

ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST



ANGLICAN CHURCH

Diocese of Ottawa • Anglican Church of Canada

**Second
Sunday
of Advent**

December 10, 2023

SUNG EUCHARIST ~ 10 a.m.

Book of Alternative Services page 185

Welcome to the Church of 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.



This service is video recorded, streamed, and broadcast. By attending this service, you are agreeing to appear on video in our on-line worship offering through St. John's website and Facebook pages.



Hymns are from the blue Common Praise hymnbook unless otherwise indicated.

Today's service can be found on page 185 of the green Book of Alternative Services (BAS) located in the pew back in front of you.

THE GATHERING OF THE COMMUNITY

Prelude

Announcements

Advent Wreath Themes and Prayers: Advent 2

Theme: Prophets

Opening Explanation:

Maranatha! **Come Lord Jesus!** These words of hope and expectation are the centre of the advent season, when we wait for the coming of Jesus – born in Bethlehem, the risen and ascended King of Heaven, alive in our hearts, and returning at the end of days.

On the second Sunday of Advent, we remember how the lives and ministries of the Prophets proclaimed to the world the coming of the anointed one of God, Our Lord Jesus Christ. The prophet Micah spoke of the day when God himself would come to save the people, the prophet Isaiah spoke of the Good Shephard who would guide God's people, and of the suffering servant who would die for God's people. Jesus was the fulfillment of all the prophets. Today we pray that God our Heavenly Father would prepare our hearts for the birth of Jesus who is Emmanuel (God with us) just as he prepared the world through the prophets.

Prayer:

**Lord Jesus, light of the world,
the prophets said you would bring peace
and save your people in trouble.
Give peace in our hearts at Christmas
and show all the world God's love.
Amen.**

- **Processional (Opening) Hymn**

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- **Greeting**

BAS, p.185

- **Collect for Purity**

Collect of the Day

Almighty God,
who sent your servant John the Baptist
to prepare your people to welcome the Messiah,
inspire us, the ministers and stewards of your truth,
to turn our disobedient hearts to you,
that when the Christ shall come again to be our judge,
we may stand with confidence before his glory;
who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

First Reading

Isaiah 40:1-11

Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that she has served her term, that her penalty is paid, that she has received from the Lord's hand double for all her sins. A voice cries out: "In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord, make straight in the desert a highway for our God. Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain. Then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together, for the mouth of the Lord has spoken." A voice says, "Cry out!" And I said, "What shall I cry?" All people are grass, their constancy is like the flower of the field. The grass withers, the flower fades, when the breath of the Lord blows upon it; surely the people are grass. The grass withers, the flower fades; but the word of our God will stand forever. Get you up to a high mountain, O Zion, herald of good tidings; lift up your voice with strength, O

Jerusalem, herald of good tidings, lift it up, do not fear; say to the cities of Judah, "Here is your God!" See, the Lord God comes with might, and his arm rules for him; his reward is with him, and his recompense before him. He will feed his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms, and carry them in his bosom, and gently lead the mother sheep.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 85

(Read Responsively)

You have been gracious to your land, O Lord, you have restored the good fortune of Jacob.

You have forgiven the iniquity of your people and blotted out all their sins.

I will listen to what the Lord God is saying, for he is speaking peace to his faithful people and to those who turn their hearts to him.

Truly, his salvation is very near to those who fear him, that his glory may dwell in our land.

Mercy and truth have met together; righteousness and peace have kissed each other.

Truth shall spring up from the earth, and righteousness shall look down from heaven.

The Lord will indeed grant prosperity, and our land will yield its increase. Righteousness shall go before him, and peace shall be a pathway for his feet.

Second Reading

2 Peter 3:8-15

But do not ignore this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like one day. The Lord is not slow about his promise, as some think of slowness, but is patient with you, not wanting any to perish, but all to come to repentance. But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a loud noise, and the elements will be dissolved with fire, and the earth and everything that is done on it will be disclosed. Since all these things are to be dissolved in this way, what sort of persons ought you to be in leading lives of holiness and godliness, waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be set ablaze and dissolved, and the elements will melt with fire? But, in accordance with his promise, we wait for new heavens and a new earth, where righteousness is at home. Therefore, beloved, while you are waiting for these things, strive to be found by him at peace, without spot or blemish; and regard the patience of our Lord as salvation.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

• **Gradual Hymn:**

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vss. 1 & 2 before the Gospel, vs. 3 after the Gospel

Holy Gospel

Mark 1:1-8

Gospeller: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

Gospeller: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark
All: Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. As it is written in the prophet Isaiah, "See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way; the voice of one crying out in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight,'" John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. He proclaimed, "The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

Gospeller: The Gospel of Christ.
People: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Sermon

- **Nicene Creed** **p. 188**
- **Prayers of the People** **p. 190**
- **Confession and Absolution** **p. 188**

The Peace

People may greet one another with the peace of Christ.

- **Offertory Hymn** **108**

THE CELEBRATION OF THE EUCHARIST

Prayer over the Gifts

God our strength,
we are nothing without you.
Receive all we offer you this day
as you sustain us with your mercy;
in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

• **Eucharistic Prayer #3**

p. 198

Sanctus (sung)

**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.
Hosanna in the highest.**

• **The Lord's Prayer**

p. 211

• **Breaking of the Bread**

p. 213

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 receive the*

elements if you wish to. All are welcome to come forward for a blessing.

