



Sherbrooke Mossspark Parish Church
Sunday 12th December 2021
3rd Sunday of Advent

ORDER OF SERVICE

Voluntary Magnificat primi toni, BuxWV 203 – D. Buxtehude

**Call to
Worship** *All that I am
sings of the God
who brings his life
to birth in me.
My spirit soars
on the wings of my Lord.
He has smiled on me
and the blaze of his smile
no woman or man
shall ever forget.*

*My God is a gentle strength
who has caught me up
and carried me to greatness.
His love
space cannot hold
nor time age
and all quicken to his touch.*

Praise 304 O little town of Bethlehem

1 O little town of Bethlehem,
how still we see you lie!
Above your deep and dreamless sleep
the silent stars go by;
yet, in your dark streets shining
the everlasting Light;
the hopes and fears of all the years
are met in you tonight.

2 O morning stars, together
proclaim the holy birth
and praises sing to God the King,
and peace to all on earth.
For Christ is born of Mary;
and, gathered all above,
while mortals sleep, the angels keep
their watch of wondering love.

3 How silently, how silently,
the wondrous gift is given!
So God imparts to human hearts
the blessings of his heaven.
No ear may hear his coming:
but in this world of sin,
where meek souls will receive him, still
the dear Christ enters in.

4 O holy child of Bethlehem,
descend to us, we pray;
cast out our sin, and enter in;
be born in us today.
We hear the Christmas angels
the great glad tidings tell:
O come to us, abide with us,
our Lord Emmanuel.

Prayers of approach confession and the Lord's Prayer

All-age Talk

Praise 300 The virgin Mary had a baby boy

1 The Virgin Mary had a baby boy,
the Virgin Mary had a baby boy,
the Virgin Mary had a baby boy
and they say that his name is Jesus.

*He come from the glory,
he come from the glorious kingdom;
He come from the glory,
he come from the glorious kingdom.
O yes, believer!
O yes, believer!
He come from the glory,
he come from the glorious kingdom.*

2 The angels sang when the baby was born,
the angels sang when the baby was born,
the angels sang when the baby was born
and they sang that his name is Jesus. [*Refrain*]

3 The shepherds came where the baby was born,
the shepherds came where the baby was born,
the shepherds came where the baby was born
and they say that his name is Jesus. [*Refrain*]

**Old
Testament**

Micah 5:2-5a

(p.820)

2 But you, O Bethlehem Eph'rathah, who are little to be among the clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to be ruler in Israel, whose origin is from of old, from ancient days. 3 Therefore he shall give them up until the time when she who is in travail has brought forth; then the rest of his brethren shall return to the people of Israel. 4 And he shall stand and feed his flock in the strength of the LORD, in the majesty of the name of the LORD his God. And they shall dwell secure, for now he shall be great to the ends of the earth. 5 And this shall be peace, when the Assyrian comes into our land and treads upon our soil, that we will raise against him seven shepherds and eight princes of men;

Anthem *Gabriel's message* – D. Willcocks

The Angel Gabriel from heaven came,
His wings as drifted snow, his eyes as flame:
"All hail", said he, "thou lowly maiden Mary,
Most highly favour'd lady,"
Gloria!

"For known a blessed Mother thou shalt be,
All generations laud and honour thee,
Thy Son shall be Emmanuel, by seers foretold.
Most highly favour'd lady,"
Gloria!

Then gentle Mary meekly bowed her head,
"To me be as it pleased God," she said,
"My soul shall laud and magnify His Holy Name."
Most highly favour'd lady,
Gloria!

Of her, Emmanuel, the Christ, was born
In Bethlehem, all on a Christmas morn,
And Christian folk throughout the world will ever say—
Most highly favour'd lady,
Gloria!

Gospel Luke 1:39-55

(p.54)

39 In those days Mary arose and went with haste into the hill country, to a city of Judah, **40** and she entered the house of Zechari'ah and greeted Elizabeth. **41** And when Elizabeth heard the greeting of Mary, the babe leaped in her womb; and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit **42** and she exclaimed with a loud cry, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb! **43** And why is this granted me, that the mother of my Lord should come to me? **44** For behold, when the voice of your greeting came to my ears, the babe in my womb leaped for joy. **45** And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfilment of what was spoken to her from the Lord." **46** And Mary said, "My soul magnifies the Lord, **47** and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, **48** for he has regarded the low estate of his handmaiden. For behold, henceforth all generations will call me blessed; **49** for he who is mighty has done great things for me, and holy is his name. **50** And his mercy is on those who fear him from generation to generation. **51** He has shown strength with his arm, he has scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts, **52** he has put down the mighty from their thrones, and exalted those of low degree; **53** he has filled the hungry with good things, and the rich he has sent empty away. **54** He has helped his servant Israel, in remembrance of his mercy, **55** as he spoke to our fathers, to Abraham and to his posterity for ever."

Prayers of Thanksgiving and Intercessions

Praise 287 No wind at the window

1 No wind at the window,
no knock on the door;
no light from the lampstand,
no foot on the floor;
no dream born of tiredness,
no ghost raised by fear:
just an angel and a woman
and a voice in her ear.

