



St. Mark's Anglican Church

The Second Sunday of Advent

Sunday, December 8, 2024

Litany and Sung Eucharist at 10:30 am

Welcome to St. Mark's.

*The order of service is set forth in this service sheet.
Please stand and kneel as you are able—and as is your custom.*

PRELUDE *Three Organ Settings for Advent*

Frank Speller (1938-2017)

THE GATHERING OF THE COMMUNITY

This service begins with the singing of the Great Litany. Since the Litany is at once a complete set of intercessions and a confession, those elements are customarily omitted where they would normally occur.

THE GREAT LITANY *begins on page 138 of the green Book of Alternative Services.*

KYRIE



THE COLLECT

Celebrant Let us pray.

Almighty God,
who sent your servant John the Baptist
to prepare your people to welcome the Messiah,
inspire us, the ministers and stewards of your truth,
to turn our disobedient hearts to you,
that when Christ shall come again to be our judge,
we may stand with confidence before his glory;
who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

All Amen.

All sit

THE PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

FIRST READING

Malachi 3:1-4

Reader: Wendy Steel

See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple. The messenger of the covenant in whom you delight—indeed, he is coming, says the LORD of hosts. But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears? For he is like a refiner’s fire and like washers’ soap; he will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the descendants of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, until they present offerings to the LORD in righteousness. Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the LORD, as in the days of old and as in former years.

Reader Thanks be to God.

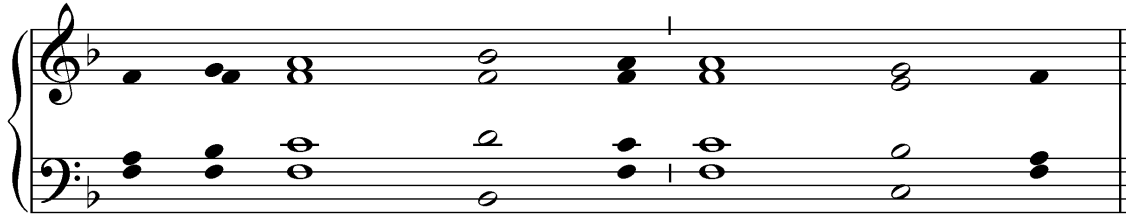
CANTICLE *Benedictus Dominus Deus*

Russian Chant



BLESSED be the Lord, the God of Is-ra-el,
who has come to his people and set **them** free.

HE HAS raised up for us a migh-ty Saviour,
born of the house of his ser-vant David.



THROUGH HIS holy prophets he promised of old
that he would save us from **our** enemies,
from the hands of all **who** hate us,

HE PRO-MISED to show mercy to **our** fathers
and to remember his ho-ly covenant.

THIS WAS the oath he swore to our fa-ther Abraham:
to set us free from the hands of our enemies,
free to worship him with-out fear

HOLY and righteous in **his** sight
all the days of **our** life.

YOU, MY child, shall be called the prophet of the **Most** High,
for you will go before the Lord to prepare **his** way

TO GIVE his people knowledge of **sal**-vation
by the forgiveness of **their** sins.

IN THE tender compassion of **our** God
the dawn from on high shall break **up**-on us.

TO SHINE on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow **of** death,
and to guide our feet into the way **of** peace.

SECOND READING

Philippians 1:3-11
Reader: Wendy Steel

I thank my God for every remembrance of you, always in every one of my prayers for all of you, praying with joy for your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now. I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work in you will continue to complete it until the day of Jesus Christ. It is right for me to think this way about all of you, because I hold you in my heart, for all of you are my partners in God's grace, both in my imprisonment and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel. For God is my witness, how I long for all of you with the tender affection of Christ Jesus. And this is my prayer, that your love may overflow more and more with knowledge and full insight to help you to determine what really matters, so that in the day of Christ you may be pure and blameless, having produced the harvest of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ for the glory and praise of God.

