

# GRACE

## CHURCH ON-THE-HILL

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FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT  
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 29<sup>TH</sup>  
ORDER OF SERVICE

PRELUDE

*“Sleepers Wake”*

J.S. BACH

ORGANIST: THOMAS FITCHES

GREETING

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

**And also with you.**

Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.

**His mercy endures forever.**

HYMN 89

*O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*

VENI EMMANUEL

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel,  
that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear.

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel!

O come, O Wisdom from on high, who orders all things mightily;  
to us the path of knowledge show, and teach us in her ways to go. *Refrain*

O come, O come, great Lord of might, who to your tribes on Sinai's height  
in ancient times once gave the law, in cloud and majesty and awe. *Refrain*

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. *Refrain*

LIGHTING OF THE WREATH

COLLECT FOR PURITY

Almighty God, 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 PENITENTIAL RITE

KYRIE *Missa Marialis*

ARR. DOUGLAS

Kyrie eleison. *Lord, have mercy upon us.*

Christe eleison. *Christ, have mercy upon us.*

Kyrie eleison. *Lord, have mercy upon us.*

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Dear friends in Christ, God is steadfast in love and infinite in mercy; God welcomes sinners and invites them to his table. Let us confess our sins, confident in God's forgiveness.

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 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. **Amen.**

HYMN 92 *O Day of God Draw Nigh*

BELLWOODS

O day of God draw nigh in beauty and in power;  
come with thy timeless judgement now to match our present hour.

Bring to our troubled minds, uncertain and afraid,  
the quiet of a steadfast faith, calm of a call obeyed.

Bring justice to our land, that all may dwell secure,  
and finely build for days to come foundations that endure.

Bring to our world of strife thy sovereign word of peace,  
that war may haunt the earth no more, and desolation cease.

O day of God, draw nigh as at creation's birth;  
let there be light again, and set thy judgments on the earth.

#### COLLECT

Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness and put on the armour of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which your Son Jesus Christ came to us in great humility, that on the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge both the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

#### LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING *Isaiah 64:1-9*

READ BY WILL McMILLAN

O that you would tear open the heavens and come down, so that the mountains would quake at your presence - as when fire kindles brushwood and the fire causes water to boil - to make your name known to your adversaries, so that the nations might tremble at your presence! When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect, you came down, the mountains quaked at your presence. From ages past no one has heard, no ear has perceived, no eye has seen any God besides you, who works for those who wait for him. You meet those who gladly do right, those who remember you in your ways. But you were angry, and we sinned; because you hid yourself we transgressed. We have all become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous deeds are like a filthy cloth. We all fade like a leaf, and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away. There is no one who calls on your name, or attempts to take hold of you; for you have hidden your face from us, and have delivered us into the hand of our iniquity. Yet, O Lord, you are our Father; we are the clay, and you are our potter; we are all the work of your hand. Do not be

exceedingly angry, O Lord, and do not remember iniquity forever. Now consider, we are all your people.

PSALM 80:1-7, 16-18

SUNG BY SARAH HICKS

Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel, you who lead Joseph like a flock!  
You who are enthroned upon the cherubim, shine forth.  
Before Ephraim, Benjamin, and Manasseh.  
Stir up your night, and come to save us!  
Restore us, O God;  
Let your face shine, that we may be saved.  
O Lord God of hosts, how long will you be angry with your people's  
prayers?  
You have fed them with the bread of tears,  
And given them tears to drink in full measure.  
You make us the scorn of our neighbours;  
Our enemies laugh among themselves.  
Restore us, O God of hosts;  
Let your face shine, that we may be saved.  
They have burned it with fire, they have cut it down;  
May they perish at the rebuke of your countenance.  
But let your hand be upon the one at your right hand,  
The one whom you made strong for yourself.  
Then we will never turn back from you;  
Give us life, and we will call on your name.

EPISTLE *1 Corinthians 13:24-37*

READ BY ALBAN BAKOMITO

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind - just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you - so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Jesus came, the heavens adoring, came with peace from realms on high.  
Jesus came for our redemption, lowly came on earth to die:  
alleluia, alleluia! came in deep humility.

Jesus comes again in mercy, when our hearts are bowed with care.  
Jesus comes again in answer to our earnest heart-felt prayer,  
alleluia, alleluia! comes to save us from despair.

Jesus comes to hearts rejoicing, bringing news of sins forgiven.  
Jesus comes in sounds of gladness, leading souls redeemed to heaven.  
Alleluia, alleluia! Now the gate of death is riven.

Jesus comes on clouds triumphant, when the heavens shall pass away.  
Jesus comes again in glory: let us then our homage pay,  
alleluia, alleluia! till the dawn of endless day.

GOSPEL *Mark 13:24-37*

READ BY MICAH LATIMER-DENNIS

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.

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

Jesus said, "In those days, after that suffering, the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, and the stars will be falling from heaven, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken. Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in clouds' with great power and glory. Then he will send out the angels, and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven. From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away. But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. Beware, keep alert; for you do not know when the time will come. It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with his work, and

commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch. Therefore, keep awake - for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or at dawn, or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake."

The Gospel of Christ.

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

HOMILY

THE RT. REV. VICTORIA MATTHEWS

NICENE CREED

**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 again 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.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

LED BY MICAH LATIMER-DENNIS

THE PEACE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

*Jesus Christ the Apple Tree*

ELIZABETH POSTON

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS

God of love and power, your word stirs within us the expectation of the coming of your Son. Accept all we offer you this day, and sustain us with your promise of eternal life. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Blessed are you, gracious God, creator of heaven and earth; we give you thanks and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord, who in the fullness of time came among us in our flesh, and opened to us the way of salvation. Now we watch for the day when he will come again in power and great triumph to judge this world, that we, without shame or fear, may rejoice to behold his appearing. Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your name.

