



WE ACKNOWLEDGE THAT AS A PARISH OF THE DIOCESE OF NEW WESTMINSTER,
WE GATHER ON THE TRADITIONAL AND UNSURRENDERED TERRITORY OF THE
HALQ'EMEYN-SPEAKING COAST SALISH PEOPLES, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO
THE QAYQAYT, MUSQUEAM, KWITWETLEM, KWANTLEN, TSAWWASSEN. AND TSEIL-
WAUTUTH, WE SEEK TO WALK A PATH OF RECONCILIATION & HEALING.

**7:30 pm Carol Mass
Christmas Eve
24 December 2025**

514 CARNARVON STREET, NEW WESTMINSTER, B.C. V3L 1C4

Phone: 604 521-2511

Office: Weijin Ross

Rector: the Rev. Stephanie Shepard

Website: www.holytrinitycathedral.ca
administrator@holytrinitycathedral.ca
stephanie@holytrinitycathedral.ca

*Whether you have been a lifelong Anglican or are new to our tradition, we welcome you this evening! If you are not familiar with Anglican worship, simply allow the words, music and symbols to speak to you. Participate as fully as you feel comfortable in doing. We stand to sing and sit to listen. Some people kneel for prayer, some sit and some stand. Please do what is comfortable for you. You are invited to join in the words in **bold type**. Music for the songs is found in the blue Common Praise in the pews.*

Prelude

Announcements

THE GATHERING OF THE COMMUNITY

Gathering Carol

'Once in Royal David's City'
Common Praise 123 (tune Irby)

**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 Saviour 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.**

Greeting

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

People: **And also with you.**

Presider: We gather here from many places on land that is the traditional
and unsundered territory of the Halq'emeyn-speaking Coast
Salish peoples.

People: **May Christ lead us on right pathways as we seek truth and
reconciliation in action.**

Silence is kept

Presider: Holy One,

People: we long for you.

You know our wounding and our broken-heartedness.

**You know how others have hurt us,
and how we have hurt others.**

You alone have the healing we need.

Yours is the love that changes everything. Amen.

Presider: 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.

All: Amen.

The Lighting of the Christ Candle

Presider: God is with us, here in our midst and always, the Love at our beginning and without end.

All: Emmanuel is here! Jesus is born!

All: Eternal God

who made this most holy night

to shine with the brightness of your one true light:

bring us, who known the revelation of that light on earth,

to see the radiance of your heavenly glory;

through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,

who is alive and reigns with you,

in the unity of the Holy Spirit,

one God, now and for ever. Amen

Candle Song

Will you travel by the light of the babe new born?

In the candle lit at night there's a gleam of dawn,

And the darkness all about is too dim to put it out:

Will you hide, or decide to meet the light?

THE PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

The First Reading: Isaiah 9:2-7

Reader: A reading from the prophet Isaiah,

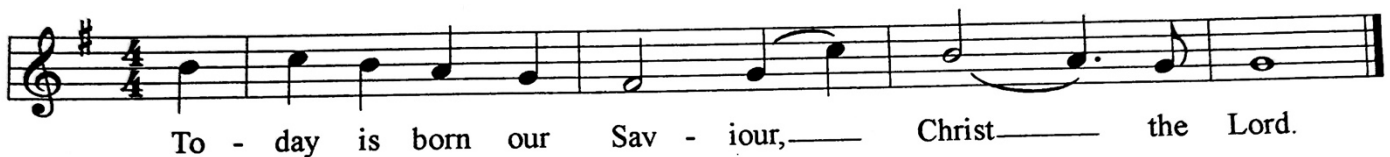
² The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness— on them light has shined. ³ You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder. ⁴ For the yoke of their burden, and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian. ⁵ For all the boots of the tramping warriors and all the garments rolled in blood shall be burned as fuel for the fire.

⁶ For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. ⁷ His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onwards and for evermore. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.

Reader: Holy Word, Holy Wisdom.

All: Thanks be to God.

The Psalm: 96



Refrain: Today is born our Saviour, Christ the Lord.

Sing to the Lord a new song;
sing to the Lord, all the whole earth.
Sing to the Lord and bless his Name;
Proclaim the good news of his salvation from day to day.

Refrain

Declare his glory among the nations
and his wonders among all peoples.
For great is the Lord and greatly to be praised;
he is more to be feared than all gods.

Refrain

As for all the gods of the nations, they are but idols;
but it is the Lord who made the heavens.

Oh, the majesty and magnificence of his presence!

Oh, the power and the splendor of his sanctuary!

Refrain

Ascribe to the Lord, you families of the peoples
ascribe to the Lord honor and power.

Ascribe to the Lord the honor due his Name;

bring offerings and come into his courts.

Refrain

Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness;

let the whole earth tremble before him.

Tell it out among the nations: "The Lord is King!

he has made the world so firm that it cannot be moved; he will judge the
peoples with equity."

Refrain

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 there-in.

