

# The Holy Eucharist

## The Third Sunday of Advent



**The Cathedral Church of Saint George**  
December 14, 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.*

## 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 gratefully, and especially with joy, as we wait  
for the blessings of your salvation.

# The Gathering of *the* Community

## Prelude

*The people's stand as the procession enters the Cathedral.*

## Processional Hymn | Sung by all



Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord!  
Unnumbered blessings give my spirit voice;  
tender to me the promise of his Word;  
in God my Savior shall my heart rejoice.

3 Tell out, my soul, the greatness of his might!  
Powers and dominions lay their glory by.  
Proud hearts and stubborn wills are put to flight,  
the hungry fed, the humble lifted high.

2 Tell out, my soul, the greatness of his name!  
Make known his might, the deeds his arm has done;  
his mercy sure, from age to age the same;  
his holy name, the Lord, the Mighty One.

4 Tell out, my soul, the glories of his Word!  
Firm is his promise, and his mercy sure.  
Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord  
to children's children and forevermore!

Woodlands  
Walter Greatorex 1877-1949

Timothy Dudley Smith b. 1926  
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*The people are seated.*

## Welcome & Announcements

*The people stand as able at the invitation of the Celebrant.*

## THE LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

*Celebrant* Jesus said, 'No one more important than John the Baptist has ever been born; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.'

*People* Amen. Come soon, Lord Jesus!

*The third candle is lit.*

*Celebrant* Jesus is the light of the world.

*Celebrant* 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 John the Baptist, by his preaching  
and by water poured,  
brought to those who heard his teaching  
news of hope restored:  
'Keep your vision strong and steady,  
and be ready  
for the Lord.'

Mark Earey

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*The people stand as able at the invitation of the Celebrant.*

### 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 with thy spirit.**

*Celebrant*

Almighty God,

*People*

**unto whom all hearts be open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of thy Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love thee, and worthily magnify thy holy name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

### THE SUMMARY OF THE LAW

*Celebrant*

Our Lord Jesus Christ said: hear, O Israel, the Lord our God is one Lord; and thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind, and with all thy strength. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it: thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.

*People*

**Lord, have mercy upon us, and write both these thy laws in our hearts, we beseech thee.**

### Kyrie Eleison | Sung by the choir in Greek.

Lord have mercy, Christ have mercy, Lord have mercy.

## The Collect of the Day

*Celebrant*

God of power and mercy, you call us once again to celebrate the coming of your Son. Remove those things which hinder love of you, that when he comes, he may find us waiting in awe and wonder for him who lives 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 35:1-10

The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad, the desert shall rejoice and blossom; like the crocus it shall blossom abundantly, and rejoice with joy and singing. The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it, the majesty of Carmel and Sharon. They shall see the glory of the Lord, the majesty of our God. Strengthen the weak hands, and make firm the feeble knees. Say to those who are of a fearful heart, "Be strong, do not fear! Here is your God. He will come with vengeance, with terrible recompense. He will come and save you." Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped; then the lame shall leap like a deer, and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy. For waters shall break forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert; the burning sand shall become a pool, and the thirsty ground springs of water; the haunt of jackals shall become a swamp, the grass shall become reeds and rushes. A highway shall be there, and it shall be called the Holy Way; the unclean shall not travel on it, but it shall be for God's people; no traveller, not even fools, shall go astray. No lion shall be there, nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it; they shall not be found there, but the redeemed shall walk there. And the ransomed of the Lord shall return, and come to Zion with singing; everlasting joy shall be upon their heads; they shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

*Reader*

The word of the Lord.

*People*

**Thanks be to God.**

### Psalm 146:4-9

4 BLESSED is he that hath the God of Jacob for his help, / and whose hope is in the LORD his God;  
5 Who made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that therein is; / who keepeth his promise for ever;  
6 Who helpeth them to right that suffer wrong; / who feedeth the hungry.  
7 The LORD looseth men out of prison: / the LORD giveth sight to the blind.  
8 The LORD raiseth up them that are fallen: / the LORD loveth the righteous.  
9 The LORD careth for the strangers; he upholdeth the fatherless and widow: / as for the way of the ungodly, he turneth it upside down.  
10 The LORD thy God, O Sion, shall be King for evermore, / and throughout all generations.

