



A Festival of Nine Lessons & Carols

*A Festival of Nine Lessons & Carols at 4:30pm
Preceded by Organ Recital at 4:00pm*

*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.



St. James Cathedral is here to serve all the people of Toronto. We do this through services and events, concerts and lectures, through the work of our Friday Drop-In and our Refugee Committee. Your Cathedral is open almost every day of the year for you to take a look around, to sit quietly, to light a candle or say a prayer. A free booklet offers a self-guided tour so you can experience the beauty and history of this place. The Cathedral and the modern Cathedral Centre next door are available for hire, whether for a meeting, a wedding, or a party. To find out more about the Cathedral Centre, please go to sjcvenue.ca.

Please do come again. You can follow us through our website and social media presence, or join us for a service on any Sunday as follows:

8:00am Said Eucharist *Simple Communion service in traditional language*

9:00am Worship Together *All-ages Communion service with music*

11:00am Choral Eucharist *Sensory-rich Communion service with the Cathedral Choir*

4:30pm Choral Evensong *Meditative prayer service with the Cathedral Choir*

Live-streaming on the Cathedral's YouTube channel

www.youtube.com/@StJamesCathedralToronto/streams

Accessibility

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

Assisted hearing devices are available from the sidespersons.

Connect with the Cathedral

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

December 21: Participants

Officiant: The Reverend Canon Dr. Stephen Fields

Homilist: The Very Reverend Dr. Stephen Hance

First Reader: Peter Dawes • Second Reader: Sandra Mowat

Third Reader: Robert Coates • Fourth Reader: Jacqui Hance

Fifth Reader: Lucy Fields • Sixth Reader: Tina Conlon

Seventh Reader: The Reverend Canon Beth Benson

Eighth Reader: The Reverend Matthew Waterman

Ninth Reader: The Very Reverend Dr. Stephen Hance

The Christ Candle: The Reverend Canon Kristen Pitts

December 24: Participants

Officiant & Homilist: The Very Reverend Dr. Stephen Hance

First Reader: David Campbell • Second Reader: Daisy Pittis

Third Reader: Don Solomon, ODT • Fourth Reader: Dorothea Merritt

Fifth Reader: Bob Hart, ODT • Sixth Reader: Quentin Toderick

Seventh Reader: The Reverend Lynn Braye

Eighth Reader: The Reverend Matthew Waterman

Ninth Reader: The Reverend Canon Dr. Stephen Fields

The Christ Candle: The Reverend Canon Kristen Pitts

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

Honorary Verger: Paul D. Seddon, ODT

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

Please ensure that cell phones are muted.

4:00pm Organ Recital

Organist: Joshua Duncan Lee

Canonic Variations on Vom Himmel hoch, BWV 769a - Johann Sebastian Bach
Christmas - Gaston Dethier

4:30pm A Festival of Nine Lessons & Carols

Welcome

Please stand.

Hymn **Once in Royal David's City**

Tune: Irby

Solo

Once in royal David's city stood a lowly cattle shed,
Where a mother laid her baby in a manger for his bed:
Mary was that mother mild, Jesus Christ her little child.

Choir

He came down to earth from heaven who is God and Lord of all,
And his shelter was a stable, and his cradle was a stall;
With the poor, and mean, and lowly, lived on earth our Saviour holy.

All And, through all his wondrous childhood, he would honour and obey,
Love, and watch the lowly maiden in whose gentle arms he lay:
Christian children all must be mild, obedient, good as he.

For he is our childhood's pattern, day by day like us he grew;
He was little, weak, and helpless, tears and smiles like us he knew;
And he feeleth for our sadness, and he shareth in our gladness.

And our eyes at last shall see him, through his own redeeming love,
For that Child so dear and gentle is our Lord in heaven above;
And he leads his children on to the place where he is gone.

Not in that poor lowly stable, with the oxen standing by,
we shall see him; but in heaven, set at God's right hand on high;
when, like stars, his children crowned all in white shall wait around.

Text: Cecil Frances Alexander; Music: Henry John Gauntlett, 1858.

