



Diocese of
New Westminster
ANGELICAN CHURCH OF CANADA



St. John the Evangelist Anglican Church

Doing God's Love Since 1899

December 14, 2025, 10:00 a.m.

Third Sunday of Advent

A Service of Nine Lessons and Carols

Officiant: The Reverend Georgina Harris

St. John the Evangelist Anglican Church

220 West 8th Street, North Vancouver BC V7M 1N1

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WELCOME

We are glad you have joined us for worship this morning. We ask that you please turn all cell phones and other electronic devices to silent or "off". Thank you.

After the service, we invite everyone (especially newcomers!) to join us for coffee or tea, and visit our Welcome Table downstairs in the Lounge. This is a place where you can learn more about the various activities and groups here at St. John's, find contact information, ways to get involved and have fun! We look forward to getting to know you better!

The Anglican Church

As Anglicans we believe that God is eternal, the earth maker, the pain bearer, the life giver; source of all that is and shall be; father and mother of us all. We learn that God is one, yet revealed as Father, Son, and Holy Spirit; Creator, Redeemer and Sustainer - a Holy Trinity.

We believe that Christians learn about God in the Bible, in the teaching of the Church summed up in the Apostles' and Nicene Creeds, and through sharing in the living community of faith. We believe Jesus Christ was incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Saviour and Redeemer of the world. We are an Apostolic Church, meaning that Bishops are a part of our leadership and we can trace our line of Bishops back to the 12 Apostles.

As Anglicans we get to know God by God's initiative in our thinking and understanding: by experiencing and reflecting on the wonder and mystery of creation, birth and death, love, forgiveness and the need to find meaning and worth beyond ourselves.

Everyone is welcome at St. John's, whether you were raised Anglican, or followed another faith, or you have no faith background at all. We hope you find what you are looking for in our service today.

Flowers in the Sanctuary

The poinsettias on either side of the altar were offered by Maria Morellato in thanksgiving to God and in loving memory of her Mom and Dad, Pina and Gianni Morellato.

The official Flower Calendar is in the Narthex. Please sign up for the Sunday that you would like to donate Altar Flowers, even if you signed up somewhere else previously. If you have any questions, please contact Donna in the office.

Our Service Today

This liturgy (the words we say), including our special Advent Candle-Lighting Liturgy, was written especially for St. John's, and we encourage individuals and families to volunteer to participate.

As we proceed through the service, this bulletin will help you recognize when to stand and when to sit, when to speak and when to sing, when to pray silently and when to pray aloud. We invite you to read aloud with us anytime the bulletin says **All**.

Ministering today at our 10:00 a.m. service:

Celebrant:	The Reverend Georgina Harris
Deacon-in-charge and Curate:	The Reverend Dr. Shawn Bullock
Chaplain:	Jill Parsons
Crucifer and Altar Server:	Hazel Breakey
Choir Director:	Christie Smith
Music Director:	Galina Martyniuk, piano and organ
Musicians:	Margaret Thompson, John Thompson, violins
Readers:	Naomi Madisa, Bob Hardy, Christine Williams, Ann Hasle, Janet Harris, Howard Dallimore, Kevin Benoy, Diane Johnson, Hazel Breakey
Intercessor:	Maria Morellato
Eucharistic Administrators:	Bob Hardy, Farid Madisa
Welcome Table:	Diane Johnson
Greeter:	Margaret Ellis

The Offertory Plate sits at the back of the church:

We do not "pass the plate" at St. John's. We invite you to place your donation on the Offertory Plate at the back of the church anytime. During the Offertory Hymn the plate is brought forward to the altar.

Your thoughtful and generous gifts to St. John's enable our worship and ministries to our community. One-time or recurring donations can be made by visiting our website www.stjohnnv.ca, or by scanning this QR code with your smartphone.



Chapel Candles

At any time during the service, you are welcome to prayerfully light a candle in the chapel in honour of a loved one, or in a prayer of concern.

Advent Call To Worship - Prepare the Way

Processional Hymn - O Come, All Ye Faithful

We stand for the Processional Hymn, as the ministry team enters the sanctuary.

Territorial Acknowledgement

Celebrant We acknowledge with respect that we worship on the traditional territories of the Squamish - Mother of the Wind, the Tsleil-Waututh - People of the Inlet, and the Musqueam - People of the River Grass. Let us pray that we may live more deeply into the calls to action from Canada's Truth and Reconciliation Commission.

