

Alive In The Heart Of The City · Founded in 1847

The Church of the Holy Trinity

DIOCESE of TORONTO · The ANGLICAN CHURCH of CANADA



✉ 10 Trinity Square · Toronto Ontario · M5G1B1

☎ (416) 598-4521 www.holytrinitytoronto.org



December 23, 2018 10:30 am Holy Eucharist

The Fourth Sunday of Advent: Midwives of Loving Justice

Welcome!

We are delighted to have you with us this morning.

Holy Trinity is an accessible, active, vibrant, justice-seeking, queer-positive community in the heart of downtown Toronto.

We try to use language in our worship which includes us all, and we encourage the participation of each person in the worship and life of the Church.

At the *Exchange of Peace* we move about freely, greeting one another.

During the *Offertory hymn* we will move to create a circle around the altar for the *Prayers of the People*.

All are welcome to share in the Eucharist as they feel comfortable.

Assisting hearing devices are available.

Please ask a Greeter or the Caretaker.

Scent Free Zone:

Please refrain from wearing highly scented personal products.

A special welcome, Newcomers!

Please make yourself at home in this church.

The Church of the Holy Trinity is a community of people who express Christian faith through lives of integrity, justice and compassion. We foster lay leadership, include the doubter and marginalized, and challenge oppression wherever it may be found. *Mission Statement, 2010*



The Church *of the* Holy Trinity

www.holytrinitytoronto.org

Midwives of Loving Justice

The Advent Planning Team is Beth Baskin, Clara Pasioka, Jim Houston, Jo Connolly, Leonard Desroches, Luc Desroches, and Sherman Hesselgrave. The team set this overall theme of Restless Waiting to reflect the unsettled times of our community and the wider world. Advent is traditionally a time of anticipating for the Birth of Jesus, which is usually an excited waiting. There is also anxious waiting, such as that of a refugee family who wait for their travel documents. There is concerned waiting of those who will be launching into a new phase of life. Together this holy Advent season we will explore different kinds of waiting and a variety of ways to comfort and nourish our souls and faith community.

Today's Worship Team

<i>Coordinators</i>	Fallen Angles
<i>Presiding Celebrant</i>	Sherman Hesselgrave
<i>Musician</i>	Fallen Angles

A large-print version of this bulletin is available.
Ask a greeter if you would like one.

Assistive listening devices are available from the greeters

• Territorial Acknowledgement

We acknowledge that we are gathered on land occupied successively by the Wendat-Huron, the Haudenosaunee-Iroquois, and most recently, the Mississaugas of the New Credit First Nation. This territory of the so-called Toronto Purchase is covered by the Dish With One Spoon Wampum Belt Covenant, an agreement between the Haudenosaunee and the Ojibwe and allied nations to peaceably share and care for the lands and resources around the Great Lakes. Today, Toronto is still the home to many Indigenous people from across Turtle Island and we are grateful to have the opportunity to live and work and worship in this territory.

The Gathering of the Community

We gather in our pews for the morning welcome

- Welcome
- Musical Meditation: *Love is Christmas*

Sara Bareilles

I don't care if the house is packed
Or the strings of light are broken
I don't care if the gifts are wrapped
Or there's nothing here to open
Love is not a toy,
and no paper will conceal it
Love is simply joy that I'm home

I don't care if the carpet's stained
we've got food upon our table
I don't care if it's gonna rain,
our little room is warm and stable
Love is who we are,
and no season can contain it
Love would never fall for that

We sing

Let love lead us, love is Christmas

Why so scared that you'll mess it up? When
perfection keeps you haunted

All we need is your best my love,
that's all anyone ever wanted

Love is how we do,
let no judgment overrule it

Love I look to you, and I sing

Let love lead us, love is Christmas

Let love lead us, love is Christmas

- Opening Hymn:

Love, the Only Song

words and music: Gordon Light



Come now my life, come now my heart, come
Be pa - tient still your long - ing heart, your



morn - ing star a - rise; The way is cold, the
light shall sure - ly come. Be watch - ful list en



way in is dark, Be light to fill make my eyes. Let
in the dark, for there I make my home. Deep

dawn ap - pear with - in my soul, let and sun - light
 from with - in my song shall rise, and wait - ing

flood the skies. Come now my to life, come
 soon be done; then heart to heart shall

now my heart, come morn - ing star a - rise.
 each re - ply, and love, the on - ly song.

