer you this day, and lead us in those good works for which you have created us. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ the 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 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:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

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 4 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 Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and for ever. Amen.

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.

Please remain in your pews, the Celebrant will come to you to distribute communion or offer a blessing. <u>All</u> wafers today are gluten-free. Please do not remove your mask to consume the host until the priest has moved at least six feet away from you.

COMMUNION

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 your 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 Son of God gladden your hearts with the good news of his kingdom; and the blessing of God, ♣ Creator, Son, and Spirit be with you this day and always. **Amen.**

DISMISSAL

Go forth in the light of Christ!

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

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

Please remain seated until directed by the sidespeople, we ask that you leave by the Elgin Street front doors if you are able. For the accessible ramp you should exit using the Somerset St door.

Please remember to sanitize your hands when leaving the building.

Presider & Preacher Deacon

The Venerable Pat Johnston
The Reverend Dr Caroline Ducros

Organist Dr Gordon Johnston

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