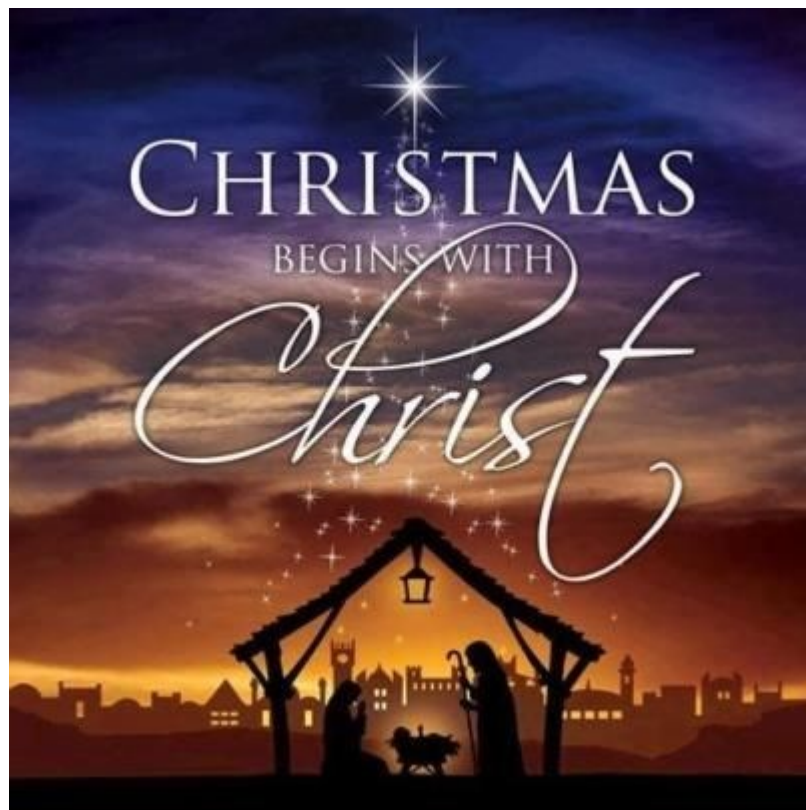


GRACE ANGLICAN CHURCH

***Joyfully Proclaiming in Word and Action  
the Hope in Jesus Christ that is Within Us***



December 24th, 2021  
Christmas Eve  
Celebrating Holy Eucharist

Announcements

Voluntary    Noel Etranger

Louis Claude Daquin

*All Stand*

**Processional Hymn**

**Once in Royal David's City**

**#123**

The Advent Wreath is Lit.

**THE CHRIST CHILD IS PLACED IN THE CRÈCHE**

Celebrant: You, O Lord, have multiplied the nation.  
You have increased its joy. For to us a child  
is born, to us a son is given and the  
government shall be upon his shoulder.

**People    His name shall be called Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God,  
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.**

Celebrant    He is also called Emmanuel, for in him God is with us.  
The Glory of the Lord has been revealed.

**People    And all flesh shall see the Salvation of God.**

Celebrant    Merciful and loving God, you have made this night holy by the  
incarnation of your Son Jesus Christ and by the child-bearing  
of the Blessed Virgin Mary. We ask that this crèche remind us of  
the story of your birth and be for us a symbol of your constant  
presence. Grant that we, your people, may enter with joy in the  
celebration of this day and may rejoice for ever as your sons and  
daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**All    Amen.**

## **THE GATHERING OF THE COMMUNITY**

### **THE GRACE**

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.**

### **COLLECT FOR PURITY**

Celebrant Almighty God,  
**All 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.**

### **THE GLORIA**

Celebrant Glory to God in the highest,  
**All 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 God the Father. Amen.**

## **COLLECT OF THE DAY**

Celebrant Let us pray.

Eternal God, this holy night is radiant with the brilliance of your one true light. As we have known the revelation of that light on earth, bring us to see the splendour of your heavenly glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

All **Amen.**

## **THE PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD**

### **First Reading**

Reader A reading from Isaiah

Upon your walls, O Jerusalem, I have posted sentinels; all day and a night they shall never be silent. You who remind the LORD, take no rest and give him no rest until he establishes Jerusalem and makes it renowned throughout the earth. The LORD has sworn by his right hand and by his mighty arm: I will not again give your grain to be food for your enemies, and foreigners shall not drink the wine for which you have labored; but those who garner it shall eat it and praise the LORD and those who gather it shall drink it in my holy courts. Go through, go through the gates, prepare the way for the people; build up, build up the highway, clear it of stones, lift up an ensign over the peoples. The LORD has proclaimed to the end of the earth: Say to daughter Zion, "See, your salvation comes; his reward is with him and his recompense before him." They shall be called, "The Holy People, The Redeemed of the LORD"; and you shall be called, "Sought Out, A City Not Forsaken."

