

ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST ANGLICAN CHURCH

Diocese of Ottawa • Anglican Church of Canada



ADVENT IV

December 20, 2020

HOLY EUCHARIST ~ 8am & 10:30am

Book of Alternative Services page 185

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Welcome to St. John the Evangelist.

We acknowledge that we gather at St. John's on the traditional and unceded territory of the Algonquin Nation. May we dwell on this land with respect and peace.

By attending this service, you are agreeing to appear on video in our on-line worship offering through St. John's website and Facebook site.

Amber stage of the diocesan Pandemic plan means various safety measures to help reduce the risk of COVID-19 transmission. Many of these feel counter-intuitive and just plain strange and awkward. We are social creatures and the desire to linger, chat and hug is hard-wired into us but for now (not for always) there are limitations on how we can "be together". Please be mindful of the following:

- Continue to wear your mask throughout the service.
- Remain in your pew for the duration of the service unless it is absolutely necessary for you to move. The washroom at the back of the church is available for use. If it is occupied, please ensure physical distancing as you wait.
- Refrain from physical contact with those outside your "bubble." When exchanging the peace, make eye contact, smile (behind your mask!) and nod or bow to your neighbours, while wishing the peace of Christ.
- The offering plates will not be passed. If you wish to make a financial offering, you can place your envelope in the offering plate at either the back of the church as you enter or at the exits upon leaving.
- Communion will be brought to you in your pew. Please keep your mask on until the priest has moved away from you. You should sanitize your hands before and after receiving Communion.
- Following the service, please wait for the Greeter to direct your row to exit the church via **side** aisles to the front doors. If you entered by the back parking lot, you may exit via the centre aisle towards the back. Try to have your coat on before you leave the pew to avoid crowding at the exits and recycle your order of service in the blue bin at the exit if you do not wish to keep it. Please sanitize your hands upon leaving.
- Be patient and kind with yourself and one another as we navigate this new way of worshipping together in-person.

HOLY EUCHARIST

Prelude

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.

Advent Prose

Refrain: Pour down, O heavens, from above, and let the skies rain down righteousness.

Turn your fierce anger from us, O Lord, and remember not our sins forever. Your holy cities have become a desert, Zion a wilderness, Jerusalem a desolation; our holy and beautiful house, where our fathers praised you. **Refrain**

We have sinned and become like one who is unclean; we have all withered like a leaf, and our iniquities like the wind have swept us away. You have hidden your face from us, and abandoned us to our iniquities. **Refrain**

You are my witnesses, says the Lord, and my servants whom I have chosen, that you may know me and believe me. I myself am the Lord, and none but I can deliver; what my hand holds, none can snatch away. **Refrain**

Comfort my people, comfort them; my salvation shall not be delayed. I have swept your offences away like a cloud; fear not, for I will save you. I am the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Redeemer. **Refrain**

Collect of the Day

Heavenly Father, who chose the Virgin Mary, full of grace, to be the mother of our Lord and Saviour, now fill us with your grace, that we in all things may embrace your will and with her rejoice in your salvation; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

First Reading

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 for ever before me; your throne shall be established for ever.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

Psalm 89:1-4, 19-26 *said together in unison*

Your love, O Lord, for ever will I sing;* from age to age my mouth will proclaim your faithfulness.

For I am persuaded that your love is established for ever;* you have set your faithfulness firmly in the heavens.

“I have made a covenant with my chosen one;* I have sworn an oath to David my servant:

‘I will establish your line for ever,* and preserve your throne for all generations.’”

You spoke once in a vision and said to your faithful people:* “I have set the crown upon a warrior and have exalted one chosen out of the people.

I have found David my servant;* with my holy oil have I anointed him.

My hand will hold him fast* and my arm will make him strong.

No enemy shall deceive him,* nor any wicked man bring him down.

I will crush his foes before him* and strike down those who hate him.

My faithfulness and love shall be with him,* and he shall be victorious through my name.

I shall make his dominion extend* from the Great Sea to the River.

He will say to me, ‘You are my Father,* my God, and the rock of my salvation’

Second Reading

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 for ever! Amen.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

Holy Gospel (*please stand*)

Luke 1:26-38

Gospeller: The Lord be with you

All: And also with you.

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

All: 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 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.

Gospeller: The Gospel of Christ.

All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Sermon

Apostles' Creed

Celebrant Let us confess our faith of our baptism, as we say

All I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the
resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.
Amen.**

Intercessions (*kneel or sit*)

Please respond to each petition with "Lord, have mercy."

Confession & Absolution

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

Silence is kept.