2 ‘O Mary: O Mary,
don’t hide from my face.
Be glad that you’re favoured
and filled with God’s grace.
The time for redeeming
the world has begun;
and you are requested
to mother God’s Son.’

3 ‘This child must be born
that the kingdom might come:
salvation for many,
destruction for some;
both end and beginning,
both message and sign;
both victor and victim,
both yours and divine.

4 No payment was promised,
no promises made;
no wedding was dated,
no blueprint displayed.
Yet Mary, consenting
to what none could guess,
replied with conviction,
‘Tell God I say, “Yes”.

SERMON
Sorry to interrupt

1 Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord!
Unnumbered blessings give my spirit voice;
tender to me the promise of his word;
in God my Saviour shall my heart rejoice.

2 Tell out, my soul, the greatness of his name!
Make known his might, the deeds his arm has done;
his mercy sure, from age to age the same;
his holy name, the Lord, the Mighty One.

3 Tell out, my soul, the greatness of his might!
Powers and dominions lay their glory by;
Proud hearts and stubborn wills are put to flight,
the hungry fed, the humble lifted high.

4 Tell out, my soul, the glories of his word!
Firm is his promise, and his mercy sure.
Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord
to children's children and forever more!

BLESSING

Voluntary *Magnificat VI from 15 versets sur les Vepres de la Vierge – M. Dupré*

Covid Health & Safety Framework update: the Covid sub-committee have now updated the health and safety framework with effect from 6th December 2021. Further details can be found on the Church website; the key aspects are:

- **Masks:** to be worn inside the sanctuary (throughout the service) and in the hall while moving around
- **Singing:** please stand and sing with your masks on for all hymns if you wish.
- **Seating:** a return of the church pews with no allocation of seating; preregistering to attend services is still advisable.
- **Sanctuary and Halls:** in order to maximise ventilation throughout our church buildings, various doors will remain open both in the Sanctuary and Halls. We are also monitoring carbon dioxide levels both in the Sanctuary and Halls.
- **Movement between Sanctuary and Halls:** please take your time and keep your distance as a one-way system is no longer required. Please use the internal stairs or the east transept ramp to move between the Sanctuary and Halls. Adam will return to greeting people in the main entrance vestibule after the service.
- **Tea and Coffee:** we've taken every precaution to keep us all safe which means wearing a mask when not seated, sanitising, sitting at tables and individually prepared biscuits and cakes. Please bring your own cup if you would prefer although recyclable disposables will be used. It's not yet back to normal, but the benefits of meeting up and chatting is worth the effort we think.

Notices

Christmas Services: the following services and events are being planned to celebrate the Christmas season:

- Sunday 19th December – **Alternativity**
- Tuesday 21st December, 7.30pm – Carols by Candlelight
- Friday 24th December, 11.15pm – Watchnight Service
- Saturday 25th December, 10.30am – Christmas Day Service
- Sunday 26th December, 10.30am – Juke Box Fund – more details to follow.

Thursday Morning Service: is a St Leo's this week @ 10.30am

AM Chorus: Christmas Meetup - Wednesday 15th December at 2pm! (Note new afternoon time) A chance to get in to the Christmas spirit and sing through some festive favourites. New comers very welcome, please contact Alice (email: alicelovesharps@gmail.com) to get on the emailing list for further info!

The 159th Scout Group: will be delivering Christmas cards this year. The collection box will be at the back of the church on 5th and 12th December. Donations are gratefully received and used to help fund the group's activities.

Stamps: Before you throw out your Christmas card envelopes please can you remove the stamps from them the church would be grateful to collect any stamps which you may receive. Please place them in the basket in the front entrance labelled "Stamps"--- with a half inch rim if possible. The stamps are sent on to the Church of Scotland World Mission Stamp. For more information see Church of Scotland Stamp Appeal.

Life & Work: Subscriptions for next year's magazines are now due. The cost for an annual subscription (12 issues) is **£30**. Please pass your cash/cheques (made payable to the Church) to the office.

Mince Pies: In order to provide Mince Pies after Carols by Candlelight, we are making our annual request for packets to be brought and left in the kitchen on the next two Sundays. We have worked out how to present them within Covid hospitality guidelines. Many thanks

Should you wish we have printed a large version of the Order of Service please see one of the Door Team if you would like one.

Minister: Adam Dillon

Organist: John Gormley

Beadle: Cameron Aitken

Welcome Team Maureen Burton
Albert Burton
Carole Mackie
Janet Lamb
Neil Buchanan

Publicity & website: Mags Cargey

Reader: Carole Mackie

Flowers The Christmas decorations have been kindly donated by The Flower Committee and donations from the congregation

CCL 242960/ 342327

Sherbrooke Mossspark Parish Church

240 Nithsdale Rd Glasgow G41 5AD

Tel. 0141 427 1968

Website: sherbrookemossspark.com

e-mail: sherbrooke-init@btconnect.com

Scottish Registered Charity: SC.015155