



THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD: CHRISTMAS DAY  
FRIDAY, DECEMBER 25, 2020 AT 10:30 A.M.

The Church of the Redeemer:  
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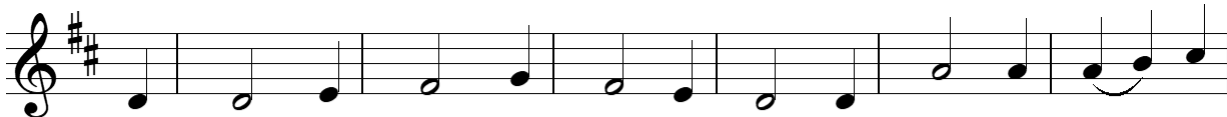
**Welcome:** *Steven Mackison*

Chorale Prelude on Iris (*arr. Dale Wood*)

*Priest:* Let us go forth in peace. Alleluia.

*People:* **In the name of Christ. Amen. Alleluia.**

Hymn #155 vv 1,2,5,6 (Common Praise) "From East to West, from Shore to Shore"



1. From east to west, from shore to shore, let ev - ery heart a -  
2. Be - hold! The world's cre - a - tor wears the form and fash - ion  
5. He shrank not from the ox - en's stall, he lay with - in the  
6. And while the an - gels in the sky sang praise a - bove the



- wake and sing the ho - ly child whom Ma - ry bore, the Christ, the  
of a slave; our ver - y flesh our Mak - er shares, his fal - len  
man - ger bed, and he whose boun - ty feeds us all at Mar - y's  
si - lent field, to shep - herds poor the Lord most high, the one great



ev - er - last - ing King.  
crea - ture now to save.  
breast him - self was fed.  
Shep - herd, was re - vealed.

**Station at the Crèche:** (*Steven Mackison*)

*Priest:* The Word was made flesh and dwelt among us. Alleluia!

*People:* **And we beheld his glory. Alleluia!**

*Priest:* Let us pray.

Eternal Father, you sent your only-begotten Son to take our human nature upon him, and to be born this day of a pure virgin: grant that we who joyfully behold

his appearing may be strengthened to greet him when he comes again in glory; even the same Jesus Christ our Lord and Redeemer. **Amen.**

Hymn #155 v7 (Common Praise) “From East to West, from Shore to Shore”

7. All glo-ry for this bless-ed morn to God, the source of all, is due; all praise to you, O Vir-gin-born; all praise, O Ho-ly Ghost, to you.

Text: Caelius Sedulius (5<sup>th</sup> cent.?); tr. John Ellerton (1826-1893), alt. Music: Melody Trier MS (15<sup>th</sup> cent.); adapt. Michael Praetorius (1571-1621); harm. George Ratcliffe Woodward (1848-1934). Harm. © Mowbray (an imprint of Cassell plc, London).

### **The Collect of the Day:** *Steven Mackison*

*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.  
**Amen.**

### **✠ The Proclamation of the Word**

**First Reading:** *Catherine Emerson*

*Reader:* A Reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah.

How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of the messenger who announces peace, who brings good news, who announces salvation, who says to Zion, “Your God reigns.” Listen! Your sentinels lift up their voices, together they sing for joy; for in plain sight they see the return of the LORD to Zion.

Break forth together into singing, you ruins of Jerusalem; for the LORD has comforted his people, he has redeemed Jerusalem. The LORD has bared his holy arm before the eyes of all the nations; and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.

Reader: The word of the Lord.

Isaiah 52.7-10

All: Thanks be to God.

*A moment of silence is observed*

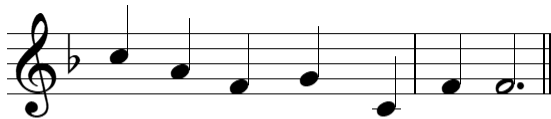
Carol #345 (Gather) "The Virgin Mary Had a Baby Boy"



1.The vir - gin Mar-y had a ba-by boy, the vir - gin Mar-y had a  
2.The an - gels sang when the ba-by born, The an - gels sang when the  
3.The wise men saw where the ba-by born, The wise men saw where the



ba - by boy, the vir - gin Mar - y had a ba - by boy, and they  
ba - by born, The an - gels sang when the ba - by born, and they  
ba - by born, The wise men saw where the ba - by born, and they



say that his name was Je-sus.  
say that his name was Je-sus.  
say that his name was Je-sus.

