

Sunday, 31 December 2023 10.30 am Parish Mass (livestreamed) The First Sunday of Christmas

Prelude

Away in a Manger, Derek Holman

The Gathering of the Community

Please stand when the bell is rung.



- 5 He shrank not from the oxen's stall, he lay within the manger bed, and he whose bounty feeds us all at Mary's breast himself was fed.
- 6 And while the angels in the sky sang praise above the silent field, to shepherds poor the Lord most high, the one great Shepherd, was revealed.
- 7 All glory for this blessèd morn to God, the source of all, is due; all praise to you, O Virgin-born; all praise, O Holy Ghost, to you.

Celebrant: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy

Spirit, be with you all.

People: And also with you.

Kyrie eleison *Missa brevis IV (Corde Natus),* Healey Willan *Lord have mercy. Christ have mercy. Lord have mercy.*



Celebrant: Let us pray.

Please remain standing.

Almighty God, you have shed upon us the new light of your incarnate Word. May this light, enkindled in our hearts, shine forth in our lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

People: Amen.

The Proclamation of the Word

First Reading Isaiah 61:10-62:3

I will greatly rejoice in the Lord, my whole being shall exult in my God; for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation, he has covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels. For as the earth brings forth its shoots, and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up, so the Lord God will cause righteousness and praise to spring up before all the nations. For Zion's sake I will not keep silent, and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest, until her vindication shines out like the dawn, and her salvation like a burning torch. The nations shall see your vindication, and all the kings your glory; and you shall be called by a new name that the mouth of the Lord will give. You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the Lord, and a royal diadem in the hand of your God.

Lector: The word of the Lord. **People:** Thanks be to God.

Psalm 148 TONE VII.7



Cantor: HAL-LE-lujah! Praise the Lord <u>from</u> the heav-ens: praise <u>him</u> in the heights.

People: Praise him all you <u>an</u>-gels of his: praise <u>him</u>, all his host.

Cantors: Praise <u>him</u> sun and moon: praise him <u>all</u> you shin_ing stars.

People: Praise him heav-en of heav-ens: and you waters a-bove the heav-ens.

Cantors: Let them praise the <u>name</u> of the Lord: for he commanded, and they <u>were</u> cre-a-ted. **People:** He made them stand fast for ev-er and ev-er: he gave them a law which <u>shall</u> not

pass_a-way.

Cantors: Praise the <u>Lord</u> from the earth: you sea-<u>mons</u>-ters and_all deeps; **People:** Fire and <u>hail</u> snow and fog: tempestuous wind <u>do</u>-ing his will;

Cantors: Moun-tains and all hills: fruit trees and all ce-dars;

People: Wild beasts and all cat-tle: creeping things and winged birds;

Cantors: Kings of the earth and all peo-ples: princes and all ru-lers of the world;

People: Young men and maid-ens: old and young to-geth-er.

Cantors: Let them praise the name of the Lord: for his name only is exalted, his splendour is

over earth and heav-en.

People: He has raised up strength for his people and praise for all his loy-al ser-vants: the

children of Israel, a people who are near him. Hal-le-lu-jah!

Second Reading Galatians 4:4–7

But when the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, in order to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as children. And because you are children, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, 'Abba! Father!' So you are no longer a slave but a child, and if a child then also an heir, through God.

Lector: The word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Please stand.

Alleluia



Cantor: Rejoice ye in the Lord, O ye righteous, for it becometh well the righteous to be thankful.



Sequence Hymn



Text: Polish carol; tr. Edith M. G. Reed (1885–1933).

Music: Melody Polish trad.; harm. David Hugh Jones (1900–1983).

Harm. © 1955, 1983 John Ribble. Used by permission of Westminster/John Knox Press.

87 87 88 77 Polish Carol (W Zlobie Lezy) Higher key 223 Deacon: The Lord be with you. **People:** And with thy spirit.

Deacon: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

People: Glory be <u>to</u> thee, O Lord.

