



"The Son of God, who is God of the universe, is born a human being in the flesh. He permits himself to be placed in a manger, and the heavens are within the manger. He is kept in a cradle, a cradle that the world cannot hold."

-Chromatius

O holy night! The stars are brightly shining,
It is the night of our dear Saviour's birth.
Long lay the world in sin and error pining,
Till He appear'd and the soul felt its worth.
A thrill of hope, the weary world rejoices,
For yonder breaks a new and glorious morn.
- O Holy Night

"Lord, now you are letting your servant depart in peace,
according to your word;
for my eyes have seen your salvation
that you have prepared in the presence of all peoples,
Luke 2:29-31

prelude | Hark the Herald Angels Sing

Leader: The Lord be with you.
People: And also with you.

call to worship | Isaiah 9:2, 6-7

The people who walked in darkness
have seen a great light;
those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness,
on them has light shone.

For to us a child is born,
to us a son is given;
and the government shall be upon his shoulder,
and his name shall be called
Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.
Of the increase of his government and of peace
there will be no end,
on the throne of David and over his kingdom,
to establish it and to uphold it
with justice and with righteousness
from this time forth and forevermore.
The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.

opening prayer

video "Come Thou long-expected Jesus"

Come Thou Long Expected Jesus

Come Thou long-expected Jesus
Born to set Thy people free
From our fears and sins release us
Let us find our rest in Thee
Israel's strength and consolation
Hope of all the earth Thou art
Dear Desire of ev'ry nation
Joy of ev'ry longing heart

Joy to those who long to see Thee
Dayspring from on high, appear
Come, Thou promised Branch of Jesse
Of Thy birth we long to hear!
O'er the hills the angels singing
News, glad tidings of a birth
"Go to Him, your praises bringing
Christ the Lord has come to earth"

Come to earth to taste our sadness,
He whose glories knew no end;
By his life he brings us gladness,
Our Redeemer, Shepherd, Friend.
Leaving riches without number,
Born within a cattle stall;
This the everlasting wonder,
Christ was born the Lord of all.

lighting of Christ candle and advent

readings & carols

First Reading | Luke 2:1-7

O Little Town of Bethlehem

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 hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.

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 men on earth!

Where children pure and happy pray to the blessèd Child,
Where misery cries out to Thee, Son of the mother mild;
Where charity stands watching and faith holds wide the door,
The dark night wakes, the glory breaks, and Christmas comes once
more.

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!

Second Reading | Luke 2:8-16

The First Noel

The first Noel 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

Noel Noel Noel Noel
Born is the King of Israel

They looked 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.

And by the light of that same star
three Wise Men came from country far;
to seek for a king was their intent,
and to follow the star wherever it went.

Then let us all with one accord
sing praises to our heavenly Lord;
that hath made heaven and earth of nought,
and with his blood mankind hath bought.

Third Reading | Luke 2:17-19

What Child Is This

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
This, this is Christ the King, whom shepherds guard and angels sing;
Haste, haste to bring Him laud, the babe, the son of Mary!

Why lies He in such mean estate where ox and ass are feeding?
Good Christian, fear: for sinners here the silent Word is pleading.
Nails, spear shall pierce Him through,
the cross be borne for me, for you;
Hail, hail the Word made flesh, the babe, the son of Mary!
So bring Him incense, gold, and myrrh,
come peasant, king, to own Him;
The King of kings salvation brings, let loving hearts enthrone Him.
Raise, raise the song on high, the Virgin sings her lullaby;
Joy, joy for Christ is born, the babe, the son of Mary!

homily | Mike Hsu
Luke 2:25-35

O Holy Night

O holy night! The stars are brightly shining
It is the night of the dear Saviour's birth
Long lay the world in sin and error pining
Till He appeared and the soul felt its worth
A thrill of hope the weary world rejoices
For yonder breaks a new and glorious morn

Fall on your knees! Oh, hear the angel voices!
O night divine, O night when Christ was born
O night, O holy night, Oh night divine

Truly He taught us to love one another
His law is love and His gospel is peace
Chains shall He break for the slave is our brother
And in His name all oppression shall cease
Sweet hymns of joy in grateful chorus raise we
Let all within us praise His holy name

Christ is the Lord, O praise His name forever
His power and glory, evermore proclaim
His power and glory, evermore proclaim

candle lighting

Silent Night

Silent night, Holy night
All is calm, all is bright
'Round yon virgin mother and Child
Holy Infant so tender and mild
Sleep in heavenly peace, sleep in heavenly peace

Silent night, Holy night
Shepherds quake at the sight
Glories stream from heaven afar
heaven'ly hosts sing Alleluia
Christ the Saviour is born, Christ the Saviour is born
Silent night, Holy night

Son of God, love's pure light
Radiant beams from Thy holy face
with the dawn of redeeming grace

Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth, Jesus, Lord at Thy birth

Silent Night! Holy Night!
Wondrous star, lend thy light;
With the angels let us sing
Alleluia to our King:
Christ the Saviour is born, Christ the Saviour is born

benediction | 2 Corinthians 13:14

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

peace

Minister: The Peace of the Lord be with you all
People: And also with you

ministry & contacts

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music permission by
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GRACE VANCOUVER CHURCH



Upward

'A worshipping people' - **Upward**

Worship: we come together corporately to exalt the Lord Jesus Christ

The Word: we submit ourselves to the Bible as our rule for faith and life

Generosity: having received from divine generosity, we overflow with generosity to the world



Inward

'transformed by the peace of God in Christ,' - **Inward**

Sacramental Life: our participation in the sacraments of bread and wine flow into our everyday lives

The Holy Spirit: living by the Spirit, we use His gifts to build the church and bless Vancouver

Prayerful Presence: we intercede for our homes, neighbourhoods and networks, for God to do His work



Outward

'seeking to be faithful stewards of the Kingdom.' - **Outward**

Covenantal Commitments: we covenant with one another to uphold, support and love one another.

Priestly Work: we see all of life as calling (as "vocation")

Proclamation: we proclaim the Cross of Christ as the accomplishment of God's Kingdom for the world