SANCTUS AND BENEDICTUS

PROULX

Holy, holy, holy Lord,  
God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.

## EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

We give thanks to you, Lord our God, for the goodness and love you have made known to us in creation; in calling Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Saviour and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life. On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, a death he freely accepted, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: this is my body which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me." And after supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, " Drink this, all of you: this is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, Father, according to his command,

**we remember his death,**

**we proclaim his resurrection,**

**we await his coming in glory;**

and we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine. We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts, that they may be the sacrament of the body of Christ and his blood of the new covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we, made acceptable in him, may be sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, reconcile all things in Christ, and make them new, and bring us to that city of light where you dwell with all your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of salvation; by whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory is yours, almighty Father, now and forever. **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 by 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 THE BREAD

God of promise, you prepare a banquet for us in your kingdom.  
**Happy are those who are called to the supper of the Lamb.**

AGNUS DEI      *Missa Marialis*

ARR. DOUGLAS

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

COMMUNION HYMN 96    *Creator of the Stars of Night*    CONDITOR ALME SIDERUM

Creator of the stars of night,  
thy people's everlasting light,  
Jesus, redeemer of us all,  
hear thou thy servants when they call.

Thou, sorrowing at the helpless cry  
of all creation doomed to die,  
didst save our lost and guilty race  
by healing gifts of heavenly grace.

When earth was near its evening hour,  
thou didst in love's redeeming power,  
like bridegroom from his chamber, come  
forth from a maiden mother's womb.

At thy great name, exalted now,  
all knees in lowly homage bow;

all things in heaven and earth adore,  
and own thee King for evermore.

To God the Father, God the Son,  
and God the Spirit, Three-in-One,  
praise, honour, might, and glory be  
from age to age eternally.

#### PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

God for whom we wait, you have fed us with the bread of eternal life.  
Keep us ever watchful, that we may be ready to stand before the Son of  
man. We ask this in the name of Christ the Lord. **Amen.**

#### DOXOLOGY

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 BLESSING

HYMN 114      *Lo, He Comes with Clouds Descending*      HELMSLEY

Lo, he comes with clouds descending, once for favoured sinners slain;  
thousand thousand saints attending swell the triumph of his train:  
hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah! God appears on earth to reign.

Every eye shall now behold him, robed in dreadful majesty;  
all who set at nought and sold him, pierced, and nailed him to the tree,  
deeply grieving, deeply grieving, deeply grieving, shall the true Messiah see.

Now redemption, long expected, see in solemn pomp appear;  
all his saints, on earth rejected, thrill the triumph sound to hear:  
hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah! See the day of God appear!

Yea, amen, let all adore thee, high on thine eternal throne;  
Saviour, take the power and glory; claim the kingdom for thine own:  
O come quickly! O come quickly! O come quickly!  
Hallelujah! Come, Lord, come!

DISMISSAL

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Alleuia!

**Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

POSTLUDE *Chorale Prelude "Saviour of the Gentiles, Come*

J.S. BACH

THE FLOWERS AT THE ALTAR ARE GIVEN TO THE GLORY OF GOD  
AND IN LOVING MEMORY GARY CAMERON MASSINGHAM.

### UPCOMING AT GRACE CHURCH ON-THE-HILL

*Songs of the Saviour* | This Advent join the Adult Education on 9 am for a look at the four songs in Luke 1 and 2. A guide to the study is available at [gracechurchonthehill.ca/advent](http://gracechurchonthehill.ca/advent) The sessions will be streamed on the YouTube page. To attend the discussion portion of the study email Micah at [micah@gracechurchonthehill.ca](mailto:micah@gracechurchonthehill.ca)

Nov. 29 | Mary's Song – The Rev. Dr. Susan MacLaren

Dec. 6 | Zechariah's Song – Micah Latimer-Dennis

Dec. 13 | The Angels' Song – The Rev. Canon Peter Walker

Dec. 2-0 | Simeon's Song – Patrick Paulsen

*Display Books* | If you're interested in checking out one of the books on display in the cases at the entrance to the church from the Grace Church library, please ask Micah to assist you or email him at the above email.

*E-News* | If you wish to receive updates and information on our weekly Grace e-news, please contact Chris at [cleonard@gracechurchonthehill.ca](mailto:cleonard@gracechurchonthehill.ca) or by signing up on our website.

*Offerings and cheques can be placed in the plates at the exits of the church. Opportunities to give are also available by mail or at [gracechurchonthehill.ca](http://gracechurchonthehill.ca)*

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GRACE CHURCH ON-THE-HILL

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Alone, alone, about a dreadful wood  
Of conscious evil runs a lost mankind,  
Dreading to find its Father lest it find  
The Goodness it has dreaded is not good:  
Alone, alone, about our dreadful wood.

Where is that Law for which we broke our own,  
Where now that Justice for which Flesh resigned  
Her hereditary right to passion, Mind  
Hs will to absolute power? Gone. Gone.  
Where is that Law for which we broke our own?

The Pilgrim Way has led to the Abyss.  
Was it to meet such grinning evidence  
We left our richly odoured ignorance?  
Was the triumphant answer to be this?  
The Pilgrim Way has led to the Abyss.

We who must die demand a miracle.  
How could the Eternal do a temporal act,  
The Infinite become a finite fact?  
Nothing can save us that is possible:  
We who must die demand a miracle.

from "Advent" in *For the Time Being: A Christmas Oratorio*  
by W.H. Auden (1907 to 1973)