

Christmas for the City

Wednesday, December 24, 2025

8:00 P.M.

Choral Eucharist | In-Person & Livestream

&

II:00 P.M.

Choral Eucharist | In-Person

The Very Reverend Christopher A. Pappas, *Presider*The Most Reverend John R. Stephens, *Preacher*The Reverend Kevin de la Mare, *Deacon*Dr. Neil Cockburn, *Organist & Director of Music*

Welcome to the Cathedral

Whether today is your first time with us, or if this is your spiritual home, we welcome you to the Cathedral. We're glad that you're here today.

We envision a radically inclusive, restlessly inquisitive, intentional, and inspired Cathedral. This is a place that is called to lead and to serve, in communion and community, with healing, reconciliation, and love, living out the Christian mission. Together, we look to the power of Christ for the transformation of each person, this city of Vancouver, and the world.

We recognize our history and traditions while seeking renewal and growth in spiritual depth and size. Curious and adaptable, this chorus has room for every voice — especially yours.

To learn more about the many ministries and opportunities for service in this community, please visit our website: www.thecathedral.ca.

Thank you for joining us today. Your presence enriches our life together.

Merry Christmas,

The Very Rev. Christopher A. Pappas, Ph.D., D.Min.
Dean & Rector



Connect with us!

We invite you to tell us more about yourself by completing our short connection form. You may find this form at tinyurl.com/CathedralConnection or by scanning the QR code on the left.

A message to children and their grown-ups

We're glad you're here to celebrate the birth of baby Jesus with us!

The nursery is available downstairs as a quiet space for you and your children. The service is live streamed so you can follow the worship.

If you loved this service and are curious about our regular Sunday worship, there is Sunday school for children at the 10.30am service. We also have playmats and an activity cart with books, puzzles and colouring at the front of the church. Come and see!

If you would like to learn more, please contact Rev. Areeta.

Need to reach us?

Visit us at www.thecathedral.ca/pages/our-team or scan the QR code on the right to access our clergy and staff contact information.

We're here to support you — feel free to reach out anytime!



Dean Let us proceed in peace.

All In the name of Christ, Amen

Processional Hymn

O Come, All Ye Faithful

Text: John Francis Wade (1711-1786), tr. Frederick Oakley (1802-1880); st. 3, Étienne-Jean-François Borderies (1764-1832), tr. William T. Brooke (1848-1917).

Music: ADESTE FIDELES, melody attrib. John Francis Wade (1711-1786), alt.; harm. *The English Hymnal*, 1906. St. 4, 5 arr. David Willcocks (1919-2015).

1 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:

Refrain: O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord.

2 God of God, Light of Light, lo, he abhors not the virgin's womb: very God, begotten, not created; *Refrain*

The Blessing of the Crèche

Bishop Let us keep a moment of silence as we prepare to bless this crèche.

Silence is kept

God of every nation and people, from the very beginning of creation you have made manifest your love. When our need for a Saviour was great, you sent your Son to be born of the Virgin Mary. To our lives he brings joy and peace, justice, mercy, and love. Gracious God, bless all who look upon this manger; may it remind us of the humble birth of Jesus and raise our thoughts to him who is God-with-us and Saviour of all, and who lives and reigns for ever and ever. Amen.

Processional Hymn O Come, All Ye Faithful (Verses 3-5)

3 See how the shepherds, summoned to his cradle, leaving their flocks, draw nigh with lowly fear; we too will thither bend our joyful footsteps. *Refrain*

4 Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation, sing, all ye citizens of heav'n above; glory to God in the highest; *Refrain*

5 Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning; Jesu, to thee be glory giv'n; Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing: *Refrain*

The Gathering of the Community

Dean In this time and place, we gather on the unceded ancestral lands of the x^wməθk^wəyəm

(Musqueam), Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish), and Səlilwəta?ł (Tsleil-Waututh) nations.

All From many places and peoples we come to this house of prayer.

Dean In this time and place, we give thanks for the light of God that shines in the darkness.

