



# St Peter and St Simon-the-Apostle

Diocese of Toronto \* Anglican Church of Canada

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[www.stsimons.ca](http://www.stsimons.ca)

## Nine Lessons and Carols

December 18, 2016, 4 pm



### Clergy

The Reverend Geoffrey Sangwine

The Reverend Jeanette Lewis

The Reverend Jennifer Matthews

The flowers are given to the glory of God and  
in honour of the clergy, wardens, choir  
and many volunteers of St Peter and St Simon's and San Lorenzo Ruiz  
by Duncan and Barbara Towe.

*Hearing Assistance Units are available at the back of the church.*

*We remind you to silence your cell phone.*

*Please take this bulletin home. Large Print bulletins are available –  
just ask a greeter.*



**Prelude:** From Heaven Came the Angel Host  
In Dulci Jubilo

HEINRICH BUTTSTEDT  
J.S. BACH

*Before the service, the church is lit dimly, and you are invited to pray or reflect quietly.*

*At the conclusion of the prelude, hand-candles will be lit. To prevent dripping wax, please tip your unlit candle to the lit candle.*

*Please stand, as able, for the opening hymn.*

**Hymn:** *Once in Royal David's City*

IRBY

*Solo: Sophie Knowles*

Once in royal David's city stood a lowly cattle shed,  
Where a mother laid her baby in a manger for his bed:  
Mary was that mother mild, Jesus Christ her little child.

*Choir* He came down to earth from heaven who is God and Lord of all,  
And his shelter was a stable, and his cradle was a stall;  
With the poor, and mean, and lowly, lived on earth our Saviour holy.

**All** **For he is our childhood's pattern, day by day like us he grew;**  
**He was little, weak, and helpless, tears and smiles like us he knew;**  
**And he feeleth for our sadness, and he shareth in our gladness.**

**And our eyes at last shall see him, through his own redeeming love,**  
**For that Child so dear and gentle is our Lord in heaven above;**  
**And he leads his children on to the place where he is gone.**

**Not in that poor lowly stable, with the oxen standing by,**  
**We shall see him; but in heaven, set at God's right hand on high;**  
**When like stars his children crowned, all in white shall wait around.**

*Then, all standing, this bidding prayer is said.*

*Officiant* Beloved in Christ, be it this Christmastide our care and delight to hear again the message of the angels, and in heart and mind to go even unto Bethlehem and see this thing which is come to pass, and the babe lying in a manger. Therefore, let us read and mark in holy scripture the tale of the loving purposes of God from the first days of our disobedience unto the glorious redemption brought us by this Holy Child.

But first, let us pray for the needs of the whole world; for peace on earth and goodwill among all Christ's people; for unity and compassion within the Church he came to build, and especially in this city and diocese of Toronto. And because this would rejoice his heart, let us remember, in his name, the poor and helpless, the cold, the hungry, and the oppressed; the sick and them that mourn, the lonely and the unloved, the aged and the little children; all those who know not the Lord Jesus, or who love him not, or who by sin have grieved his heart of love.

Lastly, let us remember before God all those who rejoice with us, but upon another shore, and in a greater light, that multitude which no one can number, whose hope was in the Word made flesh, and with whom in the Lord Jesus we are for ever one. These prayers and praises let us humbly offer up to the throne of heaven, in the words which Christ himself hath taught us:

**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 them that trespass against us;  
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory, forever and ever.  
Amen.**

*Officiant* The Almighty God bless us with his grace: Christ give us the joys of everlasting life: and unto the friendship of the citizens above may the King of Angels bring us all.

**All Amen.**

*Candles are extinguished and the church lights are turned on.*

*Please be seated.*

Choir: *A Spotless Rose*

HERBERT HOWELLS

A spotless rose is blowing,  
Sprung from a tender root,  
Of ancient seers foreshowing,  
Of Jesse promised fruit;  
Its fairest bud unfolds to light  
Amid the cold, cold winter,  
And in the dark midnight.

The rose which I am singing,  
Whereof Isaiah said,  
Is from its sweet root springing  
In Mary purest maid;  
For through our God's great love and might,  
The Blessed Babe she bare us  
In a cold, cold winter's night

## First Reading

*Read by Peggy Needham*

*Reader:* God tells sinful Adam that he has lost the life of Paradise and that his seed will bruise the serpent's head.

So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate; and she also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate. Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made loincloths for themselves.

