

The Church of Saint Stephen-in-the-Fields



The Third Sunday of Advent: Gaudete
December 10, 2022

SUNG MASS ON ZOOM AT 7 PM

**The Spirit of the Lord God is upon me,
because the Lord has anointed me to bring good tidings to the afflicted.**
Isaiah 61.1

Celebrant: The Rev'd Canon Maggie Helwig

THE GATHERING OF THE COMMUNITY

Prelude

Greeting

Celebrant The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God,
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with you all.

Response **And also with you.**

Land Acknowledgement

Celebrant Though people may be joining us from many regions, we acknowledge that the Church of St. Stephen-in-the-Fields stands on occupied land, the traditional territory of the Mississaugas of the Credit (an Anishnaabe people), the Haudenosaunee Confederacy, and the Wendat and Petun nations, land covered by the Dish With One Spoon wampum belt covenant. Treaty 13 and the Williams Treaty are also relevant to this territory.
We acknowledge that we have broken the treaties. We acknowledge the damage done by colonialism, and the role that our church has played in this, and we pledge ourselves to work for a future of justice and reconciliation.

Hymn 106: *There's a voice in the wilderness crying*

ASCENSION

- 1 There's a voice in the wilderness crying, a call from the ways untrod:
 prepare in the desert a highway, a highway for our God!
 The valleys shall be exalted, the lofty hills brought low;
 make straight all the crooked places where the Lord our God may go!
- 2 O Zion, give voice to good tidings, ascend to the heights and sing!
 Proclaim to a desolate people the coming of their King.
 The works of pride all perish, like flowers they shall decay;
 the power and pomp of nations shall pass like a dream away.
- 3 But your word, O God, is faithful, your arm, O Lord, is strong;
 you stand in the midst of nations, and you will right the wrong.
 You will feed your flock like a shepherd, and fold the lambs to your breast;
 in pastures of peace you'll lead them, and give to the weary rest.
- 4 There's a voice in the wilderness crying, a call from the ways untrod:
 prepare in the desert a highway, a highway for our God!
 The valleys shall be exalted, the lofty hills brought low;
 make straight all the crooked places where the Lord our God may go!

Collect for Purity

Celebrant Almighty God,
to you all hearts are open, all desires known,
and from you no secrets are hidden.
Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,
that we may perfectly love you,
and worthily magnify your holy name;
through Christ our Lord.

Response **Amen.**

Confession and Absolution

Celebrant: Dear friends in Christ,
God is steadfast in love and infinite in mercy,
welcoming sinners and inviting us to this table.
Let us confess our sins, confident in God's forgiveness.

Celebrant Most merciful God,
Response **we confess that we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbours as ourselves.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us and forgive us,
that we may delight in your will,
and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your name. Amen.**

Celebrant Almighty God have mercy upon you,
pardon and deliver you from all your sins,
confirm and strengthen you in all goodness,
and keep you in eternal life;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Response **Amen.**

Peace

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

Response **And also with you.**

Kyrie eleison

Hurd

Cantor **Kyrie eleison.
Christe eleison.
Kyrie eleison.**

Collect of the Day

Celebrant Let us pray.
God of power and mercy,
you call us once again
to celebrate the coming of your Son.
Remove those things which hinder love of you,
that when he comes,
he may find us waiting in awe and wonder
for him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

Cantor **Amen.**

Collect of Advent

Celebrant Let us pray.
Almighty God,
give us grace to cast away the works of darkness
and put on the armour of light,
now in the time of this mortal life
in which your Son Jesus Christ
came to us in great humility,
that on the last day,
when he shall come again in his glorious majesty
to judge both the living and the dead,
we may rise to the life immortal;
through him who lives and reigns
with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

Cantor **Amen.**

LITURGY OF THE WORD

A period of silence is observed after each reading and the homily.

First Lesson: Isaiah 35.1-10

Reader A reading from the prophet Isaiah.

The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad, the desert shall rejoice and blossom;
like the crocus it shall blossom abundantly, and rejoice with joy and singing. The

glory of Lebanon shall be given to it, the majesty of Carmel and Sharon. They shall see the glory of the Lord, the majesty of our God.