All A light no darkness can quench.

Dean In this time and place, we give thanks for the light and peace of Jesus Christ the Word

made flesh.

All The light of all people.

Dean In this time and place, we pray that the Spirit of God will be renewed in our hearts and

minds.

All That we might be the light of God in the world.

Dean In this time and place, together, one people of God.

All In the name of God, Source of all being, Eternal Word and Holy Spirit. Amen.

Gloria Missa Sancti Nicolai

Joseph Haydn (1732-1809)

The Collect of the Day

Dean Let us pray.

Silence is kept

Eternal God, this holy night is radiant with the brilliance of your one true light.

As we have known the revelation of that light on earth,

All bring us to see the splendour of your heavenly glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Amen.

The Proclamation of the Word

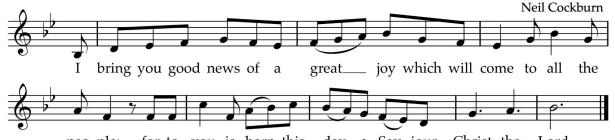
First Reading Isaiah 9:2-7

At the conclusion of the reading:

Reader Word of God, word of life.

All Thanks be to God.

Psalm 96 (Chant: Alan Gray 1855-1935)



peo-ple; for to you is born this day_ a Sav-iour, Christ the Lord

- 1 Sing to the Lord a new song; sing to the Lord, all the whole earth.
- 2 Sing to the Lord and bless the divine name; proclaim the good news of our salvation from day to day.
- 3 Declare the glory of the Lord among the nations and the wonders of God among all peoples.
- 4 For great is the Lord and greatly to be praised, more to be feared than all gods. Refrain
- 5 As for all the gods of the nations, they are but idols; but it is you, O Lord, who made the heavens.
- 6 Oh, the majesty and magnificence of your presence! Oh, the power and the splendour of your sanctuary!
- 7 Ascribe to the Lord, you families of the peoples; ascribe to the Lord honour and power. 8 Ascribe to the Lord the honour due the divine name; bring offerings and come into the courts of the Lord. *Refrain*
- 9 Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness; let the whole earth tremble before God. 10 Tell it out among the nations: "The Lord reigns! The Lord who made the world so firm that it cannot be moved will judge the peoples with equity." *Refrain*
- 11 Let the heavens rejoice, and let the earth be glad; let the sea thunder and all that is in it; let the field be joyful and all that is therein.
- 12 Then shall all the trees of the wood shout for joy before the Lord who is coming, who is coming to judge the earth.
- 13 The Lord will judge the world with righteousness and the peoples with truth. *Refrain*

Second Reading

Titus 2:11-14

At the conclusion of the epistle:

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to the churches. Thanks be to God.

The congregation stands.

Sequence Hymn

While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks

(CP 136)

Text: Luke 2:8-14; para. Nahum Tate (1652-1715), alt. Music: WINCHESTER OLD, melody *Whole Book of Psalmes*, 1592; desc. Craig Sellar Lang (1891-1971).

- 1 While shepherds watched their flocks by night all seated on the ground, the angel of the Lord came down and glory shone around.
- 2 "Fear not," said he, for mighty dread had seized their troubled mind. "Glad tidings of great joy I bring to you and humankind.
- 3 To you in David's town this day is born of David's line a Saviour, who is Christ the Lord; and this shall be the sign:

- 4 the heavenly babe you there shall find to human view displayed, all meanly wrapped in swaddling bands, and in a manger laid."
- 5 Thus spake the seraph; and forthwith appeared a shining throng of angels praising God, who thus addressed their joyful song:
- 6 "All glory be to God on high, and to the world be peace; good will henceforth from heaven to earth begin, and never cease."

The Holy Gospel Luke 2:1-20

Deacon The Lord be with you.

All And also with you.

Before the Gospel:

Deacon The Holy Gospel of our Saviour Jesus Christ according to Luke.

All Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

After the Gospel:

Deacon The Gospel of Christ,

All Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Sermon

The Most Reverend John R. Stephens Archbishop of the Diocese of New Westminster

A period of silent reflection follows the sermon.

The Nicene Creed

Deacon Let us confess our faith, as we say,

All 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,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary
and became truly human.

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, who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy, catholic, and apostolic church.

We acknowledge one bantism for the forgiveness of single

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 Prayers of the People

Please Scan the QR code at the back of the bulletin for the Prayer Cycles.

Confession and Absolution

Deacon Christ the light of the world has come to dispel the darkness of our hearts.

Let us turn to the light and confess our sins to God.

Silence is kept.

Deacon God of all mercy,

All we confess that we have sinned against you, opposing your will in our lives.

We have denied your goodness in each other, in ourselves, and in the world you have created. We repent of the evil that enslaves us, the evil we have done, and the evil done on our behalf. Forgive, restore, and strengthen us through our Saviour Jesus

Christ, that we may abide in your love and serve only your will. Amen.

Archbishop Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through the grace of Jesus

Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in

eternal life.

All Amen.

The Peace

Dean Unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given, and his name shall be called the Prince of

Peace. The peace of the Christ be with you all.

All And also with you.

All may exchange a sign of peace.

The Celebration of the Eucharist

The Offertory

Thank you for your prayerful stewardship of the ministries of the Cathedral. Your generous gift of any amount matters, because your stewardship empowers our mission to advance the Good News of God's infinite love and mercy through our worship, ministries, formation, and service. You may make a gift using the offering plate being passed around at this time or refer to the back page of this bulletin to see other methods. Together with the gifts of bread and wine, we present our gifts at the altar as a sign of thanksgiving to God, from whom all good things come.

Offertory Anthem

Quem Pastores Laudavere

Michael Praetorius (c.1571-1621) arr. Neil Cockburn

The one whom the shepherds praised, and about whom the angels told: "Abandon your present fears, the King of Glory is born."

To him the kings walked, carrying gold, frankincense and myrrh, offering them religiously, for the Lion's victory.

Let us rejoice with Mary, in union with the celestial hierarchy, singing a pious song to the newborn, that be sweet in its melody.

Of Christ the King, God born, who was given to us by Mary, we should sing the merit: praise, honour, and glory.

Text: Edward Caswall (1814-1878), alt. Music: SEE AMID THE WINTER'S SNOW, John Goss (1800-1880).

1 See amid the winter's snow, born for us on earth below, see, the tender Lamb appears, promised from eternal years!

Refrain:

Hail, thou ever-blessed morn!
Hail, redemption's happy dawn!
Sing through all Jerusalem:
Christ is born in Bethlehem.

2 Lo, within a manger lies he who built the starry skies, who enthroned in height sublime sits amid the cherubim. *Refrain*

3 Say, ye holy shepherds, say what your joyful news today; wherefore have ye left your sheep on the lonely mountain steep? *Refrain*

4 "As we watched at dead of night, lo, we saw a wondrous light; angels, singing 'Peace on earth' told us of the Saviour's birth." *Refrain*

5 Sacred infant, all divine, what a mighty love was thine, thus to come from highest bliss down to such a world as this! *Refrain*

The Prayer over the Gifts

Dean Let us pray. (Silence is kept.) Source of light and gladness,

All accept all we offer on this joyful feast. May we grow up in him who unites our lives to yours; for he is Lord now and for ever. Amen

The Great Thanksgiving (Eucharistic Prayer #1 EOW)

Dean The Lord be with you. And also with you.

Dean Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Dean Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is right to give thanks and praise.

Dean Blessed are you, gracious God, creator of heaven and earth [...] Therefore with all the

angels of heaven, we lift our voices and sing our joyful hymn of praise to proclaim the

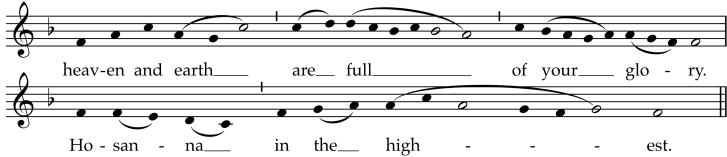
glory of your name.



