



St. Paul's Anglican Church

" Connecting people with God and each other "

Saturday, December 25, 2021: Christmas Day Service

***Christmas Day
December 25, 2021***

*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)



ST. PAUL'S COVID-19 RESPONSE

Welcome!! During this unique time in history, services will look a bit different than normal. We want to care for the whole parish during this time and one way to care for one another is keeping each other safe. As such, we ask you to follow these guidelines while worshipping with us:

- **Experiencing Cough, Fever, or Other Symptom/s?** Go home immediately and please stay home for fourteen days following the end of your symptoms.
- **Wear a Mask.** All parishioners must wear a mask to all services (as per City of Edmonton bylaw 19408). Exceptions to this include children under the age of two and those with a medical condition where wearing a mask is not possible. Masks may be removed when taking communion but must be replaced immediately following. If you do not have a mask, we have cloth masks available in the foyer.
- **Maintain Physical Distance.** At all times, please remain a minimum of six feet (three seat spaces) from all other individuals not part of your family unit. You will find tape on the floor six feet apart in multiple locations to help you maintain this distance. Please also maintain physical distance outside.
- **Listen to the Ushers.** There will be ushers inside and outside to help direct these new procedures. Please heed their direction as they are trying to keep everyone safe and healthy.
- **Sanitize Hands Frequently.** Please sanitize your hands upon entry and before taking communion. You may also sanitize as often as you would like during the service. Please also try to refrain from touching surfaces and your face.
- **Recycle Bulletins.** Please do not leave bulletins in the pews. A recycle bin is available at each exit. You may also take the bulletin home.

Opening Song: Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

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 th' 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 the Virgin's womb
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see

Hail the incarnate Deity
Pleased as one of us to dwell
Jesus, our Immanuel
Hark! the herald angels sing
Glory to the newborn King

Hail, the heav'n-born Prince of peace
Hail! the Son of Righteousness
Light and life to all he brings
Risen with healing in his wings
Mild he lays his glory by
Born that man no more may die
Born to raise the some of earth
Born to give them second birth
Hark! the herald angels sing
Glory to the newborn King

The Gathering of the Community

Celebrant: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with you all.

People: **And also with you.**

Celebrant: Almighty God,

All: **to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hidden. Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Celebrant: O God our Father, whose Word has come among us in the Holy Child of Bethlehem, may the light of faith illumine our hearts and shine in our words and deeds; through him who is Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

People: **Amen.**

Introductory Responses

Celebrant: Blessed be the Lord, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

People: **May all the earth be filled with God's glory.**

Celebrant: Light has sprung up for all people,
People: and joyful gladness for those who are true-hearted.
Celebrant: Glory to God in the highest,
People: and peace to His people on earth.

The Reading of Scripture

First Reading: Isaiah 52:7-10

How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of the messenger who announces peace, who brings good news, who announces salvation, who says to Zion, "Your God reigns. Listen! Your sentinels lift up their voices, together they sing for joy; for in plain sight they see the return of the LORD to Zion. Break forth together into singing, you ruins of Jerusalem; for the LORD has comforted his people, he has redeemed Jerusalem. The LORD has bared his holy arm before the eyes of all the nations; and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Canticle: Psalm 98 (Sung to the tune of O, For a Thousand Tongues to Sing)

Sing to the Lord a joyful song,
For He has done great things;
His right hand and His holy arm
salvation to us bring.

Make music to the Lord with harp,
With singing make reply;
With trumpets, horn, and shouts of joy
before the Lord on high.

The Lord's salvation is made known,
The nations see it well.
He has recalled His faithfulness,
His love to Israel.

Let oceans roar and all therein,
All peoples of the earth;
Let rivers clap their hands for joy,
And mountains sing His worth.

The ends of all the earth have seen
salvation of our God;
Shout to the Lord with joy, all earth,
Burst into joyful song!

For God the Lord is coming soon
to judge the world He made;
He'll judge the world with equity,
and righteousness displayed.

