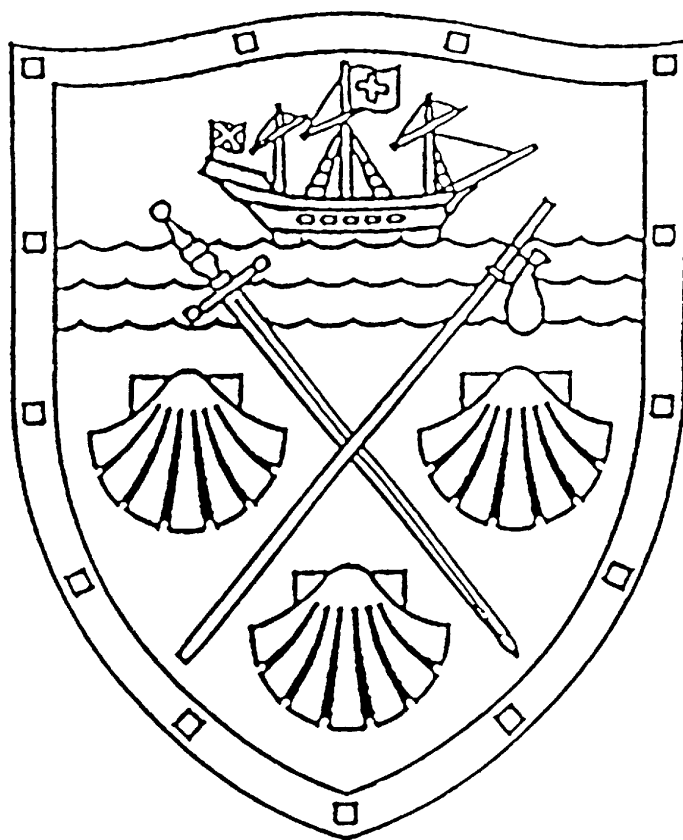




The First Sunday of Advent

November 30, 2025

Organ Recital at 4:00pm

Advent Lessons & Carols: From Darkness to Light at 4:30pm

The Cathedral Church of St. James

Diocese of Toronto • Anglican Church of Canada

Welcome to St. James Cathedral

This sacred land is the territory of several Indigenous Nations - the Wendat, the Haudenosaunee, and the Anishnaabe, and the Métis peoples, with special recognition to the Mississaugas of New Credit. We also acknowledge that we are on the shores of Niigaani-gichigami/Lake Ontario. This territory is governed by the Dish With One Spoon Wampum Belt Treaty, an agreement between the Haudenosaunee Confederacy and the Anishnaabe Confederacy to peaceably share and sustain the life of the Great Lakes. In the spirit of that Treaty we seek to place at the centre of our gatherings the values of respectful reciprocity, diversity, peace, responsibility, and mutual aid.

Liturgical Note:

In the context of Christian Liturgy, Israel does not refer to the current political state, but either to the historic Hebrews of the ancient Near East or, in Christian theology, to all people who put their faith and trust in Jesus Christ.

For more information, visit our website by clicking the QR code on the right.



Want to stay informed about what is happening at your Cathedral?
Sign up for **E-Connections** on our website at www.stjamescathedral.ca
(scroll to the bottom of the page).

Questions? Speak to a sidesperson – the people wearing gold name tags.

Children & Families

Sunday School meets every week at the 11:00am service.

Please email Karyne Whalen at kwhalen@stjamescathedral.ca for more information.

For more information on our Children's Community Choir,
please email Director Cara Halpin at chalpin@stjamescathedral.ca

Accessibility

A Wheelchair Accessible All-gender Washroom is located
at the front of the Cathedral through the doors by the pulpit.

Assisted hearing devices are available from the sidespersons.

Coffee Hour

Please join us at Snell Hall following the 9:00am and 11:00am service.

Parking

There are a range of affordable parking lots available around the Cathedral.

Please see the leaflets at the back of the Cathedral or
online at stjamescathedral.ca/contact for more information.

Connect with the Cathedral

Visit our website at stjamescathedral.ca | Follow us on Facebook at facebook.com/stjamesto

*As this is a very public and open space, please be aware of your personal belongings.
Do not leave them unattended in the Cathedral or in the Cathedral Centre.*

Today at St. James

Officiant: The Very Reverend Dr. Stephen Hance

Prayers: The Reverend Matthew Waterman

First Reader: Brainerd Blyden-Taylor • Second Reader: Sandra Mowat

Third Reader: The Reverend Canon Kate Merriman

Fourth Reader: The Reverend Canon Michael Burgess

Fifth Reader: Tina Conlon • Sixth Reader: The Reverend Canon Kristen Pitts

Seventh Reader: The Reverend Canon Philip Hobson, OGS

Honorary Verger: Paul D. Seddon, ODT

Director of Music & Organist: Thomas Bell • Associate Organist: Jean-Paul Feo

Wayne Vance Organ Scholar: Joshua Duncan Lee

Sung by The Choir of St. James Cathedral

The Flowers in the Cathedral are given to the glory of God.

Welcome! We are glad you have joined us for worship this morning.

Please ensure that cell phones are muted.

4:00pm Organ Recital

Organist: Jean-Paul Feo

Fantasia on Veni Emmanuel – Alec Rowley

“Veni Emmanuel”, from Three Short Preludes for the Organ – Edward Bairstow

La Nativité, from 3 Poèmes Évangéliques, Op. 2 – Jean Langlais

“The Shepherds at the Manger”, Op. 58 No. 8 – Basil Harwood

Choral-Improvisation on “In dulci jubilo”, Op. 75 No. 2 – Sigfrid Karg-Elert

4:30pm Advent Lessons & Carols: From Darkness to Light

The readings, carols and hymns lead us from darkness to light, as the events told by the prophets unfold. The service starts quietly, in the darkness of creation, but ends in a blaze of light as the Archangel Gabriel visits Mary, and the prologue in John’s gospel echoes the opening words of the Book of Genesis when he announces the light of the Incarnate Word.

The Candles are lit during the following Matin Responsory:

Matin Responsory

The Advent Responsory by Richard Marlow

Choir

I look from afar: and lo I see the power of God coming and a cloud covering the whole earth. Go ye out to meet Him, and say: Tell us who art thou He that should come to reign over thy people Israel? High and low, rich and poor, one with another, go ye out to meet him, and say: Hear, O Thou Shepherd of Israel, thou that leadest Joseph like a sheep, tell us, art thou he that should come? Stir up thy strength, O Lord, and come to reign over thy people Israel! Glory be to the Father and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost. I look from afar: and lo, I see the power of God coming, and a cloud covering the whole earth. Go ye out to meet him and say: Tell us, art thou he that should come to reign over thy people Israel?

Hymn

Of the Father's Heart Begotten

Tune: Divinum Mysterium

All

Of the Father's heart begotten,
ere the world from chaos rose,
he is Alpha: from that Fountain,
all that is and hath been flows;
he is Omega, of all things
yet to come the mystic Close,
evermore and evermore.

By His Word was all created
He commanded and 'twas done;
Earth and sky and boundless ocean,
Universe of three in one,
All that sees the moon's soft radiance,
All that breathes beneath the sun,
Evermore and evermore.

