



We are an Anglo-Catholic Parish in the
Diocese of Ottawa, celebrating 136 years of
worship and service: 1889-2025.



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Hymn Book



The Annunciation, 1910.

Adapted by J. H. Dearle from a design by Sir Edward Burne-Jones

From Darkness to Light

Sunday, 14 December 2025 at 7:15 p.m.

An Advent Procession with Carols

Our Church stands on the unceded traditional territory
of the Anishinaabe Algonquin Nation.

ORGAN PRELUDES

Durch Adams Fall ist ganz verderbt, BuxWV 183

(‘Through Adam’s Fall is all corrupted’)

Dieterich Buxtehude (1637-1707)

Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland

(‘Come unto us, Saviour of the nations’)

Nicolaus Bruhns (1665-1697)

Es ist ein Ros’ entsprungen

(‘Lo, how a Rose e’er blooming’)

Johannes Brahms (1833-1897)

The Service begins in darkness.

MATIN RESPONSORY

Music by G.P. da Palestrina

I look from afar: and lo, I see the power of God coming,
and a cloud covering the whole earth.

Go ye out to meet him and say: Tell us, art thou he that
should come to reign over thy people Israel?

High and low, rich and poor, one with another.

Go ye out to meet him and say: Hear, O thou Shepherd of
Israel, thou that leadest Joseph like a sheep.

Tell us, art thou he that should come?

Stir up thy strength, O Lord, and come to reign over thy
people Israel.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost.

I look from afar: and lo, I see the power of God coming,
and a cloud covering the whole earth.

Go ye out to meet him and say: Tell us, art thou he that
should come to reign over thy people Israel?

Arise, O God, maintain thine own cause:
For all the earth is full of darkness.

COLLECT

Almighty God, give us grace that we may cast away the works of darkness, and put upon us the armour of light, now in the time of this mortal life, in which thy Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that in the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious Majesty, to judge both the quick and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, now and ever. **Amen.**

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

Veni Redemptor Gentium

descant: D. Willcocks

The congregation's candles are lit as the Procession moves toward the chancel.

1 Come, thou Redeemer of the earth,
And manifest thy virgin-birth:
Let ev'ry age adoring fall;
Such birth befits the God of all.

² Begotten of no human will,
But of the Spirit, thou art still
The Word of God in flesh arrayed,
The promised fruit to man displayed.

³ Forth from his chamber goeth he,
That royal home of purity,
A giant in twofold substance one,
Rejoicing now his course to run.

⁴ From God the Father he proceeds,

**To God the Father back he speeds;
His course he runs to death and hell,
Returning on God's throne to dwell.**

**⁵ O equal to the Father, thou!
Gird on thy fleshly mantle now:
The weakness of our mortal state
With deathless might invigorate.**

**⁶ Thy cradle here shall glitter bright,
And darkness breathe a newer light,
Where endless faith shall shine serene,
And twilight never intervene.**

**⁷ All laud, eternal Son, to thee
Whose advent sets thy people free,
Whom with the Father we adore
And Holy Ghost for evermore. Amen.**

THE BIDDING PRAYER

Beloved in Christ, the season of Advent bids us prepare ourselves both for the celebration of Christ's nativity as also for the day when he shall come to judge the hearts of us all. So, in sorrow and penitence, let us confess our failures and shortcomings, and renew in ourselves the vision of God's perfect kingdom, which is the end of all our strivings and the consummation of God's loving purposes for us.

In word and music we will give voice to the hope set forth in the scriptures, that God's kingdom will come; and, with John the Baptist and the Blessed Virgin Mary, we will prepare for its coming, celebrating its dawning in the birth, life and death of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ.

But first let us pray for those who, by reason of their

adversity, yearn especially for its coming: the hungry and the homeless, the sick and the sorrowful, the lonely and the unloved; those who sit in the darkness of despair or who walk in the shadow of death. Let us pray for the leaders of the nations and for all who strive for the establishment of justice, righteousness and peace; and, that it may bear witness to this hope in a world divided by wrath and sorrow, let us pray for the well-being and unity of Christ's body, the Church.

Let us then pray for the coming of God's kingdom, in the words of our Lord Jesus Christ:

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 them that 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.

Let us pray,

Lord Jesus, Master of both light and darkness, send your Holy Spirit upon our preparation for Christmas. We who have so much to do seek quiet spaces to hear Your voice each day. We who are anxious over many things look forward to your coming among us. We who are blessed in so many ways long for the complete joy of Your Kingdom. We whose hearts are heavy seek the joy of Your presence. We are Your people, walking in darkness yet seeking the light. To You, we say, "Come, Lord Jesus!"

May the Lord when he comes find us watching and waiting.
Amen.

Please be seated.

