

**A Service of Morning Prayer
for December 25, 2021
Christmas Day**



Madonna and Child Print by Il Sassoferrato 1609 –1685

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. *Luke 2:10–11*

CP 118 O Come All Ye Faithful

1. 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

Refrain

***O come let us adore Him
O come let us adore Him
O come let us adore Him
Christ the Lord.***

2. God of God, Light of light
Lo He abhors not the virgin's womb
Very God
Begotten not created [***Refrain***]

3. Sing choirs of angels
Sing in exultation
Sing all ye citizens of heaven above
Glory to God In the highest [***Refrain***]

4. See how the shepherds,
Summoned to his cradle,
Leaving their flocks,
Draw nigh with lowly fear
We too will thither
Bend our joyful footsteps [***Refrain***]

5. Yea Lord we greet Thee
Born this happy morning
Jesus to Thee be glory given
Word of the Father
Now in flesh appearing [***Refrain***]

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
And the love of God,
And the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,
Be with you all.

And also with you.

May his grace and peace be with you.
May he fill our hearts with joy.

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.**

Psalm 98 *Refrain:* All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.

98:1 O sing to the LORD a new song, for he has done marvelous things. His right hand and his holy arm have gotten him victory.

98:2 The LORD has made known his victory; he has revealed his vindication in the sight of the nations.

98:3 He has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel. All the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.

98:4 Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth; break forth into joyous song and sing praises.

98:5 Sing praises to the LORD with the lyre, with the lyre and the sound of melody.

98:6 With trumpets and the sound of the horn make a joyful noise before the King, the LORD.

98:7 Let the sea roar, and all that fills it; the world and those who live in it.

98:8 Let the floods clap their hands; let the hills sing together for joy

98:9 at the presence of the LORD, for he is coming to judge the earth. He will judge the world with righteousness, and the peoples with equity.

A Reading from Isaiah 52:7-10

52:7 How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of the messenger who announces peace, who brings good news, who announces salvation, who says to Zion, "Your God reigns."

52:8 Listen! Your sentinels lift up their voices, together they sing for joy; for in plain sight they see the return of the LORD to Zion.

52:9 Break forth together into singing, you ruins of Jerusalem; for the LORD has comforted his people, he has redeemed Jerusalem.

52:10 The LORD has bared his holy arm before the eyes of all the nations; and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

CP 153 Good Christians All, Rejoice!

1. Good Christians all, rejoice
with heart and soul and voice!
Listen now to what we say:
Jesus Christ is born today;
ox and ass before him bow,
and he is in the manger now.
Christ is born today;
Christ is born today!

2. Good Christians all, rejoice
with heart and soul and voice!
Hear the news of endless bliss:
Jesus Christ was born for this;
he has opened heaven's door
and we are blessed for evermore!
Christ is born today;
Christ is born today!

3. Good Christians all, rejoice
with heart and soul and voice!
Now you need not fear the grave;
Jesus Christ was born to save:
come at his most gracious call
to find salvation, one and all!
Christ was born to save;
Christ was born to save!

A Reading from Hebrews 1:1-4, (5-12)

1:1 Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets,
1:2 but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, through whom he also created the worlds.

1:3 He is the reflection of God's glory and the exact imprint of God's very being, and he sustains all things by his powerful word. When he had made purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high,

1:4 having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs.

1:5 For to which of the angels did God ever say, "You are my Son; today I have begotten you"? Or again, "I will be his Father, and he will be my Son"?

1:6 And again, when he brings the firstborn into the world, he says, "Let all God's angels worship him."

1:7 Of the angels he says, "He makes his angels winds, and his servants flames of fire."

1:8 But of the Son he says, "Your throne, O God, is forever and ever, and the righteous scepter is the scepter of your kingdom.

1:9 You have loved righteousness and hated wickedness; therefore God, your God, has anointed you with the oil of gladness beyond your companions."

1:10 And, "In the beginning, Lord, you founded the earth, and the heavens are the work of your hands;

1:11 they will perish, but you remain; they will all wear out like clothing;

1:12 like a cloak you will roll them up, and like clothing they will be changed. But you are the same, and your years will never end."

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

CP 143 Angels From The Realms Of Glory

1. Angels from the realms of glory
Wing your flight o'er all the earth
You who sang creation's story
Now proclaim Messiah's birth:

Refrain

***Come and worship, come and worship,
Worship Christ, the newborn King.***

2. Shepherds in the field abiding
Watching o'er your flocks by night
God with us is now residing
Yonder shines the infant light: ***[Refrain]***

3. Sages leave your contemplations
Brighter visions beam afar
Seek the great Desire of nations
You have seen His natal star: ***[Refrain]***

4. Saints before the altar bending
Watching long in hope and fear
Suddenly the Lord descending
In His temple shall appear: ***[Refrain]***

5. Though an infant now we view him,
He shall fill the eternal throne
Gather all the nations to him
Every knee shall then bow down: ***[Refrain]***

The Gospel

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John
Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

John 1:1-14

1:1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

1:2 He was in the beginning with God.

1:3 All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being.
What has come into being

1:4 in him was life, and the life was the light of all people.

1:5 The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

1:6 There was a man sent from God, whose name was John.

1:7 He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him.

1:8 He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light.

