



ST. LUKE'S ANGLICAN CHURCH, PALERMO

Christmas Day

December 25, 2021 ♦ 10:30 am



The Reverend Garfield Wu – Presider & Preacher

Welcome to St. Luke's!

We are glad to be able to worship with you. Our service will look a little different than usual week as we take precautions to prevent the spread of COVID-19. Though this time may bring challenges, we know that nothing can separate us from the love of God.

None of us comes to church by accident. No matter what joys, burdens, or problems you bring with you this day, we pray that God's grace will touch you and fill you with the hope and commitment to live your life with peace, courage, compassion, and love.



THE PROCESSION

Processional Hymn

O Come All Ye Faithful – CP #118 (v.1-3, 5)

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 exaltation,
sing, all ye citizens of heaven above,
Glory to God
in the highest;

REFRAIN

5. Yea, Lord we greet thee,
Born this happy morning,
Jesu, to thee be glory given;
Word of the Father,
now in flesh appearing:

REFRAIN

Greeting

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

All: **And also with you.**

Collect for Purity

Celebrant: Almighty God,

All: **to whom 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.**

Glory to God

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.**

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Celebrant: We have waited for the coming of Christ, the light of the world.

All: **Come Lord Jesus.**

The Christ candle is lit, followed by this response:

Celebrant: The true light, which enlightens everyone, is coming into the world.

All: **Come Lord Jesus.**

Celebrant: The light shines in the darkness and the darkness will not overcome it.

All: **Christ, shine in your church today.**

Collect of the Day

O God our Father, whose Word has come among us in the Holy Child of Bethlehem, may the light of faith illumine our hearts and shine in our words and deeds; through him who is Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

A Reading from the Book of Isaiah:

Isaiah 52:7-10

How beautiful on the mountains
are the feet of those who bring good news,
who proclaim peace,
who bring good tidings,
who proclaim salvation,

who say to Zion,
 “Your God reigns!”
Listen! Your watchmen lift up their voices;
 together they shout for joy.
When the Lord returns to Zion,
 they will see it with their own eyes.
Burst into songs of joy together,
 you ruins of Jerusalem,
for the Lord has comforted his people,
 he has redeemed Jerusalem.
The Lord will lay bare his holy arm
 in the sight of all the nations,
and all the ends of the earth will see
 the salvation of our God.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Gradual Hymn

O Little Town of Bethlehem – CP #121

1. O little town of Bethlehem,
 how still we see thee lie!
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep
 the silent stars go by;
yet in thy dark streets shineth
 the everlasting light;
the hope and fears of all the years
 are met in thee tonight.
2. For Christ is born of Mary;
 and, gathered all above,
while mortals sleep, the angels keep
 their watch of wondering love.

O morning stars, together
proclaim the holy birth,
and praises sing to God the King,
and peace to all the earth.

3. How silently, how silently
the wondrous gift is given
as love imparts to human hearts
the blessings of God's heaven!
No ear may hear his coming;
but in this world of sin,
where meek souls will receive him, still
the dear Christ enters in.

The Gospel

John 1:1-14

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.

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning. Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. In him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

There was a man sent from God whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify concerning that light, so that through him all might believe. He himself was not the light; he came only as a witness to the light.

The true light that gives light to everyone was coming into the world. He was in the world, and though the world was made through him, the world did not recognize him. He came to that which was his own, but his own did not receive him. Yet to all who did receive him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God— children born not of natural descent, nor of human decision or a husband's will, but born of God.

The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.

The Gospel of Christ.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

4. O holy child of Bethlehem,
descend to us, we pray;
cast out our sin and enter in;
be born in us today.
We hear the Christmas angels
the great glad tidings tell;
O come to us, abide with us,
our Lord Emmanuel.

The Sermon

By the Rev. Garfield Wu

The Apostle's Creed

Celebrant: Let us confess the faith of our baptism as we say,

All: **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.

The Prayers of the People **Litany #13 (from BAS p. 120)**

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

All: **Lord, grant us peace.**

Celebrant: By the mystery of the Word made flesh, hear us, O Lord.

All: **Lord, grant us peace.**

Celebrant: By the birth in time of the timeless Son of God, hear us, O Lord.

