



Holy Eucharist

The Second Sunday
of Advent

The Cathedral Church of Saint George
December 7, 2025 • 10:30 a.m.

We acknowledge that in Kingston we are situated on traditional territory of the Anishinaabe, Haudenosaunee, and Huron Wendat peoples. We seek a new relationship with the original peoples of this land, one rooted in and based upon honour and deep respect.

The Tree of Jesse – 12th Century lancet window on the west façade of Chartres Cathedral, France

WELCOME TO ST. GEORGE'S CATHEDRAL

Welcome to worship at St George's Cathedral. Wherever you are on your spiritual journey, and whether you are joining in the nave or via the livestream, you are welcome here! Please join us for refreshments and fellowship following the service. We are thrilled you have decided to worship with us!

*The flowers on the high altar are given to the Glory of God and in loving
Memory of a dear friend Rita Myres from Sarah Earl.*

The Gathering of *the* Community

Prelude

The people's responses are in bold.

Gathering Hymn | Sung by all, standing as able.



Hark, a thrilling voice is sounding;
'Christ is nigh,' it seems to say;
'Cast away the dreams of darkness,
O ye children of the day.'

4 That when next he comes with glory,
And the world is wrapp'd in fear,
With his mercy he may shield us,
And with words of love draw near.

2 Wakened by the solemn warning,
Let the earth-bound soul arise;
Christ, her Sun, all ill dispelling,
Shines upon the morning skies.

5 Honour, glory, might, and blessing
To the Father and the Son,
With the everlasting Spirit,
While eternal ages run.

3 Lo, the Lamb, so long expected,
Comes with pardon down from heaven;
Let us haste, with tears of sorrow,
One and all to be forgiven;

Merton
W. H. Monk 1823-1889

Latin
tr. Edward Caswall 1814-78

The people remain standing as able for the Land Acknowledgment and are seated for the Notices.

Welcome & Land Acknowledgment

The people stand as able.

THE LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

Celebrant Jesus said, 'Do not think that I have come to abolish the law and the prophets: I have not come to abolish them but to fulfil them.'

People **Amen. Come soon, Lord Jesus!**

The second candle is lit

Celebrant Jesus is the light of the world.

People **A light no darkness can ever extinguish.**

Candle Lighting Hymn | Sung by all.



Advent candles tell their story
as we watch and pray,
longing for the Day of Glory,
'Come, Lord, soon,' we say.
Pain and sorrow, tears and sadness,
changed for gladness
on that Day.

Angel Voices

E. G. Monk 1819-1900

2. Prophet voices loudly crying,
making pathways clear;
glimpsing glory, self-denying,
calling all to hear.
Through their message - challenged, shaken –
hearts awaken:
God is near!

Mark Earey

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The Opening Acclamation

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,

People **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.**

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant Almighty God, who sent your servant John the Baptist to prepare your people to welcome the Messiah, inspire us, the ministers and stewards of your truth, to turn our disobedient hearts to you, that when the Christ shall come again to be our judge, we may stand with confidence before his glory; who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

People **Amen.**

The people are seated.

The Proclamation of *the* Word

The First Lesson | Isaiah 11:1-10

A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots. The spirit of the Lord shall rest on him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord. His delight shall be in the fear of the Lord. He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide by what his ears hear; but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked. Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist, and faithfulness the belt around his loins. The wolf shall live with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the kid, the calf and the lion and the fatling together, and a little child shall lead them. The cow and the bear shall graze, their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den. They will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain; for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea. On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples; the nations shall inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious.

Reader The word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalms 72 | Sung by the choir.

GIVE the king thy judgements, O God, / and thy righteousness unto the king's son.

2 Then shall he judge thy people according unto right, / and thy poor with justice.

3 The mountains also shall bring peace, / and the little hills righteousness unto the people.

4 He shall keep the simple folk by their right, / save the children of the poor, and punish the wrong doer.

5 HE shall live as long as the sun, / and while the moon endureth, from one generation to another.

6 He shall come down like the rain upon the mown grass, / even as the showers that water the earth.

7 In his time shall righteousness flourish; / yea, and abundance of peace, so long as the moon endureth.

20 BLESSED be the LORD, the God of Israel, / who only doeth wondrous things;

21 And blessed be the Name of his majesty for ever: / and let all the earth be filled with his majesty.

Amen and Amen.

The Second Lesson | Letter of Paul to the Romans 15:4-13

For whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, so that by steadfastness and by the encouragement of the scriptures we might have hope. May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus, so that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. For I tell you that Christ has become a servant of the circumcised on behalf of the truth of God in order that he might confirm the promises given to the patriarchs, and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written, "Therefore I will confess you among the Gentiles, and sing praises to your name"; and again he says, "Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people"; and again, "Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles, and let all the peoples praise him"; and again Isaiah says, "The root of Jesse shall come, the one who rises to rule the Gentiles; in him the Gentiles shall hope." May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Reader The word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Gradual Hymn | Sung by all, standing as able



On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry
Announces that the Lord is nigh;
Awake and hearken, for he brings
Glad tidings of the King of kings.

4 To heal the sick stretch out thine hand,
And bid the fallen sinner stand;
Shine forth, and let thy light restore
Earth's own true loveliness once more.

2 Then cleansed be every breast from sin;
Make straight the way for God within;
Prepare we in our hearts a home,
Where such a mighty guest may come.

5 All praise, eternal Son, to thee
Whose advent sets thy people free,
Whom with the Father we adore,
And Holy Ghost for evermore.

3 For thou art our salvation, Lord,
Our refuge and our great reward;
Without thy grace we waste away,
Like flowers that wither and decay.

