



the **Church**
of **St Peter** and
St Simon-the-Apostle

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Christmas Eve

December 24, 2023

*“The Word was made flesh and dwelt among us,
and we beheld his glory,
the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,
full of grace and truth.”*

St. John 1.14.

Blessing of the Crib & Festal Eucharist at 10.00 pm.

Celebrant & Preacher

The Reverend Canon Geoffrey Sangwine

Deacon

The Reverend Abraham Thomas

Assisting

The Reverend Christopher Dangpilen (San Lorenzo Ruiz)

The Reverend Canon Michael Burgess

Director of Music Robin Davis

Organist Johan van 't Hof

Mass Setting: *Messe de minuit pour Noël (Midnight mass for Christmas)*

Marc-Antoine Charpentier

Guest musicians: Emily Morse, Michael Ruby, flutes

Sylvia Kim, alto flute, Nancy Nourse, contrabass flute

*The Clergy, Churchwardens and staff of
The Church of St. Peter & St. Simon-the-Apostle and San Lorenzo Ruiz
wish you a Blessed Christmas and a Happy New Year.*

Prelude *Meditation on Divinium mysterium*
 Gabriel's Oboe
 Fantasia on In Dulci Jubilo

GEORGE OLDROYD
ENNIO MORRICONE
J.S. BACH

Introit for Christmas Midnight

TRAD. PLAINCHANT

Choir

*Dominus dixit ad me: Filius meus es tu,
ego hodie genui te. Ps. Quare fremuerunt
gentes: et populi meditati sunt inania?
Gloria Patri, et Filio, et Spiritui Sancto:
Sicut erat in principio, et nunc, et semper,
et in sæcula sæculorum. Amen.*

*The Lord hath said to me: Thou art My Son,
this day have I begotten Thee. Ps. Why have
the Gentiles raged, and the people devised
vain things? Glory be to the Father, and to
the Son: and to the Holy Ghost; As it was in
the beginning, is now, and ever shall be:
world without end. Amen.*

Entrance Procession and Blessing of the Crib

The clergy, servers and choir enter at the west end of the Church.

Celebrant Unto us a child is born, unto us a Son is given;
All **And his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor
the Mighty God, the Everlasting Father, the Prince of Peace.**

Celebrant Let us go forth in Peace Alleluia!
All **In the name of Christ. Amen. Alleluia!**

Processional Hymn #118 O Come, All Ye Faithful

ADESTE FIDELES

**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;
*O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord.***

**God of God, Light of Light,
lo, he abhors not the virgin's womb;
very God, begotten not created: *Refrain***

**Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,
sing, all ye citizens of heaven above;
glory to God in the highest: *Refrain***

The Blessing of the Christmas Crib

Celebrant The word was made flesh and dwelt among us.

All **And we beheld his glory.**

Celebrant Lord of hosts, sanctify and bless this manger, that all who look upon it may be reminded of the humble birth of Jesus and be blessed evermore by him who is God with us and the Saviour of all, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit now and forever. **Amen.**

**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***

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

Celebrant Almighty God,
All **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.**

Celebrant Our Lord Jesus Christ said: hear, O Israel, the Lord our God is one Lord; and thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind, and with all thy strength.
This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it: thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.

All **Lord have mercy upon us, and write both these thy laws
in our hearts, we beseech thee.**

Choir Kyrie eleison. Christe eleison. Kyrie eleison.
*Lord have mercy upon us. Christ have mercy upon us.
Lord, have mercy upon us.*

The Collect

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

Please be seated.

The Proclamation of the Word

First Lesson Isaiah 9:2-7

Read by Paul Faulkner

Reader: A reading from the Prophet Isaiah.

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 all the boots of the tramping warriors and all the garments rolled in blood shall be burned as fuel for the fire. For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named 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 forevermore. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.

Reader The word of the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 96 *Sung by all. You are invited to remain seated.*

