

The Anglican Parish of St. Peter and St. Paul
December 24th 2019 - 4:30PM
Christmas Eve
Family Eucharist Service
"Nourishing Faith and Community"



Preludes: This Endrys Night, A Christmas Paeon - *George Oldroyd*
Carol Prelude on "Away in a Manger" - *Derek Holman*



Assistive listening
devices available

We Gather as a Community

Words of Greeting and Welcome: *The Rev. Gail Rodger*

Celebrant: I bring you good news of a great joy which will come to all the people; for to you is born this day a Saviour, Christ the Lord.

O Come All Ye Faithful

O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant,
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;
come and behold him born the king of angels:
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord.

Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,
sing, all ye citizens of heaven above;
glory to God in the highest:
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord.

See how the shepherds, summoned to his cradle,
leaving their flocks, draw nigh with lowly fear;
we too will thither bend our joyful footsteps;
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord.

Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning;
Jesus, to thee be glory given;
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing:
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord.

Lighting of the four Advent Candles and the Christ Candle

Celebrant: In the season of Advent we have used the Advent wreath and its candles to help us get ready for this great celebration of the birth of Christ.

When we lit the first candle, we are reminded our hope is in Jesus.

All: May God's love shine in our hearts.

Celebrant: When we lit the second candle, we acknowledged the Lord is our peace.

All: May God's peace be reflected in our lives.

Celebrant: When we lit the third candle, we know abiding joy is found in the Lord.

All: May God's joy in us, spread joy to the world.

Celebrant: When we lit the fourth candle, we are reminded that the birth of Jesus Christ is the gift of the unconditional love of God to all humanity.

All: May God's love move us to action in loving each other.

Celebrant: Today we celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ, the Hope, Peace, Joy and Love for all people.

All: Dear God, as we light the center candle, may we celebrate with the full joy the birth of your Son, Jesus Christ. Amen.

Celebrant: On this holy night, God comes to us in the new born life of a baby.

All: May love be reborn in our hearts.

Celebrant: Holy God, we thank you for the message of peace and of love that Christmas brings to our distracted world. Give peace among nations, peace in our land, peace in our homes, and peace in our hearts as we remember the birth at Bethlehem of the Prince of Peace. May his spirit of love encircle us this Christmas night as we journey back into the awesome and timeless mystery that is the story of the coming of Jesus, Emmanuel, God with us.

The Story of Our Faith

Reader: In the days of Herod the King, the Angel Gabriel was sent from God to the city of Nazareth. To a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, and the virgin's name was Mary. And the Angel said unto her: 'Hail, the Lord is with you. Blessed are you among women.'

And when she saw the angel, she was troubled. The Angel said: 'fear not Mary; for you have found favour with God. You shall bring forth a son and call his name Jesus.'

It came to pass that Caesar Augustus decreed that all the world should be taxed, everyone to his own city. So Joseph went from Nazareth to the city of Bethlehem, and Mary his wife was great with child.

And so it was that, while they were there, the day came that she should deliver her baby. And she brought forth her firstborn son and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn.

Infant Holy, Infant Lowly

Infant holy, infant lowly,
for his bed a cattle stall;
oxen lowing, little knowing
Christ the babe is Lord of all.
Swift are winging angels singing,
nowells ringing, tidings bringing:
Christ the babe is Lord of all,
Christ the babe is Lord of all!

Flocks were sleeping, shepherds keeping
vigil till the morning new
saw the glory, heard the story,
tidings of a gospel true.
Thus rejoicing, free from sorrow,
praises voicing greet tomorrow:
Christ the babe was born for you,
Christ the babe was born for you!

Reader: There were in the same country shepherds in the field, keeping watch over their flocks by night. When, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them and the glory of the Lord shone around them and they were very afraid. And the angel said: 'fear not, for I bring you tidings of great joy. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord. And this shall be a sign; you shall find the babe

wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger.' And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God.