Bidding Prayer

Officiant

Dear People of God: In this season of Christmas, it is our responsibility and joy to prepare ourselves to hear once more the message of the Angels, to go to Bethlehem and see the Son of God lying in a manger. Let us hear and heed in Holy Scripture the story of God's loving purpose from the time of our rebellion against him until the glorious redemption brought to

us by his holy Child Jesus, and let us look forward to the early remembrance of his birth with hymns and carols of praise.

But first, let us pray for the needs of his whole world, for peace and justice on earth, for the unity and mission of the Church for which he died, and especially for his Church in our country and in this city. And because he particularly loves them, let us remember in his name the poor and helpless, the cold, the hungry and the oppressed, the sick and those who mourn, the lonely and unloved, the aged and little children, as well as all those who do not know and love the Lord Jesus Christ.

Finally, let us remember before God his pure and lowly Mother, and that whole multitude which no one can number, whose hope was in the Word made flesh, and with whom, in Jesus, we are one for evermore. And now, to sum up all these petitions, 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.

In Dulci Jubilo arr. Robert Pearsall

Carol
Choir

In dulci jubilo
Let us our homage shew:
Our heart's joy reclineth
In praesepio;
And like a bright star shineth
Matris in gremio,
Alpha es et O!

O Jesu parvule,
My heart is sore for Thee!
Hear me, I beseech Thee,
O puer optime;
My praying let it reach Thee,
O princeps gloriae.
Trahe me post te.

O patris caritas!
O Nati lenitas!
Deeply were we stained.
Per nostra crimina:
But Thou for us hast gained
Coelorum gaudia,
Qualis gloria!

Ubi sunt gaudia,
If that they be not there?
There are Angels singing
Nova cantica;
And there the bells are ringing
In Regis curia.
O that we were there!

First Lesson

Genesis 3:8-19

God tells sinful Adam that he has lost the life of Paradise.

Reader

They heard the sound of the Lord God walking in the garden at the time of the evening breeze, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the Lord God among the trees of the garden. But the Lord God called to the man, and said to him, 'Where are you?' He said, 'I heard the sound of you in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked; and I hid myself.' He said, 'Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?' The man said, 'The woman whom you gave to be with me, she gave me fruit from the tree, and I ate.' Then the Lord God said to the woman, 'What is this that you have done?' The woman said, 'The serpent tricked me, and I ate.' The Lord God said to the serpent, 'Because you have done this, cursed are you among all animals and among all wild creatures; upon your belly you shall go, and dust you shall eat all the days of your life. I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; he will strike your head, and you will strike his heel.'

To the woman he said, 'I will greatly increase your pangs in childbearing; in pain you shall bring forth children, yet your desire shall be for your husband, and he shall rule over you.' And to the man he said, 'Because you have listened to the voice of your wife, and have eaten of the tree about which I commanded you, "You shall not eat of it", cursed is the

ground because of you; in toil you shall eat of it all the days of your life; thorns and thistles it shall bring forth for you; and you shall eat the plants of the field. By the sweat of your face you shall eat bread until you return to the ground, for out of it you were taken; you are dust, and to dust you shall return.'

Reader Thanks be to God.

Carol

Adam Lay Ybounden by Boris Ord

Choir

Adam lay ybounden bounden in a bond
Four thousand winters though he not too long
And all was for an apple, an apple that he took
As clerkes finden written in their book
Nay had the apple taken been the apple taken been
Nay had never our lady abeen heavenly queen
Blessed be the time that apple taken was
Therefore we bound singen Deo gracias, deo gracias!

Second Lesson

Genesis 22:15-18

God promises to faithful Abraham that in his seed shall all the nations of the earth be blessed.

Reader

The angel of the Lord called to Abraham a second time from heaven, and said, 'By myself I have sworn, says the Lord: Because you have done this, and have not withheld your son, your only son, I will indeed bless you, and I will make your offspring as numerous as the stars of heaven and as the sand that is on the seashore. And your offspring shall possess the gate of their enemies, and by your offspring shall all the nations of the earth gain blessing for themselves, because you have obeyed my voice.'