- Advent Wreath Lighting

The ritual of lighting the Advent probably finds its origins in traditions surrounding solstice and other traditions invoking light in a dark season of the year. The modern wreath is traced to 1839 as a German pastor's response to his mission school children's constant request for Christmas. The roundness of the wreath is a complete circle representing the infinite love of God. The evergreens represent the hope of eternal life offered by Jesus and the lighting of a new candle each week symbolizes the increase of light as build toward celebrating the ultimate Light of the World in Jesus. In the 1960's the Advent wreath became a tradition practiced in the home and for many of us that supper time tradition holds much significance. We will bless our tea lights each week as we light our wreath here and invite you to take a tea light home and build your own wreath week by week.*

*https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Advent_wreath

All: May the love of this community, the light of Christ and the hope of a Just World burn brightly in the light of these candle in our homes. Amen

Song: Hope is a light, v. 4

Love is a gift.

Love is a gift our hearts can give.

Light the candle of love..

Words and Music Dan Damon ©2007 Hope Publishing Co. OneLicense.net #a719147

- *The Exchange of Peace*

It is our custom to move about to exchange the peace.

One The Peace of Christ be always with you

All **And also with you.**

- *The Announcements* (*Members of the community share news. Then the community prays*)
- *The Prayer after Announcements*
All **Grant, O God,**
that in these activities and events
we may do your will with strength, wisdom and compassion,
for the good of your reign of justice and peace. Amen.

The Proclamation of the Word

- *The Collect of the Day* (adapted from *Prayers for an Inclusive Church*)

**God made known in the bringing to birth
in the friendship of women,
in the delivery of justice:
give us the courage of the midwives,
who deliver life in the face of death,
inspire us with the faith of Mary,
who brings into the world a song of joyful revolt
and a God who needs her love;
through Jesus Christ, the one who is to come. Amen.**

- *The First Reading* *Exodus 1: 8-22*

Now a new king arose over Egypt, who did not know Joseph. He said to his people, 'Look, the Israelite people are more numerous and more powerful than we. Come, let us deal shrewdly with them, or they will increase and, in the event of war, join our enemies and fight against us and escape from the land.' Therefore they set taskmasters over them to oppress them with forced labour. They built supply cities, Pithom and Rameses, for Pharaoh. But the more they were oppressed, the more they multiplied and spread, so that the Egyptians came to dread the Israelites. The Egyptians became ruthless in imposing tasks on the Israelites, and made their lives bitter with hard service in mortar and brick and in every kind of field labour. They were ruthless in all the tasks that they imposed on them.

The king of Egypt said to the Hebrew midwives, one of whom was named Shiphrah and the other Puah, ‘When you act as midwives to the Hebrew women, and see them on the birthstool, if it is a boy, kill him; but if it is a girl, she shall live.’ But the midwives feared God; they did not do as the king of Egypt commanded them, but they let the boys live. So the king of Egypt summoned the midwives and said to them, ‘Why have you done this, and allowed the boys to live?’ The midwives said to Pharaoh, ‘Because the Hebrew women are not like the Egyptian women; for they are vigorous and give birth before the midwife comes to them.’ So God dealt well with the midwives; and the people multiplied and became very strong. And because the midwives feared God, he gave them families. Then Pharaoh commanded all his people, ‘Every boy that is born to the Hebrews you shall throw into the Nile, but you shall let every girl live.’

Reader Hear what the Spirit says to God’s People
All **Thanks be to God**

• *2nd Reading*

Jan Richardson

This restless hope
 is what drives me
 beyond the weariness
 beyond the discomfort
 beyond every thought
 that what I carry within me
 will never come to birth.

This restless hope
 beyond all reason
 flutters beneath my heart
 and grows within my soul.

It is beyond me,
 and it is of me,
 and it is delivering me
 home.

Reader Hear what the Spirit says to God’s people
All **Thanks be to God**

Anthem: Mary Did You Know?

*Music: Buddy Greene Original Words: Mark Lowry
 Revised Words: Jennifer Henry*

Mary did you know,
 that your ancient words
 would still leap off our pages?
 Mary did you know,
 that your spirit song

would echo through the ages?
 Did you know that your holy cry
 would be subversive word,
 that the tyrants would be trembling
 when they know your truth is heard?