ANTIPHON: O SAPIENTIA (O WISDOM)

ANTHEM

Let justice and judgement

George Frideric Handel (1685-1759)

Please extinguish candles.

FIRST LESSON

Genesis 3:1-15 Read by The Reverend Canon David Rath

The Temptation and Fall of Man

Now the serpent was more subtil than any beast of the field which the Lord God had made. And he said unto the woman, Yea, hath God said, Ye shall not eat of every tree of the garden?

And the woman said unto the serpent, We may eat of the fruit of the trees of the garden: But of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, God hath said, Ye shall not eat of it, neither shall ye touch it, lest ye die.

And the serpent said unto the woman, Ye shall not surely die: For God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil.

And when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree to be desired to make one wise, she took of the fruit thereof, and did eat, and gave also unto her husband with her; and he did eat.

And the eyes of them both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together, and made themselves aprons.

And they heard the voice of the Lord God walking in the garden in the cool of the day: and Adam and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the Lord God amongst the trees of the garden.

And the Lord God called unto Adam, and said unto him, Where art thou? And he said, I heard thy voice in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked; and I hid myself. And he said, Who told thee that thou wast naked? Hast thou eaten of the tree, whereof I commanded thee that thou shouldest not eat? And the man said, The woman whom thou gavest to be with me, she gave me of the tree, and I did eat.

And the Lord God said unto the woman, What is this that thou hast done? And the woman said, The serpent beguiled me, and I did eat.

And the Lord God said unto the serpent, Because thou hast done this, thou art cursed above all cattle, and above every beast of the field; upon thy belly shalt thou go, and dust shalt thou eat all the days of thy life: And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel.

Reader: The word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

HYMN

1 *Creator of the stars of night*

Conditor Alme

Please be seated.

SECOND LESSON

Isaiah 6:1-12 Read by The Reverend Canon Roger Young

God commissions Isaiah to be the Prophet of the Advent

In the year that king Uzziah died I saw also the Lord sitting upon a throne, high and lifted up, and his train filled the temple. Above it stood the seraphims: each one had six wings; with twain he covered his face, and with twain he covered his feet, and with twain he did fly. And one cried unto another, and said, Holy, holy, holy, is the Lord of hosts: the whole earth is full of his glory. And the posts of the door moved at the voice of him that cried, and the house was filled with smoke. Then said I, Woe is me! for I am undone; because I am a man of unclean lips, and I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips: for mine eyes have seen the King, the Lord of hosts. Then flew one of the seraphims unto me, having a live coal in his hand, which he had taken with the tongs from off the altar: And he laid it upon my mouth, and said, Lo, this hath touched thy lips; and thine iniquity is taken away, and thy sin purged. Also I heard the voice of the Lord, saying, Whom shall I send, and who will go for us? Then said I, Here am I; send me.

And he said, Go, and tell this people, Hear ye indeed, but understand not; and see ye indeed, but perceive not. Make the heart of this people fat, and make their ears heavy, and shut their eyes; lest they see with their eyes, and hear with their ears, and understand with their heart, and convert, and be healed. Then said I, Lord, how long? And he answered, Until the cities be wasted without inhabitant, and the houses without man, and the land be utterly

Reader: The word of the Lord.

ANTIPHON: O ADONAI (O OUR LORD)

ANTHEM

Threshold of night

Tarik O'Regan (b.1978)

Poem: Kathleen Raine (1908-2003)

Are you a stranger, out in the storm,
Or has my enemy found me out
On the edge of being?

I am no stranger who stands at the door
Nor enemy come in the secret night,
I am your child, in darkness and fear
On the verge of being.

Go back, my child, to the rain and storm,
For in this house there is sorrow and pain
In the lonely night.

I will not go back for sorrow or pain,
For my true love weeps within
And waits for my coming.

Go back, my babe, to the vacant night
For in this house dwell sin and hate

On the verge of being.

I will not go back for hate or sin,
I will not go back for sorrow or pain,
For my true love mourns within
On the threshold of night.

THIRD LESSON

Jeremiah 31:31-34

Read by Henry Schlarb

The Prophet tells of a New Covenant

Behold, the days come, saith the Lord, that I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel, and with the house of Judah: Not according to the covenant that I made with their fathers in the day that I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt; which my covenant they brake, although I was an husband unto them, saith the Lord: But this shall be the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel; After those days, saith the Lord, I will put my law in their inward parts, and write it in their hearts; and will be their God, and they shall be my people.

And they shall teach no more every man his neighbour, and every man his brother, saying, Know the Lord: for they shall all know me, from the least of them unto the greatest of them, saith the Lord: for I will forgive their iniquity, and I will remember their sin no more.