All May the living Christ lead us all on pathways of reconciliation and peace. Amen

Lighting of the Advent Candle

Congregation will sing the first three verses of the Advent song while a liturgical assistant prepares to light the Candle of Joy.

Advent Song - Hope is a Star

Lighting of the Advent Candle - Waiting in Joy

Families are invited to gather around the Advent Wreath.

First Voice Last Sunday we lit the candle of peace. We light it and the candle of hope again as we remember that Christ, who was born in Bethlehem, will come again to judge the world and bring it everlasting peace.

The candles of Hope and Peace are lit.

Second Voice The third candle of Advent is the Candle of Joy. When the angel Gabriel told Mary that a special child would be born to her she was filled with joy. She sang a song that began with the words: "My soul magnifies the Lord, my spirit rejoices in God my saviour".

First Voice Just as the birth of Jesus gave great joy to his mother, so his presence in the world gave joy to those who had none before. He healed them and gave them hope and peace when they believed in him. From hope, peace, and love grows joy.

Second Voice We light the candle of joy to remind us that when Jesus is born in us we have joy and that through him there will be everlasting joy on earth.

The candle of Joy is lit.

First Voice Joy is like a light shining in a dark place. As we look at this candle we celebrate the joy we find in Jesus Christ.

Second Voice Let us pray: Thank you God for the joy you give us. We ask that as we wait for all your promises to come true, and for Christ to come again, that you would remain present with us. Help us today, and everyday to worship you, to hear your word, and to do your will by sharing your joy with each other. We ask it in the name of the one who was born in Bethlehem. Amen.

**All O God, come, travel with us through Advent.
Give us the courage to spread joy in the world.
Amen.**

Please be seated.

The Proclamation of the Word

Lesson 1 read by Naomi Madisa.

God Creates Humankind

Then God said, 'Let us make humankind in our image, according to our likeness; and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the wild animals of the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth.'

So God created humankind in his image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them.

God blessed them, and God said to them, 'Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth and subdue it; and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the air and over every living thing that moves upon the earth.' God said, 'See, I have given you every plant yielding seed that is upon the face of all the earth, and every tree with seed in its fruit; you shall have them for food. And to every beast of the earth, and to every bird of the air, and to everything that creeps on the earth, everything that has the breath of life, I have given every green plant for food.' And it was so. God saw everything that he had made, and indeed, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day.

This is the list of the descendants of Adam. When God created humankind, he made them in the likeness of God. Male and female he created them, and he blessed them and named them 'Humankind' when they were created.

Genesis 1:26-31, 5:1B-2

Hymn - Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming

Lesson 2 read by Bob Hardy.

God's People are Comforted

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 for ever.

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.

Isaiah 40:1-11

Choir Anthem

A Call to Christmas

Words and Music by Adam Miller

Lesson 3 Read by Christine Williams.

Isaiah Gives Ahaz the Sign of Immanuel

Again the LORD spoke to Ahaz, saying, Ask a sign of the LORD your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven. But Ahaz said, I will not ask, and I will not put the LORD to the test.

Then Isaiah said: 'Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary mortals, that you weary my God also? Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son, and shall name him Immanuel. He shall eat curds and honey by the time he knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good.

Isaiah 7:10-15

Hymn - Once in Royal David's City

Special Note: This melody was written by Henry John Gauntlett, who was a relative of Reverend Dr. Shawn Bullock's maternal Grandmother, who joins us from her home in Ontario by viewing services online.

Lesson 4 read by Anne Hasle.

The Birth of John the Baptist Foretold

In the days of King Herod of Judea, there was a priest named Zechariah, who belonged to the priestly order of Abijah. His wife was a descendant of Aaron, and her name was Elizabeth. Both of them were righteous before God, living blamelessly according to all the commandments and regulations of the Lord. But they had no children, because Elizabeth was barren, and both were getting on in years.

Once when he was serving as priest before God and his section was on duty, he was chosen by lot, according to the custom of the priesthood, to enter the sanctuary of the Lord and offer incense. Now at the time of the incense-offering, the whole assembly of the people was praying outside. Then there appeared to him an angel of the Lord, standing at the right side of the altar of incense. When Zechariah saw him, he was terrified; and fear overwhelmed him.

But the angel said to him, 'Do not be afraid, Zechariah, for your prayer has been heard. Your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and you will name him John. You will have joy and gladness, and many will rejoice at his birth, for he will be great in the sight of the Lord. He must never drink wine or strong drink; even before his birth he will be filled with the Holy Spirit. He will turn many of the people of Israel to the Lord their God. With the spirit and power of Elijah he will go before him, to turn the hearts of parents to their children, and the disobedient to the wisdom of the righteous, to make ready a people prepared for the Lord.'

