



The Anglican Church of Canada
ST. LUKE CEDAR HILL
A city on a hill cannot be hidden

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December 1, 2019

Dear Friends,

This holy season of Advent, of anticipation, of preparing for the coming of Christ Jesus is already upon us! With this season often comes a frenetic pace in our activities. We enhance our dwellings by cleaning, preparing food, baking, putting up decorations and a tree – making our homes welcoming for the season. We make our lists for gift giving, write Christmas cards or emails, and face the crowds at shopping centres and malls to find that perfect gift for loved ones and friends. We attend special functions of the communities, organizations, or workplaces we are part of. We attend Christmas concerts of children, grandchildren, or even great-grandchildren. Indeed, there is such a hive of activities in our lives as we celebrate the season.

Of course, the seasons of Advent and Christmas are also important times for your church of St. Luke. Much preparation will be going into making the celebration of Advent and Christmas particularly special this year as we also enter the advent of this parish's 160th year of ministry. This begins as we enter Advent and anticipate the coming of Jesus by remembering his birth and celebrating his being incarnate and amongst us as we enter this new year. This new season will be the beginning of a very important year in the life of St. Luke, and the most important factor will be your participation, beginning with your prayers and extending into your participation in upcoming events in the church's life. For a full listing of dates and times of services during Advent and Christmas, please see the reverse side of this page. The following are some highlights.

Pax Dei: This is a special time of quiet and peace when the Church is open for intentional reflection. This is not a church service but a space to come and simply be and breathe as the outside world is rushing by. The Church will be open for this purpose from 6:30 PM to 8:00 PM – December 4th, 11th and 18th.

St. Luke Family Christmas Pageant: December 15th at 10:30 AM. A fun time for family and friends of the parish to come together and celebrate this pre-Christmas season (with a peak into the Christmas Story). Following the service will be a potluck lunch for everyone to enjoy.

Longest Night Service: As I have written in other years, the preparation for Christmas can be difficult for those who have experienced loss, change, challenges, or simply find it hard to catch up to what the rest of the world might expect us to feel. Once again, this year our parish will share in a Longest Night Service. For some, a gentle way to make a transition to Christmas is needed. I know that this is the case for me. I invite you to this year's Longest Night Service on December 22nd at 7 PM.

The ministry that takes place at and through St. Luke is of vital importance within this parish, and beyond. This is seen in the lives of parishioners and in the lives of all those whom our ministry serves. It has been the custom to present an opportunity for you to make a special contribution towards the ministry and work of this parish. Please find enclosed a Christmas offering envelope to assist you in this special offering at this time of year. Thank you very much in advance for your gift offering.

As I close my Christmas letter, I would like to take this opportunity to wish each and every one of you a most blessed and holy Christmas. May you be especially aware of God blessing you this season.

In Christ's service and love,

Daniel+



Advent and Christmas Services at St. Luke Cedar Hill December 2019

Sunday, December 8—Advent 2

- 8:30 am Said Communion
- 10:30 am Family Communion
- 7:00 pm Communion

Sunday, December 15—Advent 3

- 8:30 am Said Communion
- 10:30 am Pageant with Lunch following
- 7:00 pm Evensong Service

Sunday, December 22—Advent 4

- 8:30 am Said Communion
- 10:30 am Choral Communion
- 7:00 pm Longest Night Service

Tuesday, December 24—Christmas Eve

- 4:00 pm Child Friendly Christingle Carol Service
- 7:00 pm Family Communion, with Carols
- 10:00 pm Traditional Choral Communion, with Carols

Wednesday, December 25—Christmas Day

- 10:30 am Family Communion

**God's Blessing and Peace
to You and Yours this Christmas!**