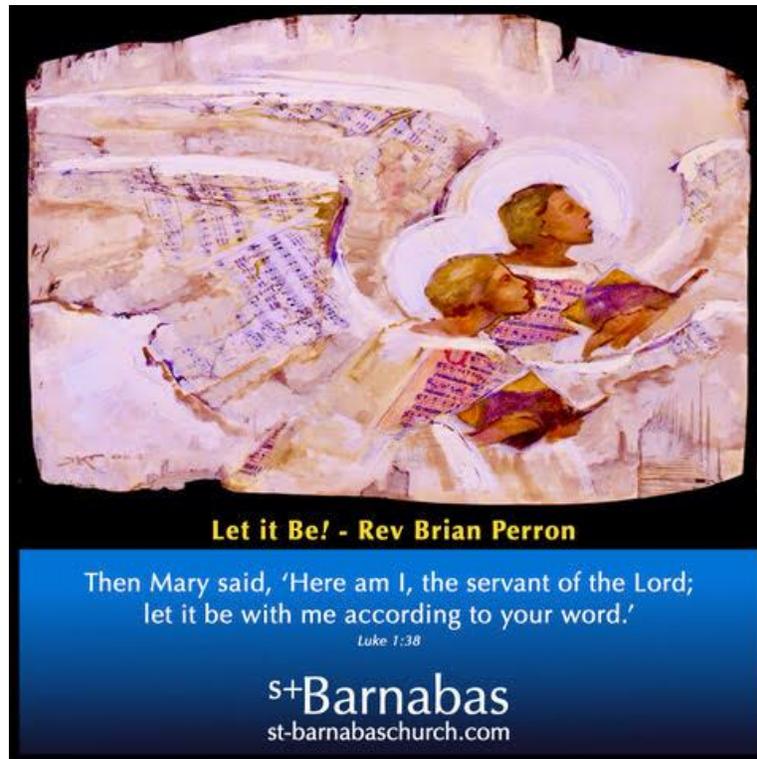


Sunday, December 20, 2020 | dimanche, le 20 décembre 2020

We encourage you to follow along with the service bulletin that continues below.



But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord. *Luke 2*

Mais l'ange leur dit : N'ayez pas peur : je vous annonce une nouvelle qui sera pour tout le peuple le sujet d'une très grande joie. Un Sauveur vous est né aujourd'hui dans la ville de David ; c'est lui le Messie, le Seigneur. *Luc 2*

Welcome:

**Announcement regarding Holiday Services on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day**

The corporation of St-Barnabas is getting the building ready for holiday services.

We are taking into account safety and sanitization procedures.

**Christmas Eve, December 24<sup>th</sup>**

**4 pm in Memorial Hall, which is designed for easy access during daytime**

**7 pm in the Church – (due to Covid, the elevator will not be accessible)**

**Christmas Day, December 25<sup>th</sup>**

**10 am in the Church – (due to Covid, the elevator will not be accessible)**

***It is Covid mandatory...*** to sign up for a service you would like to attend as there is a maximum of 25 individuals per service. **Please send us an email:** [barnabas@bellnet.ca](mailto:barnabas@bellnet.ca)



**Process of reopening:** St-Barnabas was open again today, December 20th, for our 10 am service. We were pleased to welcome within our maximum of 25 parishioners and guests. **However, due to the increase in new Covid Cases per day in Québec,** we believe that, in solidarity with our governments and for the safety of us all, that after our Christmas services, **we are postponing all services from Sunday, December 27th and expect to return on Sunday, January 10th.** During this time there will not be any online services as a way to give a much needed rest for our staff and volunteers. **Telephone and email will be monitored for emergencies.** We encourage you to visit our webpage for reruns of your favourite services: [http://www.st-barnabaschurch.com/sermon\\_archives](http://www.st-barnabaschurch.com/sermon_archives) - where weve been theologically

**Church Offering Envelopes: If you no longer require a box of envelopes, please let us know.** If we do not hear from you, we will prepare a box for you and we expect to distribute it at the end of the year. Thank you to all who continue to support our church financially.

