



Welcome to St. George's

Second Sunday of Advent

December 6, 2020

11:00 AM HOLY EUCHARIST

Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.

All flesh shall see the salvation of God.

Luke 3:4, 6

Visitors and Newcomers – We are a Christian church within the Anglican tradition and we welcome people of all Christian traditions as well as people of other faiths and people of little or no faith. Please introduce yourself to one of our Wardens, Greeters, or Clergy. If you are joining us online, please feel free to contact us by email or telephone. Welcome to our church family!

Greeters	Carol Smith, David Goode
Singers	Sarah Schmidt-McQuillan, Heather Proctor, Alexander Muth
Organist	Matthias Schmidt
Reader	Anne McGee
Warden	Elaine Tucker
Sextons	Toni Atieh, Bryce Sukhdeo

We wish to acknowledge that we meet on land that, at the time of contact, was held by the Attawandaron as an area of trade and ceremony by the 2 rivers. At various times the land was occupied by both Haudenosaunee from the south and Anishnaabe from the north. In more recent times the Huron Treaty gave rights to the Mississaugas of New Credit. May we who dwell on or visit this land also be good stewards and honour those who came before us.

Readings for Next Week

Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11

Psalm 126

1 Thessalonians 5:16-24

John 1:6-8, 19-28



The Anglican Cycle of Prayer

- **Worldwide Anglican Communion** – The Reformed Episcopal Church of Spain
 - **Anglican Church of Canada** – Linda, Primate; Mark, National Indigenous Archbishop; Anne, Metropolitan
 - **Diocese of Niagara** – Bishop Susan and the people of St. Thomas' Church, St. Catharines
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St. George's Parish Family Prayer Cycle

Becky & Jason Curran, Alison and Joshua; Anne Curtis; Dan Cyr; Mary Dadd; Ann Darlington; Bev Davidson; Dave Davidson & Alison Vicary; Robert & Teri Davies and Skyler; Chris Davison & Petra Schennach and Nicholas; Judy Dawson-Kiez; Gerry & Shirley Day; Joe De Santis & Marian Thompson, Kate, Peter and Jackie

(during the course of the year, we are praying for all parish households)

Prelude Choral Prelude on *Sleepers Wake*

L. Krebs

Welcome and Announcements

Introit *A Candle Is Burning (verses 1 & 2)*

Text: Sandra Dean

THE GATHERING OF THE COMMUNITY

Greeting

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.

Advent Wreath ~ Lighting of the Second Candle

Reader 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. *Isaiah 60:2-3*
(the candle is lit)

We light this candle as a symbol of Christ our Hope. May the Word sent from God shine in the darkness to show us the way to salvation.

All O Come, O Come, Emmanuel.

THE PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

Collect for the Day

Presider The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Presider Let us pray.

All God of timeless grace, you fill us with joyful expectation. Make us ready for the message that prepares the way, so that with uprightness of heart and holy joy we may eagerly await the coming of Christ, who reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, now and forever. Amen.

First Reading

Reader A reading from the Book of Isaiah.

Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that she has served her term, that her penalty is paid, that she has received from the Lord's hand double for all her sins. A voice cries out: "In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord, make straight in the desert a highway for our God. Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain. Then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together, for the mouth of the Lord has spoken." A voice says, "Cry out!" And I said, "What shall I cry?" All people are grass, their constancy is like the flower of the field. The grass withers, the flower fades, when the breath of the Lord blows upon it; surely the people are grass. The grass withers, the flower fades; but the word of our God will stand forever. Get you up to a high mountain, O Zion, herald of good tidings; lift up your voice with strength, O Jerusalem, herald of good tidings, lift it up, do not fear; say to the cities of Judah, "Here is your God!" See, the Lord God comes with might, and his arm rules for him; his reward is with him, and his recompense before him. He will feed his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms, and carry them in his bosom, and gently lead the mother sheep. *Isaiah 40:1-11*

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

All Thanks be to God.