Celebrant Most merciful God,

**All 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. **Amen.**

The Peace

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you.

Please remain in your pew and refrain from physical contact with those outside your "bubble" as you share the peace of Christ with your neighbours.

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; we give you thanks and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord, who in the fullness of time came among us in our flesh, and opened to us the way of salvation. Now we watch for the day when he will come again in power and great triumph to judge this world, that we, without shame or fear, may rejoice to behold his appearing. Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven, who forever say this hymn 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 you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Saviour and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death a death he freely accepted, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, " Take, eat: this is my body which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me." After supper he 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."

All 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. We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts, that they may be the sacrament of the body of Christ and his blood of the new covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we, made acceptable in him, may be sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, reconcile all things in Christ, and make them new, and bring us to that city of light where you dwell with all your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation; 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 forever. **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 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.

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. During this stage of the pandemic, only the bread will be offered. Please remain in your pews and the priest will come and give communion to you. Please keep your mask on until the priest has moved away from you, at which point you may remove your mask to consume the bread. Sanitize your hands before and after receiving Communion.

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

Postlude

Following the service, please wait until directed by the Greeter to leave your pew by the side aisle and proceed to the exit at the front of the church closest to you. Please keep your physical distance as you exit. If you entered via the back door, you may leave via the centre aisle to that exit. Please take your belongings with you. Thank you for worshipping with us today.

Presiding Celebrant & Preacher
The Reverend Canon Catherine Ascah

Readers & Intercessors
8am: Karen Bryan
10:30am: Chris Cutler

Greeters

8am: Lois Dewey; Paul Byington

10:30am: Virginia & Dan Willis

Ushers

8am: Terri Marsden; Joan Dunbar

10:30am: Beryl & Carl Young

Readings for next Sunday, December 27th – 1st Sunday after Christmas
Isaiah 61:10-62:3; Psalm 148; Galatians 4:4-7; Luke 2:22-40

Christmas Liturgies at St. John's

Thurs Dec 24	Christmas Eve	4pm, 7pm & 11pm	Holy Eucharist
Fri Dec 25	Christmas Day	10am	Holy Eucharist
Sun Dec 27	1st Sunday	after Christmas 9:30am	Holy Eucharist

(note: one service only on Dec 27)

Pandemic protocols in place – Capacity restrictions so please register for the service you would like to attend; masks must be worn; please pre-screen for COVID symptoms before coming to church and stay home if you are feeling unwell.

In our Parish we pray for: Heather, Margaret, Dan Burns, Ann R. Bothwell, Karen K., Melanie, Dale Kerr, Ryder, Susan Peters, Philip Burns, Bill Pollock, Paul Dunlop, Lianne Burns, Peter Arcand, Val L., Rita, Chris Cutler, Janice, Drew.

Friends of the Parish we pray for: Zachary, Terri, Jacqui, Kathy O'Shea, Larry, Diane, John Duncan, David, Tanya James, Diane Chadborne, Nancy & Mary Esther Griffith, Susan Crosbie, Sarah Telford, Logan, Maggie, Robert Apro, Doug, Stephanie, John B., Beverley, Joanne, Meagan, Jeff, and Baby Grayson, Christine Hill, Jasmine Claxton, Marilyn Souter.

Parishioners residing in retirement/nursing homes we pray for: Bev Lannin, Cora Beasley, Fran Robinson, Thelma Doherty, Betty Gault, Helen Cameron, Brenda Hauraney, Ken Winkenweder, Irene Leach, Jessie Read, Joan Dillon, Pat & Lily Willis, Leona Jones, Norma McPhee-Ranger.

In our Diocese we pray for: The staff of our diocesan office: The Rt. Reverend Shane Parker, The Venerable Linda Hill, The Reverend Canon Dr. Peter John Hobbs, Sanjay Grover, Carol Sinclair, Jane Scanlon, Heidi Pizzuto, Joyce Couvrette, Lilian Asiimwe, Heidi Fawcett, Bill Gilbert, Kiran T Otto, Sandra Purdy and Glenn Lockwood.

ST.JOHN THE EVANGELIST ANGLICAN CHURCH

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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 by appointment only.

Weekly Liturgies

Sundays 8am & 10:30am Holy Eucharist

Wednesdays 10am Holy Communion

The Right Reverend Shane A. D. Parker – 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 emduberville@hotmail.com

Paul Howard – Rector's Warden 283-1172

Karen Bryan – People's Warden 284-8149

Garry Rodford – Deputy Warden 284-0488

Dan Willis – Deputy Warden 884-5095

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