



This service is Livestreamed via Facebook and the Parish website.

*We welcome everyone worshipping with us today whether in person or online. www.sthelensurrey.ca
www.facebook.com/sainthelensurrey*

The Liturgy of The Word

Words of Welcome and Acknowledgment

We give thanks that we live, work, play, and worship on the traditional and unceded territory of the Coast Salish peoples including the Katzee, Tsawwassen, Semiahmoo and Kwantlen Nations. May our words and our actions reflect our awareness and appreciation of this.

Introit Hymn: CP 138 Hark the Herald Angels Sing

Blessing of the Creche

A hallowed day has dawned upon us. Come and worship the Lord:
for a great light has shone on the earth.

Hear the words of the book of Wisdom:

When peaceful silence lay overall and night was in the midst of her swift course, from your royal throne, O God, down from the heavens, leapt your almighty Word.

Hear the words of Saint John:

God's love for us was revealed when God sent his only Son into the world so that we could have life through him.

Thanks be to God.

Let us pray that God our Father will bless this crib, and that all who worship his Son, born of the Virgin Mary, may come to share his life in glory.

God our Father, on this night your Son Jesus Christ was born of the Virgin Mary for us and for our salvation:

bless this crib, which we have prepared to celebrate that holy birth; may all who see it be strengthened in faith and receive the fullness of life he came to bring, who is alive and reigns for ever.

Amen.

The Gathering of the Community

‘Do I not fill heaven and earth?’ says the Lord.

Now the Word is made flesh and laid in a narrow manger.

From eternity to eternity you are God,
and now we see you as a newborn child.

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

And also with you.

Gloria: CP 366

The Congregation stands for the Gloria

Glory in the highest glory, peace to all, in all their days.

**Worship, thanks, and praise unceasing to the source of all we raise:
reigning in the sapphire height, hidden from our mortal sight,
now receive our adoration, as we make our supplication.**

**Jesus Christ, the world’s redeemer, Lamb of God, for sinners given,
Word eternal, born of Mary, Word made flesh, the face of heaven:
holy one, to you we pray, hear us in the realms of day,
with the Spirit there united, and the God-head high exulted.**

Kyrie Confessions

God our Father,
you sent your Son full of grace and truth:
forgive our failure to receive him.

Lord, have mercy

Lord, have mercy.

Jesus our Saviour,
you were born in poverty and laid in a manger:
forgive our greed and rejection of your ways.
Christ, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy.

Spirit of Love,
your servant Mary responded joyfully to your call:
forgive the hardness of our hearts.
Lord, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.

Collect of the Day

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.

The Proclamation of the Word

First Reading: Isaiah 9: 2-7

A Reading from the prophet Isaiah,
The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived
in a land of deep darkness – on them light has shined. You have multiplied
the nation, you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at
the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder. For the yoke of their
burden, and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor, you have
broken as on the day of Midian. For all the boots of the tramping warriors and
all the garments rolled in blood shall be burned as fuel for the fire. For a child

has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onward and forevermore. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.

Listen to what the spirit is saying to the Church.

Thanks be to God

Psalm 96

Sing to the Lord a new song;
sing to the Lord, all the whole earth.

Sing to the Lord and bless his name;
proclaim the good news of his salvation from day to day.

Declare his glory among the nations
and his wonders among all peoples.

For great is the Lord and greatly to be praised;
he is more to be feared than all gods.

As for all the gods of the nations, they are but idols;
but it is the Lord who made the heavens.

Oh, the majesty and magnificence of his presence!
Oh, the power and the splendour of his sanctuary!

Ascribe to the Lord, you families of the peoples;
ascribe to the Lord honour and power.

Ascribe to the Lord the honour due his name;

bring offerings and come into his courts.

Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness;
let the whole earth tremble before him.

Tell it out among the nations: “The Lord is king!
**he has made the world so firm that it cannot be moved;
he will judge the peoples with equity.”**

Let the heavens rejoice, and let the earth be glad;
let the sea thunder and all that is in it;
let the field be joyful and all that is therein.

Then shall all the trees of the wood shout for joy
before the Lord when he comes,
when he comes to judge the earth.

He will judge the world with righteousness
and the peoples with his truth.

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.

Second Reading Titus 2: 11-14

A reading from the letter of Paul to Titus,
For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all, training us to renounce impiety and worldly passions, and in the present age to live lives that are self-controlled, upright, and godly, while we wait for the blessed hope and the manifestation of the glory of our great God and Saviour, Jesus Christ. He it is who gave himself for us that he might redeem us from all iniquity and purify for himself a people of his own who are zealous for good deeds.

Listen to what the spirit is saying to the Church
Thanks be to God

Gradual Hymn: CP 120 O Little Town of Bethlehem

Gospel: Luke 2: 1-20

Today Christ is born:

Alleluia.

Today the Saviour has come:

Alleluia.

Today the angels sing on earth:

Alleluia. Glory to God in the highest.

The holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to Luke

Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn. In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see – I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the

heavenly host, praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favours!"

When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us." So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

The Gospel of Christ

Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ

Homily:

Reverend Dr. Robin Ruder Celiz

Affirmation of Faith

The Congregation stands for the Affirmation of Faith

Let us declare our faith in God:

**We believe in God the Father,
from whom every family
in heaven and on earth is named.**

**We believe in God the Son,
who lives in our hearts through faith,
and fills us with his love.**

**We believe in God the Holy Spirit,
who strengthens us
with power from on high.**

**We believe in one God.
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
Amen.**

Prayers of the People

The Peace

Please rise as you are able

Unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given,
and his name shall be called the Prince of Peace.
The peace of the Lord be always with you
And also with you.