Gospel Reading

Reader The Lord be with you.

All And also with you.

Reader The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.

All Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Reader The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. As it is written in the prophet Isaiah, "See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way; the voice of one crying out in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight,'" John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. He proclaimed, "The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."
Mark 1:1-8

Reader The Gospel of Christ.

All Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Homily

The Rev. Canon Ralph Blackman
(followed by silence for reflection)

Anthem

Sing Hosanna, Sannanina

South African Traditional

Arr.: Nancy Grundahl

"Blest is the One who comes in the name of the Lord."

(St. George's Choir, 2018)

Prayers of the People**The Peace****THE CELEBRATION OF THE EUCHARIST****Prayer over the Gifts**

All God our strength, we are nothing without you. Receive all we offer you this day as you sustain us with your mercy; in the name of Jesus Christ our Saviour. Amen.

Eucharistic Prayer

Presider May God be with you.

People And also with you.

Presider Lift up your hearts.

People We lift them up to God.

Presider Let us give thanks to God our Creator.

People It is right to offer thanks and praise.

Presider Eternal God, Source of all being, we give you thanks and praise for your faithful love.

People You call us into friendship with you and one another to be your holy people, a sign of your presence in the world.

Presider When those we trust betray us, unfailingly you remain with us. When we injure others, you confront us in your love and call us to the paths of righteousness.

People You stand with the weak, and those, broken and alone, whom you have always

welcomed home, making the first last, and the last first.

Presider
All

Therefore we raise our voices with angels and archangels, forever praising you and saying:
**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

Presider

Blessed are you, O Holy One: when Hagar was driven into the wilderness you followed her and gave her hope.

People

When Joseph was sold into bondage, you turned malice to your people's good.

Presider

When you called Israel out of slavery, you brought them through the wilderness into the promised land. When your people were taken into exile, you wept with them by the river of Babylon and carried them home.

People

Restore us, O God, let your face shine!

Presider

At the right time, you sent your Anointed One to stand with the poor, the outcast, and the oppressed.

People

Jesus touched lepers, and the sick, and healed them. He accepted water from a woman of Samaria and offered her the water of new life.

Presider

Christ knew the desolation of the cross and opened the way for all humanity into the redemption of your reconciling love.

On the night he was betrayed, Jesus, at supper with his friends, took bread, gave you thanks, broke the bread, gave it to them, and said, "Take and eat: this is my body which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper Jesus took the cup of wine, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, 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."

Loving and Holy One, recalling Christ's death and resurrection, we offer you these gifts, longing for the bread of tomorrow and the wine of the age to come. Therefore we proclaim our hope.

People

**Dying you destroyed our death,
rising you restored our life.
Lord Jesus, come in glory.**

Presider

Pour out your Spirit on these gifts that through them you may sustain us in our hunger for your peace. We hold before you all whose lives are marked by suffering, our sisters and brothers.

People

**When we are broken and cast aside, embrace us in your love.
Restore us, O God, let your face shine!**

Presider

Through Christ, with Christ, and in Christ in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory are yours, O Source of all life, now and for ever.

All

Amen.

Lord's Prayer

Presider

As our Saviour taught us, let us pray.

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.

Breaking of Bread

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

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

Invitation to Spiritual Communion

Presider Dear friends who are joining us online, I invite you wherever you may be, to receive Christ, in communion with the saints, and the gathering of God's people, unseen and yet present with us now. Many are made one.

(We invite you to make an act of spiritual communion by reciting the following prayer at home during the distribution of communion.)

Come, Lord Jesus, and make in my heart your dwelling place and home. I seek to love you with all my heart, mind, soul and strength, and so, through your presence in bread and wine, I receive you afresh and praise you for you are my God. As you fill me, so may my love for you and for all your people, rise and overflow, that with joy and thanksgiving, I may serve you in the world you love. Amen.

Communion

Solo *And He Shall Feed His Flock* (from Messiah) Handel

Prayer after Communion

Presider Let us pray.