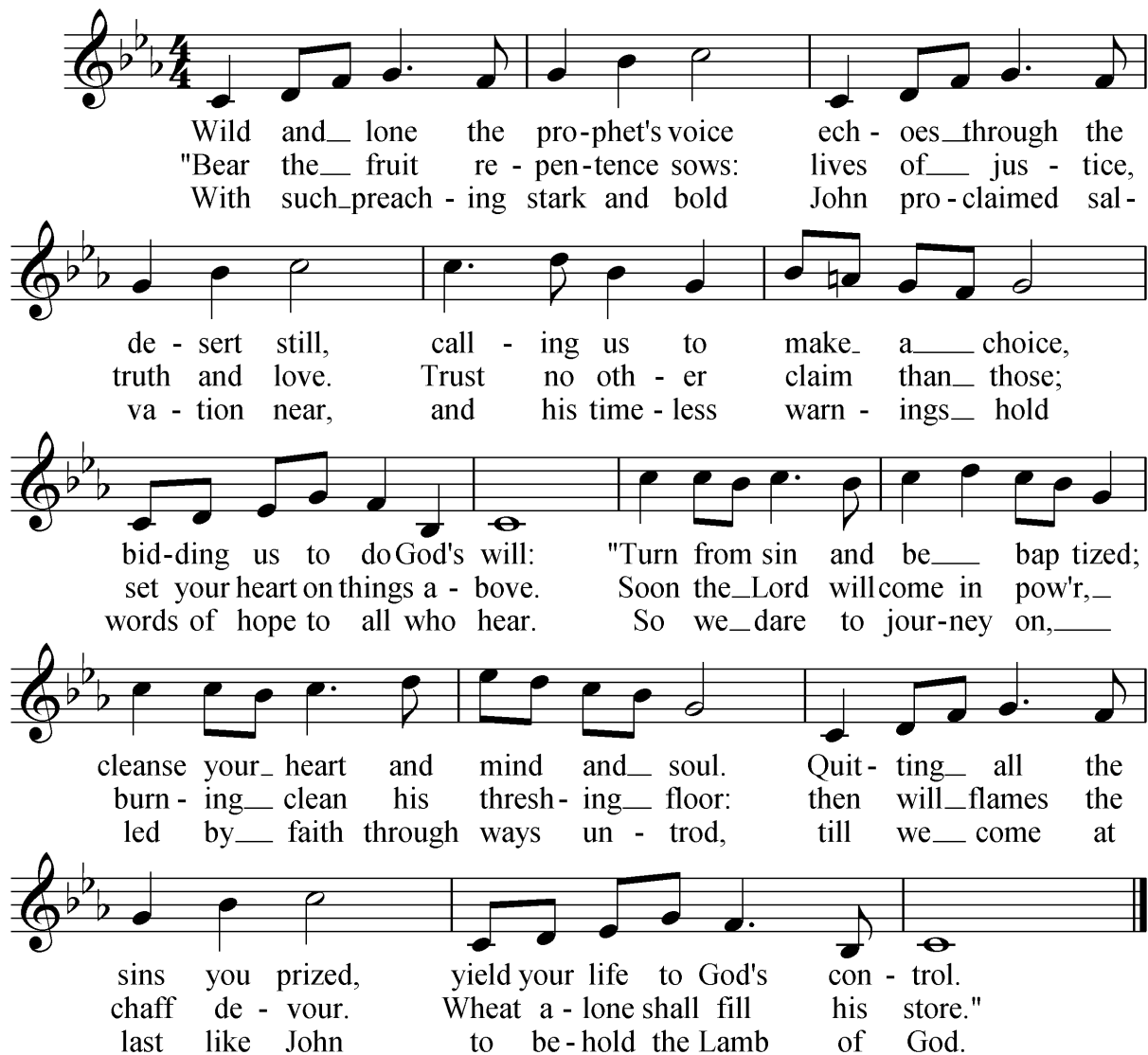
Reader Thanks be to God.

All stand

HYMN

Text: Carl P. Daw, 1985

Music: Alfred V. Fedak, 1988



Wild and lone the pro-phet's voice ech - oes through the
"Bear the fruit re - pen - tence sows: lives of jus - tice,
With such preach - ing stark and bold John pro - claimed sal -
de - sert still, call - ing us to make a choice,
truth and love. Trust no oth - er claim than those;
va - tion near, and his time - less warn - ings hold
bid - ding us to do God's will: "Turn from sin and be bap - tized;
set your heart on things a - bove. Soon the Lord will come in pow'r,
words of hope to all who hear. So we dare to jour - ney on,
cleanse your heart and mind and soul. Quit - ting all the
burn - ing clean his thresh - ing floor: then will flames the
led by faith through ways un - trod, till we come at
sins you prized, yield your life to God's con - trol.
chaff de - vour. Wheat a - lone shall fill his store."
last like John to be - hold the Lamb of God.

