

ORDER OF SERVICE

THE HOLY EUCHARIST



CHRISTMAS MORNING

10:00AM

DECEMBER 25, 2025

St.Thomas
THE APOSTLE

2345 Alta Vista Dr.
Ottawa, ON K1H 7M6
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CHRISTMAS FLOWER MEMORIAL – 2025

The Christmas Flowers are given to the Glory of God and in loving memory for the lives of the following, by their loved ones.

Gerald & Bruce Arnold
Margaret Harrison
Donald Joseph Horton
Walter Charles Morgan
Florence Jane Morgan
Gerry Green
The Haynes Family
Eleanor Lucas
Lionel Cutting
Maureen Smith
Mollie & Lloyd Askwith
Carol G. Kauk
Julia Wright
Mabel & Wilson Leach
Jo & Thomas Tyson
Jeffrey Orange
Frank Allevato
Stella & Maria Allevato
Lorne & Marjorie Petticrew
Mabel Danson
William Danson

Arnold Smith
Gloria Smith
Carol Fawcett
Don Whillans
Cora McInerney
John Parks
Alice & Earle Rourke
Pamala Harvey
Elisabeth McGregor
Florence L. Cheesman
John (Jack) W. Cheesman
John E. Cheesman
Sylvia Wacey
William (Bill) L. Wacey
Mary Falls
Oz & Betty Muma
Lillian Bianca Ramalingam
Keith Flegg
Chip Sangster
Gwen & George Greenhough
Basil, Mary & Judy-Anne Teekasingh



THE GATHERING OF THE COMMUNITY

Prelude: Gesù Bambino ~ Pietro Yon

Welcome

Land Acknowledgement

Dear friends, we gather on traditional Anishinaabe Algonquin territory.

May we dwell on this land with respect and peace.

May we always seek to respect the histories, spiritualities and cultures of First Nations, Metis and Inuit.

May we walk together the path of reconciliation and right relations.

Opening Hymn: 118 O Come, All Ye Faithful (vs 1, 4, 5)

Text and Music John Francis Wade, tr. Frederick Oakley © Public Domain CCLI License #1826689

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.

4 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]

5 Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning,
Jesus, to thee be glory given;
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing: [Refrain]

Apostolic Greeting

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
and the love of God,

and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with you all.
And also with you.

Collect for Purity

Almighty God,
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.

Gloria

Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to his people on earth.

Lord God, heavenly king,
almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:
receive our prayer.
For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

The Collect of the Day

Lord Jesus Christ,
your birth at Bethlehem
draws us to kneel in wonder at heaven touching earth:
accept our heartfelt praise
as we worship you, our Saviour,
that we may reflect Your love,
through You and our eternal God and Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Common Worship: Additional Collects (2004) adapted.

THE PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

First Reading: Isaiah 52:7-10 (Jim Doherty)

A reading from the book of Isaiah

How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of the messenger who announces peace, who brings good news, who announces salvation, who says to Zion, "Your God reigns." Listen! Your sentinels lift up their voices; together they shout for joy, for in plain sight they see the return of the Lord to Zion. Break forth; shout together for joy, you ruins of Jerusalem, for the Lord has comforted his people; he has redeemed Jerusalem. The Lord has bared his holy arm before the eyes of all the nations, and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 96

Setting: Gordon Johnston



1 Sing to the Lord a new song; *
sing to the Lord, all the whole earth.

2 Sing to the Lord and bless his name; *
proclaim the good news of his salvation from day to day. **R**

9 Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness; *
let the whole earth tremble before him.

10 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." **R**

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. **R**

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

13 He will judge the world with righteousness *
and the peoples with his truth. **R**

Epistle: Hebrews 1:1-4 (Babs Dunstan)

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews

Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets, but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, through whom he also created the worlds. He is the reflection of God's glory and the exact imprint of God's very being, and he sustains all things by his powerful word. When he had made purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Thanks be to God.

Gradual Hymn: 125 Infant Holy Infant Lowly

Text Polish carol, tr. Edith M G Reed, Music Polish trad. © Public Domain CCLI License #1826689

1 Infant holy, Infant lowly,
For His bed a cattle stall;
Oxen lowing, little knowing
Christ the Babe is Lord of all.
Swift are winging angels singing,
Nowells ringing, tidings bringing:
Christ the babe is Lord of all,
Christ the babe is Lord of all!

