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**Theme: Rekindle us to serve God in a changing world**

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## **This Sunday Roster**

Celebrant, Preacher, Gospeller (*John 1:6–8, 19–28*): **Rev. Siu Chun Leung**

Worship Leader, Reader 1 (*Isaiah 61:1–4, 8–11*): **Paul Seto**

Server, PPT Compiler: **Fenella Chiu**

Intercessor: **Carol Tam**

Reader 2 (*1 Thessalonians 5:16–24*): **Gabriel Kong**

Offering: **Joshua Lau**

Accompanist: **Terence Kim**

Song leader: **Justin Kim**

AV Team: **Tommy Kung**

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## **Introduction before starting service – Paul Seto**

We invite parishioners joining the live online service to join in on responses as you would in regular worship, but please note that all will be muted except for those scheduled to serve in the worship. This service will be recorded and subsequently posted to our website.

## **Opening Sentence (P. 270) – Paul Seto**

The Spirit of the Lord God is upon me, because the Lord has anointed me to bring good tidings to the afflicted.

*Isaiah 61:1*

## **Processional Hymn – Sing a New Song Unto the Lord**

*(Refrain)* Sing a new song unto the Lord  
let your song be sung from mountains high.  
Sing a new song unto the Lord,  
singing alleluia.

1. Shout with gladness, dance for joy.

O come before the Lord.

And play for him on glad tambourines,  
and let your trumpet sound. *(Refrain)*

2. Rise, O children, from your sleep

your Savior now has come.

He has turned your sorrow to joy,  
and filled your soul with song. *(Refrain)*

3. Glad my soul for I have seen

the glory of the Lord.

The trumpet sounds, the dead shall be raised.

I know my Savior lives. *(Refrain)*

*Music & Text: Dan Schutte*

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## Lighting of the Advent Candles

### Hymn - He Came Down

He came down that we may have joy; (3x)  
Hallelujah forever more.

Hymn leader: Justin Kim; Electronic accompaniment: Joanne Loo

Music: Melody African; arr. John L. Bell; Text: African Trad.

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## Confession (P.191) – Paul Seto

Leader: Dear friends in Christ,  
God is steadfast in love and infinite in mercy;  
he welcomes sinners  
and invites them to his table.  
Let us confess our sins,  
confident in God's forgiveness.

All: **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.**

## Kyrie Eleison (P.186)

All: **Lord, have mercy.  
Christ, have mercy.  
Lord, have mercy.**

## Absolution (P.192) – Rev. Siu Chun Leung

Celebrant: 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.

People: **Amen.**

## Collect of the Day (P. 270) – Rev. Siu Chun Leung

Celebrant: Let us pray.

All: **God of power and mercy,  
you call us once again  
to celebrate the coming of your Son.  
Remove those things which hinder love of you,  
that when he comes,**

he may find us waiting in awe and wonder  
for him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.

**Amen.**

## 1<sup>st</sup> Reading from Isaiah 61:1–4, 8–11 – Paul Seto

Reader: ***The Good News of Deliverance***

*1 The spirit of the Lord God is upon me, because the Lord has anointed me;  
he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed,  
to bind up the broken-hearted,  
to proclaim liberty to the captives, and release to the prisoners;*

*2 to proclaim the year of the Lord's favour,  
and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn;*

*3 to provide for those who mourn in Zion —  
to give them a garland instead of ashes,  
the oil of gladness instead of mourning,  
the mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit.*

*They will be called oaks of righteousness,  
the planting of the Lord, to display his glory.*

*4 They shall build up the ancient ruins,  
they shall raise up the former devastations;  
they shall repair the ruined cities, the devastations of many generations.*

*8 For I the Lord love justice, I hate robbery and wrongdoing;  
I will faithfully give them their recompense,  
and I will make an everlasting covenant with them.*

*9 Their descendants shall be known among the nations,  
and their offspring among the peoples;  
all who see them shall acknowledge  
that they are a people whom the Lord has blessed.*

*10 I will greatly rejoice in the Lord, my whole being shall exult in my God;  
for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation,  
he has covered me with the robe of righteousness,  
as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland,  
and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.*

*11 For as the earth brings forth its shoots,  
and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up,  
so the Lord God will cause righteousness and praise  
to spring up before all the nations.*

Reader: The word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading from 1 Thessalonians 5:16–24 – Gabriel Kong

Reader:

*<sup>16</sup> Rejoice always, <sup>17</sup> pray without ceasing, <sup>18</sup> give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. <sup>19</sup> Do not quench the Spirit. <sup>20</sup> Do not despise the words of prophets, <sup>21</sup> but test everything; hold fast to what is good; <sup>22</sup> abstain from every form of evil.*

*<sup>23</sup> May the God of peace himself sanctify you entirely; and may your spirit and soul and body be kept sound and blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>24</sup> The one who calls you is faithful, and he will do this.*

Reader: The word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

## Gospel Hymn – I Give You My Heart

This is my desire, to honour You.  
Lord, with all my heart I worship You.  
With all I have within me, I give You praise.  
All that I adore is in You.  
  
