

Welcome to St Timothy's

**Living our faith in Jesus Christ
with Open Arms, Open Hearts, Open Minds**



**December 24th, 2021
Online & In-Person Eucharist Service at
10:30pm**

The Gathering of the Community

Prelude

Welcome - Land Acknowledgement

The land from which we gather is the traditional territory of many nations including the Huron-Wendat, Haudenosaunee, Anishinabek, and the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation. This territory is governed by the Dish With One Spoon Wampum Belt Treaty. Today, Toronto is home to many Indigenous people from across Turtle Island.

Opening Hymn: O Come, All Ye Faithful

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, Christ the Lord.

God of God, Light of Light,
Lo, he abhors not the virgin's womb;
Very God, begotten not created:
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord.

Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation
Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above;
Glory to God in the highest:
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord.

(Adeste Fidelis 118)

Opening Sentences

Presider: Blessed are you, O Christ, Son of God, you were before time began and came into the world to save us. Blessed are you, Son of righteousness; you shine with the Father's love and illumine the whole universe. Blessed are you, Son of Mary; born a child, you shared our humanity.

All: Let heaven and earth shout their praise.

Presider: With all the voices of heaven we celebrate the coming of our Saviour.

All: Let heaven and earth shout their praise.

Presider: With all the creatures on earth we sing and dance at his birth.

All: Praise and honour and glory to you, O Lord most high.

The Gloria

Tune: Antioch (Joy to the World)

Glo-ry to God in the high - est, and peace to his peo - ple on
earth. Lord God, - heaven-ly king, - al-might-y God and
Fa - ther, we wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we
praise you, we praise you for your glo - ry. Lord

The Proclamation of the Word

A Reading from the Letter to the Hebrews

read by Frances Flint

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.

For to which of the angels did God ever say,

'You are my Son;
today I have begotten you'?

Or again,

'I will be his Father,
and he will be my Son'?

And again, when he brings the firstborn into the world, he says,

'Let all God's angels worship him.'

Of the angels he says,

'He makes his angels winds,
and his servants flames of fire.'

But of the Son he says,

'Your throne, O God, is for ever and ever,
and the righteous sceptre is the sceptre of your kingdom.
You have loved righteousness and hated wickedness;

therefore God, your God, has anointed you
with the oil of gladness beyond your companions.’
And,
‘In the beginning, Lord, you founded the earth,
and the heavens are the work of your hands;
they will perish, but you remain;
they will all wear out like clothing;
like a cloak you will roll them up,
and like clothing they will be changed.
But you are the same,
and your years will never end.’

Hebrews 1.1–12

Silence is kept for reflection

Reader: Listen to what the Spirit is saying to the churches.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

The Gospel

read by The Rev. Canon Dr. Eric Beresford

Presider: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Presider: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ,
according to John.

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

In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. When Elizabeth heard Mary’s greeting, the child leapt in her womb. And Elizabeth

was filled with the Holy Spirit and exclaimed with a loud cry, 'Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me? For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leapt for joy. And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfilment of what was spoken to her by the Lord.' And Mary said, 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.

John 1.1–14

Presider: The Gospel of Christ.

People: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Sermon

The Rev. Canon Dr. Eric Beresford

Silence is kept.

Anthem:* *What Child Is This?

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?

Refrain

**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.

Refrain

So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh;
come, peasant, king, to own him.
The King of kings salvation brings;
let loving hearts enthrone him.

Refrain

(Greensleeves, arr. Robinson)

(Karina Bray and Grant Pettypiece, soloists)

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 the People

Alan Flint

Leader: 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.

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

All: Lord, grant us peace.

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

All: Lord, grant us peace.

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

All: Lord, grant us peace.

Leader: 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: 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. Amen.

Confession and Absolution

Presider: As we worship with the shepherds and the angels before the newborn Christ child, we open our hearts in penitence and faith.

Silence is kept.

All: Merciful God, we need your healing. Give us true repentance. Some sins are plain to us, some escape us, some we cannot face. Forgive us. Set us free to hear your word to us. Set us free to serve you.

