



St. Augustine's Church

A Church Family in the Heart of the City

# Jazz Vespers



Evening Prayer

*Advent III*

December 13<sup>th</sup>, 2020

4:00 p.m.

Live Stream via Facebook

*Welcome to St. Augustine's Church*

*We are part of the worldwide Anglican Church, although many of us come from a variety of Christian backgrounds or none. We are located near the centre of Lethbridge, Alberta but our congregation is spread all over the city and region. Wherever you are on your spiritual journey, you are welcome to join our church family as we learn to follow Jesus.*

***Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son,  
and shall call his name Immanuel.***

***—Isaiah 7:14***

*It is a particular joy to welcome you to this service of Jazz Vespers. Advent is a season of both quiet reflection and joyful expectation. This service is intended to be a time of spiritual preparation and reflection, as we watch and wait for the coming of the Kingdom of God. Through our experience of sacred Word and music, the story of the coming of Christ gradually unfolds and deepens our understanding of God's message of love and redemption. May these words and this music propel you quietly toward the true joy of Christmas.*

---

*This service will be played and sung by parishioners and friends of St. Augustine's Church:*

***Randy Epp, piano and keyboards***

***Don Robb, trumpet***

***Brandon DeGorter, alto sax***

***Wayne Edwards, steel pan***

*Thank you to our Technical Support Team for this service:*

*Sound - David Hignell, Barry Adams*

*Video - Tim Fyfe, Michaela Gateman*

---

*The Order of service is set forth in this service booklet.  
Please join in singing and speaking the parts printed in **bold**.*

## Evening Prayer – The Service of Light

### Prelude

*Presider* Jesus Christ is the light of the world

*People* **A light no darkness can extinguish.**

### Advent Antiphon “O Radix”

O Root of Jesse, standing as a sign among the peoples;  
before you kings will shut their mouths,  
to you the nations will make their prayer:  
Come and deliver us, and delay no longer.

### Sonnet “O Radix” by Malcolm Guite

Kelly Frewin

All of us sprung from one deep-hidden seed,  
Rose from a root invisible to all.  
We knew the virtues once of every weed,  
But, severed from the roots of ritual,  
We surf the surface of a wide-screen world  
And find no virtue in the virtual.  
We shrivel on the edges of a wood  
Whose heart we once inhabited in love,  
Now we have need of you, forgotten Root  
The stock and stem of every living thing  
Whom once we worshiped in the sacred grove,  
For now is winter, now is withering  
Unless we let you root us deep within,  
Under the ground of being, graft us in.

### Instrumental “What Child is This?”

**O Gracious Light** (*all standing*)

**O gracious Light,  
pure brightness of the everliving Father in heaven.  
O Jesus, Christ, holy and blessed!**

**Now as we come to the setting of the sun,  
and our eyes behold the vesper light,  
we sing your praises, O God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.**

**You are worthy at all times to be sung by happy voices,  
O Son of God, O Giver of life,  
and to be glorified through all the worlds.**

**Thanksgiving**

*Presider*            Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
*People*             **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

**Blessed are you, Lord our God, ruler of the universe,  
creator of light and darkness.  
In this holy season,  
when the sun's light is swallowed up  
by the growing darkness of the night,  
you renew your promise to reveal among us  
the splendor of your glory,  
enfleshed and visible to us in Jesus Christ your Son.  
Through the prophets  
you teach us to hope for his reign of peace.  
Through the outpouring of his Spirit,  
you open our blindness to the glory of his presence.  
Strengthen us in our weakness.  
Support us in our stumbling efforts to do your will  
and free our tongues to sing your praise.  
For to you all honour and blessing are due,  
now and forever. Amen.**

# The Proclamation of the Word

First Reading

Amos 9:11-15

Karin Barg

<sup>11</sup> “In that day

“I will restore David’s fallen shelter—

I will repair its broken walls

and restore its ruins—

and will rebuild it as it used to be,

<sup>12</sup> so that they may possess the remnant of Edom

and all the nations that bear my name,[a]”

declares the Lord, who will do these things.

