

ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST ANGLICAN CHURCH

Diocese of Ottawa • Anglican Church of Canada



CHRISTMAS EVE

December 24, 2022

HOLY EUCHARIST ~ 4pm

Book of Alternative Services page 185

Merry Christmas! Welcome to St. John the Evangelist.

We acknowledge that we gather at St. John's on the traditional and unceded territory of the Algonquin Nation. May we dwell on this land with respect and peace.

By attending this service, you are agreeing to appear on video in our on-line worship offering through St. John's website and Facebook site.

We are in the *Green* stage of the diocesan Pandemic plan. Various safety measures are in place to help reduce the risk of COVID-19 transmission. Please show patience, kindness, respect and care for one another in these challenging times.

- Proof of vaccination is **not** required to attend worship services. All of St. John's clergy have been fully vaccinated.
- Masks are optional for the congregation when in the building, but strongly recommended. Worship leaders are currently required to wear masks while in the building.
- Physical distancing and capacity limits are no longer in place, but please be respectful of other people's comfort level. Alternate pews continue to be marked off to allow for more space. Always ask someone if it is okay to sit beside them if they are not in your household or bubble.
- The offering plates will not be passed. You may place your donation in the box/bowl at the back of the church or at the exits. Thank you for your donation!
- Communion is offered in **both kinds** for those who wish to receive it. Please make your way up the centre aisle to the clergy at the chancel steps to receive the bread, and then make your way to the table at the side aisle where you may receive the wine. The Communion assistant will say to you "The blood of Christ." You may choose to pick up the chalice and drink from it, or simply bow your head in response if you do not wish to receive. Please note that intinction (dipping the wafer into the wine) is **not** permitted. Once you drink from the chalice, place it back on the table. The Communion assistant will then wipe the rim and rotate it for the next recipient. You then return to your pew via the side aisle.

Please turn off cell phones or set them to vibrate/silent mode. Thank you.

Hymns are from the blue hymnbooks in your pew racks, unless otherwise indicated.

HOLY EUCHARIST

Prelude

Hymn 118

THE GATHERING OF THE COMMUNITY

Celebrant The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God,
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

All 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.**

Collect of the Day

O God our Father, whose Word has come among us in the Holy Child of Bethlehem, may the light of faith illumine our hearts and shine in our words and deeds; through him who is Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

THE PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

~ The Christmas Gospel ~
according to St. Luke and St. Matthew

Carol: O Little Town of Bethlehem

**Oh 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 the angels keep their watch of wondering
love.**

**Oh morning stars together, proclaim thy holy birth.
And praises sing to God the king, and peace to all on earth.**

First Reading

Luke 1:26-38

Carol: 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 the sky,
and stay by my side until morning is nigh.**

**Be near me, Lord Jesus I ask you 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.**

Second Reading

Luke 2:1-20

Carol: Hope is a Star

**Hope is a star that shines in the night,
leading us on till the morning is bright.**

***Refrain: When God is a child there's joy in our song. The last
shall be first and the weak shall be strong, and none shall be
afraid.***

**Peace is a ribbon that circles the earth,
giving a promise of safety and worth. *Refrain***

**Joy is a song that welcomes the dawn,
telling the world that the Savior is born. *Refrain***

**Love is a flame that burns in our heart.
Jesus has come and will never depart. *Refrain***

Third Reading

Matthew 2:1-12

Carol: A Candle is Burning

**A candle is burning, a flame warm and bright,
A candle of hope in December's dark night.
While angels sing blessings from heaven's starry sky,
Our hearts we prepare now for Jesus is nigh.**

**A candle is burning, a candle for peace,
a candle to signal that conflict must cease:
For Jesus is coming to show us the way;
a message of peace humbly laid in the hay.**

**A candle is burning, a candle of joy,
a candle to welcome brave Mary's new boy.
Pure hearts fill with wonder, and eyes light and glow
as joy brightens winter like sunshine on snow.**

**A candle is burning, a candle of love,
a candle to point us to heaven above.
A baby for Christmas, a wonderful birth,
for Jesus is bringing God's love to our earth.**

The Nicene Creed

Celebrant Let us confess our faith in the words of the Nicene Creed

**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 (*please sit or kneel*)

Leader In the name of the Holy Child of Bethlehem, let us pray together saying: *hear our prayer.*

As we remember Jesus with Mary and Joseph, we pray for families who are gathered, for families who are displaced, and for families who cannot be together. Lord Jesus,

People hear our prayer.

Leader As we remember Jesus cradled safely in a manger, we pray for those living on the street, for those who are missing, for refugees and prisoners, and for all who are looking for a safe place to call home. Lord Jesus,

People hear our prayer.

Leader As we remember Jesus sharing a stable with animals, we pray for the safety and diversity of species; for every part of creation, for the health of the earth, the sea and the sky. Lord Jesus,

People hear our prayer.

Leader As we remember Jesus being worshipped by shepherds and kings, we pray for all people and all nations, for reconciliation and justice, for the peace of Jerusalem and peace across the world. Lord Jesus,

People hear our prayer.

Leader As we remember Jesus, our Emmanuel, God with us, we pray for all who are troubled this night, in body, mind or spirit, especially all whom we hold in our hearts on this holy night.
[silence] Lord Jesus,

People hear our prayer.

