

St. Paul's Church
The Anglican Parish of Rothesay
December 24, 2016

The Feast of the Nativity of our Lord Jesus Christ

6:00 p.m. Holy Eucharist – Family Service
The Book of Alternative Services

Organ Prelude: "The First Noel"...David Paxton,
Based on a traditional English Carol

Processional Carol 154 "Joy to the World"

The Gathering of the Community

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

Celebrant Almighty God,
All **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 Collect for Christmas

Celebrant Eternal God, this holy night is radiant with the brilliance of
your one true light. As we have known the revelation of that
light on earth, bring us to see the splendour of your
heavenly glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive
and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and
for ever. **Amen.**

Proclamation of the Word

Isaiah 9: 2-7, page 638 of the Pew Bible
Read by Reta Dunlop-King

"Born On A Christmas Day"...Julie Knowles

Soloist Ashley Bishop

Gloria in Excelsis Deo

The Holy Gospel: St. Luke 2: 1-14, page 58 of the Pew Bible

Sermon

The Prayers of the Youth (led by Sophia Parsons & Rob Montgomery)

Lord Jesus Christ, you invite us to pray for one another. Help us to pray for people everywhere, especially remembering all children, young people, families, and all their needs.

We pray for those parts of the world where there is fighting, war, and terror. We pray for those who have had to flee from their homes, and who now live in tents and shelters, and do not know if they will ever see their homes and neighbours again. Bless them Jesus with courage.

Lord in your mercy... **hear our prayer**

We pray for people everywhere who are sick. There are many frightening diseases, that hurt our bodies and our minds. It's frightening to be sick, and not to know if you are going to get better. Bless them Jesus with healing.

Lord in your mercy... **hear our prayer**

We pray for people who are bullied and abused, not only in their schools and communities, but also online. Some people are treated badly just because they are different. Everyone needs to have friends, who are loyal and kind. Bless them Jesus with true friendships.

Lord in your mercy... **hear our prayer**

We pray for families. Christmas is a time for families, but some families are broken. Some families cannot be together. Some families have serious troubles. Bless all families Jesus with understanding and peace.

Lord in your mercy... **hear our prayer**

On this holy night, we pray that children in all parts of the world would be safe, happy, free, and valued. May they have all that they need to grow, develop, and flourish. May they have a Christmas filled with laughter, joy, and love.

Lord in your mercy... **hear our prayer**

As we prepare to receive the bread of life, let us confess our sins, confident in God's mercy and 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.**

Priest 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.**

Priest The Peace of the Lord be always with you.
People **And also with you.**

Offertory Carol 120
“O Little Town of Bethlehem”

Eucharistic Prayer

Celebrant The Lord be with you

All **And also with you**

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

All **We lift them up unto the Lord.**

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

Celebrant We give you thanks and praise almighty God, through your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Redeemer. He is your living Word through whom you have created all things.

By the power of the Holy Spirit he took flesh of the Virgin Mary and shared our human nature. He lived and died as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all. In fulfillment of your will he stretched out his hands in suffering, to bring release to those who place their hope in you; and so he won for you a holy people. He chose to bear

our griefs and sorrows, and to give up his life on the cross, that he might shatter the chains of evil and despair. By his resurrection he brings us into the light of your presence. Now with all creation we raise our voices to proclaim the glory of his name.

All **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.**

Celebrant Holy and gracious God, accept our praise, through your Son Jesus Christ; who on the night he was handed over to suffering and death, took bread and gave you thanks, saying, "Take, and eat: this is my body which is broken for you." In the same way he took the cup, saying, "This is my blood which is shed for you. When you do this, you do it in memory of me." We ask you to send your Holy Spirit upon the offering of your Church. Gather into one all who share in these sacred mysteries, filling them with the Holy Spirit and confirming their faith in the truth, that together we may praise you and give you glory through your servant Jesus Christ. **Amen**

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

All **Our Father ...**

The Breaking of the Bread

Celebrant We break this bread of life, and that life is the light of the world.

All **God here among us, light in the midst of us, bring us to light and life.**

Celebrant *The gifts of God for the people of God*

All **Thanks be to God.**

Communion will be offered at the communion rail and at a side station near the lectern. If you receive Communion in your own church, you are welcome to receive Communion with us tonight. Children are invited to come forward for a blessing.

Carols During Communion

126 "Away in a Manger"

"Night of Silence"...Daniel Kantor

Ted & Beth Sayre

123 "Once in Royal David's City"

Prayer after Communion

Celebrant Father of all, tonight you have united earth and heaven in sending your Son to take our human nature. May we who have tasted heavenly things share in the life of his eternal kingdom. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.

All **Amen.**

Celebrant Glory to God,
All **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

Carol 138

"Hark! The Herald Angels Sing"

Organ Postlude: "Joy to the World"

Alfred V. Fedak





Leading in Worship

Celebrant: Canon Albert Snelgrove

Asst: Robert Montgomery

Layreaders: Anne Compton
Reta Dunlop-King
Robert Taylor

Servers: Liam Fowlie
Logan Fowlie
Ian Crossley

Lector: Trudy Walker

Oblations: The Dykeman Family

Sidespeople: Bruce Cook
Harry Crossley



*Flowers for our Christmas Services
have been given to the Glory of God
and in loving memory of:*

*Marguerite & Donald Elgee and Aline & Wilmot McCluskey
by Jeffrey & Dawn McCluskey*

Doug Beckingham by Gloria & the Boys

Douglas Soper by the Family

The Rev. Pat Blagrove by the Family

*Our Parents,
Captain Charles Stark,
Percival & Sarah Smith,
and Dear Aunt Nancy Wilson
by Clare & Allan Smith*

*Our Parents
Paul & Joan (Pirrie) Keirstead and William & Anna May (Bell) Thorne
by Richard & Sandra Thorne*

Captain Randall May by the Family

Bert Seely by Marge & the Family

*Wesley & Rita Foote, Thomas & Mary Holden
Sandra Holden and Thomas Holden Jr.
by Lloyd & Sheila Foote and Family*

Helen Crawford by the Family

Paul Demerson by the Family

Charles Kyle by the family

Lynne Golding by Fr. Jim Golding