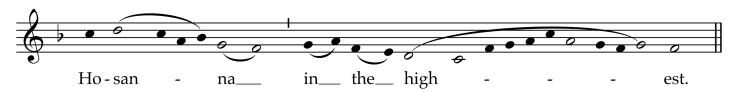
Missa de Angelis (chant)



Cantor: God of power and might



Cantor: Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord



Dean Blessed are you, gracious God [...] Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

All

Acclamation

(CP 733) Music: Community Mass, Richard Proulx (1937-2010).

9



Christ has died; Christ is ris-en; Christ will come a - gain.

Dean

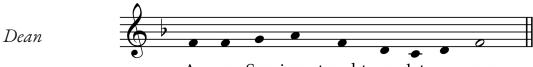
Remembering his death and resurrection [...] Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honour, glory, and praise, for ever and ever.



Amen

Music: Community Mass, Richard Proulx (1937-2010).







The Breaking of the Bread

Dean 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.

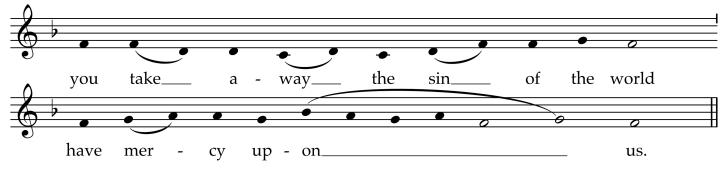
Dean The gifts of God for the people of God.

All Thanks be to God.

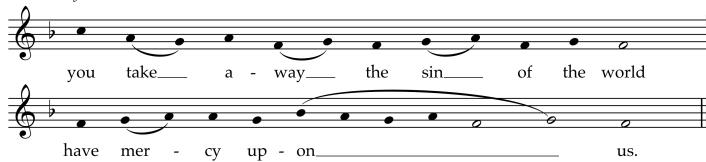
Agnus Dei

Missa de angelis (Chant)

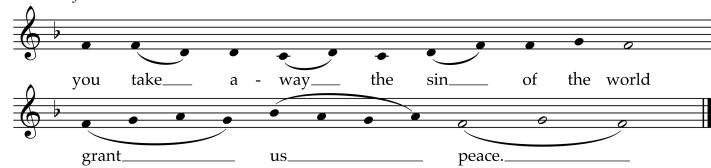
Please be seated Cantor: Lamb of God



Cantor: Lamb of God



Cantor: Lamb of God



The Communion

To receive the consecrated Bread, approach the altar and extend your hands to the minister with palms open. To receive the consecrated Wine, carefully guide the chalice to your lips. For public health, please do not dip the Bread into the Wine. If you do not wish to partake of the common cup, know that you receive the full efficacy of communion with only the Bread. If you do not wish to receive communion, you are invited to receive a blessing by approaching the altar and crossing your arms over your chest. You may also remain in your seat as you feel comfortable. If you are interested in learning about baptism, please contact a member of our clergy. During communion, Healing Prayer is offered for all people in the west alcove. Please respect the confidentiality of the people praying by not entering the alcove during prayer time.

During Communion In the bleak midwinter

Harold Darke (1888-1976)

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone. Snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long ago.

Our God, heaven cannot hold him, nor earth sustain; heaven and earth shall flee away when he comes to reign. In the bleak midwinter a stable place sufficed the Lord God almighty, Jesus Christ.

Enough for him, whom cherubim worship night and day, a breast full of milk and a mangerful of hay. Enough for him, whom angels fall down before, the ox and ass and camel which adore.

What can I give him, poor as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a wise man, I would do my part; yet what I can, I give him— give my heart. [Christina Georgina Rossetti (1830-1894)]

1 Silent night! Holy night! All is calm, all is bright round you virgin mother and child. Holy infant so tender and mild, sleep in heavenly peace, sleep in heavenly peace.