He assumed this mortal body,
Frail and feeble, doomed to die,
That the race from dust created,
Might not perish utterly,
Which the dreadful Law had sentenced
In the depths of hell to lie,
Evermore and evermore.

This is he, whom seer and sibyl
sang in ages long gone by;
this is he of old revealèd
in the page of prophecy;
lo! he comes the promised Saviour;
let the world his praises cry!
evermore and evermore.

Sing, ye heights of heaven, his praises;
Angels and Archangels, sing!
Wheresoe'er ye be, ye faithful,
Let your joyous anthems ring,
every tongue his name confessing,
countless voices answering,
evermore and evermore.

Text: Aurelius Clemens Prudentius; trans. Roby Furley Davis
Music: Melody plainsong, Mode 8; adapt. Piae Cantiones, 1582

Bidding Prayer

Officiant Beloved in Christ: In this season of Advent we come to worship the One who is our Judge, our Redeemer and our Guide. God, our loving God, who created our world and the far reaches of the galaxy; said "Let there be light," and light shone forth, in order that all things might reflect the glory of his presence.

Let us pray.

Loving God, the light of your glorious sunshine has too often been hidden by the clouds of our sin — your love we have turned to lust, your beauty to ugliness, and what you had made possible we have rendered impossible. But in the disgrace, we have made of your world your grace still shines. With all its fragile beauty your light remains a constant in our lives for your love never fails, brightening our days, casting our shadows behind us, and guiding us into the new life that you have prepared for us.

Lord Jesus Christ, you are God's light in the world, and you have come among us to illuminate our path and show us the true and living way into God's presence. Once again, your flickering light has been placed in our hands to cradle and care for, as once your Virgin Mother cradled you. May the light of the world shining in our hearts be our care and delight as we share your radiance with others. In your light may we be blessed and may we bless others even in the darkest corners of the world.

O Holy Spirit of God, kindle your fire of love in our hearts. That flame sees through us and reveals us as we are but may it also heal us so that renewed in love and joy and peace we may shine as Christ's light in the world, and serve his people in the Father's name, for you, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit are our God for ever and ever.

People

Amen.

Officiant

And now, let us pray in the words that Christ himself has taught us, saying:

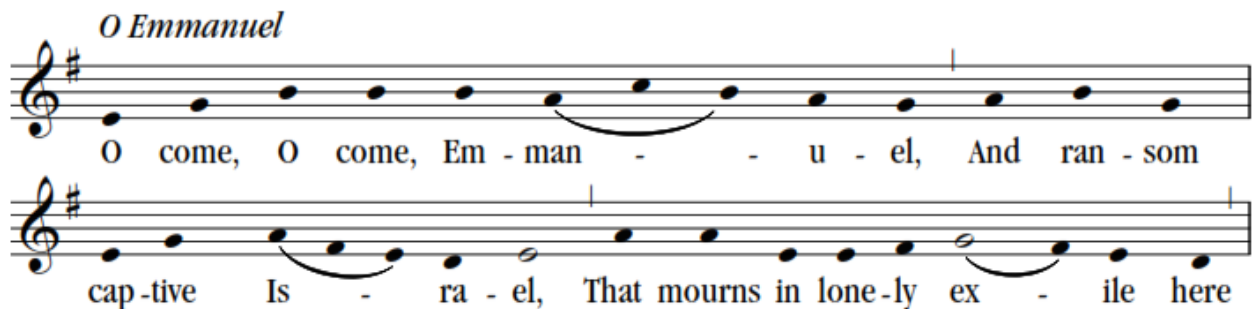
All

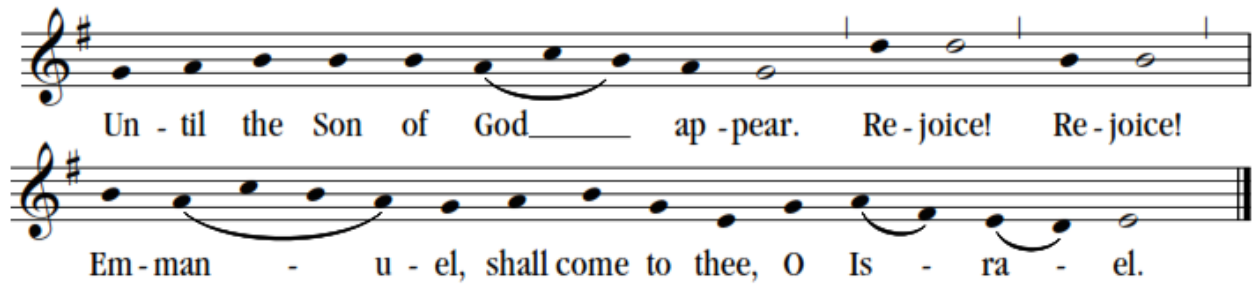
Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and for ever. Amen.

Please be seated.

Antiphon

All





The First Lesson – Light is called into existence

Genesis 1:1-5

Reader In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters. Then God said, ‘Let there be light’; and there was light. And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

Reader The word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

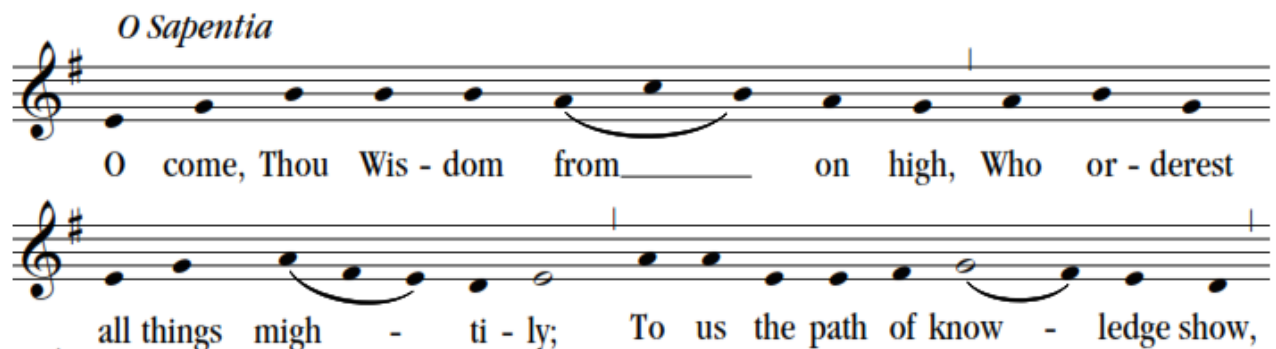
Carol O Radiant Dawn

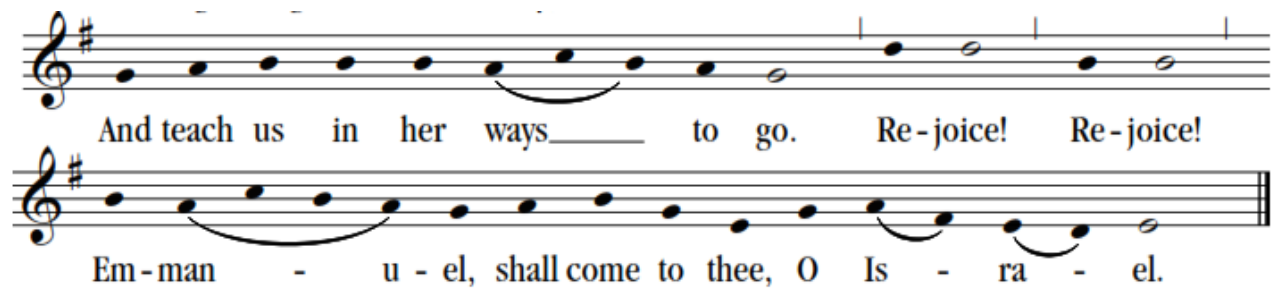
James MacMillan

Choir O Radiant Dawn, Splendour of eternal Light, Sun of Justice: come, shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death. Isaiah had prophesied, The people who walked in darkness have seen the great light upon those who dwelt in the land of gloom a light has shone. Amen.