The Liturgy of the Table The Celebration of the Eucharist

Offertory Hymn: CP 153 Good Christians All Rejoice

Prayers over the Gifts

The Congregation remains standing for the Eucharistic Prayer

Source of light and gladness,
accept all we offer on this joyful feast.
May we grow up in him who unites our lives to yours
for he is Lord now and for ever. Amen.

The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord is here.
His Spirit is with us.
Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give thanks and praise.

All glory and honour be yours always and everywhere,
mighty creator, ever-living God.

We give you thanks and praise for your Son,
our Saviour Jesus Christ,
who for love of our fallen race humbled himself, and on
this night was born of the Virgin Mary by the power of your Spirit,
and lived as one of us.

In this mystery of the Word made flesh
you have caused his light to shine in our hearts,
to give knowledge of your glory in the face of Jesus Christ.

In him we see our God made visible
and so are caught up in the love of the God we cannot see.

Therefore with all the angels of heaven
we lift our voices to proclaim the glory of your name
and sing our joyful hymn of praise:

**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.

We praise and bless you, loving Father,
through Jesus Christ, our Lord;
and as we obey his command,

send your Holy Spirit,
that broken bread and wine outpoured
may be for us the body and blood of your dear Son.
On the night before he died he had supper with his friends
and, taking bread, he praised you.
He broke the bread, gave it to them and said:
Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;
do this in remembrance of me.
When supper was ended he took the cup of wine.
Again he praised you, gave it to them and said:
Drink this, all of you;
this is my blood of the new covenant,
which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.
Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.
So, Father, we remember all that Jesus did,
in him we plead with confidence his sacrifice
made once for all upon the cross.
Bringing before you the bread of life and cup of salvation,
we proclaim his death and resurrection
until he comes in glory.

**Lord, by your cross and resurrection
you have set us free.
You are the Saviour of the world.**

Lord of all life,
help us to work together for that day
when your kingdom comes
and justice and mercy will be seen in all the earth.

Look with favour on your people,
gather us in your loving arms
and bring us with St. Helen and all the saints
to feast at your table in heaven.
Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all honour and glory are yours, O loving Father,
for ever and ever. **Amen**

The Lord's Prayer

Rejoicing in the presence of God here among us, as our Saviour taught us, so we pray:

**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.
Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours now and for ever. Amen.**

The Communion

The gifts of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God

Please proceed to the altar for communion as directed. Communion is offered in both bread and wine. If you only wish to receive the bread, you may touch the base of the chalice or give a slight bow in reverence to the Sacrament after receiving the bread

Following communion the greeters/ushers will light the handheld candles in the congregation. The service continues in candlelight from this moment forward.

Prayer after Communion

Please stand as you are able

Loving God,

**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. Amen

The Doxology

Glory to God,

**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

May the joy of the angels, the eagerness of the shepherds,
the perseverance of the wise men, the obedience of Joseph and Mary,
and the peace of the Christ-child be yours this Christmas; and the blessing of
God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit be with you,
And those for whom you care This night and always. **Amen**

Sending Hymn: CP 119 Silent Night

Dismissal

Go in peace. Proclaim the Word made flesh.
Glory, thanks and praise to God.

A Christmas Message

Merry Christmas! Tonight, we celebrate how God chooses to come into our world and lives in the person of Jesus. Christ is born to restore hope where there is despair, healing to pain and affliction, and comfort to the lonely. God chooses us and our world, as flawed and mucky as it can be because you matter to God, just as you are.

Wherever your travels take you this Christmas, may you find rest in the embrace of friendships and relationships and belonging for your soul.

Whether this is your first visit to St. Helen's or if you have been coming for a lifetime, thank you for joining us tonight and being a part of our story. May you have a very Merry Christmas, and Happy New Year. I look forward to seeing you again.

Rev. Dr. Robin Ruder Celiz



Notices

DECEMBER SERVICES:

- Christmas Day, December 25: The Rector's Christmas Message on Facebook. There are no in-person services on Christmas Day.
- The Church Office is closed December 25, 2025 – January 2, 2026. The Rev. Paula Porter Leggett will cover Sunday worship on December 28. The Rev. Joe Derbis will cover pastoral emergencies. He can be reached at: 604-698-5436.

Tonight's Ministry Team

Officiant/Preacher The Rev. Dr. Robin Ruder Celiz
Deacon The Rev. Stephen Thompson
Music..... Joel Adimartha
Crucifer/Servers/Psalmist..... Wendy Russell
Prayers of the Community Lynn Turner
Readers.....Janette Bulkan & Cathy Anderson
Lay AdministratorsLynn Turner & John Palmer
Greeters..... Simon and Christine Lee
Livestream Tech Z.Barabas; S..Lee T.Beneteau, Ronit V.Nwaogu, A.Sillah

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Giving to St. Helen's

There are several ways to make a financial contribution to St. Helen's. Here are two popular ways:

E-Transfer: giving2sthelen@gmail.com

Pre-Authorised Debit (PAD): Contact the Parish Office for details.

Thank you for your generosity.

Parish Ministry

Parish Staff:

P) 604-581-4800

E) churchoffice@shawbiz.ca

Parish Clergy:

P) 604-379-8966

E) sainthelensrector@gmail.com

Office Hours: Tuesday to Friday 9am – 1pm

Diocesan Ministry

Front Desk:

P) 604-684-6306

E) info@vancouver.anglican.ca

Office Hours: Mon-Fri 9am-4pm