They heard the sound of the Lord God walking in the garden at the time of the evening breeze, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the Lord God among the trees of the garden. But the Lord God called to the man, and said to him, 'Where are you?' He said, 'I heard the sound of you in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked; and I hid myself.' He said, 'Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?' The man said, 'The woman whom you gave to be with me, she gave me fruit from the tree, and I ate.' Then the Lord God said to the woman, 'What is this that you have done?' The woman said, 'The serpent tricked me, and I ate.' The Lord God said to the serpent, 'Because you have done this, cursed are you among all animals and among all wild creatures; upon your belly you shall go, and dust you shall eat all the days of your life. I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; he will strike your head, and you will strike his heel.'

*Genesis 3: 6-15*

*Reader:* Thanks be to God.

*You are invited to stand.*

**Hymn 146** *'Twas in the Moon of Wintertime*

UNE JEUNE PUCELLE

*All*     **'Twas in the moon of wintertime,  
when all the birds had fled,  
that mighty Gitchi Manitou  
sent angel choirs instead;  
before their light the stars grew dim,  
and wondering hunters heard the hymn:**

*Refrain:*

**Jesus your king is born,  
Jesus is born,  
In excelsis gloria.**

*Women* Within a lodge of broken bark  
the tender babe was found,  
a ragged robe of rabbit skin  
enwrapped his beauty round.  
But as the hunter braves drew nigh,  
the angel song rang loud and high:

*All* ***Refrain***

*Men* The earliest moon of wintertime  
is not so round and fair  
as was the ring of glory on  
the helpless infant there.  
The chiefs from far before him knelt  
with gifts of fox and beaver pelt.

*All* ***Refrain***

*All* **O children of the forest free,  
beloved of Manitou,  
the holy child of earth and heaven  
is born today for you.  
Come kneel before the radiant boy,  
who brings you beauty, peace and joy.**

*All* ***Refrain***

*Please be seated.*

## **Second Reading**

*Read by Robin Davis*

*Reader:* God promises to faithful Abraham that in his seed shall all the nations of the earth be blessed.

The angel of the Lord called to Abraham a second time from heaven, and said, 'By myself I have sworn, says the Lord: Because you have done this, and have not withheld your son, your only son, I will indeed bless you, and I will make your offspring as numerous as the stars of heaven and as the sand that is on the seashore. And your offspring shall possess the gate of their enemies, and by your offspring shall all the nations of the earth gain blessing for themselves, because you have obeyed my voice.'

*Genesis 22: 15-18*

*Reader:* Thanks be to God.

*You are invited to stand.*

**1. 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.**

3. How silently, how silently  
The wondrous gift is given!  
So God imparts to human hearts  
The blessings of His heaven.  
No ear may hear His coming,  
But in this world of sin,  
Where meek souls will receive him still,  
The dear Christ enters in.

**4. 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.**

*Please be seated.*

**Third Reading**

*Read by Laurie Sanderson*

*Reader:* The prophet foretells the coming of the Saviour.

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness— on them light has shined. For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onwards and for evermore. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.

*Isaiah 9: 2, 6, 7*

*Reader:* Thanks be to God.

**Chorus:**

Riu riu chiu, la guarda ribera;  
Dios guardo el lobo de nuestra  
cordera,  
Dios guardo el lobo de neustra  
cordera.

**1.**

El lobo rabioso la quiso morder,  
Mas Dios poderoso la supo defender;  
Quisola hazer que no pudiese pecar,  
Ni aun original esta Virgen no  
tuviera.

**2.**

Este qu'es nacido es el gran monarca,  
Christo patriarca, de carne vestido;  
hanos redimido con se hacer  
chiquito,  
a un qu'era infinito, finito se hiziera.

**3.**

Muchas profecias lo han profetizado,  
Ya un nuestros dias lo hemos al  
consado  
Adios humanado vemos en el suelo,  
Yal hombre nelcielo porquel le  
quistera.

**Chorus**

Riu, riu, chiu<sup>1</sup>  
The river bank protects it,  
As God kept the wolf from our lamb

**1.**

The rabid wolf tried to bite her  
But God Almighty knew how to defend her  
He wished to create her impervious to sin  
Nor was this maid to embody original sin

**2.**

He who's now begotten is our mighty  
Monarch  
Christ, our Holy Father, in human flesh  
embodied  
He has brought atonement by being born so  
humble  
Though He is immortal, as mortal was  
created

**3.**

Many prophecies told of his coming,  
And now in our days have we seen them  
fulfilled.  
God became man, on earth we behold him,  
And see man in heaven because he so willed.