Refrain

Then shall all the trees of the wood shout for joy before the Lord with he comes,
when he comes to judge the earth.

He will judge the world with righteousness

and the peoples with his truth.

Refrain

The Second Reading: Titus 2:11-14

Reader: A reading from the Letter to Titus,

¹¹ For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all, ¹² training us to renounce impiety and worldly passions, and in the present age to live lives that are self-controlled, upright, and godly, ¹³ while we wait for the blessed hope and the manifestation of the glory of our great God and Saviour, Jesus Christ. ¹⁴ He it is who gave himself for us that he might redeem us from all

iniquity and purify for himself a people of his own who are zealous for good deeds.

Reader: Holy Word, Holy Wisdom.

All: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Carol

'O Come, All Ye Faithful'

Common Praise 118 (tune Adeste Fideles)

**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;
*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:
*O come let us adore him . . .***

**Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation;
sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!
Glory to God, in the highest:
*O come let us adore him . . .***

**See how the shepherds, summoned to his cradle, leaving their
flocks, draw nigh with lowly fear;
we too will thither bend our joyful footsteps;
*O come let us adore him . . .***

The Gospel: Luke 2:1-20

Reader: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

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

All: Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. ²This was the first registration and was taken while

Quirinius was governor of Syria. ³ All went to their own towns to be registered. ⁴ Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. ⁵ He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. ⁶ While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. ⁷ And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

⁸ In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. ⁹ Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. ¹⁰ But the angel said to them, 'Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: ¹¹ to you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, who is the Messiah, the Lord. ¹² This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.' ¹³ And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying,

¹⁴ 'Glory to God in the highest heaven,
and on earth peace among those whom he favours!'

¹⁵ When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, 'Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.' ¹⁶ So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. ¹⁷ When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; ¹⁸ and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. ¹⁹ But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. ²⁰ The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

Reader: The Gospel of Christ.

All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Gospel Carol Continued...

**Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning.
Jesus to thee be glory given;
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing.
O come let us adore him . . .**

The Prayers of the People

Leader: My sisters and brothers, all the gifts we give and receive in these days are but small tokens of the gift that shines forth in God's word this night. From grateful hearts, let us pray for those who find themselves longing for this deepest, truest gift. To the bidding, 'Let us pray to the Lord', please respond, 'Lord, hear our prayer.'

Let us pray to the Lord,
All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader: That the peace proclaimed by angels in the shepherds' field might be realized on every field of war and on every street in our community, let us pray to the Lord,

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader: That the child born to us might find in our hearts a warm welcome by our openness to the needs of those who seek shelter, food, and hope, let us pray to the Lord,

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader: That in this time of gift-giving we might become more responsible in our choices so that our planet and all those who labour benefit from what is produced, exchanged, and used, let us pray to the Lord,

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader: That the rejoicing of this day might be a bond leading people of all faiths into true communion of life, let us pray to the Lord,

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader: That the joy and consolation of our Wonderful Counselor might restore all who are living with illness or limitations, especially those we name silently or aloud...

(here you are invited to voice those on your heart)

... let us pray to the Lord,

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader: That the blessed hope we celebrate this night might be the fulfillment of all who have gone before in faith, especially those we remember by name...

...let us pray to the Lord,

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader: God of darkness and light, you have pierced the quiet holiness of this night by the utterance of your Word made flesh. May our words of praise and prayer be strong echoes of your Christmas word, so that all may come to the peace you promise in Jesus, who is Lord and God this night and forever.

All: Amen.

the Exchange of the Peace

Presider: May the peace of the Lord be always with you.

All: And also with you.

You are invited to share a sign of God's peace with your neighbours, respecting their comfort with distance and touch.

THE HOLY COMMUNION

Offering Carol

'O Little Town of Bethlehem'

Common Praise 121 (tune Forest Green)

**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.**

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 on earth.
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.

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 over the Gifts

Presider: Let us pray,

All: Source of light and gladness, 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 forever. Amen.

The Great Thanksgiving

ELW Eucharistic Prayer III

Presider: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Presider: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

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

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

Presider: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, Creator of all, through Jesus Christ our Lord; whose way the prophets and John the Baptist prepared, proclaiming him to be the Messiah, and calling us to repentance, that may turn back towards the light of your love in Christ. Therefore, with angels and archangels, and all the company of heaven, we praise your glorious name and join their unending hymn:

Sanctus

Common Praise 732 (tune Mass of Hope)

**All: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might.
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.**

Presider: Holy One, the beginning and the end, the giver of life;
Blessed are you for the birth of creation.
Blessed are you in the darkness and the light.
Blessed are you for your promise to your people.
Blessed are you in the prophets' hopes and dreams.
Blessed are you for Mary's openness to your will.
Blessed are you for your Son Jesus, the Word made flesh.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: this cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me. Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

**All: Christ has died.
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.**

Presider: With this bread and this cup we remember your Word dwelling among us, full of grace and truth. We remember our new birth in his death and resurrection. We look with hope for his coming.

