

December 24, 2025 7:00 p.m.

Processional Hymn #118 Vs 1,2,3,5 "O Come All Ye Faithful"

# The Gathering of the Community

Beloved, on this night, we gather to tell the story once again of God who came to dwell among us as a vulnerable baby.

We rejoice in the day that all the earth awaits. We remember the stable, the animals, and the manger that witnessed the arrival of Emmanuel, God with us.

We rejoice in the day that all the earth awaits. We recall the angels who announced the Messiah's birth to the shepherds, those most unlikely witnesses of God's glory.

We rejoice in the day that all the earth awaits. In our remembering and enlivening, we gather today as people of God's promise, witnesses to God's glorious presence among us in the vulnerable, forgotten, and tucked away places of the world.

We gather to rejoice in the day that all the earth awaits, the day that has already come and will yet be. Thanks be to God! Amen.

Written by Dr. Lisa Hancock, Discipleship Ministries, June 2025. PAGE 1

<u>Lighting of the Christ Candle</u> See insert for readings

"Joy to the World" #154 VS 1,2,3,4

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. Amen.

Glory to God

Gathering Prayer

BAS 186

Almighty God, as we prepare with joy to celebrate the gift of the Christ-child, embrace the earth with your glory and be for us a living hope in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.** 

Common Worship: Additional Collects (2004)

# **The Proclamation of the Word**

First Reading ISAIAH 9:2-7
PSALM 96
Second Reading TITUS 2:11-14

Gospel Hymn # 123 VS 1,2 / 3
"Once in Royal David's City"

Holy Gospel Luke 2:1-20

<u>Sermon</u> - **Rev. Samuel** 

<u>Prayers of the People</u>

Confession and Absolution

Holy God, we are sorry for the things we do and say and think which make you sad, and for not thinking of others before ourselves. Please forgive us, and help us to love you and other people increasingly. Amen.

May God who loved the world so much that he sent his Son to be our Saviour forgive us our sins and make us holy to serve him in the world, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**  Peace

The Christmas peace of the Lord be always with you. **And also with you.** 

(We greet one another with Christmas joy.)

### The Celebration of the Eucharist

Offertory Hymn # 135 COMMON PRAISE "Shepherds in the Fields Abiding"

Prayer over the Offerings

Giving God, as we recount the story of your gift of a Savior on that night long ago, we remember there were some who said, "There's no room", and others who responded, "Come, we'll make room." Help us give with a heart of abundance and not one of scarcity! On this holiest of nights, let us dwell with those whose chorus is, "Come, we'll make room...," remembering your abundant love for us. In the name of our Savior and Redeemer, we pray. Amen.

Eucharistic Prayer 3

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.

The Lord's Prayer BAS 211
Breaking of the Bread # 6 BAS 213

**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.

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#### The Communion

The Christmas gifts of God, for the people of God. **Thanks be to God**.

# Agnus Dei

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, grant us peace. Grant us peace.

# Communion Hymns COMMON PRAISE

# 137 "What Child Is This"

#125 "Infant Holy, Infant Lowly"

#126 "Away in a Manger"

# Prayer after Communion

Radiant God, with our eyes we have seen your salvation, and in this meal, we have feasted on your grace. May your Word take flesh in us, so that we may be your holy people, revealing your glory made known to us in Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Lord. Amen.

(Evangelical Lutheran Worship (2006) alt.)
Glory to God, BAS 214

# **Blessings**

As the lights are dimmed, and we light our individual candles we sit in a moment of prayerful silence.

Hymn #119 "Silent Night"

Recessional Hymn #138 COMMON PRAISE "Hark! The Harald Angels Sing"

# <u>Dismissal</u>

To a troubled world, **peace from Christ.**To a searching world, **love from Christ.**To a waiting world, **hope from Christ. Amen.** 

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# The flowers that decorate the church and are on the altar today are from:

**Wayne and Brenda Trainor** in memory of Edna, Wendy, Melin & Joyce Trainor.

Lynda Keenan in memory of Frank Keenan.

**Grace Hobson** in thanksgiving for new beginnings and friends new and old.

**Lillian Mungham** in thanksgiving for new baby Sage Tyence and for all family that has passed.

**Diane Campbell** in memory of Harold and Ede Campbell and in thanksgiving for family.

Ann Ward in memory of David & Christine Parrent,
Brian Ward and Daniel Blasdell and in
thanksgiving for her family and friends and for the
birth of David.

Gord & Isabelle Launchbury in memory of their parents and grandparents.

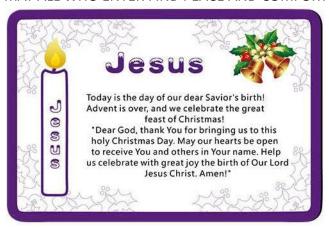
**Lesley Rice** in thanksgiving for grandchildren Cameron and Makenzie.

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# ST. ATHANASIUS ANGLICAN CHURCH

in the Diocese of Toronto welcomes you.

MAY ALL WHO ENTER FIND PEACE AND COMFORT



MISSION STATEMENT: "We will share God's love in our community by proclaiming the Gospel of Jesus Christ in words and action".

MOTTO: "Sharing God in Everything We Do"

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SUNDAY SERVICES - 10:30 a.m.

May the peace of Christ surround you as you worship, today.

Know that God loves you & is with you now and always.