

All Saints' Anglican Church, Westboro
347 Richmond Road
Ottawa, ON, K2A 0E7
613-725-9487
office@allsaintswestboro.com



All Saints' Westboro



Fourth Sunday of Advent

December 20th, 2020

9:30 am

In-person service that will also be recorded

The Ven. Christopher Dunn
The Rev. Simone Hurkmans
The Rev. Deacon Dr. Jarrett Carty
Music: Edith Troup
Children and Youth: Julie Newlands

Please Note: This service is being recorded, so if you attend in-person, there is a possibility that you may appear on the recording.

Celebrant: Dear friends, we gather today on the traditional unceded territory of the Algonquin Anishnaabeg people.

People: May we dwell on this land with respect and peace.

Advent Wreath

Celebrant: These lights have been our friends on the way (*Light first three candles, two blue, one pink.*) Now we will light the last Advent candle (*Light the fourth candle*)

People: Mary, the mother of Jesus, laughed with happiness when she knew her baby was soon to be born.

Celebrant: Elizabeth was with her, sharing her joy and telling her that she was a special person.

People: We see good things in each other while we wait to celebrate her baby being born.

Celebrant: O God,

People: as we begin to feel the joy of Christ's coming, we pray that we will look, and find in wonder, the beauty of Christ's life in each other which is your gift to us. Amen.

Advent Song

Please note that this song will be sung by a clergy member. If you are attending the in-person service, please refrain from singing as congregational singing is not permitted during the Amber Stage.

There's a song of love in my heart;

Love is a gift from Jesus.

There's a song of love in my heart;

Love is a gift from God.

Alleluia! Love in my heart is singing praises.

Alleluia! Love is a gift from God.

Advent Stones

Celebrant: In this holy season of expectation,

People: as the darkness draws in and as we look forward to the coming of the light, let us remember that most

holy of journeys as Mary and Joseph travelled together to Bethlehem.

Celebrant: On that sacred journey, two people travelled forth in faith, knowing yet not knowing.

People: **This year, as we are on our own Advent journey, may we remember all who travel with us, those whom we meet on the road and those who travel with us.**

Celebrant: In particular, we keep our sister parishes of St Luke's, St Martin's, and Julian of Norwich in our heart. This week, we pray especially for Julian of Norwich and the Rev. Monique Stone who have brought us this week's Advent stones.

People: **We give thanks for these gifts. May we keep them as touchstones on our own Advent journeys and may they be symbols of hope and comfort that offer us a reminder of the everlasting light and love that came to us in the form of a baby in a manger.**

Celebrant: Almighty God,

People: **to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hidden. Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Celebrant: God of scandalous love,

People: **Mary consented to bear the shame and carry your Word within herself: may her courage give hope to women and men who yearn to sing new songs of justice and find the world a dwelling place for God; through Jesus Christ, the one who is to come. Amen.**

The First Reading is from 2 Samuel (7:1-11, 16)

Now when the king was settled in his house, and the Lord had given him rest from all his enemies around him, the king said to the prophet Nathan, "See now, I am living in a house of cedar, but the ark of God stays in a tent." Nathan said to the king, "Go, do all that you have in mind; for the Lord is with you." But that same night the

word of the Lord came to Nathan: Go and tell my servant David: Thus says the Lord: Are you the one to build me a house to live in? I have not lived in a house since the day I brought up the people of Israel from Egypt to this day, but I have been moving about in a tent and a tabernacle. Wherever I have moved about among all the people of Israel, did I ever speak a word with any of the tribal leaders of Israel, whom I commanded to shepherd my people Israel, saying, "Why have you not built me a house of cedar?" Now therefore thus you shall say to my servant David: Thus says the Lord of hosts: I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep to be prince over my people Israel; and I have been with you wherever you went, and have cut off all your enemies from before you; and I will make for you a great name, like the name of the great ones of the earth. And I will appoint a place for my people Israel and will plant them, so that they may live in their own place, and be disturbed no more; and evildoers shall afflict them no more, as formerly, from the time that I appointed judges over my people Israel; and I will give you rest from all your enemies. Moreover the Lord declares to you that the Lord will make you a house Your house and your kingdom shall be made sure forever before me; your throne shall be established forever.

Reader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to the church.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Luke 1:46b-55 (read together)

My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour, for he has looked with favour on the lowliness of his servant. Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed; for the Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy is his name. His mercy is for those who fear him from generation to generation. He has shown strength with his arm; he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts. He has brought down the powerful from their thrones, and lifted up the lowly; he has filled the hungry with good things, and sent the rich away empty. He has helped his servant Israel, in remembrance of his mercy, according to the promise he made to our ancestors, to Abraham and to his descendants forever.

