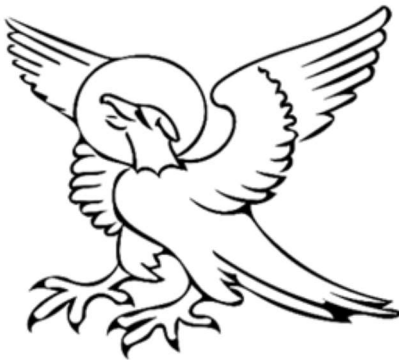


Diocese of Ottawa • Anglican Church of Canada

ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST

SMITHS FALLS | 175 YEARS | 1849-2024



***Fourth Sunday
of Advent***

Sung Eucharist ~ 10 a.m.
Book of Alternative Services, p. 185

Dec 21st, 2025

Welcome to the Church of St. John the Evangelist

We acknowledge that we gather at St. John's on the traditional and unceded territory of the Algonquin Nation. May we dwell on this land with respect and peace.



This service is video recorded, streamed, and broadcast. By attending this service, you are agreeing to appear on video in our on-line worship offering through St. John's website and Facebook pages.



Hymns are from the [blue](#) Common Praise hymnbook unless otherwise indicated.

Today's service can be found on page 185 of the [green](#) Book of Alternative Services ([BAS](#)) located in the pew-back in front of you.

THE GATHERING OF THE COMMUNITY

Prelude – Beginnings –

"Lord, Jesus,

Come"

Announcements

Processional (Opening) Hymn

106 – *"There's a Voice in the Wilderness Crying"*

Greeting

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Children's Talk

Collect

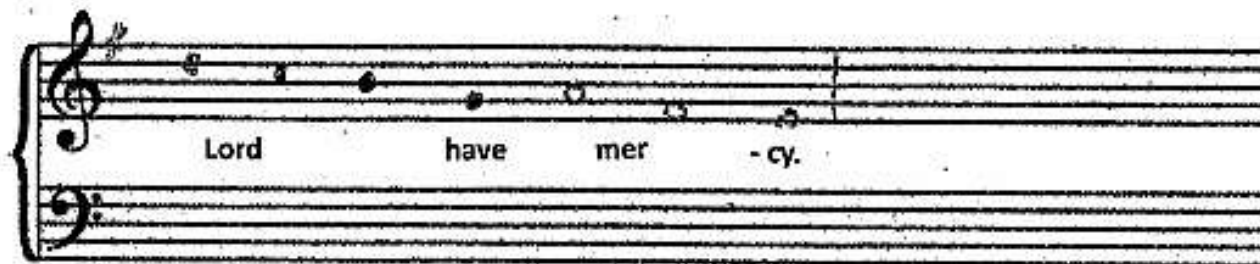
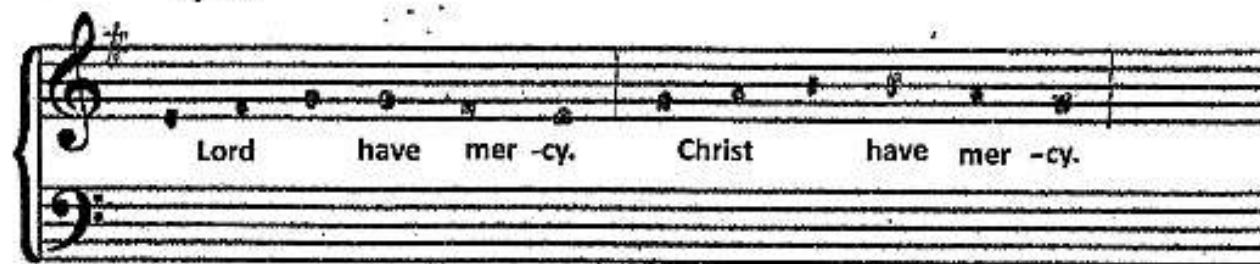
for

Purity

p.185

The Kyrie *Sung as printed here.*

Kyrie



Collect of the Day

Heavenly Father,
who chose the Virgin Mary, full of grace,
to be the mother of our Lord and Saviour,
now fill us with your grace,
that we in all things may embrace your will
and with her rejoice in your salvation;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

Amen.

