

St. Matthew - St Aidan

Anglican Church of Canada

Buckhorn, Ontario

anglicanchurchbuckhorn.ca



Holy Eucharist

with festive music and candlelight

Eve of the Nativity – Christmas Eve

Tuesday, 24 December 2019, 7 pm

Our most heartfelt thanks

*We want to express our most heartfelt thanks and appreciation to
The Knights-Wevers Family Ensemble
for being with us to celebrate the Feast of the Nativity.*

*Blessings and thank you to Susan, Jonathan, Shannon, Scott, Nathan and
Emily for sharing your gift and love of music with us,
especially on Christmas Eve.*

*And, we extend sincere thanks and gratitude to
The Venerable David Peasgood, our very own Archdeacon,
for his music on organ.*

All are welcome and invited to receive Communion

**Flowers for the church have been given at Christmas to the
Glory of God and in loving memory of family members:**

- Parents, Elizabeth and Clifford Scott, Marjorie and Percy Barr by Donna and Brian Barr
 - Parents, sister, and brother by Jim and Eunice Blakeley
 - Parents, Doris and Ernest Bowles, by Don Bowles
 - Parents, Doug and Margaret Dunford, Tony and Val Lockhart,
by the Lockhart family
 - Husband, Herman, and son, Gary, by Bernice Johnson
 - Husband, Joe, and son, Michael John, by Helen Minten
 - Husband, Al Smith, and son-in-law, Dave Pezzetta, by Irene Smith
 - Husband and father, Richard (Dick) Smith, by Sylvia, Keith and Wendy,
Marybeth and Dave
-

Eve of the Nativity–Holy Eucharist

The Gathering of the Community

Prelude, Medley of Carols, The Knights-Wevers Family Ensemble

*The celebrant and crucifer process in silence. The people stand.
Then, the celebrant greets the people.*

Celebrant Grace, mercy and peace
from God our Father
and the Lord Jesus Christ
be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Prayers of Penitence

Leader Heavenly Father,
you exalted the humble and meek:
give us humble and contrite hearts.
Lord, have mercy.

People **Lord, have mercy.**

Leader Lord Jesus,
you grew towards birth in the Virgin's womb:
be planted also in our hearts and lives.
Christ, have mercy.

People **Christ, have mercy.**

Leader Holy Spirit,
you overshadowed Mary,
that she might become the God-bearer:
fill us with your heavenly gifts.
Lord, have mercy.

People **Lord, have mercy.**

Leader Almighty God,
who in Jesus Christ has given us
a kingdom that cannot be destroyed,

forgive us our sins,
open our eyes to God's truth,
strengthen us to do God's will
and give us the joy of his kingdom,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

The people are seated.

"Telemann Viola Concerto in G Major, 3rd movement", Shannon

Lighting of the Christ Candle

First Reader During the Season of Advent, each week we have lit a candle for the Sundays in Advent. Tonight, we light all the candles for Advent and we light the Christ candle to open our hearts to Jesus' re-birth in our hearts and to kindle our hope for his coming again.

Second Reader God our Father,
the angel Gabriel told the Virgin Mary
that she was to be the mother of your Son.
Though Mary was afraid,
she responded to your call with joy.

First Reader Help us, whom you call to serve you,
to share like her in your great work
of bringing to our world your love and healing.
We ask this through Jesus Christ,
the light who is coming into the world. Amen.

All **Lord Jesus, light of the world,
blessed is Gabriel, who brought good news;
blessed is Mary, your mother.
Bless your Church preparing for Christmas;
and bless us your children, who long for your coming.
Amen.**

Carol, "Hark! The herald angels sing"

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 hosts proclaim,
"Christ is born in Bethlehem!"

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 the Virgin's womb:
veiled in flesh the Godhead see;
hail the incarnate Deity,
pleased with us in flesh to dwell,
Jesus, our Emmanuel.

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

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 us from the earth,
born to give us second birth.

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

Collect for Christmas Eve

Celebrant Let us pray,

All Eternal God,
who made this most holy night
to shine with the brightness of your one true light:
bring us, who have known the revelation of that
light on earth,
to see the radiance of your heavenly glory;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.
Amen.

The Proclamation of the Word

The Readings

Reader A reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah.

At the conclusion of the reading, the reader says,

The word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Carol, "It came upon the midnight clear"

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 most-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.

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 hush the noise, and still your strife
To 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.

Reader A reading from the Letter to Titus.

At the conclusion of the reading, the reader says,
The word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Carol, "While shepherds watched their flocks by night"

While shepherds watched their flocks by night,
All seated on the ground,
The angel of the Lord came down,
And glory shone around.

"Fear not!" said he, for mighty dread
Had seized their troubled mind;
"Glad tidings of great joy I bring
To you and humankind.

"To you, in David's town, this day
Is born of David's line
A Saviour, who is Christ the Lord,
And this shall be the sign:

"The heav'nly Babe you there shall find
To human view displayed,
All meanly wrapped in swathing bands,
And in a manger laid."

Thus spake the seraph and forthwith
Appeared a shining throng
Of angels praising God on high,
Who thus addressed their song:

"All glory be to God on high,
And to the Earth be peace;
Good will henceforth from heav'n to earth
Begin and never cease."

