

Holy Trinity Anglican Church Metcalfe  
ADVENT 1  
November 27, 2022  
Reverend Michael Fleming

Celebrant: As we enter this most blessed season of Advent, we acknowledge that our parish sits on the unceded territory of the Anishinaabe Algonquins.

People: **May we continue to journey towards reconciliation through mutual honouring and respect.**

ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING – ADVENT 1

Celebrant: “Prepare the Way of the Lord” Celebrant: “In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth and the earth was formless and void and the Spirit-breath hovered over the waters. And God said, “Let there be light”, and there was light.” Loving God, we thank you for the gift of light and HOPE to a world which finds itself in times of darkness. You offer HOPE to those who seek your love and your life. Make us hope-givers to one another so that your light may shine deeper and deeper into our lives and the world may be a more HOPE-FILLED oasis; we pray this on Advent Sunday in the name of the One who came among us as Emmanuel, your son and our brother Jesus. **Amen**

Celebrant: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

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.**

Celebrant: Holy God, holy and mighty, holy immortal One

People: **Have mercy on us** (repeat three times)

Celebrant: Almighty God, give us grace at this time to cast away the works of darkness and put on the armour of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which your Son Jesus Christ came to us in great humility, that on the last day when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge both the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God now and forever. **Amen.**

Celebrant: God of hope, who brought love into this world, be the love that dwells between us. God of hope, who brought peace into this world, be the peace that dwells between us. God of hope who brought joy into this world, be the joy that dwells between us. God of hope, the rock we stand upon, be the centre and focus of our lives always and especially in this Advent season. **Amen**

Reader: A reading from the prophet Isaiah (Isaiah 2: 1-5) The word that Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem. In days to come the mountain of the Lord's house shall be established as the highest of the mountains, and shall be raised above the hills; all the nations shall stream to it. Many peoples shall come and say, "Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob; that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths." For out of Zion shall go forth instruction, and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem. He shall judge between the nations, and shall arbitrate for many peoples; they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more. O house of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the Lord!

The Word of the Lord

People: **Thanks be to God**

Reader: Our psalm for this day is Psalm 122

I was glad when they said to me, "Let us go to the house of the Lord." Now our feet are standing within your gates, O Jerusalem.

All: **I was glad when they said to me, "Let us go to the house of the Lord."**

Reader: Jerusalem is built as a city that is at unity with itself; To which the tribes go up, the tribes of the Lord, the assembly of Israel, to praise the Name of the Lord.

All: **I was glad when they said to me, "Let us go to the house of the Lord."**

Reader: For there are the thrones of judgement, the thrones of the house of David. Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: "May they prosper who love you.

All: **I was glad when they said to me, "Let us go to the house of the Lord."**

Reader: Peace be within your walls and quietness within your towers. For my brethren and companions' sake, I pray for your prosperity. Because of the house of the Lord our God, I will seek to do you good."

All: **I was glad when they said to me, "Let us go to the house of the Lord."**

Reader: A reading from Paul's first letter to the Thessalonians For what thanksgiving can we return to God for you, for all the joy that we feel for your sake before our God, as we pray most earnestly night and day that we may see you face to face and supply what is lacking in your faith? Now may our God and Father himself, and our Lord Jesus, direct our way to you, and may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, as we do for you, so that he may establish your hearts blameless in holiness before our God and Father, at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints. (I Thessalonians 3: 9-13)

The Word of the Lord

People: **Thanks be to God**

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Celebrant: The Holy Gospel of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ according to the Blessed St. Matthew (St. Matthew 24: 36-44)

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

But about that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. For as the days of Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away, so too will be the coming of the Son of Man.

Then two will be in the field; one will be taken and one will be left. Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken and one will be left. Keep awake therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. But understand this: if the owner of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour. Celebrant: The Gospel of Christ.

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

## Homily

Celebrant: I believe in God the Father Almighty,

People: **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.**

Reader: Heavenly Father, as we once again prepare for Christmas, help us to find time in our busy lives for quiet and thought and prayer, that we may reflect upon the wonder of your love and allow the story of our

Saviour's birth to penetrate our hearts and minds. So may our joy be deeper, our worship more real, and our lives more worthy of all that you have done for us through the coming of our Lord Jesus. Lord, in your mercy,  
People: **hear our prayer and give us hope.**

Reader: We pray this new day for your Church; for the wider Christian family which will be celebrating this Advent time in so many different ways, in so many different languages, in so many differing circumstances yet united in Jesus.