Antiphon

All





The Second Lesson – Light will shine in the dark places of injustice

Isaiah 9:2-7

Reader

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness—on them light has shined. You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder. For the yoke of their burden, and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian. For all the boots of the tramping warriors and all the garments rolled in blood shall be burned as fuel for the fire. For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onwards and for evermore. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.

Reader

The word of the Lord.

People

Thanks be to God.

Carol

In the Stillness

Sally Beamish

Choir

In the stillness of a church

Where candles glow,

In the softness of a fall

Of fresh white snow,

In the brightness of the stars

That shine this night,

In the calmness of a pool

Of healing light,

In the clearness of a choir

That softly sings,

In the oneness of a hush

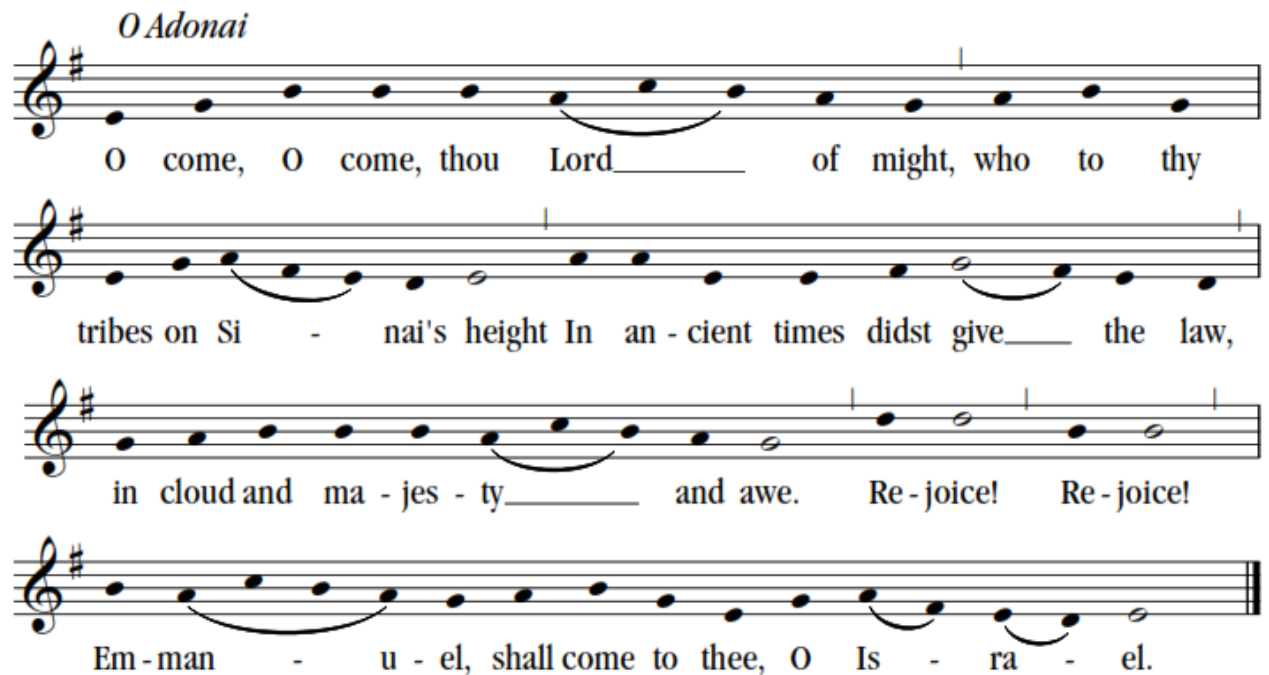
Of angels' wings,

In the mildness of a night
By stable bare,
In the quietness of a lull
Near cradle fair,

There's a patience as we wait
For a new morn,
And the presence of a child
Soon to be born.

Antiphon

All



Please be seated.

The Third Lesson – Light will shine along dark pathways

Isaiah 42:14-16

Reader

For a long time I have held my peace, I have kept still and restrained myself; now I will cry out like a woman in labour, I will gasp and pant. I will lay waste mountains and hills, and dry up all their herbage; I will turn the rivers into islands, and dry up the pools. I will lead the blind by a road they do not know, by paths they have not known I will guide them. I will turn the darkness before them into light, the rough places into level ground. These are the things I will do, and I will not forsake them.

Reader

The word of the Lord.

People

Thanks be to God.

Carol*Choir***Thou Shalt Know Him When He Comes**

Mark Sirett

Thou shalt know him when he comes,
Not by any din of drums,
Nor his manners, nor his airs,
Nor by any thing he wears.

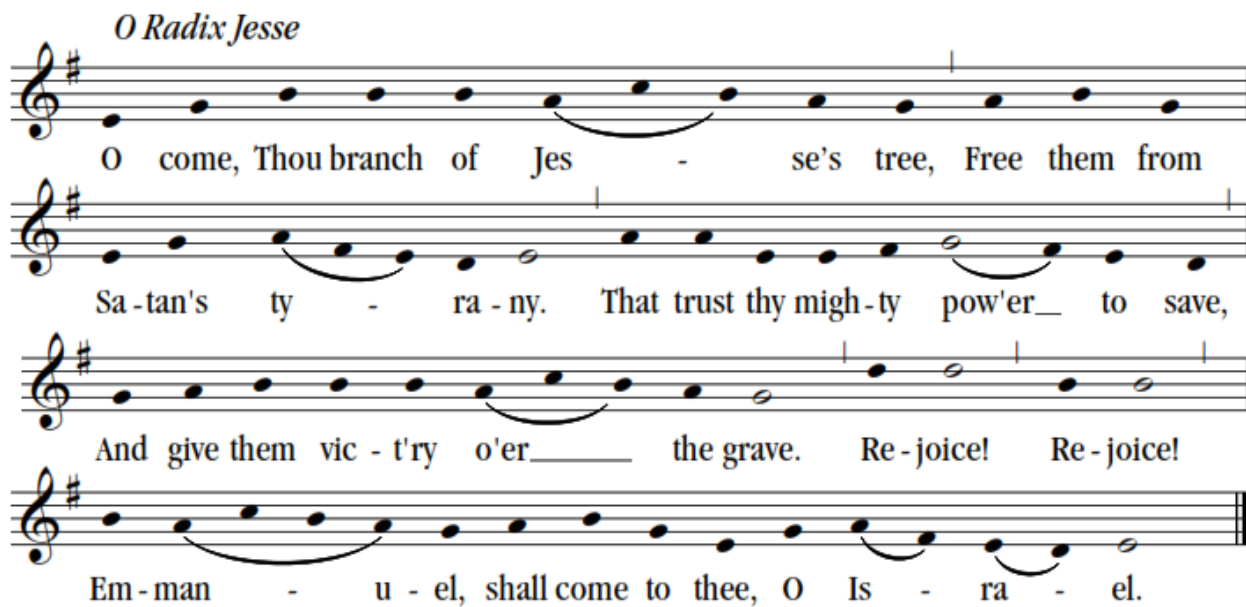
Thou shalt know him when he comes,
Not by a crown nor by a gown,
But his coming known shall be,
By the holy harmony
Which his coming makes in thee.

