



## St. Timothy's Anglican Church, Agincourt

Sunday, December 21<sup>st</sup>, 2025

The Fourth Sunday of Advent

**Celebrant & Preacher: The Rev. Canon Andrea Christensen**

**Deacon: Pastor Elaine Vanderwerf**

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### Those Assisting in our Worship Service

**Readers:** June Cooke/Octavia Leacock

**Intercessor:** Octavia Leacock

**PowerPoint Operator:** Susan Thomas

**Sub-Deacon:** Patrick Allen

**Tech:** Ben Conn

**Music:** Marianne Gast, Cristina Paoletta & the Classic Choir

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### PRELUDE

SERVICE SETTING      Land of Rest Mass      *by Richard Proulx*

### ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF INDIGENOUS TERRITORY

♪ OPENING HYMN      #645 Come Down, O Love Divine

Come down, O Love divine,  
seek thou this soul of mine,  
and visit it with thine own ardour glowing;  
O Comforter, draw near,  
within my heart appear,  
and kindle it, thy holy flame bestowing.

O let it freely burn,  
till earthly passions turn  
to dust and ashes in its heat consuming;  
and let thy glorious light  
shine ever on my sight,  
and clothe me round, the while my path illumining.

Let holy charity  
Mine outward vesture be,  
And lowliness become mine inner clothing;  
True lowliness of heart,  
Which takes the humbler part,  
And o'er its own shortcomings weeps with loathing.

And so the yearning strong,  
with which the soul will long,

shall far outpass the power of human telling;  
for none can guess its grace,  
till Love create a place  
wherein the Holy Spirit makes a dwelling.

## THE GREETING

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

**All      And also with you.**

Leader      Almighty God,

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

## ♪ KYRIE

**Kyrie eleison, Lord have mercy**

**Christi eleison, Christ have mercy**

**Kyrie eleison, Lord have mercy**

**Lord have mercy**

## LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

As we gather on the fourth week of Advent, we light the candle of love.

God of Love, as we draw near to Christmas, watching and waiting for your Son, journey with us. Grow in our hearts a sense of delight and holy fear at his coming, to change the world and redeem us from sin. Give us courage to deepen our faith as we face the busy schedules and heightened expectations of the season. All this we ask in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

## ♪ Waiting, Watching, Longing for You

For years they studied the skies at night  
Looking for clues and signs.

A king would be born deserving of praise from people far and wide.  
God above had a message of love and forgiveness for all humankind.

A new star came out confirming their faith  
that the special child had arrived.

We are waiting, watching, longing for You  
Our Shepherd, our Saviour, our King.  
May our lives be found ready to welcome You here  
Lord Jesus Emmanuel.

Music and Lyrics by Elaine Vanderwerf, used with permission of the author

## COLLECT

Heavenly Father, who chose the Virgin Mary, full of grace, to be the mother of our Lord and Saviour, now fill us with your grace, that we in all things may embrace your will and with her rejoice in your salvation; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

## Hearing God's Word to Us

FIRST READING: Isaiah 7: 10-16

♪ PSALM 80

## Psalm 80

Ken Michell

$\text{♩} = 80$



(Won't you) Re - store us, Lord God Al - might - y;

5



Am7

G2

Make your face shine on us, that we may be saved.

SECOND READING: Romans 1: 1-7

♪ GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

**Alleluia, praise to God.  
Alleluia, praise to God.  
Praises, high praises,  
We bring you, O God.  
Alleluia, praise to God.**

THE GOSPEL: Matthew 1: 18-25

**R: Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ. / Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

## SERMON

### THE NICENE CREED

Leader 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: 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 PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

### CONFESSON & ABSOLUTION

Leader 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.

*Silence is kept.*

Leader Most merciful God,  
**All** **We confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone.**

**We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbours as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us, that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your name. Amen.**

Leader 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 PEACE

Leader God will speak peace to his people, to those who turn to him in their hearts.

Leader The peace of the Lord be always with you.

**All** **And also with you.**

## THE CELEBRATION OF THE EUCHARIST

#### THE PREPARATION OF THE GIFTS

♪ OFFERTORY HYMN      Love Divine, All Loves Excelling /  
                                  Come Thou Long-Expected Jesus  
                                  *Mashup to Tune: Hyfrydol*

Love divine, all loves excelling,  
Joy of heaven to earth come down,  
    Fix in us thy humble dwelling  
    All thy faithful mercies crown.  
Jesus, thou art all compassion;  
Pure, unbounded love thou art;  
    Visit us with thy salvation,  
    Enter every trembling heart.

Come, thou long-expected Jesus,  
    Born to set thy people free;  
From our fears and sins release us;

Help us find our rest in thee.  
Israel's strength and consolation,  
Hope of all the earth thou art;  
Dear desire of every nation,  
Joy of every longing heart.