1:9 The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

1:10 He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him.

1:11 He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him.

1:12 But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God,

1:13 who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

1:14 And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

The Gospel of Christ

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Sermon by the Rev. Heather Liddell

CCLI 7023299 Light Of The World

1. The world waits for a miracle
 The heart longs for a little bit of hope
 O come O come Emmanuel
 A child prays for peace on earth
 And she's calling out from a sea of hurt
 O come O come Emmanuel
 And can you hear the angels singing

Chorus 1

***Glory to the Light of the world
 Glory the Light of the world is here***

2. The drought breaks with the tears of a
 mother
 A baby's cry is the sound of love come down
 Come down Emmanuel oh
 He is the song for the suffering
 He is Messiah the Prince of peace has come
 He has come Emmanuel oh

Chorus 2

Glory to the light of the world (3 more times)

Bridge

For all who wait for all who hunger
 For all who've prayed for all who wonder
 Behold your King behold Messiah
 Emmanuel Emmanuel

Chorus 3

***Glory to the light of the world (2 more times)
 Behold your King behold Messiah
 Emmanuel Emmanuel***

Ending

The world waits for a miracle
 The heart longs for a little bit of hope
 O come O come Emmanuel

Affirmation of Faith (The Apostles' Creed)

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
 creator of heaven and earth.
 I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
 He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
 and born of the Virgin Mary.
 He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
 was crucified, died, and was buried.
 He descended to the dead.
 On the third day he rose again.
 He ascended into heaven.
 and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
 He will come again
 to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
 the holy catholic Church,
 the communion of saints,
 the forgiveness of sins,
 the resurrection of the body,
 and the life everlasting. Amen.**

Prayers of the People compiled and led by the Rev. Alison Westervelt

Confident in the word made flesh and dwelling among us, let us bring to our loving God the petitions of our hearts this Christmas Day saying Lord, in your mercy, Hear our prayer

Hear our prayer

For the church throughout the world, especially those in positions of leadership and authority:

- for St. Matthew, Viking and the Interim Ministry.
- for the Buyé Diocese and the Rusengo Parish: Sylvere Ndururutse, Rector.
- for the people of the Louis Bull Tribe.

For the church gathered here in Edmonton and in our own parish of St. Peter's:

- for our Bishop Steve and all at the Diocesan office
- for Heather and Alison, our clergy, and our music ministry with Nadine, for all readers, prayer leaders, and all who make it possible to bring our worship services to our community both online and in person

That our worship of the word made flesh might take on flesh in our living the gospel message, Lord in your mercy,

Hear our prayer

For all refugees, and for the victims of war, for those of us who are victims of violence and injustice, that we may all know the power of the newborn Saviour, Lord in your mercy,

Hear our prayer

For all of us in any need; for all who dwell in the darkness of ignorance and disease, of poverty and homelessness, of division and hate, that the light of Christ might work its wonders this day, this season, and always, Lord in your mercy,

Hear our prayer

For the sick and the dying among us, for those who care for them and sit with them, for your healing touch for Sandra... Merle..... Mona.....Lois Ward..... Ray and Mary..... Irene Kathryn..... Helen..... Jenifer..... Judy..... Tony and Mary Jean..... Luisa..... Lois Davis..... Stacey..... Marguerite..... Evelyn..... Miranda..... Iain.....Diane and Bill..... Maxime.....Barry Westervelt..... Geraldine.... Florence..... Joan..... Kathleen..... baby Emelia..... Jerry

That each might be embraced by your loving presence, know the salvation of our God, and be blessed by the Prince of Peace, Lord in your mercy,

Hear our prayer

All loving and gracious God, we thank you for taking flesh among us in the Lord Jesus Christ. Trusting in a power far beyond ourselves, trusting in your enduring love, we have offered our petitions. May you hear and answer them in that same Love, who is Jesus, your Son and our Lord, this Christmas Day and forever. Amen.

Collect

Almighty God,
 you wonderfully created
 and yet more wonderfully restored our human nature.
 May we share the divine life of your Son Jesus Christ,
 who humbled himself to share our humanity,
 and now lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
 one God, now and for ever. Amen.

And now, as our Saviour Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

**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.**

CP 154 Joy To The World

1. Joy to the world the Lord is come
 Let earth receive her King
 Let ev'ry heart prepare Him room
 And heav'n and nature sing
 And heav'n and nature sing
 And heav'n and heav'n and nature sing

2. Joy to the earth the Savior reigns
 Let men their songs employ
 While fields and floods
 Rocks hills and plains
 Repeat the sounding joy
 Repeat the sounding joy
 Repeat repeat the sounding joy

3. No more let sins and sorrows grow
 Nor thorns infest the ground
 He comes to make His blessings flow
 Far as the curse is found
 Far as the curse is found
 Far as far as the curse is found

4. He rules the world with truth and grace
 And makes the nations prove
 The glories of His righteousness
 And wonders of His love
 And wonders of His love
 And wonders wonders of His love.

The Dismissal

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. *Luke 2:10-11*

Let us bless the Lord
Thanks be to God.

May the God of peace enable us to do His will in every kind of goodness
working in us what pleases Him, through Jesus Christ, to whom be the glory
for ever and ever, Amen.

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
Thanks be to God.