

ANGLICAN PARISH OF WOODSTOCK
SAINT LUKE'S **CHRIST CHURCH**



Christmas Eve
December 24, 2020



Family Eucharist
St. Luke's Church – 4:30 pm
recorded and available later, on
Facebook, YouTube & our Website.



Website: woodstocknbanglican.ca

St. Luke's Church

104 Church Street, Woodstock, NB E7M 5Z7

Email: Stlukes@nb.aibn.com

Office Phone: 506-328-4304

Rector: Rev. Shirley Noseworthy Phone: 328-9913

Email: shirleyruthnoseworthy@gmail.com

Organist/Pianist: Sandra Culberson



We acknowledge that the land on which we gather is the traditional unceded territory of the Wolastoqiyik (Maliseet) and Mi'kmaq Peoples.

Welcome!

The service begins on page 185 BAS

The Gathering of the Community

Priest: Welcome everyone, on this holiest of nights.

People: As Mary readied herself to give birth to Jesus, let us prepare ourselves to welcome new birth into our own lives.

Priest: As a child prepares to open a special gift, let us prepare our hearts to receive the wonder of God's love.

People: As heaven and earth sing of great joy, let us sing our joyful praises to God.

Priest: Come let us worship God together.

Carol 118: O Come All Ye Faithful, vs. 1 & 5

(You may sing if you are wearing a mask.)

Lighting of the Christ Candle

As we celebrate the birth of Jesus and rejoice in His coming to us, we light the Christ candle. *(Candle is lit)*

Jesus Christ is our hope. He is our peace. Jesus Christ is our joy. He is love – pure, holy, undying love. Whoever believes in Him will never perish but have eternal life (John 3.16). Thanks be to God for His indescribable gift! (2 Corinthians 9.15)

Carol 120: O Little Town of Bethlehem, vs. 1

(You may sing if you are wearing a mask.)

O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie,
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep, the silent stars go by.
Yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting light.
The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.

Gospel Drama: The Nativity

*Lights in the nave are turn off, except at the back and in the chancel.
Nativity figures will be placed during singing of the carol.*

Reading 1: We dream and sing our way to Bethlehem.

Animals are brought forward.

Carol 120: O Little Town of Bethlehem, vs. 4

O holy Child of Bethlehem, descend to us, we pray.
Cast out our sin, and enter in, be born in us today.
We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell.
O come to us, abide with us, our Lord Emmanuel!

Reading 2: Mary and Joseph Journey from Nazareth.

Mary & Joseph are brought forward

Carol 123: Once in Royal David's City

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.

Reading 3: The cry of a newborn child!

Baby Jesus is brought forward.

Carol 126: Away in a Manger

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

Reading 4: *Shepherds receive news of great joy!*

Shepherds & angel are brought forward.

Carol 132: *While Shepherds Watched*

While shepherds watched their flocks by night
all seated on the ground.

An angel of the Lord came down and glory shone around.

Reading 5: *The journey of the Magi.*

Three wise men are brought forward.

Carol 139: *The First Nowell*

And by the light of that same star,
Three wise men came from country far,
To seek for a king was their intent,
And to follow the star wherever it went.

**Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell,
Born is the King of Israel.**

Reading 6: *We offer our gift of worship to this Child*

Carol 119: *Silent Night*

1. 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.
2. 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!

Blessing of the Nativity *Lights in the Nave are turned on.*

Priest: Great and good God, we stand before you in wonder and awe. We thank you for the miracle of Jesus' birth. Bless all who look upon this Nativity. May it remind us that Jesus is with us always.

People: May all parents share the deep and pure love that Mary and Joseph felt for their child. May all children know the joy of the shepherds and the song of the angels. May we all praise the name of Jesus forever and ever. Amen.

The Prayers of the People

Led by Larry Graham

Leader: Let us pray, saying: Come, Lord Jesus, dwell with us.

We remember you, Jesus, born in a dark stable because there was no room for you anywhere in Bethlehem. We remember Mary and Joseph, expecting a child, and forced to take the first shelter they could find, in a stable among the animals. We acknowledge that the world is not much different for many people today. **Come, Lord Jesus, dwell with us.**

We pray for those in this community and throughout the world who are poor and homeless, for refugees whose children are still being born in stables, tents, and whatever shelter can be found. Give us the compassion to help shelter those in need. Keep us safe in your love and empower us to share this love with others **Come, Lord Jesus, dwell with us.**

We pray for those who are not able to be with loved ones this Christmas because of the Covid-19 pandemic or another reason, for those who work in hospitals and nursing care homes, and for other essential services, so that we may be safe and secure. Help us find comfort in your presence. **Come, Lord Jesus, dwell with us.**