More announcements and updates follow at the end of the service

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**Advent Four - LIGHTING OF THE FOURTH ADVENT CANDLE: Love**

"Today we light four candles of the Advent wreath. The first candle represents HOPE, the second candle stands for PEACE, the third candle encompasses JOY and today we light the fourth candle to express our LOVE." Jesus shows us God's perfect love. He is God's perfect love in human form. Those who believe in him and live in him, live in love. Love transforms and perfects all things. His Love never ends. **Jesus said to them, I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.** - John 13:34

We light these candles today to remind us that God is love. We thank God for the hope he gives us, for the peace he bestows, for the joy he pours into our hearts, and for the love that redeems us and show us the way.

**Let us pray - O God of Love, Emmanuel, send your light into our hearts at this time. Help us to be ready for the time of Christ's appearing. Grant that we may so dwell in him that his perfect love fills our entire being. Make our worship a time in which we celebrate your love and are made ready to show that love to the whole world - both today - and forevermore. Amen.**

...

Opening Hymn - Thy Kingdom Come! On Bended Knee <https://youtu.be/pFzbxnMnxZc>

Thy kingdom come! On bended knee  
the passing ages pray;  
and faithful souls have yearned to see  
on earth that kingdom's day.

But the slow watches of the night  
not less to God belong;  
and for the everlasting right  
the silent stars are strong.

And lo, already on the hills  
the flags of dawn appear;  
gird up your loins, ye prophet souls,  
proclaim the day is near:

The day in whose clear-shining light  
all wrong shall stand revealed,  
when justice shall be throned in might,  
and every hurt be healed;

When knowledge, hand in hand with peace,  
shall walk the earth abroad:  
the day of perfect righteousness,  
the promised day of God.

**BIDDING PRAYER -**

Beloved in Christ, as we gather in waiting for the great festival of Christmas, let us prepare ourselves so that we may be shown its true meaning. Let us hear, in lessons from Holy Scripture, the message of the prophets of Israel who foretold how God would visit and redeem the waiting people. Let us rejoice, in our carols and hymns, that the good purpose of God is being mightily fulfilled. Let us celebrate the promise that our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, will bring all peoples and all things into the glory of God's eternal kingdom. The blind receive their sight, and the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, and the deaf hear, the dead are raised up, and the poor have the gospel preached to them. But first, let us pray for the world that God so loves, for those who have not heard the good news of God, or who do not believe it; for those who walk in darkness and the shadow of death; and for the Church in this place and everywhere, that it may be freed from all evil and fear, and may in pure joy lift up the light of the love of God.

These prayers and praises let us humbly offer to God, in the words that Christ himself taught 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.**

**For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.**

The Almighty God bless us with his grace: Christ give us the joys of everlasting life: and unto the fellowship of the citizens above may the King of Angels bring us all. **Amen.**

**CHORAL INTERLUDE: O Come O Come Emmanuel** <https://youtu.be/Ley1aOPDHCE>

O come, O come, Emmanuel,  
and ransom captive Israel,  
that mourns in lonely exile here  
until the Son of God appear.  
Rejoice! Rejoice!  
Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel!

O come thou Wisdom from on high,  
who orders all things mightily.  
To us the path of knowledge show,  
and teach us in her ways to go.  
Rejoice! Rejoice!  
Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel!



### **FIRST LESSON - Isaiah 9:2-7**

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 onwards and for evermore. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.

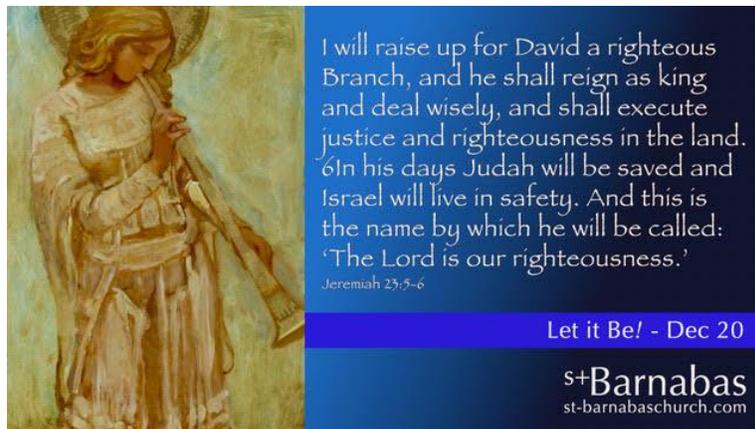
**CHORAL INTERLUDE: Once in Royal David's City** <https://youtu.be/mNzqeSUB4fk>

Once in royal David's city,

stood a lowly cattle shed,  
where a mother laid her baby  
in a manger for His bed:  
Mary was that mother mild,  
Jesus Christ her little child.

