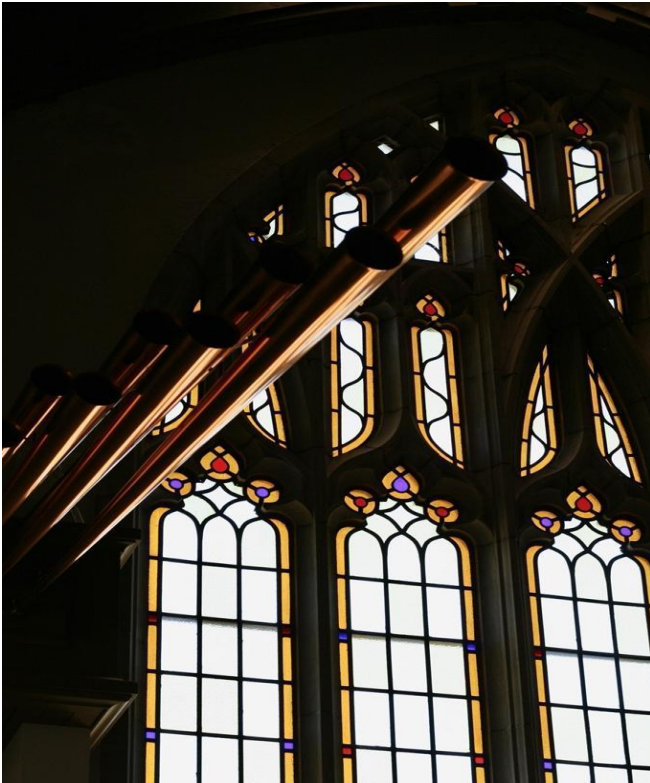


November 19, 2023

7pm

Night Church

"Yours is the day, yours also the night."
Psalm 74:16



Loving God. Loving People.
Growing in Christ Together.

Leading: The Rev. Brian Suggs

Welcome

The Greeting:

Leader: We come from scattered lives to meet with God.
Let us recognize his presence with us.

A candle is lit.

All: As God's people we have gathered:
let us worship him together.

Opening Prayer:

Leader: Almighty God,
your Son has opened for us
a new and living way into your presence.
Give us new hearts and constant wills
to worship you in spirit and in truth;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All: **Amen.**

Song of Praise:
Even So Come
Chris Tomlin

Verse 1:

All of creation, all of the earth
Make straight a highway, a path for the Lord
Jesus is coming soon
Call back the sinner, wake up the saint
Let every nation shout of Your fame
Jesus is coming soon

Chorus:

Like a bride, waiting for her groom
We'll be a church ready for You
Every heart longing for our King, we sing
Even so come, Lord Jesus come
Even so come, Lord Jesus come

Verse 2:

There will be justice, all will be new
Your name forever Faithful and true
Jesus is coming soon

Chorus

Bridge:

So we wait, we wait for You
God we wait, You're coming soon

Chorus

Bible Reading:
Psalm 123

I lift my eyes to you,
O God, enthroned in heaven.

We keep looking to the LORD our God for his mercy,
**just as servants keep their eyes on their master, as a slave
girl watches her mistress for the slightest signal.**

Have mercy on us, LORD, have mercy,
for we have had our fill of contempt.

We have had more than our fill of the scoffing of the proud
and the contempt of the arrogant.

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.

Bible Reading:
1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

A reading from the First Letter to the Thessalonians.

Now concerning how and when all this will happen, dear brothers and sisters, we don't really need to write you. For you know quite well that the day of the Lord's return will come unexpectedly, like a thief in the night. When people are saying, "Everything is peaceful and secure," then disaster will fall on them as suddenly as a pregnant woman's labor pains begin. And there will be no escape. But you aren't in the dark about these things, dear brothers and sisters, and you won't be surprised when the day of the Lord comes like a thief. For you are all children of the light and of the day; we don't belong to darkness and night. So be on your guard, not asleep like the others. Stay alert and be clearheaded. Night is the time when people sleep and drinkers get drunk. But let us who live in the light be clearheaded, protected by the armor of faith and love, and wearing as our helmet the confidence of our salvation. For God chose to save us through our Lord Jesus Christ, not to pour out his anger on us. Christ died for us so that, whether we are dead or alive when he returns, we can live with him forever. So encourage each other and build each other up, just as you are already doing.

The Talk:
The Rev. Brian Suggs

Response to God's Word:

After hearing the scriptures read and hearing more about them during 'the talk', we respond with our beliefs about who God is.

Leader: Do you believe and trust in God the Father?

All: **I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

Leader: Do you believe and trust in his Son Jesus Christ?

All: **I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the power of the Holy
Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary,
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,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come again to judge the living and
the dead.**

Leader: Do you believe and trust in the Holy Spirit?