## The Second Lesson | James 5:7-10

Be patient, therefore, beloved, until the coming of the Lord. The farmer waits for the precious crop from the earth, being patient with it until it receives the early and the late rains. You also must be patient. Strengthen your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is near. Beloved, do not grumble against one another, so that you may not be judged. See, the Judge is standing at the doors! As an example of suffering and patience, beloved, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord.

*Reader*                      The word of the Lord.

*People*                      **Thanks be to God.**

## Gradual Hymn | Sung by all, standing as able.



The people that in darkness sat  
a glorious light have seen;  
the light has shined on them who long  
in shades of death have been.

2 To hail thee, Sun of Righteousness,  
the gathering nations come;  
they joy as when the reapers bear  
their harvest treasures home.

3 For thou their burden dost remove,  
and break the tyrant's rod,  
as in the day when Midian fell  
before the sword of God.

4 For unto us a child is born,  
to us a Son is given,  
and on his shoulder ever rests  
all power in earth and heaven.

5 His name shall be the Prince of Peace,  
the everlasting Lord,  
the Wonderful, the Counsellor,  
the God by all adored.

6 His righteous government and power  
shall over all extend;  
on judgement and on justice based,  
his reign shall have no end.

7 Lord Jesus, reign in us, we pray,  
and make us thine alone,  
who with the Father ever art  
and Holy Spirit One.

Dundee  
*Scottish Psalter*, 1615. As in Ravenscroft's *Psalter*, 1621; *'Este's*  
*Psalter*, 1592.

versifier John Morison 1749-98

## **The Holy Gospel** | Matthew 11:2-11

*Gospeller*            The Lord be with you.

*People*                **And with thy spirit.**

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

*People*                **Glory be to thee, O Lord.**

When John heard in prison what the Messiah was doing, he sent word by his disciples and said to him, "Are you the one who is to come, or are we to wait for another?" Jesus answered them, "Go and tell John what you hear and see: the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have good news brought to them. And blessed is anyone who takes no offence at me." As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds about John: "What did you go out into the wilderness to look at? A reed shaken by the wind? What then did you go out to see? Someone dressed in soft robes? Look, those who wear soft robes are in royal palaces. What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. This is the one about whom it is written, 'See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way before you.' Truly I tell you, among those born of women no one has arisen greater than John the Baptist; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he."

*Gospeller*            The Gospel of Christ.

*People*                **Praise be to thee, O Christ.**

*The people are seated at the invitation of the preacher.*

**THE SERMON**    THE VERY REV. DOUGLAS MICHAEL

*Silence may be kept. The people stand as able.*

### **The Nicene Creed**

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

*People*                **I believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible; And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of the Father before all worlds, God, of God; Light, of Light; very God, of very God; begotten, not made; being of one substance with the Father; through whom all things were made: who for us and for our salvation came down from heaven, and was incarnate by the Holy Ghost of the Virgin Mary, and was Made man, and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried, and the third day he rose again according to the scriptures, and ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of the Father. And he shall come again with glory to judge both the quick and the dead: whose kingdom shall have no end.**  
**And**

I believe in the Holy Ghost, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceedeth from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified, who spake by the prophets. And I believe one, holy, catholic, and apostolic Church. I acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins. And I 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* Hear what comfortable words our Saviour Christ saith unto all that truly turn to him.

Come unto me all that labour and are heavy laden, and I will refresh you.  
(*Matthew 1.28*)

God so loved the world, that he gave his only-begotten Son, to the end that all that believe in him should not perish, but have eternal life.

(*John 3.16*)

Hear also what Saint Paul saith.

This a true saying, and worthy of all to be received, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners.

(*1 Timothy 1.15*)

Hear also what Saint John saith.

If anyone sin, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous; and he is the propitiation for our sins: and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world.

(*1 John 2.1,2*)

Ye that do truly and earnestly repent you of your sins, and are in love and charity with your neighbours, and intend to lead the new life, following the commandments

of God, and walking from henceforth in his holy ways: draw near with faith, and take

this holy sacrament to your comfort; and make your humble confession to almighty God.