Reader

Thanks be to God.

Carol

Tomorrow Shall Be My Dancing Day by John Gardiner

Choir

Tomorrow shall be my dancing day;
I would my true love did so chance
To see the legend of my play,
To call my true love to my dance;

Refrain

*Sing, oh! my love, oh! my love, my love, my love,
This have I done for my true love*

Then was I born of a virgin pure,
Of her I took fleshly substance
Thus was I knit to man's nature
To call my true love to my dance. *Refrain*

In a manger laid, and wrapped I was
So very poor, this was my chance
Betwixt an ox and a silly poor ass
To call my true love to my dance. *Refrain*

Then afterwards baptized I was;
The Holy Ghost on me did glance,
My Father's voice heard from above,
To call my true love to my dance. *Refrain*

Please stand.

Tune: Es Ist Ein'Ros

Hymn

Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming

All

Lo, how a Rose e'er blooming from tender stem hath sprung,
of Jesse's lineage coming as seers of old have sung.
It came, a blossom bright amid the cold of winter,
when half spent was the night.

Isaiah 'twas foretold it, the Rose I have in mind;
with Mary we behold it, the virgin mother kind.
To show God's love aright, she bore to us a Saviour,
when half spent was the night.

O Flower, whose fragrance tender with sweetness fills the air,
dispel in glorious splendour the darkness everywhere;
true man, yet very God, from sin and death now save us,
and share our every load.

Text; St. 1-2, German (15th cent.) ; tr. Theodore Baker.
St. 3, Friedrich Layritz; tr. Harriet Reynolds Krauth Spaeth.

Music: Melody Alte Catholische Geistliche Kirchengesang, Koln, 1599; harm. Michael Praetorius

Please be seated.

Isaiah 9:2, 6-7

Third Lesson

The prophet foretells the coming of the Saviour.

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. 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 Thanks be to God.

Carol

There is No Rose by Philip Stopford

Choir

There is no rose of such virtue as is the rose that bare Jesu: *Alleluya*.
For in this rose contained was heaven and earth in little space: *Res miranda*¹.
By that rose we may well see that he is God in person three: *Pares forma*².
The angels sung the shepherds to: "Gloria in excelsis Deo", *Gaudeamus*³.
Leave we all this worldly mirth, and follow we this joyful birth:
*Transeamus*⁴.

¹Res miranda = Thing of wonder. ²Pares forma = Equal in form. ³Gaudeamus = Let us rejoice.
⁴Transeamus = Let us be changed.

Please stand.

Tune: Carol

Hymn

It Came Upon the Midnight Clear

All

It came upon the midnight clear,
that glorious song of old,
from angels bending near the earth
to touch their harps of gold:
"Peace on the earth, good will to men,
from heaven's all-gracious King."
The world in solemn stillness lay,
to hear the angels sing.

Still through the cloven skies they come
with peaceful wings unfurled,
and still their heavenly music floats
o'er all the weary world;
above its sad and lowly plains,
they bend on hovering wing,
and ever o'er its Babel sounds
the blessed angels sing.

And ye, beneath life's crushing load,
 whose forms are bending low,
 who toil along the climbing way
 with painful steps and slow,
 look now! for glad and golden hours
 come swiftly on the wing.
 O rest beside the weary road,
 and hear the angels sing!

Author: Edmund H. Sears (1849)

Please be seated.
Isaiah 11:1-9

Fourth Lesson

The peace that Christ will bring is foreshown.

Reader

A shoot shall come out from the stock of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots. The spirit of the Lord shall rest on him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord. His delight shall be in the fear of the Lord. He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide by what his ears hear; but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked. Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist, and faithfulness the belt around his loins. The wolf shall live with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the kid, the calf and the lion and the fatling together, and a little child shall lead them. The cow and the bear shall graze, their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den. They will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain; for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea.

Reader

Thanks be to God.

Carol

Wyandot's Realm (Huron Carol) arr. Andrew Balfour

Choir

Manitou, Manitou
 Wyandot
 Deo!