<sup>13</sup> “The days are coming,” declares the Lord,

“when the reaper will be overtaken by the plowman

and the planter by the one treading grapes.

New wine will drip from the mountains

and flow from all the hills,

<sup>14</sup> and I will bring my people Israel back from exile.

“They will rebuild the ruined cities and live in them.

They will plant vineyards and drink their wine;

they will make gardens and eat their fruit.

<sup>15</sup> I will plant Israel in their own land,

never again to be uprooted

from the land I have given them,”

says the Lord your God.

*Reader*      The Word of the Lord.

**People**      **Thanks be to God.**

# Psalm 103

Joanne Collier

Like the grass that grows and fades, in the cy - cle of our days.

5

Like the grass that grows and fades, in the cy - cle of our days.

Bless the Lord, O my soul,  
all that is within me, bless his holy name.

Bless the Lord, O my soul,  
and forget not all his benefits.

He forgives all your sins  
and heals all your infirmities;  
He redeems your life from the grave  
and crowns you with mercy and loving-kindness;  
He satisfies you with good things,  
and your youth is renewed like an eagle's.

The Lord executes righteousness  
and judgement for all who are oppressed.

He made his ways known to Moses  
and his works to the children of Israel.

The Lord is full of compassion and mercy,  
slow to anger and of great kindness.

He will not always accuse us,  
nor will he keep his anger for ever.

He has not dealt with us according to our sins,  
nor rewarded us according to our wickedness. **Refrain.**

For as the heavens are high above the earth,  
so is his mercy great upon those who fear him.

As far as the east is from the west,  
so far has he removed our sins from us.

As a father cares for his children,  
so does the Lord care for those who fear him.  
For he himself knows whereof we are made;  
he remembers that we are but dust.

Our days are like the grass;  
we flourish like a flower of the field;  
When the wind goes over it, it is gone,  
and its place shall know it no more.  
But the merciful goodness of the Lord endures for ever on those who fear him,  
and his righteousness on children's children;  
On those who keep his covenant  
and remember his commandments and do them.  
The Lord has set his throne in heaven,  
and his kingship has dominion over all. **Refrain.**

Bless the Lord, you angels of his,  
you mighty ones who do his bidding,  
and hearken to the voice of his word.  
Bless the Lord, all you his hosts,  
you ministers of his who do his will.  
Bless the Lord, all you works of his,  
in all places of his dominion;  
bless the Lord, O my soul.

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.

**Gospel Reading**

**John 3:22-30**

Br. Jason Carroll

*Reader* The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

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

<sup>22</sup> After this, Jesus and his disciples went out into the Judean countryside, where he spent some time with them, and baptized. <sup>23</sup> Now John also was baptizing at Aenon near Salim, because there was plenty of water, and people were coming and being baptized. <sup>24</sup> (This was before John was put in prison.) <sup>25</sup> An argument developed between some of John's disciples and a certain Jew over the matter of ceremonial washing. <sup>26</sup> They came to John and said to

him, “Rabbi, that man who was with you on the other side of the Jordan—the one you testified about—look, he is baptizing, and everyone is going to him.”

<sup>27</sup> To this John replied, “A person can receive only what is given them from heaven. <sup>28</sup> You yourselves can testify that I said, ‘I am not the Messiah but am sent ahead of him.’ <sup>29</sup> The bride belongs to the bridegroom. The friend who attends the bridegroom waits and listens for him, and is full of joy when he hears the bridegroom’s voice. That joy is mine, and it is now complete. <sup>30</sup> He must become greater; I must become less.”

<sup>22</sup> After this, Jesus and his disciples went out into the Judean countryside, where he spent some time with them, and baptized. <sup>23</sup> Now John also was baptizing at Aenon near Salim, because there was plenty of water, and people were coming and being baptized. <sup>24</sup> (This was before John was put in prison.) <sup>25</sup> An argument developed between some of John’s disciples and a certain Jew over the matter of ceremonial washing. <sup>26</sup> They came to John and said to him, “Rabbi, that man who was with you on the other side of the Jordan—the one you testified about—look, he is baptizing, and everyone is going to him.”