Presider: God the Creator bring you to new life, forgive and redeem you. Take hold of this forgiveness and live your life in the Spirit of Jesus.

All: Amen.

Presider: God forgives you.
Forgive others.
Forgive yourself.

The Peace

Celebrant: Rejoice! I bring good news for all people.

All: Unto us a child is born. Alleluia!

Celebrant: Today, the angels sing on earth.

All: Glory to God in the highest! And peace to God's people on earth.

Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: And also with you.

For those gathered online, we encourage you to share the peace with each other through the chat function on Zoom.

For those of us gathered in person, please refrain from physical contact with each other.

You may offer the peace with a nod & a wave.

The Celebration of the Eucharist

Offertory Hymn:

'Twas in the Moon of Wintertime

'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 wandering hunters heard the hymn:

Refrain

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

O children of the forest free,
beloved of Manitou,
the holy child of earth and heaven
is born today for you.
Come kneel before the radiant boy,
who brings you beauty, peace and joy.

Refrain

(Une Jeune Pucelle 146)

Prayer over the Gifts

Celebrant: Source of light and gladness,
All: **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.**

Eucharistic Prayer 3

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

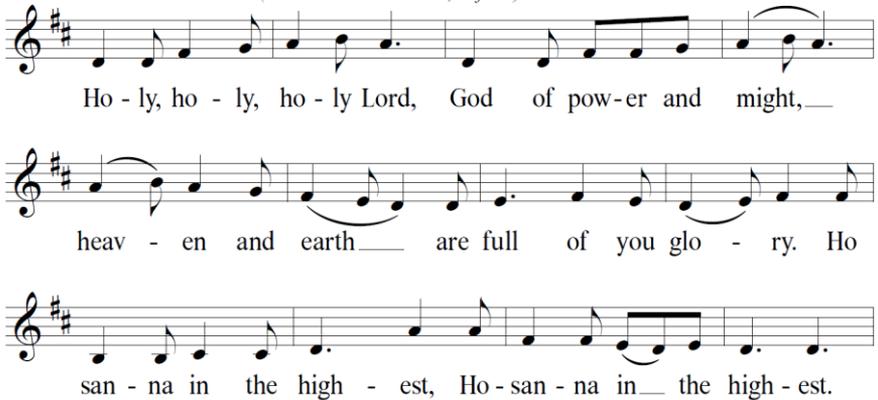
Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

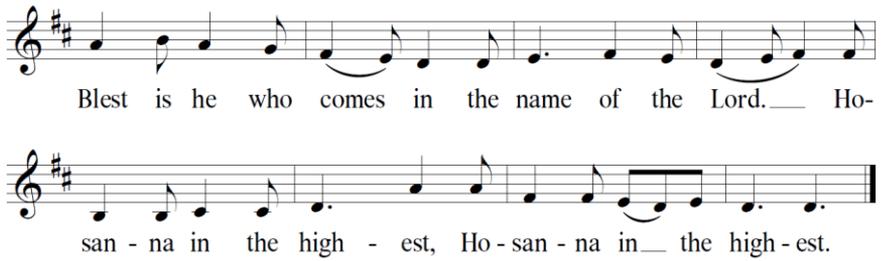
Celebrant: Blessed are you, gracious God, creator of heaven and earth; we give you thanks and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord, who in the mystery of his incarnation was made fully human of the flesh of the Virgin Mary his mother; in him we have seen a new and radiant vision of your glory. Therefore with all the angels of heaven, we lift our voices and sing our joyful hymn of praise to proclaim the glory of your name.

All:

Time: In Dulci Jubilo (Good Christian Friends, Rejoice)



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might, —
heav - en and earth — are full of you glo - ry. Ho
san - na in the high - est, Ho - san - na in — the high - est.



Celebrant: 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, a death he freely accepted, 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.”

All: Therefore, Father, according to his command,
we remember his death,
we proclaim his resurrection,
we await his coming in glory;

Celebrant: 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.

People: **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

Celebrant: Rejoicing in the presence of God here among us, let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us,

**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 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 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

Celebrant: Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world:

All: have mercy on us.