Mysterious being.
tribe
God!

Eh-sten-nyah-yan
 deh tson-weh Eesus a ha-ton-ny-ah

Have courage, you who are humans.
Jesus, he is born

On nah-wah teh wah-do-kee non-
wah dah ska wa-en tak.

*Behold, the spirit who had us as
prisoners, domestic animals, has fled.*

En non-sh-yen sk-wah tree ho-tat
Non-wa-knee-yon rah-shat torah

*Do not listen to it, as it corrupts our
minds, the spirit of our thoughts.*

Eesus A-ha-ton-ny-ah
A-ha-ton-ny-ah
Eesus A-ha-ton-ny-ah
In excelsis Gloria!

Jesus is born. Glory in the highest!

Fifth Lesson

Luke 1:26-38

The angel Gabriel salutes the Blessed Virgin Mary.

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

Thanks be to God.

Carol

The Angel Gabriel arr. Jim Clements

Choir

The angel Gabriel from heaven came
With wings as drifted snow, his eyes as flame
All hail said he thou lowly maiden Mary
Most highly favoured lady. Gloria!

For known a blessed mother thou shalt be
All generations laud and honour thee
Thy son shall be Emmanuel, by seers foretold
Most highly favoured lady. Gloria!

Then gentle Mary meekly bowed her head
To me be as it pleaseth God she said
My soul shall laud and magnify his holy name
Most highly favoured lady. Gloria!

Of her, Emmanuel, the Christ, was born
In Bethlehem all on a Christmas morn
And Christian folk throughout the world will ever say
Most highly favoured lady. Gloria!

Sixth Lesson

Luke 2:1-7

St. Luke tells of the birth of Jesus.

Reader

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.

Reader

Thanks be to God.

Lighting of the Christ Candle

Please stand.

Canon

As the candles of **Hope**, **Peace**, **Joy** and **Love** burn in the Advent wreath, we pray for a time when all of God's children, filled with hope, will

experience peace, joy and love that the Christ-child brings. We will now light the Christ Candle as we celebrate the birth of the Prince of Peace.

The Christ Candle is lit.

Canon Lord Jesus Christ, may the flame of this candle remind us that you are the light of the world and that if we follow you, we will never walk in darkness, but will have the true light of life.

All **Come, Lord Jesus, come. Amen.**

Please be seated.

Balulalow by Francis Pott

Carol

Choir O my dear hert, young Jesu sweet,
Prepare thy creddil in my spreit.
And I sall rock thee to my hert,
And never mair from thee depart.

But I sall praise thee evermore,
With sangis sweet unto thy gloir.
The knees of my hert sall I bow,
And sing that richt Balulalow.

Please stand.

Hymn

While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks

Tune: Winchester Old

All While shepherds watched their flocks by night all seated on the ground,
the angel of the Lord came down and glory shone around.

“Fear not,” said he, for mighty dread had seized their troubled mind.
“Glad tidings of great joy I bring to you and humankind.

To you in David’s town this day is born of David’s line
a Saviour, who is Christ the Lord; and this shall be the sign:

the heavenly babe you there shall find to human view displayed,
all meanly wrapped in swaddling bands, and in a manger laid.”

Thus spake the seraph; and forthwith appeared a shining throng
of angels praising God, who thus addressed their joyful song:

“All glory be to God on high, and to the world be peace;
good will henceforth from heaven and earth begin, and never cease.”

Text: Luke 2:8-14; para. Nahum Tate, alt.; Music: Melody *Whole Book of Psalmes*, 1592.

Please be seated.

Luke 2:8-20

Seventh Lesson

The shepherds go to the manger.

Reader 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.

Reader Thanks be to God.

Please stand.

During the singing of the carol, children and their families are invited to join the procession and come to the crèche.

Carol: Procession to the Crèche

Ding Dong, Merrily on High arr. Mac Wilberg

Choir Ding dong merrily on high,
In heav'n the bells are ringing:
Ding dong! verily the sky
Is riv'n with angel singing.
Gloria, Hosanna in excelsis!