Thou shalt know him when he comes. Amen.

Please extinguish your candles.

Antiphon*All*

O Radix Jesse



O come, Thou branch of Jesse's tree, Free them from
Sa-tan's ty-ra-ny. That trust thy might-ty pow'er to save,
And give them vic-t'ry o'er the grave. Re-joice! Re-joice!
Em-man-u-el, shall come to thee, O Is-ra-el.

The Fourth Lesson - Light will shine among the nations*Isaiah 60:1-5**Reader*

Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you. For darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples; but the Lord will arise upon you, and his glory will appear over you. Nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn. Lift up your eyes and look around; they all gather together, they come to you; your sons shall come from far away, and your daughters shall be carried on their nurses' arms. Then you shall see and be radiant; your heart shall thrill and

rejoice, because the abundance of the sea shall be brought to you, the wealth of the nations shall come to you.

Reader

The word of the Lord.

People

Thanks be to God.

Carol

Jesus Christ the Apple Tree

Elizabeth Poston

Choir

The tree of life my soul hath seen,
Laden with fruit and always green;
The trees of nature fruitless be,
Compared with Christ the Apple Tree.

His beauty doth all things excel,
By faith I know but ne'er can tell
The glory which I now can see,
In Jesus Christ the Apple Tree.

For happiness I long have sought,
And pleasure dearly I have bought;
I missed of all but now I see
'Tis found in Christ the Apple Tree.

I'm weary with my former toil -
Here I will sit and rest awhile,
Under the shadow I will be,
Of Jesus Christ the Apple Tree.

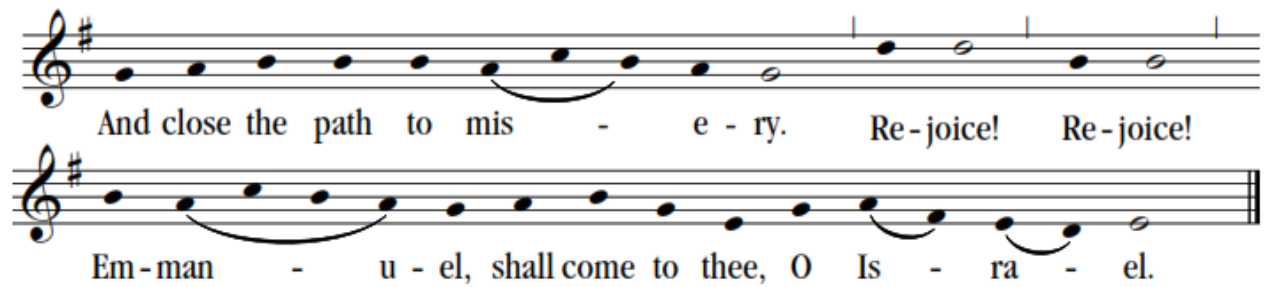
This fruit doth make my soul to thrive,
It keeps my dying faith alive;
Which makes my soul in haste to be
With Jesus Christ the Apple Tree.

Antiphon

All

O Clavis David

O come, Thou Key of David, come, And open
wide our heavenly home; Make safe the way that leads on high,



The Fifth Lesson –

Isaiah 61:1-3

Light will shine upon the broken, the oppressed, and the captive

Reader The spirit of the Lord God is upon me, because the Lord has anointed me; he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed, to bind up the broken-hearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and release to the prisoners; to proclaim the year of the Lord's favour, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn; to provide for those who mourn in Zion—to give them a garland instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, the mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit. They will be called oaks of righteousness, the planting of the Lord, to display his glory.

Reader The word of the Lord. *People* **Thanks be to God.**

Carol **Drop Down, Ye Heavens**

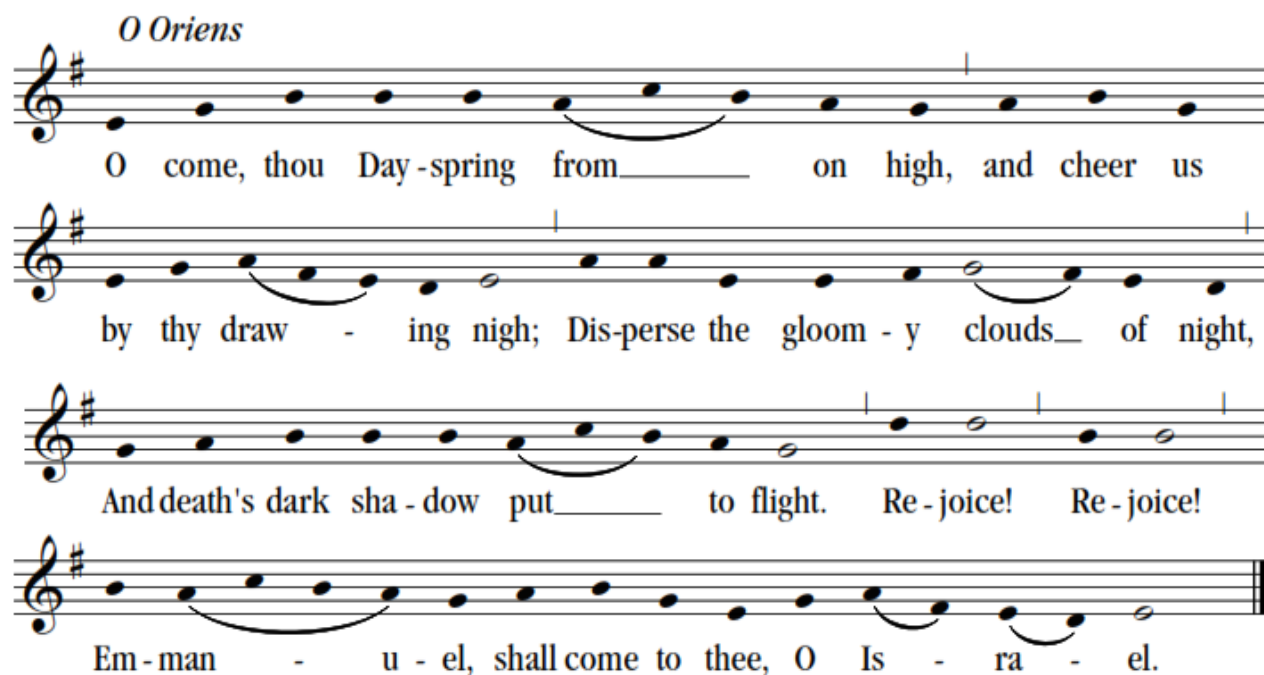
Judith Weir

Choir Drop down ye heavens from above,
And let the skies pour down righteousness.

