

ANGLICAN PARISH OF WOODSTOCK
SAINT LUKE'S **CHRIST CHURCH**



Christmas Eve

Friday, December 24, 2021 – 4:30 pm



Family Eucharist

St. Luke's Church

**Livestreamed to Facebook and available later on
Facebook, YouTube & our Website.**



Website: woodstocknbanglican.ca

St. Luke's Church

104 Church Street, Woodstock, NB E7M 5Z7

Email: Stlukes@nb.aibn.com

Office Phone: 506-328-4304

Rector: Rev. Shirley Noseworthy Phone: 328-9913

Email: shirleyruthnoseworthy@gmail.com

Organist: Sandra Culberson



We acknowledge that the land on which we gather is the traditional unceded territory of the Wolastoqiyik (Maliseet) and Mi'kmaq Peoples.

Welcome & Merry Christmas!

The service begins on page 185 BAS

The Gathering of the Community

Priest: Welcome everyone, on this holiest of nights.

People: As Mary readied herself to give birth to Jesus, let us prepare ourselves to welcome new birth into our own lives.

Priest: As a child prepares to open a special gift, let us prepare our hearts to receive the wonder of God's love.

People: As heaven and earth sing of great joy, let us sing our joyful praises to God.

Priest: Come let us worship God together.

Carol 118: O Come All Ye Faithful, vs. 1, 2 & 5

(You may sing wearing a mask.)

Birthdays and Anniversaries

Lighting of the Christ Candle

As we celebrate the birth of Jesus and rejoice in His coming to us, we light the Christ candle. (*Candle is lit*)

Jesus Christ is our hope. He is our peace. Jesus Christ is our joy. He is love – pure, holy, undying love. Whoever believes in Him will never perish but have eternal life (John 3.16). Thanks be to God for His indescribable gift! (2 Corinthians 9.15)

Carol 120: O Little Town of Bethlehem, vs. 1

(You may sing wearing a mask.)

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.

Gospel Drama: The Nativity

Lights in the nave are turned off, except at the back. Due to Covid-19 restrictions, we regret that children will not be taking part as in other years. The Nativity figures will be placed by Sunday School teacher, Ann Tait, during singing of the carol.

Reading 1: We dream and sing our way to Bethlehem.

Animals are brought forward.

Carol 120: O Little Town of Bethlehem, vs. 4

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!

Reading 2: Mary and Joseph Journey from Nazareth.

Mary & Joseph are brought forward

Carol 123: 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.

Reading 3: The cry of a newborn child!

Baby Jesus is brought forward.

Carol 126: *Away in a Manger*

Away in a manger, no crib for a bed,
The little Lord Jesus lay down his sweet head.
The stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay,
The little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.

Reading 4: *Shepherds receive news of great joy!*

Shepherds & angel are brought forward.

Carol 132: *While Shepherds Watched*

While shepherds watched their flocks by night
all seated on the ground.
An angel of the Lord came down and glory shone around.

Reading 5: *The journey of the Magi.*

Three wise men are brought forward.

Carol 139: *The First Nowell*

And by the light of that same star,
Three wise men came from country far,
To seek for a king was their intent,
And to follow the star wherever it went.

**Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell,
Born is the King of Israel.**

Reading 6: *We offer our gift of worship to this Child*

A star is placed over the nativity.

Carol 119: *Silent Night (2 Verses)*

1. 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.

2. 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!

Blessing of the Nativity *Lights in the Nave are turned on.*

Priest: Great and good God, we stand before you in wonder and awe. We thank you for the miracle of Jesus' birth. Bless all who look upon this Nativity. May it remind us that Jesus is with us always.

People: May all parents share the deep and pure love that Mary and Joseph felt for their child. May all children know the joy of the shepherds and the song of the angels. May we all praise the name of Jesus forever and ever. Amen.