He came down to earth from heaven,  
Who is God and Lord of all,  
And His shelter was a stable,  
And His cradle was a stall;  
With the poor and meek and lowly,  
Lived on earth our Savior holy.

Not in that poor lowly stable,  
With the oxen standing by,  
We shall see Him, but in heaven,  
Set at God's right hand on high;  
When like stars  
His children crowned,  
All in white shall be around.



## SECOND LESSON - Jeremiah 23:5-6 *The Righteous Branch of David*

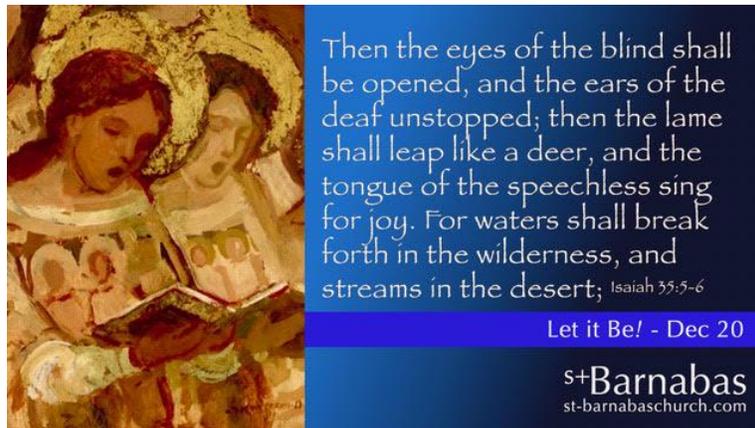
<sup>5</sup>The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch, and he shall reign as king and deal wisely, and shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. <sup>6</sup>In his days Judah will be saved and Israel will live in safety. And this is the name by which he will be called: 'The Lord is our righteousness.'

**HYMN: Good Christians All Rejoice** <https://youtu.be/jdnVSEyayP4>

Good Christians all, rejoice  
with heart, and soul, and voice!  
Listen to what we say:  
Jesus Christ is born today!  
Ox and ass before him bow,  
and he is in the manger now.  
Christ is born today! Christ is born today!

Good Christians all, rejoice  
with heart, and soul, and voice!  
Hear the news of endless bliss,  
Jesus Christ was born for this;  
He hath opened heaven's door,  
and we are blest for evermore.  
Christ was born for this! Christ was born for this!

Good Christians all, rejoice  
with heart, and soul, and voice!  
Now ye need not fear the grave;  
Jesus Christ was born to save,  
Calls you one and calls you all,  
to gain his everlasting hall.  
Christ was born to save! Christ was born to save!



### THIRD LESSON - Isaiah 35:1-6 *The Return of the Redeemed to Zion*

<sup>1</sup>The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad, the desert shall rejoice and blossom; like the crocus <sup>2</sup>it shall blossom abundantly, and rejoice with joy and singing. The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it, the majesty of Carmel and Sharon. They shall see the glory of the Lord, the majesty of our God. <sup>3</sup>Strengthen the weak hands, and make firm the feeble knees. <sup>4</sup>Say to those who are of a fearful heart, 'Be strong, do not fear! Here is your God. He will come with vengeance, with terrible recompense. He will come and save you.' <sup>5</sup>Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped; <sup>6</sup>then the lame shall leap like a deer, and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy. For waters shall break forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert;

CHORAL INTERLUDE: Maranatha <https://youtu.be/1e-qLkFJrjM>

Come, O Lord, and set us free  
Maranatha  
Come, O Lord, and set us free  
Maranatha

Desert and dry land will grow green in praise;  
Clay will rejoice with full bloom.

Showers for flowers giv'n birth in dead earth;  
In colours they echo his song.

Come, O Lord, and set us free  
Maranatha

Strengthen the hearts of the fearful and weak;  
Be strong; fear not, God is near.  
Coming in power and losing our bonds;  
Setting the captives free.

Come, O Lord, and set us free  
Maranatha

We have been waiting and longing for light;  
Watching for signs of the Lord.  
"Promised of ages," "Messiah to come."  
Hear us, we beg you: "Come, save!"