Comfort ye, comfort ye, my people;
My salvation shall not tarry.
I have blotted out as a thick cloud thy transgressions.
Fear not, for I will save thee;
For I am the Lord thy God,
The holy one of Israel, thy redeemer.
Drop down ye heavens from above,
And let the skies pour down righteousness.

Antiphon

All



The Sixth Lesson – Light shines in Mary’s moment of fear and doubt *Luke 1:26-38*

Reader 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.

Reader The word of the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**

Carol*Choir***Bogoroditse Devo**

Sergei Rachmaninoff

*Bogoróditse Dévo, ráduysia,
Blagodátnaya Mariye, Ghospód s
Tobóyu.*

*Blagosloŭénna Tĩ v zhenáh,
i blagosloŭén Plod chréva Tvoyegó,
yáko Spása rodilá yesí dush
náshiĥ.*

Rejoice, O Virgin Mother of God,
Mary full of grace, the Lord is with
Thee.

Blessed art Thou among women,
and blessed is the fruit of Thy womb,
for Thou hast borne the Savior of our
souls.

Antiphon*All*

O Rex Gentium

O come, De - sire of na - tions, bind In one the
hearts of all man-kind; Bid Thou our sad di - vi - sions cease,
And be Thy - self our King of Peace. Re - joice! Re - joice!
Em - man - u - el, shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el.

The Seventh Lesson –*John 1:1-9***The Light of the Incarnate Word scatters the darkness***Reader*

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.

Reader

The word of the Lord.

People

Thanks be to God.

Carol
Choir

Nova, Nova

Iain Farrington

Nova! Nova!
Gabriel of high degree,
He came down from the Trinity
From Nazareth to Galilee,

He met a maiden in a place;
He kneeled down before her face;
He said: "Hail, Mary, full of grace!"

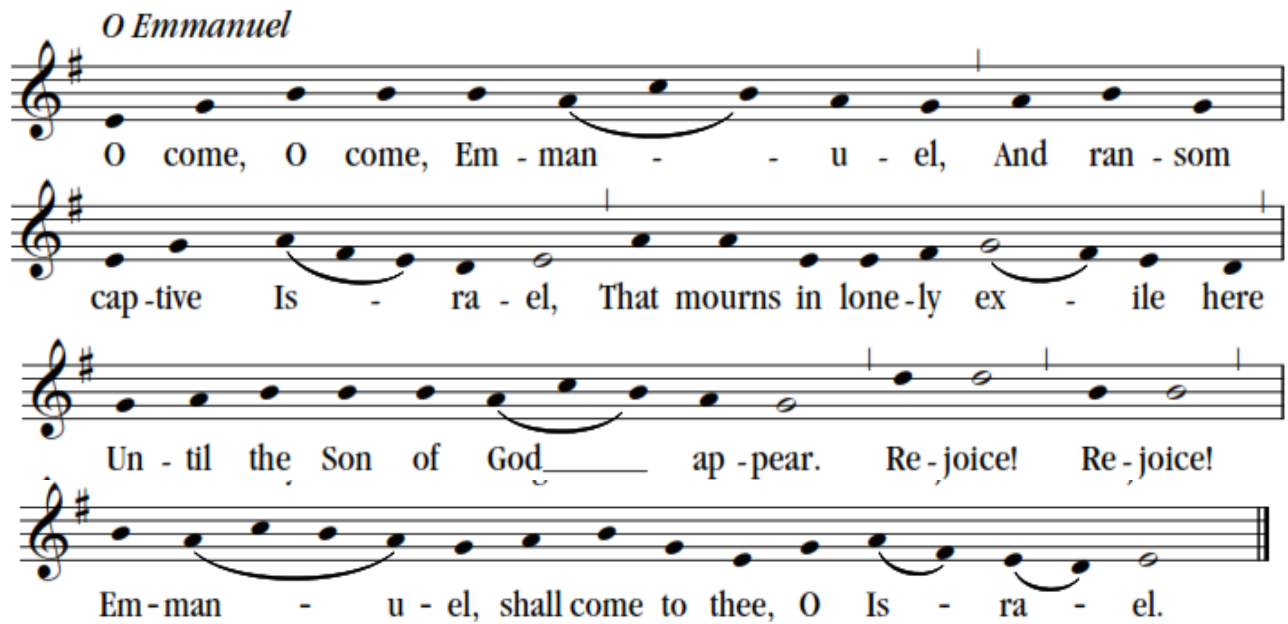
When the maiden saw all this,
She was sore abashed, ywis,
Lest that she had done amiss.

Then said the angel: "Dread not you,
You shall conceive in all virtue
A child whose name shall be Jesu."

Then said the maid: "Verily,
I am your servant truly,
Ecce ancilla Domini."
Nova! Nova!

Antiphon
All

O Emmanuel



O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, And ran - som
cap - tive Is - ra - el, That mourns in lone - ly ex - ile here
Un - til the Son of God ap - pear. Re - joice! Re - joice!
Em - man - u - el, shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el.

An offering will now be taken to support the life and ministry of the Cathedral.

Donate to St. James Cathedral
by scanning or tapping
the QR code or visit
st-james-cathedral | [CharityProfile](#) | [Donate Online](#)
(canadahelps.org)



Please stand.
Tune: Moscow

Collection Hymn

All Thou, whose almighty word
chaos and darkness heard,
and took their flight;
hear us, we humbly pray,
and where the gospel-day
sheds not its glorious ray,
let there be light.

Thou, who didst come to bring
on thy redeeming wing
healing and sight,
health to the sick in mind,
sight to the inly blind,
O now to all mankind
let there be light.

Spirit of truth and love,
life-giving, holy Dove,
speed forth thy flight;
move on the water's face,
bearing the lamp of grace,
and in earth's darkest place
let there be light.

Holy and blessed Three,
glorious Trinity,
Wisdom, Love, Might;
boundless as ocean's tide
rolling in fullest pride,
through the earth far and wide
let there be light.