Lord, I give You my heart, I give You my soul.  
I live for You alone.  
Every breath that I take,  
Every moment I'm awake,  
Lord, have Your way in me.  
(Repeat All)

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## Gospel John 1:6–8, 19–28 – Rev. Siu Chun Leung

Reader: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Reader: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to **John**.

People: **Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

Reader:

*<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.*

### **The Testimony of John the Baptist**

*<sup>19</sup> This is the testimony given by John when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, 'Who are you?' <sup>20</sup> He confessed and did not deny it, but confessed, 'I am not the Messiah.' <sup>21</sup> And they asked him, 'What then? Are you Elijah?' He said, 'I am not.' 'Are you the prophet?' He*

answered, 'No.'<sup>22</sup> Then they said to him, 'Who are you? Let us have an answer for those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?'<sup>23</sup> He said, 'I am the voice of one crying out in the wilderness, "Make straight the way of the Lord"', as the prophet Isaiah said.

<sup>24</sup> Now they had been sent from the Pharisees. <sup>25</sup> They asked him, 'Why then are you baptizing if you are neither the Messiah, nor Elijah, nor the prophet?'<sup>26</sup> John answered them, 'I baptize with water. Among you stands one whom you do not know,<sup>27</sup> the one who is coming after me; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandal.'<sup>28</sup> This took place in Bethany across the Jordan where John was baptizing.

Reader: The Gospel of Christ.

People: **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

## Sermon – Rev. Siu Chun Leung

### The Nicene Creed (P.188) – Paul Seto

Leader: Let us confess our faith, as we say,

All: **We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father.**

**Through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven:**

**by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father.**

**With the Father and the Son he is worshipped and glorified.**

**He has spoken through the prophets.**

**We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.**

**We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.**

**We look for the resurrection of the dead,**

**and the life of the world to come.**

**Amen.**

## Prayers of the People (3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent) – Carol Tam

### Parish Cycle of Prayer

Parish: New Priest-in-Charge: Rev. Siu Chun Leung

Deanery: Church of Holy Spirit of Peace; Canon Susan Climo

Diocesan: The Anglican Church Women (ACW) – Enid Corbett, Diocesan President

Anglican: The Anglican Church of Papua New Guinea

For Healing: Esther Chen, Susan Xu's mother Dian-Lan Feng, Aileen Lu, Alfred Chiu, Andy Ng's parents Kim Tung Ng and Sau Fong Cheung, Joseph Leung's father Kwok Ping Leung, Kingsman Tang, Joseph Leung's friend Richard Li

*Please join in the response indicated by the Intercessor*

Intercessor: In Jesus, God will be fulfilling the Messianic prophesies about the promised Saviour

Let us pray now to the living God, who always keeps his promises, and who knows us so well.

Intercessor: Loving Father, keep the Church faithful in telling the good news, comforting the desolate, actively loving justice and drawing many to freedom through the joy of your forgiveness.

Lord in your mercy,

People: **Hear our prayer**

Intercessor: As the Church, we pray for the world, that there may be integrity in leadership; mercy and justice for rich and poor, strong and weak; and there may be peace among nations and respect for all.

Lord in your mercy,

People: **Hear our prayer**

Intercessor: As the family of believers, we pray for those around us now and their needs; and for the families we represent, and their needs. May the love of Christ be shown in what we do and how we speak and how we spend.

Lord in your mercy,

People: **Hear our prayer**

Intercessor: In compassion we call to mind all who are locked in physical or emotional pain, all who are weighted down with worry, guilt or despair. Restore and refresh them, comfort and free them.

Lord in your mercy,

People: **Hear our prayer**

Intercessor: As a resurrection people, we commend to our love those who have died to this earthly life. May they, and we in our turn, experience forever the joy of your eternity.  
Lord in your mercy,

People: **Hear our prayer**

Intercessor: As followers of the living Christ, we praise you for the living Christ, we praise you for the prophecies fulfilled, the promises honoured and the victory over evil gloriously accomplished in him to fill our lives with hope.  
Lord in your mercy,

People: **Hear our prayer**

Intercessor: Merciful Father, accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, our Saviour, Jesus Christ.

People: **Amen.**

### The Peace (P.192) – Rev. Siu Chun Leung

Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: **And also with you.**

*< Please greet each other in the name of Christ >*

### Offertory Hymn – I'm Forever Grateful

You did not wait for me to draw near to You,  
But you clothed Yourself in frail humanity.  
You did not wait for me to cry out to You,  
But You let me hear Your voice calling me.

And I'm forever grateful to You,  
I'm forever grateful for the cross.  
I'm forever grateful to You  
That You came to seek and save the lost.

*(Repeat All)*

That You came to seek and save the lost.