Zechariah said to the angel, 'How will I know that this is so? For I am an old man, and my wife is getting on in years.' The angel replied, 'I am Gabriel. I stand in the presence of God, and I have been sent to speak to you and to bring you this good news. But now, because you did not believe my words, which will be fulfilled in their time, you will become

mute, unable to speak, until the day these things occur.'

Meanwhile, the people were waiting for Zechariah, and wondered at his delay in the sanctuary. When he did come out, he could not speak to them, and they realized that he had seen a vision in the sanctuary.

He kept motioning to them and remained unable to speak. When his time of service was ended, he went to his home.

After those days his wife Elizabeth conceived, and for five months she remained in seclusion. She said, 'This is what the Lord has done for me when he looked favourably on me and took away the disgrace I have endured among my people.'

Luke 1:5-25

Choir Anthem

Gabriel's Message

Traditional Basque Carol,

Arranged Richard Proulx

Para. Sabine Baring-Gould 1834-1924

Lesson 5 read by Janet Harris.

The Birth of Jesus Foretold

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, 'Greetings, favoured one! The Lord is with you.'

But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. The angel said to her, 'Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favour with God. And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. He will reign over the house of Jacob for ever, and of his kingdom there will be no end.'

Mary said to the angel, 'How can this be, since I am a virgin?' The angel said to her, 'The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. And now, your relative Elizabeth in her

old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. For nothing will be impossible with God.' Then Mary said, 'Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word.' Then the angel departed from her.

Luke 1:26-38

Hymn - Angels We Have Heard on High

Lesson 6 read by Howard Dallimore.

Mary Visits Elizabeth

In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leapt in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit and exclaimed with a loud cry, 'Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me? For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leapt for joy. And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfilment of what was spoken to her by the Lord.' And Mary said,

'My soul magnifies the Lord,
and my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour,
for he has looked with favour on the lowliness of his servant.
Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed;
for the Mighty One has done great things for me,
and holy is his name.
His mercy is for those who fear him
from generation to generation.
He has shown strength with his arm;
he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts.
He has brought down the powerful from their thrones,
and lifted up the lowly;
he has filled the hungry with good things,
and sent the rich away empty.
He has helped his servant Israel,
in remembrance of his mercy,
according to the promise he made to our ancestors,
to Abraham and to his descendants for ever.'

And Mary remained with her for about three months and then returned to her home.

Luke 1:39-56

Hymn - My Soul Proclaims Your Glory, Lord

Lesson 7 read by Kevin Benoy.

The Birth of Jesus

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

The Shepherds and the Angels

In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, 'Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.' And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying,

'Glory to God in the highest heaven,
and on earth peace among those whom he favours!'

When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, 'Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.' So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

Luke 2:1-20

Choir Anthem**A Celtic Silent Night**

Words by Joseph Mohr

Music by Franz Gruber

Arranged by Patrick Tierney

Prayers of the People

You are invited to sit, kneel, or stand, whichever is most comfortable for you for the prayers of the people.

The Church: We pray for the Right Reverend Dame Sarah Mullally, Archbishop-designate of Canterbury. We pray for Archbishop John Stephens our Metropolitan, and Archbishop Shane Parker, Primate of the Anglican Church of Canada. We pray for Archbishop Christopher Harper, National Indigenous Anglican Archbishop and Presiding Elder of the Sacred Circle. Also, we pray for Patrick our Rector, for Shawn our Deacon-in-charge and Curate, and for Georgina our Associate Priest. For Jill in her discernment, work and studies to become an Anglican Priest. For Archdeacon Andrew Halladay (Lougheed); St. John the Divine, Maple Ridge - The Reverend Vineet Samuel; St. Hildegard's Sanctuary @ St. Faith, Vancouver – The Reverend Melanie Calabrigo. For Primate Brent Alawas, Bishop Benny Lang-akan and the Clergy and People of the Episcopal Diocese of Northern Philippines. Our companion parish, St John the Evangelist Mission and Outstations, Pasnadan, The Reverend Tristan Bati-el.

The Local Community: City & District of North Vancouver, Queen Mary Community School, Lookout Housing and Health Society of the North Shore.