All: **Lord, grant us peace.**

Celebrant: By the manifestation of the King of glory to the shepherds and magi, hear us, O Lord.

All: **Lord, grant us peace.**

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

All: **Lord, grant us peace.**

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

All: **Lord, grant us peace.**

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

All: **Lord, grant us peace.**

Family Cycle of Prayer:

Richard & Paula Scott, Margie & Bob Simms, Stephen & Natasha Skolny, Jo Stadnyk, Nicole & Kevin Stevenson, Judy & Robert Szucs, and their families.

In the Diocese of Niagara:

St. Saviour, The Brock Memorial Church, Queenston; the Rev. Janet Cashin, Priest in Charge; and the people of that parish.

Let us take a moment to say the names of those we know to be in need, or allow those things are weighing heavy on our hearts this day to come before the Lord. [...]

So, we commend ourselves and all for whom we pray to the mercy and protection of our heavenly Father. **Amen.**

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.

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.

All: Amen.

The Peace

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

THE CELEBRATION OF THE EUCHARIST

Preparation of the Gifts

Offertory Hymn

What Child is This? – CP #137

1. What child is this, who laid to rest,
on Mary's lap is sleeping?
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet,

while shepherds watch are keeping?

REFRAIN

This, this is Christ the king,
whom shepherds guard and angels sing;
haste, haste to bring him laud,
the babe, the son of Mary.

2. Why lies he in such mean estate
where ox and ass are feeding?
Good Christian, fear: for sinners here
the silent Word is pleading.

REFRAIN

3. So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh;
come, peasant, king, to own him.
The King of kings salvation brings;
let loving hearts enthrone him.

REFRAIN

The Prayer over the Gifts

Generous Creator, in faith and joy we celebrate the birth of your Son. Increase our understanding and our love of the riches you have revealed in him, who is Lord now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Great Thanksgiving (Eucharistic Prayer #3)

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts,

All: **We lift them to the Lord.**

Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: **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.”

All: Therefore, Father, according to his command,
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.

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 say:

All: **Our Father in Heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in Heaven.
Give us today our daily bread,
Forgive us our sins,
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial
but deliver us from evil,
for the Kingdom, the Power,
and the Glory are yours,
now and for ever. Amen.**

The 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.**

The Communion

Celebrant: The gifts of God for the people of God.

All: **Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

Invitation to Spiritual Communion

Celebrant: Dear friends, I invite you in this moment, wherever you may be, to receive Christ, in communion with the saints, and the gathering of God's people, unseen and yet present with us now. Many are made one.

The following prayer is said by all, during this prayer the elements may be elevated, in offering to the people.

Celebrant: We receive you Lord Jesus Christ,
All: **we welcome your presence in us, and together proclaim our love for you; with our hearts, minds, our souls and our strength, with the saints we worship you, with the angels we adore you, with your whole Church we proclaim your reign. Come to us, though many, and make us one in you. Amen.**

The Eucharist

A time of silence is kept to allow people to make their act of spiritual communion. Following this silence, the people physically present receive communion in one kind by taking the bread from the paten while the chalice remains covered upon the Altar. Finally, the celebrant reverently consumes the wine.

The following prayer may be used by those making spiritual communion from afar.

Holy Jesus we receive you in this moment, giving you thanks and praise that you make yourself present to all your people in the bread and wine of the Eucharist.

Transform our hearts that we may shine as your light in dark places;

Where there is hatred, let us sow love;

**Where there is injury, pardon;
Where there is doubt, faith;
Where there is despair, hope;
Where there is darkness, light;
Where there is sadness, joy.
And this all, in love for you. Amen.**

Violin Solo: Performed by Alina Zhang

THE SENDING OF GOD'S PEOPLE

The Prayer after Communion

Source of truth and joy, may we who have received the gift of divine life always follow the way of your Son. This we ask in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord. **Amen.**

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, forever and ever. **Amen.**

Blessing

The Celebrant blesses the people, and all respond,
Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Recessional Hymn

The First Nowell – CP #139 (v. 1, 2, 6)

1. The first nowell the angel did say was to certain
poor shepherds in fields as they lay, in fields where
they lay keeping their sheep on a cold winter's night
that was so deep.