Come, O Lord, and set us free  
Maranatha



#### FOURTH LESSON - Micah 5:2-4 *The Ruler from Bethlehem*

<sup>2</sup>But you, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah, who are one of the little clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to rule in Israel, whose origin is from of old, from ancient days. <sup>3</sup>Therefore he shall give them up until the time when she who is in labour has brought forth; then the rest of his kindred shall return to the people of Israel. <sup>4</sup>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 live secure, for now he shall be great to the ends of the earth;

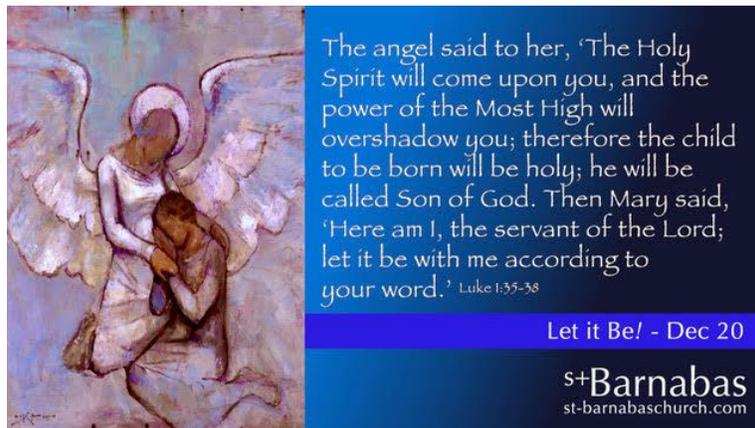
CHORAL INTERLUDE: O Little Town of Bethlehem <https://youtu.be/QAU5Xq-o-eM>

O little town of Bethlehem,  
How still we see thee lie!  
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep  
The silent stars go by;  
Yet in the dark street shineth

The everlasting Light;  
The hopes and fears of all the years  
Are met in thee tonight.

O morning stars, together  
Proclaim the holy birth  
And praises sing to God, the King,  
And peace to men on earth.  
For Christ is born of Mary,  
And fathered all above,  
While mortals sleep, the angels keep  
Their watch of wondering love.

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:  
Oh, come to us, abide with us,  
Our Lord Immanuel!



#### **FIFTH LESSON - Luke 1:26-35, 38 *The Birth of Jesus Foretold***

<sup>26</sup>In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, <sup>27</sup>to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. <sup>28</sup>And he came to her and said, 'Greetings, favoured one! The Lord is with you.' <sup>29</sup>But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. <sup>30</sup>The angel said to her, 'Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favour with God. <sup>31</sup>And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. <sup>32</sup>He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. <sup>33</sup>He will reign over the house of Jacob for ever, and of his kingdom there will be no end.' <sup>34</sup>Mary said to the angel, 'How can this be, since I am a virgin?' <sup>35</sup>The angel said to her, 'The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. <sup>36</sup>And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month

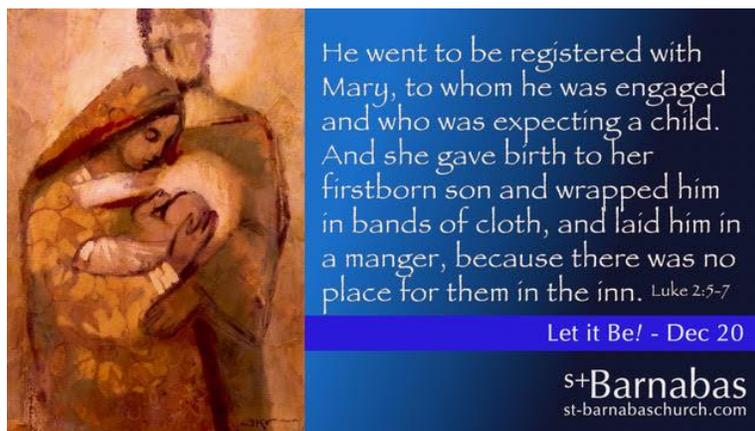
for her who was said to be barren. <sup>37</sup>For nothing will be impossible with God.' <sup>38</sup>Then Mary said, 'Here am I, the servant of the Lord; *let it be with me according to your word.*' Then the angel departed from her.

CHORAL INTERLUDE: Sing of Mary <https://youtu.be/XbYRhvM8heo>

Sing of Mary, pure and lowly,  
Virgin mother undefiled,  
Sing of God's own Son most holy,  
Who became her little child.  
Fairest child of fairest mother,  
God the Lord who came to earth,  
Word made flesh, our very brother,  
Takes our nature by his birth.

