

# Liturgy at Home

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## St. James' Anglican Church



Christmas Day  
December 25, 2023 | 9:00 am



# Welcome

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We acknowledge with gratitude and respect our presence on the ancestral, traditional and un-ceded territory of the x<sup>w</sup>məθk<sup>w</sup>əyəm (Musqueam), Sk̓wx̓wú7mesh (Squamish), and sə́lilwətał (Tsleil-Waututh) First Nations.

Welcome to this St. James' "Liturgy at Home", as we celebrate this great Feast of the Birth of Christ. We wish everyone a Joyful and Peaceful Christmas.

You are invited either to share in this Liturgy at 9:00 am on Sunday, via Zoom, or to use this as an aid to your prayers at home, drawing strength, we hope, from the knowledge that fellow-parishioners will be praying alongside you.

The Parish Intercession Lists, which are being kept up to date, are being prayed daily. Please make any requests to the Parish Office, [office@stjames.bc.ca](mailto:office@stjames.bc.ca), 604-685-2532.

# About St. James'

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St. James' is an inclusive Christian community, worshipping in the Anglo-Catholic tradition. For more information, please see our website: [www.stjames.bc.ca](http://www.stjames.bc.ca)

## **VISION STATEMENT**

Discovering the beauty of holiness in our lives and neighbourhood, by living a Christ-centred sacramental life rooted in the Anglo-Catholic tradition.

## **MISSION OBJECTIVES**

- To be a beacon for all as a neighbourhood and destination church where we invite and welcome friends, family, and strangers into our midst;
- To deepen our life of prayer and formation in Christ;
- To develop relationships and fellowship in open, honest, and spiritual ways among parishioners, with our neighbours, and those in need;
- To pursue and practice justice and mercy for the imparting of the Kingdom of God within and beyond the Parish;
- To strive to maintain financial equilibrium, develop our reserves, and optimize the use of our assets to ensure the preservation of our sacred space and ministry from generation to generation, to the everlasting glory of God.

# A Reflection

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## *First Shepherd*

Hail, comely and clean! Hail, young child!  
Hail, maker of all I mean, of a maiden so mild!  
Thou hast confounded, I ween, the Warlock so wild:  
The false guiler of men, now goes he beguiled.

Lo, he merries!

Lo, he laughs, my sweeting!

Ah! A well fair meeting!

I have holden my telling:

Have a bob of cherries.

## *Second Shepherd*

Hail, sovereign saviour, for thou hast us sought!  
Hail, fresh root and flower, that all things hast wrought!  
Hail, full of favour, that made all of nought!  
Hail! I kneel and I cower. A bird have I brought

To my bairn.

Hail, tiny little mop!

Of our creed thou art crop:

I would drink on thy cup,

Little day-star

## *Third Shepherd*

Hail, darling dear, full of Godhead!

I pray thee be near when that I have need.

Hail, sweet of thy cheer! My heart would bleed

To see thee sit here in so poor weed,

With no pennies.

Hail! Put forth thy hand.

I bring thee but a ball:

Have and play thee withall,

And go to the tennis.

-- from Tony Harrison's adaptation of *The Second Shepherds' Play*  
by The Wakefield Master

# Opening Rite

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## INVOCATION

Gathering together on the ancestral, traditional and un-ceded territory of the x<sup>w</sup>məθk<sup>w</sup>əyám (Musqueam), Sk̓w̓x̓wú7mesh (Squamish), and sə́lilwətał (Tsleil-Waututh) First Nations, we meet

+In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

Do I not fill heaven and earth?' says the Lord.

**Now the Word is made flesh and laid in a narrow manger.**

From eternity to eternity you are God,

**and now we see you as a newborn child.**

## HYMN VERSE

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.

## PRAYERS OF PENITENCE

God the Father forgives us in Christ and heals us by the Holy Spirit.  
Let us therefore put away all anger and bitterness,  
all slander and malice,  
and confess our sins to God our redeemer.

Lord Jesus, you are Mighty God and Prince of Peace:

Lord, have mercy.

**Lord, have mercy.**

Lord Jesus, you are Son of God and Son of Mary:

Christ, have mercy.

**Christ, have mercy.**

Lord Jesus, you are Word made flesh and Splendour of the Father:

Lord, have mercy.

**Lord, have mercy.**

May almighty God have mercy on us,  
forgive us our sins, and keep us in eternal life  
in Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

## GLORIA IN EXCELSIS

Glory be to God on high,  
and on earth peace, good will towards men.  
We praise thee, we bless thee,  
we worship thee, we glorify thee,  
we give thanks to thee for thy great glory,  
O Lord God, heavenly King, God the Father Almighty.