Gospel Reading Luke 2:22-40

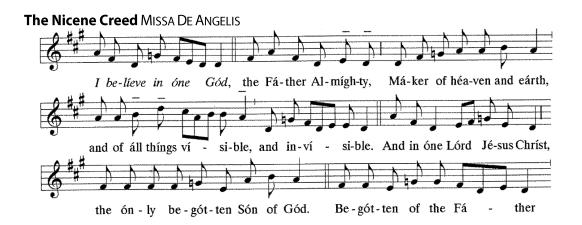
When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, they brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord (as it is written in the law of the Lord, 'Every firstborn male shall be designated as holy to the Lord'), and they offered a sacrifice according to what is stated in the law of the Lord, 'a pair of turtle-doves or two young pigeons.' Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon; this man was righteous and devout, looking forward to the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit rested on him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Messiah. Guided by the Spirit, Simeon came into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him what was customary under the law, Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying, 'Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace, according to your word; for my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to your people Israel.' And the child's father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him. Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, 'This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed—and a sword will pierce your own soul too.' There was also a prophet, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was of a great age, having lived with her husband for seven years after her marriage, then as a widow to the age of eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshipped there with fasting and prayer night and day. At that moment she came, and began to praise God and to speak about the child to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem. When they had finished everything required by the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favour of God was upon him.

Deacon: The Gospel of Christ.

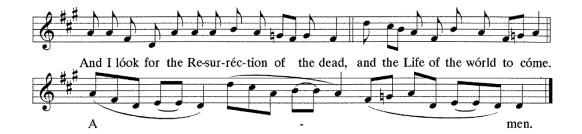
People: Praise be to thee, O Christ.

The Homily

After the homily, we sit in silent reflection. Please stand when those in the sanctuary stand.











Cantor Lord, hear our prayer. All Lord, hear our prayer.

Confession and Absolution

Celebrant: Let us humbly confess our sins to almighty God.

Please kneel or remain standing.

Almighty God,

People: Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,

maker of all things and judge of all people:

we acknowledge and confess our manifold sins and wickedness,

which we from time to time most grievously have committed,

by thought, word and deed, against thy divine majesty.

We do earnestly repent, and are heartily sorry for these our misdoings.

Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father;

for thy Son our Lord Jesus Christ's sake, forgive us all that is past;

and grant that we may ever hereafter serve and please thee in newness of life,

to the honour and glory of thy name;

through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Celebrant: Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who of his great mercy hath promised forgiveness of sins to all them that with hearty repentance and true faith turn unto him: have mercy upon you; pardon and deliver you from all your sins; confirm and strengthen you in all goodness; and bring you to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

People: Amen.

The Peace



Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be al-ways with you.



People: And with thy spir-it.

The Celebration of the Eucharist



Please be seated.

Offertory Sentence

My hope hath been in thee, O Lord; I have said, Thou art my God; yea, my time is in thy hand.

Motet Jesus Christ, the Apple Tree, Elizabeth Poston

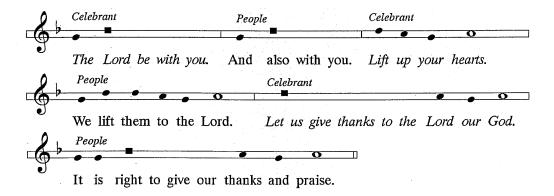
The tree of life my soul hath seen, Laden with fruit and always green; The trees of nature fruitless be, Compared with Christ the Apple Tree. His beauty doth all things excel, By faith I know but ne'er can tell The glory which I now can see, In Jesus Christ the Apple Tree. For happiness I long have sought, And pleasure dearly I have bought; I missed of all but now I see 'Tis found in Christ the Apple Tree. I'm weary with my former toil - Here I will sit and rest awhile, Under the shadow I will be, Of Jesus Christ the Apple Tree. This fruit doth make my soul to thrive, It keeps my dying faith alive; Which makes my soul in haste to be With Jesus Christ the Apple Tree.

Please stand when the thurifer turns to cense the congregation.

Celebrant: Let us pray.

God of light, in the birth of your Son we see your glory. May we who share in this mystery grow daily in your love. This we ask in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord.

People: Amen.



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 mystery of his incarnation was made perfect man of the flesh of the Virgin Mary his mother; in him we have seen a a new and radiant vision of your glory. Therefore with all the angels of heaven, we lift our voices and sing our joyful hymn of praise to proclaim the glory of your name:

At the sound of the bells, please kneel or remain standing.



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." Therefore, Father, according to his command,

People: 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 for ever.

People: Amen.



The Breaking of the Bread

Celebrant: We break the bread of life, and that life is the light of the world.

People: God here among us, light in the midst of us, bring us to light and life.

Celebrant: The gifts of God for the people of God.

People: Thanks be to God.