The Holy Gospel | Matthew 3:1-12

Gospeller The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Gospeller The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

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

In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near." This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said, The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.'" Now John wore clothing of camel's hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. Then the people of Jerusalem and all Judea were going out to him, and all the region along the Jordan, and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. But when he saw many Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruit worthy of repentance. Do not presume to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our ancestor'; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. I baptize you with water for repentance, but one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and will gather his wheat into the granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

Gospeller The Gospel of Christ.

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

The people are seated at the invitation of the preacher.

The Sermon | *Visions of Hope and Promise* – Eric Friesen

Silence may be kept. The people stand as able.

Celebrant Let us confess our faith, as we say,.

People **We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third

day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father. With the Father and the Son he is worshipped and glorified. He has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

The people may adopt a posture of prayer, as they wish.

The Prayers of the People

Confession & Absolution

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. Most merciful God,

People 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 people stand as able.

The Peace

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you.

The people greet one another with a sign of God's peace.

An offering is received to support the mission and ministry of the Cathedral. All are invited to make a gift as the plate is passed, or by visiting www.stgeorgescathedral.ca/donate.

The Holy Communion

Offertory Hymn | Sung by all, standing as able



Lo, in the wilderness a voice
'Make straight the way' is crying:
When all are turning from the light,
And hope and love seem dying,
The prophet comes to make us clean:
'There standeth one you have not seen,
Whose voice you are denying.'

3 When from the vineyard cruel hands
Cast out the heavenly powers
And Christendom denies its Lord,
The world in ruin cowers.
Now come, O God, in thy great might!
Unchanged, unchanging is thy right,
Unswayed thy justice towers.

2 God give us grace to hearken now
To those who come to warn us,
Give sight and strength, that we may kill
The vices that have torn us,
Lest love professed should disappear
In creeds of hate, contempt, and fear,
That crush and overturn us.

Newnham
Herbert Howells 1892-1983

Percy Dearmer 1867-1936

The Prayer Over the Gifts

Celebrant God our strength, we are nothing without you. Receive all we offer you this day
as you sustain us with your mercy; in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.

People **Amen.**

The Great Thanksgiving

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 fullness of time came among us in our flesh, and opened to us the way of salvation. Now we watch for the day when he will come again in power and great triumph to judge this world, that we, Without shame or fear, may rejoice to behold his appearing. Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your name.

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

People Therefore, Father, according to his command,
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.

People

Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Celebrant

And now, as our Saviour Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

People

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, for
ever and ever. Amen.**

The Breaking of the Bread

Celebrant

God of promise, you prepare a banquet for us in your kingdom.

People

Happy are those who are called to the supper of the Lamb.

The Communion

Celebrant

The gifts of God for the people of God.

People

Thanks be to God.

Agnus Dei

Choir

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world: have mercy upon us.
O Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world: have mercy upon us.
O Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world: grant us thy peace.

All baptized Christians are welcome to receive communion in this Church. Please move to the rail at the direction of the ushers. You may receive the bread in open and outstretched hands, responding: "Amen." Gluten-free wafers are available; please make your need known to the minister. If you prefer not to receive wine from the common cup, you may simply touch the base of the chalice, again responding: "Amen." Should you wish to receive a blessing, please indicate that to the priest by crossing your arms over your chest.

The Prayer after Communion

Celebrant Faithful God, we thank you for feeding us with this heavenly banquet.
Help us always to hear the prophet's call to turn our hearts to you;
in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord.

People **Amen.**

The people stand as able.

Celebrant Glory to God,

People **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.**

The Blessing

Celebrant Life is short, and we do not have much time to gladden the hearts of those who
journey with us. And so make haste to love, and be swift to be kind; And may the
God who travels with us, the God of pilgrimage, the God of Hope, bless, care and
keep you, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, now and always

People **Amen.**

The Dismissal

Celebrant Go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit

People **Thanks be to God.**

Recessional Hymn | Sung by all, standing as able.



Thy kingdom come! On bended knee
the passing ages pray;
and faithful souls have yearned to see
on earth that kingdom's day.

2 But the slow watches of the night
not less to God belong;
and for the everlasting right
the silent stars are strong.

3 And lo, already on the hills
the flags of dawn appear;
gird up your loins, ye prophet souls,
proclaim the day is near:

4 The day in whose clear-shining light
all wrong shall stand revealed,
when justice shall be throned in might,
and every hurt be healed;

5 When knowledge, hand in hand with peace,
shall walk the earth abroad:
the day of perfect righteousness,
the promised day of God.

Irish

Irish Folk Song; *Collection of Hymns and Sacred Poems*, 1749;
Dublin Hymn Book, 1749

Frederick L. Hosmer 1840-1929

Postlude

The postlude concludes our worship service, sending us forth into the week ahead. You may choose to remain seated for the duration or depart following the closing hymn.

LEADING THE SERVICE

PREACHER Eric Friesen
PRESIDER The Very Rev. Douglas Michael, *dean*
MUSICIANS Brad Barbeau, *director of music*
 The Cathedral Choir

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

Prayer 3, *The Book of Alternative Services*

SERVICE MUSIC

Mass of the Holy Trinity, Jonathan Tuuk

ASSISTING WITH THE SERVICE

READER Lucy McIlquham
SERVER Derek Falkner & Gerald Courage
LAY MINSTERS Gerald Courage
LIVESTREAM Derek Falkner & Peter McCubbin
INTERCESSOR Irene Courage
VERGER Jane Kirkpatrick
SIDESPEOPLE Debbie Dockerty and Brian Hinchey

NEXT SUNDAY

Third Sunday in Advent: *Gaudete Sunday*

The Very Rev. Douglas Michael, *preacher*

The Rev. Canon Peter Case, *presider*

Isaiah 35:1-10; Psalm 146:4-9;

James 5:7-10; Matthew 11:2-11