

**A Service of Morning Prayer
January 1, 2023
The Naming of Jesus p.277**



Shepherds visit Christ at His Birth
www.churchofjesuschrist.org

God spoke of old by the prophets; but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son.
Hebrews 1:1–2

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 8 *Refrain* May God give us his blessing.

8:1 O LORD, our Sovereign, how majestic is your name in all the earth! You have set your glory above the heavens.
 8:2 Out of the mouths of babes and infants you have founded a bulwark because of your foes, to silence the enemy and the avenger.
 8:3 When I look at your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars that you have established;
 8:4 what are human beings that you are mindful of them, mortals that you care for them?
 8:5 Yet you have made them a little lower than God, and crowned them with glory and honor.
 8:6 You have given them dominion over the works of your hands; you have put all things under their feet,
 8:7 all sheep and oxen, and also the beasts of the field,
 8:8 the birds of the air, and the fish of the sea, whatever passes along the paths of the seas.
 8:9 O LORD, our Sovereign, how majestic is your name in all the earth!

A Reading from Numbers 6:22-27

6:22 The LORD spoke to Moses, saying:
 6:23 Speak to Aaron and his sons, saying, Thus you shall bless the Israelites: You shall say to them,
 6:24 The LORD bless you and keep you;
 6:25 the LORD make his face to shine upon you, and be gracious to you;
 6:26 the LORD lift up his countenance upon you, and give you peace.
 6:27 So they shall put my name on the Israelites, and I will bless them.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

A Reading from Galatians 4:4-7

4:4 But when the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law,
 4:5 in order to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as children.
 4:6 And because you are children, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!"
 4:7 So you are no longer a slave but a child, and if a child then also an heir, through God.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The Gospel

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke

Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Luke 2:15-21

2:15 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."

2:16 So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger.

2:17 When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child;

2:18 and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them.

2:19 But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart.

2:20 The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

2:21 After eight days had passed, it was time to circumcise the child; and he was called Jesus, the name given by the angel before he was conceived in the womb.

The Gospel of Christ

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Sermon by the Rev. Alison WesterveltAffirmation 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 Betty Johnson

For our intercessions today we will use Litany 13 found on page 120 of the Book of Alternative Services. (the green book)

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

In the World cycle on prayer, we pray for La Iglesia Anglicana de Mexico.

In Canada we pray for the Diocese of Moosonee: The Most Rev. Anne Germond, Archbishop (Metropolitan of the Ecclesiastical Province of Ontario); the Most Rev. Fred Hiltz, Assisting Bishop.

In our Diocese of Edmonton, we pray for the retired clergy: Michael Lawson; Joyce Mellor; Elizabeth Metcalfe; Charles Mortimer; Ann Marie Nicklin; Helen Northcott; Susan Ormsbee; William Patterson; Bob Peel; Jim Plambeck; David Prowse; Paul Robinson.

In the Diocese of Buyé, we pray for the Synod Office: Simion Kinono, Christian Education Coordinator and Bible College Director; Nehemie Mbonyimpano, Diocesan Typist; Amos Mutezimana, Evangelism Officer; Noel Ntamavukiro, Gender-Based Violence and Peace and Reconciliation Officer.

We pray for the people of the Paul First Nation.

We pray for those for whom our prayers are requested: Sandra... Merle..... Mary..... Irene Kathryn..... Helen..... Jenifer..... Tony and Mary Jean..... Luisa..... Miranda..... Bill..... Maxime..... Geraldine.... Florence..... Joan..... Shirley and Cyril..... Mark and Blake..... Lisa..... Marijke..... Chrissie, Cathy, and the family..... Diane..... Janelle..... Rosemary..... Wayne.

We pray for the peaceful repose of the souls of those who have died, especially Mona Johnston, and comfort for family and all who mourn.

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

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.

Hasten, O Father, the coming of thy kingdom; and grant that we thy servants, who now live by faith, may with joy behold thy Son at his coming inglorious majesty; even Jesus Christ, our only Mediator and Advocate. **Amen**

Collect

**Eternal Father,
we give thanks for your incarnate Son,
whose name is our salvation.
Plant in every heart, we pray,
the love of him who is the Saviour of the world,
our Lord Jesus Christ;
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, in glory everlasting. 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.**

The Dismissal

God spoke of old by the prophets; but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son.
Hebrews 1:1-2

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.

My dear friends, be swift to love, make haste to be kind,
and go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
Thanks be to God.