Ivor Atkins



- ¹ O sing unto the ' Lord a · new ' song; /
sing unto the Lord, ' all the ' whole ' earth.
- ² Sing unto the Lord, and ' praise his ' Name; /
be telling of his sal'vation from ' day to ' day.
- ³ Declare his honour a'mong the ' nations, /
and his ' wonders a'mong all ' peoples.
- ⁴ For the Lord is great, and cannot ' worthily be ' praised; /
he is more to be ' feared than ' all ' gods.
- ⁵ As for all the gods of the peoples, ' they are · but ' idols; /
but it is the ' Lord that ' made the ' heavens.
- ⁶ Honour and majesty ' are be'fore him: /
strength and ' beauty are ' in his ' sanctuary.
- ⁷ Ascribe unto the Lord, O ye ' kindreds · of the ' peoples, /
ascribe unto the ' Lord ' glory and ' power.
- ⁸ Give unto the Lord the honour ' due · unto his ' Name; /
bring presents and ' come in'to his ' courts.
- ^{2nd 9} O worship the Lord in the ' beauty of ' holiness; /
let the whole earth ' stand in ' awe of ' him.
- ¹⁰ Tell it out among the nations that the ' Lord is ' King; /
he hath made the round world so fast that it cannot be moved;
he shall ' judge the ' peoples ' righteously.
- ¹¹ Let the heavens rejoice and let the ' earth be ' glad; /
let the sea make a noise, and ' all that ' is there'in.
- ¹² Let the field be joyful, and ' all · that is ' in it; /
then shall all the trees of the wood re'joice be'fore the ' Lord;
- ¹³ For he cometh, for he cometh to ' judge the ' earth, /
and with righteousness to judge the world, and the ' peoples ' with his ' truth.

Second Lesson Titus 2:11-14

Read by Darla? From San Lorenzo

Reader: A reading from the Letter of Paul to Titus.

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.

All **Thanks be to God.**

Hymn *It Came Upon a Midnight Clear*

NOEL #141

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 good will,
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 o'er its Babel sounds
The blessed angels sing.

The Holy Gospel Luke 2:1-20

Please remain standing. All turn to face the Gospel as it is read in the centre aisle.

Deacon The Lord be with you.

All **And with thy spirit.**

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

All **Glory be to thee, O Lord.**

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.

All **Praise be to thee, O Christ.**

Yet with the woes of sin and strife
The world hath suffered long;
Beneath the angel-strain have rolled
Two thousand years of wrong;
And we, amid our wars hear not
The love song which they bring:
O listen now, and still your strife,
And hear the angels sing.

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.

Homily *Please be seated*

Nicene Creed *Please stand.*

Celebrant I believe in one God,

All **the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth,
and of all things visible and invisible;
And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of the Father before all worlds,
God, of God; Light, of Light; very God, of very God;
begotten, not made; being of one substance with the Father;
through whom all things were made:
who for us and for our salvation came down from heaven,
and was incarnate by the Holy Ghost of the Virgin Mary,
and was made man, and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried, and the third day he rose again according to the
scriptures, and ascended into heaven,
and sitteth on the right hand of the Father.
And he shall come again with glory to judge both the quick and the dead:
whose kingdom shall have no end.**

**And I believe in the Holy Ghost, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceedeth from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified,
who spake by the prophets. And I believe one, holy, catholic, and apostolic
Church. I acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins.
And I look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come.
Amen.**

Prayers of the People *Please kneel or stand.*

Led by Gerry Courage

Leader In joy and humility let us pray to the creator of the universe, saying,
“Lord, grant us peace.”

Leader For the welfare of the Holy Church of God throughout the world: for Justin,
Archbishop of Canterbury, Linda our Primate and in the Anglican Communion for
the Church in the diocese of Jerusalem, particularly the clergy and people of St
George’s Cathedral, Jerusalem.

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

All **Lord, grant us peace.**

Leader For Andrew, Kevin and Riscylla our bishops and for the ministry of the Diocese of
Toronto and for this parish Church our clergy and people.

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

Lord, grant us peace.

Leader For peace in the world, especially in Israel and Gaza, Ukraine, Russia, and all areas
affected by violence and unrest.

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

All **Lord, grant us peace.**

Leader For the leaders of the nations, especially Charles our King, Justin our Prime
Minister, Doug our Premier and Olivia our Mayor; for all who serve the common
good.

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

All **Lord, grant us peace.**

Leader For those in need in body mind or spirit, for those who have asked for our prayers, especially NN.
By the submission of the maker of the world to Mary and Joseph of Nazareth, hear us, O Lord.

All **Lord, grant us peace.**

Leader For those who have died in the peace of Christ and for those whose faith is known to God alone. Rest eternal grant unto them O Lord,

All **And let light perpetual shine upon them.**

Leader By the baptism of the Son of God in the river Jordan, hear us, O Lord.

All **Lord, grant us peace.**

Leader 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 and Absolution

The Celebrant invites the congregation to join in the General Confession

Silence is kept. Please kneel or be seated.

