



CHRIST CHURCH, DARTMOUTH

A People United in Justice and Love



Saturday, December 25th, 2021
Christmas Day Service, 10:00am

An inclusive church welcoming everyone.

We are an affirming church, and we offer a warm welcome to people of all walks of life. This is a safe space for everyone as we are all created in the image of God.

We gratefully acknowledge that we are in Mi'kma'ki, the ancestral and unceded territory of the Mi'kmaq people.

Order of Worship

The Service begins on page 67 of *The Book of Common Prayer*

Note: *Please follow along with the liturgy as best you can, directions are included in this worship order.*

Sentence

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

The Greeting

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

And with thy spirit.

Lighting of the Candles

Leader: Today we give thanks for every child among us. Each new birth -- regardless of circumstances -- reminds us of the preciousness of life, the potential of tomorrow, the promise of God.

People: On this Christmas Day, we light the Christ candle for the child-King, the infant-Redeemer, the lowly-Lord. And now we know ... He is born and nothing will ever be the same! (Light all candles.)

The Lord's Prayer and Collect for Purity p. 67

The Summary of the Law p. 69

The Kyrie p. 70

The Christmas 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.

The Proclamation of the Word (The congregation sits for the lessons.
The Psalm is said responsively by verse)

First Reading: Isaiah 52:7-10

Christians see in this passage from Second Isaiah, which directly precedes the Suffering Servant poem appointed for Good Friday, a way to speak about Jesus, whose birth near Jerusalem embodied the reign of God and brought salvation to the world.

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.” 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. Break forth together into singing, you ruins of Jerusalem; for the Lord has comforted his people, he has redeemed Jerusalem. 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.

Psalm 98

The third of the enthronement psalms that Christians sing at Christmas is Psalm 98. Isaiah 52 has proclaimed, “Break forth together into singing,” and we do, singing “a new song of the Lord.” Christ has brought us victory. All lands, trumpets and horns, even rivers and hills are applauding the birth of Christ. Anticipating John 1, we speak of Christ as the holy arm of God.

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.
The Lord has made known his victory; he has revealed his vindication in the sight of the nations.

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.

Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth; break forth into joyous song and sing praises.

Sing praises to the Lord with the lyre, with the lyre and the sound of melody.

With trumpets and the sound of the horn make a joyful noise before the King, the Lord.

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

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

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.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be. Now and forever. Amen.

Second Reading: Hebrews 1:1-4

The beautifully written introduction to Hebrews offers worshipers yet more profound language with which to picture the meaning of Jesus Christ. The Son of God, he was with God at the creation of the world; on earth he was the powerful divine word; and now he reigns with God over all things. At Christmas we praise Christ, not only an infant, but indeed the very God.

Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets, 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. 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, having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs.

Hymn: I saw three ships come sailing in by William Sandys (1833)

I saw three ships come sailing in On Christmas Day, on Christmas Day.
I saw three ships come sailing in On Christmas Day in the morning.

Pray, wither sailed those ships all three On Christmas Day, on Christmas Day.

Pray, Wither sailed those ships all three On Christmas Day in the morning.

O, they sailed into Bethlehem On Christmas Day, on Christmas Day.
O, they sailed into Bethlehem On Christmas Day in the morning.

And all the bells on Earth shall ring On Christmas Day, on Christmas Day.

And all the bells on Earth shall ring On Christmas Day in the morning.

And all the souls on earth shall sing On Christmas Day, on Christmas Day.

And all the souls on earth shall sing On Christmas Day in the morning.

Then let us all rejoice again, On Christmas Day, on Christmas Day.

Then let us all rejoice again, On Christmas Day in the morning

I saw three ships come sailing in On Christmas Day, on Christmas Day.

I saw three ships come sailing in On Christmas Day in the morning.

Gospel: John 1:1-14

Especially John's gospel guided the church into the mystery of the incarnation: the Jesus whose birth the church celebrates at Christmas is the Word of God, indeed God in the flesh. On Christmas Day the church moves from the beloved narrative of Bethlehem to the central conviction of the Christian faith, that Jesus is God from before the creation of the world. Christmas celebrates God alive in glory and active among humankind. The lectionary appoints Genesis 1, "In the beginning," at Easter, and John 1, "In the beginning," at Christmas.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

The holy gospel is written in the first chapter of the gospel according to St John beginning at the first verse.

Glory be to Thee, O Lord.

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to

become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

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 be to Thee, O Christ.

The Nicene Creed pp. 71-72

Homily: The Rev. Canon David Greenwood

The Prayer of Intercession & Invitation to Confession pp. 75-76

The Confession p. 77

The Absolution & Comfortable Words pp. 77-78

Offertory pp. 72-74

The Thanksgiving pp. 78

The Sanctus and Benedictus p. 81

The Prayer of Consecration & Pax pp. 82-83

The Prayer of Humble Access pp. 83-84

The Agnus Dei p. 84

Holy Communion

The Lord's Prayer p. 85

The Prayer of Thanksgiving pp. 85-86

The Gloria in Excelsis p. 86

The Blessing p. 86

Hymn of Sending: Joy to the World CP 154

The Dismissal

Directory of Parish Officers

Rector

The Rev. Dr. Kyle Wagner, BA, MDiv,
DMin

Pastoral Visitor

The Rev. Bonnie Baird, BJ, MDiv

Parish Administrator

John Gallant, BA

Music Leadership

Tessa Short, Joey Dowell, John
MacDonald

Sexton

Mark Murphy

Honorary Assistants

The Rev. Canon Dr. Jody Clarke.
BA, MDiv, DMin
(*Theologian in Residence*)
The. Rev. Canon David Greenwood,
BBA, MDiv, MA Th, STL

Lay Reader

Vanessa Turner

Wardens

Steve Smith, Don Murray, Cathy
Connors

Altar Guild

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Chair of Finance

John MacDonald

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