

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT



December 21st, 2025
The Fourth Sunday of Advent

Service of Holy Communion
10:00 am

If you are joining us for the first time, welcome!

We hope you feel at home.

Welcome

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Please be seated

Reader: Praise to you, O God,
People: who lives with us, sharing our flesh and bones.

Reader: As Mary waited and Joseph dreamed,
People: So we dream and wait for you.

Reader: Bless us and let your face shine upon us, more radiant than these candles, and more dear than all else we seek. Restore us when we fail to refuse the evil and choose the good, and banish all our fears. We pray in the name of Emmanuel, your promised child and Saviour. **Amen**

Kyrie Eleison

All:	Kyrie eleison.	(Lord have mercy)
	Christe eleison.	(Christ have mercy)
	Kyrie eleison.	(Lord have mercy)

The Collect of the Day

The Proclamation of the Word

First Reading

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. For before the child knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good, the land before whose two kings you are in dread will be deserted.

(Isaiah 7:10-16)

Reader: The word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Excerpts from Psalm 80

*read responsively**

Eternal Listener, give heed to your people,
You, who are our Guide and our Light!

You, who dwell amidst the angels, shine forth into the heart of nations!
Enliven your people with compassion that peace and justice might flourish.

Restore us, O Holy One;

Let your face shine upon us, teach us to love!

© Nan C. Merrill, 2007, "Psalms for Praying",
Continuum Publishing, an imprint of
Bloomsbury Publishing Plc.

Gospel Proclamation

Please stand if you are comfortable doing so

Gradual: "Prepare the Way"

Blue 107

Gospeler: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Gospeler: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

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

Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly. But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, 'Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.' All this took place to fulfil what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet: 'Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel', which means, 'God is with us.' When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife, but had no marital relations with her until she had borne a son; and he named him Jesus.

(Matthew 1:18-25)

Gospeler: The Gospel of Christ.

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

Gradual: **"Prepare the Way"**

Blue 107

Sermon: **The Rev Michelle Jones**

Our Response to the Word

Apostles Creed

Green 189

Prayers of the People

Intercessor: God of grace,

All: **hear our prayer.**

Confession and Absolution Green 191

The Peace *Please stand* Green 192

Offertory Hymn:
"Your Kingdom Come - On Bended Knee" Blue 116

Celebration of the Eucharist

Prayer over the Gifts

Eucharistic Prayer # 2 Green 193

*After the Sanctus you have the option to remain standing, sit,
or kneel as is your preference.*

The Lord's Prayer Green 211

Breaking of the Bread # 5 Green 212

Celebrant: The gifts of God for the people of God.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us.
(Repeat) Lamb of God, you take the sin of the world, grant us your
peace.**

The Communion of the People

The Invitation to Holy Communion

All who seek God and a deeper life in Christ are welcome to receive Holy Communion. Gluten-free wafers are available; please make your need known to the priest. If you prefer to receive a blessing instead of receiving Communion, you may indicate your choice by crossing your hands over your chest. Those who wish to have Holy Communion brought to them at their seat should notify a sidesperson.

Communion Hymns

"Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming"

Blue 117

"O Little Town of Bethlehem"

Blue 120

Prayer after Communion

Please stand if you are comfortable doing so

Doxology

Green 214

The Blessing

Announcements

Closing Hymn "All Poor Folk and Humble"

Blue 151

Dismissal

Leader: Go in peace. Christ is coming soon!

People: **Emmanuel is with us. Thanks be to God.**

Announcements:

Services:

Dec 24	Christmas Eve Service	7:30 pm
Dec 28	Regular Service	10:00 am
Jan 4	Regular Service	10:00 am

The Little Food Cupboard This month the following items are required for the families in our community: shelf stable milks (almond milk, oat milk, coconut milk), juice boxes, jams, peanut butter, crackers, snacks, cake mixes, canned meats, and pasta sauce. Thanking you in advance for your generosity.

Vestry Reports Just a reminder that our annual Vesty is soon approaching. Please submit your completed report to Grace at your earliest convenience. Having the reports completed ahead of time makes such a difference in preparing the full report. Thank you!

Please remember in your prayers this week:

North Peel Deanery: The Rev. Canon Dr. Isaac Kawuki Mukasa and the people of St. James the Apostle, Brampton

St. James Cycle of Prayer: Alex & Ann Wasyliw, Heather Whittier, Shane Wieler & Sharon Mulder, Fred & Judy Wood

Those in need: Sarah, Mario, Elizabeth, Krystyna, Bill, Robert W., Emma G., Silvana, Rose and Rob

Consider a special Christmas Gift to St. James Church

St. James' Church depends on parishioners' offerings to cover a substantial portion of its expenses. Thanks to all who generously support our parish.

~Send an e-transfer to treasurer@stjamescaledoneast.ca

~Move to Pre-Authorized giving. Form available on the 'Donate' page of website

~Mail your cheque or arrange a time to drop it off at the office



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