Leader As we join with Christians all over the world to celebrate Christ's birth, we pray that God will give guidance and wisdom to each of us, encouraging and strengthening us to serve others with love and courage wherever we live, work or play. Lord Jesus, hear our prayers and fill our lives with your peace, hope and joy. **Amen.**

The Peace (*please stand*)

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you.

People may greet one another with the peace of Christ.

Hymn 138

THE CELEBRATION OF THE EUCHARIST

Prayer over the gifts

Great Thanksgiving

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 forever. **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

All **Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.**

Breaking of the Bread

Celebrant 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 The gifts of God are for the people of God.

All **Thanks be to God.**

Communion

All who are baptized are welcome to receive the bread and/or the wine of Holy Communion. At the Greeter's direction, please make your way to the chancel steps to receive the bread, and then to the side aisle where you may receive the wine. Intinction (dipping the bread into the wine) is not permitted. Be assured that in the Anglican tradition receiving in one kind is considered full Communion. If you do not wish to receive Communion, but would like a blessing, please cross your arms over your chest. Please maintain physical distance from the person in front of you as you move to and from Communion.

Hymns during Communion 123, 127, 119

Prayer after Communion *(please stand)*

Doxology

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, forever and ever. Amen.**

The Blessing

Hymn 154

Postlude

Presiding Celebrant: The Reverend Canon Jim Roberts
Beginnings: Terry Dillabough; Emily Duberville; Dawn Dunlop;
Pat Lee; Laura Porter; Kathy Porter; Trish Warren

Reader: Hope MacGregor
Intercessor: Emily Duberville
Communion Assistants: Paul Byington; Kevin Lewis
Greeters: Donna Howard; Paul Howard

Christmastide Services

| | | |
|---------------------------|--------|----------------|
| Sun Dec 25 Christmas Day | 9:30am | Sung Eucharist |
| Wed Dec 28 Holy Innocents | 10am | Holy Communion |
| Sun Jan 1 Naming of Jesus | 8am | Holy Eucharist |
| | 10am | Sung Eucharist |

Please note the church & office will be closed Dec 26, 27 & Jan 2 for the statutory holidays. For pastoral emergencies please contact (613) 823-6199.

A reminder that 2022 offerings must be received/postmarked by Dec 31.

**The flowers in the church this Christmastide are given
to the glory of God and in thanksgiving for:**

Roy and Edith James
Bill and Alice Hamilton

John and Doreen Cassell
Ernest and Lyla Dowdall

Haskins family
Carrie, Charlie, David, Ross, Lyle and
Cheryl and Christine

Reverend Doug Norman; Sylvia Conboy

Bill and Keitha Porter
Mabel Porter
Earl, Florence, Joan Porter
Norm Porter
Boyd and Eileen Thompson

Clifford Orr

Art Powers; George Kelly; Ken Brown
Clarence Kerfoot
Harry and Florence Cross and
sons, Lloyd, John, Glenn, Larry
and daughter, Freda Mayhew

Earle Williams and
Doris Williams (nee Ridgewood)

Charles and Esther Roberts
Jim and Sadie Roberts
Roy Roberts
Tom Roberts
Al and Marion; Barry, Geoff

The Rev. Albert Hoppins
Eldon, Jessie, Bob, Dorothy, Larry,
Joyce, and Stan Minshull
Randy and Daniel DeGrace

The Reverend Edward and
Margaret Attwell
David and Mabel Ashworth
Frederick and Frances Attwell

Kathleen and Leslie Lewis
David Hall
Leo Donovan
Elaine and Tommy Moyse
Graham Hall

Eva and Sidney Hagan
Dr. Willis J. and Annette Hagan
Elaine Hagan Moyse
Stella and Vincent McGlynn
Terry McGlynn
John Connor McCabe

Russell and May Smith
Eardley and Evelyn Coleman

Dayl Stewart

Grace Kelso
Sarah and Harold Millar
Edna and Dave Good
Wilhelmine Hill
Luella Randall

Norman and Muriel Burke
Arnold Fleming; Lisa Fleming;
Dorothy and Elmer Paul; John Paul

ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST ANGLICAN CHURCH

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www.facebook.com/St-John-the-Evangelist-Anglican-Church-Smiths-Falls

Kathy Rycroft – Parish Secretary

Office Hours: Monday – Friday 9am -12noon

Weekly Liturgies

Holy Eucharist – Sundays 8am & 10am* – Wednesdays 10am

**Sunday School offered at 10am from September - June*

The Right Reverend Shane A. D. Parker – Bishop of Ottawa

The Reverend Canon John Bridges – Interim Priest-in-Charge

(613) 823-6199 | johnbridgessp@hotmail.com

The Reverend Canon Brian Burrows – Honorary Assistant

The Reverend Canon Jim Roberts – Honorary Assistant

Sterling Bennett – Organist 283-7833

Emily Duberville – Sunday School Coordinator emduberville@hotmail.com

Paul Howard – Rector's Warden 283-1172

Karen Bryan – People's Warden 284-8149

Garry Rodford – Deputy Warden 284-0488

Dan Willis – Deputy Warden 884-5095

Nancy Fleming – Envelope Secretary

SJSFenvelopesecretary@gmail.com