

Virtual Worship from St. Paul's Anglican Cathedral, Kamloops BC

Sunday, January 3, 2021 – Second Sunday of Christmas

The Dean and Melissa Green officiate today. The Dean leads music with other video contributions.

Our service today originates from the traditional territory of the Tk'emlúps te Secwepemc – Kamloops & Area First Nation. We acknowledge their care for and working of the land prior to contact with Europeans. As Canadian Anglicans, we continue to work toward healing and reconciliation and a new experience of sharing the land together.

Flowers on the altar today are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of her mom, Helen Steenson; Dad, Gordon Steenson, and brother Jamie Steenson by Tricia Steenson (whose art greeted us today as we gathered online. May they Rest in Peace with all the Saints in God's Heavenly Kingdom.

Music is played as we gather by Gail Ovington

INTROIT I wonder as I wander Video Alison Rustand

OPENING WORDS / CALL TO WORSHIP Melissa Green

Sing praise to God, who gathers us here;
from the ends of the earth we come.
With a word of promise, a spring of water,
a loaf of bread, and a cup of wine,
God turns our mourning into dancing,
our sorrow into joy.

CALL TO CONFESSION

The gift of God's grace is lavished upon us
poured out like water
through the life and death of the risen Lord.
Trusting in the love and goodness of God,
let us confess our sin.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Holy God, you have given us everything;
we have failed to respond with gratitude.**

**In Jesus Christ, you have given us your Word;
we answer with empty promises and lies.**

**In Jesus Christ, you have given us your light;
we try to hide ourselves from your glory.**

**In Jesus Christ, you have given us your life;
even this precious gift we have not received.
Have mercy on us, O God; forgive us.**

**In Jesus Christ, give us the faith and power
to become what you created us to be:
beloved children, full of grace and truth. Amen.**

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

This is God's promise,
the sign and seal of your redemption:
You have been called by God,
claimed in Christ,
set free through the Spirit.
Believe this good news:
In Jesus Christ you are forgiven.
Thanks be to God. **Let it be so. Amen. +**

HYMN CP 385

Dean Ken

Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness;
bow down in reverence, God's glory proclaim;
gold of obedience and incense of lowliness
bring now, adoring the Lord's holy name.

Low at his feet lay thy burden of carefulness;
high on his heart Jesus bears it for thee,
comforts thy sorrows and answers thy prayerfulness,
guiding thy steps as may best for thee be.

Fear not to enter God's courts in the slenderness
of the poor wealth thou wouldst reckon as thine;
truth in its beauty and love in its tenderness:
these are the offerings to lay on his shrine.

These, though we bring them in trembling and fearfulness,
God will accept for the name that is dear;

mornings of joy give for evenings of tearfulness,
trust for our trembling and hope for our fear.

Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness;
bow down in reverence, God's glory proclaim;
gold of obedience and incense of lowliness
bring now, adoring the Lord's holy name. PD

COLLECT

God of power and life,
the glory of all who believe in you,
fill the world with your splendour
and show the nations the light of your truth;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

A READING FROM THE BOOK OF SIRACH

Wisdom praises herself, and tells of her glory in the midst of her people. In the assembly of the Most High she opens her mouth, and in the presence of his hosts she tells of her glory: "I came forth from the mouth of the Most High, and covered the earth like a mist. I dwelt in the highest heavens, and my throne was in a pillar of cloud.

Alone I compassed the vault of heaven and traversed the depths of the abyss. Over waves of the sea, over all the earth, and over every people and nation I have held sway. Among all these I sought a resting place; in whose territory should I abide?

Then the Creator of all things gave me a command, and my Creator chose the place for my tent. He said, 'Make your dwelling in Jacob, and in Israel receive your inheritance.' Before the ages, in the beginning, he created me, and for all the ages I shall not cease to be. In the holy tent I ministered before him, and so I was established in Zion.

Thus in the beloved city he gave me a resting place, and in Jerusalem was my domain. I took root in an honoured people, in the portion of the Lord, his heritage." SIRACH 24:1-12

Hear what the Spirit says to all people **Thanks be to God**

A READING FROM THE LETTER OF PAUL TO THE EPHESIANS

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, just as he chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love. He destined us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will, to the praise of his glorious grace that he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved. In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace that he lavished on us.

With all wisdom and insight he has made known to us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure that he set forth in Christ, as a plan for the fullness of time, to gather up all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth. In Christ we have also obtained an inheritance, having been destined according to the purpose of him who accomplishes all things according to his counsel and will, so that we, who were the first to set our hope on Christ, might live for the praise of his glory. In him you also, when you had heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and had believed in him, were marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit; this is the pledge of our inheritance toward redemption as God's own people, to the praise of his glory. EPHESIANS 1:3-14

Hear what the Spirit says to all people **Thanks be to God**

HYMN VU 87

CHORUS: I am the Light of the World
 You people come and follow me.
 If you follow and love, You'll learn the mystery
 Of what you were meant to do and be.