E'en so here below, below,
Let steeple bells be swungen,
And "Io, io, io!"
By priest and people sungen.
Gloria, Hosanna in excelsis!

Pray you, dutifully prime
Your matin chime, ye ringers;
May you beautifully rime
Your evetime song, ye singers.
Gloria, Hosanna in excelsis!

For the 4th Sunday of Advent

Prayers at the Crèche

Canon In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

All **Praise be to Jesus Christ, who is coming into the world. Amen.**

Reflection

Canon Let us pray.
Holy God, in this season of watching and waiting, we gather before this crèche, still empty yet full of promise. Bless our waiting that it may be expectant and faithful. Bless our longing that it may be shaped by your peace, justice, and joy. Bless this place of preparation that all who pause here may sense the hope of your coming reign. As shepherds kept watch in the night, teach us to be attentive to the signs of your presence. May this crèche, not yet complete, remind us that your love is still taking shape in our world. Prepare us to receive the Christ-child with wonder, gratitude, and renewed commitment to bear his light into the darkness. Come, Lord Jesus, and make all things new.

People **Amen.**

For Christmas Eve

Blessing of the Crèche

Canon In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

All **Praise be to Jesus Christ, who dwells among us, now and forever.
Amen.**

Canon Light has sprung up for the righteous,

All **And joyful gladness for those who are true-hearted.**

Reflection

Canon

Let us pray.

God of every nation and people, from the very beginning of creation you have made manifest your love: when our need for a Saviour was great, you sent your Son to be born of the Virgin Mary. To our lives he brings hope, peace, joy and love. Lord, bless this crèche and all who look upon it; may it remind us of the humble birth of Jesus and raise our thoughts to him, who is God-with-us and Saviour of all, and who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

People

Amen.

During the hymn, clergy and children make their way back to their seats.

Hymn

Away in a Manger

Tune: Cradle Song

All

Away in a manger, no crib for a bed,
the little Lord Jesus laid down His sweet head.
The stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay,
the little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.

The cattle are lowing, the baby awakes,
but little Lord Jesus, no crying he makes.
I love you, Lord Jesus—look down from on high
and stay by my side until morning is nigh.

Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask you to stay
close by me for ever and love me, I pray.
Bless all the dear children in your tender care,
and fit us for heaven to live with you there.

Text: American (19th cent.); Music: William James Kirkpatrick, adapt.

Please be seated.

Matthew 2:1-12

Eighth Lesson

The wise men are led by the star to Jesus.

Reader

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, asking, 'Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage.' When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. They told him, 'In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it

has been written by the prophet: “And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel.” Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, ‘Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage.’ When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure-chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

Reader Thanks be to God.

Carol
Choir

Hodie Christus natus est:
Hodie Salvator apparuit:
Hodie in terra canunt Angeli,
laetantur Archangeli
Hodie exsultant justi, dicentes:
Gloria in excelsis Deo.
Alleluia.

Hodie Christus Natus Est by Jan Sweelinck

*Today Christ is born:
Today the Savior appears:
Today the angels sing on earth,
and the Archangels rejoice.
Today the just exult, saying:
Glory to God in the highest.*

Please stand.

Hymn
All

O Come, All Ye Faithful

Tune: Adeste Fideles

O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant,
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;
Come and behold him, born the King of angels:
*O come, let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord.*

God of God, Light of Light,
lo, he abhors not the Virgin’s womb;
Very God, Begotten not created;
*O come, let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord.*

See how the shepherds, summoned to his cradle,
leaving their flocks, draw nigh with lowly fear;
we too will thither bend our joyful footsteps;
*O come let us adore him, O come let us adore him,
O come let us adore him, Christ the Lord.*

Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,
sing, all ye citizens of heaven above,
Glory to God in the highest;
*O come, let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord.*

Text: John Francis Wade; Music: Melody attrib. John Francis Wade, alt.

Ninth Lesson

John 1:1-14

St. John unfolds the great mystery of the Incarnation.

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. 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.

Reader

Thanks be to God.