*Silence may be kept. The celebrant and people say together,*

**People**            **Almighty God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, Maker of all things and judge of all people: We acknowledge and confess our manifold sins and wickedness, Which we from time to time most grievously have committed, By thought, word and deed, Against thy divine majesty. We do earnestly repent, and are heartily sorry for these our misdoings. Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father; For thy Son our Lord Jesus Christ's sake, Forgive us all that is past; And grant that we may ever hereafter Serve and please thee In newness of life, To the honour and glory of thy name; Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

*Celebrant*            Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who of his great mercy hath promised forgiveness of sins to all them that with hearty repentance and true faith turn unto him: have mercy upon you; pardon and deliver you from all your sins; confirm and strengthen you in all goodness; and bring you to everlasting 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 with thy spirit.**

*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](http://www.stgeorgescathedral.ca/donate) to give securely online.*



# The Holy Communion

Offertory Hymn | Sung by all, standing as able.



For the fruits of all creation,  
thanks be to God;  
for the gifts of every nation,  
thanks be to God;  
for the ploughing, sowing, reaping,  
silent growth while we are sleeping,  
future needs in earth's safe-keeping,  
thanks be to God.

2. In the just reward of labour,  
God's will is done;  
in the help we give our neighbour,  
God's will is done;  
in our world-wide task of caring  
for the hungry and despairing,  
in the harvest we are sharing,  
God's will is done.

3. For the harvests of the Spirit,  
thanks be to God;  
for the good we all inherit,  
thanks be to God;  
for the wonders that astound us,  
for the truths that still confound us,  
most of all, that love has found us,  
thanks be to God.

East Aklam  
Francis Jackson 1917-2021

Fred Pratt Green 1903-2000  
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## PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS

*Celebrant* God of hope, renew in us the joy of your salvation and make us a living sacrifice to you, for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.

*People* Amen.

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

***People* And with thy spirit.**

*Celebrant* Lift up your hearts.

***People* We lift them up unto the Lord.**

*Celebrant* Let us give thanks unto our Lord God.

***People* It is meet and right so to do.**

*Celebrant* It is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord, holy Father, almighty, everlasting God, creator and preserver of all things. 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 with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious name; evermore praising thee and saying:

*Choir* *Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Hosts, heaven and earth are full of thy glory. Glory be to thee, O Lord most high. Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord: Hosanna in the highest.*

*The people are seated as the celebrant continues:*

*Celebrant* Blessing and glory and thanksgiving be unto thee, almighty God, our heavenly Father, who of thy tender mercy didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to take our nature upon him, and to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption; who made there, by his one oblation of himself once offered, a full, perfect, and sufficient sacrifice, oblation, and satisfaction, for the sins of the whole world; and did institute, and in his holy Gospel command us to continue, a perpetual memorial of that his precious death, until his coming again.

Hear us, O merciful Father, we most humbly beseech thee; and grant that we receiving these thy creatures of bread and wine, according to thy Son our Saviour Jesus Christ's holy institution, in remembrance of his death and passion, may be partakers of his most blessed body and blood; who, in the same night that he was betrayed, took bread; and, when he had given thanks, he brake it; and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you: Do this in remembrance of me."

Likewise after supper he took the cup; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, "Drink ye all, of this; for this is my blood of the new covenant, which

is shed for you and for many for the remission of sins: Do this, as oft as ye shall drink it, in remembrance of me.”

Wherefore, O Father, Lord of heaven and earth, we thy humble servants, with all thy holy Church, remembering the precious death of thy beloved Son, his mighty resurrection, and glorious ascension, and looking for his coming again in glory, do make before thee, in this sacrament of the holy bread of eternal life and the cup of everlasting salvation, the memorial which he hath commanded:

*People*                    **We praise thee, we bless thee, we thank thee, and we pray to thee, Lord our God.**

*Celebrant*            And we entirely desire thy fatherly goodness mercifully to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, most humbly beseeching thee to grant, that by the merits and death of thy Son Jesus Christ, and through faith in his blood, we and all thy whole Church may obtain remission of our sins, and all other benefits of his passion; And we pray that by the power of thy Holy Spirit, all we who are partakers of this holy communion may be fulfilled with thy grace and heavenly benediction; through Jesus Christ our Lord, by whom and with whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, world without end. *People*  
**Amen.**