Celebrant Almighty God,

All **Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, maker of all things and 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.**

Celebrant 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.**

The Peace

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

All **And with thy spirit.**

Celebration of the Eucharist

Hymn *Of the Father's Love Begotten*

DIVINUM MYSTERIUM #132

All **Of the Father's Love begotten ere the worlds began to be,
he is Alpha and Omega, he the source, the ending he,
of the things that are and have been, and that future years shall see,
evermore and evermore.**

Men At his Word the worlds were framed. He commanded, it was done:
heaven and earth and depths of ocean in their threefold order one;
all that grows beneath the shining of the moon and burning sun,
evermore and evermore.

Women O that birth for ever blessed, when the virgin, full of grace,
by the Holy Ghost conceiving, bare the Saviour of our race,
and the babe, the world's redeemer, first revealed his sacred face,
evermore and evermore.

Men This is he whom seers in old time chanted of with one accord,
whom the voices of the prophets promised in their faithful word;
now he shines, the long expected; let creation praise its Lord,
evermore and evermore.

Women O ye heights of heaven, adore him; angel hosts, his praises sing;
all dominions, bow before him, and extol our God and king;
let no tongue on earth be silent, every voice in concert ring,
evermore and evermore.

All **Christ, to thee, with God the Father, and, O Holy Ghost, to thee,
hymn and chant and high thanksgiving, and unwearied praises be,
honour, glory, and dominion and eternal victory,
evermore and evermore.**

Prayer over the Gifts

Celebrant Source of light and gladness, accept all we offer on this joyful feast.
May we grow up in him who unites our lives to yours;
for he is Lord now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Great Thanksgiving

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

Merbecke; Common Praise 682

All **And with thy spirit.**

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

All **We lift them up unto the Lord.**

Celebrant Let us give thanks unto our Lord God.

All **It is meet and right so to do.**

Celebrant It is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord, holy Father, almighty, everlasting God, creator and preserver of all things. Because thou didst give Jesus Christ thine only Son to be born as at this time for us; who, by the operation of the Holy Spirit, was made very man of the substance of the Virgin Mary his mother; and that without spot of sin, to make us clean from all sin. Therefore with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious name; evermore praising thee and saying:

Choir *Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Hosts, heaven and earth are full of thy glory.
Glory be to thee, O Lord most high. Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord: Hosanna in the highest.*

All kneel or be seated.

Celebrant Blessing and glory and thanksgiving be unto thee, almighty God, our heavenly Father, who of thy tender mercy didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to take our nature upon him, and to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption; who made there, by his one oblation of himself once offered, a full, perfect, and sufficient sacrifice, oblation, and satisfaction, for the sins of the whole world; and did institute, and in his holy Gospel command us to continue, a perpetual memorial of that his precious death, until his coming again. Hear us, O merciful Father, we most humbly beseech thee; and grant that we receiving these thy creatures of bread and wine, according to thy Son our Saviour Jesus Christ's holy institution, in remembrance of his death and passion, may be partakers of his most blessed body and blood; who, in the same night that he was betrayed, took bread; and, when he had given thanks, he brake it; and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you: Do this in remembrance of me." Likewise after

supper he took the cup; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, “Drink ye all, of this; for this is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the remission of sins: Do this, as oft as ye shall drink it, in remembrance of me.” Wherefore, O Father, Lord of heaven and earth, we thy humble servants, with all thy holy Church, remembering the precious death of thy beloved Son, his mighty resurrection, and glorious ascension, and looking for his coming again in glory, do make before thee, in this sacrament of the holy bread of eternal life and the cup of everlasting salvation, the memorial which he hath commanded:

All **We praise thee, we bless thee, we thank thee,
and we pray to thee, Lord our God.**

Celebrant And we entirely desire thy fatherly goodness mercifully to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, most humbly beseeching thee to grant, that by the merits and death of thy Son Jesus Christ, and through faith in his blood, we and all thy whole Church may obtain remission of our sins, and all other benefits of his passion; and we pray that by the power of thy Holy Spirit, all we who are partakers of this holy communion may be fulfilled with thy grace and heavenly benediction; through Jesus Christ our Lord, by whom and with whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory be unto thee,
O Father Almighty, world without end. **Amen.**

Lord’s Prayer – *said together*

All **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 them that 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.**

Breaking of the Bread

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

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

Agnus Dei – *Please sit or kneel.*

Choir 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.

Holy Communion

- Holy Communion will be administered at both the High Altar and at the St Peter's Altar (standing). If you are communicating at the High Altar, please return to your pew through the side Sacristy door.
- Communion is administered in both kinds, bread and wine. Please do not instinct (dip the wafer in the wine). The fullness of the sacrament is present in the bread only. If you are not receiving the chalice, you may touch the base while the words of administration are spoken.
- If you would like only a blessing, please cross your arms over your chest to indicate this to the priest.