2 Silent night! Holy night! Shepherds first saw the sight: glories stream from heaven afar, heavenly hosts sing alleluia, Christ the Saviour is born! Christ the Saviour is born!

3 Silent night! Holy night! Son of God, love's pure light. Radiance beams from thy holy face, with the dawn of redeeming grace, Jesus, Lord at thy birth. Jesus, Lord at thy birth. [Joseph Mohr (1792-1848), trans. John Freeman Young (1820-1885).]

O Little Town of Bethlehem

(CP 121)

Text: Phillips Brooks (1835-1893), alt.

Music: FOREST GREEN, melody English trad.; coll. and harm. Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958); desc. Neil Cockburn.

1 O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie! Above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by; yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting light; the hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.

2 For Christ is born of Mary; and, gathered all above, while mortals sleep, the angels keep their watch of wondering love.
O morning stars, together proclaim the holy birth, and praises sing to God the King, and peace to all the earth.

3 How silently, how silently the wondrous gift is given as love imparts to human hearts the blessings of God's heaven!
No ear may hear his coming: but in this world of sin, where meek souls will receive him, still the dear Christ enters in.

4 O holy child of Bethlehem, descend to us, we pray; cast out our sin and enter in; be born in us today.
We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell; O come to us, abide with us, our Lord Emmanuel.

The Prayer after Communion

Dean Let us pray.

Standing, the community prays in silence

Dean Father of all,

All tonight you have united earth and heaven in sending your Son to take our human

nature. May we who have tasted heavenly things share in the life of his eternal

kingdom. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Doxology

Dean Glory to God,

All whose power working through us can do infinitely more than we can ask or

imagine. Glory to God from generation to generation in Christ Jesus and in the

Church for ever and ever. Amen.

The Blessing

Archbishop May the joy of the angels, the eagerness of the shepherds,

the perseverance of the wise men, the obedience of Joseph and Mary, and the peace of the Christ-child be yours this Christmas; and the blessing ...

Closing Hymn

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

(CP 138)

Text: Charles Wesley (1701–1788), alt.

Music: MENDELSSOHN, Felix Mendelssohn-Bartholdy (1809–1847); adapt. William Hayman Cummings (1831-1915).

1 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 the angelic host proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem!"

Refrain:

Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King."

2 Christ, by highest heaven adored; Christ, the everlasting Lord; late in time behold him come, offspring of a virgin's womb. Veiled in flesh the Godhead see; hail, the incarnate deity, pleased as one of us to dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel! *Refrain* 3 Hail, the heaven-born Prince of Peace! Hail, the Sun of Righteousness! Light and life to all he brings, risen with healing in his wings. Mild he lays his glory by, born that we no more may die, born to raise each child of earth, born to give us second birth. *Refrain*

Dismissal

Deacon Let us go forth in peace to proclaim the birth of Christ.

All Thanks be to God.

Postlude Carillon-Sortie Henri Mulet (1878-1967)



The flowers in the Cathedral today are given to the Glory of God \mathfrak{S} ...



Andrea Gailus
In Thanksgiving

Anonymous

Arielle Do

Merry Christmas

Arlene Browne

In memory of my mother Mildred Hale

Barbara Brown
Thanks for blessings

Brian Moul

Carol Cook

Christopher Browne

In memory of my father Eustace Browne

Dana Osborne

Grateful for this Cathedral at this beautiful time of year

David Eby & family

Diogo Portela

Douglas Yee

In loving memory of Agnes Chew

Ed Friesen & Vincent Carey

Thanksgiving for the birth of Jesus,grandnephews Quinn, Will and Patrick, and Godsons Eamon & Ellis

Edward Schmitt

In memory of Karl

Elizabeth Hardy

With thanksgiving for the blessings I have received

George and Donna Marlette

Peace on Earth

Grace Hsueh

Hannah Stockwell

With Thanksgiving for the beautiful choral and organ music at the Cathedral. Happy Birthday Liz.