The Holy Gospel

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

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

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

At the conclusion of the Gospel, the Celebrant says,

The Gospel of Christ.

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

The Homily, *The Rev'd Glenn Empey*

Anthem on organ, *The Venerable David Peasgood*

The Apostles' Creed

Celebrant Let us confess the faith of our baptism, as we say,

All **I believe in God,
the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the Virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again.
He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again
to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

The Prayers of the People

Intercessor In peace let us pray to the Lord.

Father, in this holy night, your Son our Saviour was born in human flesh. Renew your Church as the Body of Christ. Holy God.

People **Hear our prayer.**

On this holy night, there was no room for your Son in the inn. Protect with your love those who have no home and all who live in poverty. Holy God.

Hear our prayer.

On this holy night, Mary, in the pain of labour, brought your Son to birth. Hold in your hand all who are in pain or distress. Holy God.

Hear our prayer.

On this holy night, your Christ came as a light shining in the darkness. Bring comfort to all who suffer in the sadness of our world. Holy God.

Hear our prayer.

On this holy night, the angels sang, 'Peace to God's people on earth.' Strengthen those who work for peace and justice in all the world. Holy God.

Hear our prayer.

On this holy night, strangers found the Holy Family, and saw the baby lying in the manger. Bless our homes and all whom we love. Holy God.

Hear our prayer.

On this holy night, heaven is come down to earth, and earth is raised to heaven. Hold in your hand all those who have passed through death in the hope of your coming kingdom. Holy God.

Hear our prayer.

On this holy night, Christians the world over
celebrate Christ's birth. Open our hearts that he
may be born in us today. Holy God.
Hear our prayer.

Father, in this holy night, angels and shepherds
worshiped at the manger throne. Receive the
worship we offer in fellowship with Mary, Joseph,
and the saints through him who is your Word made
flesh, our Saviour Jesus Christ.
Amen.

The Peace

Celebrant This holy night the angels sang,
'Glory to God in the highest heaven,
and on earth peace to all in whom he delights.'
The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

Members of the community may greet one another in the name of the Lord.

The Celebration of the Eucharist

The Preparation of the Gifts

Offertory Carol, "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?

*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 Christian, fear: for sinners here
The silent Word is pleading.

*This, this is Christ, the King,
Whom shepherds guard and angels sing:
Haste, haste to bring him laud,
The Babe, the Son of Mary!*

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

*This, this is Christ, the King,
Whom shepherds guard and angels sing:
Haste, haste to bring him laud,
The Babe, the Son of Mary!*

The Prayer over the Gifts

Celebrant Let us pray,
All **Word made flesh, life of the world,
in your incarnation you embraced our poverty:
by your Spirit may we share in your riches.
Amen.**

The Great Thanksgiving

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,
because in the mystery of the Word made flesh
you have caused a new light to shine in our hearts,
to give knowledge of salvation
in the face of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.
Now with angels and archangels
and the whole company of heaven,
we lift our voices
to proclaim the glory of your name.

All **Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of pow'r and might.
Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of pow'r and might.
Heaven and earth are full, full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.**

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.

Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

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

The celebrant invites the people to share in communion,

Celebrant The gifts of God for the People of God.

People **Thanks be to God.**

The Communion

*During communion, Susan and Shannon play a selection of
Christmas music for viola and piano. Following communion, they
play 'Meditation' by Frank Bridge.*

Prayer after Communion

Celebrant Let us pray,

All **God our Father,
in this night you have made known to us again
the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ:
confirm our faith and fix our eyes on him
until the day dawns
and Christ the Morning Star rises in our hearts.
To him be glory both now and for ever. Amen.**

Celebrant All your works praise you, O Lord.

All **And your faithful servants bless you.**

**Gracious God
we thank you for feeding us
with the body and blood of your Son
Jesus Christ.**

May we, who share his body,
live his risen life;
we, who drink his cup,
bring life to others;
we, whom the Spirit lights,
give light to the world.
Keep us firm in the hope you have set before us,
so that we and all your children shall be free,
and the whole earth live to praise your name;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Lighting of the Candles

The people are seated. The lights are switched off. The celebrant lights a candle from the Christ Candle and passes the light to the congregation who, in turn, pass the light from one to another.

The Knights-Wevers Ensemble plays 'The Coventry Carol'.

The Blessing

After the Blessing, the candles are extinguished.

Carol, "Joy to the world"

Joy to the world, the Lord is come!
Let earth receive her King!
Let every heart prepare him room,
and heaven and nature sing,
and heaven and nature sing,
and heaven, and heaven and nature sing.

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.

No more let sins and sorrows grow,
nor thorns infest the ground;
He comes to make his blessings flow
far as the curse is found,
far as the curse is found,
far as, far as the curse is found.

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.

Dismissal

Celebrant Go now in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude, *A medley of music for Christmas, The Knights-Wevers
Family Ensemble and David Peasgood.*

*Readers, Eunice Blakeley, Karen Woodley
Intercessor, Helen Minten
Lay Administrant, Nancy Fairweather
Lay Reader, Bill Nicholls
Celebrant and Parish Priest, Glenn Empey+*

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