Text: John Marriott, alt.
Music: Felice de Giardini

Offertory Prayer

Officiant God of promise and light, receive these gifts as you receive our hearts: may they may be a sign of hope for the weary, a source of peace in a divided world, a sacrament of joy amid sorrow, and a symbol of love that reflects your own, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

People **Amen.**

Closing Prayers

Priest Holy God, we place our hope in you. May the light of Christ's coming dispel the darkness around us and within us. Strengthen our faith as we trust in Your promises. In your mercy,

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Priest Quiet the noise of our hearts and bring calm to a restless world. May we be peacemakers, spreading your peace to all we meet. In your mercy,

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Priest May the promise of Christ's coming bring laughter to our lips and gladness to our spirits. Help us to share this joy with those in need of Your light. In your mercy,

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Priest Your love knows no bounds, and in sending your Son, you gave us the greatest gift of all. Teach us to love as You love—unconditionally and generously. May our lives reflect the love of Christ in all we say and do, in whose name, we pray. In your mercy,

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Priest God of justice and peace, from the heavens you rain down mercy and kindness. Raise our heads in expectation, so that we may yearn for the coming day of the Lord and stand without blame before your Son, Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

People **Amen.**

Officiant Lord Jesus Christ, you are the light of the world. You scatter the shadows before our path, and through your Holy Spirit you lead us into all truth. May we who have been baptized in the ocean of your love, also shine as lights in the world, become instruments of your peace, and icons of your presence. For you are our God for ever and ever.

People **Amen.**

The Blessing

Officiant Be steadfast in faith, joyful in hope, and untiring in love all the days of your life; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always.

All **Amen.**

Hymn

Tune: Helmsley

All Lo, he comes with clouds descending, once for favoured sinners slain;
thousand thousand saints attending swell the triumph of his train:
hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah! God appears on earth to reign.

Every eye shall now behold him, robed in dreadful majesty;
all who set at nought and sold him, pierced and nailed him to the tree,
deeply grieving, deeply grieving, deeply grieving, shall the true Messiah see.

Now redemption, long expected, see in solemn pomp appear;
all his saints, on earth rejected, thrill the trumpet sound to hear:
hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah! See the day of God appear!

Yea, amen, let all adore thee, high on thine eternal throne;
Saviour, take the power and glory; claim the kingdom for thine own:
O, come quickly! O, come quickly! O, come quickly!
Hallelujah! Come, Lord, come!

Text: John Cennick, Charles Wesley, Martin Madan, alt.; Music: Melody attrib. Thomas Olivers and Martin Madan.

Postlude

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ST. JAMES CATHEDRAL-CONNECTIONS - Sunday, November 30, 2025

Regular services at 8:00am, 9:00am (*Worship Together*), 11:00am, and 4:30pm.

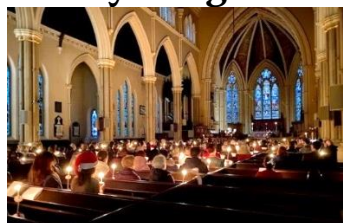
Children & Families: Sunday school at 11:00am. **Coffee Hour:** After 9:00am & 11:00am.

Advent begins today at St. James



The season of Advent, the four weeks leading up to Christmas Day, begins today, Nov. 30. You are warmly invited to join us in reflection, prayer, and celebration during this special time! Please share this invitation with your neighbours, friends, and family. All are welcome to come and share in the warmth and joy of Christmas with us.

Today: Organ Recital & Advent Lessons and Carols Service by Candlelight



From Darkness to Light: Enter into the season of Advent with this seasonal favourite service of readings and music!

4:00pm: Organ Recital by Jean-Paul Feo

4:30pm: Advent Lessons and Carols Service.

Invite your family & friends.

“Merry Moments” returns to St. James!

A festive poster for "Merry Moments" at St. James Cathedral. The background is red with a geometric pattern. At the top, there are white string lights. The word "Merry" is written in a large, gold, cursive font, and "MOMENTS" is in a bold, gold, sans-serif font below it. To the right of "Merry" is the text "AT ST. JAMES CATHEDRAL" in small white capital letters. Further right, the text "30 MINUTES OF HOLIDAY SPIRIT" is in bold white capital letters, followed by "Traditional Christmas Carols, Short Readings & Prayers for Everyone" in a smaller white font. At the bottom right, the dates "DECEMBER 16, 18, 20" are in bold white capital letters.

After last year's wonderful response, we're delighted to once again offer these **30-minute Advent and Christmas “taster” services filled with beloved carols, readings, and a short homily**. These joy-filled gatherings are perfect for anyone, and especially those who may not usually attend church or find a full carol service a bit long. **Multiple services** will take place **on Dec. 16, 18 & 20**, so you can find one that fits your schedule, at lunch, after school pick-up, or between errands.

New this year: Join us on **Saturday, Dec. 20, at 10:30am**, when our **Children's Community Choir** will lead Merry Moments. After the service, enjoy a **Nativity Animal Petting Zoo** on the West Lawn from **11:00am to 1:00pm**, with hot chocolate and snacks for all! Invite your friends and neighbours to this joyful, family-friendly event in the spirit of Christmas with us!

Until Dec. 8: Christmas Memorial Flowers



Remember a loved one this Christmas through memorial poinsettias placed in the Cathedral for the season.

Please submit names to Serena Li at sli@stjamescathedral.ca, or place them in a clearly marked envelope on the collection plate. Donations of \$45 or more per name/couple will go to support the Cathedral Flower Fund.

Payment options: E-transfer to gifts@stjamescathedral.ca (please include “*Memorial Flowers*” in your message), credit card, or online. **Please submit names by December 8.**

Dec. 9 at 6:30pm: Blue Christmas – A Service of Hope



Christmas can be difficult for a variety of reasons.

One may have lost a loved one, a job, suffered a broken relationship, or even be missing family or friends who are living in a different city, province, or country.

Come and share in a special Service of Hope, sing carols, hear the good news that the Christ Child brings, and help us trim the tree by hanging a dove and lighting a candle as we celebrate the coming of the one who is our Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love.

Share the Joy: Ways to support our Drop-In program this Christmas!



Volunteer with us: On Christmas (Dec. 19), on Boxing Day (Dec. 26), and in the New Year (Jan. 2). Shifts will run between 9:00am to 5:30pm. Come spread some holiday cheer!

Give a sweet treat: Help fill our Christmas bags with candy canes and chocolates that will be shared with our Drop-In guests this season.

Share a card of love: Donate any unused Christmas cards so our participants can send warm greetings to their friends and family.

On behalf of the Drop-In program, thank you for the ongoing support and care you show at this time and throughout the year. Your generosity helps make the Drop-In a welcoming, safe, and caring community for all our neighbours and volunteers.

For details or to volunteer, please contact Kathy Biasi – Outreach Manager at 416 364-7865 Ext. 222 or kbiasi@stjamescathedral.ca

St. Bartholomew's Food Drive. Thank you for your support



If you can, please support the food program at St. Bartholomew's Church by donating nonperishable food items in the red bin located at the King Street entrance of the Cathedral.

Donations will be accepted until Dec. 31.

Thank you for your generosity and support!

Save the dates & celebrate the Christmas season with us. All are welcome!
Back by popular demand, we will blend again cherished traditions with exciting services.
Bring your family and friends to share in the joy and warmth of the season. Join us!