Mary did you know,
that your lullaby
would stir your own Child's passion?
Mary did you know,
that your song inspires
the work of liberation?
Did you know that your Jubilee
is hope within the heart
of all who dream of justice,
who yearn for it to start?

The truth will teach, the drum will sound,
healing for the pain

The poor will rise, the rich will fall.
Hope will live again

Mary did you know,
that we hear your voice
for the healing of the nations?
Mary did you know,
your unsettling cry
can help renew creation?
Do you know, that we need your faith,
the confidence of you,
May the God that you believe in,
be so true

- 3rd Reading

Jan Richardson

I did not seek
this birthing.
but you have drawn me
into the passage;
and I am the one
who is gearing,
and I am the one
being born.

So in my
longing
yearning
breaking
gaspings
groaning
laboring
bearing
birthing
I am asking.
O God my midwife
deliver me.

Reader
All

Hear what the Spirit says to God's people
Thanks be to God

- *The Gradual Hymn* O Ancient Love Verses 1 and 2 VU#17

Reader May God be with you.

All **And also with you.**

Reader The Holy Gospel of Jesus Christ according to Luke.

All **Glory to Christ our Saviour.**

In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leapt in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit and exclaimed with a loud cry, 'Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my God comes to me? For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leapt for joy. And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfilment of what was spoken to her by God.' And Mary said:

(We say together the bold print)

My soul is praising Yahweh to the skies
and my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour.

How she rejoices in God her Saviour!

who has done me, a lowly servant girl, great honour.
Surely, from now on, all generations will call me blessed.

Yes, surely they will call her blessed!

For El Shaddai has done great things for me
and I hold the name of Elohim as holy.

Holiest in the heights, that glorious name!

God's grace rests in mercy on the reverent from age to age.
The arm of God Almighty has put forth its strength
scattering the proud in the imagination of their hearts!

Yahweh has toppled the powers-that-be and lifted the oppressed,
filled the hungry with good things and sent the rich off empty.

The poor eat well while the affluent discover hunger!

In remembrance of founding mercies
the Holy One has come to the rescue of servant Israel,
honouring the promise made to our ancestors,
to Sarah, Abraham, and their progeny for ever.

Mercy on all children of the promise!

Magnificat above by Ian Sowton

Reader The Gospel of Christ.
All Praise to Christ our Saviour

• Reflection

Jennifer Henry



The Liturgy of the Bread and Cup

Financial offerings may be placed in the basket on the table in the middle of the congregation. Many members of Holy Trinity give electronically.

To make a one time donation, you may also use our secure donation page at Canada Helps by scanning the code at right or visiting <https://www.canadahelps.org/en/charities/HolyTrinityTO/>

Community members bring the gifts of bread and wine to the altar during the Offertory Hymn and form a circle around the altar. Please carry your personal belongings with you.



- *The Offertory Hymn The Midwife's Carol*

Lyrics: Ian Sowton

Music: Becca Whitla

1. The birth itself was not too hard
good presentation, fine strong mum
but my dear it was a circus
I thought that half the town had come
chorus: Wash him clean, wipe him dry,
Hush you, shush you rock-a-bye, rock-a-bye.

2. There were these shepherds who burst in
my dear they said a talking light
told them to come and pay respects—
kneeling, they were, to that wee mite

3. He's breathing well, the cord's tied off,
her afterbirth's come free, my dear
when three fine scholar blokes squeeze in
saying a star had brought them here

4. You selling tickets then? I said
buzz off you lot and let her rest
and they did, too, leaving presents
rich stuff my dear, the very best

5. All that public to and fro-ing
she watches as it comes and goes
with him tucked, dear, in a manger
pulled from under the donkey's nose.

6. Winter solstice 'twas my dear
shivery damp and animal stink
worship, palaver, gifts and all
what was going on do you think?

- *The Prayers of the People*

⌘ Anglican Communion cycle: Kubwa - (Abuja, Nigeria)

⌘ Anglican Church of Canada cycle: The members of the Council of General Synod, The Secretary General and staff of the Anglican Communion Office

⌘ Diocese of Toronto cycle: FaithWorks

⌘ The national Indigenous cycle: St. Matthew's, Fort McPherson, NT, Fort Liard Mission, and Jessie Hardisty Memorial, Fort Simpson, NT, Diocese of the Arctic

⌘ Diocesan Social Justice Cycle: Pray for the Church of the Ascension, Port Perry, its support of local outreach initiatives, education for reconciliation, and stream regeneration project with Kawartha Conservation;