THE PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

First Reading

Isaiah 7:10-

16

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."

Reader: The Word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God

Psalm 80: (vs. 7-14)

431

Tune

Restore us, and we shall be saved;

O God of hosts, show us your light;
From Egypt you brought up a vine
And planted it with your great might.
You, Lord, prepared the ground for it;
It put down roots, spread far and wide;
Its shadow covered mountain peaks,
Beneath its boughs tall cedars hide.

Cont'd

You stretched its arms and tendrils out
From Sea to River far away;
Why, then, do strangers pluck its grapes?
Why have you let its walls decay?

Your vine is ravaged by wild boars,
Beasts graze on what your hand has sown;
Turn now, O God of hosts, look down,
Preserve and tend what is your own.

Second Reading

Romans 1:1-7

Paul, a servant of Jesus Christ, called to be an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God, which he promised beforehand through his prophets in the holy scriptures, the gospel concerning his Son, who was descended from David according to the flesh and was declared to be Son of God with power according to the spirit of holiness by resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord, through whom we have received grace and apostleship to bring about the obedience of faith among all the Gentiles for the sake of his name, including yourselves who are called to belong to Jesus Christ, To all God's beloved in Rome, who are called to be saints: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

Reader: The Word of the Lord
People: Thanks be to God

Gospel Acclamation

Gospel Acclamation: Matthew 28 by Owen Alstott, OCP, 1990.



Holy Gospel

Matthew 1:18-25

Gospeller: The Lord be with you

All: And also with you

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

All: 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.

Gospeller: The Gospel of Christ

People: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ

Sermon

Nicene Creed

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Prayers of the People

Confession and Absolution

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The Peace

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People may greet one another with the peace of Christ.

Offertory Hymn

135 – “Shepherd’s in the Field

Abiding”

THE CELEBRATION OF THE EUCHARIST

Prayer over the Gifts

Gracious God,
by the power of the Spirit
who sanctified the mother of your Son,
make holy all we offer you this day.
We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord.
Amen.

Eucharistic Prayer 2

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Sanctus (*sung*)

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord.

God of power and might.

Heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -

san - na in the high - est.

Bles - sed is he, O bles - sed is he who

comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -

san - na in the high - est. Ho -

san - na in the high - est.

The musical score is written on a single staff in treble clef. It consists of eight lines of music. The first line ends with a period. The second line ends with a quarter rest. The third line ends with a quarter rest. The fourth line ends with a quarter rest. The fifth line ends with a quarter rest. The sixth line ends with a quarter rest. The seventh line ends with a quarter rest. The eighth line ends with a double bar line.

The Lord's Prayer *(sung)*

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name;
Your kingdom come;
Your will be done
On earth, as in heav'n.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial,
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, and the power, and the glory are yours;
Now and forever.
Amen.

Breaking of the Bread 5

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Celebrant: God of promise,
you prepare a banquet for us in your kingdom.

**All: Happy are those who are called
to supper of the Lamb.**

Agnus Dei (Lamb of God) *Sung as printed here.*

O lamb of God that ta - kest a - way the sin of the world, Have
mer - cy u - pon us. O us. O lamb of God that
ta - kest a - way the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace.

The image shows a musical score for the Agnus Dei. It consists of three staves of music in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The lyrics are written below the notes. The first staff ends with a double bar line. The second staff has a first ending bracket over the final two measures. The third staff ends with a double bar line.

Communion

All who are baptized are welcome to receive the bread and/or the wine of Holy Communion. At the Greeter's direction, please make your way to receive the elements if you wish to. All are welcome to come forward for a blessing.

Hymns during Communion – *Please see insert for all hymns*

89 – *"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"*

Insert – *"Make Room"*

88 – *"Come, Thou Long-expected Jesus"*

Prayer after Communion

Faithful God,
in this sacrament we receive the promise of salvation.
May we, like the Virgin Mary,
be obedient to your will.
We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord.
Amen.