## **THE LORD’S PRAYER**

*Celebrant*            And now, as our Saviour Christ hath 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

*People* We do not presume to come to this thy table, O merciful Lord, Trusting in our own righteousness, But in thy manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy So much as to gather up the crumbs under thy table. But thou art the same Lord, Whose property is always to have mercy: Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, So to eat the flesh of thy dear Son Jesus Christ, And to drink his blood, That we may evermore dwell in him, And he in us. Amen.

**Agnus Dei** | Sung by the 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 people stand as able.*

## THE POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

*Celebrant* Merciful God, may this eucharist free us from our sins, fill us with unending joy, and prepare us for the birthday of our Saviour. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ, who is Lord now and for ever. **Amen.**

*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. **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.



Hail to the Lord's Anointed!  
Great David's greater Son;  
Hail, in the time appointed,  
His reign on earth begun!  
He comes to break oppression,  
To set the captive free;  
To take away transgression,  
And rule in equity.

2 He comes with succour speedy  
To those who suffer wrong;  
To help the poor and needy,  
And bid the weak be strong;  
To give them songs for sighing,  
Their darkness turn to light,  
Whose souls, condemned and dying,  
Were precious in his sight.

3 He shall come down like showers  
Upon the fruitful earth,  
Love, joy, hope, like flowers,  
Spring in his path to birth:  
Before him on the mountains  
Shall peace the herald go;  
And righteousness in fountains  
From hill to valley flow.

Crüger  
From a chorale by Johann Crüger 1598-1662

4 Kings shall fall down before him,  
And gold and incense bring;  
All nations shall adore him,  
His praise all people sing;  
To him shall prayer unceasing  
And daily vows ascend;  
His kingdom still increasing,  
A kingdom without end.

5 O'er every foe victorious,  
He on his throne shall rest,  
From age to age more glorious,  
All-blessing and all-blest:  
The tide of time shall never  
His covenant remove;  
His name shall stand for ever;  
That name to us is Love.

James Montgomery 1771-1854  
based on Psalm 72

## 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	The Very Rev. Douglas Michael
PRESIDER	The Rev. Canon Peter Case
DEACON	The Rev. Dr Reagan Gale
MUSICIANS	Brad Barbeau
	The Cathedral Choir

## ASSISTING WITH THE SERVICE

READER	Aveleigh Kyle	INTERCESSOR	Peter Gower
SERVER	Derek Falkner & Gerald Courage	VERGER	Jane K.
LAY MINSTERS	Peter Gower & Aveleigh Kyle	SIDESPEOPLE	Doug & Sylvia Green
LIVESTREAM	Derek Falkner & Peter McCubbin		Jim & Vicki Parrish

**SERVICE MUSIC:** *Communion Service in E Major, Collegium Regale, Harold Darke 1888-1976*

## Next Week's Service Schedule

Midweek Eucharist | Wednesday, 12:15pm

Handel's *Messiah* | Wednesday, 6pm (*ticketed event*)

Coventry Litany of Reconciliation | Friday, 12:00pm

**The Fourth Sunday of Advent | Sunday, December 21**

**8am Said Eucharist | 10:30am Choral Eucharist *with Pageant***

The Rev. Dr. Reagan Gale, *preacher*

The Very Rev. Douglas Michael, *presider*

ISAIAH 7:10-16; PSALM 80:1-7, 16-18; ROMANS 1:1-7; MATTHEW 1:18-25

## Support the Cathedral

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## CHRISTMAS AT THE CATHEDRAL

*Learn more at [www.stgeorgescathedral.ca/christmas](http://www.stgeorgescathedral.ca/christmas)*

**G.F. Handel's *Messiah*** | Wednesday, December 17 • 6pm (*ticketed event*)

**Christmas Lessons & Carols** | Sunday, December 21 • 4:30pm

**Christmas Eve** | 12:15pm • 4:00pm • 7:00pm • 9:30pm

**Christmas Day** | 10:00am

## *The Cathedral Church of St George*

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