



## CHRISTMAS EVE December 24 2020

### TERRITORIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

PRIEST We acknowledge the traditional territory upon which we worship.

For many thousands of years, the Algonquin people have walked gently on this land. We acknowledge their stewardship and seek a new relationship based in honour and deep respect.

### GRACE

PRIEST: The Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all

**ALL:** And also with you.

### COLLECT FOR PURITY

**ALL:** Almighty God, unto whom all hearts be open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of thy Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love thee, and worthily magnify thy holy Name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

### OPENING RESPONSES - CHRISTMAS EVE

PRIEST: This year, we dreamed of world peace.

**ALL:** We dreamed of deep breaths and restful sleep.

PRIEST: We dreamed of love that lasts and suffering that passes.

**ALL:** We dreamed of doors open wide and a cure to disease.

PRIEST: We dreamed, because to dream is to believe.

**ALL:** For to dream is to hope; to dream is to see.

PRIEST: So make room in your being to dream yet again,

**ALL:** Of a world without fear, and a God that draws near.

PRIEST: For it is almost Christmas.

**ALL:** Love is almost here.

PRIEST: May we dream to see, and hope to believe.

Let us worship Holy God.

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### LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE

PRIEST: In the beginning, God dreamed of a beautiful world.

**ALL:** In Egypt, the Israelites dreamed of freedom.

PRIEST: In the wilderness, the people dreamed of safety.

**ALL:** In Jerusalem, the people dreamed of a Messiah.

PRIEST: In Bethlehem, the shepherds and Wise Men dreamed of a new beginning.

**ALL:** Then, Jesus walked this earth and dreams came true.

PRIEST: The sick were healed. The poor had food.

**ALL:** The forgotten and ignored were seen.

PRIEST: The children were welcomed.

**ALL:** Everyone was invited to the table, and the world has never been the same.

PRIEST: So tonight, we are those who dream.

**ALL:** Tonight, we dream the same dreams of our ancestors before us.

PRIEST: Tonight, we dream of justice and mercy, of love and kindness, of peace and hope.

**ALL:** Tonight we dream of a God that draws near to us out of unfailing love.

PRIEST: May this candle be a reminder that there will be a day when every dream will be fulfilled. And until then, we will be those who dream.

*[The candle is lit]*

**ALL:** Let us worship Holy God.

### COLLECT CHRISTMAS DURING THE DAY

PRIEST; Almighty God, you wonderfully created and yet more wonderfully restored our human nature. May we share the divine life of your Son Jesus Christ, who humbled himself to share our humanity, and now lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

**ALL:** Amen.

### FIRST READING *Isaiah 52: 7-10*

**ALL:** Thanks be to God.

### SECOND READING *Hebrews 1: 1-4*

**ALL:** Thanks be to God.

## **GOSPEL**

**PRIEST:** The Holy Gospel is written in the Gospel according to John, chapter 1, beginning at the first verse

**PEOPLE:** Glory be to thee, O Lord.

*John 1:1-14*

**PRIEST:** This is the Gospel of Christ...

**PEOPLE:** Praise be to thee, O Christ.

## **REFLECTION**

### **APOSTLES' CREED**

**PRIEST:** Together we proclaim our faith: I believe in God,

**ALL:** 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 13**

**PRIEST:** In joy and humility let us pray to the creator of the universe, saying, "Lord, grant us peace."

By the good news of our salvation brought to Mary by the angel, hear us, O Lord.

**ALL:** Lord, grant us peace.

**PRIEST:** By the mystery of the Word made flesh, hear us, O Lord.

**ALL:** Lord, grant us peace.

**PRIEST:** By the birth in time of the timeless Son of God, hear us, O Lord.

**ALL:** Lord, grant us peace.

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**PRIEST:** By the manifestation of the King of glory to the shepherds and magi, hear us, O Lord.