When the angels were gone, the shepherds said to one another, 'Let us go to Bethlehem to see this thing which is come to pass.' And they came with haste, and found Mary and Joseph, and the babe lying in a manger.

And behold, there came wise men to Jerusalem saying, 'where is he that is born King of the Jews? For we have seen his star and have come to worship him.' And lo, the star, which they saw in the East, went before them, till it stood over where the young child was. When they came into the house, they saw the young child with Mary, his mother, and fell down and worshipped him. And when they had opened their treasures they presented unto him gifts of gold, and frankincense and myrrh.

The wise men departed back to their own country and the shepherds also returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things they had heard and seen.

And the child was called Jesus, which was so named by the angel.

Away in a manger

Away in a manger, no crib for a bed,
the little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head.
The stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay,
the little Lord Jesus asleep in the hay.

The cattle are lowing, the baby awakes,
but little Lord Jesus no crying he makes.
I love you, Lord Jesus, look down from on high
and stay by my cradle until morning is nigh.

Be near me, Lord Jesus: I ask you to stay
close by me forever, and love me, I pray.
Bless all the dear children in your tender care,
and fit us for heaven, to live with you there.

Solo: Cantata For Us a Child is Born, BWV 142

- *Composer Unknown, Text from Erdmann Neumeister*

I Overture & VII Alleluia

Lawrence Surges, organ & baritone

Prayers of the People

The Peace

Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

All: **And also with you.**

The Virgin Mary Had a Baby Boy

(Offering is taken up)

1. The Virgin Mary had a baby boy,
 The Virgin Mary had a baby boy,
 The Virgin Mary had a baby boy,
 And they said that his name was Jesus.

Refrain He come from the glory,
 he come from the glorious kingdom.
 He come from the glory,
 he come from the glorious kingdom.
 Oh, yes! believer. Oh, yes! believer.
 He come from the glory,
 he come from the glorious kingdom.

2. The angels sang when the baby was born,
 The angels sang when the baby was born,
 The angels sang when the baby was born,
 And proclaim him the Saviour Jesus.

Refrain

3. The wise men saw where the baby was born,
 The wise men saw where the baby was born,
 The wise men saw where the baby was born,
 And they say that his name was Jesus.

Refrain

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Celebrant: God of peace and love – accept all we offer on this joyful feast in the name of the One who is Lord now and forever. **Amen.**

The Sacred Meal is Shared *(reserve sacrament)*

Celebrant: The table of bread and wine is now ready. It is the table of company with Jesus and all who love him. It is the table of sharing with the poor of the world, with whom Jesus identified himself. It is the table of communion with the earth, in which Christ became incarnate. So come to this table, you who have much faith, and you who would like to have more; you who have been here often and you who have not been for a long time. It is Christ who invites us to meet him here.

The Lord's Prayer: (sung)

**All: 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.**

Celebrant: The Gifts of God for the family of God.

All: Thanks be to God.

All are welcome at the table of our Lord.

The Communion

Chalice Administrants: Deacon Wally Eamer & Victor Flett, Sr.

The First Nowell

1. The first nowell the angel did say
was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay,
in fields where they lay keeping their sheep
on a cold winter's night that was so deep.

Refrain:

Nowell, nowell, nowell, nowell,
born is the King of Israel.

2. They looked up and saw a star,
shining in the east, beyond them far;
and to the earth it gave great light,
and so it continued both day and night. **Refrain**

3. And by the light of that same star
three wise men came from country far;
to seek for a king was their intent,
and to follow the star wherever it went. **Refrain**

4. This star drew nigh to the northwest;
o'er Bethlehem it took its rest,
and there it did both stop and stay,
right over the place where Jesus lay. **Refrain**

Prayer after Communion:

Celebrant: Holy God, may we be open to the blessings of Christmas: the gift of childlike wonder; of radiant hope; of the peace which passes all understanding; and joy which knows no bounds, as we bring ourselves to you in response to the greatest gift of all— the Babe of Bethlehem.