Strengthen the weak hands, and make firm the feeble knees.

Say to those who are of a fearful heart, 'Be strong, do not fear! Here is your God. He will come with vengeance, with terrible recompense. He will come and save you.'

Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped; then the lame shall leap like a deer, and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy. For waters shall break forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert; the burning sand shall become a pool, and the thirsty ground springs of water; the haunt of jackals shall become a swamp, the grass shall become reeds and rushes.

A highway shall be there, and it shall be called the Holy Way; the unclean shall not travel on it, but it shall be for God's people; no traveller, not even fools, shall go astray. No lion shall be there, nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it; they shall not be found there, but the redeemed shall walk there. And the ransomed of the Lord shall return, and come to Zion with singing; everlasting joy shall be upon their heads; they shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

Reader The word of the Lord.

Response **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 146.4-9: *Lauda, anima mea*



- 4 HAP-PY are they who have the God of Jacob for their help! /
 whose hope is in the Lord their^God.
- 5 **Who made heaven and earth, the seas, and all that is in them; /**
 who keeps his pro-mise for ev-er;
- 6 Who gives justice to those who are op-pressed, /
 and food to those who hun-ger.
- 7 **The Lord sets the prisoners *frěe*; the Lord opens the eyes of the blind; /**
 the Lord lifts up those who are bowed^down;
- 8 the Lord loves the right-ěous; the Lord cares for the stran-ger; /
 he sustains the orphan and widow, but frustrates the way of the wick-ed.
- 9 **The Lord shall reign for ev-er, /**
 your God, O Zion, throughout all generations. Hal-le-lu-jah!

Epistle: James 5.7-10

Reader A reading from the epistle of James.

Be patient, therefore, beloved, until the coming of the Lord. The farmer waits for the precious crop from the earth, being patient with it until it receives the early and the late rains. You also must be patient. Strengthen your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is near. Beloved, do not grumble against one another, so that you may not be judged. See, the Judge is standing at the doors! As an example of suffering and patience, beloved, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord.

Reader The word of the Lord.

Response Thanks be to God.

Gradual: Advent Prose

mode i

Refrain: Drop down, ye heavens, from above,
and let the skies pour down righteousness.

Cantor 1 Be not wroth very sore, O Lord,
neither remember iniquity forever:
thy holy cities are a wilderness,
Zion is a wilderness, Jerusalem a desolation:
our holy and our beautiful house,
where our fathers praised thee.

Cantor 2 **Refrain.**

Cantor 1 We have sinned, and are as an unclean thing,
and we all do fade as a leaf;
our iniquities, like the wind, have taken us away;
thou hast hid thy face from us:
and hast consumed us, because of our iniquities.

Cantor 2 **Refrain.**

Cantor 1 Ye are my witnesses, saith the Lord,
and my servant, whom I have chosen;
that ye may know me and believe me:
I, even I, am the Lord,
and beside me there is no Saviour:
and there is none that can deliver out of my hand.

Cantor 2 **Refrain.**

Cantor 1 Comfort ye, comfort ye, my people,
 my salvation shall not tarry:
 I have blotted out as a thick cloud thy transgressions:
 fear not, for I will save thee:
 for I am the Lord thy God,
 the Holy One of Israel, thy Redeemer.

Cantor 2 **Refrain.**

Gospeller The Lord be with you.

Response **And also with you.**

Gospeller The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to Matthew.

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

Holy Gospel: Matthew 11.2-11

When John heard in prison what the Messiah was doing, he sent word by his disciples and said to him, ‘Are you the one who is to come, or are we to wait for another?’ Jesus answered them, ‘Go and tell John what you hear and see: the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have good news brought to them. And blessed is anyone who takes no offence at me.’

As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds about John: ‘What did you go out into the wilderness to look at? A reed shaken by the wind? What then did you go out to see? Someone dressed in soft robes? Look, those who wear soft robes are in royal palaces. What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. This is the one about whom it is written, “See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way before you.”

