



Second Sunday of Advent
Sunday December 7, 2025
10:30 am

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

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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, Curate
Ian Sadler, Organist and Director of Music

THE GATHERING OF THE COMMUNITY

Prelude *Chorale Prelude “Now Come, O Saviour” – J.S. Bach*

Processional Hymn #103 *On Jordan’s Bank, the Baptist’s Cry*

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*

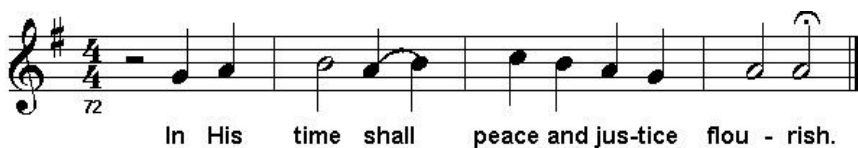
The Collect of the Day

Children's Commissioning

THE PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

First Reading Isaiah 11: 1-10 *Susan Gardiner Marklevitz*

Psalm: 72: 1-7, 18-19 *Cantor: Terry Marklevitz*



Second Reading Romans 15: 4-13 *Carrie Bockus*

Gradual Hymn #108 *Hark, a Herald Voice Is Sounding*

The Gospel Matthew 3: 1-12

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 Ven. Rob Lemon*

Anthem: *Besancon Carol (16th Century)*

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 #93

You Servants of the Lord

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 #51

Now, My Tongue, the Mystery Telling

Prayer After Communion

Doxology

BAS p. 214

The Blessing

Recessional Hymn #116

"Your Kingdom Come"

Dismissal

Postlude

'Great' Fugue in b minor – J.S. Bach

Join us for the
~**Outreach Lunch**~
at 11:30 a.m. in the Lower Hall
All are welcome!

From now until the first week of January we are happy to offer **Sunday school** during our 10:30am service.

The children are welcome to come up during the "Children's Commissioning" after the Collect of the day.

If you come late, that's okay too! Please feel free to join in the Sunday School Room downstairs whenever you arrive. The children will then rejoin us for communion.

NOTICES FOR DECEMBER 7th

Outreach Lunch Today!

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.

A Special Vestry – Sunday December 14th

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.

Thank You

A heartfelt thank you to everyone who was involved in our recent Mistletoe Market! So many of you cooked, baked, sewed, knit, crafted, carried heavy items, set up tables & chairs, decorated, served in the cafe, sold in the market, packaged and priced, provided security, helped with advertising and put signs up around town. Many hands certainly make light work. I appreciate every one of you who contributed in your own unique way! Thank you to everyone who came out to support the market, we hope you enjoyed the experience. With gratitude, Robin Rutherford

Men's Breakfast Saturday December 13th

Please join us again for the next Men's Breakfast next Saturday.

- Coffee, tea and juice available at 8:15 am.
- Breakfast starts at 8:30 am.
- Come for the best breakfast in Stratford with even better fellowship!

Looking forward to seeing YOU there. Invite a friend, relative or stranger to join us! FUTURE dates- First breakfast of 2026 is January 17th

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

*Kelly Strasler at 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 12th.

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)

Live Streaming our Sunday Services Update

Great news! Our A/V equipment has been replaced and installed. We will be back to livestreaming our services again beginning Sunday December 7th. Thanks to all for their patience during this time.

Upcoming Readings – Sunday December 14th

Isaiah 35: 1-10

Psalms 146: 4-9

James 5: 7-10

Matthew 11: 2-11

Chancel Team #1

UPCOMING EVENTS

Dec. 7 - *Outreach Lunch at 11:30 a.m. in the Lower Hall

Dec. 9 - *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

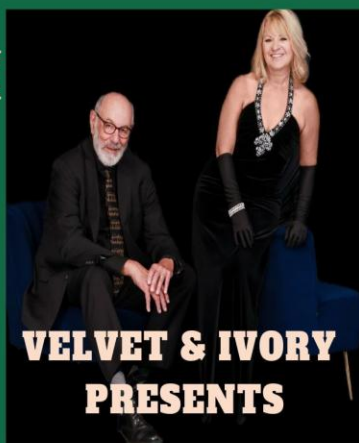
Dec. 10 - *Wednesday Morning 10:00 a.m. BCP Service
*Christian Meditation at 4:30 p.m. in the Nave
*English Conversation Café at 6:30 p.m. at the YMCA

Dec. 11 - *Celtic Worship Service on ZOOM at 10:00 a.m.
*Choir Practice at 7:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary

Dec. 12 - *Treasure Hunt Bible Study at 10:00 a.m. in the Club Room
*The Coventry Litany of Reconciliation at 12:00 p.m.
*Community Meal at 5:15 p.m. in the Lower Hall

Dec. 13 - *Men's Breakfast at 8:30 a.m. in the Lower Hall
*Christian Meditation at 10:30 a.m. in the Nave

Dec. 14 - *Holy Communion BCP Service at 8:30 a.m.
*Holy Eucharist at 10:30 a.m.
*A Special Vestry at 11:30 a.m. in the Sanctuary



CHRISTMAS
MUSIC
BY
BEVERLEY MARANGER, VOCALS
TIM ELLIOTT, PIANO

AND CHRISTMAS READINGS BY
SPECIAL GUEST

JUDY MADDREN

ST JAMES ANGLICAN CHURCH
STRATFORD
IN THE ACOUSTICALLY
DELIGHTFUL
UPPER PARISH HALL

THURS DEC 18 AT 7PM

**FREE WILL OFFERING IN SUPPORT OF THE FOOD
PROGRAMS OF ST JAMES**