Sing of Jesus, son of Mary,  
In the home at Nazareth.  
Toil and labour cannot weary  
Love enduring unto death.  
Constant was the love he gave her,  
Though he went forth from her side,  
Forth to preach, and heal, and suffer,  
Till on Calvary he died.

Glory be to God the Father;  
Glory be to God the Son;  
Glory be to God the Spirit;  
Glory to the Three in One.  
From the heart of blessed Mary,  
From all saints the song ascends,  
And the Church the strain reechoes  
Unto earth's remotest ends.



### SIXTH LESSON - Luke 2:1-7 *The Birth of Jesus*

<sup>1</sup>In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. <sup>2</sup>This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of

Syria. <sup>3</sup>All went to their own towns to be registered. <sup>4</sup>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. <sup>5</sup>He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. <sup>6</sup>While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. <sup>7</sup>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.

GRADUAL HYMN: Of the Father's Love Begotten <https://youtu.be/cOF9JLJkPis>

Of the Father's love begotten,  
Ere the worlds began to be,  
He is Alpha and Omega,  
He the source, the ending He,  
Of the things that are and have been,  
And that future years shall see,  
Evermore and evermore.

O that birth forever blessed,  
when the Virgin, full of grace,  
by the Holy Ghost conceiving,  
bore the Savior of our race;  
and the babe, the world's Redeemer,  
first revealed his sacred face,  
evermore and evermore!

This is he whom seers in old time  
chanted of with one accord,  
whom the voices of the prophets  
promised in their faithful word;  
now he shines, the long expected;  
let creation praise its Lord,  
evermore and evermore!

Let the heights of heav'n, adore him;  
angel hosts, his praises sing:  
Powers, dominions, bow before him  
and extol our God and King;  
let no tongue on earth be silent,  
ev'ry voice in concert ring,  
evermore and evermore!

Christ, to thee, with God the Father,  
and, O Holy Ghost, to thee,  
hymn and chant and high thanksgiving  
and unending praises be,  
honor, glory, and dominion and eternal victory,  
evermore and evermore! *Amen...*



But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God. And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth. John 1:12-14

Let it Be! - Dec 20

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### SEVENTH LESSON - John 1:1-14 *The Word Became Flesh*

<sup>1</sup>In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. <sup>2</sup>He was in the beginning with God. <sup>3</sup>All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being <sup>4</sup>in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. <sup>5</sup>The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it. <sup>6</sup>There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. <sup>7</sup>He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. <sup>8</sup>He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. <sup>9</sup>The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. <sup>10</sup>He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. <sup>11</sup>He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. <sup>12</sup>But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, <sup>13</sup>who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God. <sup>14</sup>And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

**HOMILY:** Let it Be! – Rev Brian Perron

**CHORAL INTERLUDE:** People Look East <https://youtu.be/GD9ucg8zusc>

People, look east. The time is near  
Of the crowning of the year.  
Make your house fair as you are able,  
Trim the hearth and set the table.  
People, look east and sing today:  
Love, the guest, is on the way.

Furrows, be glad. Though earth is bare,  
One more seed is planted there:  
Give up your strength the seed to nourish,  
That in course the flower may flourish.  
People, look east and sing today:  
Love, the rose, is on the way.

Birds, though you long have ceased to build,  
Guard the nest that must be filled.

Even the hour when wings are frozen  
God for fledging time has chosen.  
People, look east and sing today:  
Love, the bird, is on the way.

Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim  
One more light the bowl shall brim,  
Shining beyond the frosty weather,  
Bright as sun and moon together.  
People, look east and sing today:  
Love, the star, is on the way.

Angels, announce to man and beast  
He who cometh from the east  
Set every peak and valley humming  
With the word, the Lord is coming  
People, look east and sing today  
Love, the Lord, is on His way.

#### THE COLLECT

Heavenly Father, who chose the Virgin Mary, full of grace, to be the mother of our Lord and Saviour, now fill us with your grace, that we in all things may embrace your will and with her rejoice in your salvation; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

#### BLESSING

May he who by his Incarnation gathered into one, things earthly and heavenly, grant you the fullness of inward peace, love and goodwill; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you always.  
**Amen.**

CLOSING HYMN: Lo! He Comes with Clouds Descending <https://youtu.be/eBAG0TXu2AE>

Lo! he comes with clouds descending,  
Once for favoured sinners slain;  
Thousand thousand saints attending  
Swell the triumph of his train:  
Alleluia! (3 times)  
God appears, on earth to reign.