The World: Give peace in our time, O Lord:
 Peace and reconciliation among the nations;
 Peace and unity within the churches;
 Peace and harmony in our communities and our homes;
 Peace and love in all our hearts;
 for the sake of Jesus Christ our Saviour. Amen.

Those in Need: For those who are sick, hospitalized and in need of our prayers. This week, our prayers are requested especially for these members and friends of our St. John's faith community: Laurie Stringer, Mir and his family, Kelly Blake, Patrick, Simon Drake, Dianne McLatchie

The Dearly Departed: We pray for all loved ones who will live forever in our hearts

In Thanksgiving: In our cycle of prayer, we pray for these members of our faith community: Kevin Benoy and Kathryn Atkinson, Louann Berglof, Yasmine Bia, Dr. Jack Blaney, Patrick Blaney and Christopher You, and their families.

The Offertory

The Offertory Plate can be found at the back of the church by the double doors, and you may place your donation there anytime before or during the service. Your thoughtful and generous gifts enable our worship and ministry to our community and the world. We sincerely thank you.

We stand for the Offertory Hymn.

Offertory Hymn - Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

Lesson 8 read by Diane Johnson.

Jesus Presented At The Temple

After eight days had passed, it was time to circumcise the child; and he was called Jesus, the name given by the angel before he was conceived in the womb.

When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, they brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord (as it is written in the law of the Lord, 'Every firstborn male shall be designated as holy to the Lord'), and they offered a sacrifice according to what is stated in the law of the Lord, 'a pair of turtle-doves or two young pigeons.'

Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon; this man was righteous and devout, looking forward to the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit rested on him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Messiah. Guided by the Spirit, Simeon came into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him what was customary under the law, Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying, 'Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace, according to your word; for my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to your people Israel.'

And the child's father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him. Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, 'This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed—and a sword will pierce your own soul too.'

There was also a prophet, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was of a great age, having lived with her husband for seven years after her marriage, then as a widow to the age of eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshipped there with fasting and prayer night and day. At that moment she came, and began to praise God and to speak about the child to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem.

Luke 2:21-38

Hymn - Stay, My Child, My Body Sharing

Lesson 9 read by Hazel Breakey.

The Word Became Flesh

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

John 1:1-14

The Doxology

Celebrant
All

Glory to God,
**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,
for ever and ever. Amen.**

The Blessing

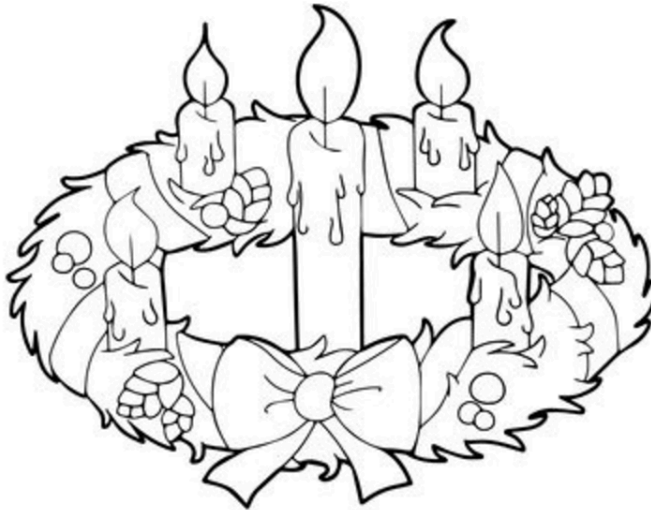
Closing Hymn - Joy To The World

Dismissal

Deacon
All

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Choir Postlude



As the choir sings the Postlude,
you are invited to come forward to the altar to receive Communion.

Thank you for blessing us with your presence today.
Please do join us downstairs in the Lounge
for a special Festive Tea & Coffee Fellowship,
to celebrate the season!

Faithful Friends

Activity Page for Any Age

Word Play

How many words can you find using the letters in:

LESSONS AND CAROLS

_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

Music

What instruments were played during today's service? Which hymn was your favourite

Draw a Picture

One of our favourite things about Christmas-time is singing Christmas carols. Use the following pages to draw a picture of you and your friends caroling outside.

Advent - Christmas Services

Blue Christmas Service at St. Andrew's United Church

1044 St. Georges Ave.

Wednesday, December 17 5:00pm

Christmas Eve Family Service

Wednesday, December 24 5:00pm

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

Wednesday, December 24 8:00pm

Christmas Day Service at St. Agnes Anglican Church

530 East 12th St.

Thursday, December 25 10:30am