

# Welcome to St Timothy's

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

## Morning Prayer

December 31st, 2024 at 9:30am



Welcome to St. Timothy's! We are an Anglican church with a deep commitment to community. We seek to live our faith in a spirit of welcome for all, compassion for those in need, and a willingness to approach our faith and our culture with inquiring minds.

We are people who, together, long to welcome, serve, and understand. We hope that you will experience that welcome and, if you are a visitor, consider making us your church home.

# *Christmas Feria*

*Please turn off your video and mute yourself  
before the service begins.*

*Welcome*

## *Opening Sentences*

Leader: O Lord, open our lips,

**All: and our mouth shall proclaim your praise.**

Leader: You laid the foundation of the earth

**All: and the heavens are the work of your hands.**

## *A Song of the Bride*

I will greatly rejoice in the Lord,  
my soul shall exult in my God;

**Who has clothed me with the garments of salvation,  
and has covered me with the cloak of integrity,**

As a bridegroom decks himself with a garland,  
and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.

**For as the earth puts forth her blossom,  
and as seeds in the garden spring up,**

So shall God make righteousness and praise  
blossom before all the nations.

**For Zion's sake I will not keep silent,  
and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest**

Until her deliverance shines out like the dawn,  
and her salvation as a burning torch.

**The nations shall see your deliverance,  
and all rulers shall see your glory;**

Then you shall be called by a new name  
which the mouth of God will give.

**You shall be a crown of glory in the hand of the Lord,  
a royal diadem in the hand of your God.**

Glory to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit;

**as it was in the beginning is now  
and shall be for ever. Amen.**

Leader: The night has passed, and the day lies open  
before us; let us pray with one heart and mind.

*Silence is kept.*

Leader: As we rejoice in the gift of this new day, so may  
the light of your presence, O God, set our hearts  
on fire with love for you; now and for ever.

**All: Amen.**

*Psalm 90*

Lord, you have been our dwelling-place  
in all generations.

**Before the mountains were brought forth,  
or ever you had formed the earth and the world,  
from everlasting to everlasting you are God.**

You turn us back to dust,  
and say, 'Turn back, you mortals.'

**For a thousand years in your sight  
are like yesterday when it is past,  
or like a watch in the night.**

You sweep them away; they are like a dream,  
like grass that is renewed in the morning;  
in the morning it flourishes and is renewed;  
in the evening it fades and withers.

**For we are consumed by your anger;  
by your wrath we are overwhelmed.**

You have set our iniquities before you,  
our secret sins in the light of your countenance.

**For all our days pass away under your wrath;  
our years come to an end like a sigh.**

The days of our life are seventy years,  
or perhaps eighty, if we are strong;  
even then their span is only toil and trouble;  
they are soon gone, and we fly away.

**Who considers the power of your anger?**

**Your wrath is as great as the fear that is due to you.**

So teach us to count our days  
that we may gain a wise heart.

**Turn, O Lord! How long?**

**Have compassion on your servants!**

Satisfy us in the morning with your steadfast love,  
so that we may rejoice and be glad all our days.

**Make us glad for as many days as you have afflicted  
us,  
and for as many years as we have seen evil.**

Let your work be manifest to your servants,  
and your glorious power to their children.

**Let the favour of the Lord our God be upon us,  
and prosper for us the work of our hands—  
O prosper the work of our hands!**

Glory to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit;

**as it was in the beginning is now  
and shall be for ever. Amen.**

### *Reading*

Again Jesus spoke to them, saying, 'I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness but will have the light of life.' Then the Pharisees said to him, 'You are testifying on your own behalf; your testimony is not valid.' Jesus answered, 'Even if I testify on my own behalf, my testimony is valid because I know where I have come from and where I am going, but you do not know where I come from or where I am going. You judge by human standards; I judge no one. Yet even if I do judge, my judgement is valid; for it is not I alone who judge, but I and the Father who sent me. In your law it is written that the testimony of two witnesses is valid. I testify on my own behalf, and the Father who sent me testifies on my behalf.'

Then they said to him, 'Where is your Father?' Jesus answered, 'You know neither me nor my Father. If you knew me, you would know my Father also.'

*John 8: 12 – 19*

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

**All: Thanks be to God.**

### *Prayers of Intercession*

Leader: To us a child is born, to us a son is given; let us pray for the people he came to save.

Wonderful Counsellor,  
you order all things with your wisdom:  
help the Church, especially ..., to reveal the  
mystery of your love and fill her with the Spirit of  
truth:

Lord, hear us.

**All: Lord, graciously hear us.**

Leader: Mighty God,  
the government is on your shoulders:  
guide the leaders of the nations  
and bring in your kingdom of justice and  
righteousness:

Lord, hear us.

**All: Lord, graciously hear us.**

Leader: Everlasting Father,  
you call us to live together in unity:

protect by your mercy all your children,  
bless our families and renew our communities,  
especially ...:  
Lord, hear us.

**All: Lord, graciously hear us.**

Leader: Prince of Peace,  
you bring reconciliation through the cross:  
by your healing power give to all who suffer,  
especially ...,  
your gift of wholeness and peace:  
Lord, hear us.

**All: Lord, graciously hear us.**

Leader: Let us commend the world, to which Christ came,  
to the mercy and protection of God.

**All: Lord, graciously hear us. Amen.**

### *The Collect for the Day*

Leader: Almighty God,  
who wonderfully created us in your own image  
and yet more wonderfully restored us  
through your Son Jesus Christ:  
grant that, as he came to share in our humanity,  
so we may share the life of his divinity;  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.

**All: Amen.**

### *The Lord's Prayer*

Leader: 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 Dismissal*

Leader: May God, who has called us out of darkness  
into his marvellous light,  
bless us and fill us with peace.

**All: Amen.**

Leader: Let us bless the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God.**