All: **Amen**

Celebrant: As the light of love shines in the darkness so a candle's light shows the love of God to the world. And now, we'd like to invite you to light a candle and we will sing that beloved Christmas hymn, Silent Night, by candle light.

Candles are lit by passing the light on from one to the other along the pew. Please hold the lit candle upright and tip only the unlit candle to prevent wax from dripping.

Silent Night

Silent night! Holy night!
All is calm, all is bright
round yon virgin, mother and child.
Holy infant so tender and mild,
sleep in heavenly peace,
sleep in heavenly peace.

Silent night! Holy night!
Shepherds quake at the sight.
glories stream from heaven afar,
heavenly hosts sing alleluia,
Christ the Savior is born.
Christ the Savior is born.

Silent night! Holy night!
Son of God, love's pure light
radiant beams from thy holy face
with the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus Lord, at thy birth.
Jesus Lord, at thy birth

Candles are extinguished

Blessing

May the true spirit of Christmas be with us all
the spirit of joy that overflows from the heart
and makes neighbours rejoice,
the spirit of peace that harmonises differences
and makes music of our common life.
the spirit of love that sings the mind
of God to the world.

And may the blessing of the manger –
God's creation all around;
the blessing of the shepherds –
God's people on the ground;
the blessing of the angels –
good news for all, and peace for the world,
be among us, and remain with us, always.

Go, Tell it on the Mountain

Refrain Go, tell it on the mountain,
over the hills and everywhere.
Go, tell it on the mountain
that Jesus Christ is born.

1. While shepherds kept their watching
o'er silent flocks by night,
behold, throughout the heavens
there shone a holy light. **Refrain**
2. The shepherds feared and trembled
when lo, above the earth
rang out the angel chorus
that hailed our Saviour's birth. **Refrain**
3. Down in a lonely manger
the humble Christ was born,
and God sent our salvation
that blessed Christmas morn. **Refrain**

Commissioning: Go...

All: Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

Postlude: VIII Noel – Etranger, sur les jeux d'anches sans tremblant et en duo
- *Louis Claude Daquin*

The flowers at the altar today are given to the Glory of God by Annette Pitts.

*We thank those who prepared the sanctuary and
those who had roles in the worship service today.*

**REMINDER- TOMORROW
Christmas Day, December 25th
Holy Communion with Hymns
at 10:00 am**

Welcome to all those visiting us at St. Peter and St. Paul.

**You are always welcome to join us every Sunday morning at 8:30 am for Book of
Common Prayer Holy Communion
and at 10:30 am for Eucharist using the Book of Alternative Services.**

**Every third Sunday of the month we offer a service using
the Eucharistic Liturgy for the Islands and Inlets.**

**Everyone is welcome to join us for refreshments
and conversation after the services.**

We worship on the traditional lands of the Esquimalt, Songhees and other Nations of the Salish and Coast Salish Peoples. We, who came from many lands to join the line of Anglicans worshipping here, commit our Church to continue the journey of truth and reconciliation with our First Nations' neighbours.



Bishop	The Rt. Rev. Logan McMenamie	
Rector	The Rev. Gail Rodger	250-665-6814
Deacon	The Rev. Wally Eamer	250-888-6376
Assistant	The Rev. Howard Jacques	
Assistant	The Rev. Claude Mury	
Rector's Warden	Sharon Wickware	250-686-6335
People's Warden	John Ducker	250-812-9043
Organist	Lawrence Surges	
Safe Church Liaison	Karen Hogg	250-386-6833
Verger	Lynn Scott	
Parish Administrator	Andrew Lloyd	250-386-6833

Parish Office Hours: Monday, Wednesday, Friday - 9 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Office Phone: 250-386-6833

Mail: 1379 Esquimalt Rd. Victoria, BC V9A 3R4

 www.facebook.com/AnglicanParishOfStPeterAndStPaulVictoriaBcCanada/

E-mail: admin@stpeterandpaul.ca

Website: www.stpeterandpaul.ca

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