Agnus Dei *Missa brevis IV (Corde Natus),* Healey Willan

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world: have mercy upon us. O Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world: grant us thy peace.

The Communion

At this time you are invited to come up to communion. Please follow the directions of the sidespeople. If you would prefer to make a spiritual communion, please remain in your pew. We invite you to use the following words as inspiration: My Jesus, I believe that you are in the Blessed Sacrament. I love you above all things, and I long for you in my soul. Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, come spiritually into my heart. As though you have already come, I embrace you and unite myself entirely to you; never permit me to be separated from you. Amen.

Communion Sentence

Take the young child and his mother and go into the land of Israel, for they are dead which sought the young child's life. (The Ritual Choir repeats the Communion Sentence, interspersed with verses from Psalm 93.)

The Sending Forth of the Community

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Please stand.

Source of truth and joy, may we who have received the gift of divine life always follow the way of your Son. This we ask in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord.

People: Amen.

Celebrant: Glory to God,

People: whose power, working in us,

can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine.

Glory to God from generation to generation,

in the Church and in Christ Jesus,

for ever and ever. Amen.

The Christmas Blessing

Celebrant: May Almighty God, who sent his Son to take our nature upon him, bless you in this

holy season, scatter the darkness of sin, and brighten your hearts with the light of

his holiness.

People: Amen.

Celebrant: May God, who sent his angels to proclaim the glad tidings of the Saviour's birth, fill

you with joy, and make you heralds of the gospel.

People: Amen.

Celebrant: May God, who in the Word made flesh hath joined heaven to earth and earth to

heaven, give you his peace and favour.

People: Amen.

Celebrant: And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon

you and remain with you for ever.

People: Amen.

Here follow any notices and announcements.

Dismissal

The celebrant dismisses the congregation.

People: Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!

During the singing of the final hymn the sanctuary party moves to the statue of our Lady. After the final hymn we will say the Angelus, then the sanctuary party will disperse.

Hymn Go Tell it on the Mountain

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.

Go, tell it on the mountain, Over the hills and everywhere. Go, tell it on the mountain That Jesus Christ is born.

2. The shepherds feared and trembled When lo, above the earth Rang out the angel chorus That hailed our Saviour's birth Go, tell it on the mountain, Over the hills and everywhere. Go, tell it on the mountain That Jesus Christ is born.

3. Down in a lonely manger
The humble Christ was born,
And God sent our salvation
That blessed Christmas morn.
Go, tell it on the mountain,
Over the hills and everywhere.
Go, tell it on the mountain
That Jesus Christ is born.

The Angelus

Celebrant: The angel of the Lord brought tidings to Mary;

People: And she conceived by the Holy Ghost.

Celebrant: Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee; blessed art thou among women, and

blessèd is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus.

People: Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners now and at the hour of our death.

Celebrant: Behold the handmaid of the Lord. **People:** Be it unto me according to thy word.

Celebrant: Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee; blessed art thou among women, and

blessèd is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus.

People: Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners now and at the hour of our death.

Celebrant: And the Word was made flesh;

People: And dwelt among us.

Celebrant: Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee; blessed art thou among women, and

blessèd is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus.

People: Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners now and at the hour of our death.

Celebrant: Pray for us, O Holy Mother of God:

People: That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.

Celebrant: Let us pray. We beseech thee, O Lord, pour thy grace into our hearts, that as we have known the incarnation of thy Son Jesus Christ by the message of an angel, so by his cross † and passion we may be brought unto the glory of his resurrection; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God now and forever.

People: Amen.

Postlude The Holy Boy, John Ireland

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Celebrant Father Theo Ipema
Deacon & Homilist Father Jake Cunliffe
Subdeacon Mark Stenabaugh
Interim Director of Music David Simon

Land acknowledgement for the Church of St Mary Magdalene

We wish to acknowledge this land on which the Church of St Mary Magdalene stands. For thousands of years it has been the traditional land of the Haudenosaunee Confederacy, the Huron-Wendat, the Seneca, the Anishinaabe, and the Mississaugas of the Credit. This land is part of the Dish with One Spoon Treaty, and the Two Row Wampum Belt. Today, this meeting place is still home to many Indigenous people from across Turtle Island, and we are grateful to have the opportunity to care for the plants and creatures provided by the Creator, and to live and worship on this land. (Compiled by Jo-Ann Dawson and Richard Woolrich)