Isaiah 62:6-12

Reader The Word of the Lord.

**People Thanks be to God.**

## **Psalm 97**

The Lord is king; let the earth rejoice; let the multitude of the isles be glad.  
Clouds and darkness are round about him,  
righteousness and justice are the foundations of his throne.  
A fire goes before him and burns up his enemies on every side.  
His lightnings light up the world; the earth sees it and is afraid.  
The mountains melt like wax at the presence of the Lord,  
at the presence of the Lord of the whole earth.  
The heavens declare his righteousness and all the peoples see his glory.  
Confounded be all who worship carved images and delight in false gods!  
Bow down before him, all you gods.  
Zion hears and is glad, and the cities of Judah rejoice,  
because of your judgements, O Lord.  
For you are the Lord, most high over all the earth;  
you are exalted far above all gods.  
The Lord loves those who hate evil; he preserves the lives of his saints  
and delivers them from the hand of the wicked.  
Light has sprung up for the righteous and joyful gladness  
for those who are truehearted.  
Rejoice in the Lord, you righteous and give thanks to his holy name.

## **The Epistle**

Reader A reading from the first letter of Paul to Titus

But when the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared, he saved us, not because of any works of righteousness that we had done, but according to his mercy, through the water of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit. This Spirit he poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior, so that, having been justified by his grace, we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life. Titus 3:4-7

The Word of the Lord.

**People      Thanks be to God.**

*All Stand for the Gospel*

**Gospel Acclamation**

**The Gospel Reading**

Reader      The Lord be with you.

**People      And also with you.**

Reader      The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke

**People      Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn. In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them and the glory of the Lord shone around them and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest heaven and on earth peace among those whom he favors! When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us."

So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

Luke 2:1-20

Reader      The Gospel of Christ.

**People      Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ**

Homily

Rev. Paul

Musical Interlude

### **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.**

### **Prayers of the People**

Marion Bailey

Leader      In joy and humility let us pray to the creator of the universe, saying, **"Lord, grant us peace."**

By the good news of our salvation brought to Mary by The angel, hear us, O Lord.

**All      Lord, grant us peace.**

By the mystery of the Word made flesh, hear us, O Lord.  
**Lord, grant us peace.**

By the birth in time of the timeless Son of God, hear us, O Lord.  
**Lord, grant us peace.**

By the manifestation of the King of glory to the shepherds and magi, hear us, O Lord.  
**Lord, grant us peace.**



By the submission of the maker of the world to Mary and Joseph of Nazareth, hear us, O Lord.

**Lord, grant us peace.**

By the baptism of the Son of God in the river Jordan, hear us, O Lord.

**Lord, grant us peace.**

Grant that the kingdoms of this world may become the kingdom of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ; hear us, O Lord.

**Lord, grant us peace.**

You are invited in a moment of quiet to name, either silently or aloud, those whom you know to be in need of Christ's healing, comfort, strength or guidance. Lord, encourage those who are oppressed; defend the widows; deliver the captives; heal the sick; strengthen all who are in tribulation, necessity or distress. And remember, O Lord, those whom we have forgotten.

We remember with thanksgiving those who have died in the peace of Christ and those whose faith is known to God alone, especially those in whose memory the Christmas Poinsettias are placed in the Church this Christmas season.

O gracious Father, who sent not your Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved: Fulfil the good tidings of your angel and bring great joy to all people through the nativity of him who is the Prince of Peace; to whom with you and the Holy Spirit be glory in the highest, now and for evermore.

**Amen.**

## **THE CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION**

Celebrant Dear friends in Christ, God is steadfast in love and infinite in mercy; he welcomes sinners and invites them to his table. Let us confess our sins, confident in God's forgiveness.

*Silence is kept.*

Celebrant Most merciful God,  
**All we confess that we have sinned against you  
in thought, word and deed,  
by what we have done and by what we have left undone.  
We have not loved you with our whole heart;  
we have not loved our neighbours as ourselves.  
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.  
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,  
have mercy on us and forgive us,  
that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways,  
to the glory of your name. Amen.**

Celebrant Almighty God have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness and keep you in eternal life; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**People Amen.**

## **THE PEACE**

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

**People And also with you.**

## THE CELEBRATION OF THE EUCHARIST

### PREPARATION OF THE GIFTS

#### PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS

Celebrant Source of light and gladness, accept all we offer on this joyful feast. May we grow up in him who unites our lives to yours; for he is Lord now and for ever.

