

St. Paul's Cathedral

"Glory to God in the Highest"



The Eve of Christmas

December 24, 2020

7:00 p.m.

The Eve of Christmas

Solemn Eucharist

December 24, 2020– 7:00 p.m.

THE GATHERING OF THE COMMUNITY

Blessing & Lighting of the Wreath

The time of waiting is over; our Lord is born. Now we light the Christ candle to remind us that all of God's gifts - Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love - are to be found in God's greatest gift, his Son, Jesus Christ. (*The Christ candle is lit.*) Let us pray: Almighty God, we thank you for the gift of your Son, born of the Holy Spirit and of Mary. Upon him rests all your grace, through him comes all your mercy. As the light shines from these candles, so may the light of Jesus shine within our hearts. Help us to make your Church the light of the world. We ask in the name of the One born in Bethlehem. **Amen.**

Processional Hymn 118 'O COME, ALL YE FAITHFUL'

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.
2. God of God, Light of Light,
lo, he abhors not the virgin's womb;
very God, begotten not created: *Refrain*
3. Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,
sing, all ye citizens of heaven above;
glory to God in the highest: *Refrain*
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*

Welcome

The Dean

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

People **And also with you.**

Glory to God

Celebrant 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.

Collect

Eternal God, this holy night is radiant with the brilliance of your one true light.
As we have known the revelation of that light on earth, bring us to see the splendour
of your heavenly glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with
you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

First Reading *Isaiah 9: 2-4, 6-7*

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness – on them light has shined. You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder. For the yoke of their burden, and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian. For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is name Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onward and for evermore. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.

Reader The word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 96

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.

3 Declare his glory among the nations * and his wonders among all peoples.

4 For great is the Lord and greatly to be praised; * he is more to be feared than all gods.

5 As for all the gods of the nations, they are but idols; * but it is the Lord who made the heavens.

6 Oh, the majesty and magnificence of his presence! * Oh, the power and the splendour of his sanctuary!

7 Ascribe to the Lord, you families of the peoples; * ascribe to the Lord honour and power.

8 Ascribe to the Lord the honour due his name; * bring offerings and come into his courts.

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."

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.

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.

We worship you, God of glory, in the beauty of holiness, and we joyfully proclaim your just and righteous rule, established for all, through your Son Jesus Christ the Lord.

Second Reading..... *Titus 2: 11-14*

For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all, training us to renounce impiety and worldly passions, and in the present age to live lives that are self-controlled, upright, and godly, while we wait for the blessed hope and the manifestation of the glory of our great God and Saviour, Jesus Christ. He it is who gave himself for us that he might redeem us from all iniquity and purify for himself a people of his own who are zealous for good deeds.

Reader The word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Gradual Hymn 126..... *'AWAY IN A MANGER'*

1. Away in a manger, no crib for a 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 for ever, and love me, I pray.
Bless all the dear children in your tender care,
and fit us for heaven to live with you there.

The Gospel Story

Luke 2: 1-20

Deacon The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Deacon The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to *Luke*.

People **Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn. In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favours!" When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us." So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

Deacon The Gospel of Christ.

People **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ**

Homily *The Very Reverend Michael Sinclair*

Hymn **140**..... *'IT CAME UPON THE MIDNIGHT CLEAR'*

1. 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, to all goodwill from heaven's most gracious king!"
The world in solemn stillness lay to hear the angels sing.

2. 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 o'er its Babel sounds the blessed angels sing.
3. Yet with the woes of sin and strife the world has suffered long;
beneath the angel strain have rolled two thousand years of wrong;
and we amid our wars hear not the words of peace they bring;
O listen now, and still your strife to hear the angels sing.
4. And you, beneath life's crushing load, whose forms are bending low,
who toil along the climbing way with painful steps and slow;
look now, for glad and golden hours come swiftly on the wing:
O rest beside the weary road, and hear the angels sing.
5. For lo, the days are hastening on, by prophets seen of old,
when with the ever circling years shall come the time foretold:
when the new heaven and earth shall own the Prince of Peace their King,
and the whole world send back the song which now the angels sing.

The Nicene Creed

Celebrant 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.

Prayers of Thanksgiving for the Birth of Jesus and Prayers for the World

Confession and Absolution

Celebrant 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.

Celebrant 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.

Celebrant 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.

People Amen.

The Peace

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you.

Deacon Let us share a sign of peace with one another.

The Lord's Prayer

Celebrant As our Saviour taught us, let us pray,
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.

Taking the Light to the World

Deacon Jesus Christ is the light of the world.

All **A light no darkness can extinguish.**

Lighting of individual candles.