• **Hymns during Communion** **16, 10, 21_**

• **Hymn after Communion** **74**

Prayer after Communion

Faithful God, we thank you for feeding us with this heavenly banquet. Help us always to hear the prophet's call to turn our hearts to you; in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord. God for whom we wait, you have fed us with the bread of eternal life. Keep us ever watchful, that we may be ready to stand before the Son of man. We ask this in the name of Christ the Lord. **Amen.**

• **Doxology** **p. 214**

The Blessing

• **Recessional Hymn** **100**

Dismissal

Postlude

ANNOUNCEMENTS

MONDAY NIGHT BIBLE STUDY: MON 7:15PM

We have completed our journey through the book, *Following the Call: Living the Sermon on the Mount Together*. It has been an incredible year reading and discussing Jesus' teachings through this book. We are taking a break and will start up again on January 15, 2024 reading *Having a Mary Heart in a Martha World*, by Joanna Weaver. If anyone would care to join, please let Nancy Fleming know so she can order a book for you. We meet on Mondays at 7:15-8:15 through zoom.

PINT & A PASSAGE: TUES 7PM

Join the conversation about the Gospel for the upcoming Sunday at Rob Roy's. Bring your Bible and an open mind.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

The Sunday School is presenting their Christmas Pageant next Sunday, December 17. The 10:00 a.m. service will take place in the Church Hall.

SALVATION ARMY KETTLE CAMPAIGN

The Salvation Army is looking to recruit volunteers for their Kettle Campaign which begins November 17, 2023. To volunteer or for more information, please contact Mary Lynn Wilson or Jackie Staples at (613) 283-3563 or e-mail: mary-lynn.wilson@salvationarmy.ca.

2024 OFFERING ENVELOPES

Are now available to be picked up in the Canterbury Room.

ADVENT WREATH

Consider making an Advent Wreath for your home to mark the four weeks of Advent. All you need are five candles of any colour – four arranged in a circle and the fifth in the centre. Light one candle during the first week of Advent, two during the second week, etc. Light just the centre candle from Christmas Eve until January 6. Note: It is perfectly acceptable to replace candles if they burn out.

CHRISTMAS MEMORIAL FLOWERS

Memorial donations for Christmas flowers may be placed on the collection plate or left in the Church office between 9:00 a.m. and 12:00 noon Monday to Friday. Include the names of those you wish to have listed in the memorials. Please make cheques payable to St. John's Altar Guild and make sure envelopes are also clearly marked Altar Guild. The deadline is Tuesday, December 19, 2023.

ECUMENICAL WALK

Today, December 10, 2023 at 4:00 p.m. beginning at St. Francis De Sales Catholic Church.

CHURCH CALENDARS

Church calendars will be available for pick-up the week of December 18, 2023.

2023 CHURCH CONTRIBUTIONS

All 2023 Church contributions must be made **by January 5, 2024** and cheques post-dated for December 31, 2023. E-transfers must be deposited by December 31, 2023. Any contributions received after that date will be entered into 2024 contributions.

Advent/Christmas Worship Schedule

December 10:

Advent 2 - Holy Eucharist at 8:00 a.m. & 10:00 a.m.
Advent Walk at 4:00 p.m. beginning at
St. Frances De Sales Catholic Church

December 17:

Advent 3 - Holy Eucharist at 8:00 a.m.
Pageant with Eucharist in Hall at 10:00 a.m.
Lessons and Carols at 4:00 p.m.

December 24:

Advent 4 - Holy Eucharist at 8:00 a.m. and 10:00 a.m.
Christmas Eve Holy Eucharist at 7:00 p.m. and 11:00 p.m.

December 25:

Christmas Day Holy Eucharist at 10:00 a.m.

December 31:

Feast of the Epiphany Holy Eucharist at 8:00 a.m. and 10:00 a.m.

Presiding Celebrant: Rev. Dr. Thomas Brauer
Preacher: Rev. Canon Jim Roberts
Reader & Intercessor: Dawn Dunlop
Communion Assistants: Kevin Lewis & Chris Elmsley
Greeters: Donna Howard & Paul Howard
Readings for next Sunday, December 17, 2023 ~
Is 61:1-4, 8-11; Ps 126; 1 Th 5:16-24; Jn 1:6-8, 19-28

ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST ANGLICAN CHURCH

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Follow us on Facebook at:
St-John-the-Evangelist-Anglican-Church-Smiths-Falls

Kathryn Rycroft – Parish Secretary
Office Hours: Monday – Friday 9 a.m. - 12 noon

Weekly Liturgies

Holy Eucharist – Sundays 8 a.m. & 10 a.m.* – Wednesdays 10 a.m.
*Sunday School offered at 10 a.m. from September – June

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

The Reverend Dr. Thomas Brauer, Presiding Celebrant & Preacher
The Reverend Canon Brian Burrows – Honorary Assistant
The Reverend Canon Jim Roberts – Honorary Assistant

Garry Hoekstra – Organist
Emily Duberville – Sunday School Coordinator
emduberville@hotmail.com
Paul Howard – Rector's Warden 613-283-1172

Karen Bryan – People's Warden 613-284-8149

Garry Rodford – Deputy Warden 613-284-0488

Dan Willis – Deputy Warden 613-884-5095

Nancy Fleming – Envelope Secretary

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