Harry Kim

Thanks

Holly & David McMillan

Joyous Christmas to all

Yvonne Cheung

Ian Birtwell

Loving memory of dear friends Kai, Bobby & Jim . Grateful thanks for a supportive community.

Jacqueline Fraser

Delight + thanks for this community

Jane Hope

In loving memory of Gwen & Margaret

Jane Osler

With thanks for the love, joy and support received from this community

Jenny Judistio

Thanks for the blessings, keep blessings

Jim Nesbitt

To the Glory of God and in thanksgiving for the CCC Community

Jim Turpin

Joan Seidl

In thanksgiving for the Cathedral community

Joanne Ingledew

For my Mother

Julia Bauming

Grateful!

June Zawada

Thank you for this church

Karen Bowles

In memory of my dad Ken Phipps

Kayoko Wear

In gratitude, God's love, Mary's sincere faith, this church community and my friends.

Kevin & Ryan Bespflug

Lesley Godwin

In loving memory of my parents

Leslie Buck

Louise & Gary Kenwood

In gratitude!

Lynne & John Dickman

Thansgiving for Christmas blessings

Margery Kellett and family

Thankfulness for help and hope for all

Marie Dawes

Mother - Nora Pacheco, Dad - Monico Pacheco, Brother - Micheal J. Pacheco

Mark Halyk

Matthew Senf

In thankfullness & gratitude for our Cathedral community

Nancy & David Fraser

For the many blessings in our lives

Nicky Seppala

Peter Schouls

For peace among the nations

Robert Kuhl

Gratitude for family

Robin Tavender

Thanksgiving for freedom above all things

Ros Kellett, Neale Adams

Joy joy joy!

Sharon Paterson, Nicholas Heap, Imogen and Laurel

Memory of our dads, Gary Paterson and Geoffrey Heap

Sheila Pepper

For Percy & Rose Pepper, Neil & Betty Dey

Susan Russell

Thanks for my Mom and Dad and all that they taught me

Tom Ferry

Vaughn & Curt Pridmore

For our parents, Terry Lyn & Lilja

The Chronicle Newsletter

Scan the QR code for the latest Chronicle newsletter.



The Prayers of the People

Scan the QR code for the prayer cycles.



The Ministers of the Liturgy

Presider The Reverend Claude St-Denis The Very Reverend Christopher A. Pappas *Chancel* Preacher The Most Rev. Arch. John Stephens Chancel David McMillan Deacon The Reverend Kevin de la Mare Peace Alcove Hadani Ditmars Subdeacon Dana Osborne Music The Cathedral Choir MC The Reverend Claude St-Denis Dr. Neil Cockburn

(Organist & Director of Music) Servers Myriam Beaugé, Jane Callen, Sound/Livestream Readers John Innes, Ivy Clark Cathedral Staff

Intercessor Welcoming Team

Susan Koppersmith Gospel Station The Reverend Areta Bridgemohan

Gospel Station Andrea Gailus

Preacher Station Esther Aneke Donna Wong Juliani Presider Station

Regimental Alcove The Reverend Jenny Wong Nam Altar Guild

Regimental Alcove Holly McMillan

e-Transfer

Jane Dittrich, Liz Hardy, Robin Tavender, Anne Fletcher, Kayoko Wear, Jane Osler,

Nafiseh Pirasteh, Ed Friesen &

Miles Lubinich Robin Tavender

Today

Christmas for the City | December 24 | 11:00 p.m.



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An envelope is enclosed for your convenience to give cash or cheque.

If you cannot find it, ask a greeter for one. Please also provide your name and address

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Make a gift through our secure website at www.thecathedral.ca/give,

accessible via the QR code above.



Tip Tap donations are non-receiptable.

This worship takes place on the traditional, ancestral, and unceded territory of the xwma0kwayam (Musqueam), Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish), and Səlilwəta? (Tsleil-Waututh) nations, in the heart of Vancouver.