

# St Leo the Great

## Christmas 2011



Today we proclaim the birthday of our Lord Jesus Christ.



## The Christmas Proclamation

On the 25th day of December  
 Unknown ages from the time when God created the heavens and the earth,  
 and then formed man and woman in his own likeness.  
 Several thousand years after the flood,  
 when God made the rainbow shine as a sign of the Covenant;  
 21 centuries from the time of Abraham and Sarah;  
 13 centuries after Moses led Israel out of Egypt;  
 1000 years from the anointing of David as King,  
 in the 65<sup>th</sup> week according to the prophecy of Daniel,  
 in the one hundred and ninety fourth Olympiad,  
 the seven hundred and fifty second year since the foundation of Rome,  
 the forty-second year of the reign of Caesar Augustus,  
 the whole world being at peace,  
 Jesus Christ, eternal God, and Son of the Father,  
 conceived by the Holy Spirit  
 was born of the Virgin Mary,  
 In Bethlehem of Judaea.

Today we proclaim the birthday of our Lord Jesus Christ.

*We light our candles and get ready to stand*

## Introit of Christmas

**solo** The Lord said to me; You are my Son;  
 I have begotten you, begotten you this day.  
**All:** The Lord said to me; You are my Son;  
 I have begotten you, begotten you this day.  
 God speaks to the earth, the word speeds forth.  
 God speaks his word to Jacob,  
 to Israel his laws and decrees.  
 The Lord said to me; You are my Son;  
 I have begotten you, begotten you this day.

## The Prologue of St John

Je - sus, Re- deem - er, Lamb of God.

You are with me al - ways, you are my Lord.

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was God.....

**Welcome and Prayer: We say together**

Mighty God,

You sent your only Son among us as Prince of Peace.

Gather all your children together into his kingdom.

Help each of us to be more loving,

caring members of our family

at home,

and in our parish community.

Grant that our love for you will enable us

to give attention and support

To all who come into our lives.

We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

**O little town of Bethlehem,** how still we see thee lie!

Above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by.

Yet in thy dark streets 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 gathered 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:

O come to us, abide with us, our Lord Emmanuel.

## The Penitential Rite



You were sent to heal the con-trite of heart. Ky - ri - e, e - lei - son.

choir and congregation parts

Ky - ri - e, e - lei - son



You came to call sin-ners: Chri - ste, e - lei - son

choir and congregation parts

Chri - ste, e - lei - son.



You are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa- ther to in - ter-cede for us:

choir and congregation parts

Ky - ri - e, e - lei - son. Ky - ri - e, e - lei - son

*Let's pray together*

'At various times in the past  
And in various different ways  
God spoke to our ancestors,  
God spoke through the prophets.  
Now in our time  
He has spoken through his Son'

O God, in your kind and overflowing love,  
speak to our hearts through Christ.

Let us listen and let us hear.

*The choir sings: (Join in if you know it)*

1. In the bleak mid-winter frosty wind made moan,  
Earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone;  
Snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow,  
In the bleak mid-winter long ago.

2. Our God, Heaven cannot hold Him nor earth sustain;  
Heaven and earth shall flee away when He comes to reign:  
In the bleak mid-winter a stable-place sufficed  
The Lord God Almighty, Jesus Christ.

3. Enough for Him, whom cherubim worship night and day,  
A breastful of milk and a manger full of hay;  
Enough for Him, whom angels fall down before,  
The ox and ass and camel which adore.

4. Angels and archangels may have gathered there,  
Cherubim and seraphim thronged the air,  
But only His mother In her maiden bliss,  
Worshipped the Beloved with a kiss.

5. What can I give Him, poor as I am?  
If I were a shepherd I would bring a lamb,

If I were a wise man I would do my part,  
Yet what I can I give Him, give my heart.

**The Crib:** *the children start to build up the crib*

**Joy to the world!** the Lord is come: let earth receive her King.  
Let every heart prepare him room and heaven and nature sing,  
and heaven and nature sing, and heaven, and heaven and nature sing.

Joy to the world, the Saviour reigns! Let men their songs employ.  
While fields and floods rocks hills and plains. Repeat the sounding joy.  
Repeat the sounding joy, repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

He rules the world with truth and grace.  
And makes the nations prove the glories of his righteousness  
And wonders of his love, and wonders of his love.  
And wonders, wonders of his love.

## The Blessing of the Crib

*We stand for the Gloria*

The musical notation consists of two staves in G major (one sharp) and 3/4 time. The first staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody starts on G4, moves to A4, B4, C5, then descends to B4, A4, G4, F#4, E4, D4, C4. The lyrics 'Glo ry to God in the high - est' are aligned with these notes. The second staff continues the melody from D4, C4, B3, A3, G3, F#3, E3, D3. The lyrics 'earth peace to peo - ple of good will.' are aligned with these notes. A fermata is placed over the final note, D3. A small number '5' is written above the first note of the second staff.

