

***Christmas Eve***

***Reflective Service***

***December 24, 2019, 6:00PM***

*I bring you good news of a great joy which will come to all the people; for to you is born this day a Saviour, Christ the Lord.
(Luke 2:10-11)*

SUNDAYS AT ST. PAUL’S

**REGULAR SERVICES**

* Weekly services held Sundays at 10:00AM
* Interface services - Art based services throughout the year
* Sermons available on our website

**SUNDAY PRAYER**

* Prayer for the service at 9:30AM in the Luke Room
* Individual Prayer in the Chapel during the Sunday service

**SERVING AT ST. PAUL’S**

* Join a Ministry Team (Sunday service team, music team, children’s ministry, Altar guild, or many others)
* Regular or One-Time Giving (cash, cheque, automatic debit, and credit options available)

 **LARGE PRINT MATERIALS** Large print Bibles and
 Books of Alternative
 Services (BAS) are availableat each Sanctuary door.

Page numbers will not be the same as those listed in the bulletin.

 **VISITING TODAY?**

 We want to get to know
 you! Please join us for

 in the Hall for coffee and

fellowship following the service. The greeters are also available to help if you have any questions.





**Assisted listening**

**is available. Please**

**ask a greeter**

**for assistance.**

CONNECT

**St. Paul’s CHILDREN’S MINISTRY**

**KIDS** Pre-School-Grade 2 in the hall / Grade 3-5 in the Matthew Room

Sunday School teaching is weekly during the 10:00AM service.

**St. Paul’s YOUTH MINISTRY**

**YOUTH** Youth Grades 6-12 meet weekly during the 10:00AM service.

Youth also meetbi-weekly for fun events and devotionals.

**St. Paul’s ADULT MINISTRY**

**ADULTS** St. Paul’s has a number of small groups where you can connect with others through Christ. If you are interested in joining a small
group or starting a small group of your own, please speak with Pat Stretch.

**Opening Song and Processional (Candles are Lit): *Once in Royal David’s City***

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 Saviour 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 gather round

**The Gathering of the Community**

Celebrant: *(BAS pg. 185)* The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with you all.

**People: And also with you.**

Celebrant:Almighty God,

**All:to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hidden. Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Celebrant: *(pg. 273)* 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.

**People:** **Amen**.

**Worship Through Song**

***O Little Town of Bethlehem***

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

For Christ is born of Mary
And gathered all above
While mortals sleep
 (*continued on next page*)

The angels keep their watch

Of wondering love
O morning stars together
Proclaim the holy birth
And praises sing to God the King
And peace to all the earth

How silently, how silently
The wondrous gift is given
A love imparts to human hearts
The blessings of God’s heaven
No ear may hear His coming
But in this world of sin
Where meek souls will receive Him still
The dear Christ enters in

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

***Shepherds in the Field Abiding***

Shepherds in the field abiding
Tell us, when the seraph bright
Greeted you with wondrous tiding
What you saw and heard that night
Gloria in excelsis Deo (2x)

We beheld it (it is no fable)
God incarnate, King of bliss
Swathed and cradled in a stable
And the angel strain was this
Gloria in excelsis Deo (2x)

Choristers on high were singing
Jesus and his Virgin birth
Heavenly bells the while a-ringing
"Peace, good will to all on earth"
Gloria in excelsis Deo (2x)

Thanks, good shepherds, true your story
Let us go to Bethlehem
Angels hymn the King of glory
Carol we with you and them
Gloria in excelsis Deo (2x)

**The Reading of Scripture**

First Reading: Isaiah 9:2-7 (pg. 489 in the red pew Bible)

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

**People:** **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm Reading: Psalm 96 (pg. 834 in the BAS)

Second Reading: Titus 2:11-14 (pg. 844 in the red pew Bible)

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

**People:** **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Reading: Luke 2:1-20 (pg. 724 in the red pew Bible)

Reader: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Reader: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St. Luke.