Reader: The word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

ANTIPHON: O RADIX (O ROOT OF JESSE)

ANTHEM

A tender shoot

Otto Goldschmidt (1829-1907)

HYMN

5 *Hark! A herald voice is calling* Merton
descant: Alan Gray

FOURTH LESSON

Isaiah 40:1-8

Read by Shalini Raphael

The Prophet proclaims good news to a people in
exile

Comfort ye, comfort ye my people, saith your God. Speak ye comfortably to Jerusalem, and cry unto her, that her warfare is accomplished, that her iniquity is pardoned: for she hath received of the Lord's hand double for all her sins. The voice of him that crieth in the wilderness, Prepare ye the way of the Lord, make straight in the desert a highway for our God. Every valley shall be exalted, and every mountain and hill shall be made low: and the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough places plain: and the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together: for the mouth of the Lord hath spoken it. The voice said, Cry. And he said, What shall I cry? All flesh is grass, and all the goodliness thereof is as the flower of the field: the grass withereth, the flower fadeth: because the spirit of the Lord bloweth upon it: surely the people is grass. The grass withereth, the flower fadeth: but the word of our God shall stand for ever.

Reader: The word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

ANTIPHON: O CLAVIS DAVID (O KEY OF DAVID)

ANTHEM

Prepare ye the way of the Lord

Michael Wise (c.1647-1687)

FIFTH LESSON

Zechariah 2: 10-13 Read by The Reverend Sony Jabouin

Le prophète annonce l'arrivée du Seigneur et la
croissance du royaume de Dieu

Crie de joie, réjouis-toi, fille de Sion, car me voici. Je viens demeurer au milieu de toi – oracle du Seigneur. Des peuples nombreux s'attacheront au Seigneur, en ce jour-là. Ils deviendront mon propre peuple, et je demeurerai au milieu de toi, et tu reconnaîtras que c'est le Seigneur de l'univers qui m'a envoyé vers toi.

Le Seigneur s'attribuera Juda comme son patrimoine sur la Terre Sainte et il choisira encore une fois Jérusalem. Silence, toute créature, devant le Seigneur, car il se réveille et sort de sa demeure sainte.

Reader: Parole du Seigneur.

All: Nous rendons grâce à Dieu. / Thanks be to God.

ANTIPHON: O ORIENS (O DAYSPRING)

ANTHEM

Lo, in the time appointed

Healey Willan (1880-1968)

HYMN

17 *People Look East*

Besançon Carol

SIXTH LESSON

Baruch 4:36-5:9 Read by The Reverend Canon Jim Beall

The Prophet encourages hope for deliverance

O Jerusalem, look about thee toward the east, and behold the joy that cometh unto thee from God. Lo, thy sons come, whom thou sentest away, they come gathered together from the east to the west by the word of the Holy One, rejoicing in the glory of God.

Put off, O Jerusalem, the garment of mourning and affliction, and put on the comeliness of the glory that cometh from God for ever. Cast about thee a double garment of the righteousness which cometh from God; and set a diadem on thine head of the glory of the Everlasting. For God will shew thy brightness unto every country under heaven. For thy name shall be called of God for ever The peace of righteousness, and The glory of God's worship.

Arise, O Jerusalem, and stand on high, and look about toward the east, and behold thy children gathered from the west unto the east by the word of the Holy One, rejoicing in the remembrance of God. For they departed from thee on foot, and were led away of their enemies: but God bringeth them unto thee exalted with glory, as children of the kingdom. For God hath appointed that every high hill, and banks of long continuance, should be cast down, and valleys filled up, to make even the ground, that Israel may go safely in the glory of God, Moreover even the woods and every sweetsmelling tree shall overshadow Israel by the

commandment of God. For God shall lead Israel with joy in the light of his glory with the mercy and righteousness that cometh from him.

Reader: The word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

7 *Hark what a sound*

**Highwood
descant: Robert Gower**

As the Procession moves to the Shrine of Our Lady, the congregation's candles are re-lit. Please turn towards the Shrine.

GOSPEL OF THE SALUTATION

Luke 1: 26-35, 38

Read by The Reverend Canon Kevin Flynn

The Angel Gabriel salutes the Blessed Virgin Mary

The Lord be with you.

And with thy spirit.

✠ The Holy Gospel is written in the first chapter of the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St Luke, beginning at the twenty-sixth verse.

Glory be to thee, O Lord.

And in the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God unto a city of Galilee, named Nazareth, to a virgin espoused to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David; and the virgin's name was Mary. And the angel came in unto her, and said, Hail, thou that art highly favoured, the Lord is with thee: blessed art thou among women. And when she saw him, she was troubled at his saying, and cast in her mind what manner of salutation this should be.

