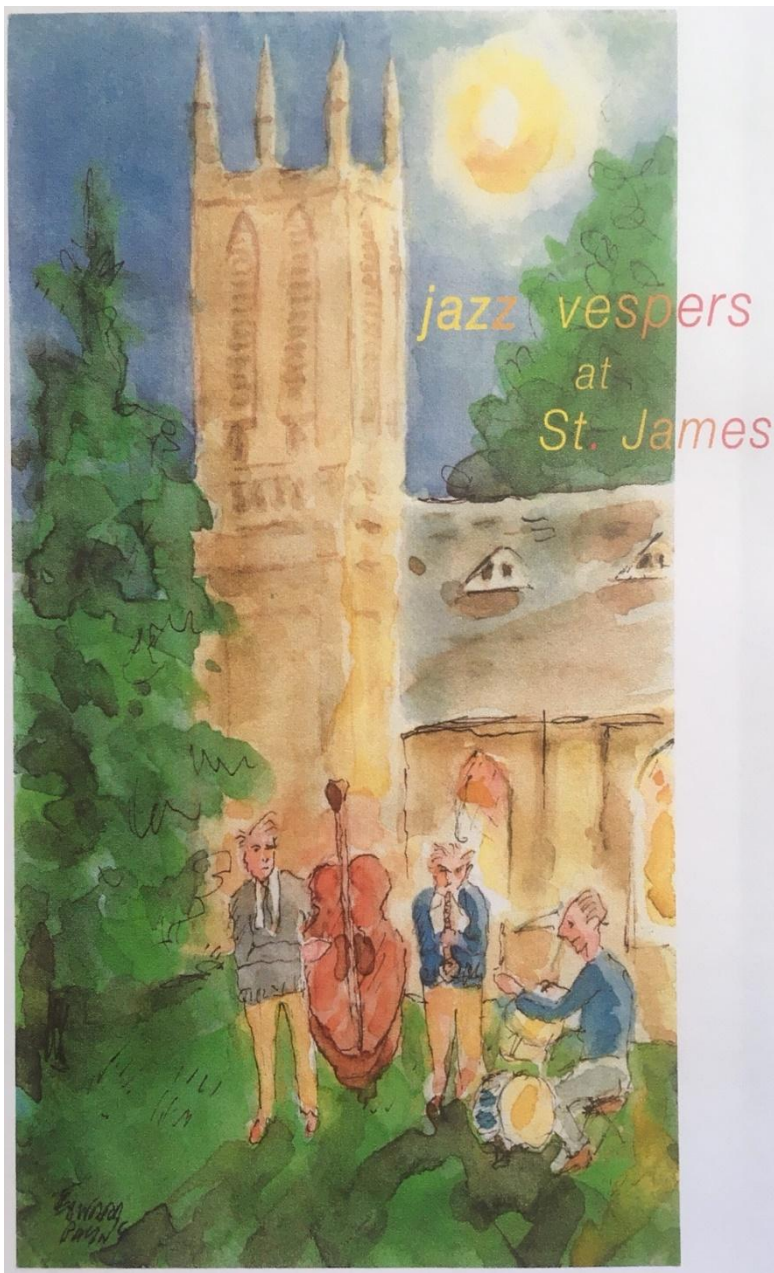




Many thanks to artist Teddy Payne for the water colour given to St. James, which is reproduced here.

Jazz Vespers

*St. James Anglican Church Stratford ON
Sunday, October 19, 2025, ~ 4:00 p.m.*

Clergy:

The Ven. Rob Lemon & The Rev'd Tianna Gocan

Musicians:

The Steve Holowitz Trio:

Steve Holowitz - Piano – Paul Stevenson – Trumpet

Greg Mainprize - Drums

The evening Office of Vespers has roots extending into the worship life of the Jewish people. Our tradition has molded and shaped these forms of worship and prayer through an evolutionary process that is both faithful to our heritage and open to creating new traditions of praise. The Jazz Vespers Service is itself a synthesis of several traditions, each finding a unifying voice through the unique musical heritage that we call jazz. The makers of jazz develop consummate technical achievement as both a composer and a performer. The virtuosity of the performer is not an end unto itself. The musical tradition is about the task of giving voice to the hopes, dreams, frustrations and pain that expresses human experience. Jazz is the musical incense that collects and carries the prayers of a people. (From an article by the Rev. Norm Freeman, Episcopal priest 1952-2024).

