

ST THOMAS ANGLICAN CHURCH
Winnipeg, Manitoba 1567 William Ave W
204-775-1107 st.thomas1567@gmail.com
Social Media @stthomasweston

We acknowledge that we meet and work in Treaty 1, 2 and 3 Land, the traditional land of the Anishinaabe, Cree, Dakota, Sioux and Oji-Cree people and the homeland of the Metis Nation. We are grateful for their stewardship of this land and their hospitality which allows us to live, work and service God the Creator here.

December 19th, 2021 – Advent 4

Welcome

(anything in **bold** we invite you to say with us)

Lighting of the Advent Candle

Why do we light the fourth candle?

The first candle is the candle of Hope, the second candle was the candle of Peace, The third candle was the candle of Love. This is the candle of Joy. It reminds us of the song of joy that Mary sang when she heard the news that she was to bear the Savior of the world.

Advent Hymn - Light the Advent Candle

Opening Sentence –

I am the servant of the Lord; let it be to me according to his word. Luke 1.38

Opening Hymn - Jesus came, the heavens adoring

The Penitential Rite

A virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel. Matthew 1.23

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbour.

**God of all mercy,
we confess that we have sinned against you,
opposing your will in our lives.
We have denied your goodness in each other,**

**in ourselves and in the world you have created.
We repent of the evil that enslaves us,
the evil we have done
and the evil done on our behalf.
Forgive, restore and strengthen us
through our Saviour Jesus Christ,
so that we may abide in your love
and serve only your will. Amen.**

May the God of love and power
forgive us and free us from our sins,
heal and strengthen us by the Holy Spirit
and raise us to new life in Jesus Christ.
Amen.

Introductory Responses

Restore us, O Creator of the stars of night;

**show us the light of your countenance,
and we shall be saved.**

Will you not give us life again,
so that your people may rejoice in you?

Show us your mercy, O God,
and grant us your salvation.

Blessed is the Christ who comes in your name!
Peace in heaven and glory in the highest.

Blessed are you, Sovereign God of all,
to you be praise and glory for ever.
In your tender compassion
the dawn from on high is breaking upon us
to dispel the lingering shadows of night.

As we look for your coming among us this day,
open our eyes to behold your presence
and strengthen our hands to do your will,
so that the world may rejoice and give you praise.

Blessed be God: Source of all being, eternal Word
and Holy Spirit.
Blessed be God for ever.

The Gloria –

**Glory to God in the highest,
And peace to his people on earth**

**Lord God, Heavenly King,
Almighty God and Father,
We Worship you, we give you thanks,
We praise you for your glory.**

**Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
You take away the sin of the world:
Have mercy on us.**

**You are seated at the right hand of the Father
Receive our prayer**

**For you alone are the Holy One.
You alone are the Lord,
You alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ, With the Holy Spirit,
In the glory of the Father Amen**

The Proclamation of the Word

The Psalm for the day - Luke 1:46b-55

My soul magnifies the Lord,

and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,

for he has looked with favor on the lowliness of
his servant. Surely, from now on all generations
will call me blessed;

**for the Mighty One has done great things for me,
and holy is his name.**

His mercy is for those who fear him from
generation to generation.

**He has shown strength with his arm; he has
scattered the proud in the thoughts of their
hearts.**

He has brought down the powerful from their
thrones, and lifted up the lowly;

**he has filled the hungry with good things, and
sent the rich away empty.**

He has helped his servant Israel, in remembrance
of his mercy,

**according to the promise he made to our
ancestors, to Abraham and to his descendants
forever."**

Blessed be God: Source of all being, eternal Word
and Holy Spirit.
Blessed be God for ever

The 1st Reading – Micah 5:2-5a

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

The Responsory

Now it is time to awake out of sleep,
for the night is far spent and the day is at hand.

Now is our salvation nearer than when we first
believed,
for the night is far spent.

Let us therefore cast off the works of darkness
and put on the armour of light,
for the day is at hand.

Put on the Lord Jesus Christ
and make no provision for the flesh,
for the night is far spent and the day is at hand.

The 2nd Reading - Hebrews 10:5-10

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

The Canticle

A Song of Baruch (Baruch 5.5, 6c, 7-9)

Arise, O Jerusalem, stand upon the height:

**look to the east and see your children,
gathered from the west and the east**

at the word of the Holy One.

They rejoice that God has remembered them
and has brought them back to you.

For God has ordered that every high mountain

and the everlasting hills be made low,
and the valleys filled up to make level ground
so that they may walk safely in the glory of God.

The woods and every fragrant tree

have shaded them at God's command.

For God will lead this people with joy
in the light of the divine glory
**with the mercy and righteousness that comes
from God.**

Blessed be God: Source of all being, eternal Word
and Holy Spirit.

Blessed be God for ever

The Gradual Hymn – Calypso Carol

The Gospel - Luke 1:39-45, (46-55)

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

Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ

The Gospel of Christ.

Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ

Reflection – The Christiaction Advent Challenge -- Joy

Affirmation of Faith

**Hear O Israel
the Lord our God, the Lord is one.
Love the Lord your God
with all your heart,
with all your soul,
with all your mind,**

and with all your strength.

This is the first and the great commandment.

The second is like it:

Love your neighbour as yourself.

There is no commandment greater than these.

The Prayers for the Community

In joyful expectation let us pray to God, our Saviour
and Redeemer.

O Wisdom from the mouth of the Most High,
you reign over all things to the ends of the earth:
come and teach us how to live.

Lord Jesus, come soon.

O Head of the house of Israel,
you appeared in the fire of the burning bush
and you gave the law on Sinai:
come with outstretched arm and ransom us.

Lord Jesus, come soon.

O Branch of Jesse standing as a sign among the
nations,
all rulers will keep silence before you
and all peoples will summon you to their aid:
come, set us free and delay no more.

Lord Jesus, come soon.

O Key of David and sceptre of the house of Israel,
you open and none can shut;
you shut and none can open:
come and free the captives from prison.

Lord Jesus, come soon.

O Morning Star, bright Sun of righteousness:
come and enlighten all who dwell in darkness
and the shadow of death.

Lord Jesus, come soon.

O Emmanuel, hope of the nations:
come and save us, O Anointed One.

Lord Jesus, come soon.

The Lord's Prayer – Sung (Call and Response)

Collect 1 –

O God of Elizabeth and Mary, you visited your servants with news of the world's redemption in the coming of the Saviour. Make our hearts leap with joy and fill our mouths with songs of praise, so that we may announce glad tidings of peace and welcome the Christ in our midst. **Amen**

The Closing Hymn – Silent Night

The Dismissal

Let us bless the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Collect 2 –

Heavenly Father, who chose the Virgin Mary, full of grace, to be the mother of our Lord and Saviour, now fill us with your grace, that we in all things may embrace your will and with her rejoice in your salvation; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

May Christ, when he comes, find us watching and waiting. **Amen.**