All: **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.**

Song of Praise:
No Longer Slaves
Bethel Music

Verse 1:

You unravel me, with a melody
You surround me with a song
of deliverance, from my enemies
Till all my fears are gone

Chorus:

I'm no longer a slave to fear, I am a child of God
I'm no longer a slave to fear, I am a child of God

Verse 2:

From my Mother's womb, You have chosen me
Love has called my name
I've been born again, into a family
Your blood flows through my veins

Chorus

Bridge:

Oh oh, oh oh oh,

Oh oh, oh oh oh

You split the sea, so I could walk right through it
My fears were drowned in perfect love
You rescued me, so I could stand and sing
I am child of God, I am child of God

Chorus

Prayer:

This is a time to bring those people and things that are on our hearts and minds to God. Intercessions (prayers said for others) are offered and we end by saying the prayer that Jesus taught us, The Lord's Prayer.

We pray to Jesus, Lord of life, in your mercy, hear us.

That the rest of this day may be holy,
peaceful and full of your presence;
in faith we pray.

We pray to you our God.

That the work we have done and the people we have met
today may bring us closer to you;
in faith we pray.

We pray to you our God.

That we may hear and respond to your call to peace and
justice; *[take a moment to pray for our world and those places where
God's peace and justice aren't yet seen]*

in faith we pray.

We pray to you our God.

That you will sustain the faith and hope of those who are
lonely, oppressed and anxious; *[take a moment and pray those who
are shut-in, without a home, without family/friends, paralyzed by fear,
weighed down by worry]*

in faith we pray.

We pray to you our God.

That you will strengthen us in your service,
and fill our hearts with longing for your kingdom;
in faith we pray.

We pray to you our God.

We bring to you now all those whom we love and all those
things that weigh us down *[take a moment and name those on your
hearts and any worries or burdens you have]*

in faith we pray.

We pray to you our God.

God of mercy,
**you know us and love us and hear our prayer:
keep us in the eternal fellowship of Jesus Christ our
Saviour. Amen.**

Leader: We praise the Father, and pray in the words of Christ himself.

All: **Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours
now and for ever. Amen.**

Prayer of Confession:

During confession we all say sorry to God and ask for forgiveness for the wrong things (called sin) we've done and for the things we've thought in our minds that aren't pleasing to God. We also say sorry and ask forgiveness for the things we haven't done but should have done. We don't always mean to do wrong (sin), but we do. We all need God's forgiveness, so we ask for it. God has promised to always forgive us and never to remember our sin again.

Leader: Christ himself bore our sins in his body on the cross so that, free from sin, we might live for righteousness; by his wounds we have been healed.
Let us confess our sins.

1 Peter 2:24

All: Lord God,
we have sinned against you;
we have done evil in your sight.
We are sorry and repent.
Have mercy on us according to your love.
Wash away our wrongdoing
and cleanse us from our sin.
Renew a right spirit within us
and restore us to the joy of your salvation,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Absolution:
The priest now confirms God's forgiveness of us all.

Leader: May the God of love and power
forgive you and free you from your sins,
heal and strengthen you by his Spirit,
and raise you to new life in Christ our Lord.
Amen.

The Peace:
*Just as we've made peace with God through confession, this
is an opportunity to make peace with one another. You're
invited to greet one another.*

Leader: The peace of the Lord be always with you.
People: **And also with you.**

Song of Praise:
Only a Holy God
City Alight

Verse 1

Who else commands all the hosts of heaven
Who else could make every king bow down
Who else can whisper and darkness trembles
Only a Holy God

Verse 2

What other beauty demands such praises
What other splendour outshines the sun
What other majesty rules with the justice
Only a Holy God

Chorus

Come and behold Him
The One and the Only
Cry out, sing holy
Forever a Holy God
Come and worship the Holy God

Verse 3

What other glory consumes like fire
What other power can raise the dead
What other name remains undefeated
Only a Holy God

Chorus x2**Verse 4**

Who else could rescue me from my failing
Who else would offer His only Son
Who else invites me to call Him Father
Only a Holy God
Only my Holy God

Chorus

Ending: Come and worship the Holy God

Closing Prayer:

All: **God, you are everything to us,
giving us life,
filling us with love,
and setting us free from sin
that we might live in you.
Accept the work of our hands this day,
take our lives,
give us your peace
and renew us in the service of
Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Blessing:

Leader: May God give to you and to all those you love
his comfort and his peace, his light and his joy,
in this world and the next; and the blessing of
God – Father, Son, and Holy Spirit – be upon you
and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Looking ahead:

Coming up this fall

Nov 19, 11:30am - Strategic Plan
Townhall

Nov 26, 11:30am - Newcomers Lunch

Dec 3, 11:30am - Lunch and Learn with
Bishop Stephen Andrews

Dec 3 - 1pm service begins

Dec 10, 8:45am - Advent Breakfast

Dec 17, 10am - Lessons & Carols service

Dec 17, 4pm Out of the Cold Concert at
Our Lady of Sorrows Catholic Church

Dec 24, 10am - Advent 4

Dec 24, 4pm, 7pm, 11pm - Christmas
Eve services



Online Connect Card



Give your offerings online