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People: **All things come of Thee, O Lord,  
And of Thine own Have we given Thee. Amen.**

### Prayer over the Gifts (P.271) – Rev. Siu Chun Leung

Celebrant: God of hope,  
renew in us the joy of your salvation  
and make us a living sacrifice to you,  
for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.

All: **Amen.**

## The Great Thanksgiving - Eucharistic Prayer 2 (P.196-7)

### – Rev. Siu Chun Leung

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

People: **We lift them to the Lord.**

Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: **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 fulfilment 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 death,  
and banish the darkness of sin 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 your 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 our Saviour 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."  
Remembering, therefore, his death and resurrection,  
we offer you this bread and this cup,  
giving thanks that you have made us worthy  
to stand in your presence and serve you.  
We ask you to send your Holy Spirit  
upon the offering of your holy 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.  
All glory and honour are yours,  
Father and Son,  
with the Holy Spirit  
in the holy Church,  
now and for ever.

People: **Amen.**

### The Lord's Prayer (P.211) – Rev. Siu Chun Leung

Celebrant: As our Saviour taught us, let us pray,  
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. 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 Breaking of the Bread (P.212 #5 Advent) – Rev. Siu Chun Leung

Celebrant: God of promise,  
you prepare a banquet for us in your kingdom.

All: **Happy are those who are called  
to the supper of the Lamb.**

Celebrant: The Gifts of God for the People of God.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

People:

**O Lamb of God, You take away the sins of the world, Have mercy upon us. (x2)**

**O Lamb of God, You take away the sins of the world, Grant us thy peace.**

## The Communion

*We invite parishioners joining the live online service to receive the spiritual communion by saying the following prayer while those at church receive the physical communion.*

### The Prayer of Spiritual Communion

People: Beloved Jesus, I believe that you are present in the Blessed Sacrament of the Altar. I love you above all things, and I desire to receive you into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive you in the Sacrament of your Body and Blood, come spiritually into my heart. I embrace you and unite myself entirely to you. Let me never be separated from you in this life or in the life to come.  
Amen.

## Communion Hymns - The Power of Your Love

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### Prayer after Communion (P.271) – Rev. Siu Chun Leung

Celebrant: Merciful God,  
may this eucharist free us from our sins,  
fill us with unending joy,  
and prepare us for the birthday of our Saviour.  
We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ,  
who is Lord now and for ever.

People: **Amen.**

### Doxology (P.214) – Rev. Siu Chun Leung

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.**

## Blessing (P.683 ii) – Rev. Siu Chun Leung

Celebrant: The peace of God which passes all understanding keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always.

People: **Amen.** (3-fold Amen)

Announcements <https://www.stechurch.com/announcements>

## Dismissal – Paul Seto

Leader: Let us bless the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

## Recessional Hymn – On Eagle’s Wings

1. You who dwell in the shelter of the Lord,  
Who abide in His shadow for life,  
Say to the Lord, "My Refuge,  
My Rock in Whom I trust."

*(Refrain)* And He will raise you up on eagle's wings,  
Bear you on the breath of dawn,  
Make you to shine like the sun,  
And hold you in the palm of His Hand.

2. The snares of the fowler will never capture you,  
The famine will bring you no fear;  
Under His Wings your refuge,  
His faithfulness your shield. *(Refrain)*

3. You need not fear the terror of the night,  
Nor the arrow that flies by day,  
Though thousands fall about you,  
Near you it shall not come. *(Refrain)*

4. For to His angels He's given a command,  
To guard you in all of your ways,  
Upon their hands they will bear you up,  
Lest you dash your foot against a stone. *(Refrain)*

Music and Text: Michael Jorcas

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Next Sunday December 24<sup>th</sup>, 2023 10am 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent  
In-Person & Online English Morning Prayer Service Roster

Celebrant, Preacher, Gospeller (*Matthew 25:31-46*): **Rev. Siu Chun Leung**

Worship Leader, Reader 1 (*2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16*): **Fenella Chiu**

Reader 1 (*Romans 16:25-27*), Intercessor: **Terence Kim**

Offering Collection: **Gabrielle Seto**

PPT Compiler: **Yvonne Zheng**

AV Team: **Tommy Kung**

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Monday December 25<sup>th</sup>, 2023 10:30am Christmas Day  
In-Person & Online Joint Holy Communion Service Roster

Celebrant, Preacher, Gospeller (*Luke 2:1-14, (15-20)*): **Rev. Siu Chun Leung**

Lay Reader: **Wilson Loo**

Server: **Joel Chiu**

Reader 1 (*Isaiah 9:2-7*): **Carol Tam**

Intercessor: **Amy Chiu**

Reader 2 (*Titus 2:11-14*): **Margaret Loo**

Greeter, Sidesperson: **Mandy Li**

Envelope Secretaries: **Kenny Pang, Josephine Cheung**

Bee Team: **Ophelia Chiu**

PPT Compiler: **Fenella Chiu**

PPT Controller: **Annie Chan**

AV Team: **Tommy Kung, Terence Kim**

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