All Faithful God, we thank you for feeding us with this heavenly banquet. Help us always to hear the prophet's call to turn our heart to you; in the name of Jesus Christ our Saviour. Amen.

Hymn 102 *Prepare the Way, O Zion* Bereden Väg För Herran

Sending Forth

Presider May the Bringer of Light bless you, may the bright Son of Mary bless you, and may the Light of Christ dwell in you. In all you do, and in all that you may become, may the Way of Christ be the path you tread and the kingdom of heaven be your home. And the blessing of our God, Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be upon you this day and for ever.

All Amen.

Postlude Hymnus: "*Veni redemptor gentium*" J.G. Herzog

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News & Events – December 6, 2020

Stewardship 2021

Thank you to everyone who has already sent a **pledge form** in to the church. These pledge forms help the Budget Committee get a sense of how the coming year might look financially. Members of the Parish are also encouraged to consider contributing a “**13th Month**” of offerings for 2020 if they are able. This will help make up for the losses caused by COVID-19.

Special Vestry Meeting

Please note that there is a **Special Vestry Meeting** scheduled on **Tuesday, December 8 at 7:00pm via Zoom** to elect a new People’s Warden. You will need to register in advance to attend this meeting. Please contact the office to register.

PWRDF Advent Project

Once again, St. George’s is going to embark on a **PWRDF Advent Project**. You’ll recall that in years past we have raised funds to purchase farms and dig wells. This year, we are going to continue with the project we began in the summer, supporting the **Emergency Food Relief Program with the Canadian Food Grains Bank**, the **All Mothers and Children Program** and the **Kilwa Emergency Response**. If you would prefer, you can also check out the “World of Gifts” catalogue on the PWRDF website (or in the latest Anglican Journal), and select a gift from there. If you would like to participate, please ***make your donation through St. George’s Church*** so that we can track how we do as a parish. Ensure you let us know to direct the funds to PWRDF! *You can donate online on our website to “PWRDF Advent 2020”, by e-transfer to bookkeeper@saintgeorge.ca or by cheque!*

Nativity Sets Wanted for Stations of the Creche!

This year, we plan to do something a little different at St. George’s called “**Stations of the Creche**”. We will be displaying dozens and dozens of nativity sets that are kindly being loaned to us. If you have a nativity set that you would be willing to loan to the church from **December 16 until January 6**, please let the office know (**519-822-1366** or **office@saintgeorge.ca**) and we will make arrangements.

Upcoming Christmas Services & Events

Register in advance on our website or at 519-822-1366.

- **Stations of the Creche** – see over 100 nativity sets!
 - December 19 from 3:00-5:00pm
 - December 20 from 3:00-5:00pm
 - December 22 from 6:00-8:00pm
- **A Family Christmas Eve with Communion** – December 24 at 5:00pm
- **Community Festival of Christmas Readings & Carols** – December 24 at 7:30pm
 - **Christmas Mass in the Midnight** – December 24 at 10:00pm
 - **Christmas Morning Holy Eucharist** – December 25 at 10:00am

Epiphany Family Worship

Families are welcome at our first **Family Worship of 2021!** An **Epiphany Family Worship** event will take place on **Saturday, January 2 at 2:00pm** in Mitchell Hall. There will be a short movie and other fun activities related to Epiphany! Register on our website (www.saintgeorge.ca).

RECTOR

The Rev. Canon Ralph Blackman
rector@saintgeorge.ca

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Matthias Schmidt

CARILLONNEUR

Don Hamilton

SEXTONS

Toni Atieh, Bryce Sukhdeo

Office Hours:

Tuesday - Thursday

By appointment only at this time

Monday, Friday

CLOSED

Contact us:

📞 **519-822-1366**

✉ **office@saintgeorge.ca**

🌐 **www.saintgeorge.ca**

facebook.com/StGeorgeGuelph

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DONATE HERE – SCAN ME!