All: Come, Lord Jesus.

Presider: Holy God, we long for your Spirit. Come among us. Bless this meal. May your Word take flesh in us. Awaken your people. Fill us with your light. Bring the gift of peace on earth.

All: Come, Holy Spirit.

Presider: All praise and glory are yours, Holy One of Israel, Word of God incarnate, Power of the Most High, One God, now and forever.

All: Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Presider: In the language closest to your heart,
let us pray as Jesus taught us:

You are invited to use either the traditional or contemporary version in English or the language you find most helpful for prayer.

**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 today our daily bread.
Forgive us our trespasses
as we forgive those who
trespass against us.
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.**

**Our Father in heaven,
Hallowed be your name.
Your kingdom come,
Your will be done
on earth as in heaven.
Give us this day 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 forever. Amen**

The Breaking of the Bread

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

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

Presider: Dear friends in Christ, God bids you welcome to this table. Here we are strengthened for the journey. Here strangers become friends and the seeker finds God's wisdom speaking to them. See who you are and become what you see. These are the gifts of God for the people of God.

People: Thanks be to God.

The Communion

You are invited to come forward to receive bread and wine. Gluten-free bread is available. You receive the fullness of Christ's love if you prefer to take one kind (just the bread or the wine). If you would prefer to have a blessing, please let the priest know.

During Communion

'Away in a Manger

Common Praise 126 (tune Cradle Song)

**Away in a manger, no crib for a bed,
the little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head.
The stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay,
the little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.**

**The cattle are lowing, the baby awakes,
but little Lord Jesus, no crying he makes.
I love you, Lord Jesus — look down from on high
and stay by my side until morning is nigh.**

**Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask you to stay
close by me for ever and love me, I pray.
Bless all the dear children in your tender care,
and fit us for heaven to live with you there.**

‘Silent Night’
Common Praise 119 (tune Stille Nacht)

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

**Silent night! Holy night! Shepherds quake at the sight:
glories stream from heaven afar,
heavenly hosts sing alleluia,
Christ the Saviour is born, Christ the Saviour is born.**

**Silent night! Holy night! Son of God, love’s pure light
radiant beams from thy holy face,
with the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord at thy birth, Jesus, Lord at thy birth.**

Anthem
‘O Holy Night’ Adolph-Charles Adam
James Roberts and Brenda Wilson on French Horn

THE SENDING FORTH OF THE COMMUNITY

The Prayers after Communion

Presider: Let us pray:

**All: Creator of all, tonight you have united earth and heaven in
sending your Son to take our human nature. May we who
have tasted the bread of heaven and the wine of new life,
share in his eternal kingdom. We ask this in the name of
Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

A Christmas Blessing

Presider: May the blessing of light be on you –
light without and light within.

May the blessed sunlight shine on you like a great peat fire,
so that stranger and friend may come and warm himself at it.

And may light shine out of the two eyes of you,
like a candle set in the window of a house,
bidding the wanderer come in out of the storm.

And may the blessing of the rain be on you,
may it beat upon your Spirit and wash it fair and clean,
and leave there a shining pool where the blue of Heaven shines,
and sometimes a star.

The blessing of God Almighty: the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be with you this night and always.

All: Amen.

Carol of Christmas

‘Joy to the World’

Common Praise 154 (tune Antioch)

“Joy to the World” (Common Praise 154)

**Joy to the world, the Lord is come!
Let earth receive her King;
Let every heart prepare Him room,
And Heaven and nature sing, and Heaven and nature sing,
And Heaven, and Heaven, and nature sing.**

**Joy to the earth, the Saviour reigns!
Let men their songs employ;
While fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains
Repeat the sounding joy, repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat, repeat, the sounding joy.**

**No more let sins and sorrows grow,
Nor thorns infest the ground;
He comes to make His blessings flow
Far as our sin is found, far as our sin is found,
Far as, far as, our sin is found.**

**He rules the world with truth and grace,
And makes the nations prove
The glories of His righteousness,
And wonders of His love, and wonders of His love,
And wonders, wonders, of His love.**

The Dismissal

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

All: Thanks be to God.

Postlude

James Roberts and Brenda Wilson French Horn

Liturgical Ministers tonight

Greeters:	Kate Abel & Gerry Stensgaard
Reader:	Robert Rothwell
Chalice Administrators:	Robert Rothwell & Sybil Collett
Presider:	The Rev. Stephanie Shepard
Preacher:	The Rev. Alain-Michel Rocheleau
Crucifer/Server:	Greg Kennelly
Music Director:	Kyumin Lee

& the Holy Trinity Cathedral Choir

THIS WEEK AT HOLY TRINITY CATHEDRAL

Saturday Community Brunch, 11 am- noon in the Hall

Sunday December 28

8-9 am Traditional Eucharist (BCP)

10-11:15 am Choral Eucharist

NO MIDWEEK SERVICE ON Wednesday JANUARY 2, 2025

**live-streamed over Facebook.*