Second Reading: Hebrews 1:1-4

Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets, but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, through whom he also created the worlds. He is the reflection of God's glory and the exact imprint of God's very being, and he sustains all things by his powerful word. When he had made purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Processional

Come and worship, Come and worship

Worship Christ, the newborn King

The Gospel Reading

Reader: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Reader: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St. John.

People: **Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

Gospel Reading: John 1:1-14

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it. There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God. And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

Reader: The Gospel of Christ.

People: **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

Worship Through Song

Once in Royal David's City

Once in royal David's city
Stood a lowly cattle shed
Where a mother laid her baby
In a manger for his 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 Savior 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

Sermon: The Rev. Dr. Myron Penner

Good Christians All, Rejoice

Good Christians all, rejoice
With heart and soul and voice!
Listen now to what we say
Jesus Christ is born today.
Ox and ass before him bow
And he is in the manger now!
Christ is born today,
Christ is born today

Good Christians all, rejoice
With heart and soul and voice!
Hear the news of endless bliss
Jesus Christ was born for this.
He has opened heaven's door
And we are blessed for evermore!
Christ was born for this,
Christ was born for this

Good Christians all, rejoice
With heart and soul and voice!
Now you need not fear the grave
Jesus Christ was born to save.
Come at his most gracious call
To find salvation one and all!
Christ was born to save,
Christ was born to save

Affirmation of Faith – The Apostle’s Creed

All: I believe in God, the Father almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended to the dead. On the third day, he rose again. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Prayers of the People

Leader: In joy and humility let us pray to the creator of the universe, saying, “Lord, grant us peace.” By the good news of our salvation brought to Mary by the angel, hear us, O Lord.

All: **Lord, grant us peace.**

Leader: By the mystery of the Word made flesh, hear us, O Lord. Lord, grant us peace. By the birth in time of the timeless Son of God, hear us, O Lord.

All: **Lord, grant us peace.**

Leader: By the manifestation of the King of glory to the shepherds and magi, hear us, O Lord.

All: **Lord, grant us peace.**

Leader: By the submission of the maker of the world to Mary and Joseph of Nazareth, hear us, O Lord.

All: **Lord, grant us peace.**

Leader: By the baptism of the Son of God in the river Jordan, hear us, O Lord.

All: **Lord, grant us peace.**

Leader: Grant that the kingdoms of this world may become the kingdom of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ; hear us, O Lord.

All: **Lord, grant us peace. Amen.**

Confession of Sin

Celebrant: Dear friends in Christ, God is steadfast in love and infinite in mercy; he welcomes sinners and invites them to his table. Let us confess our sins, confident in God's forgiveness.

Silent Confession

Celebrant: Most merciful God,

All: we confess that we have sinned against you in thought word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbours as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us, that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your name. Amen.

Celebrant: Almighty God have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness and keep you in eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

People: Amen.

The Peace

Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: And also with you.

Offertory Song: *See Amid the Winter's Snow*

See amid the winter's snow
Born for us on earth below
See the tender Lamb appears
Promised from eternal years

(Chorus) Hail, thou ever blessed morn
Hail, redemption's happy dawn
Sing through all Jerusalem
Christ is born in Bethlehem

Lo, within a manger lies
He who build the starry skies
Who enthroned in height sublime
Sits amid the cherubim *(To Chorus)*

Say, ye holy shepherds, say
What your joyful news today
Wherefore have ye left your sheep
On the lonely mountain steep?
(To Chorus)

"As we watched at dead of night
Lo, we saw a wondrous light
Angels singing 'Peace on earth'
Told us of the Savior's birth" *(To Chorus)*

Sacred infant, all divine
What a tender love was thine
Thus to come from highest bliss
Down to such a world as this *(To Chorus)*

Prayer Over the Gifts

Celebrant: Generous Creator,

All: in faith and joy we celebrate the birth of your Son. Increase our understanding and our love of the riches you have revealed in him, who is Lord now and for ever. Amen.

