



*First Sunday of Advent*  
Sunday November 30, 2025  
10:30 am

*Mornington and Hamilton Streets, Stratford*  
*(519) 271-3572*

[www.stjamesstratford.ca](http://www.stjamesstratford.ca)  
[office@stjamesstratford.ca](mailto:office@stjamesstratford.ca)

*The Right Reverend Dr. Todd Townshend, Bishop of Huron*  
*The Venerable Rob Lemon, Rector*  
*The Reverend Canon Tom Patterson, Deacon*  
*The Reverend Stephanie Donaldson, Deacon*  
*The Reverend Allie McDougall, Vicar*  
*The Reverend Diana Boland, Vicar*  
*The Reverend Tianna Gocan*  
*Ian Sadler, Organist and Director of Music*

## THE GATHERING OF THE COMMUNITY

Prelude *Prelude on 'A Rose E'er Springeth' – J. Brahms*

Processional Hymn #101 *Hail to the Lord's Anointed*

Grace *BAS p. 185*

### Land Acknowledgement

*Celebrant* We gather here today on the ancestral hunting grounds of the Anishinabek, Haudenosaunee and Attawandaron peoples, in the territory of the Dish with One Spoon Covenant Wampum and the Huron Tract Treaty.

*People* **From many places and peoples, we come together as one for prayer and worship.**

*Celebrant* We acknowledge the injustices that Indigenous Peoples have endured since colonization.

*People* **We commit ourselves to justice and reconciliation.**

*Celebrant* We honour Indigenous Peoples' wise stewardship of land and water.

*People* **We will strive to sustain and renew the life of the earth. Amen**

Collect for Purity *BAS p. 185*

*Kyrie* *Pamphlet*

The Collect of the Day

## THE PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

First Reading                      Isaiah 2: 1-5      *The Rev'd Stephanie Donaldson*

Psalm:                                      122                      *Cantor: Dianne Gaffney*



Second Reading                      Romans 13: 11-14                      *Phil Guest*

Gradual Hymn #599                      *Awake! Awake! Fling Off the Night*

The Gospel                      Matthew 24: 36-44  
*Deacon:*                      The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ  
according to Matthew.

*People:*                      **Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

*At the conclusion of the Gospel:*

*Deacon:*                      The Gospel of Christ.

*People:*                      **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ**

Sermon                                      *The Rev'd Tianna Gocan*

Anthem:                                      *O Thou the Central Orb – C. Wood*

Nicene Creed                                      *BAS p. 188*

Prayers of the People                                      *Karin Mussen*

*Response:*      **Lord Jesus Come Soon**

Grow in Grace Prayer (*said together*)                      **Bookmark**

Confession                                      *BAS p. 191*

The Peace                                      *BAS p. 192*

Peal of the Bells                                      *Peter Ryde*

## THE CELEBRATION OF THE EUCHARIST

Offertory Hymn #110                      *“Sleepers, Wake!” A Voice Astounds*

Prayer over the Gifts

The Great Thanksgiving - Eucharistic Prayer #3                      *BAS p. 198*

*Sanctus and Benedictus*                      *Pamphlet*

The Lord's Prayer                      *BAS p. 211*

Breaking of the Bread #5                      *BAS p. 212*

*Agnus Dei*                      *Pamphlet*

### The Communion

*All Christians of any age are welcome to receive communion with this community of God's people. Gluten-free wafers are available. You are invited to drink from the common cup. If you are uncomfortable drinking from the cup, you may pass by the chalice bearer or stop and touch the cup or bow your head briefly. If you are not receiving communion but wish to receive a blessing, please cross your arms over your chest and the priest will bless you.*

Communion Hymn #341                      *God of Mercy, God of Grace*

Prayer After Communion

Doxology                      *BAS p. 214*

The Blessing

Recessional Hymn #114                      *Lo, He Comes with Clouds Descending*

Dismissal

Postlude                      *Finale (from 'Symphony No. 1 in D') – L. Vierne*

Join us for  
~Advent Lessons & Carols~  
at 4:00 p.m. in the St. James' Sanctuary.  
All are welcome!

## **NOTICES FOR NOVEMBER 30<sup>th</sup>**

### **Request for Cookies**

The Visiting Group are asking for a few more 2 dozen cookie donations to be brought to the Lower Hall on or before Friday December 5<sup>th</sup> between 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. Many of you have already signed up and thank you! Please call Jan Schonfeldt at 519-274-5763 if you are able to help or have any questions.