Truly I tell you, among those born of women no one has arisen greater than John the Baptist; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.’

Gospeller The Gospel of Christ.

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

Homily Mtr Maggie Helwig

Anthem: *Gaudete*

Anonymous (16th century)

Refrain **Gaudete! Christe est natus**
Ex Maria virgine, gaudete!

Rejoice! Christ is born
Of the Virgin Mary. Rejoice!

Tempus adest gratiae
Hoc quod optabamus,
Carmina laetitiae
Devote redamus.

*A time of grace is here,
For which we had hoped.
Songs of joy
We devotedly return.*

Refrain

Deus homo factus est
Natura mirante,
Mundus renovatus est
A Christo regnante.

*God is made human;
Nature marvels.
The world is renewed
By Christ's reign.*

Refrain

Ezechielis porta
Clausa pertransitur,
Unde lux est orta
Salus invenitur.

*Ezekiel's gate
Was closed, but could be passed through;
Thus, the light shone
And found salvation.*

Refrain

Ergo nostra cantio
Psallat iam in lustro;
Benedicat Domino:
Salus Regi nostro.

*Therefore, our assembly
Sings now in brightness.
We bless the Lord:
Greetings to our King.*

Refrain

Nicene Creed

Celebrant Let us confess our faith, as we say,

Response **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.**

Intercessions

Bidding The Lord will reign forever.

Response **Praise be to the Lord!**

CELEBRATION OF THE EUCHARIST

Offertory hymn 101: *Hail to the Lord's anointed*

CRÜGER

- 1 Hail to the Lord's anointed, great David's greater Son!
 Hail, in the time appointed, his reign on earth begun!
 He comes to break oppression, to set the captive free,
 to take away transgression, and rule in equity.

- 2 He shall come down like showers upon the fruitful earth,
 and love, joy, hope, like flowers, spring in his path to birth.
 Before him on the mountains shall peace the herald go,
 and righteousness in fountains from hill to valley flow.

- 3 Kings shall fall down before him, and gold and incense bring;
all nations shall adore him, his praise all people sing.
To him shall prayer unceasing and daily vows ascend,
his kingdom still increasing, a kingdom without end.
- 4 O'er every foe victorious, he on his throne shall rest,
from age to age more glorious, all blessing and all-blest.
The tide of time shall never his covenant remove.
His name shall stand forever: that name to us is Love.

Prayer over the Gifts

Celebrant God of hope,
renew in us the joy of your salvation
and make us a living sacrifice to you,
for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.

Response **Amen.**

Eucharistic Prayer 3

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

Cantor **And also with you.**

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

Cantor **We lift them to the Lord.**

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

Cantor **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Preface of Advent

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 fullness of time came among us in our flesh,
and opened to us the way of salvation.
Now we watch for the day when he will come again
in power and great triumph to judge this world,
that we, without shame or fear,
may rejoice to behold his appearing.
Therefore we praise you,
joining our voices with angels and archangels
and with all the company of heaven,
who for ever sing this hymn
to proclaim the glory of your name.

Sanctus and Benedictus

Hurd

***Cantor* Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
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."
Therefore, Father, according to his command,

***Response* 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 children;
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.

Response **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

Robinson

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

Breaking of the Bread

Celebrant God of promise,
you prepare a banquet for us in your kingdom.

Response **Happy are those who are called
to the supper of the Lamb.**

Agnus Dei

Hurd

***Cantor* Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world:
grant us peace.**

Act of Spiritual Communion

In union, O Lord with the faithful at every altar of your Church,
where the Holy Eucharist is celebrated,
I desire to offer you praise and thanksgiving.
I present to you my soul and body
with the earnest wish that I may always be united to you.
And since I cannot now receive you sacramentally,
I ask you to come spiritually into my heart.
I unite myself to you, and embrace you with all the affections of my soul.
Let nothing ever separate you from me.
May I live and die in your love.
Amen.