(At this time, light candles at home, if so desired)

Hymn 119..... 'SILENT NIGHT'

1. Silent night! Holy night! All is calm, all is bright
round yon virgin mother and child. Holy infant so tender and mild,
sleep in heavenly peace,
sleep in heavenly peace.
2. Silent night! Holy night! Shepherds quake at the sight:
glories stream from heaven afar, heavenly hosts sing alleluia,
Christ the Saviour is born,
Christ the Saviour is born.
3. Silent night! Holy night! Son of God, love's pure light
radiant beams from thy holy face, with the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord, at thy birth,
Jesus, Lord, at thy birth.

Deacon Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

Thanksgiving

Blessed are you, Lord our God,
our eternal Father and David's king.

You have made our gladness greater and increased our joy
by sending to dwell among us the Wonderful Counsellor,
the Prince of Peace.

Born of Mary, proclaimed to the shepherds,
and acknowledged to the ends of the earth,
your unconquered Sun of righteousness destroys
our darkness and establishes us in freedom.

All glory in the highest be to you, through Christ, the Son of your favour,
in the anointing love of his Spirit, this night and for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Closing Hymn 154..... 'JOY TO THE WORLD'

1. Joy to the world! The Lord is come: let earth receive the King;
let every heart prepare him room, and heaven and nature sing,
and heaven and nature sing, and heaven and heaven and nature sing.
2. Joy to the earth! The Saviour reigns: let us glad songs employ,
while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains repeat the sounding joy,
repeat the sounding joy, repeat, repeat the sounding joy.
3. No more let wrongs and sorrows grow, nor thorns infest the ground;
he comes to make his blessings flow far as our sin is found,
far as our sin is found, far as, far as our sin is found.
4. 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.

Blessing

Dismissal

The Lord be with you.

All **And also with you.**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude

Ring!

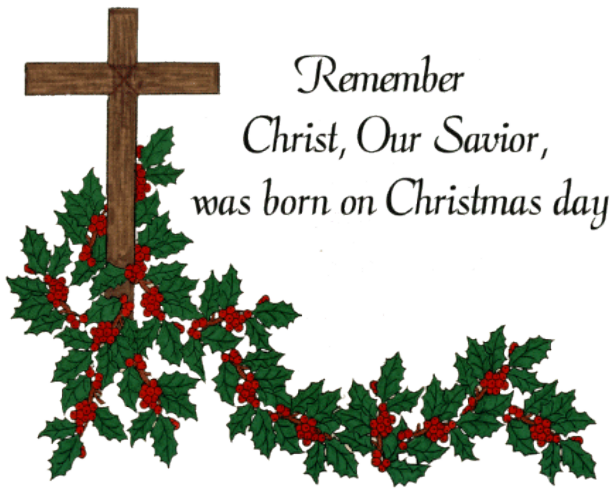
by David L. McIntyre



Rejoice
Rejoice
Rejoice



Christ the Lord is Born!



Remember
Christ, Our Savior,
was born on Christmas day



The flowers and the plants that enhance the beauty of the Cathedral this
Christmas season are given to the Glory of God and...

... in loving memory of our parents Harry and Winnie Goodale and Willard & Lois Kendel,
loved ones gone, but not forgotten by their families.

... in loving memory of our parents, our daughter-in-law and all family
members gone but not forgotten, by Ed & Elvira Beday



Blessed Christmas!

***May the peace of God, which passes all understanding,
be with you all at this holy season and always.***



*Peace & Happiness
Be with you this night*

*Of
our
Savior's
Birth!*

St. Paul's Cathedral
1861 McIntyre Street, Regina, SK
Phone: 306-522-6439
Email: office@stpaulsregina.ca
Website: www.stpaulsregina.com
Chaplain on Call: 306-535-3115

The Dean The Very Reverend Michael Sinclair
Phone: 306-949-0705 or 306-537-6439
Email: mrsinclair@sasktel.net

Associate Priest The Reverend Ed Dunfield
Phone: 306-584-0048 or 306-551-6213
Email ed.dunfield@gmail.com

Columbarium
Phone 306-352-8931

Deacon Canon Michael Jackson
Phone: 306-757-1665 or 306-531-7069
Email dmichaeljackson@sasktel.net

Children's Liturgy Gail Bowen
Email spike2@sasktel.net

Church Warden Ian Yeates
Email iyeates@sasktel.net

Altar Guild Merrilyn Dubreuil
Email meralmad@hotmail.ca

Church Warden Pam Kendel-Goodale
Email pkendel@accesscomm.ca

PWRDF Rep Mary Wallace
Email wallacemary0905@gmail.com

Parish Treasurer Donna MacIntosh
Email macis@sasktel.net

Flower Secretary Lindsay Blacker
Phone 306-789-7590

Director of Music Dorianna Holowachuk
Email dorianna_h@hotmail.com

*We wish to acknowledge that St. Paul's Cathedral sits in **Treaty 4 Territory**, the traditional homeland of the Cree, Assiniboine, Saulteaux and Metis People. We do so with the deepest respect for the traditions and nations who have been in this place for thousands of years, and as a reminder to the Church that reconciliation is our most important task.*