### **Food Bank Wish List**

We have lots of pasta, but nothing to put on it. So our wishes right now are for:

- Pasta sauce
- Tomato sauce
- Canned tomatoes (whole, diced or crushed)

### **Outreach Lunch December 7**

The menu will be hearty - pastas, casseroles, meatballs – good things to keep you warm. Our guest will be Kathy Vassilakos, Director of United Housing, who will tell us about their exciting local initiatives to alleviate the housing crisis. Free will donations will support United Housing's work. Everyone welcome, Lower Hall, right after the 10:30 service.

### **Special Vestry Announcement**

On December 14, following, the 10:30 service we will have a short special vestry meeting to confirm our plan to go ahead with replacing the south roof in 2026. We need to have a vestry motion to present to the Land and Property Committee, the Administration and Finance Committee of the Diocese and the Diocesan council for their approval.

## Campaign Update

It has been so encouraging watching the pledge envelopes appear on the collection plate. We are heading this week into

**Commitment Sunday (November 30th)**. We will gather to celebrate and be thankful for all the prayers, conversations and responses the parish has directed to the *Grow In Grace Campaign*. It is so gratifying to see how our St. James' community has supported the preservation of our spiritual home and our future ministry.

Make the difference by bringing along your **pledge card** if you have not brought it in. These are invaluable and perhaps your pledge will be the one to put us over the top! The 73 pledges collected so far have brought us so very, very close to our goal.

During the service, we will include a prayer of commitment and bless the pledge cards as they are brought forward. If you have not received your package, there will be extra packages available at a table at the back of the church.

What a wonderful way to begin the season of Advent and a new church year!

## Christmas Memorial Flower Dedications

Parishioners wishing to contribute to the 2025 Christmas Memorial Flower Dedications may contact either:

\*Susan Lebrun at [Bermuda.david@outlook.com](mailto:Bermuda.david@outlook.com)

\*Kelly Strasler at [office@stjamesstratford.ca](mailto:office@stjamesstratford.ca)

\*There will also be a sign-up sheet posted in the Narthex

**Please provide your dedication and amount you wish to contribute by December 12<sup>th</sup>.**

## Pastoral Visits

If you would like a pastoral visit (either in person or by phone), please contact The Ven. Rob Lemon at: 519-271-3572 (ext,102), home phone 519-305-2338 or [roblemon@stjamesstratford.ca](mailto:roblemon@stjamesstratford.ca). To contact Rev'd Tianna Gocan please call 226-791-0150 or [tiannagocan@stjamesstratford.ca](mailto:tiannagocan@stjamesstratford.ca)

## **Wednesday Morning Eucharist**

Join us for our mid-week Book of Common Prayer Eucharist services. If you miss the old BCP service, and prefer a quieter form of worship, this is the service for you! Everyone is welcome to join us Wednesdays at 10 am in the Chapel. Please use the ramp door.

## **Upcoming Readings – Sunday December 7th**

Isaiah 11: 1-10

Psalms 72: 1-7, 18-19

Romans 15: 4-13

Matthew 3: 1-12

Chancel Team #4

## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

Nov. 30 - \*Lessons & Carols at 4:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary

Dec. 2 - \*St. James Community Foodbank – 9:30 to 11:00 a.m. in the Upper Hall

\*Reconciliation Book Club at 7:00 p.m. in the Club Room

Dec. 3 - \*Wednesday Morning 10:00 a.m. BCP Service

\*Christian Meditation at 4:30 p.m. in the Nave

\*English Conversation Café at 6:30 p.m. at the YMCA

Dec. 4 - \*Celtic Worship Service on ZOOM at 10:00 a.m.

\*Choir Practice at 7:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary

Dec. 5 - \*Treasure Hunt Bible Study at 10:00 a.m. in the Club Room

\*Pizza Lunch for Intermediate School Students at 11:20 a.m. in the Upper Hall

\*The Coventry Litany of Reconciliation at 12:00 p.m.

Dec. 6 - \*Christian Meditation at 10:30 a.m. in the Nave

Dec. 7 - \*Holy Communion BCP Service at 8:30 a.m.

\*Holy Eucharist at 10:30 a.m.

\*Outreach Lunch at 11:30 a.m. in the Lower Hall



# *Advent Lessons and Carols*

## *November 30, 2025 - 4pm*

*Please join us at St. James (41 Mornington St.) as we mark the beginning of Advent with glorious choral music and seasonal readings from scripture.*