Reader: We pray for your Church under persecution and those unable to gather publicly to say, "Jesus is Lord". We remember in our own diocese, Shane, our Bishop; Anne, our Metropolitan; Linda, our Primate; as well as staff at Ascension House, vocations to the priesthood and for the residents, staff, and chaplains of the Ottawa-Carleton Detention Centre. We pray for our parish at this time, praying for Robin, Richard L., Marjorie, Howard, Irene, Roy, Beth, Sarah, Zachariah, Jeanette and Cheryl. Grant that all who enter this place be enabled to renew their relationship with you. Help us all to be glad of your presence and to rejoice at the coming of Hope. May your grace and love be upon all who gather with us and strengthen us to love and serve you more and more. Lord, in your mercy

People: **hear our prayer and give us hope.**

Reader: We pray this new day for peace in our world. Give peace and hope to all those who are the victims of humankind's inhumanity, for the refugees, the widowed and the orphans. Give us peace in our own families, to those with whom we have quarrelled and lead us to reconciliation. Lord, we know that without justice there is no peace. Let peace flow when all persons are respected, regardless of race, religion or orientation. Let peace come when the trading of weapons of destruction is considered to be a crime. Let peace be when the earth's resources are not exploited but shared among all your creation. Let your peace and hope come through our transformation so that we may DO justice, love and random acts of kindness and walk humbly with you. Lord in your mercy,

People: **Hear our prayer and give us hope.**

Reader: Your Son came as the Prince of Peace and brought a message of hope and peace to all your people. Help us to be peacemakers and hope-givers in our homes, our community, our places of work or wherever we meet people, so that the peace and goodwill of Advent and Christmas can find a dwellingplace in the hearts of us all. Lord, in your mercy,

People: **hear our prayer and give us hope.**

Reader: We pray for the lonely, the homeless and for all refugees who have no land to call home. Let your blessings be upon those who work for their relief and give us the determination to help where and when we can. We pray for those who are lonely because they have lost a partner, a family member, a friend and for those whose loneliness stems from their feeling that no one cares. Remember those who are frozen by the loneliness which COVID has created and hold close to your heart all the front line workers. Lord, in your mercy,

People: **hear our prayer and give us hope.**

Reader: Merciful Father and Author of Hope, accept these our prayers for the sake of your Son Jesus, Emmanuel among us today and always.

People: **Amen** (from re:Worship adapted)

Celebrant: My dear sisters and brother in Christ, God is steadfast in love and infinite in mercy; he welcomes sinner and invites us to his table. Let us confess our sins, confident in God's forgiveness. ..Most merciful God,

People: 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: May the God of peace who raised Jesus from the dead and gave hope and love to a broken world bless us and keep us today and always, in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen**

Celebrant: God of love, hope and power, your Word stirs within us the expectation of the coming of your Son. Accept all that we offer you this day and sustain us with your promise of eternal life. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord. **Amen.**

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: It is indeed right to thank you and praise you, holy and gracious God, creator all things, ruler of the earth, sustainer of life, for you are the source of all goodness, rich in mercy and abounding in love; you are faithful to your people in all generations and your Word endures forever. Therefore, with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven, we glorify your holy name as we say,

People: **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.**

Fr. Michael: We praise you merciful Father, not as we ought but as we are able, because in your tender love you gave the world your only Son in order that the world might be saved through him. He made you known by taking the form of a servant, healing the sick, liberating the oppressed and reaching out to the lost. Betrayed, reviled and nailed to the cross, he confronted the power of sin and disarmed it for ever. In his offering of himself he became the perfect and sufficient sacrifice for the sin of the whole world. Redeemed by Christ, we have been adopted as your children; by your pardon, you have made us worthy to praise you. On the night he was betrayed, Jesus, at supper with his friends, took bread, gave you thanks, broke the bread, gave it to them and said, "Take, eat; this is my Body 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 of the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink this, do this for the remembrance of me." In obedience to him and with grateful hearts, we approach your holy table, remembering our Saviour's sacrifice and rejoicing in his victory. Confident in his sovereign purpose, we declare our faith:

People: **Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.**

Celebrant: Send your Holy Spirit upon us, that we may receive this bread and this wine, we may partake in the body and blood of our Lord Jesus and feed on him in our hearts by faith with thanksgiving. May we be renewed in his risen life, filled with love and strengthened in our will to serve others; and make our lives a pure and holy sacrifice, acceptable to you, knitting us together as one in your Son Jesus Christ, to whom with you and the Holy

Spirit be all honour and glory, now and forever. **Amen.** (Supplementary Eucharistic Prayer 3 Anglican Church of Canada)

Fr. Michael: And now, as our Lord has gifted to his Church we pray,

People: **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.**

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.**

We share the Gifts of God for the people of God.

Celebrant: God for whom we wait, you have fed us with the bread of eternal life. Keep us ever watchful, that we may be ready to stand before the Son of man. We ask this in the name of Christ the Lord. **Amen.**

Celebrant: God of hope, be with us on this our Advent journey to the stable and beyond. Be with us in our meeting and our travelling together; be with us on our Advent journey to the stable and beyond. O God, our

God of hope.

**Amen** (from FaithandWorship)

Our God is the one who comes to us in a burning bush,  
in an angel's song,  
in a newborn child.

Our God is the one who cannot be found locked in the church, nor even the sanctuary.  
Our God will be where God will be, and destruction has no power  
and even death cannot stop  
the living.

Our God will be born  
where God will be born,  
but there is no place to look for the One who comes to us.

When God is ready  
God will come  
even to a godforsaken place like a stable in Bethlehem.

Watch...  
for you know not when  
God comes.

Watch, that you may be found wherever,  
whenever  
God comes.

Ann Weems, "The Coming of God" from *Kneeling in Bethlehem* 1985)

Celebrant: And the God of peace and hope that brought again the living from the dead be with us today and always and the blessing of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit pour upon us and set us free to love this day and always.

All: **Amen**

Worship follows the Holy Eucharist in the Book of Alternative Services.

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