Refrain



He come from the glo-ry, he come from the glo-rious king-dom. Oh,



yes! be-liev-er! Oh, yes! be-liev-er! He come from the glo-ry,



he come from the glo-rious king-dom.

**Second Reading:** *Abigail Young*

A Reading from the Letter to the Hebrews.

Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets, but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, through whom he also created the worlds. He is the reflection of God's glory and the exact imprint of God's very being, and he sustains all things by his powerful word. When he had made purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs.

*Reader:* The word of the Lord.

Hebrews 1.1-4

**All: Thanks be to God.**

*A moment of silence is observed*

Sequence: "Brich an, o schönes Licht" (*J.S. Bach – BWV 248*): *Virtual Choir*

Brich an, o schönes Morgenlicht,  
Und lass den Himmel tagen!  
Du Hirtenvolk, erschrecke nicht,  
Weil dir die Engel sagen,  
Dass dieses schwache Knäbelein  
Soll unser Trost und Freude sein,  
Dazu den Satan zwingen,  
Und letztlich Friede bringen!

*Break out, O beautiful light of morning,  
and let the heavens dawn!  
You shepherd folk, do not fear  
because the angels tell you  
that this weak baby boy  
shall be our consolation and joy,  
subdue Satan  
and bring peace at last!*

**The Gospel:** *Susan Haig*

*Reader:* The Lord be with you.

**All: And also with you.**

*Reader:* The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

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

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came

to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

*Reader:* The Gospel of Christ.

John 1.1-14

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

**Homily:** Susan Haig

*We pause for music and meditation.*

Meditation: "Greeting" (*Leonard Bernstein*)

When a boy is born  
The world is born again  
And takes its first breath with him.

When a girl is born  
The world stops turning round  
And keeps a moments hushed wonder.

Every time a child is born  
For the space of that brief instant  
The world is pure.

**Statement of Faith:** *Steven Mackison*

*Priest:* We believe in God,

*All:* **who is older than eternity  
and younger than our next breath;  
who is beyond describing  
yet knows us all by name;  
who inspires faith  
yet cannot be contained by religion.**

*Priest:* We believe in Jesus Christ, flesh of our flesh, bone of our bone;

*All:* **he came in the body  
to give worth to every human life.  
He touched the untouchable  
loved the unlovable  
and endured slander, persecution and death.**

*Priest:* We believe that God's Kingdom comes on earth through Christ's suffering love;

*All:* **he rose from the grave as living proof  
that what is laid down in faith  
will be raised in glory.  
He ascended to heaven  
to be present in all times to all people.**

*Priest:* We believe in the Holy Spirit,

*All:* **who leads us into truth and freedom,  
who gives good gifts to all God's children,  
who works through prayer and politics,  
through justice, care of creation  
and the healing of the nations.**

*Priest:* We celebrate the potential God has given us:

*All:* **the life in our bodies,  
the yearning in our souls,  
and the promise of good things in store  
for those who love and serve their maker. Amen.**

Hymn: #380 (Gather) "What Child is This"



1. What child is this, who, laid to rest, On Mar-y's lap is  
2. Why lies he in such mean es - tate Where ox and ass are  
3. So bring him in - cense, gold and myrrh, Come peas - ant, king to



sleep - ing? Whom an - gels greet with an - thems sweet, While  
feed - ing? Good Chris - tian, fear: for sin - ners here The  
own him; The King of kings sal - va - tion brings, Let



shep - herds watch are keep - ing?  
si - lent Word is plead - ing.  
lov - ing hearts en - throne him.



This, this is Christ the King, Whom shep - herds guard and an - gels sing;



Haste, haste to bring him laud, The babe, the son of Mar-y.

Text: William C. Dix (1827-1898). Tune: English melody, 16<sup>th</sup> C.; harm. by John Stainer, 1840-1901).