Celebrant: Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world:

All: have mercy on us.

Celebrant: Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world:

All: grant us peace.

Invitation to Communion

Celebrant: The gifts of God for all the People of God.

People: Thanks be to God.

Everyone is welcome to receive Communion or a blessing as appropriate at our services. At this time, in order to help towards containing the spread of COVID-19 only the bread will be offered.

Those unable to be physically present in the Church may make their spiritual communion at this time by praying the following prayer:

I worship and adore you, Lord Jesus Christ, present in the Holy Sacrament and in your people who are gathered in spirit. In this moment I join with them to receive you in my heart, and in our community. May you, enthroned on the altar, be now enthroned in my heart; may you, present in bread and wine, feed and renew my soul; may you, who give yourself to us again, fill us with grace and heavenly blessing. Even as I am fed, may my hunger for you and for your reign of justice and peace increase, that I may, with your Spirit, work for that day when your reign shall come on earth as in heaven. Amen.

Anthem during Communion

Sleep, My Child

Sleep, my darling, sleep so sweetly,
Warm and tender in my arms,
I will guard you, I will hold you,
Safe against the world's alarms.
Soon enough will come the morning,
Soon will come the dawning ray;
Now you sleep in true contentment
Till the breaking of the day.

Here tonight I hold you tightly
And enfold you while you sleep,
Tell me why I see you smiling
Smiling in your slumber deep.
Angels in the heav'ns rejoicing,
With the stars, raise high the strain.
Do you smile to hear their praises,
Echoing the glad refrain?

Do not fear the breath of winter
Brushing leaves across the floor;
Storms will come and tempests gather
Yet will not come near your door.
Sleep, my darling, none shall harm you
As you slumber, heav'nly blessed;
While across the starry heavens
Holy angels guard your rest.

(Welsh Trad, arr. James Kirkby)

Silent Night

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.

(Stille Nacht 119)

Prayer after Communion

Presider: Father of all,

All: tonight you have united earth and heaven in sending your 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.

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.

The Blessing

Celebrant: Christ the Son of God perfect in you the image of his glory and gladden your hearts with the good news of his kingdom; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always.

All: Amen.

Community Notices

Closing Hymn:

(Mendelssohn 138)

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

Hark! The herald angels sing,
"Glory to the new-born 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 hosts proclaim,
"Christ is born in Bethlehem!"

Refrain

**Hark! the herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn King."**

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

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

The Dismissal

Celebrant: Let us go in peace rejoicing in the birth of our
Lord Jesus.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Christmas Poinsettia Memorials

The **Christmas Poinsettias** in the church and distributed to those on our prayer list, are given to the glory of God and in

- loving memory of Canon Ralph & Barbara Price, Ron & Audrey Pember, Janet McKnight, Kim Warner and John Price by Fred & Mary Pember.
- loving memory of Mabel Burnside Scott given by her family.
- loving memory of Shirley Gies given by Douglas Gies.
- loving memory of Mary & Jack Stinson given by Marilyn & Michael Clarke.
- loving memory of Sam Habib given by Irmgard Habib & family.
- loving memory of Elwin Springer, Joseph Bancroft & Myrtle Bancroft given by Mary Springer.
- loving memory of our parents John & Anita Liburd and Charles & Myrtle Warton given by Sydney Liburd and Rosina & John Warton.
- loving memory of Joan Scott given by Dale Scott.
- loving memory of Jeffrey Jones and Charles Jones given by Jean Jones.
- loving memory of my daughter Lise Aerinne Waxer and Rev. Cambell Alexander Russell given by Diane Yip.
- loving memory of Doreen & Sydney Fraser given by Don & Colleen Fraser, Janet Fraser and Pat & Neil Bradley.
- loving memory of Elizabeth Fraser given by Janet Fraser.
- thanksgiving for my family and friends given by Jane Hutchinson.

The Church of St Timothy

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Our Wardens can be reached at wardens@sttimothy.ca

Our Vision

**“Living our faith in Jesus Christ
with Open Arms, Open Hearts, Open Minds”**