Born thy people to deliver;  
Born a child and yet a King;  
Born to reign in us forever;  
Now thy gracious kingdom bring.  
By thine own eternal Spirit,  
Rule in all our hearts alone;  
By thine all sufficient merit,  
Raise us to thy glorious throne.

Come, almighty to deliver;  
Let us all thy grace receive;  
Suddenly return and never,  
Nevermore thy temples leave.  
Thee we would be always blessing,  
Serve the as thy hosts above,  
Pray and praise thee without ceasing,  
Glory in thy perfect love.

### THE PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS

Gracious God, by the power of the Spirit who sanctified the mother of your Son, make holy all we offer you this day. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord. **Amen.**

### EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER #3

Leader The Lord be with you.

**All And also with you.**

Leader Lift up your hearts.

**All We lift them to the Lord.**

Leader Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**All It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Leader 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.

♪ SANCTUS & BENEDICTUS

**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. Hosanna in the highest.**

Leader We give thanks to you, Lord our God, for the goodness and love you have made known to us in creation; in calling Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus your son.

For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Saviour and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you.

In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, a death he freely accepted, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: this is my body which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: this is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, Father, according to his command,  
**we remember his death,  
we proclaim his resurrection,  
we await his coming in glory;**

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 children; 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.

♪ THE LORD'S PRAYER

Leader                    As our Saviour taught us, let us pray,

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.**

**Give us today our daily bread, forgive us our sins,  
as we forgive those who sin against us.**

**Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours,  
now and for ever. Amen.**

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD #5

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

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

THE COMMUNION

Leader    The gifts of God for the People of God.

**All            Thanks be to God.**

♪ AGNUS DEI

**Lamb of God You take away the sins of the world, Miserere nobis**

**Lamb of God You take away the sins of the world, Miserere nobis**

**Lamb of God You take away the sins of the world,**

**Dona nobis pacem**

**Dona nobis pacem.**

♪ COMMUNION HYMN      You are My King (Amazing Love)

Verse  
I'm forgiven  
Because You were forsaken

I'm accepted  
You were condemned  
I'm alive and well  
Your Spirit is within me  
Because You died  
And rose again

Chorus  
Amazing love  
How can it be  
That You my King  
Would die for me  
Amazing love  
I know it's true  
It's my joy to honour You  
In all I do I honour You

Bridge  
You are my King  
You are my King  
Jesus You are my King  
Jesus You are my King

CCLI Song # 2456623 Billy J. Foote CCLI License # 730537

### #117 Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming

Lo, how a Rose e'er blooming  
from tender stem hath sprung!  
of Jesse's lineage coming  
as seers of old have sung.  
It came, a blossom bright,  
amid the cold of winter,  
when half spent was the night.

Isaiah 'twas foretold it,  
the Rose I have in mind,  
with Mary we behold it,  
the virgin mother kind.  
To show God's love aright,  
she bore to us a Saviour,  
when half spent was the night.

O Flower, whose fragrance tender  
with sweetness fills the air,  
dispel in glorious splendour  
the darkness everywhere;  
true man, yet very God,  
from sin and death now save us,  
and share our every load.

Choir Anthem

Of Eternal Love Begotten

*Prudentius & Willan*

#### PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Faithful God, in this sacrament we receive the promise of salvation.  
May we, like the Virgin Mary, be obedient to your will. We ask this in  
the name of Jesus Christ the Lord. **Amen.**

#### DOXOLOGY

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

#### THE BLESSING

Leader    Christ the Sun of Righteousness shine upon you, scatter the darkness  
from before your path, and make you ready to meet him when he  
comes in glory; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the  
Son, and the Holy Spirit be amongst you and remain with you  
always.  
**All**        **Amen.**

#### ANNOUNCEMENT

♪ CLOSING HYMN    #91 People, Look East! The Time Is Near

People, look east. The time is near  
Of the crowning of the year.  
Make your house fair as you are able,  
Trim the hearth and set the table.  
People, look east and sing today:  
Love, the guest, is on the way.

Furrows, be glad. Though earth is bare,  
One more seed is planted there:  
Give up your strength the seed to nourish,  
That in course the flower may flourish.  
People, look east and sing today:  
Love, the rose, is on the way.

Birds, though you long have ceased to build,  
Guard the nest that must be filled.  
Even the hour when wings are frozen  
God for fledging time has chosen.  
People, look east and sing today:  
Love, the bird, is on the way.

Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim  
One more light the bowl shall brim,  
Shining beyond the frosty weather,  
Bright as sun and moon together.  
People, look east and sing today:  
Love, the star, is on the way.

Angels, announce with shouts of mirth  
Christ who brings new life to earth.  
Set every peak and valley humming  
With the word, the Lord is coming.  
People, look east and sing today:  
Love, the Lord, is on the way.

#### THE DISMISSAL

Leader Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

**All** **Thanks be to God.**

#### POSTLUDE