Every eye shall now behold him  
Robed in dreadful majesty;  
Those who set at nought and sold him,  
Pierced and nailed him to the tree,  
Deeply wailing (3 times)  
Shall the true Messiah see.

Yea, amen! let all adore thee,  
High on thine eternal throne;  
Saviour, take the power and glory:

Claim the kingdom for thine own:  
O come quickly! (3 times)  
Alleluia! Come, Lord, come!

#### DISMISSAL:

Let us bless the Lord.

#### **Thanks be to God.**

May the God of hope fill us with all joy and peace in believing through the power of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

POSTLUDE: *When Love was Born* - sung by Mark Schultz <https://youtu.be/aKSU9Dbxvrw>

*This is a time for us to meditate in quiet reflection and prayer.*

Our lectionary readings for next week, Sunday December 27th: "Destined!"  
[Isaiah 61:10-62:3; Psalm 148; Galatians 4:4-7; Luke 2:22-40](#)

...

#### More announcements

Process of reopening: (See above welcome announcement) Visit our website for more information, guidelines & updates: [http://www.st-barnabaschurch.com/st-barnabas\\_home](http://www.st-barnabaschurch.com/st-barnabas_home)

*"Then he saith, I will return into my house from whence I came out; and when he is come, he findeth it empty, swept, and garnished" Matthew 12:44*

#### **ECS – (Ecumenical Community Services) – 40<sup>th</sup> Christmas Baskets Campaign:**

This year, rather than actual food baskets, vouchers to a St. Lambert grocery store were given out – enabling recipients to buy their own groceries for a Christmas feast. The vouchers were delivered last Thursday, December 17<sup>th</sup>. Thanks to Betty, Linda, John and all those who have contributed to this 'annual miracle'. 125 households received a gift voucher worth the cost of many meals! Your generous donations in the wider community made this possible!  
*Thank YOU for your support!*

#### Your Tithes and Offerings

**Thank you for your faithful offerings to St-Barnabas...** We understand these are new and different ways, and yet we are pleased to say that St-Barnabas has been able, because of you, to maintain itself financially during these difficult times. May you be blessed as you continue to safely give to God by supporting the work of your church by donating online through links found on the [St-Barnabas on-line Donations Page](#). It's easy; by [e-Transfer](#) or [St-Barnabas CanadaHelps](#), or [PayPal link](#), and as always through Canada Post to: 95, avenue Lorne, Saint-Lambert, QC J4P 2G7. Your ongoing donations are critical at this time. *Complete confidentiality is assured, as all donations are received and processed only by our Church Treasurer.*

#### Les Jardins Intérieurs

We are now broadcasting twice a week on the corporate TV Channel of Les Jardins: [Wednesday afternoons at 3:00pm and Saturday mornings at 9:15am.](#)

The work of the church continues well beyond the Sunday morning as we the Church reach out to our neighbours.

**Stay connected through our social media links:**

Listen to our on-line messages posted on our [St-Barnabas website](#) and [Facebook](#) page, as well as in the emails that we send twice a week. I encourage you to share these posts and this bulletin with your families and friends, as words and thoughts of encouragement. Also, if you hear of individuals in need of something, let us know; we will see what we can do with members who have put their names forward to help in a safe and manageable way.

**Share your stories**

Send us an email at [barnabas@bellnet.ca](mailto:barnabas@bellnet.ca) of what you have been up to, and to share your experiences of getting through this isolation. Share your stories with us to brighten the lives of others, and stay safe.

**Keep in touch**

So stay tuned and reach out to members you feel concern for, allow the Holy Spirit to speak to you and to minister to those shut-in and alone at this time. Be safe, 'Stay Home', for your sake and for the well being of others, and... wash your hands!

God bless you and thank you for your thoughts and prayers,

**Brian and Joyce**

The Reverend Brian Perron  
St-Barnabas St-Lambert

**A Word of Happiness for 2020**

I myself am God, your God: Keep my statutes and live by my laws.  
Keep my Sabbaths as holy rest days, signposts between me and you,  
signalling that I am God, your God. *Ezekiel 20 :20*



Thank you for all you do  
for our St-Barnabas...

*Please continue with your donations...*

St-Barnabas - St-Lambert  
95, avenue Lorne,  
Saint-Lambert, QC J4P 2G7  
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