Choir Anthem: *Gentle Mary Laid Her Child*

The Prayers of the People

Led by Cindy Graham

Leader: Let us pray, saying: Come, Lord Jesus, dwell with us. We remember you, Jesus, born in a dark stable because there was no room for you anywhere in Bethlehem. We remember Mary and Joseph, expecting a child, and forced to take the first shelter they could find, in a stable among the animals. We acknowledge that the world is not much different for many people today.

Come, Lord Jesus, dwell with us.

We pray for those in this community and throughout the world who are poor and homeless, for refugees whose children are still being born in stables, tents, and whatever shelter can be found. Give us the compassion to help shelter those in need. Keep us safe in your love and empower us to share this love with others.

Come, Lord Jesus, dwell with us.

We pray for those who are not able to be with loved ones this Christmas because of the Covid-19 pandemic or another reason, for those who work in hospitals and nursing care homes, and for other essential services, so that we may be safe and secure. Help us find comfort in your presence.

Come, Lord Jesus, dwell with us.

We pray for those who are sick or lonely this Christmas, especially those on our hearts tonight. Pour out the healing power of your love upon them and grant them peace.

Come, Lord Jesus, dwell with us.

We remember with thanksgiving the faithful departed, especially those on the Christmas Memorial List, *{pause for a moment of silence to remember}* that they may rest in the peace of Christ, and those who mourn may be comforted. May your love which extends from the wood of the manger to the wood of the cross bless us this night with the gift of peace.

Come, Lord Jesus, dwell with us.

Confession and Absolution p. 191

The Peace p. 192

The Celebration of the Eucharist

Offertory Carol 139: *The First Noel*, vs. 1, 2 & 6

You may sing wearing a mask. Offering plate is brought to the altar.

Prayer over the Gifts: Source of light and gladness, 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.

Eucharistic Prayer 5, p. 204

The Lord's Prayer p. 211

Breaking of Bread #6 Incarnation p. 213

Invitation to Communion: During Covid19 we administer bread only, using tongs. You are invited to come forward up the center aisle, single file, keeping 6 feet from anyone outside your bubble. Please wear your mask, receive the bread, and step 6 feet away before consuming the bread. Return to your pew down the side aisle. If for any reason you do not wish to receive communion, feel free to remain in your pew.

**During Communion 138: Hark! The Herald Angels Sing
140: It Came Upon the Midnight Clear**

Prayer after Communion p. 272

Doxology p. 214

Blessing

Recessional Carol 154: *Joy to the World*

Dismissal

Officiant: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord!

People: **Thanks be to God. Merry Christmas!**

Welcome: A hearty Christmas welcome to all worshipping with us today. Visitors are invited to sign our Guest Book at the back of the Church. Merry Christmas! The offering plate is at the back of the church if you wish to leave an offering either before or after the service. Merry Christmas!

Special Prayers are requested for: Janet, Kim, Ernest, Mavis, Gordon, Ellen, Karla, Amanda, Jennifer, Randy, Colin, Liam, Sadie, Emma, Scottie, Kate, Gail, Tanya, Terry, Brad, Billy, Lorne, Kent, Doreen, Dick, Susanne, Jim, Trevor, Lindsay, Lois, David, Carrie, Barry, Freda, Charles, Archbishop David's parents, Doreen and John.

Seeking Greeters for 2022

Please contact Ruth at 328-4304 to volunteer to be a greeter January through December 2022.

Participating in Today's Service

Officiant: Rev. Shirley Noseworthy
Lay Reader: Cindy Graham
Organist: Sandra Culberson
Greeters: Nancy English & Ann Tait
Videographer: Tony Richard
Audio: Armin Hackelsperger
Altar Guild: Janis Richard, Dot Love, Linda Porter Lamoreaux

Celebrating Birthdays & Anniversaries!

Happy Birthday to Sandra Saunders, Dalton Griffith and to anyone celebrating a birthday!

Happy Wedding Anniversary to Emily Clark & Joe McGuire, Molly & Andrew Ryder, Brooke & Ben Veysey and to anyone celebrating their special day!