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

*The Gospel Reading*

Reader: The Gospel of Christ.

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

Sermon: The Reverend Dr. Myron Penner

**Sermon Notes**

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**Song: *Infant Holy, Infant Lowly***

Infant holy, infant lowly
For His bed a cattle stall
Oxen lowing, little knowing
Christ the babe is Lord of all
Swift are winging, angels singing
Noels ringing, tidings bringing
Christ the babe is Lord of all

Christ the babe is Lord of all

Flocks were sleeping, shepherds keeping

Vigil till the morning new
Saw the glory, heard the story
Tidings of a gospel true
Thus rejoicing, free from sorrow
Praises voicing, greet the morrow
Christ the babe was born for you

Christ the babe was born for you

**The Apostle’s Creed**

Celebrant: *(pg. 189)* Let us confess the faith of our baptism, as we say,

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

**Confession of Sin**

Celebrant: *(pg. 191)* 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.

*Silent Confession*

Celebrant:Most merciful God,

**All: 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.**

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.**

**The Peace**

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

**People: And also with you.**

**Offertory Song: *Angels From the Realms of Glory***

Angels from the realms of glory
Wing your flight o'er all the earth
You who sang creation's story
Now proclaim Messiah's birth

(*Chorus*)

Come and worship, come and worship
Worship Christ the newborn King

Shepherds in the field abiding
Watching o'er your flocks by night
God with us is now residing
Yonder shines the infant light

(*To Chorus*)

Sages leave your contemplations
Brighter visions beam afar
Seek the great Desire of nations
Ye have seen His natal star (*To Chorus*)

Saints before the altar bending
Watching long in hope and fear
Suddenly the Lord descending
In His temple shall appear (*To Chorus*)

Though an infant now we view Him
He shall fill the-eternal throne
Gather all the nations to Him
Every knee shall then bow down

(*To Chorus*)

**Prayer Over the Gifts**

Celebrant: *(pg. 273)* Source of light and gladness,

**All: 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.**

Celebrant: *(pg. 198)* 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: *(pg. 219)* Blessed are you, gracious God, creator of heaven and earth; we give you thanks and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord, who in the mystery of his incarnation was made perfect man of the flesh of the Virgin Mary his mother; in him we have seen a new and radiant vision of your glory. Therefore with all the angels of heaven, we lift our voices and sing our joyful hymn of praise to proclaim the glory of your name.

**All:** ***(Sung)*** **Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth of Your glory are full. Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth of Your glory are full. Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.**

Celebrant: *(pg. 198)* We give thanks to you, Lord our God, for the goodness and love……. Therefore, Father, according to his command,

**All: we remember his death, we proclaim his resurrection, we await his coming in glory;**

Celebrant: and we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving……by whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory are yours, almighty Father, now and for ever.

**All: Amen.**

Celebrant: *(pg. 211)* As our Saviour taught us, let us pray,

**All: *(Sung)* Our Father in heaven, holy is your name. Your kingdom come on earth as in heaven. Our Father in heaven, reveal who you are. Your will be done on earth as in heaven. Feed us today what we need to live. Forgive all our sins as we forgive. And keep us safe. The kingdom is yours, the power is yours, and the glory forever. The kingdom is yours, the power is yours, and the glory forever.**

Celebrant: *(pg. 213)* We break the bread of life, and that life is the light of the world.

**All: God here among us, light in the midst of us, bring us to light and life.**

Celebrant: *(pg. 213)* The gifts of God for the People of God.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

**The Communion**

*You are welcome to receive communion or come forward for a blessing. If you prefer to receive a blessing, please fold your arms over your chest. There is de-alcoholized wine available in the centre and gluten-free wafers available upon request.*

**Lamb of God**

*(Sung)* Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, grant us your peace.