The Second Reading is from Romans (16:25-27)

Now to God who is able to strengthen you according to my gospel and the proclamation of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery that was kept secret for long ages but is now disclosed, and through the prophetic writings is made known to all the Gentiles, according to the command of the eternal God, to bring about the obedience of faith—to the only wise God, through Jesus Christ, to whom be the glory forever! Amen.

Reader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to the church.

People: Thanks be to God.

Gradual Hymn: People, Look East! The Time Is Near #91

Please note that the hymn will be sung by a cantor. If you are attending the in-person service, please refrain from singing as congregational singing is not permitted during the Amber Stage.

People, look east! The time is near
of the crowning of the year.

Make your house fair as you are able,
trim the hearth and set the table.

People, look east and sing today:
Love, the guest, is on the way.

Furrows, be glad! Though earth is bare,
one more seed is planted there:
give up your strength, the seed to nourish,
that in course the flower may flourish.

People, look east and sing today:
Love, the rose, is on the way.

Birds, though you long have ceased to build,
guard the nest that must be filled;
even the hour when wings are frozen
God for fledging time has chosen.

People, look east and sing today:
Love the bird is on the way.

Stars, keep the watch: when night is dim
one more light the bowl shall brim,
shining beyond the frosty weather,
bright as sun and moon together.

People, look east and sing today:
Love, the star, is on the way.

Angels, announce with shouts of mirth
Christ who brings new life to earth.
Set every peak and valley humming
with the word, the Lord is coming.

People, look east and sing today:
Love, the Lord, is on the way.

Reader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Reader: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to
Luke (1:26-38)

People: Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

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 forever, 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 Gospel of Christ.

People: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Homily

Celebrant: Let us make an affirmation of faith. We believe in God:
All: who befriended a wandering people, calling them from slavery into freedom; yet who in Rahab, Tamar, Ruth, Bathsheba, Cyrus, Darius and many others called outsiders to be agents of God's purpose.

Celebrant: We believe in Jesus,
All: who was revered by Persian sages, sought and found asylum in Egypt, preached the love of God to Syrians, attracted Greeks to his cause, found his first evangelist in a Samaritan, saw incomparable faith in a Roman, had his cross shouldered by a Libyan, and ascended above his native land that he might be present in all places.

Celebrant: We believe in the Holy Spirit,
All: who at Pentecost proved that heaven has no favoured mother-tongue; who, in the baptism of an Ethiopian, denied racism a foothold in faith; and who, in the ancient and modern worlds, founded churches in different cultures.

Celebrant: We believe that God is supremely known in Jesus.
All: Yet we affirm that God is present among people who do not own Christ as their Lord.

Celebrant: We believe that the kingdom of God is bigger than the Church, and that the love of God is beyond our understanding.
All: Therefore, we celebrate that God's ways are not our ways, that God knows whom God chooses, and reserves the right to surpass all human expectation.

Prayers of the People *(prepared by Marcie Taylor)*

One: O God, many years ago and in a setting much different from our own, you called upon Mary to be a part of your plan of scandalous love. She consented, bearing the burden of shame, while carrying your word within her. And now, in our time, you call upon us, over and over again, to also be a part of your plan, to carry the burdens of living our Christian faith, and to proclaim your word

through our actions in the world. Help us to say “yes” to your call.

All: O God, help us to hear Love.

One: Joining our voices with Mary, we celebrate your greatness and rejoice in your blessings for all of your people: the poor, the oppressed, the forgotten, the hungry, the prisoner, the lost, the confused, the lonely, the searching. You chose Mary, a humble, unmarried teen, and in that one act, turned the world upside down. Help us to trust you as Mary did—to abandon reason, caution and propriety, and to commit ourselves fully to the path that you have placed before us.

All: O God, help us to follow Love.

One: We try to be faithful and to wait patiently, but we are weary. We are weary of war, of illness, of suffering. We long for disagreements and a scarcity of good will, to be replaced with abundance and concern for all of humanity and creation. We give thanks for those who faithfully carry out your mission, embracing each other with respect, caring for each other, serving each other, throughout this pandemic and through all times.

All: O God, help us to serve Love.

One: We give thanks for all those who serve you and faith communities throughout the world. We pray for the laity in the Anglican Church of Canada; for our ordained leaders: Linda, our Primate; Anne, our Metropolitan; Shane, our Bishop; Mark, our Indigenous Archbishop; and for Chris, Simone, and Jarrett, our clergy. We pray for Helen, Edith, Julie, Lori, Paul and David, our staff. We pray for Brian, Pastor of First United, and all members of that congregation.

