

ST.JOHN THE EVANGELIST ANGLICAN CHURCH

Diocese of Ottawa • Anglican Church of Canada



CHRISTMAS EVE

December 24, 2019

CANDLELIGHT MIDNIGHT MASS ~ 11pm

Merry Christmas! Welcome to St. John the Evangelist.

If you are unable to come forward to receive Communion, arrangements can be made for you receive Communion in your pew; simply speak with a Sidesperson at the entrance to the church. Please turn off cell phones or set them to vibrate/silent mode. Thank you.

THE GATHERING OF THE COMMUNITY

Celebrant The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

All And also with you.

Celebrant Almighty God,

**All 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.**

Hymn

O Come All Ye Faithful

**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;

***Refrain: 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: *Refrain*

**Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,
sing, all ye citizens of heaven above:
glory to God in the highest: *Refrain***

**See how the shepherds, summoned to his cradle,
Leaving their flocks, draw nigh with lowly fear;
We too will thither bend our joyful footsteps; *Refrain***

Collect of the Day

Eternal God, this holy night is radiant with the brilliance of your one true light. As we have known the revelation of that light on earth, bring us to see the splendour of your heavenly glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

First Reading

Isaiah 52:7-10

How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of the messenger who announces peace, who brings good news, who announces salvation, who says to Zion, 'Your God reigns.' Listen! Your sentinels lift up their voices, together they sing for joy; for in plain sight they see the return of the Lord to Zion. Break forth together into singing, you ruins of Jerusalem; for the Lord has comforted his people, he has redeemed Jerusalem. The Lord has bared his holy arm before the eyes of all the nations; and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.

Reader: The word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 98

*Sing to the Lord a new song, * for he has done marvellous things. With his right hand and his holy arm * has he won for himself the victory. The Lord has made known his victory; * his righteousness has he openly shown in the sight of the nations. He remembers his mercy and faithfulness to the house of Israel, * and all the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God. Shout with joy to the Lord, all you lands; * lift up your voice, rejoice, and sing. Sing to the Lord with the harp, * with the harp and the voice of song. With trumpets and the sound of the horn * shout with joy before the King, the Lord. Let the sea make a noise and all that is in it, * the lands and those who dwell therein. Let the rivers clap their hands, * and let the hills ring out with joy before the Lord, when he comes to judge the earth. In righteousness shall he judge the world * and the peoples with equity.*

Second Reading

Hebrews 1:1-4

Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets, but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, through whom he also created the worlds. He is the reflection of God's glory and the exact imprint of God's very being, and he sustains all things by his powerful word.

When he had made purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs.

Reader: The Word of the Lord

All: **Thanks be to God.**

Gradual

Hark! the Herald Angels Sing

**Hark! The herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn 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!"**

**Refrain: Hark! The herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn 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. Refrain.**

**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. Refrain**

Holy Gospel

John 1:1-14

Gospeller: The Lord be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

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

All: **Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

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.

Gospeller: The Gospel of Christ.

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

Homily

Nicene Creed

Celebrant Let us confess our faith in the words of the Nicene Creed, as we say,

All **We believe in one God, the Father, the almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is

seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father. With the Father and the Son he is worshipped and glorified. He has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Intercessions (*please kneel or sit*)

Please respond to each petition with "Hear our prayer."

The Peace (*please stand*)

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

Hymn

Joy to the World

**Joy to the world! The Lord is come:
let earth receive her King;
Let every heart prepare him room,
And heaven and nature sing, and heaven and
nature sing, and heaven 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, repeat the sounding joy,
repeat, 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, far as our sin is found,
far as, 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, and wonders of his love,
and wonders, wonders of his love.**

THE CELEBRATION OF THE EUCHARIST

Prayer over the gifts

Great Thanksgiving

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 Blessed are you gracious God, creator of heaven and earth...

...Now, with angels and archangels and the whole company of heaven, we lift our voices to proclaim the glory of your name.

All 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 We give thanks to you, Lord our God, for the goodness and love you have made known to us in creation; in calling Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus your Son. For in these last days ...

...Therefore, Father, according to his command, **we remember his death, we proclaim his resurrection, we await his coming in glory;**

Celebrant and we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine...

...by whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory are yours, almighty Father, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

All **Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.**

Breaking of the Bread

Celebrant We break the bread of life, and that life is the light of the world.

All **God here among us, light in the midst of us, bring us to light and life.**

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

All **Thanks be to God.**

Communion

Everyone who has been baptized is welcome to receive Holy Communion. Please do not dip the bread in the cup. In the Anglican tradition, receiving in one kind (either bread or wine) is considered to be complete Communion. *The Communion wafers include gluten. If you do not wish to receive communion but would like a blessing, please cross your arms across your chest when you come forward.*

Hymn after Communion

Silent Night

**Silent night! Holy Night! All is calm, all is bright
round yon virgin mother and child.
Holy infant so tender and mild,
sleep in heavenly peace, sleep in heavenly peace.**

**Silent night! Holy night! Shepherds quake at the sight;
glories stream from heaven afar,
heavenly hosts sing alleluia,
Christ the Saviour is born, Christ the Saviour is born.**

**Silent night! Holy night! Son of God, love's pure light
radiant beams from thy holy face,
with the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord, at thy birth. Jesus, Lord, at thy birth.**

Prayer after Communion (*please stand*)

Doxology

Celebrant Glory to God

All **whose power, working in us, can do infinitely
more than we can ask or imagine. Glory to
God from generation to generation, in the
Church and in Christ Jesus, forever and ever.
Amen.**

The Blessing & Dismissal

Hymn

It Came Upon the Midnight Clear

**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, to all goodwill
from heav’n’s most 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.**

**Yet with the woes of sin and strife
the world has suffered long;
Beneath the angel-strain have rolled
two thousand years of wrong;
And we amid our wars hear not
the words of peace they bring;
O listen now, and still your strife
to hear the angels sing.**

**And you, 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.**

**For lo, the days are hastening on,
by prophets seen of old,
When with the ever-circling years
shall come the time foretold:
When the new heaven and earth shall own
the Prince of Peace their King,
And the whole world send back the song
which now the angels sing.**

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www.facebook.com/St-John-the-Evangelist-Anglican-Church-Smiths-Falls

Louise Sherry – Church Secretary

Office Hours: Monday – Friday 9am –12noon

Weekly Liturgies

Wednesday 10am – Holy Eucharist

Saturday 5pm – Holy Eucharist

Sunday 8am – Holy Eucharist; 10am* – Sung Eucharist

**Sunday School offered for children September - June*

The Right Reverend John H. Chapman – Bishop of Ottawa

The Reverend Canon Catherine Ascah – Incumbent Priest & Pastor

catherine-ascah@ottawa.anglican.ca | (613) 859-4962

The Reverend Canon Brian Burrows – Honorary Assistant

The Reverend Canon Jim Roberts – Honorary Assistant

Sterling Bennett – Organist 283-7833

Emily Duberville – Sunday School Coordinator

Paul Howard – Rector's Warden 283-1172

Karen Bryan – People's Warden 284-8149

Garry Rodford – Deputy Warden 284-0488

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