Prayer after Communion

***Celebrant* Let us pray.**
Merciful God,
may this eucharists free us from our sins,
fill us with unending joy,
and prepare us for the birthday of our Saviour.
We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ,
who is Lord now and forever.

***Response* Amen.**

Doxology

***Celebrant* Glory to God,
Response 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

Celebrant Be steadfast in faith, joyful in hope,
and untiring in love all the days of your life;
and the blessing of God Almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be with you all, and remain with you always.

Response **Amen.**

Hymn 109: *When the King shall come again* TEMPUS ADEST FLORIDUM

- 1 When the king shall come again, all his power revealing,
splendour shall announce his reign, life and joy and healing;
earth no longer in decay, hope no more frustrated,
this is God's redemption day, longingly awaited.
- 2 In the desert, trees take root, fresh from God's creation;
plants and flowers and sweetest fruit join the celebration;
rivers spring up from the earth, barren lands adorning.
Valleys, this is your new birth; mountains, greet the morning!
- 3 Strengthen feeble hands and knees; fainting hearts, be cheerful!
God, who comes for such as these, seeks and saves the fearful.
Deaf ears, hear the silent tongues sing away their weeping;
blind eyes, see the lifeless ones walking, running, leaping!
- 4 There God's highway shall be seen where no roaring lion,
nothing evil or unclean, walks the road to Zion:
ransomed people homeward bound, all your praises voicing,
see your Lord with glory crowned, share in his rejoicing.

Dismissal

Deacon Go in peace, to love and serve the Lord.

Response **Thanks be to God.**

Announcements

Postlude

Advent Prose, mode i

***Kyrie, Sanctus & Benedictus, Agnus Dei**, music: 'New Plainsong' David Hurd (1950-), © 1981 G.I.A. Publications, Inc.*

***The Lord's Prayer**, music: McNeil Robinson II (1943-2015).*

~ ~

***Hymn 106**, text: Isaiah 40.3-11; para. James Lewis Milligan (1876-1961), alt.; music: Henry Hugh Bancroft (1904-1988); used by permission of Eldred Bancroft; © Estate of Henry Hugh Bancroft.*

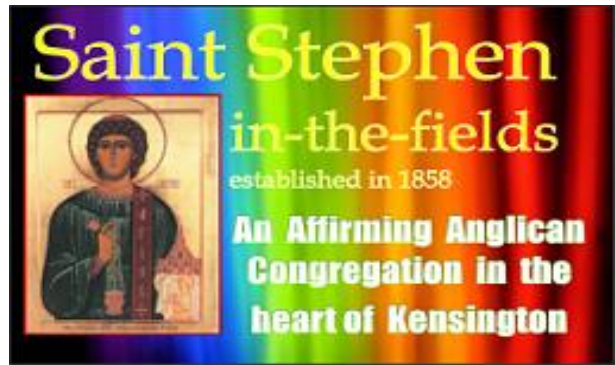
***Hymn 101**, text: James Montgomery (1771-1854), alt.; music: melody Johann Crüger (1598-1662); adapt. William Henry Monk (1823-1889).*

***Hymn 109**, text: Christopher Idle (1938-), © 1982 Hope Publishing Co.; music: melody 'Piae Cantiones', 1582.*

CCLI copyright and streaming license #11248960.

New Revised Standard Version Bible: (NRSV) Anglicized Edition, copyright 1989, 1995 by the Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission.

Texts from the Book of Alternative Services are reproduced with permission under Copyright © 2004 by the General Synod of the Anglican Church of Canada. All rights reserved. Reproduced under license from ABC Publishing.



If you want more information about the parish,
including our other weekly activities,
our website is www.saintstephens.ca



You can also visit us at
www.facebook.com/ststephen103



Contact our Rector, The Rev'd Canon Maggie Helwig,
at maggie@web.net
(416) 526-5438



The Church of St. Stephen in-the-Fields
ststepheninthefields@gmail.com

*Please consider making a financial contribution
to Saint Stephen's.*

*Visit our website and look for the PayPal or
Canada Helps buttons.*

*If you require more information, e-mail
parishsecretary.ststephen@gmail.com*