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Celebrant: Blessed are you, gracious God, creator of heaven and earth; we give you thanks and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord, who in the mystery of his incarnation was made perfect man of the flesh of the Virgin Mary his mother; in him we have seen a new and radiant vision of your glory. Therefore, with all the angels of heaven, we lift our voices and sing our joyful hymn of praise to proclaim the glory of your name.

All: (Sung) Holy, holy, holy are you, God of power and might, heaven and earth are filled with your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is the one who comes in your name. Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.

Celebrant: We give thanks to you, Lord our God, for the goodness and love you have made known to us in creation; in calling Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Saviour and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life. On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, a death he freely accepted, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: this is my body which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me." After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said,

“Drink this, all of you: this is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me.” Therefore, Father, according to his command,

All: we remember his death, we proclaim his resurrection, we await his coming in glory;

Celebrant: and we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine. We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts, that they may be the sacrament of the body of Christ and his blood of the new covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we, made acceptable in him, may be sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, reconcile all things in Christ, and make them new, and bring us to that city of light where you dwell with all your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation; by whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory are yours, almighty Father, now and for ever.

All: Amen.

Celebrant: As our Saviour taught us, let us pray as we sing,

All: *(Sung)* 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.

Celebrant: We break the bread of life, and that life is the light of the world.

All: God here among us, light in the midst of us, bring us to light and life.

Celebrant: The gifts of God for the People of God.

People: Thanks be to God.

The Communion

Please listen carefully to the verbal instructions given. You are welcome to receive communion or come forward for a blessing. Gluten-free wafers are also available. If you prefer to receive a blessing, please fold your arms over your chest.

Lamb of God

(Sung) Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, grant us your peace.

Communion Music: Of Eternal Love Begotten

Of eternal love begotten

Ere the worlds began to be

He is Alpha and Omega

He the source, the ending he

Of the things that are, that have been

And that future years shall see

Evermore, and evermore

O that birth for ever blessed

When the virgin, full of grace

By the Holy Ghost conceiving

Bare the Saviour of our race

And the babe, the world's redeemer

First revealed his sacred face

Evermore, and evermore

O ye heights of heaven adore him

Angel hosts, his praises sing

All dominions bow before him

And extol our God and king

Let no tongue on earth be silent

Every voice in concert ring

Evermore, and evermore

Prayer After Communion

Celebrant: Source of truth and joy,

All: may we who have received the gift of divine life always follow the way of your Son. This we ask in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord. Amen.

Celebrant: Glory to God,

All: whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine. Glory to God from generation to generation, in the Church and in Christ Jesus, for ever and ever. Amen.

Blessing

Congregational Announcements

Closing Song: O Come, All Ye Faithful

O come, all ye faithful
Joyful and triumphant
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem
Come and behold him
Born the King of angels

(Chorus) O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him,
Christ the Lord!

God of God, Light of Light
Lo, He abhors not the virgin's womb

Very God, begotten not created
(To Chorus)

Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation
Sing, all ye citizens of heav'n above
Glory to God, in the highest! *(To Chorus)*

Yea, Lord, we greet thee
Born this happy morning
Jesus, to thee be all glory giv'n!
Word of the Father
Now in flesh appearing *(To Chorus)*

The Dismissal

Celebrant: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God!**

St. Paul's staff and clergy wish you a very Merry Christmas!

<p>May you see the GOD of HOPE, PEACE, JOY, and LOVE at work in your neighborhoods and communities this Christmas season! God's blessing to you and your families!</p>	<p>St. Paul's Anglican Church 10127 145 Street, Edmonton, T5N 2X6 Website: www.stpauls-anglican.ca Phone: (780) 455-0771 Email: office@stpauls-anglican.ca Office Hours: Mon-Thurs 9:30-11:30am</p> <p>For prayer requests Email or phone the church office For pastoral emergencies call: (587) 334-2130</p>
<p>Please join us Sunday mornings at 10:00am both in person and live streamed. Live streams can be viewed from our YouTube Channel (St. Paul's Anglican – Edmonton).</p>	