Christmas

AT ST. JAMES CATHEDRAL

A TRADITIONAL CHRISTMAS

1st SUNDAY OF ADVENT

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 30

4:30PM Advent Lessons & Carols*

BLUE CHRISTMAS

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 9

6:30PM A Service of Hope

MESSIAEN'S LA NATIVITÉ

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 19

7:30PM Organ Recital by Rashaan Allwood

4th SUNDAY OF ADVENT

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 21

4:30PM Christmas Lessons & Carols*

CHRISTMAS EVE

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 24

4:00PM Festive Organ Recital*

4:30PM Lessons & Carols*

7:30PM Choral Eucharist*

CHRISTMAS DAY

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 25

8:00AM Said Eucharist

10:30AM Choral Eucharist*

MERRY MOMENTS

30 MINUTES OF HOLIDAY SPIRIT

TRADITIONAL CHRISTMAS CAROLS,
SHORT READINGS & PRAYERS
FOR EVERYONE

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 16

4:00PM Merry Moments

6:00PM Merry Moments

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 18

1:00PM Merry Moments

5:30PM Merry Moments

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 20

10:30AM Merry Moments

with the Children's Community Choir

11:00AM - 1:00PM **Nativity Animals**
on the West Lawn with hot chocolate and snacks

1:00PM Merry Moments



* Livestreamed on the Cathedral YouTube channel:
youtube.com/@stjamescathedraltoronto

Dec.13 at 7:30pm: *Messiah*. Regular/Patron tickets. Get yours now.

Tickets: stjamescathedral.ca/messiah2025 - **Regular ticket: \$45 per person**

Patron packages: \$300 (2 tickets, reserved seating, names in the program, Wine & Cheese reception, tax receipt of \$170 issued in January) or **\$150** (1 ticket, reserved seating, name in the program, Wine & Cheese reception, tax receipt of \$85 issued in January).

To become a Patron: (416)364-7865 Ext. 258 or bookkeeper@stjamescathedral.ca

G.F. HANDEL

Messiah

THE CHOIR OF ST. JAMES CATHEDRAL
WITH THE CHAPEL CHOIR OF TRINITY COLLEGE, UofT
AND ORCHESTRA



SATURDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2025
7:30 P.M.

Thomas Bell, Conductor
Maeve Palmer, Soprano
Hillary Tufford, Mezzo-soprano
Bud Roach, Tenor
Dion Mazerolle, Baritone

TICKETS:
Early Bird: \$40
(UNTIL NOVEMBER 1)
Regular: \$45
(FROM NOVEMBER 2)



Merry Moments with Children's Community Choir & Nativity Petting Zoo



Join us on **Saturday, December 20**
at **10:30am** as our Children's Community
Choir leads us in Merry Moments.

After the service, head out to the West Lawn
for a **Live Nativity Animal Petting Zoo**
from **11:00am to 1:00pm**, complete with hot
chocolate and snacks for everyone.

Bring your friends and neighbours to share
in the joy and spirit of Christmas!

This is a family-friendly event open to all.

Mark your calendars: Upcoming Musical Events in December at St. James!

Dec. 2 at 1:00pm: Music for the Advent Season - Jean-Paul Feo (St. James Cathedral)

Dec. 9 at 1:00pm: *"The organ at St. James Cathedral: History & Demonstration"* - Thomas Bell

Saturday, Dec. 13 at 7:30pm: *Messiah* by G. F. Handel.

Tickets: stjamescathedral.ca/messiah2025 - **Regular ticket: \$45** per person

Doors open: 6:15pm - Seating: First-come, first-served

Messiah Concert: 7:30pm to 9:30pm

Messiah (special): Handel composed *Messiah* in just 24 days. We shall present a slightly abridged version concluding at 9:30pm.

Tuesday, Dec. 16: Cadence Brassard (Toronto)

Friday, Dec. 19 at 7:30pm:

***La Nativité du Seigneur* by Olivier Messiaen played by Rashaan Allwood.**

Nine musical meditations on the birth of Jesus are interspersed with poems and Bible readings. *La Nativité* is of the most startlingly original works ever created for the organ. Olivier Messiaen, a deeply devout musician, conceived a series of nine musical tableaux which reflect not only upon the actual events of the nativity – the shepherds, the wise men – but the profound implications of these events for us today. The organ portrays the story in music, which ranges from quiet, timeless introspection to shattering excitement. Biblical readings and poems by George Herbert, W.H. Auden, Malcolm Guite, Tennyson, and others will intersperse the musical reflections. It's a free concert, donations welcome.

St. James Cemetery & Crematorium Announcements

Monthly Eucharist: Wednesday, Dec. 3 at 11:00am at the Chapel of St.-James-the-Less.

Add a special touch of remembrance for the season to honor your loved one!



Joining the Seasonal Wreath program at St. James Cemetery & Crematorium is a special way to express your appreciation to your loved ones and all the faithful departed.

Don't miss this meaningful opportunity—book your beautiful wreath in advance.

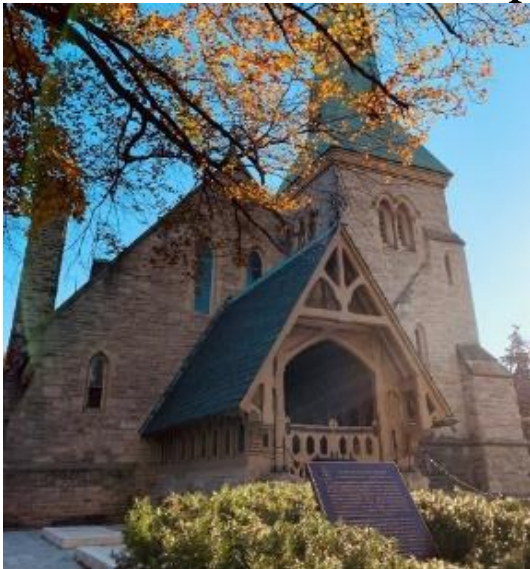
There are two wreath arrangements available: \$75 each (includes applicable taxes)

Option 1: Red Roses & Pinecones

Option 2: Poinsettias & Pinecones

If you are interested, please contact St. James Cemetery & Crematorium at 416-964-9194, visit stjamescemetery.ca, or email cemetery@stjamescathedral.ca

Pre-plan your service anytime



Preplanning gives you peace of mind and the opportunity to make your wishes known.

Cathedral clergy are available to assist with funeral plans and our cemetery staff would be pleased to help you preplan your interment and other cemetery services.

Protect yourself from future inflationary increases, too.

