

ORDER OF SERVICE

THE HOLY EUCHARIST



FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS

10:00AM
DECEMBER 28, 2025

St.Thomas
THE APOSTLE

2345 Alta Vista Dr.
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THE GATHERING OF THE COMMUNITY

Prelude: Carols of the Nativity (various arrangers)

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: 148 See Amid the Winter's Snow

Text Edward Caswall, Music John Goss © Public Domain CCLI License #1826689

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 humble 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]

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

Almighty God,
you have shed upon us the new light
of your incarnate Word.
May this light, enkindled in our hearts,
shine forth in our lives;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

First Reading: Isaiah 63:7-9 (Karen Gravelle)

A reading from the Book of Isaiah

I will recount the gracious deeds of the Lord, the praiseworthy acts of the Lord, because of all that the Lord has done for us, and the great favour to the house of Israel that he has shown them according to his mercy, according to the abundance of his steadfast love. For he said, "Surely they

are my people, children who will not deal falsely"; and he became their saviour in all their distress. It was no messenger or angel but his presence that saved them; in his love and in his pity he redeemed them; he lifted them up and carried them all the days of old.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 148

Setting: Gordon Johnston



1 Praise the Lord from the heavens; praise him in the heights.

2 Praise him, all you angels of his; praise him, all his host. **R**

3 Praise him, sun and moon; praise him, all you shining stars.

4 Praise him, heaven of heavens, and you waters above the heavens. **R**

5 Let them praise the name of the Lord; for he commanded,
and they were created.

6 He made them stand fast for ever and ever; he gave them a law which
shall not pass away. **R**

7 Praise the Lord from the earth, you sea-monsters and all deeps;

8 Fire and hail, snow and fog, tempestuous wind, doing his will; **R**

9 Mountains and all hills, fruit trees and all cedars;

10 Wild beasts and all cattle, creeping things and winged birds;

11 Kings of the earth and all peoples, princes and all rulers of the world; **R**

12 Young men and maidens, old and young together.

13 Let them praise the name of the Lord, for his name only is exalted, his
splendour is over earth and heaven. **R**

14 He has raised up strength for his people and praise for all his loyal servants, the children of Israel, a people who are near him. Hallelujah! **R**

Epistle: Hebrews 2:10-18 (Els Salisbury)

A reading from the Letter to the Hebrews

It was fitting that God, for whom and through whom all things exist, in bringing many children to glory, should make the pioneer of their salvation perfect through sufferings. For the one who sanctifies and those who are sanctified all have one Father. For this reason Jesus is not ashamed to call them brothers and sisters, saying, "I will proclaim your name to my brothers and sisters, in the midst of the congregation I will praise you." And again, "I will put my trust in him." And again, "Here am I and the children whom God has given me."

Since, therefore, the children share flesh and blood, he himself likewise shared the same things, so that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by the fear of death. For it is clear that he did not come to help angels, but the descendants of Abraham. Therefore he had to become like his brothers and sisters in every respect, so that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make a sacrifice of atonement for the sins of the people. Because he himself was tested by what he suffered, he is able to help those who are being tested.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Thanks be to God.

Gradual Hymn: 137 What Child is This

Text William Chatterton Dix, Music English trad. © Public Domain CCLI License #1826689

1 What child is this, who, laid to rest,
on Mary's lap is sleeping?
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet,
while shepherds watch are keeping?

Refrain:

This, this is Christ the King,
whom shepherds guard and angels sing;
haste, haste to bring him laud,
the babe, the son of Mary.

2 Why lies he in such mean estate
where ox and ass are feeding?
Good Christians, fear: for sinners here
the silent Word is pleading. [Refrain]

3 So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh;
come, peasant, king, to own him.
The King of kings salvation brings;
let loving hearts enthrone him. [Refrain]

The Holy Gospel: Matthew 2:13-23

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

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

Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Now after they had left, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, "Get up, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you; for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him." Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother by night, and went to Egypt, and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfil what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet, "Out of Egypt I have called my son."

When Herod saw that he had been tricked by the wise men, he was infuriated, and he sent and killed all the children in and around Bethlehem who were two years old or under, according to the time that he had learned from the wise men. Then was fulfilled what had been spoken through the prophet Jeremiah: "A voice was heard in Ramah, wailing and loud

lamentation, Rachel weeping for her children; she refused to be consoled, because they are no more."

When Herod died, an angel of the Lord suddenly appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt and said, "Get up, take the child and his mother, and go to the land of Israel, for those who were seeking the child's life are dead." Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother, and went to the land of Israel. But when he heard that Archelaus was ruling over Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there. And after being warned in a dream, he went away to the district of Galilee. There he made his home in a town called Nazareth, so that what had been spoken through the prophets might be fulfilled, "He will be called a Nazorean."