1. When the song of the angels is stilled.
When the star in the sky is gone.
When the kings and the shepherds have found their way home.
The work of Christmas is begun!

2. To find the lost and lonely one,
To heal that broken soul with love,
To feed the hungry children with warmth and good food,
To feel the earth below the sky above!

3. To free the prisoner from all chains,
To make the powerful care,
To rebuild the nations with strength and goodwill,
To see God's children everywhere.

4. To bring hope to every task you do,
To dance at a baby's new birth,
To make music in an old person's heart,
And sing to the colors of the earth!

Jim Stratthdee; used with permission through One License A-605242

THE HOLY GOSPEL OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST ACCORDING TO JOHN

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 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. (John testified to him and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks ahead of me because he was before me.'") From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. No one has ever seen God. It is God the only Son, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known. JOHN 1:(1-9) 10-18

The Gospel of Christ **Praise to You Lord Jesus Christ**

SERMON

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Melissa Green

A time of silence will be kept after each ellipsis . . .

Let us pray to the Lord, saying,
To you, O Lord, we pray: come and save your people.
Hope of the prophets, joy of the people,
source of all life and song of salvation,
to you, O Lord, we pray:
come and save your people.

Remember those who are lost and scattered,
wandering without direction or hope . . .
Gather them up into your flock and fold;
put a new song of praise upon their lips.
To you, O Lord, we pray:
come and save your people.

Remember those who are hungry and thirsty,
languishing because of what they lack . . .
Satisfy their needs through your abundant love;
lead them to springs of water that never fail.
To you, O Lord, we pray:
come and save your people.

Remember those who are sick and suffering,
held in the grip of illness and pain . . .
Set them free from their affliction;
heal them and renew their strength.
To you, O Lord, we pray:
come and save your people.

Remember those who are sad and grieving,
unable to laugh, to dance, to sing . . .
Give them the peace that can never perish
and the joy that can never be taken away.
To you, O Lord, we pray:
come and save your people.

Come and save your people, O Lord,
so that we may rejoice in your goodness
and be radiant in your presence,
singing songs of thanks and praise
to the glory of your holy name. **Amen.**

SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

(St. Teresa of Avila wrote: "When you do not receive communion and you do not attend Mass, you can make a spiritual communion, which is a most beneficial practice; by it, the love of God will be greatly impressed on you.")

Spiritual communion is defined by St. Thomas Aquinas as "an ardent desire to receive Jesus in the Most Holy Sacrament and in loving embracing him as if we had actually received him."

This ancient tradition of spiritual communion is available to all of us when we are not able to receive the bread and wine. After the prayer asking Jesus to come to us spiritually please quietly while music is played)

THE LORD'S PRAYER (*Sung*)

As our Saviour taught us, let us pray,

Dean Ken

**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,
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and for ever. Amen.**

*Setting by Gordon Light; ©St. George's Anglican Church, Edmonton, AB;
Used with permission through One License A-605242*

Agnus Dei

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: **Have mercy upon us.**
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: **Have mercy upon us.**
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: **Grant us your peace.**

The Communion Prayer

Let us pray.

**My dear Jesus, in these times,
I cannot receive you sacramentally as I wish.
Come into my soul now, as you came into your world.**

**Bring healing and peace. Give comfort and joy.
Restore your Church in Love. Strengthen us for service
that when our wanderings end,
we may in courage and confidence
bring your love to the world. Amen.**

Quiet time as Away in a manger is played – Video – Jim Mitchell

CLOSING PRAYERS

Melissa Green

Let us pray.

Gracious God
we thank you for feeding us in this spiritual way
with Jesus Christ.

**May we who follow Christ,
bring life to others;
we, who the spirit lights,
give light to the world.**

**Keep us firm in the hope you have set before us;
so that we and all your children shall be free,
and the whole earth live to praise your name;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Glory to God,
**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
for ever and ever. Amen**

BLESSING

Let your life bear witness to Christ,
the light who has come to the world.

Children of God—chosen, beloved
in Christ every blessing is yours.
Alleluia! Let it be So. Amen.

HYMN MV 209

Refrain Go make a diff'rence.
 We can make a diff'rence.
 Go make a diff'rence in the world.
 Go make a diff'rence.
 We can make a diff'rence.
 Go make a diff'rence in the world.

1 We are the salt of the earth,
called to let the people see
the love of God for you and me.
We are the light of the world,
not to be hidden but be seen.
Go make a diff'rence in the world.

2 We are the hands of Christ
reaching out to those in need,
the face of God for all to see.
We are the spirit of hope;
we are the voice of peace.
Go make a diff'rence in the world.

3 So let your love shine on,
let it shine for all to see.
Go make a diff'rence in the world.
And the sprit of Christ
will be with us as we go.
Go make a diff'rence in the world.

Words and Music: Steve Angrisano and Tom Tomaszek, 1997 Copyright © 1997, Steve Angrisano and Tom Tomaszek. Published by spiritandsong.com®. All rights reserved. used with permission through One License A-605242

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Dean Ken

A Postlude is played by Gail Ovington