

St John's Anglican Church

25 December 2014

Christmas Day

Holy Eucharist (BAS page 185)

Meditative Thought



THE LIGHT SHINES IN THE DARKNESS,
AND THE
DARKNESS HAS NOT OVERCOME IT.

Announcements

Opening Carol

Joy to the world!

THB 401

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.

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 Gathering of the People

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

A: And also with you.

**C: 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.**

Collect of the Day

C: Let us pray,

All 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 First Reading

Isaiah 61:10-62:3

R: The Word of the Lord

P: **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 148

page 907

- 1 Hallelujah! Praise the Lord from the heavens; praise him in the heights.
- 2 Praise him, all you angels of his; praise him, all his host.**
- 3 Praise him, sun and moon; praise him, all you shining stars.

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

- 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;**
- 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;**
- 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.

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!

**A: Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now and will be for ever.
Amen.**

The Second Reading

Galatians 4:4-7

R: The Word of the Lord.

P: Thanks be to God.

Gradual Carol

What child is this?

MP 749

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?

*This, this is Christ the King,
Whom shepherds guard and angels sing;
Haste, haste, to bring Him laud,
The Babe, the Son of Mary.*

Why lies He in such mean estate,
Where ox and ass are feeding?
Good Christians, fear, for sinners here
The silent Word is pleading.
*This, this is Christ the King,
Whom shepherds guard and angels sing;
Haste, haste, to bring Him laud,
The Babe, the Son of Mary.*

So bring Him incense, gold and myrrh,
Come peasant, king to own Him;
The King of kings salvation brings,
Let loving hearts enthrone Him.

*This, this is Christ the King,
Whom shepherds guard and angels sing;
Haste, haste, to bring Him laud,
The Babe, the Son of Mary.*

A reading from the Gospels

R: The Lord be with you.

P: **And also with you.**

R: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke beginning in the 2nd chapter at the 22nd verse.

P: **Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

At the conclusion of the Gospel, the reader says,

R: The Gospel of Christ.

P: **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

Homily

The Nicene Creed

C: 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 Confession and Absolution

C: 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.

C: 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.

C: 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.

P: Amen.

The Peace

C: The Peace of the Lord be
always with you.

P: **And also with you.**

Offertory Carol

It came upon the midnight clear

THB 427

It came upon the midnight clear,
That glorious song of old,
From angels bending near the earth,
To touch their harps of gold;
“Peace on the earth, good will to men,
From Heaven’s all gracious King.”
The world in solemn stillness lay,
To hear the angels sing.

Still through the cloven skies they come
With peaceful wings unfurled,
And still their heavenly music floats
O'er all the weary world;
Above its sad and lowly plains,
They bend on hovering wing,
And ever over its Babel sounds
The blessed angels sing.

But with the woes of sin and strife
The world has suffered long;
Beneath the angel strain have rolled
Two thousand years of wrong;
And man, at war with man, hears not
The love-song which they bring;
O hush the noise, ye men of strife
And hear the angels sing.

For lo! the days are hastening on,
By prophet-bards foretold,
When with the ever circling years
Comes round the age of gold;
When peace shall over all the earth
Its ancient splendors fling,
And the whole world send back the song
Which now the angels sing.

The Prayer over the Gifts

C: Let us pray:

P: 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

C: The Lord be with you.

P: **And also with you.**

C: Lift up your hearts.

P: **We lift them to the Lord.**

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

P: **It is right to give our thanks and
praise.**

C: It is right to glorify you, Father, and to give you thanks; for you alone are God, living and true, dwelling in light inaccessible from before time and for ever. Fountain of life and source of all goodness, you made all things and fill them with your blessing; you created them to rejoice in the splendour of your radiance.

C: Countless throngs of angels stand before you to serve you night and day, and, beholding your presence, they offer you unceasing praise. Joining with them, and giving voice to every creature under heaven, we acclaim you, and glorify your name, as we sing (say),

**All Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,**

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full,
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.**

C: We acclaim you, holy Lord, glorious in power; your mighty works reveal your wisdom and love. You formed us in your own image, giving the whole world into our

C: When our disobedience took us far from you, you did not abandon us to the power of death. In your mercy you came to our help, so that in seeking you we might

C: Father, you loved the world so much that in the fullness of time you sent your only Son to be our Saviour. Incarnate by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, he lived

C: To the poor he proclaimed the good news of salvation; to prisoners, freedom; to the sorrowful, joy. To fulfil your purpose he gave himself up to death and, rising from

C: And that we might live no longer for ourselves, but for him who died and rose for us, he sent the Holy Spirit, his own first gift for those who believe, to complete his work in

C: When the hour had come for him to be glorified by you, his heavenly Father, having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end:

C: at supper with them
he 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

C: 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

C: Father, we now
celebrate the memorial
of our redemption.
Recalling Christ's death
and descent among the
dead, proclaiming his
resurrection and
ascension to your right
hand, awaiting his

**A: We praise you, we
bless you, we give
thanks to you, and we
pray to you, Lord our
God.**

C: Father, we pray that in your goodness and mercy your Holy Spirit may descend upon us, and upon these gifts, sanctifying them and showing them to be holy gifts for your holy people, the bread of life and the

C: Grant that all who share this bread and this cup may become one body and one spirit, a living sacrifice in Christ to the praise of your name.

C: Remember, Lord, your one holy catholic and apostolic Church, redeemed by the blood of your Christ. Reveal its unity, guard its faith, and preserve it in peace.

C: Remember (. . .and) all
who minister in your
Church.

Remember all your
people, and those who
seek your truth.

Remember. . .

C: Remember all who have died in the peace of Christ, and those whose faith is known to you alone; bring them into the place of eternal joy and light.

C: And grant that we may find our inheritance with the blessed Virgin Mary, with patriarchs, prophets, apostles, and martyrs, with Joseph and John, Stephen and the Holy Innocents and all the saints who have found

C: We praise you in union with them and give you glory through your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, all honour and glory are yours, almighty God and Father, in the unity of the

C: And now, as our Saviour Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

A: 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 Bread

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

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

C: The Gifts of God for the people of God.

A: **Thanks be to God.**

Agnus Dei

- O Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.**
- O Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.**
- O Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, grant us thy peace.**

Communion



Carol after Communion

Infant holy, infant lowly

MP 342

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.

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 the morrow:
Christ the Babe was born for you.

Prayer after Communion

C: Let us pray.

A: 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.

Prayer after Communion

C: Glory to God,

A: 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

Closing Carol

**T'was In The Moon Of
Wintertime**

THB 412

'Twas in the moon of wintertime,
When all the birds had fled,
That mighty Gitchi Manitou
Sent angel choirs instead;
Before their light the stars grew dim,
And wondering hunters heard the hymn:

*Jesus your King is born,
Jesus is born,
In excelsis gloria.*

Within a lodge of broken bark
The tender babe was found,
A ragged robe of rabbit skin
Enwrapped His beauty round;
But as the hunter braves drew nigh,
The angel song rang loud and high:

*Jesus your King is born,
Jesus is born,
In excelsis gloria.*

O children of the forest free,
O seed of Manitou,
The holy Child of earth and Heav'n
Is born today for you.
Come kneel before the radiant Boy,
Who brings you beauty, peace and joy.

*Jesus your King is born,
Jesus is born,
In excelsis gloria.*

Dismissal

C: Let us go forth celebrating the birth of Christ and a New Year.

A: Thanks be to God.