We praise you, we bless you, we adore you, we glorify you,  
we give you thanks for your great glory,  
Lord God, heavenly King, O God, almighty Father.

**Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace to people of good will**

Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son,  
 Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,  
 you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us;  
 you take away the sins of the world, receive our prayer;  
 you are seated at the right hand of the Father, have mercy on us.

**Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace to people of good will**

For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord,  
 you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,  
 with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

**Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace to people of good will**

## **The Liturgy of the Word**

**First Reading: Isaiah 9: 1-7**

**Psalm 95:**

**Today a Saviour has been born; he is Jesus Christ the Lord.**

**Today a Saviour has been born; he is Christ the Lord.**

Sing, sing, sing to the Lord, sing to him a song that's new.  
 Sing, sing, sing to the Lord, proclaim his help, and bless his name.

**Today a Saviour has been born; he is Jesus Christ the Lord.**

**Today a Saviour has been born; he is Christ the Lord.**

Let his wonder and glory ring among the nations.

Let the heavens rejoice, the land and sea both thunder praise.

**Today a Saviour has been born; he is Christ the Lord.**

**Today a Saviour has been born; to Christ the Lord.**

**Second Reading: Titus 2: 1-14**

**Gospel Acclamation:**

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

I bring you news of great joy today a Saviour has been born to us;

Christ the Lord, Christ the Lord. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

## The holy Gospel according to Luke 2: 1-14

Ending with:

"Glo - ry to God in the high - est hea - ven and  
peace to all who en - joy his fa - vour".

## Homily

The Niceno-Constantinopolitan Creed

I believe in one God,  
the Father almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all things visible and invisible.  
I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ,  
the Only Begotten Son of God,  
born of the Father before all ages.  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father;  
through him all things were made.  
For us men and for our salvation  
he came down from heaven,

At the words that follow, up to and including and became man, all bow.

and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary,  
and became man.  
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate,  
he suffered death and was buried,  
and rose again on the third day  
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.  
 I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
 who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
 who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified,  
 who has spoken through the prophets.  
 I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church.  
 I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins  
 and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead  
 and the life of the world to come. Amen.

### **Intercessions**

## **Liturgy of the Eucharist**

### **The Preparation of Gifts**

**Come thou Redeemer** of the earth, and manifest thy virgin birth:  
 Let ev'ry age adoring fall, such birth befits the God of all.

Begotten of no human will, but of the Spirit thou art still  
 the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the Saviour , now to man displayed.

Forth from that chamber goeth he, that royal home of purity,  
 a giant in two-fold substance, rejoicing now his course to run.

From God the Father he proceeds, to God the Father back he speeds,  
 runs out his course to death and hell, Returns on God's high throne to dwell.

O equal to thy Father, thou! Gird on thy fleshly mantle now,  
 the weakness of our mortal state with deathless might invigorate.

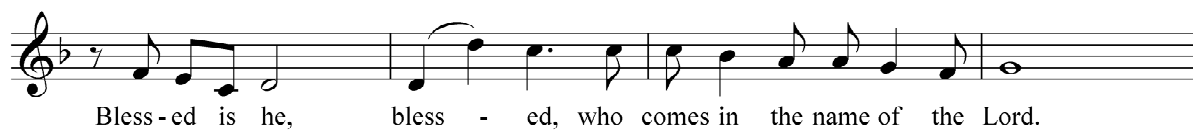
Thy cradle here shall glitter bright, and darkness glow wth new-born light,  
 no more shall night extinguish day, Where love's bright beams their power display.

## The Eucharistic Prayer

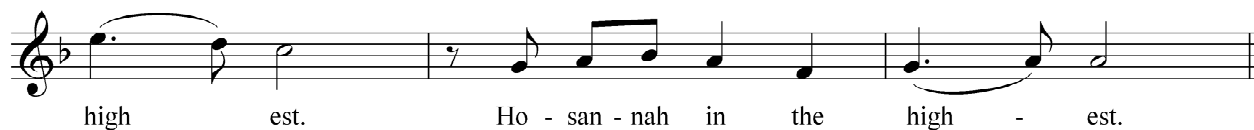
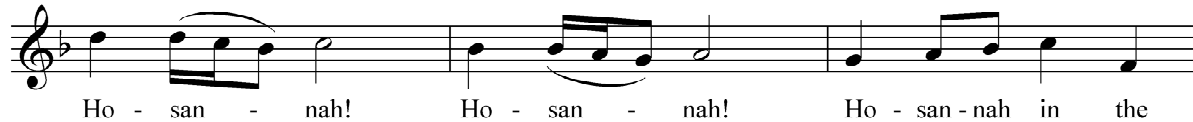


The Lord be with you. And with your spirit.  
Lift up your hearts. We lift them up to the Lord.  
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is right and just.

broadly



14



**Memorial**

We proclaim your death, O Lord, and profess your resurrection until you come in glory, until you come.