## The Prayers of the People: *David Burt*

*Leader:* We join with other Christians throughout the world to celebrate the birth of the Christ child. We pray for the whole church, in all its incarnations, and for all who work and worship at Redeemer. Grant, Lord, that in the routine of our everyday lives we may never cease to glorify your name.



*A long pause is observed. Please give voice to your prayers or add them over in the chat box.*

*Leader:* We pray to you:

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

*Leader:* We pray for the nations of this world;  
that those in authority may see the light of Christ in their own lives  
and that they may, in faith and humility, seek your perfect will,  
and so lead their people to justice, freedom, and peace.  
Enlighten all human hearts and reveal your will  
that we may be reconciled to creation.

*A long pause is observed. Please give voice to your prayers or add them over in the chat box.*

*Leader:* We pray to you:

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

*Leader:* We pray for the sick and the suffering;  
for the homeless and the hungry;  
for the lonely and the lost.  
I invite your prayers for those whose cares  
weigh heavily on your heart this Christmas Day.

*A long pause is observed. Please give voice to your prayers or add them over in the chat box.*

*Leader:* May all who know emptiness be filled with your abundant grace  
given to us this day in the person of your Son.

We pray to you:

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

*Leader:* We pray for those who are dying,  
and those who have entered into the nearer presence of God.  
Rest eternal grant unto them, O Lord,  
and let light perpetual shine upon them.  
May they rest in peace and rise in glory.  
Comfort their loved ones, assuring them of your promise of life everlasting

*A long pause is observed. Please give voice to your prayers or add them over in the chat box.*

*Leader:* We pray to you:

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

*Leader:* Holy One, accept these prayers  
for the sake of the one  
birthed in our hearts and lives,  
Jesus Christ our Redeemer,  
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, world without end.

*All:* **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer: *Steven Mackison*

*Priest:* 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.**

The Doxology: *Steven Mackison*

*Priest:* 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.**

## Concluding Hymn: #154 (Common Praise) "Joy to the World"



1. Joy to the world! The Lord is come: let earth re - ceive the King; let  
2. Joy to the earth! The Sav-iour reigns: let us glad songs em - ploy, while  
3. No more let wrongs and sor-rows grow, nor thorns in - fest the ground; he  
4. He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the na-tions prove the



ev - ery heart pre - pare him room, and heaven and na - ture  
fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains re - peat the sound-ing  
comes to make his bless-ings flow far as our sin is  
glo - ries of his right- eous- ness and won - ders of his



sing, and heaven and na - ture sing, and heaven and heaven and  
joy, re - peat the sound-ing joy, re - peat, re - peat the  
found, far as our sin is found, far as, far as our  
love, and won - ders of his love, and won - ders, won - ders



na - ture sing.  
sound-ing joy.  
sin is found.  
of his love.

Text: Isaac Watts (1674-1748), alt. Music: Melody George Frideric  
Handel (1685-1759); adapt. William Holford, Voce de Melodia, 1835;  
harm. Lowell Mason (1792-1872).

**Ministry Updates:** *Steven Mackison*

**The Dismissal:** *Susan Haig*

**Priest:** Let us bless the Lord. Alleluia!

**People:** Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

## Ministry Updates

### With Gratitude

At this time, more than any other, we contemplate giftedness and how God has given it expression in our lives through the incarnation: God's gift of God's self to us in the person of Jesus Christ. We invite you at this time to respond with gratitude to all that God has done in your life and to support the ministries that God has inspired in us through the gift of the Holy Spirit and that make us who we are.

We are grateful that despite this pandemic we have been able to gather for worship and faith formation and to support the Common Table. And, we have been able to sustain all this ministry through the generous donations from parishioners and friends of the community.

If you have given all you can - thank you. Your gifts have made a difference. If you have the capacity to make an additional gift or to give for the first time please consider one of these options:

- [online](#) through CanadaHelps.
- **e-transfer** – please contact the [Treasurer](#) on how to do this.
- **a cheque, dated in December 2020, mailed to the church and postmarked in 2020.** The church address is 162 Bloor Street West, Toronto, ON M5S 1M4.
- **hand-delivered envelopes** dropped through the mail slot in the door to the right of the main doors before midnight December 31, 2020 (if you can do this safely while following pandemic protocols).