All: O God, help us to spread Love.

One: We ask for your compassion and nurture for those who are ill, anxious or suffering in any way. We pray especially for:

All: Betty-Joan (Hagerman); **Cheryl** (McTeer); **Brayden** (Turtle); **Michele** (Pollesel); **Carran** (Taylor); **Nancy**

(Irvine); **Randy** (Brown); **Charlie** (Cuffari); **Barbara** (Hill); **Ernest** (Betancourt); **David** (Nador)

One: and for those we name, silently or aloud We call upon you to comfort those who have lost loved ones, and to welcome into your eternal home, those who have died, especially those whom we name silently or aloud

All: O God, help us to practise Love.

One: Look upon us with favour, we beseech you, O God, and give us the strength and courage to live into your love for us.

All: O God, help us to be Love. Amen.

Celebrant: Dear friends in Christ, God is steadfast in love and infinite in mercy. God welcomes sinners and invites us to the table. Let us confess our sins, confident in God's forgiveness.

Silence is kept

Celebrant: Most merciful God,

People: we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbours as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us, that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your name. Amen.

Celebrant: Almighty God have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and keep you in eternal life; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

People: Amen.

Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: And also with you.

When exchanging the Peace with your fellow parishioners, please remember that physical contact with those outside your bubble group is not permitted during this Amber phase. Instead, share a sign of peace with others around you by other means such as bowing or waving.

Offertory Hymn: Joy to the World

#154

Please note that the hymn will be sung by a cantor. If you are attending the in-person service, please refrain from singing as congregational singing is not permitted during the Amber Stage.

Joy to the world! The Lord is come:
let earth receive the King;
let every heart prepare him room,
and heaven and nature sing.

Joy to the earth! The Saviour reigns:
let us glad songs employ,
while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains
repeat the sounding joy.

No more let wrongs and sorrows grow,
nor thorns infest the ground;
he comes to make his blessings flow
far as our sin is found.

He rules the world with truth and grace,
and makes the nations prove
the glories of his righteousness
and wonders of his love.

Celebrant: Gracious God,

People: 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.

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Celebrant: It is right to give you thanks and praise, O Lord, our God, sustainer of the universe, you are worthy of glory and praise.

People: Glory to you for ever and ever.

Celebrant: At your command all things came to be: the vast expanse of interstellar space, galaxies, suns, the planets in their courses, and this fragile earth, our island home; by your will they were created and have their being.

People: Glory to you for ever and ever.

Celebrant: From the primal elements you brought forth the human race, and blessed us with memory, reason, and skill; you made us the stewards of creation.

People: Glory to you for ever and ever.

Celebrant: But we turn against you, and betray your trust; and we turn against one another. Again and again you call us to return. Through the prophets and sages you reveal your righteous law. In the fullness of time you sent your Son, born of a woman, to be our Saviour. He was wounded for our transgressions, and bruised for our iniquities. By his death he opened to us the way of freedom and peace.

People: Glory to you for ever and ever.

Celebrant: Therefore we praise you, joining with the heavenly chorus, with prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with those in every generation who have looked to you in hope, to proclaim with them your glory, in their unending praise:

People: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

Celebrant: Blessed are you, Lord our God, for sending us Jesus, the Christ, who on the night he was handed over to suffering and death, took bread, said the blessing, broke the bread, gave it to his friends, and said, "Take this, and eat it: this is my body which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me." In the same way,

after supper, he took the cup of wine; he gave you thanks, and said, "Drink this, all of you: this is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

People: Glory to you for ever and ever.

Celebrant: Gracious God, we recall the death of your Son Jesus Christ, we proclaim his resurrection and ascension, and we look with expectation for his coming as Lord of all the nations. We who have been redeemed by him, and made a new people by water and the Spirit, now bring you these gifts. Send your Holy Spirit upon us and upon this offering of your Church, that we who eat and drink at this holy table may share the divine life of Christ our Lord.

People: Glory to you for ever and ever.

Celebrant: Pour out your Spirit upon the whole earth and make it your new creation. Gather your Church together from the ends of the earth into your kingdom, where peace and justice are revealed, that we, with all your people, of every language, race, and nation, may share the banquet you have promised; through Christ, with Christ, and in Christ, all honour and glory are yours, creator of all.

People: Glory to you for ever and ever. Amen.

Celebrant: And now, as our Saviour Christ has taught us, we say,

People: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is 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.

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

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

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

People: Thanks be to God.