Doxology: Through him and with him and in him . . . .Amen, Amen . . . . .

**The Breaking of Bread**

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world;  
Have mercy on us, have mercy on us.  
Grant us peace. Grant us peace.  
Grant us peace. Grant us peace.

**The Invitation**

Behold the Lamb of God,  
behold him who takes away the sins of the world.  
Blessed are those called to the supper of the Lamb.

**Lord, I am not worthy  
that you should enter under my roof,  
but only say the word  
and my soul shall be healed.**

**We sing:**

Behold the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world:  
Blessed are those called to the 'Banquet of the Lamb'.

**Communion Carols**

Silent night, holy night. All is calm, all is bright,  
round yon virgin mother and child; holy infant so tender and mild:  
sleep in heavenly peace. (2)

Silent night, holy night. Shepherds quake at the sight,  
glories stream from heaven afar, heavenly hosts sing alleluia:  
Christ, the Saviour is born. (2)

Silent night, holy night. Son of God, love's pure light  
 radiant beams from thy holy face, with the dawn of redeeming grace:  
 Jesus, Lord, at thy birth. (2)

**Angels we have heard on high** Sweetly singing o'er the plains  
 And the mountains in reply Echoing their joyous strains.  
*Gloria, in excelsis Deo! Gloria, in excelsis Deo!*

Shepherds, why this jubilee? Why your joyous strains prolong?  
 What the gladsome tidings be Which inspire your heavenly song?

Come to Bethlehem and see Him Whose birth the angels sing;  
 Come, adore on bended knee, Christ the Lord, the newborn King.

**Love came down at Christmas**, Love all lovely, Love Divine;  
 Love was born at Christmas, star and angels gave the sign.

Worship we the Godhead, Love Incarnate, Love Divine;  
 Worship we our Jesus: But wherewith for sacred sign?

Love shall be our token, Love be yours and love be mine,  
 Love to God and all men, Love for plea and gift and sign.

### **The Blessing**

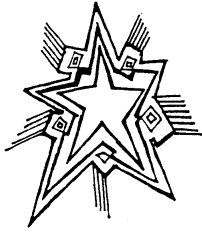
**Blessing:** When the Son of God came to us as man, then the light of the world was born.

May the God of all goodness fill your hearts with holiness. **Amen.**

God sent angels to the shepherds to proclaim the saviour's birth:  
 May he fill you with joy and delight in the good news. **Amen.**

When the Word became man, earth was joined to heaven.  
 May the Saviour give you peace and good will with all God's children. **Amen**

May Almighty God bless you, The Father, The Son, and the Holy Spirit. **Amen**



O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant. O come ye ,  
O come ye to Bethlehem; come and behold him, born the king of  
angels:

**O come let us adore him (3) Christ the Lord.**

Deum de Deo, lumen de lumine, gestant puellae viscera;  
Natum videte regem angelorum. Venite adoremus, venite adoremus,  
Venite adoremus Dominum.

Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation, sing all ye citizens of heaven  
above. Glory to God in the highest: **O come let us adore him....**

Yea, Lord we greet thee, born this happy morning, Jesu, to thee be  
glory given; word of the Father, now in flesh appearing: **O come let  
us....**

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**Hark the herald angels sing**, glory to the new-born King;  
 peace on earth and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled:  
 joyful all ye nations rise, join the triumph of the skies,  
 with the angelic host proclaim, Christ is born in Bethlehem.  
 Hark the herald angels sing, glory to the new-born King.

Christ, by highest heaven adored, Christ, the everlasting Lord,  
 late in time behold him come, offspring of a Virgin's womb!  
 Veiled in flesh the Godhead see hail the incarnate Deity!  
 Pleas'd as man with man to dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel.  
 Hark the herald angels sing, glory to the new-born King.

**Once in royal David's city** stood a lowly cattle shed,  
 where a Mother laid her baby in a manger for a 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 mean, and lowly lived on earth our Saviour holy.

And through all his wondrous childhood he would honour and obey,  
 love and watch the lowly maiden in whose gentle arms he lay;  
 Christian children, all must be, mild, obedient, good as he.

**While Shepherds watched** their flocks by night, all seated on the  
 ground, the Angel of the Lord came down, and glory shone around.

"Fear not", said he, (for mighty dread has seized their troubled mind)  
 "Glad tidings of great joy I bring to you and all mankind.

"To you in David's town this day is born of David's line  
 a Saviour, who is Christ the Lord; and this shall be the sign:

"The heavenly Babe you there shall find to human view displayed,  
 all meanly wrapped in swathing bands, and in a manger laid."

"All glory be to God on high, and on the earth be peace,  
 goodwill henceforth from heaven to men begin and never cease."