**Communion Music**

***Gesu Bambino*** *(Special Music)*

***Away in a Manger***

Away in a manger

No crib for a bed
The little Lord Jesus

Laid down His sweet head
The stars in the bright sky

Looked down where He lay
The little Lord Jesus

Asleep on the hay

The cattle are lowing the Baby awakes
But little Lord Jesus no crying He makes
I love you Lord Jesus

Look down from on high
And stay by my side

Until morning is nigh

Be near me Lord Jesus, I ask Thee to stay
Close by me forever and love me I pray
Bless all the dear children

In your tender care
And fit us for heaven

To live with you there

**Prayer After Communion**

Celebrant: *(pg. 274)* Father of all,

**All: 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.**

Celebrant: *(pg. 214)* 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**

**Congregational Announcements**

**Closing Song: *Silent Night***

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
Sleep in heavenly peace

Silent night, holy night
Shepherds quake at the sight
Glories stream from heaven afar
Heavenly hosts sing alleluia
Christ the Saviour is born
Christ the Saviour is born

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
Jesus Lord at Thy birth

**The Dismissal**Celebrant: *(pg. 215)* Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

*St. Paul’s Staff and Clergy wish you a very Merry Christmas.*



**Welcome to St. Paul’s**

St. Paul’s welcomes all who have come to worship with us on the Eve of Christ’s birth and thank you for joining us. We pray that you would experience the love of God in a new and deeper way during this Christmas season. If you are looking for a church home, you are most welcome to worship with us on a regular basis. Our services are held every Sunday at 10:00AM. For more information about St. Paul’s, please visit our website at
www. stpauls-anglican.ca.

**Office Closure and Staff Holidays**

The church office will be closed from December 25-January 1.

Myron will be checking email sporadically during this period.
RJ will be away from December 25-January 7 and will not be checking email.

**Christmas Day, 9:00AM Service at St. Paul’s**

You are welcome to join us for our Christmas Day service at 9:00AM on December 25.

May you see the GOD of

**HOPE, PEACE, JOY, and LOVE**

at work in your neighborhoods
and communities this Christmas season! God’s blessing to you
and your families!

Please join us weekly on Sundays at 10:00AM. We’d love to have you as part of the St. Paul’s church family!!

 **Altar Flowers**

 The flowers on the altar
 tonight are given to the
 glory of God and in loving
 memory of Vena, Ray, and

Alan Dakin. From Judy and
 Doug and their families.



@StEdmonton

facebook.com/stpachurchedmonton

 **St. Paul’s Anglican Church**

 10127 145 Street, Edmonton T5N 2X6

 Phone: (780) 455-0771; Email: office@stpauls-anglican.ca

Website: www.stpauls-anglican.ca

**For prayer requests** **email**:

office@stpauls-anglican.ca

**For urgent prayer requests call**

 the church office: (780) 455-0771

**For pastoral emergencies call:**

(587) 334-2130

**St. Paul’s Staff:**

 *Rector:*

The Reverend Myron Bradley Penner
*Office Administrator:*

RJ Chambers

*Youth Leader:* Victoria Eeles

**St. Paul’s Vestry:**

 Peter Jackson, *Rector’s Warden*

Pat Stretch, *People’s Warden*

David Heritage, *Treasurer*

Margot Byer, *Vestry Member*

John Green, *Vestry Member*

Deanna Kalles, *Vestry Member*

David Parker, *Vestry Member*

Carol Rudat, *Vestry Member*

**Office Hours:**

Monday-Thursday: 9:00AM-12:00PM

Closed: Fri/Sat/Sun and Stat Holidays

**Christmas Eve Readings:**

Isaiah 9:2-7 (p. 489)

Psalm 96 (BAS p. 834)

Titus 2:11-14 (p. 844)

Luke 2:1-20 (p. 724)

**Thank You:**

Thank you to all who helped makethe Advent and Christmas services

meaningful this year!

**Anglican Cycle of Prayer:**

***for Christmas Eve***

All lay people in parishes throughout our diocese.

Buyé Diocese, Rusengo Parish: Sylvere Ndururutse, Rector.

Louis Bull Tribe.