**ALL:** Lord, grant us peace.

**PRIEST:** By the submission of the maker of the world to Mary and Joseph of Nazareth, hear us, O Lord.

**ALL:** Lord, grant us peace.

**PRIEST:** By the baptism of the Son of God in the river Jordan, hear us, O Lord.

**ALL:** Lord, grant us peace.

**PRIEST:** Grant that the kingdoms of this world may become the kingdom of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ; hear us, O Lord.

**ALL:** Lord, grant us peace.

### **CONFESSION**

**PRIEST:** Ye that do truly and earnestly repent you of your sins, and are in love and charity with your neighbours, and intend to lead the new life, following the commandments of God, and walking from henceforth in his holy ways: Draw near with faith, and take this holy Sacrament to your comfort; and make your humble confession to Almighty God.

**ALL:** Almighty God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, Maker of all things, Judge of all people:

We acknowledge and confess our manifold sins and wickedness, which we from time to time most grievously have committed, by thought, word, and deed, against thy Divine Majesty.

We do earnestly repent, and are heartily sorry for these our misdoings.

Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father; for thy Son our Lord Jesus Christ's sake, forgive us all that is past;

and grant that we may ever hereafter serve and please thee in newness of life, to the honour and glory of thy Name; Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

### **ABSOLUTION**

**PRIEST:** ALMIGHTY God, our heavenly Father, who of his great mercy hath promised forgiveness of sins to all them that with hearty repentance and true faith turn unto him: Have mercy upon you; pardon and deliver you from all

your sins; confirm and strengthen you in all goodness; and bring you to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

### **COMFORTABLE WORDS BCP**

**PRIEST** Hear what comfortable words our Saviour Christ saith unto all that truly turn to him.

Come unto me all that labour and are heavy laden, and I will refresh you.

God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, to the end that all that believe in him should not perish, but have eternal life.

Hear also what Saint Paul saith.

This is a true saying, and worthy of all to be received, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners.

Hear also what Saint John saith.

If anyone sins, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous; and he is the propitiation for our sins.

### **THE PEACE**

**PRIEST:** The peace of the Lord be always with you.

**PEOPLE:** And also with you.

### **EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER 3**

**PRIEST:** The Lord be with you.

**ALL:** And also with you.

**PRIEST:** Lift up your hearts.

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

**PRIEST:** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

**PRIEST:** Blessed are you, gracious God, creator of heaven and earth; we give you thanks and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord, who in the mystery of his incarnation was made perfect man of the flesh of the Virgin Mary his mother; in him we have seen a new and radiant vision of your glory.

Therefore with angels and archangels we raise our voices in joyful praise to proclaim the glory of your name.

**ALL:** Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might - heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.

Blest is the one who comes in the name of the Lord, Hosanna in the highest.

**PRIEST:** 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, 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,

**ALL:** We remember his death;

We proclaim his resurrection;

We await his coming in glory.

**PRIEST:** 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.

**ALL:** Amen.

**THE LORD'S PRAYER**

PRIEST: Gathering our prayers and praises into one, let us pray as our Saviour taught us,

**ALL:** 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.

**PRE-COMMUNION**

PRIEST: The gifts of God for the People of God.

**ALL:** Thanks be to God.

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION BAS**

PRIEST: All your works praise you, O Lord.

**ALL:** And your faithful servants bless you.  
Gracious God, we thank you for feeding us  
with the body and blood of your Son Jesus  
Christ. May we, who share his body, live his  
risen life; we, who drink his cup, ring life to  
others; we, whom the Spirit lights, give light  
to the world.

Keep us firm in the hope you have set before  
us, so that we and all your children shall be  
free, and the whole earth live to praise your  
name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

**CHRISTMAS BLESSING**

PRIEST: May we who have knelt at the manger  
always have room to hold within ourselves the  
Christmas Child.

May we who have gazed upon the face of God  
learn to live fully and to share freely all that we  
have and are.

**ALL:** So may Emmanuel -- God with us and  
for us --- be once again incarnated in the  
world. Amen.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS****DISMISSAL**

PRIEST: Now let us go in peace to love and  
serve the Lord

**ALL:** Thanks be to God