<sup>27</sup> To this John replied, “A person can receive only what is given them from heaven. <sup>28</sup> You yourselves can testify that I said, ‘I am not the Messiah but am sent ahead of him.’ <sup>29</sup> The bride belongs to the bridegroom. The friend who attends the bridegroom waits and listens for him, and is full of joy when he hears the bridegroom’s voice. That joy is mine, and it is now complete. <sup>30</sup> He must become greater; I must become less.”

*At the conclusion of the Gospel, the reader says, The Gospel of Christ.*

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

**Musical Reflection      “Joy to the World”**

**Affirmation of Faith**

**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 and Thanksgivings** *(all kneeling)*

#### **Advent Litany**

(In joyful expectation let us pray to our Saviour and Redeemer, saying, "Lord Jesus, come soon!")

O Wisdom, from the mouth of the Most High, you reign over all things to the ends of the earth: come and teach us how to live.

**Lord Jesus, come soon!**

O Lord, and head of the house of Israel, you appeared to Moses in the fire of the burning bush and you gave the law on Sinai: come with outstretched arm and ransom us.

**Lord Jesus, come soon!**

O Branch of Jesse, standing as a sign among the nations, all kings will keep silence before you and all peoples will summon you to their aid: come, set us free and delay no more.

**Lord Jesus, come soon!**

O Key of David and sceptre of the house of Israel, you open and none can shut; you shut and none can open: come and free the captives from prison.

**Lord Jesus, come soon!**

O Morning Star, splendour of the light eternal and bright Sun of righteousness: come and enlighten all who dwell in darkness and in the shadow of death.

**Lord Jesus, come soon!**

O King of the nations, you alone can fulfil their desires:  
Cornerstone, you make opposing nations one: come and save  
the creature you fashioned from clay.

**Lord Jesus, come soon!**

O Emmanuel, hope of the nations and their Saviour: come and  
save us, Lord our God.

**Lord Jesus, come soon!**

## The Collect

**God of power and mercy,  
you call us once again  
to celebrate the coming of your Son.  
Remove those things which hinder love of you,  
that when he comes,  
he may find us waiting in awe and wonder  
for him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.**

## The Lord's Prayer

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

*People* **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.**

## Dismissal

*Presider* Let us bless the Lord.

**People** **Thanks be to God. Alleluia.**

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.**

**Postlude** Carol of the Bells

---



## **Schedule for Livestream Prayer and Worship:**

**Morning Prayer** - Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays @ 9:00am

**Evening Prayer** - Tuesdays and Thursdays @ 6:00pm

**Compline** - Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays @ 8:45 pm

## **Advent & Christmas Events and Services**

*All services are livestream only and accessible through the church website*

<b>Advent Carol Service</b>	Sunday, Nov. 29 @ 4:00pm
<b>Jazz Vespers</b>	Sunday, Dec. 6 @ 4:00pm
<b>Christmas Program</b>	Sunday, Dec. 13 @ 10:00AM
<b>Jazz Vespers</b>	Sunday, Dec. 13 @ 4:00pm
<b>Nine Lessons &amp; Carols</b>	Sunday, Dec. 20 @ 4:00pm
<b>Christmas Eve</b>	Thursday, Dec. 24
	❖ Holy Communion (candlelight) @ 7:00pm
<b>Christmas Day</b>	NO SERVICE!!
<b>First Sunday in Christmas</b>	Sunday, Dec. 27 @ 10:00am
<b>Epiphany Sunday</b>	Sunday, Jan. 3 @ 10:00am

### **St. Augustine's Anglican Church**

411-11 Street South

Lethbridge, Alberta T1J 2N9

Phone: 327-3970

Fax: 327-7849

Email: [office@staug.org](mailto:office@staug.org)

Website: [www.staug.org](http://www.staug.org)