



ST. LUKE'S ANGLICAN CHURCH, PALERMO

The First Sunday after Christmas
December 26, 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

Angels From the Realms of Glory – CP #143 (v. 1, 2, 5)

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 new-born 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

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

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.

Collect of the Day

Almighty God, you have shed upon us the new light of your incarnate Word. May this light, enkindled in our hearts, shine forth in our lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

THE PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

A Reading from the Letter to the Colossians:

Colossians 3:12-17

Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity.

Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful. Let the message of Christ dwell among you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom through psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit, singing to God with gratitude in your hearts. And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gradual Hymn

Infant Holy, Infant Lowly – CP #125

1. Infant holy, infant lowly,
for his bed a cattle stall;
oxen lowing, little knowing
Christ the babe is Lord of all.
Swift are winging angels singing,
nowells ringing, tidings bringing:
Christ the babe is Lord of all,
Christ the babe is Lord of all!

The Gospel

Luke 2:41-52

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.

Every year Jesus' parents went to Jerusalem for the Festival of the Passover. When he was twelve years old, they went up to the festival, according to the custom. After the festival was over, while his parents were returning home, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem, but they were unaware of it. Thinking he was in their company, they traveled on for a day. Then they began looking for him among their relatives and friends. When they did not find him, they went back to Jerusalem to look for him. After three days they found him in the temple courts, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. Everyone who heard him was amazed at his understanding and his

answers. When his parents saw him, they were astonished. His mother said to him, “Son, why have you treated us like this? Your father and I have been anxiously searching for you.”

“Why were you searching for me?” he asked. “Didn’t you know I had to be in my Father’s house?” But they did not understand what he was saying to them.

Then he went down to Nazareth with them and was obedient to them. But his mother treasured all these things in her heart. And Jesus grew in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and man.

The Gospel of Christ.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

2. Flocks were sleeping, shepherds keeping
vigil till the morning new
saw the glory, heard the story,
tidings of a gospel true.
Thus rejoicing, free from sorrow,
praises voicing greet tomorrow:
Christ the babe was born for you,
Christ the babe was born for you!

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:

Amy Tibble & Richard Barreiro, Doris & James Uduji, Bill Van Mol, Wang Chenggang & Cheng Ying, Jean Watson, David & Marie Williams, and their families.

In the Diocese of Niagara:

St. James and St. Brendan's, Port Colborne; the Rev. Jody Balint, Rector; 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

While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks – CP #136 (v.1-4, 6)

1. While shepherds watched their flocks by night
all seated on the ground,
the angel of the Lord came down
and glory shone around.

2. “Fear not,” said he, for mighty dread
had seized their troubled mind.
“Glad tidings of great joy I bring
to you and humankind.
3. To you in David’s town this day
is born of David’s line
a Saviour, who is Christ the Lord;
and this shall be the sign:
4. The heavenly babe you there shall find
to human view displayed,
all meanly wrapped in swaddling bands,
and in a manger laid.”
6. “All glory be to God on high,
and to the world be peace;
good will henceforth from heaven to earth
begin, and never cease.”

The Prayer over the Gifts

Source of light and gladness, accept all we offer on this joyful feast. May we grow up in him who unites our lives to yours; for he is Lord now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Great Thanksgiving (Eucharistic Prayer #4)

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: It is right to give you thanks and praise, O Lord, our God, sustainer of the universe, you are worthy of glory and praise.

All: **Glory to you for ever and ever.**

Celebrant: At your command all things came to be: the vast expanse of interstellar space, galaxies, suns, the planets in their courses, and this fragile earth, our island home; by your will they were created and have their being.

All: **Glory to you for ever and ever.**

Celebrant: From the primal elements you brought forth the human race, and blessed us with memory, reason, and skill; you made us the stewards of creation.

All: **Glory to you for ever and ever.**

Celebrant: But we turn against you, and betray your trust; and we turn against one another. Again and again you call us to return. Through the prophets and sages you reveal your righteous law. In the fullness of time you sent your Son, born of a woman, to be our Saviour. He was wounded for our transgressions, and bruised for our

iniquities. By his death he opened to us the way of freedom and peace.

All: Glory to you for ever and ever.

Celebrant: Therefore we praise you, joining with the heavenly chorus, with prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with those in every generation who have looked to you in hope, to proclaim with them your glory, in their unending hymn:

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: Blessed are you, Lord our God, for sending us Jesus, the Christ, who on the night he was handed over to suffering and death, took bread, said the blessing, broke the bread, gave it to his friends, and said, “Take this, and eat it: this is my body which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.”

In the same way, after supper, he took the cup of wine; he gave you thanks, 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: **Glory to you for ever and ever.**

Celebrant: Gracious God, we recall the death of your Son Jesus Christ, we proclaim his resurrection and ascension, and we look with expectation for his coming as Lord of all the nations. We who have been redeemed by him, and made a new people by water and the Spirit, now bring you these gifts. Send your Holy Spirit upon us and upon this offering of your Church, that we who eat and drink at this holy table may share the divine life of Christ our Lord.

All: **Glory to you for ever and ever.**

Celebrant: Pour out your Spirit upon the whole earth and make it your new creation. Gather your Church together from the ends of the earth into your kingdom, where peace and justice are revealed, that we, with all your people, of every language, race, and nation, may share the banquet you have promised; through Christ, with Christ, and in Christ, all honour and glory are yours, creator of all.

All: **Glory to you for ever and ever. 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.

Eucharist Music: Performed by Merrick Wang

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

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing – CP #138

1. Hark! The herald angels sing,
glory to the new-born King,
Peace on earth, and mercy mild,
God and sinners reconciled.
Joyful, all ye nations, rise,
join the triumph of the skies;
With the angelic host proclaim,
'Christ is born in Bethlehem.'

REFRAIN

Hark! The herald angels sing
Glory to the new-born King.

2. Christ, by highest heaven adored,
Christ, the everlasting Lord,
late in time behold him come,
offspring of a Virgin's womb.
Veiled in flesh the God head see!
Hail, the Incarnated Deity!
Pleased as man with man to dwell,
Jesus, our Emmanuel.

REFRAIN

Hark! The herald angels sing
Glory to the new-born King.

3. Hail, the heaven-born prince of peace!
Hail, the Son of righteousness!
Light and life to all he brings,
risen with healing in his wings.
Mild he lays his glory by,
born that we no more may die,
born to raise each child of earth,
born to give us second birth.
Hark! The herald and sing.

REFRAIN

The Dismissal

Let us go out in peace to proclaim the risen Christ!
Thanks be to God. Hallelujah!

Postlude

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READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY
Isaiah 60:1-6; Matthew 2:1-12

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 Happy New Year 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!



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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