



CHRIST CHURCH ANGLICAN

MEAFORD

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Fourth Sunday of Advent -- December 22, 2024, Holy Eucharist, 10:30am

The Rev. Brendon Bedford, Rector
Homilist: John Howard
Lay Reader: Francis Richardson
Organist: Charlie Strimas

Reader: Chris Clark
Cantor: Francis Richardson
Greeter: Garry Minielly



Our Land Acknowledgement

We at Christ Church are gathered together on the territory of the Saugeen Ojibway Nation and commit ourselves to the hard work of reconciliation.

Our Mission Statement

Christ Church is committed to live in a generous and loving spirit in all its relationships.



Our Contacts

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Christ Church office hours are Tues, Wed., Thurs., 9:00am to 2:00pm
Ph: 519-538-1330; office@christchurchanglican.ca

<p>MANY PEOPLE NO LONGER CARRY CASH OR CHEQUES.</p> <p>If you would like to support our mission to love and serve God and all our neighbours, know that you can donate online.</p>	<p>Point your phone's camera at the QR code below and scan.</p> 
 <p>CHRIST CHURCH ANGLICAN MEAFORD</p>	<p>Tax receipts are provided by PayPal Giving Fund upon donation.</p>

Welcome and Announcements

Please stand, as you are able.

INTROIT HYMN O Come, O Come, Emmanuel – Verse 6 CP#89

Cantor: O come, O dayspring from on high
 and cheer us by your drawing nigh;
 disperse the gloomy clouds of night,
 and death's dark shadow put to flight.

All: **Rejoice! Rejoice! Immanuel**
 shall come to you, O Israel.

OPENING SENTENCE

PROCESSIONAL HYMN Once in Royal David's City #123

Gathering of the Community

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

People: **and also with you.**

THE COLLECT FOR PURITY

Presider: 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.

THE TRISAGION

(Sung 3 times, #707 blue hymn book,)

The image shows a musical score for 'The Trisagion'. It consists of two systems of music. Each system has a treble clef staff and a bass clef staff. The key signature is one sharp (F#). The lyrics are: 'Ho - ly God, ho - ly and migh - ty, ho - ly im - mor - tal one, have mer - cy up - on us.' The music is written in a simple, hymn-like style with block chords and a steady rhythm.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Please be seated.

Children's Time / Advent Wreath

Candle 4 – Love / The Blessed Virgin Mary

Presider: Jesus said, “Anyone who does what my Father in heaven wants is my brother or sister or mother.”

People: **I am the servant of the Lord. Let it be to me according to His word.**

The fourth candle is lit.

Presider: Jesus is the light of the world!

People: **A light no darkness can ever put out.**

We sing (tune: CP #325)

All: **Advent candles tell their story as we watch and pray,
longing for the Day of Glory, “Come, Lord, soon,” we say.
Pain and sorrow, tears and sadness, changed for gladness on that
Day.
Mary’s gift beyond all telling, was to give Christ room.
She gave God a human dwelling in a mother’s womb.
Who could guess the final story? -- cross and glory; empty
tomb.**

Please be seated.

The Proclamation of the Word

THE FIRST READING

Micah 5:2-5a

Reader: A reading from the Book of Micah.

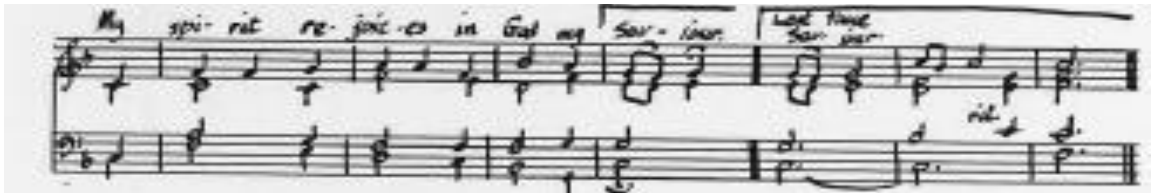
At the end of the reading,

Reader: The word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Song of Mary – (Canticle 18)

The psalm refrain is sung once by the cantor and is then repeated by the congregation.



Refrain: My spirit rejoices in God, my Saviour.

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,
my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour;
for he has looked with favour on his lowly servant.
From this day all generations will call me blessed:
the Almighty has done great things for me,
and holy is his name. **Refrain**

He has mercy on those who fear him
in every generation.

He has shown the strength of his arm,
He has scattered the proud in their conceit. **Refrain**

He has cast down the mighty from their thrones,
and has lifted up the lowly.

He has filled the hungry with good things,
and the rich he has sent away empty. **Refrain**

He has come to the help of his servant Israel,
for he has remembered his promise of mercy,
the promise he made to our fathers,
to Abraham and his children for ever. **Refrain.**

THE SECOND READING

Hebrews 10:5-10

Reader: A Reading from the Letter to the Hebrews

At the end of the reading

Reader: The word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand, as you are able.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION Alleluia #190 Sing a New Creation

Alleluia is sung by congregation 2 or 3 times.

The image shows a musical score for the Alleluia #190. It consists of two systems of music, each with a treble and bass staff. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are 'Al - le - lu - ia!' repeated twice. Above the notes, there are chord symbols: D, A/C#, G2/B, D/A, G, D/F#, Em, A, D. The music is written in a simple, accessible style suitable for congregational singing.

Music: Norah Duncan IV, 1987. © 1987 GIA Publications, Inc.



Please turn to face the Gospel reader.

THE HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 1:39-55

Gospeller: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Gospeller: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

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

At the end of the Gospel reading:

Gospeller: The Gospel of Christ.