## Fourth Reading

Read by Kevin Sinclair

*Reader:* The peace that Christ will bring is foreshown.

A shoot shall come out from the stock of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots. The spirit of the Lord shall rest on him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord. His delight shall be in the fear of the Lord.

He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide by what his ears hear; but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked. Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist, and faithfulness the belt around his loins. The wolf shall live with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the kid, the calf and the lion and the fatling together, and a little child shall lead them. The cow and the bear shall graze, their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den. They will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain; for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea. On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples; the nations shall inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious.

*Isaiah 11: 1-10*

*Reader:* Thanks be to God.

### **Hymn 117** *Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming*

TUNE ES IST EIN ROS

Lo, how a Rose e'er blooming  
from tender stem hath sprung!  
of Jesse's lineage coming,  
as seers of old have sung.  
It came, a blossom bright,  
amid the cold of winter,  
when half spent was the night.

Isaiah 'twas foretold it,  
The Rose I have in mind,  
With Mary we behold it,  
The virgin mother kind;  
To show God's love aright,  
She bore to us a Savior,  
When half spent was the night.

O Flower, whose fragrance tender  
With sweetness fills the air,  
Dispel with glorious splendour  
The darkness everywhere;  
True man, yet very God,  
From Sin and death now save us,  
And share our every load.

*Please be seated.*



## **Fifth Reading**

*Read by The Reverend Jeanette Lewis*

*Reader:* The angel Gabriel salutes the Blessed Virgin Mary.

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, 'Greetings, favoured one! The Lord is with you.' But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. The angel said to her, 'Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favour with God. And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. He will reign over the house of Jacob for ever, and of his kingdom there will be no end.' Mary said to the angel, 'How can this be, since I am a virgin?' The angel said to her, 'The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. For nothing will be impossible with God.' Then Mary said, 'Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word.' Then the angel departed from her.

*Luke 1: 26-38*

*Reader:* Thanks be to God.

*Choir: The Virgin's Cradle Hymn*

DEREK HOLMAN

*Latin Text:*

Dormi, Jesu! Mater ridet  
Quae tam dulcem somnum videt,  
Dormi, Jesu! blandule!  
Si non dormis, Mater plorat,  
Inter fila cantans orat,  
Blande, veni, somnule.

*English Translation:*

*Sleep, Jesus! Mother smiles  
Who sees such sweet sleep,  
Sleep, Jesus, gentling!  
If you sleep not, Mother weeps,  
While she spins, in song she prays,  
Come, gentle little sleep*

## Sixth Reading

Read by Paul Faulkner

Reader: St Luke tells of the birth of Jesus.

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

Luke 2: 1-7

Reader: Thanks be to God.

Choir: *The Shepherd's Carol*

BOB CHILCOTT

We stood on the hills, Lady,  
Our day's work done,  
Watching the frosted meadows  
That winter had won.

The evening was calm, Lady,  
The air so still,  
Silence more lovely than music  
Folded the hill.

There was a star, Lady,  
Shone in the night,  
Larger than Venus it was  
And bright, so bright.

Oh, a voice from the sky, Lady,  
It seemed to us then  
Telling of God being born  
In the world of men.

And so we have come, Lady,  
Our day's work done,  
Our love, our hopes, ourselves,  
We give to your son.

## Seventh Reading

Read by Isabelle Robinson

*Reader:* The shepherds go to the manger.

In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, 'Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.' And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, 'Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favours!' When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, 'Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.' So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger.

*Luke 2: 8-16*

*Reader:* Thanks be to God.

*You are invited to stand.*

**Hymn 139 (vv 1 - 4, 6)** *The First Nowell*

THE FIRST NOWELL

1. The first nowell 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.  
**Refrain:**  
Nowell, nowell, nowell, nowell,  
born is the King of Israel.
2. They lookèd 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.  
*Refrain*
3. 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.  
*Refrain*
4. This star drew night  
to the northwest;  
o'er Bethlehem it took its rest,  
and there it did both stop and stay,  
right over the place where Jesus lay.  
*Refrain*

5. Then let us all with one accord  
sing praises to our heavenly Lord,  
who has made heaven  
and earth of nought,  
and with his blood salvation bought.  
*Refrain*

*Please be seated.*

### **Eighth Reading**

*Read by Marie Samuels-Isaac*

*Reader:* The wise men are led by the star to Jesus.

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, asking, 'Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage.' When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. They told him, 'In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet: "And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel."'

Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, 'Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage.' When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure-chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

*Matthew 2: 1-12*

*Reader:* Thanks be to God.

Good Christian men, rejoice  
 With heart, and soul, and voice;  
 Give ye heed to what we say:  
 News! News! Jesus Christ is born today:  
 Ox and ass before him bow,  
 And he is in the manger now.  
 Christ is born today!

In Bethlehem, in Jewry,  
 This blessed Babe was born,  
 And laid within a manger,  
 Upon that holy morn;  
 The which his mother, Mary,  
 Did nothing take in scorn.  
 O tidings of comfort and joy.

Come, ye lofty, come, ye lowly,  
 Let your songs of gladness ring;  
 In a stable lies the Holy,  
 In a manger rests the King;  
 See, in Mary's arms reposing,  
 Christ by highest heav'n adored;  
 Come, your circle round him closing,  
 Pious hearts that love the Lord.

Come, ye poor, no pomp of station  
 Robes the child your hearts adore:  
 He, the Lord of all salvation,  
 Shares your want, is weak and poor:  
 Oxen, round about behold them;  
 Rafters naked, cold and bare,  
 See the shepherds, God has told them  
 That the Prince of Life lies there

God rest you merry, gentlemen,  
 Let nothing you dismay,  
 Remember Christ our Saviour  
 Was born on Christmas day,  
 To save us all from woe and sin,  
 When we were gone astray.  
 O tidings of comfort and joy.

Good Christian men, rejoice  
 With heart, and soul, and voice;  
 Now ye hear of endless bliss:  
 Joy! Joy! Jesus Christ was born for this!  
 He hath oped the heav'nly door,  
 And man is blessed evermore.  
 Christ was born for this!

The first Nowell the angels 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.  
 Nowell, Nowell, Nowell,  
 Born is the King of Israel.

Come, ye children, blithe and merry,  
 This one child your model make;  
 Christmas holly, leaf and berry,  
 All be prized for his dear sake;  
 Come, ye gentle hearts, and tender,  
 Come, ye spirits, keen and bold;  
 All in all your homage render,  
 Weak and mighty, young and old.

High above a star is shining,  
And the Wisemen haste from far:  
Come, glad hearts, and spirits pining:  
For you all has risen the star.  
Let us bring our poor oblations,  
Thanks and love and faith and praise:  
Come, ye people, come, ye nations,  
All in all draw nigh to gaze.

Now to the Lord sing praises,  
All you within this place,  
And with true love and brotherhood  
Each other now embrace;  
This holy tide of Christmas  
All others doth deface.  
O tidings of comfort and joy.

Good Christian men, rejoice  
With heart, and soul, and voice;  
Now ye need not fear the grave:  
Peace! Peace!  
Jesus Christ was born to save!  
Calls you one, and calls you all,  
To gain his everlasting hall:  
Christ was born to save

## **Ninth Reading**

*Read by The Reverend Geoffrey Sangwine*

*Reader:* John unfolds the mystery of the Incarnation.

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 1: 1-14*

*Reader:* Thanks be to God.

O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant,  
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem:  
come and behold him, born the king of angels;  
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord.

God of God, Light of Light,  
lo, he abhors not the virgin's womb;  
very God, begotten not created:  
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord.

Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,  
sing, all ye citizens of heaven above;

glory to God in the highest:  
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord.

See how the shepherds, summoned to his cradle,  
leaving their flocks, draw nigh with lowly fear;  
we too will thither bend our joyful footsteps;  
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord.

*Your generous offering helps to support the many ministries of this parish.*

### **The Collect**

*Officiant* The Lord be with you.

*People* **And with thy spirit.**

*Officiant* Let us pray.

*You are invited to kneel.*

O God, who makest us glad with the yearly remembrance of the birth of  
thine only son, Jesus Christ: Grant that as we joyfully receive him as our  
redeemer, so we may with sure confidence behold him, when he shall come  
to be our judge; who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one  
God, world without end. **Amen.**

### **The Blessing**

*You are invited to stand.*

1. Hark! The herald angels sing,  
"Glory to the newborn 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!"
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 Godhead see;  
hail, the incarnate deity,  
pleased as one of us to dwell,  
Jesus, our Emmanuel!  
*Refrain*

***Refrain***

Hark! The herald angels sing,  
"Glory to the newborn King."

3. Hail, the heaven-born Prince of Peace!  
Hail, the Sun 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.  
*Refrain*

Please join us for mulled wine and other Christmas treats in the parish hall.