THE GOSPEL

Luke 3:1-6

Gospeller The Lord be with you.
People **And also with you.**

Gospeller The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.
People **Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

In the fifteenth year of the reign of Tiberius Caesar, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was ruler of Galilee, and his brother Philip ruler of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias ruler of Abilene, during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God

came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. He went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah, “The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: ‘Prepare the way of the Lord; make his paths straight. Every valley shall be filled, and every mountain and hill shall be made low, and the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough ways made smooth, and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.’”

Gospeller The Gospel of Christ.
People **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

THE SERMON

The Rector

THE NICENE CREED

Celebrant Let us confess our faith, as we say,
All **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.

THE PEACE

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.
People And also with you.

THE CELEBRATION OF THE EUCHARIST

HYMN 102

Prepare the Way, O Zion

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Celebrant The Lord be with you. *People* And al - so with you.
 Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.
 Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
 It is right to give him thanks and praise.

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.

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY LORD

Common Praise, no. 689

All remain standing or kneel

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.

All Therefore, Father, according to his command,
**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 sons and daughters;
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 forever.

People **Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Celebrant And now, as our Saviour Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,
All **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 those who 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.**

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

Celebrant God of promise,
you prepare a banquet for us in your kingdom.
People **Happy are those who are called
to the supper of the Lamb.**

Celebrant The gifts of God for the People of God.
People **Thanks be to God.**

LAMB OF GOD

Common Praise, no. 690

*Please follow the directions of the greeters as you make your way to the altar
Kneeling and standing are both appropriate postures to receive the Eucharist*

COMMUNION ANTHEM

Jacob Handl (1551-1591)

Benedictus qui venit in nomine Domini. Hosanna in excelsis.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in excelsis.

After communion, all stand for

THE PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Celebrant All your works praise you, O Lord.
All **And your faithful servants bless you.
Gracious God
we thank you for feeding us
with the body and blood of your Son
Jesus Christ.
May we, who share his body,
live his risen life;
we, who drink his cup,
bring life to others;
we, whom the Spirit lights,
give light to the world.
Keep us firm in the hope you have set before us,
So that we and all your children shall be free,
and the whole earth live to praise your name;
through Christ our Lord. Amen**

THE BLESSING

Celebrant Christ the Sun of Righteousness shine upon you, scatter the darkness from before your path, and make you ready to meet him when he comes in glory; And the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit be amongst you and remain with you always.

People **Amen.**

THE DISMISSAL

Celebrant Let us go forth to love and serve the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

HYMN 108

Hark, a Herald Voice is Sounding

VOLUNTARY

To God we Render Thanks and Praise

J. S. Bach (1685-1750)

REPRINTED / PODCAST / STREAMED WITH PERMISSION UNDER ONE LICENSE #M-401910.
ALL RIGHTS RESERVED

Christmas Services and Events

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 22

A Christmas Homecoming at 4:30 pm

with

St Mark's Singer's, Trillium Brass, and Michael Bloss

Tickets are \$25 and available in the church office

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 24

Christmas Eve

4:30 pm *Congregational Carols and Festive Organ Music*

5 pm *Festive Sung Eucharist*

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 25

Christmas Day

10:30 am *Festive Sung Eucharist*



**St. Mark's Anglican Church
41 Byron Street
PO Box 582
Niagara-on-the-Lake, ON L0S 1J0
905-468-3123**

**www.stmarksnotl.org
stmarks@cogeco.net**

**The Rev'd Leighton Lee, *Rector*
The Rev'd Dr Susan MacLaren, *Honorary Assistant***

**Michael Bloss, *Director of Music*
Erin McKinley, *Parish Administrator***

**Andrea Douglas Gene Anne Smith
Rector's Warden *People's Warden***

**Kathy Taylor
*Deputy Warden***

**Allan Magnacca, O. N.
*Warden Emeritus***