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

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION Alleluia #190 Sing a New Creation

as before the Gospel, Alleluia is repeated 2 or 3 times.

Please be seated.

THE HOMILY

John Howard

Lay Reader

Please stand, as you are able.

THE NICENE CREED

Presider: Let us confess our faith, as we say,

**All: We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.
We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father.**

Through Him all things were made. For us and for our salvation He came down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit He became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father. With the Father and the Son He is worshipped and glorified. He has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Francis Richardson

Lay Reader

Please stand as you are able.

THE CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Lay Reader: 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.

Lay Reader: 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.

Presider: 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.

People: Amen.

THE PEACE

Presider: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: And also with you.

Members of the congregation greet one another with a sign of peace.

Remain standing as you are able.

OFFERTORY HYMN Tell Out, My Soul #362

(blue hymn book)

THE PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS

The Celebration of the Eucharist

Eucharistic Prayer # 3 – BAS page 198

Presider: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Presider: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Presider: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People: **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Preface for Advent (p. 219)

Presider: Blessed are you, gracious God, creator of heaven and earth;
we give you thanks and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord,
.....
who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your name.

THE SANCTUS (HOLY)

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord - #735 (blue hymn book)

**All: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might
heaven and earth are full, full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.**

Presider: (p. 198) We give thanks to you, Lord our God, for the goodness
and love you have made known to us in creation;
.....
..... Whenever you drink it, do this for the
remembrance of me.”

Therefore, Father, according to his command,
**All: we remember his death,
we proclaim his resurrection,
we await his coming in glory;**

Presider: and we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you,
Lord of all;
..... 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.

People: Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER (sung, #684 CP)

Presider: And now, as our Saviour Christ has taught us, we are bold to pray,
All: **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.**

THE BREAKING OF BREAD (Fraction Rite)

Lamb of God (Agnus Dei)

**Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, grant us peace.**

THE COMMUNION

Presider: The gifts of God for the People of God.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Please be seated.

All baptized Christians, regardless of denomination, are welcome to receive communion at God's altar.

If you are not baptized, you are very welcome to come forward to the communion rail for a blessing, indicating so by crossing your arms over your chest. If you are interested in exploring baptism, please speak to the priest after the service.

Gluten free host (wafers) are available at the altar rail upon request.

HYMN DURING COMMUNION How Beauteous Are Their Feet #443
(Blue hymn book)

Please stand, as you are able.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

THE DOXOLOGY

All: **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.**

THE FINAL BLESSING

RECESSIONAL HYMN Be Thou My Vision #505

(blue hymn book)

THE DISMISSAL

Presider: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Please be seated.

THE POSTLUDE

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Advent Wreath liturgy attributed to The Rev. Matthew Kozlowski; Advent Candles, Copyright © 2002 Mark Earey

This Week's Prayer List

(We invite you to hold all on our list in your prayers for the coming week.)

The Diocese: We hold in our prayers the people and clergy of: Circle of Faith Parishes:

- Church of the Messiah, Kincardine;
- St. Luke's, Pine River;
- St. Matthew's, Kingarf;
- St. Thomas', Walkerton.

The Parish: We hold in our prayers: Murray & Ann Kerr, Gerry & Marilyn Knight, Joanne & Dennis Knight and their families as well as all those serving in the Canadian Armed Forces at home and overseas.

Intercessions: For healing and hope we hold up to God: Anne, Ayako, Charlie & Marg, Dave, Deanie & Garry, Emma, Geoff, Fraser, Jen, John, John & Truda, Kassia, Katharine, Kristen, Lane, Linda, Rochelle, Russell, Veronica and any others who are in need of our prayers.

Memorial Flowers

Flowers at the altar today are given to the glory of God and with grateful thanks for the life and ministry of Charles and Jennie Miller, and their daughter Betty Doherty, a gift of Jim Doherty and family.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

There will be no Midweek Eucharist (Wednesday) Dec. 25 or January 1.

The upcoming Christmas & Epiphany services are as follows:



Tues., December 24

Xmas Eve (Choral Holy Eucharist) 7:00PM

Wed., December 25

Xmas Day (Said Holy Eucharist) 10:30AM
(in the chapel)

Sun., December 29

First Sunday after Xmas 10:30AM



Sun., January 5/25

Epiphany Community Carol Sing 7:00PM

We look forward to seeing you & family at as many as possible of these special services.

A BIG Thank you to the Chancel Guild, and John & Greg for putting up the tree, and all the volunteers who helped to decorate the church. There is a lot to do, and we so appreciate your service and ministry.

We also thank those who donated poinsettias to decorate our church windows during Christmas. A listing of those in whom the poinsettias are in memory will be inside the Christmas Eve and Christmas Day service bulletins.

The Church office will be closed from December 25 to January 2 inclusive.

Vestry Sunday is January 26th. Those writing reports, please send them into the office by January 12th, in time for distribution to the parish by January 19th.

Our Free Community Breakfast is on pause for the remainder of December. It is planned to resume Monday, January 6th from 8:30 to 10:00AM.

Due to construction in the downstairs, there will be no access to the downstairs through December and into early January. We regret this interruption and know that our congregation and facilities' users will be understanding.

During these winter months, if there is a forecast of poor weather &/or road conditions, please check our website www.christchurchanglican.ca or facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/ChristChurchMeaford/> for possible cancellation of service or for more information.

FOR PASTORAL CARE: For urgent care, please contact the Rev. Brendon Bedford at 226-974-5060 or brendonbedford@diohuron.org. Re all other ministries, questions or concerns, please call the Church office at 519-538-1330 or office@christchurchanglican.ca.