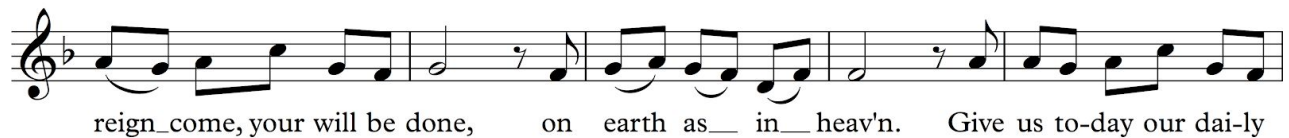
for the Parish of Belmont, its involvement with Habitat for Humanity and the Pikangikum Water Project, and its advocacy for affordable housing, food security, and poverty reduction; and for the Parish of Bobcaygeon, its food bank, refugee support, prayer shawl ministry, and support of Sleeping Children Around the World and other outreach initiatives.

The Great Thanksgiving

- Eucharistic Prayer No. 1

Green Booklet, p. 8

Adapted from "Mass for a Waiting People" by Jason D. Locke



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• Music During Communion: Song for a Winter's Night

Gordon Lightfoot

The lamp is burnin' low upon my table top
The snow is softly fallin'
The air is still within the silence of my room
I hear your voice softly callin'
If I could only have you near
To breathe a sigh or two
I would be happy just to hold the hands I love
Upon this winter night with you

The smoke is rising in the shadows overhead
My glass is almost empty
I read again between the lines upon the page
The words of love you sent me
If I could know within my heart

That you were lonely too
I would be happy just to hold the hands I love
Upon this winter night with you

The fire is dying now, my lamp is growing dim
The shades of night are liftin'
The mornin' light steals across my windowpane
Where webs of snow are driftin'
If I could only have you near
To breathe a sigh or two
I would be happy just to hold the hands I love
And to be once again with with you
To be once again with with you

- Post-communion Prayer

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.

- Sending Hymn: A Place at the Table



1 For ev - 'ry - one born, a place at the ta - ble, for
 2 For wom - an and man, a place at the ta - ble, re -
 3 For young and for old, a place at the ta - ble, a
 5 For ev - 'ry - one born, a place at the ta - ble, to



ev - 'ry - one born, clean wa - ter and bread, a
 vis - ing the roles, de - cid - ing the share, with
 voice to be heard, a part in the song, the
 live with - out fear, and sim - ply to be, to



shel - ter, a space, a safe place for grow - ing, for
 wis - dom and grace, di - vid - ing the pow - er, for
 hands of a child in hands that are wrin - kled, for
 work, to speak out, to wit - ness and wor - ship, for



ev - 'ry - one born, a star o - ver - head.
 wom - an and man, a sys - tem that's fair.
 young and for old, the right to be - long.
 ev - 'ry - one born, the right to be free.

Refrain

And God will de - light when
 we are cre - a - tors of jus - tice and joy, yes,
 God will de - light when we are cre - a -
 tors of jus - tice, jus - tice and
 joy!

Text: Shirley Erena Murray, b. 1931

Music: A PLACE AT THE TABLE 11 10 11 10 and refrain, Lori True

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Music © 2001 GIA Publications, Inc. All rights reserved.

- Dismissal
- Postlude

Announcements

The Christmas Story: 81st season at the Church of the Holy Trinity!

Last show of the season at 4:30pm today!

Professional musicians and a volunteer cast present this charming hour-long nativity pageant. By donation. For reservations: TheChristmasStory.ca or 416-598-4521 Ext. 301

Weekly Notices

- ☐ While in church, if you have **any concerns related to personal safety**, speak to our **Incumbent** Sherman Hesselgrave or the **caretaker on duty**.
 - ☐ **Assistive Hearing Devices** are available at the rear of the church. Please ask a Greeter or the Caretaker.
 - ☐ **Prayers:** Please **feel free to light a candle** at the chancel steps, or phone Sherman Hesselgrave with your **special prayer requests**.
-

Services at *Holy Trinity*

Sundays: 10.30 am **Festive Contemporary Eucharist**

2 pm *Parroquia San Esteban* – **Misa en Español**

Wednesdays: 12¹⁵ pm **Brief spoken Eucharist:** Informal discussion of readings, silence, contemplation.

The Homeless Memorial · Second Tuesday of the month · 12:00 outside South doors

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