**All Amen.**

### THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

#### Eucharistic Prayer #3

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

**People And also with you.**

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

**People We lift them to the Lord.**

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**People It is right to give our 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 mystery of his incarnation was made perfect man of the flesh of the Virgin Mary his mother; in him we have seen 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.

**All Holy, holy, holy Lord,  
God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

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,

**All 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.

Celebrant 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.

All **Amen.**

#### **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

Celebrant And now, as our Saviour Christ has taught us, we are bold to pray,  
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.**

#### **BREAKING OF THE BREAD**

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.**

## INVITATION

Celebrant The gifts of God for the People of God.

**People Thanks be to God.**

## THE COMMUNION

The body of Christ, the bread of heaven.

The blood of Christ, the cup of salvation.

**Amen.**

Communion Hymns	In the Bleak Midwinter	#122
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	Silent Night	#119
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*All stand*

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Celebrant Father of all, tonight you have united earth and heaven in sending your Son to take our human nature. May we who have tasted heavenly things share in the life of his eternal kingdom. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.

**All Amen.**

## THE DOXOLOGY

Celebrant Glory to God,

**All 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 SOLEMN 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 heart with the light of his holiness. **Amen.**

Celebrant May God, who sent his angels to proclaim the glad news of the Savior's birth, fill you with joy, and make you heralds of the Gospel. **Amen.**

Celebrant May God, who in the Word made flesh joined heaven to earth and earth to heaven, give you his peace and favor. **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. **Amen.**

### **THE DISMISSAL**

Leader Go in peace, rejoicing in the birth of the Christ Child.

**All Thanks be to God.**

**Recessional Hymn                      It Came Upon a Midnight Clear                      #140**

Voluntary                                      Joseph est bien Marie                                      Claude Balbastre

If you would like to place flowers or light the Aumbry Candle, in memory or in thanksgiving of a loved one, please contact Sheila Eisler at 519.304.1110, or email her at [sheila.eisler@gmail.com](mailto:sheila.eisler@gmail.com).

Alternately, if you would like to make a donation to the Window Restoration project in memory of or in thanksgiving for a loved one, please email [admin@graceanglicanbrantford.ca](mailto:admin@graceanglicanbrantford.ca)

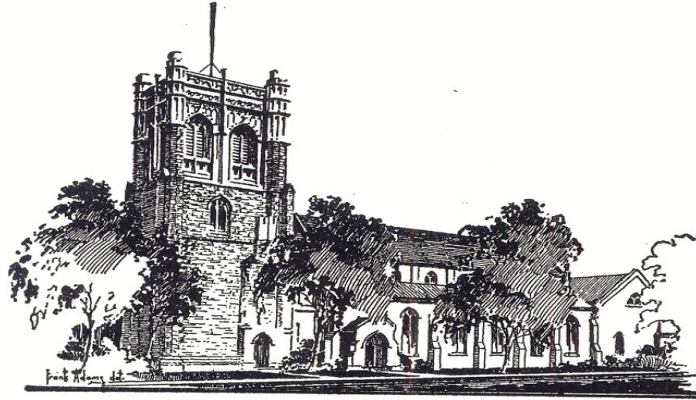
### **PREPARING FOR DECEMBER 26 (FEAST OF ST. STEPHEN)**

Jeremiah 26:1-9, 12-15; Psalm 31:1-7, 16;  
Acts 6:8-7:2a, 51c-60; Matt. 23:34-39

### **UPCOMING SERVICES**

December 26	Feast of St. Stephen BAS Holy Eucharist
January 2	The Epiphany of the Lord, BCP HC
January 9	The Baptism of the Lord, BAS HE

*Welcome to historic Grace Church. Greetings in the name of Christ!  
We are a fully accessible, child friendly community.*



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Clergy: The Rev. Paul E. Silcox, Rector  
The Rev. David Hyatt, Assistant Curate  
The Rev. Alex Morris, Honorary Assistant

Mr. Roger Bayley, Interim Musician  
Mr. Murray Clarke, Musician

People's Wardens: Hilary Bowring, Dorothy DeVille  
Rector's Wardens: Chris Levett, Nicholas Greer

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