Duet – Karen Bryan, Trish Warren –
"What Child is This?/Child of the Poor"

Doxology

p. 214

The Blessing

Recessional Hymn

138 – *"Hark! The Herald Angels*

Sing"

Dismissal

Postlude

"Masters in the Hall" (arr.

Young)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Parish Office Closure – The office will close at noon on Tuesday, December 23rd, 2025, and reopen Friday, January 2nd, 2026, at 9.00am.

****December 24th Services** – Please note that **there will be no 10am Holy Eucharistic service that day**, however, we will be holding services that evening at 7.00pm and 11.00pm.**

2026 Offering Envelopes – The 2026 weekly giving envelopes are now at the back of church, sorted alphabetically. If you do not see your name or I have missed someone, please let me know. As well, there are extra boxes of envelopes if you or someone you know would like a set. – Tammy Mulrooney, Envelope Secretary.

PRAY K7A – This month, we will gather here at St. John's on ***Sunday, December 28th at 7.00 pm.*** We will be praying for the coming year, and giving thanks for the year that has passed.

2025 Contributions - December 31st is a Wednesday this year. The last day to submit your contributions for 2025, will be Sunday, January 4th, 2026. Any cheque, e-transfers, tithes, etc., must be dated no later than December 31st, 2025. Offerings submitted after January 4th, will be entered as 2026 contributions. Thank you.

Christmas Choir – There will be a get together for the TGIE (thank goodness it's Epiphany) party. The next practice is scheduled for ***Saturday, January 3rd, 2026 at 10.00am.*** For further information or to sign up, please contact Wendy at: wendy.earl75@yahoo.com.

Games Night – Mark your calendars for our next Games Night in 2026 – ***Friday, January 9th, 2026 at 5.30pm.*** Come out and join us for an evening of fun. A meal will be served, followed by games and crafts. Donations are always appreciated.

Let us continue to pray for whomever God might call to become the next Bishop of Ottawa, and pray for those who carry those responsibilities in the meantime.

Services in Advent and Christmas

Wednesday December 24th

7.00pm – Christmas Eve Family Communion
with a Children's Christmas Surprise

11.00pm – Christmas Eve Communion

Thursday December 25th

10.00am – Christmas Morning Said Eucharist

Presiding Celebrant: Rev. Dr. Thomas Brauer
Preacher: Rev. Dr. Thomas Brauer
Communion Assistant: Mike McCulloch*/Pat Lee
Reader/Intercessor: Trish Warren
Greeters: Linda MacLaren & Faye Moore
Altar Guild: Ruth Anderson & Jessica Coughlan
Organist: Wendy Stokes-Earl
Readings for next Sunday, Dec 28, 2025 ~
IS 63:7-9; PS 148; HEB 2:10-18; MT 2:13-23

ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST ANGLICAN CHURCH

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Follow us on Facebook at:

St-John-the-Evangelist-Anglican-Church-Smiths-Falls

Laura Savage – Parish Administrator

Office Hours: Monday – Wednesday 9am – 12 noon

Thursday 1 – 4pm

Friday 9am – 12 noon

Weekly Liturgies

Holy Eucharist – Sundays 8am & 10am* – Wednesdays 10am

*Sunday School offered at 10am from September – June

The Reverend Dr. Thomas Brauer, Presiding Celebrant & Preacher

The Reverend Canon Brian Burrows – Honorary Assistant

The Reverend Canon Jim Roberts – Honorary Assistant

Wendy Stokes-Earl – Organist

Dan Willis – Rector's Warden 613.884.5095

Lois Arkell – People's Warden 613.485.9181

Tammy Mulrooney – Deputy Warden 613.485.3128

Pat Lee – Deputy Warden 613.485.3368

Tammy Mulrooney – Envelope Secretary

sjsfenvelopesecretary@gmail.com