A Prayer for Spiritual Communion (*The Prayer of St Richard of Chichester – adapted*)

For those not receiving the sacrament we commend this prayer for Spiritual Communion.

Thanks be to you, Lord Jesus Christ, for all the benefits you have given me,
for all the pains and insults you have borne for me.

Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, I ask you to come spiritually into my heart.

O most merciful redeemer, friend and brother, may I know you more clearly,
love you more dearly, and follow you more nearly, day by day. Amen.

Carol: In the Bleak Midwinter (lyrics CP #122)

HAROLD DARKE

soprano solo – Katherine Jones

Hymn: CP 126 *Away in a Manger*

CRADLE SONG

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.

The cattle are lowing, the baby awakes,
But little Lord Jesus, no crying he makes.
I love thee, Lord Jesus! look down from on high,
And stay by my cradle till morning is nigh.

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

Motet *O Magnum Mysterium*

soprano solo – Sophie Knowles

JAMES WHITBOURNE

O magnum mysterium,
et admirabile sacramentum,
ut animalia viderent Dominum natum,
iacentem in praesepe!
O beata virgo, cuius viscera
meruerunt portare
Dominum Iesum Christum.
Alleluia
O great mystery,

and wonderful sacrament,
that animals should see the newborn Lord,
lying in a manger!
O blessed virgin, whose womb
was worthy to bear
the Lord Jesus Christ.
Alleluia!

Prayer after Communion *Please stand*

Celebrant Father of all, tonight you have united earth and heaven are united
in sending thy Son to take our human nature.
May we who have tasted heavenly things share in the life of his eternal kingdom.
We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Candles are lit and will be held until after the Gospel of Incarnation.

Hymn *Silent Night (please remain seated)*

STILLE NACHT #119

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.

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!

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.

Doxology

Celebrant Glory to God,

All **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

The Gospel of the Incarnation: St John 1.1-14 *Please stand*

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. The same was in the beginning with God. All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made. In him was life, and the life was the light of men. And the light shineth in darkness, and the darkness overcame it not. There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. The same came for a witness, to bear witness of the light, that all men through him might believe. He was not that light, but was sent to bear witness of that light. That was the true light, which lighteth every one that cometh into the world. He was in the world, and the world was made by him, and the world knew him not. He came unto his own, and his own received him not. But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his Name: which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God. And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father) full of grace and truth.

Candles are extinguished.

Hymn *Hark the Herald Angels*

MENDELSSOHN #138

1. Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn 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 host 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

Deacon Go forth in the name of Christ. Alleluia!

All **Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

Postlude *Postlude on "Adeste Fideles"*

ERIC H. THIMAN

Robin Davis – Organist

In our Prayers this Week

The Anglican Communion: The Episcopal Church in the Philippines

Diocesan Cycle of Prayer: Children's ministry in the Diocese

Outreach & Advocacy Cycle of Prayer: Pray for the Parish of Bobcaygeon, Dunsford & Burnt River, its food bank, refugee support, prayer shawl ministry, and support of Sleeping Children Around the World and other outreach initiatives; for the Parish of Campbellford, Hastings and Roseneath, its school breakfast and lunch programs, its weekly dinners, its Deacon's Cupboard, refugee sponsorship, and support of Warkworth Hospice; and for Christ Church, Bolton, its support for Caledon Community Services, its community garden, prayer shawl ministry, Christmas stocking outreach to the King Nursing Home, and support of other local outreach programs.

Parish Cycle: Audrey Hughes, Rosemary Hutchison, Margie Huycke, Michele Hynes

Home Bound Parishioners: Marie Adams, Nancy Byers, Alice Fox, Dennis Gittens, Lorraine Griffith, Sabrina Hogan, Everton Morris, Denise Orieux, Lucy Simons, Miriam Smart, Vernita Theobolds, Barbara & Duncan Towe, Lila Vamosi, Daphne Webster, Vashti White.

Other Christmas flowers and decorations throughout the Church are given

to the honour and glory of Almighty God by

Marie Adams in memory of Loxley Adams

Marc Cote in appreciation of the Altar Guild

Paul and Lorraine Faulkner in memory of absent friends and loved ones both near and far

Ena Forde in memory of family and friends

Cathy Graham

Daphne Harris in memory of Rosaleen Sherrard

*Ted & Issabelle Robinson in memory of our parents Angel, Albert, Dots and Bill
Ivaline Jonas
Peggy Needham
Robert O'Keefe in memory of Reginald & Dorothy Fleming
Jean Porter in memory of my sons Graeme and Steven Ponter
Deta Raffington in memory of Nellie Burton and Samuel Beswick
Mealica Smith
Noma Spence
Gary Tomeguzzo in memory of Helga & Kusti Hankanen*

CHRISTMAS SERVICES AT SPSS

Monday, December 25 – Christmas Day
10:30 am Sung Eucharist with Carols

Sunday, December 31 – First Sunday after Christmas
Servies at 9.15 and 10.30 am.