For more information, please contact:

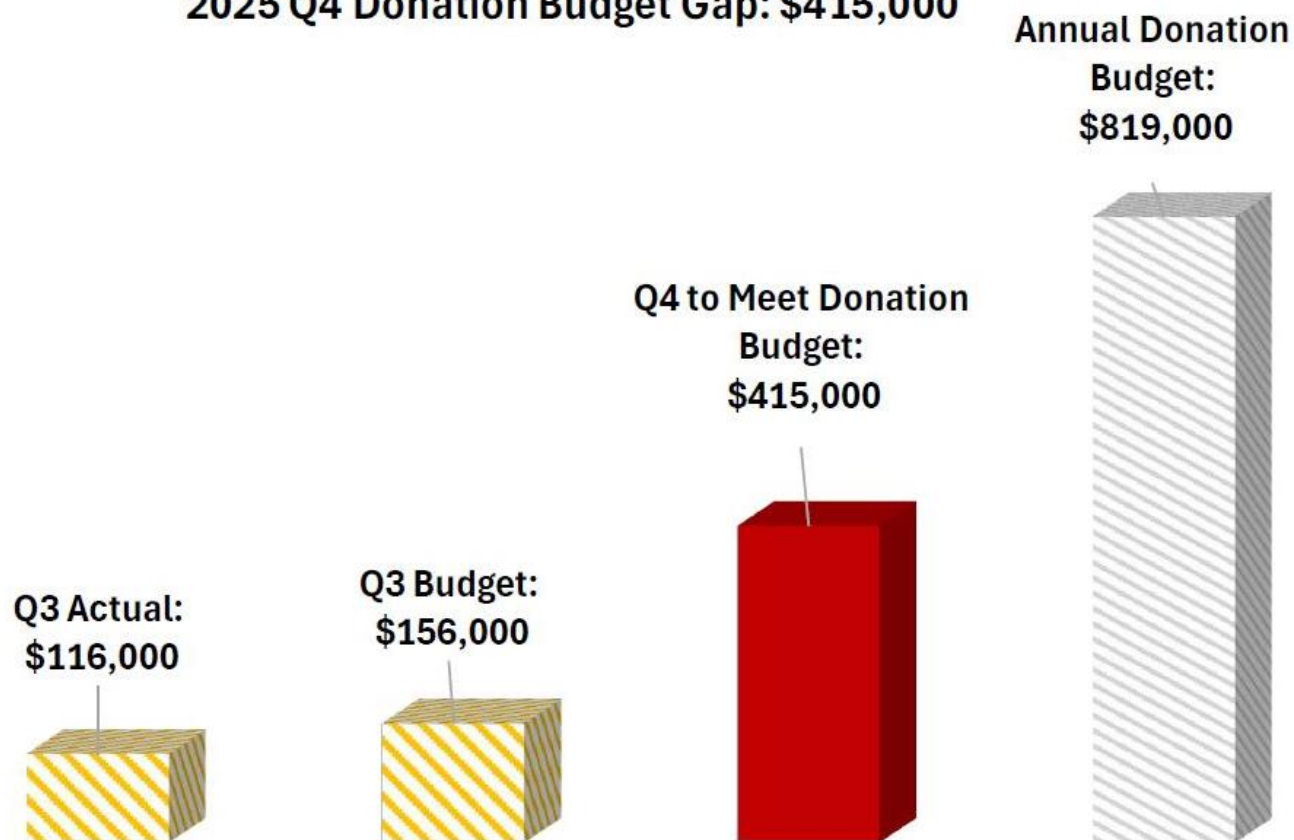
The Rev'd Canon Dr. Stephen Fields at sfields@stjamescathedral.ca, (416) 364-7865, ext. 221

George Vrozos - Cemetery Manager at cemetery@stjamescathedral.ca, (416) 964-9194

or visit stjamescemetery.ca

2025 Q3 & Q4 Financial Updates

2025 Q4 Donation Budget Gap: \$415,000



Thank you for your faithful and generous donations this year! As we close Q3, we face a significant challenge: **donations are 25% below our target**, creating a gap in our budget.

To meet our **annual donation budget of \$819,000**, we need to raise **\$415,000 by December 31, 2025**. Your gift today can make a real difference and help keep the ongoing missions and ministry of St. James strong.

Did you know that Pre-Authorized Giving (PAG) is the best way to give? It makes a clear statement about what is important to you. It is secure, convenient, cost-effective, and has the lowest processing fee among all donation methods. Will you sign up today and make a lasting commitment? Contact Candice Chan, our Bookkeeper, at 416-364-7865 Ext. 258 or bookkeeper@stjamescathedral.ca to sign up today!

For more ways to give, please visit
stjamescathedral.ca/donate/give-online
or scan our QR code:



THIS WEEK AT THE CATHEDRAL

Morning Prayer – online only at 8:30am

Holy Eucharist at 12:15pm

Monday to Saturday via the Cathedral YouTube channel Monday to Saturday in St. George's Chapel.

Visit us: The Cathedral is open Monday-Saturday from 10:00am–3:00pm.
The Cathedral Centre offices are open Monday-Friday from 9:00am–4:00pm.

Online Morning Prayer:

Join our clergy and fellow members of the Cathedral from Monday to Friday for Morning Prayer in our **Zoom Chapel**.

To access, please follow this link: <https://bit.ly/MPatSJC> or scan the QR code. For more information, visit: stjamescathedral.ca/morningprayer/



Tuesday: Organ Recitals in the Cathedral at 1:00pm. Free admission, donations welcome!

Wednesday: Scripture Circle gathers in the Cathedral Centre at 11:00am.

Thursday: Early Music at St. James at 1:00pm. Free admission, donations welcome!

Friday: Drop-In from 1:30pm to 3:30pm. We welcome our guests for a nutritious meal.

Saturday: Children's Community Choir Rehearsals from 9:30am to 10:30am on Dec. 6, 13, 20, and resuming on Jan. 10, 2026.

St. James Cemetery: Seasonal Wreath program, Pre-planning services & Plots available.
Info: 416-964-9194, cemetery@stjamescathedral.ca or visit stjamescemetery.ca

Sunday Services – Dec. 7, 2025

8:00am: Said Eucharist

9:00am: Worship Together*

11:00am: Choral Eucharist*

4:30pm: Choral Evensong*

**Live-streamed on the Cathedral YouTube channel at
youtube.com/stjamescathedraltoronto*

Readings for

The Second Sunday of Advent

Is 11: 1-10

Ps 72: 1-7, 18 - 19

Rom 15: 4 - 13

Mt 3: 1-12

The Cathedral Church of
St. James exists today through the gifts
of time, talent, and treasure of both
past and present members of the
Cathedral community.

Scan to Donate



Thank you for your support!
St. James Cathedral,
a symbol of God's presence
and love in the city.

Do you get our online weekly newsletter?

Sign up today at stjamescathedral.ca

St. James Cathedral: (416)364-7865 / info@stjamescathedral.ca

Facebook/Instagram: @stjamesto / **YouTube:** stjamescathedraltoronto

St. James Cemetery: (416)964-9194 / stjamescemetery.ca / cemetery@stjamescathedral.ca



The Cathedral Church of St. James

Diocese of Toronto • Anglican Church of Canada

65 Church Street, Toronto, Ontario M5C 2E9

Cathedral Centre: (416) 364-7865

info@stjamescathedral.ca • www.stjamescathedral.ca

Bishop of Toronto

The Right Reverend Andrew Asbil

Suffragan Bishops

The Right Reverend Riscylla Shaw

The Right Reverend Kevin Robertson

Rector of St. James Cathedral & Dean of Toronto

The Very Reverend Dr. Stephen Hance

Sub-Dean & Vicar

The Reverend Canon Dr. Stephen Fields

Canon Missioner

The Reverend Canon Kristen Pitts

Assistant Curate

The Reverend Matthew Waterman

Vicar of St. Bartholomew, Regent Park

The Reverend Dr. Walter Hannam

Director of Music & Organist

Thomas Bell

Children's Community Choir Director

Cara Halpin

Children, Youth, and Family Minister

Karyne Whalen

Honorary Verger

Paul D. Seddon, ODT