

*Grow in Grace*



St. James' Anglican Church

*Third Sunday of Advent*  
Sunday December 14, 2025  
8:30 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, Curate  
Ian Sadler, Organist and Director of Music*

**December 14<sup>th</sup>, 2025**  
**The Third Sunday of Advent**

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### **Gathering of the Community**

Lord's Prayer	p. 67
Collect for Purity	p. 67
Summary of the Law	p. 69
<i>Kyrie</i>	p. 70
Collect of the Day	

### **Proclamation of the Word**

Epistle	James 5: 7-10
Gospel	Matthew 11: 2-11
Creed	p. 71
Sermon	

### **Communion**

The Intercession	p. 75
Confession	p. 76
Comfortable Words	p. 77
Eucharistic Prayer	p. 78
The Peace	p. 83
Prayer of Humble Access	p. 83
<i>Agnus Dei</i>	p. 84
Communion	

*We invite all Christians who are baptized in the name of the Holy Trinity, regardless of denomination, to join with us in receiving the church's highest offering of praise to God, the Holy Eucharist.*

Lord's Prayer	p. 85
Prayer of Oblation	p. 85
<i>Gloria</i>	p. 86
Blessing	

Join us for a  
**~Special Vestry~**  
Following the 10:30 a.m. Service

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 14<sup>th</sup>**

### **A Special Vestry – Today!**

Today, 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.

### **Food Bank Wish List**

It's a "clean" list this week, for kitchens and for bodies:

- Paper towels
- Dish detergent
- Boxes of kleenex
- Shampoo

### **Liturgy Committee**

Hi everyone, as we begin to work towards amalgamated life, I want to extend an invitation to anyone who would like to join the liturgy committee for the 9:30am Contemporary Service. We are hoping to have our first meeting on Tuesday, January 6th at 9:30am in the Club Room at St. James. If you're interested and/or want to learn more, please contact Mother Tianna at [tiannagocan@diohuron.org](mailto:tiannagocan@diohuron.org) or at 226-791-0150. See you then!

## **Amalgamation Name Suggestion Forms**

Please submit your suggestion forms to the box in the back of the church by Sunday December 21st.

## **Christian Meditation**

"Meditation is a way of coming to your own centre, coming to the foundation of your own being, and remaining there - still, silent, attentive. Meditation is in essence a way of learning to become awake, to be fully alive and be still. The way to that wakefulness is silence and stillness....

The all-important aim in Christian meditation is to allow God's mysterious and silent presence within us to become more and more not only a reality, but the *reality* in our lives; to let it become that reality which gives meaning, shape and purpose to everything we do, to everything we are."

### *Word Into Silence*

We invite you to join us in the practice of Christian Meditation at the back of the Church on Wednesday afternoons at 4:30 and/or on Saturday mornings at 10:30. Please note that we will not, however, be meeting on December 20, 24, 27, 31 and January 3.

Feel free to contact Nancy McCallum (519-273-0297) should you wish more information.

## **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)

## **Upcoming Readings – Sunday December 21st**

Isaiah 7: 10-16

Psalm 80: 1-7, 16-18

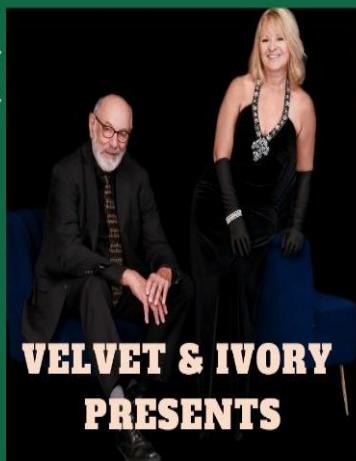
Romans 1: 1-7

Matthew 1: 18-25

Chancel Team #5

## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

Dec. 14 -	*A Special Vestry following the 10:30 a.m. service
Dec. 16 -	*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. 17 -	*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. 18 -	*Celtic Worship Service on ZOOM at 10:00 a.m.
	*ACW Luncheon Meeting at 10:00 a.m. in the Lower Hall
	*Choir Practice at 7:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary
	*Velvet & Ivory Christmas Concert at 7:00 p.m. in the Upper Hall
Dec. 19 -	*Treasure Hunt Bible Study at 10:00 a.m. in the Club Room
	*The Coventry Litany of Reconciliation at 12:00 p.m.
Dec. 21 -	*Holy Communion BCP Service at 8:30 a.m.
	*Holy Eucharist at 10:30 a.m.
	*Christmas Lessons & Carols at 7:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary



**VELVET & IVORY  
PRESENTS**

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**

# Christmas Lessons & Carols

Celebrate the miracle of Emmanuel, God with us!



**December 21<sup>st</sup> at 7:00pm**

at St. James Anglican Church  
Mornington & Hamilton Streets, Stratford





# ST. JAMES ANGLICAN CHURCH

*Community Christmas Dinner*

DECEMBER 25, 2025  
AT 12PM

CORNER OF HAMILTON &  
MORNINGTON STREETS  
IN THE LOWER PARISH HALL

**ALL ARE WELCOME!**

PLEASE ENTER AT THE HAMILTON  
STREET DOORS

