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St. Luke’s Gondola Point

Morning Prayer Service

First Sunday of Christmas - December 27, 2020

[Un-bolded words are said by one, **Bolded words** can be said by all.]

**PENITENTIAL RITE**

Jesus said, “I am the light of the world; whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.” *John 8.12*

Dear friends in Christ, as we prepare to worship almighty God, let us with penitent and obedient hearts confess our sins, that we may obtain forgiveness by his infinite goodness and mercy.

Silence is kept.

**Most merciful God, 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.**

Almighty God have mercy upon us, pardon and deliver us from all our sins, confirm and strengthen us in all goodness, and keep us in eternal life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Hymn: *Joyful Joyful We Adore Thee* (CP #425)

**MORNING PRAYER**

Blessed are you, O Christ, Son of God,

you were before time began

and came into the world to save us.

Blessed are you, Sun of righteousness;

you shine with the Father’s love

and illumine the whole universe.

Blessed are you, Son of Mary;

born a child, you shared our humanity.

**Let heaven and earth shout their praise.**

With all the voices of heaven

we celebrate the coming of our Saviour.

**Let heaven and earth shout their praise.**

With all the creatures on earth

we sing and dance at his birth.

**Praise and honour and glory to you, O Lord most high.**

To us a child is born: **O come, let us worship.**

***Jubilate*** *Psalm 100*

Be joyful in the Lord, all you lands; \*

**serve the Lord with gladness and come before his presence with a song.**

Know this: The Lord himself is God; \*

**he himself has made us, and we are his; we are his people and the sheep of his pasture.**

Enter his gates with thanksgiving; go into his courts with praise; \*

**give thanks to him and call upon his name.**

For the Lord is good; his mercy is everlasting; \*

**and his faithfulness endures from age to age.**

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: **as it was in the beginning, is now and will be for ever. Amen.**

To us a child is born: **O come, let us worship.**

**PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD**

A Reading from the book of Isaiah 61:10–62:3.

*I will greatly rejoice in the Lord,*

*my whole being shall exult in my God;*

*for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation,*

*he has covered me with the robe of righteousness,*

*as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland,*

*and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.*

*11 For as the earth brings forth its shoots,*

*and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up,*

*so the Lord God will cause righteousness and praise*

*to spring up before all the nations.*

***62*** *For Zion’s sake I will not keep silent,*

*and for Jerusalem’s sake I will not rest,*

*until her vindication shines out like the dawn,*

*and her salvation like a burning torch.*

*2 The nations shall see your vindication,*

*and all the kings your glory;*

*and you shall be called by a new name*

*that the mouth of the Lord will give.*

*3 You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the Lord,*

*and a royal diadem in the hand of your God.*

The Word of the Lord: **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 148

Hallelujah! Praise the Lord from the heavens; \*

**praise him in the heights.**

Praise him, all you angels of his; \*

**praise him, all his host.**

Praise him, sun and moon; \*

**praise him, all you shining stars.**

Praise him, heaven of heavens, \*

**and you waters above the heavens.**

Let them praise the name of the Lord; \*

**for he commanded, and they were created.**

He made them stand fast for ever and ever; \*

**he gave them a law which shall not pass away.**

Praise the Lord from the earth, \*

**you sea-monsters and all deeps;**

Fire and hail, snow and fog, \*

**tempestuous wind, doing his will;**

Mountains and all hills, \*

**fruit trees and all cedars;**

Wild beasts and all cattle, \*

**creeping things and wingèd birds;**

Kings of the earth and all peoples, \*

**princes and all rulers of the world;**

Young men and maidens, \*

**old and young together.**

Let them praise the name of the Lord, \*

**for his name only is exalted, his splendour is over earth and heaven.**

He has raised up strength for his people and praise for all his loyal servants, \*

**the children of Israel, a people who are near him. Hallelujah!**

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:

**As it was in the beginning, is now and will be for ever. Amen.**

A Reading from Galatians 4:4–7.

*4But when the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, 5in order to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as children. 6And because you are children, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, “Abba! Father!” 7So you are no longer a slave but a child, and if a child then also an heir, through God.*

The word of the Lord: **Thanks be to God.**

Hymn: *In Christ Alone* (MP #1072)

The Lord be with you: **And also with you.**

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to Luke (2:22–40).

**Glory to You, Lord Jesus Christ.**

*22When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, they brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord 23(as it is written in the law of the Lord, “Every firstborn male shall be designated as holy to the Lord”), 24and they offered a sacrifice according to what is stated in the law of the Lord, “a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons.”*

*25Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon; this man was righteous and devout, looking forward to the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit rested on him. 26It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord’s Messiah. 27Guided by the Spirit, Simeon came into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him what was customary under the law, 28Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying,*

*29 “Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace,*

*according to your word;*

*30 for my eyes have seen your salvation,*

*31 which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples,*

*32 a light for revelation to the Gentiles*

*and for glory to your people Israel.”*

*33And the child’s father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him. 34Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, “This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed 35so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed—and a sword will pierce your own soul too.”*

*36There was also a prophet, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was of a great age, having lived with her husband seven years after her marriage, 37then as a widow to the age of eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshiped there with fasting and prayer night and day. 38At that moment she came, and began to praise God and to speak about the child to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem.*

*39When they had finished everything required by the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. 40The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favor of God was upon him.*

The Gospel of Christ: **Praise be to You, O Christ.**

Sermon

The Apostles’ Creed

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.**

**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again.**

**He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

**INTERCESSIONS**

*In joy and humility let us pray to the creator of the universe, saying, “Lord, grant us peace.”*

*By the good news of our salvation brought to Mary by the angel, hear us, O Lord.*

***Lord, grant us peace.***

*By the mystery of the Word made flesh, hear us, O Lord.*

***Lord, grant us peace.***

*By the birth in time of the timeless Son of God, hear us, O Lord.*

***Lord, grant us peace.***

*By the manifestation of the King of glory to the shepherds and magi, hear us, O Lord.*

***Lord, grant us peace.***

*By the submission of the maker of the world to Mary and Joseph of Nazareth, hear us, O Lord.* ***Lord, grant us peace.***

*By the baptism of the Son of God in the river Jordan, hear us, O Lord.*

***Lord, grant us peace.***

*Grant that the kingdoms of this world may become the kingdom of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ; hear us, O Lord.*

***Lord, grant us peace.***

*Almighty and most merciful God, we remember before you the homeless, the destitute, the sick, the aged, and all who have none to care for them. Heal those who are broken in body or spirit, and turn their sorrow into joy. Grant this for the love of your Son, who for our sake became poor, Jesus Christ our Lord.* ***Amen.***

*Hear and answer our prayers, O Lord; Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, according to your will, and your grace.*

[***Take a moment of silence to offer up prayers and thanksgivings, for yourself and others. Our weekly prayer list can be found in this week’s bulletin.***]

*Gracious God, you have heard the prayers of your faithful people; you know our needs before we ask, and our ignorance in asking. Grant our requests as may be best for us. This we ask in the name of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.* ***Amen****.*

Collect

*Almighty God,*

*you have shed upon us the new light of your incarnate Word. May this light, enkindled in our hearts, shine forth in our lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.* ***Amen.***

The Lord’s Prayer

And now, as our Saviour Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

**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.**

Let us bless the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Hymn: *Joy To The World* (CP #154)

Dismissal

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all evermore. **Amen.**