Homily

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

Donate to St. James Cathedral
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Hymn

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

Tune: Mendelssohn

All

Hark! The herald angels sing, glory to the new-born King,
peace on earth, and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled.
Joyful, all ye nations, rise, join the triumph of the skies;
with the angelic host proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem!"
Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the new-born King."

Christ, by highest heaven adored, Christ, the everlasting Lord,
late in time behold him come, offspring of a virgin's womb.
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see! Hail, the incarnate deity,
pleased as one of us to dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel.
Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the new-born King."

Hail, the heaven-born Prince of peace! Hail, the Sun of Righteousness!
Light and life to all he brings, risen with healing in his wings.
Mild he lays his glory by, born that we no more may die,
Born to raise each child of earth, born to give us second birth.
Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the new-born King."

Text: Charles Wesley, alt.; Music: Adapted by W.H. Cummings from Mendelssohn, 1840.

Offertory Prayer

Officiant Eternal God, at the birth of the Babe in Bethlehem heaven and earth
rejoiced. Make these gifts a sign of your new life among us and may the
Holy Child be born again in hope, peace, joy, and love, to the glory of your
holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

People **Amen.**

The Collect

Officiant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Officiant Let us pray.

Almighty God, as we prepare with joy to celebrate the gift of the Christ-child, embrace the earth with your glory and be for us a living hope in Jesus Christ our Lord.

People **Amen.**

The Blessing

Officiant May the God of infinite goodness scatter the darkness of sin and brighten your hearts with holiness; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always.

People **Amen.**

Postlude Macht hoch die Tür, Op. 67, No. 8

Seigfried Karg-Elert

*After the service, you are invited to visit the Crèche
to pray in thanksgiving for the incarnation of the Prince of Peace.*

MEMORIAL FLOWERS • CHRISTMAS 2025

*The Memorial Flowers are given to the glory of God on this great feast of Christmas
and in loving memory of:*

The Fourth Sunday of Advent

Florence & Albert Seddon
Archdeacon Ian Grant

Christmas Eve and Christmas Day

St. Clair and Helen Balfour
Annie Elizabeth and Archibald
MacDonald Robison

*Christmas plants have been donated by members of the Cathedral community
in memory of the following loved ones:*

Arisa Arro
Mary and Henry Banfield
Roy and Maureen Banfield
Guillermo Belmonte-Pool
Gary Braye
John and Joyce Gillam Braye
Stanley Norman Brokenshire
Doris Emily and James Frederick Brown

Bruce Buck
Philip Cadogan and Mabel Cadogan
Nicole and Peter Cardillo
Nancy and Charles Cizek
Paul Joseph Couillard
Bob & Ann Cranston
Fiona Katherine Crichton
Noel and Daisy Dash

Anna and Peter Dick
Joseph Dick
Michael Druce
Wes Eardley
Ida Fields and Mitchell Fields
The Most Reverend Terence Edward Finlay
Mr. & Mrs. John B. Fraser
John Gardham
Ken and Gwynneth Gates
Philippa Gerry
Nelson Gillam
Cresencia Gonzales
Archdeacon Ian Grant
Arthur & Patricia Griffin
Bob and Molly Guy
Mr. & Mrs. Cameron Hawken
Douglas Hawken
Ceci Heinrichs
Mary and Julius Heinrichs
Tristan Holt
Elizabeth (Adams) and Don Jagoda
Carl I. Keddy
James F. Kennedy
Michael Kennedy
Agatha Klassen
Margie and Frank Kysela
Peter Leggatt
Helen & Alexander Macleod
Ann Marsh
Dr. Jennifer Lynn Matthews
Annetta Maynard and Hilary Maynard
Mr. and Mrs. Fred and Lillian McBride
Jim & Irene Melville-Gray