Order of Things

Music as we gather.

Word of welcome

Opening Prayer (said together)

Blessed are you, O Lord our God, ruler of the universe!

Your word brings on the dusk of evening,

Your wisdom creates both night and day.

You determine the cycles of time

Arrange the succession of seasons,

And establish the stars in their heavenly courses.

Lord of the starry hosts is your name.

Living and eternal God, rule over us always.

Blessed be the Lord whose word makes evening fall. Amen.

(Prayer Without Ceasing: Anglican Church of Canada).

Music

Scripture Reading: **2 Timothy 3: 14—4:5** Read by: Tyner Murphy
Reader: The word of the Lord. ALL: THANKS BE TO GOD.

Music

Reflection by the Rev'd Tianna Gocan

Music during which an offering is received to support the outreach ministries of St. James Church.

The Prayers.

Holy God, we lift our eyes to you in hope and awe. Grant that we may reject all apathy of spirit, all impatience and anxiety, so that, with persistence, we may lift our voice again and again to seek your justice.
Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Announcements.

Hymn: All things bright and beautiful (Common Praise #415)

Refrain: All things bright and beautiful, all creatures great and small. All things wise and wonderful, the Lord God made them all.

1. Each radiant flower that opens, each vibrant bird that sings,
God made their glowing colours, God made their lively wings.
Refrain
2. The cold wind in the winter, the pleasant summer sun,
The ripe fruits in the garden, God made them every one. Refrain
3. The rocky mountain splendour, the loon's wild haunting call,
The great lakes and the prairies, the forest in the fall. Refrain

Please sit for the improvisations

4. God gave us eyes to see them, and lips that we might tell,
How great is the creator, who has made all things well. Refrain.

Bless you for coming. Please join us for refreshments at the back of the church.

A word about today's musicians: The members of "The Steve Holowitz Trio" have played together in a variety of musical settings over the past 20 years. They are frequent collaborators with London vocalist Denise Pelly and often assist at special services at St James Westminster Anglican (London). Their Christmas Eve Jazz service there is an annual highlight. They have developed a unique sense of musicality and intuitiveness over this time and delight in creating unique arrangements of familiar pieces from both the jazz and popular music canon.

Percussionist **Greg Mainprize** has performed with Drayton Entertainment, the Victoria Playhouse (Petrolia) and regularly performs with large and small jazz ensembles throughout Southwestern Ontario.

Paul Stevenson (trumpet) has completed his Doctor of Musical Arts at Western University and performs regularly with "Jeans n' Classics" and has been a featured soloist with orchestras throughout North America.

Steve Holowitz (piano) is the music director at St James Westminster in London and accompanies numerous vocalists and choirs in the London area. All three musicians have retired after 30 years from the Thames Valley District School Board, having led successful music programs in London and Strathroy schools. Paul, Greg and Steve are delighted to be part of the Jazz Vespers service today at St James Stratford.

Sincere thanks to Mark Allwood and John Lederman who conscientiously deliver the Jazz Vespers posters around town.

The next Jazz Vespers will be on SUNDAY NOVEMBER 23 AT 4 PM. with the PAUL SHILTON QUARTET.

We are very grateful to the St. James parishioners for their generous support of today's Jazz Vespers. Support for the musicians comes from St. James' parish budget and is augmented by sponsors so that we can experience high quality jazz music. If you'd like to be a sponsor for future jazz vespers please contact the Rector, Archdeacon Rob Lemon.