We pray for those who are sick or lonely this Christmas, especially those on our hearts tonight. Pour out the warmth of your love upon them and grant them peace. **Come, Lord Jesus, dwell with us.**

We remember with thanksgiving the faithful departed, especially those on the Christmas Memorial List, *{pause for a moment of silence to remember}* that they may rest in the peace of Christ, and those who mourn may be comforted. May your love which extends from the wood of the manger to the wood of the cross bless us this night with the gift of peace. **Come, Lord Jesus, dwell with us.**

Confession and Absolution p. 191 (BAS)

The Peace p. 192

The Celebration of the Eucharist

Offertory Carol 139: *The First Noel, vs. 1 & 6*

(You may sing if you are wearing a mask.)

(Offering plates remain at the back of the nave.)

Prayer over the Gifts: Source of light and gladness, accept all we offer on this joyful feast. May we grow up in him who unites our lives to yours; for he is Lord now and for ever. **Amen.**

Eucharistic Prayer 5, p. 204

The Lord's Prayer p. 211

Breaking of Bread #6 Incarnation p. 213

Invitation to Communion: You are invited to come forward up the center aisle, one person or one family bubble at a time. Please wear your mask, receive the bread, and step 6 feet away before removing your mask to consume the bread. Replace your mask and return to your pew down the side aisle. If for any reason you do not wish to receive communion, feel free to remain in your pew.

Prayer after Communion p. 272

Doxology p. 214

Blessing

Recessional Carol 154: *Joy to the World, vs. 1 & 4*

(You may sing if you are wearing a mask!)

Dismissal

Officiant: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord!

People: Thanks be to God. Merry Christmas!

Welcome: A hearty welcome to all worshipping with us today. Visitors are invited to sign our Guest Book at the back of the Church. Merry Christmas!

Special Prayers are requested for: Janet, Ernest, Mavis, Gordon, Ellen, Karla, Amanda, Jennifer, Randy, Colin, Liam, Sadie, Emma, Scottie, Kate, Gail, Tanya, Terry, Brad, Billy, Lorne, Kent, Doreen, Dick, Susanne, Wesley, Jim, Trevor, Lindsay, Lois, David, Carrie, Barry, Freda, Charles, Pat, Yvonne, Archbishop David's parents, Doreen & John.

Participating in Today's Service

Officiant: Rev. Shirley Noseworthy
Lay Reader: Larry Graham
Usher: Dorine Dennique
Greeters: Richard Dennique & Marilyn Sherman
Organist: Sandra Culberson
Cantor: Kathy Asch
Videographer: Armin Hackelsperger
Altar Guild: Janis Richard & Linda Porter

Covid-19 Operational Plan – Yellow Phase

Expect screening, hand sanitizing, physical distancing. Wearing a mask is mandatory. You may sing if you are wearing a mask. The officiant and the reader are not required to wear a mask while using the microphone if 4-meters distance from the congregation is maintained. Anyone who is high risk, including elderly and people with underlying health issues, are advised to remain at home for their safety and protection.

Offering Envelopes 2021

Offering Envelope boxes for 2021 are available to be picked up at the back of the church. If you would like someone to drop yours off, please let us know by phoning 328-4304!

Financial Report November 2020 2019

Year to Date Cash in	\$ 134,756.70	\$ 177,622.28
Year to Date Cash out	<u>143,920.56</u>	<u>215,237.68</u>
Year to Date Excess (Deficit)	<u>\$ (9,163.86)</u>	<u>\$ (37,615.40)</u>

Cash Position at beginning of year	(9,253.01)	(1,477.45)
Add: 2020 YTD Excess (deficit)	<u>(9,163.86)</u>	<u>(37,615.40)</u>
Total Deficit at Nov 30, 2020	(18,416.87)	(39,092.85)
Less Unpaid Bills	<u>(7,831.35)</u>	<u>(16,627.20)</u>
Cash Position at Nov 30, 2020	<u>(10,585.52)</u>	<u>(22,465.65)</u>

Annual Congregational Meeting

Our AGM for 2020 will be held on Sunday, Feb. 7, 2021. Due to Covid-19 restrictions, there will be no meal following the service. Instead, we will have a shortened service and move immediately into our AGM. All groups are asked to submit a report, however short it may be, by Jan 29th!

Christmas Memorial List – see separate insert.

Bulletin Board

Thursday, Dec. 24 Christmas Eve

- 4:30 pm Family Eucharist (BAS) St. Luke's
- 6:30 pm Candlelight Eucharist (BAS) St. Luke's
- 8:30 pm Candlelight Eucharist (BAS) Christ Church

Sunday, Dec. 27 First Sunday After Christmas

- 10:30 am Christmas Readings & Carols