And the angel said unto her, Fear not, Mary: for thou hast found favour with God. And, behold, thou shalt conceive in thy womb, and bring forth a son, and shalt call his name Jesus. He shall be great, and shall be called the Son of the Highest: and the Lord God shall give unto him the throne of his father David: and he shall reign over the house of Jacob for ever; and of his kingdom there shall be no end.

Then said Mary unto the angel, How shall this be, seeing I know not a man? And the angel answered and said unto her, The Holy Ghost shall come upon thee, and the power of the Highest shall overshadow thee: therefore also that holy thing which shall be born of thee shall be called the Son of God. And Mary said, Behold the handmaid of the Lord; be it unto me according to thy word. And the angel departed from her.

The Gospel of Christ.

Praise be to thee, O Christ.

Please kneel for the prayers.

PRAYERS

ANTIPHON: O REX GENTIUM (O KING OF THE NATIONS)

ANTHEM

Ave Maria

Franz Biebl (1906-2001)

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

8 *Hills of the north, rejoice*

Little Cornard

GOSPEL OF THE ADVENT

Matthew 1: 18-23

Read by The Reverend Canon George Kwari

St Matthew tells of the coming of the birth of Jesus

The Lord be with you.

And with thy spirit.

✠ The Holy Gospel is written in the first chapter of the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St Matthew, beginning at the eighteenth verse.

Glory be to thee, O Lord.

Now the birth of Jesus Christ was on this wise: When as his mother Mary was espoused to Joseph, before they came together, she was found with child of the Holy Ghost. Then Joseph her husband, being a just man, and not willing to make her a public example, was minded to put her away privily.

But while he thought on these things, behold, the angel of the Lord appeared unto him in a dream, saying, Joseph, thou son of David, fear not to take unto thee Mary thy wife: for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Ghost. And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name Jesus: for he shall save his people from their sins. Now all this was done, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken of the Lord by the prophet, saying, Behold, a virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a son, and they shall call his name Emmanuel, which being interpreted is, God with us.

The Gospel of Christ.

Praise be to thee, O Christ.

Please be seated and extinguish candles.

ANTIPHON: O EMMANUEL (GOD WITH US)

ANTHEM

Jesus Christ the Apple Tree

Elizabeth Poston (1905-1987)

OFFERTORY HYMN

14 *O come, O come, Emmanuel!* Veni Emmanuel

PRAYER

O Lord our God, make us watchful and keep us faithful as we await the coming of your Son our Lord; that, when he shall appear, he may not find us sleeping in sin but active in his service and joyful in his praise; through Jesus Christ our Lord who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and ever. Amen.

VESPER RESPONSORY

Judah and Jerusalem, fear not, nor be dismayed;
Tomorrow go ye forth, and the Lord, he will be with you.

Stand ye still, and ye shall see the salvation of the Lord;
Tomorrow go ye forth, and the Lord, he will be with you.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
Tomorrow go ye forth, and the Lord, he will be with you.

The Lord be with you;
And with thy spirit.

As our Saviour taught us, let us pray.

Please kneel.

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 them that 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.

**We wait for thy loving kindness, O Lord;
In the midst of thy temple.**

COLLECT

O God, who makest us glad with the yearly remembrance of the birth of thy only Son Jesus Christ: Grant that as we joyfully receive him as our Redeemer, we may with sure confidence behold him when he shall come again to be our Judge; who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, now and ever. **Amen.**

BLESSING

Open wide, O Lord, the gates of heaven and visit thy people in peace; send forth thy Spirit from on high that their hearts may be uplifted unto thee. O Lord, who for our sake wast of a virgin born, make holy thy people, and bless thine heritage; And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Ghost, be amongst you and abide with you forever. **Amen.**

HYMN

**11 *Lo, he comes with clouds descending* Helmsley
descant: John Scott**

ORGAN POSTLUDE

Magnificat Primi Toni, BuxWV 204 Dieterich Buxtehude

NOTES AND NOTICES

A sincere welcome is extended to all our guests and everyone for joining us this evening.

Join us for the Sunday School pageant during the 10:30 a.m. mass next Sunday December 21 (Advent IV). After the pageant there will be gingerbread house building and a Nativity puzzle with Father Kwari.

Join us Christmas Eve at 10:00 p.m. for Procession, Blessing of the Crèche with Devotions, and Solemn High Mass. A Solemn High Mass will be celebrated on Christmas Day at 10:30 a.m.

An Anglican Church Calendar, published by St. Peter Publications and sponsored by the PBSC, is available from Wesley Warren at a cost of \$10.

Choral Foundation Fund: please consider making a donation to the Choral Foundation Fund which supports Choral Scholarships for young singers in the choir, and other miscellaneous expenses of the Choral Programme. You will receive a tax receipt at year's end. Thank you for your generosity.

This service is being live-streamed on YouTube.

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