2 Flocks were sleeping, shepherds keeping
Vigil till the morning new
Saw the glory, heard the story,
Tidings of a gospel true.
Thus rejoicing, free from sorrow,
Praises voicing greet tomorrow:
Christ the babe was born for you,
Christ the babe was born for you!

The Holy Gospel: John 1:1-14

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

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He

himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God. And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

The Gospel of Christ.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Sermon

The Nicene Creed

Let us confess our faith, as we say

**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 (Catherine Smith)

Lord, in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

Confession and Absolution

Dear friends in Christ,
God is steadfast in love and infinite in mercy,
welcoming sinners and inviting us to this table.
Let us confess our sins,
confident in God's forgiveness.

Silence is kept.

Most merciful God,

**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.**

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. **Amen.**

The Peace

The peace of the Lord be always with you.
And also with you.

THE CELEBRATION OF THE EUCHARIST

The Preparation of the Gifts

Hymn: 143 Angels from the Realms of Glory (vs. 1,2,5)

Text James Montgomery, Music Henry Thomas Smart, © Public Domain CCLI License #1826689

1 Angels from the realms of glory,
Wing your flight o'er all the earth;
You who sang creation's story,
Now proclaim Messiah's birth:

Refrain:

Come and worship, come and worship,
Worship Christ, the newborn King.

2 Shepherds in the field abiding,
Watching o'er your flocks by night,
God with us is now residing;
Yonder shines the infant light: **R**

5 Though an infant now we view Him,
He shall fill the eternal throne,
Gather all nations to Him;
Every knee shall then bow down: **R**

The Prayer over the Gifts

Good and loving God,
we rejoice in the birth of Jesus,
who came among the poor
to bring the riches of your grace.
As you have blessed us with your gifts,
let them be a blessing for others.
With the trees of the field,
with all earth and heaven,
we shout for joy at the coming of your Son,
Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Evangelical Lutheran Worship (2006) alt

The Great Thanksgiving (Eucharistic Prayer 3)

May God be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to God.

Let us give thanks to God our Creator.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Blessed are you, gracious God,
creator of heaven and earth,
because in the mystery of the Word made flesh
you have caused a new light to shine in our hearts,
to give knowledge of salvation
in the face of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.
Now with angels and archangels
and the whole company of heaven,
we lift our voices
to proclaim the glory of your name.

**(Hymn 732) 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.**

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 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. **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

And now, as our Saviour Christ has taught us,
we are bold to say,
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 #6

We break the bread of life,
And that life is the light of the world.

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

Invitation to Communion

The gifts of God for the People of God. **Thanks be to God.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: grant us peace.**

Holy Communion *Gluten Free wafers are available*

Communion Hymn: 126 Away in a Manger

Text American 19th cent., Music William James Kirkpatrick © Public Domain CCLI License #1826689

1 Away in a manger, no crib for his 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.

2 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.

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

Anthem: Whence is that Goodly Fragrance Flowing, arr. D. Willcocks

Prayer after Communion

Radiant God,
with our eyes we have seen your salvation,
and in this meal we have feasted on your grace.
May your Word take flesh in us,
so that we may be your holy people,
revealing your glory made known to us
in Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Lord. **Amen.**

Evangelical Lutheran Worship (2006) alt.

THE SENDING OF THE COMMUNITY

Announcements

Doxology

Glory to God,
**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.**

Blessing

Closing Hymn: 138 Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

Text Charles Wesley, Music Felix Mendelssohn-Bartholdy, adapt. William Hayman Cummings © Public Domain CCLI License #1826689

1 Hark! The herald angels sing,
"Glory to the new-born 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 hosts 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

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Alleluia!
Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

Postlude: Torches ~ John Joubert

*Thank you to Celina Hawkins (English Horn)
for her musical contribution this morning.*

**10:00 A.M. HOLY EUCHARIST
(BOOK OF ALTERNATIVE SERVICES)**

Presider: Rev Maria Nightingale
Preacher: Rev Tim Kehoe
Duty Warden: Jim Doherty
Readers: Jim Doherty, Babs Dunstan
Intercessor: Catherine Smith
Lay Administrators: Babs Dunstan, Karen Scott
Livestream Operator: Alex Ala-Kantti
Altar Guild: Renee Premakanthan, Marlyne Zawadi

CONTACT LIST

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Organist: Denise Hawkins
Assistant Organist: Richard Frith
Churchwardens:
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The church office will be closed from December 25th to January 4th.
In case of a pastoral emergency, please contact Rev. Tim Kehoe or Rev. Maria Nightingale.