*Other Christmas flowers and decorations throughout the Church are given
to the honour and glory of Almighty God by*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Food Insecurity & Food Bank Needs

In 2022 over 2 million people in Canada accessed food banks. 33.1% were children, 45.4% were singles, 8.9% seniors, 49% were on social assistance and 1 in 7 were employed. In 2023 the numbers are even higher in Ontario. **Help SPSS build their food bank offerings!** Check your local grocery flyers. Even one item you might buy on sale and drop in our food box is important. The need falls into these non-perishable categories: **Grains-** cereals, granola bars, rice, pasta, flour. **Proteins-** canned fish and meat, beans, lentils, peanut butter. **Children's fruit snacks.** **Diet food-** for gluten, dairy and nut free needs. **Household products-** toilet paper, cleaning products, toothpaste, deodorant, tampons, etc. **Canned** fruit and vegetables, especially tomatoes and soups. Help us up our food bank delivery from once a month to once a week. Thank you.

Caring for Ourselves and Our Neighbours

We are seeing a rise in respiratory illnesses such as colds, influenza, RSV, and COVID-19.

As in years past, maintaining good hand hygiene and masking are effective tools in limiting the spread of these viruses and infections, and of course when we are feeling ill, it is important to remain at home.

The Church of St. Peter & St. Simon-the Apostle is happy to provide surgical masks available in the office and at the back of the church. Additionally, we have a limited supply of rapid antigen tests for COVID-19 available upon request. If you would like one, please speak to Fr. Geoff, or a sides-person.

Vaccines remain an effective way to protect yourself from a serious infection of influenza and COVID-19. You can book a COVID-19 vaccine appointment, screen yourself for eligibility, and find participating pharmacies on the Ontario Government website. Most pharmacies will let you register for a COVID-19 and flu shot at the same time.

Lastly, people at higher risk for severe outcomes for COVID-19 are eligible for the Paxlovid anti-viral treatment. Your family doctor or select pharmacies are able to prescribe it based on your eligibility. You can, also on the Ontario Government website.

Navigating the various seasonal illnesses and treatments can be difficult, so be sure to ask your family doctor if you have medical questions or concerns. Should you find yourself feeling isolated during this period, please let Fr. Geoff or the Rev. Abraham know; they are always happy to be in touch.

Ted Robinson for the Health & Safety Committee

Year-end offering

If you would like to make a year-end donation, please do so by December 31, to receive a tax receipt for 2023.

The Church of St. Peter and St. Simon-the-Apostle

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CLERGY, WARDENS & STAFF

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416.720.2099

Assistant Curate The Reverend Abraham Thomas
416-316-3497

Honorary Assistant The Reverend Canon Michael
Burgess

Director of Music Robin Davis 905.409.6121
robin.davis@rogers.com

Honorary Assistant Organists

Johan van 't Hof / Alison Jane

Wardens David Carrington – Rector's Warden
dcarrington.omers@sympatico.ca

Stephanie Woodside – People's Warden
swoodside27@gmail.com

Deputy Wardens Gerry Courage, Laurie Sanderson,
Vanessa Scott, Johan van't Hof

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Sexton Daiverzon Guillermo, 647.863.0698
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Children's Ministry Sileen Phillips
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Parish Administrator Jessy Balendra,
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Church Office Hours Tuesday, Wednesday, and
Thursday
from 9 am to 5pm

PARISH MINISTRIES

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Altar Guild Joy Quan-Lee, Sheila Thomas,
Marie Samuels-Isaac

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Health and Safety Committee Ted Robinson
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Rentals License Groups Church Office
office@stpeterstsimon.ca

Responsible Ministry Irene Courage/The Rector

Servers Fen Nanton

Sidespersons John Pugsley johnapugsley@gmail.com

Stewardship Committee Moveta Nanton 416-493-
2805

moveta.nanton@gmail.com

Technical Ministry David Carrington/Melica Smith

Verger Ian Corlett kingherodspeaks@protonmail.com

We acknowledge that in gathering to worship Almighty God, we are in the traditional territory of many First Nations peoples including the Mississaugas of the New Credit, the Anishinaabe, the Haudenosaunees, and the Huron-Wendat.

*"The earth is the Lord's, and all that therein is, the world and all who dwell therein."
Psalm 24.1.*