



# CHRIST CHURCH CATHEDRAL OTTAWA

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*A diverse and vibrant parish that glorifies God and welcomes all people*

## PROPHETS OF THE OLD TESTAMENT

December 10th, 2021

9 pm Compline (Live-streamed)

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The Lord Almighty grant us a quiet night and a perfect end. **Amen.**

O God, make speed to save us;

**O Lord, make haste to help us.**

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;

**As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.**

Praise ye the Lord;

**The Lord's name be praised.**

### Psalm 46

God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear, though the earth be moved, and though the mountains be toppled into the depths of the sea; Though its waters rage and foam, and though the mountains tremble at its tumult. The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our stronghold. There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, the holy habitation of the Most High. God is in the midst of her; she shall not be overthrown; God shall help her at the break of day. The nations make much ado, and the kingdoms are shaken; God has spoken, and the earth shall melt away. The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our stronghold. Come now and look upon the works of the Lord, what awesome things he has done on earth. It is he who makes war to cease in all the world; he breaks the bow, and shatters the spear, and burns the shields with fire. "Be still, then, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations; I will be exalted in the earth." The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

### Lesson

*Mark 1:1-11*

The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. As it is written in the prophet Isaiah, "See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way; the voice of one crying out in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight,'" John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And people from the whole Judean

countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. He proclaimed, "The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with<sup>[a]</sup> the Holy Spirit." In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

Here endeth the lesson.

**Thanks be to God.**

Into thy hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit;

**Into thy hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit.**

For thou hast redeemed me, O Lord, thou God of truth;

**I commend my spirit.**

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;

**Into thy hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit.**

**Office Hymn**

*Te lucis ante terminum*

*Before the ending of the day,  
Creator of the world, we pray  
That with thy wonted favour thou  
Wouldst be our guard and keeper now.*

*From all ill dreams defend our eyes,  
From nightly fears and fantasies;  
Tread under foot our ghostly foe,  
That no pollution we may know.*

*O Father, that we ask be done,  
Through Jesus Christ, thine only Son;  
Who, with the Holy Ghost and thee,  
Doth live and reign eternally. Amen.*

Keep us as the apple of thine eye;  
**Hide us under the shadow of thy wings.**

**Nunc Dimittis with Antiphon**

*Preserve us, O Lord, waking, and guard us sleeping, that awake we may watch with Christ, and asleep we may rest in peace.*

*Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace, according to thy word. For mine eyes have seen thy salvation, which thou hast prepared before the face of all people;*

*To be a light to lighten the Gentiles, and to be the glory of thy people Israel. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.*

*Preserve us, O Lord, waking, and guard us sleeping, that awake we may watch with Christ, and asleep we may rest in peace.*

## **The Apostles' Creed**

Let us confess the faith of our baptism, as we say,

**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.**

Let us pray.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

**Christ, have mercy upon us.**

Lord, have mercy upon us.

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.**

Blessed art thou, Lord God of our ancestors;

**To be praised and glorified above all for ever.**

Let us bless the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost;

**Let us praise him and magnify him for ever.**

Blessed art thou, O Lord, in the firmament of heaven;

**To be praised and glorified above all for ever.**

The Almighty and most merciful Lord guard us and give us his blessing. **Amen.**

## **Confession and Absolution**

We confess to God Almighty,

**the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, through our own grievous fault. Wherefore we pray God to have mercy upon us. Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us all our sins and deliver us from all evil,**

**confirm and strengthen us in all goodness, and bring us to life everlasting; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

May the Almighty and merciful Lord grant unto you pardon and remission of all your sins, time for amendment of life, and the grace and comfort of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Wilt thou not turn again and quicken us;

**That thy people may rejoice in thee?**

O Lord, show thy mercy upon us;

**And grant us thy salvation.**

Vouchsafe, O Lord, to keep us this night without sin;

**O Lord, have mercy upon us, have mercy upon us.**

O Lord, hear our prayer;

**And let our cry come unto thee.**

### **The Collect of the Day**

Almighty God, who raised up your servants the prophets to recall the children of Israel to faithfulness in the way of your covenant, grant us your Spirit, we pray, that we may hear their witness and offer to you the oblations of compassion and mercy; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Visit, we beseech thee, O Lord, this place, and drive from it all the snares of the enemy; let thy holy angels dwell herein to preserve us in peace; and may thy blessing be upon us evermore; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Almighty and everlasting God, you despise nothing you have made and forgive the sins of all who are penitent. Create and make in us new and contrite hearts, that we, worthily lamenting our sins and acknowledging our brokenness, may obtain of you, the God of all mercy, perfect remission and forgiveness; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

O Lord Jesus Christ, Son of the living God, who at this evening hour didst rest in the sepulchre, and didst thereby sanctify the grave to be a bed of hope to thy people: Make us so to abound in sorrow for our sins, which were the cause of thy passion, that when our bodies lie in the dust, our souls may live with thee; who livest and reignest with the Father and the Holy Ghost, one God, world without end. **Amen.**

Look down, O Lord, from thy heavenly throne, illuminate the darkness of this night with thy celestial brightness, and from the children of light banish the deeds of darkness; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Be present, O merciful God, and protect us through the silent hours of this night, so that we who are wearied by the changes and chances of this fleeting world, may repose upon thy eternal changelessness; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## Hymn

*Christe, qui lux es et dies*

*O Christ, who art the light and day,  
Thou drivest night and gloom away;  
O Light of Light, whose word doth show  
The light of heav'n to us below.*

*All-holy Lord, in humble prayer  
We ask tonight thy watchful care.  
O grant us calm repose in thee,  
A quiet night, from perils free.*

*Asleep though wearied eyes may be,  
Still keep the heart awake to thee;  
Let thy right hand outstretched above  
Guard those who serve the Lord they love.*

*All praise to God the Father be,  
All praise, eternal Son, to thee,  
Whom with the Spirit we adore  
Forever and forevermore. Amen.*

We will lay us down in peace and take our rest;  
**For it is thou, Lord, only, that makest us dwell in safety.**

The Lord be with you;  
**And with thy spirit.**

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

The Almighty and merciful Lord, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, bless and preserve us. **Amen.**

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Officiant  
Cantor

Canon Doug Richards  
Andrew McAnerney

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Liturgy: *The Book of Common Prayer* ©1962 the General Synod of the Anglican Church of Canada. Reading: *New Revised Standard Version Bible (NRSV)* Anglicized Edition, ©1989, 1995, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America.

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## PROPHETS OF THE OLD TESTAMENT

Today we remember the prophets of the Old Testament and number them among the true saints and witnesses of Christ – not because some of their sayings may be construed as foretelling his birth, but because they recalled Israel and Judah to God's

covenant and uttered the word of God's justice so that the people might return and seek redemption from the Lord. Prophecy took many forms in ancient Israel and was specially associated with "speaking in tongues," or the gift of ecstatic speech which could often sound like nothing more than musical babbling but was in fact uttering praise to God in the power of the Spirit. The first two kings of Israel, Saul and David, manifested this form of prophecy. But so did the prophets of the gods of the heathen – and, as a result, Israel began to look for more in the prophets of the one true God. They sought qualities like faithfulness to the inner meaning of God's covenant with Moses and the ability to relate Israel's contemporary experience of defeat and exile to the great passover out of Egypt into the Promised Land. These were precisely the qualities found in the writings of the prophets which are included in the canon of the Old Testament; and we honour them during this season of Advent, because they show us how to expect the coming of Christ – in justice, in mercy, and as the fulfilment of the great passover of all creation, when we shall finally return from our exile and enter the true promised land.

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