The Gospel of Christ.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Sermon

The Apostles' Creed

Let us confess the faith of our baptism,
as we say,

**I believe in God,
the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the Virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again.
He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again**

to judge the living and the dead.

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

Prayers of the People: (Kathryn Fournier)

Hear us, O God.

For your mercy is great.

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: 628 O Love, How Deep, How Broad, How High (vs. 1,2,7)

Text Latin, tr. Benjamin Webb, Music Trier MS (15th cent.), adapt. Michael Praetorius © Public Domain CCLI License #1826689

1 O love, how deep, how broad, how high!
It fills the heart with ecstasy,
that God, the Son of God, should take
our mortal form for mortals' sake!

2 God sent no angel to our race,
of higher or of lower place,
but wore the robe of human frame,
for us, and to this lost world came.

7 To God whose boundless love has won
salvation for us through the Son,
to God the Father, glory be
both now and through eternity.

The Prayer over the Gifts

God of light,
in the birth of your Son we see your glory.
May we who share in this mystery

grow daily in your love.

This we ask in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord. **Amen.**

The Great Thanksgiving (Eucharistic Prayer 2)

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.

We give you thanks and praise, almighty God,
through your beloved Son, Jesus Christ,
our Saviour and Redeemer.

He is your living Word,
through whom you have created all things.

By the power of the Holy Spirit
he took flesh of the Virgin Mary
and shared our human nature.
He lived and died as one of us,
to reconcile us to you,
the God and Father of all.

In fulfilment of your will
he stretched out his hands in suffering,
to bring release to those who place their hope in you;
and so he won for you a holy people.

He chose to bear our griefs and sorrows,
and to give up his life on the cross,
that he might shatter the chains of evil and death,
and banish the darkness of sin and despair.
By his resurrection
he brings us into the light of your presence.

Now with all creation we raise 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.**

Holy and gracious God,
accept our praise,
through your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ;
who on the night he was handed over
to suffering and death,
took bread and gave you thanks,
saying, "Take, and eat:
this is my body which is broken for you."
In the same way he took the cup,
saying, "This is my blood which is shed for you.
When you do this, you do it in memory of me."

Remembering, therefore, his death and resurrection,
we offer you this bread and this cup,
giving thanks that you have made us worthy
to stand in your presence and serve you.

We ask you to send your Holy Spirit
upon the offering of your holy Church.
Gather into one
all who share in these sacred mysteries,
filling them with the Holy Spirit
and confirming their faith in the truth,
that together we may praise you
and give you glory
through your Servant, Jesus Christ.

All glory and honour are yours,
Father and Son,
with the Holy Spirit
in the holy Church,
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

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: What Shall We Give to the Child in the Manger?

Text Stephen Dean, Music Catalan trad. arr. Stephen Dean © 1995 Stephen Dean, OCP Publications.
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1 What shall we give to the child in the manger?
What shall we give him that he will enjoy?
Milk and wild honey for this little stranger,
Food to give strength to a new little boy.

2 What shall we give to the firstborn of Mary;
Things that will nourish a new life begun:
Fruits of the forest and figs from the fig tree,
Nurtured in soil and ripened by sun.

3 This child must grow to inherit a kingdom,
Blossom and ripen like fields of good corn,
Bearing a seed that will fall and lie buried,
Springing up new in the bright Easter morn.

4 What shall we give to the child in the manger?
What shall we give him that he will enjoy?
Give of the best to the one who will save us,
Food to give strength to this man still a boy.

Prayer after Communion

Source of truth and joy,
may we who have received the gift of divine life
always follow the way of your Son.
This we ask in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord. **Amen.**

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: 136 While Shepherds Watched their Flocks

Text Luke 2:8-14, para. Nahum Tate, Music *Whole Book of Psalmes*, 1592 © Public Domain CCLI License #1826689

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 swathing 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 on earth be peace;
good will henceforth from heaven to me
begin and never cease."

Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Postlude: Joyful Tidings (Moffatt)

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

Preacher: Rev Maria Nightingale
Presider: Rev Tim Kehoe
Duty Warden: Serge Choquette
Server: Sean Doherty
Sidespersons: Debbie Danson, Sue Huddlestone
Readers: Karen Gravelle, Els Salisbury
Intercessor: Kathryn Fournier
Lay Administrators: Tom Bryant, Ryan Benjamin
Livestream Operator: Alex Ala-Kantti
Altar Guild: Karen Scott, Liz Scobie

CONTACT LIST

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Organist: Denise Hawkins
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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.