A Prayer based on 1 John 4:7-12

Father, we adore You. Bless those who are celebrating a birthday or an anniversary this week. May Your love continue to flow through them. You gave Your one and only son so that we might live through Him, and we pray that as You have loved us, that we continue to love one another. Thank You for living within us and thank You for Your love being made complete within us, Amen.

Diocesan Intercessions

Each week we pray for those on the Anglican Prayer Cycle, located [here](#). **Dec. 26** Iglesia Anglicana de la Region Central de America. Archbishop Linda Nicholls, Anglican Church of Canada. National Indigenous Archbishop Mark MacDonald and the Anglican Council of Indigenous Peoples. Diocese of Ho, Bishop Matthias Meduadues-Badohu. Diocese of Yukon, Bishop Lesley Wheeler-Dame; Whitehorse: Christ Church Cathedral, the Very Rev. Bert Chestnut, the Rev. Elsa Cheeseman and Don Cheeseman, licensed lay minister David Robertson. Archbishop David, retired bishops Claude, William and George, and their families.

Condolences are extended to wife Una, sons Mike, Mark and Terence and their families on the passing of James (Jim) Chandra this week at Carleton Manor. Also, condolences are extended to Linda Smith and family on the recent passing of her Mum Josephine in the U.K. Please remember their families in your prayers.

Memorial Christmas Bulletins

The memorial Christmas Bulletin is available at the back of the church. The Christmas Memorial Bulletin has also been sent out to our parish e-mail list.

Financial Statement as of Nov. 30, 2021

	2021	2020
Year to Date Cash in	\$155,120.83	\$134,756.70
Year to Date Cash out	<u>166,826.68</u>	<u>143,920.56</u>
Year to Date Excess (Deficit)	<u>\$ (11,705.85)</u>	<u>\$ (9,163.86)</u>
Cash Position at beginning of year	5,344.70	(9,253.01)
Add: 2021 YTD Excess (deficit)	<u>(11,705.85)</u>	<u>(9,163.86)</u>
Total Deficit at November 30, 2021	(6,361.15)	(18,416.87)
Less current year unpaid bills	<u>(15,729.56)</u>	<u>(7,831.35)</u>
Less prior year cfwd unpaid bills	<u>(23,029.44)</u>	<u>(17,285.76)</u>
Cash Position at November 30, 2021	<u>9,368.41</u>	<u>(10,585.52)</u>
Total unpaid bills	38,759.00	25,117.11

Winter Worship

At its Dec. 12 vestry meeting, a motion was passed to remain in the church for worship at least until the end of January 2022 to see how cost effective the new furnaces are!

Bulletin Board

Friday, Dec. 24, Christmas Eve

4:30 am Family Eucharist at St. Luke's

8:30 pm Candlelight Service at Christ Church

Proof of vaccination or medical exemption for age 12 yrs and older, masks, physical distancing and signing in will be in place. The offering plate is at the back of the church on the greeter's table.

Sunday, Dec. 26, 1st Sunday after Christmas

10:30 am Lessons & Carols, St. Luke's

Wed. Dec. 29 – Choir Practice

Due to new restrictions choir cancelled until further notice.

Sunday, Jan. 2, The Epiphany of the Lord

10:30 am Holy Eucharist (BAS) St. Luke's

Changes in Covid-19 Restrictions

Effective Dec. 27, for all services and public events in our facilities, proof of full vaccination or medical exemption is required for those age 12 years and up. Masks and physical distancing are mandatory. There will be no choir and no singing, except for one soloist 4 meters distanced. Signing in for contact tracing. Seating capacity reduced to 50 percent, with a maximum of 150 people.

Debriefing Meeting Jan. 13, 2022

Those who attended the Parish Visioning Day with Shawn Branch on Nov. 13 will meet on Jan 13, 7 pm in the hall to debrief and discuss the next step in our Mission Act Plan process.