REFRAIN

Nowell, nowell, nowell, nowell,
born is the King of Israel.

2. They look-ed up and saw a star, shining in the east,
beyond them far; and to the earth it gave great light,
and so it continued both day and night.

REFRAIN

6. Then let us all with one accord sing praises to our
heavenly Lord, who has made heaven and earth of
nought, and with his blood salvation bought.

REFRAIN

The Dismissal

Let us go out in peace to proclaim the risen Christ!

Thanks be to God. Hallelujah!

Postlude

This liturgy is used with the permission of the Bishop of Niagara.

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**MORNING PRAYER AND BIBLE STUDY
ON Break – Continuing January 5, 2022**

Our Morning Prayer services are taking a break during the Christmas holidays, but we will resume as usual on Wednesday, January 5 at 9:30 am. See you then – have a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Merry Christmas to You and Your Family
from St. Luke's, Palermo!**

Thank you for being with us through the changes and challenges of 2021. Although our worship this Christmas has looked unexpectedly different than we had planned, we pray that your Christmas season will be filled with the hope, peace, joy and love of Jesus, who was born to bring hope and light to the world.



St. Luke's New Year's Charity Concert featuring the Clearview Ensemble Has been POSTPONED

Due to COVID-19 health advisories, the members of Clearview Ensemble have decided to postpone their New Year's Concert to later in the winter. We apologize for this change but look forward to bringing this great event to you later. Watch for updates!

 ST. LUKE'S ANGLICAN
CHURCH, PALERMO

 **2022**
New Year Charity
Concert

CLEARVIEW ENSEMBLE

Shostakovich: Waltz No. 2
Canon in D
Carmen Fantasy
Mozart Violin Concerto No.3
...

7pm, January 1, 2022
3114 Dundas Street West,
Oakville, ON

 clearviewensemble@gmail.com

Health and Safety Protocol:

- Always wear a mask when in the Church.
- Please sanitize your hands as you come into the Church, going up for communion and coming down after communion and when you are leaving the building.
- Please take your bulletin home with you.

If you have any of the following symptoms, please contact your family doctor.

Symptoms of COVID-19 can vary from person to person.

Symptoms may also vary in different age groups. Some of the more commonly reported symptoms include:

- new or worsening cough
- shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- temperature equal to or over 38°C
- feeling feverish
- chills
- fatigue or weakness
- muscle or body aches
- new loss of smell or taste
- headache
- gastrointestinal symptoms (abdominal pain, diarrhea, vomiting)
- feeling very unwell

Children have been more commonly reported to have abdominal symptoms and skin changes or rashes.

In severe cases, the infection can lead to death.

Symptoms may take up to 14 days to appear after exposure to COVID-19.

Evidence indicates that the virus can be transmitted to others from someone who is infected but not showing symptoms. This includes people who:

- have not yet developed symptoms (pre-symptomatic)
- never develop symptoms (asymptomatic)

While experts know that these kinds of transmissions are happening among those in close contact or in close physical settings, it is not known to what extent. This means it is extremely important to follow the proven preventative measures.

For more information, please look online at

<https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/diseases/coronavirus-disease-covid-19.html>

Diocesan Vaccination Policy

The Diocese of Niagara has enacted a policy to increase the protection and safety of their parishioners, clergy, employees, and all whom we serve by reducing the transmission of COVID-19 in our church and office buildings and other ministry spaces.

Effective September 9, 2021, all clergy, licensed lay workers, diocesan staff, liturgical leaders (musicians, readers, servers, wardens, greeters, etc.), youth ministers, those ministering to vulnerable populations, and others in ministry positions will be required to receive at least one dose of vaccine for COVID-19 by September 30, 2021, with the second dose administered no later than October 31, 2021.

Staff and ministry personnel must submit proof of vaccination to Mary Anne Grant at the Diocese of Niagara.

If you volunteer at Nourishing Neighbours or another volunteer position, please submit your proof of vaccination to ***office@stlukepalermo.ca***.

Anyone in a ministry position who is subject to legal exemption from vaccination under the Human Rights Code, must provide reasonable proof of this exemption.

**Thank you for joining us today.
We do hope that you will come again.**

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Duty Warden: Pam Pan

Greeter: Peter Malue