Tim Miller
The Rev'd Florence &
The Rev'd John Mowat
Mei King Cheung Naidu
Ed Penner
Howard Petersen
Leonard Pinto
Judith Russell
Christopher Scholes
Albert & Florence Seddon
George & Mary Seddon
Mark Shishakly and Andrea Shishakly
Peter Sidorchuk
Elsie, Nancy & Harold Snelgrove
Ken Spencer
Helen Milton and Susan Jessop Stewart
Ramona & Douglas Strong
Juliet Suman
Frederick George and
Mabel Lucy Thomas
Vincenzina Eva Sorbara-Toderick
Jayne Leslie Toderick
Lois Ann Toderick
Father William Turkington, OHC
Jim Unger
Walter Unger
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Jean Winstanley
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Nellie and Fred Yearwood
Michael Zabarylo

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WELCOME TO ST. JAMES CATHEDRAL

Sunday Services

8:00am Said Eucharist *Simple Communion service in traditional language*

9:00am Worship Together *All-ages Communion service with music*

11:00am Choral Eucharist *Sensory-rich Communion service with the St. James Cathedral Choir*

4:30pm Choral Evensong *Meditative prayer service with the St. James Cathedral Choir*

Monday - Saturday Services

8:30am Morning Prayer *Online prayer service on YouTube (Resumes Jan. 2, 2026)*

12:15pm Holy Eucharist *Simple Communion service in St. George's Chapel*

Services at St. James Cemetery

11:00am Holy Eucharist *First Wednesday of the month at St. James-the-Less Chapel*

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



Every Friday, our Drop-In welcomes guests for a nutritious meal and other care services from 1:30pm to 3:30pm.

Want to help? Here's how:

Volunteer: Our volunteers serve in shifts between 9:00am and 5:30pm each week. We especially need your help on Dec. 26 and Jan. 2, when many of our regular volunteers are away.

For details or to volunteer, please contact:

Kathy Biasi – Outreach Manager

416 364-7865 Ext. 222 or kbiasi@stjamescathedral.ca

Info: stjamescathedral.ca/community/drop-in

St. Bartholomew's Food Drive



You can help feed our neighbours this season through the food bank ministry at our partner parish, St. Bartholomew's Church.

Nonperishable food items can be dropped off in the red bin located at the Cathedral's King Street entrance until Dec. 31.

Thank you for your generosity and support!



Don't miss a thing: Sign up for our newsletter at stjamescathedral.ca

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

St. James Cemetery: stjamescemetery.ca

Facebook/Instagram: @stjamescemeteryto

What's on at St. James?

Sunday, Jan. 4 at 4:30pm:

Epiphany Lessons & Carols with the Chalking of the Doors

Epiphany celebrates the visit of the Magi and the close of the Christmas season. Join us for a service of readings, hymns, and choral music as we follow the wise men and reflect on Jesus' early ministry. We will also bless the cathedral and all who enter this year with the traditional chalking of the doors. The service begins with a 4:00pm organ recital.

Saturdays at 9:30am: Children's Community Choir (Resuming Jan. 10)

We welcome singers from ages 8-16! Rehearsals are on Saturdays, 9:30am - 10:30am.

No fee or audition is required. Details: stjamescathedral.ca/childrenschoir

Saturday, Jan. 10 from 10:00am to 11:30am: Community Playdate

Bring your children and enjoy coffee on us while the kids play together.

Free and open to all, so invite your neighbours! Details: stjamescathedral.ca/playdate/

Sunday, Jan. 11 at 4:30pm: Installation of Canons

Canon Kristen Pitts will be installed as Canon Missioner with the newly appointed Honorary Canons of the Cathedral. All are invited.

Tuesdays at 1:00pm: Organ Recitals (Resuming Jan. 13)

St. James Cathedral features some of the region's finest organists.

Organ recitals are free and open to the public. Details: stjamescathedral.ca/events/recitals/

Friday, Jan. 30 at 6:00pm: Family Fun Night

Bring your whole family for an evening of fun and games for all ages. Dinner is provided.

Free and open to all. Invite your friends! Details: stjamescathedral.ca/familyfunnight/

Sing and Ring with St. James

The Choir of St. James Cathedral welcomes singers with musical experience.

The Change Ringers welcome new participants with or without prior experience.

Details: stjamescathedral.ca/worship/music/



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