During Communion, you will remain in your seats and the clergy will bring the host to you. A sidesperson will provide you with hand sanitizer before you remove your mask to take the host and after you have received it. If you are unable to receive the wheat wafer, a rice wafer is available.

Musical Interlude

Celebrant: All your works praise you, O Lord.

People: And your faithful servants bless you. Gracious God we thank you for feeding us with the body and blood of your Son, Jesus Christ. May we, who share his body, live his risen life; we, who drink his cup, bring life to others; we, whom the Spirit lights, give light to the world. Keep us firm in the hope you have set before us, so that we and all your children shall be free, and the whole earth live to praise your name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Celebrant: God's love goes with you as you leave this faith community.

People: God's love sustains us in the hard times. God's love renews us in the dry times.

Celebrant: God's love encourages us when times are challenging. God's love laughs with us when life is fun.

People: God's love reminds us to think of good times past. God's love provokes us when we doubt our abilities.

Celebrant: God's love is with us when death is reality;

People: nothing in all creation can overcome God's love.

Celebrant: And the blessing

Announcements

Celebrant: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

When the service ends, please remain in your seats while the music plays, then come forward separately to pick up one of the Advent stones. When you feel comfortable, please leave through the Richmond Road doors, keeping physical distance.

Readings for Next Sunday, December 27th, 2020

Isaiah 61:10-62:3; Psalm 148;
Galatians 4:4-7; Luke 2:22-40

Sharing in our liturgical ministry today:

Sidespeople: Ken McMillan; Sandra Coultish

Reader: Barb Gillie

Intercessor: Marcie Taylor

Cantor: Karen Blackie

Please pray this week for:

- the staff of our Diocesan Office;
- those in our Pastoral Care: Mary Hoth, Hazel Jack, Ed Swettenham, Sheila Carr, and Grace Clarke-Wilker; and
- the Carlington Health Centre and the Carlington Chaplaincy.

Credits:

Closing Prayers from Responsive Prayers: For Every Week of the Church Year, David Sparks, Year B

Collect from Prayers for an Inclusive Church (2009) alt.

Readings from the New Revised Standard Version of the Bible.

Liturgical texts from The Book of Alternative Services

Affirmation of faith from A Wee Worship Book, fifth edition

All Saints Anglican Church Westboro's Church CCLI License Number is 11196799

All Saints Anglican Church Westboro's Church One License Number is A-728801

Saints Alive!

Weekly News from All Saints' Westboro
Fourth Sunday of Advent December 20th, 2020

This Week

| Today | 4:30 pm | Blue Christmas |
|-----------|---------------------|---------------------------------|
| Monday | 10:00 am to 1:00 pm | Food Bank (waiting area Rm 7/8) |
| Wednesday | 10:30 am | Mid-week Eucharist Church |
| Thursday | 4:00 pm | Family Christmas Service Church |
| | 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm | Food Bank (waiting area Rm 7/8) |
| | 10:00 pm | Christmas Eve Service Church |
| Friday | 10:00 am | Christmas Eucharist Church |

Upcoming Events

Today

Blue Christmas

Today, at 4:30 pm, in the Church and broadcast on Zoom

There is no need to preregister for this service. Our doors will be open to the first 50 people and a Zoom link will be sent out before the service. You can share the Zoom link with those who are too far away to join you.

Advent Stones—Journeying Together Towards Christmas

This week's stone features a star and was created by the Parish of Julian of Norwich. For those of you present at the in-person service, we invite you to take a stone home with you. For those of you worshipping at home, we invite you to create your own by selecting a small smooth stone and painting a star upon it.

*If you'd like to register to attend next **Sunday, December 27th**, please fill out the online form (<https://www.allsaintswestboro.com/register-for-sunday-service/>) on the church website, starting on **Monday, December 21st, after 9:00 am.***

The best way to register is by filling out the online form. However, if you do register by calling the church office, please make sure to leave a voicemail indicating you'd like to register as the day and time of your call is recorded and we take registrations on a first come, first served basis.

Christmas Services

Advent 4, December 20th

4:30 p.m. Blue Christmas Service

Wednesday, December 23rd

10:30 a.m. Mid-week Eucharist

Christmas Eve, December 24th

4:00 p.m. Eucharist (Registration required)

10:00 p.m. Eucharist (Registration required)

Christmas Day, December 25th

10:00 a.m. Eucharist (Registration required)

Christmas 1, December 27th

9:30 a.m. Eucharist (Registration required)

Wednesday, December 30th

10:30 a.m. Mid-week Eucharist

Epiphany Sunday, January 3rd

9:30 a.m. Eucharist (Registration required)