O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ;  
O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,  
that takest away the sin of the world,  
have mercy upon us.

Thou that takest away the sin of the world,  
receive our prayer.  
Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father,  
have mercy upon us.

For thou only art holy;  
thou only art the Lord;  
thou only, O Christ,  
with the Holy Ghost,  
+art most high in the glory of God the Father.  
**Amen.**

## **COLLECT OF THE DAY**

Let us pray.

O God our Father,  
whose Word has come among us  
in the Holy Child of Bethlehem,  
may the light of faith  
illumine our hearts  
and shine in our words and deeds;  
through him who is Christ our Lord,  
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.

**Amen.**



# Liturgy of the Word

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## FIRST READING

A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah.

Upon your walls, O Jerusalem, I have posted sentinels; all day and all night they shall never be silent. You who remind the Lord, take no rest, and give him no rest until he establishes Jerusalem and makes it renowned throughout the earth. The Lord has sworn by his right hand and by his mighty arm: I will not again give your grain to be food for your enemies, and foreigners shall not drink the wine for which you have laboured; but those who garner it shall eat it and praise the Lord, and those who gather it shall drink it in my holy courts. Go through, go through the gates, prepare the way for the people; build up, build up the highway, clear it of stones, lift up an ensign over the peoples. The Lord has proclaimed to the end of the earth: Say to daughter Zion, "See, your salvation comes; his reward is with him, and his recompense before him." They shall be called, "The Holy People, The Redeemed of the Lord"; and you shall be called, "Sought Out, A City Not Forsaken."

(Isaiah 62:6-12)

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## PSALM

The Lord is king; let the earth rejoice;  
let the multitude of the isles be glad.

**Clouds and darkness are round about him,  
righteousness and justice are the foundations of his throne.**

A fire goes before him  
and burns up his enemies on every side.

**His lightnings light up the world;  
the earth sees it and is afraid.**

The mountains melt like wax at the presence of the Lord,  
at the presence of the Lord of the whole earth.

**The heavens declare his righteousness,  
and all the peoples see his glory.**

Confounded be all who worship carved images and delight in false gods!  
Bow down before him, all you gods.

**Zion hears and is glad, and the cities of Judah rejoice,  
because of your judgements, O Lord.**

For you are the Lord, most high over all the earth;  
you are exalted far above all gods.

**The Lord loves those who hate evil;  
he preserves the lives of his saints  
and delivers them from the hand of the wicked.**

Light has sprung up for the righteous,  
and joyful gladness for those who are truehearted.

**Rejoice in the Lord, you righteous,  
and give thanks to his holy name.**

(Psalm 97)

## SECOND READING

A reading from the letter to Titus.

But when the goodness and loving-kindness of God our Saviour appeared, he saved us, not because of any works of righteousness that we had done, but according to his mercy, through the water of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit. This Spirit he poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Saviour, so that, having been justified by his grace, we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life.

(Titus 3:4-7)

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## ALLELUIA

**Alleluia.** A hallowed day hath dawned upon the earth; come, ye nations, and worship the Lord: for on this day a great light hath descended upon the earth.

**Alleluia.**

## THE GOSPEL READING

The Lord be with you.

**And with thy spirit.**

The Holy Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

**Glory be to thee, O Lord.**

In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.” And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, “Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favours!” When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.” So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

(Luke 2: 8-20)

The Gospel of Christ.

**Praise be to thee, O Christ.**

## HOMILY

Mother Amanda Ruston

## **AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

Let us bless the living God:

He was born of the Virgin Mary,  
**revealed in his glory,**

worshipped by the angels,  
**proclaimed among the nations,**

believed in throughout the world,  
**exalted to the highest heavens.**

Blessed be God, our strength and our salvation,  
**now and for ever.**

**Amen.**

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

*Celebrant:*

Let us pray to Jesus our Saviour:

*Intercessor:*

Christ, born in a stable,  
give courage to all who are homeless.

Jesus, Saviour,

**hear our prayer.**

Christ, for whom the angels sang,  
give the song of the kingdom to all who weep.

Jesus, Saviour,

**hear our prayer.**

Christ, worshipped by the shepherds,  
give peace on earth to all who are oppressed.

Jesus, Saviour,

**hear our prayer.**

Christ, before whom the wise men knelt,  
give humility and wisdom to all who govern.

Jesus, Saviour,

**hear our prayer.**

Christ, whose radiance filled a lowly manger,  
give the glory of your resurrection to all who rest in you.

Jesus, Saviour,

**hear our prayer.**

*Celebrant:*

Jesus, Saviour, child of Mary,  
you know us and love us,  
you share our lives  
and hear our prayer.

**Glory to you for ever.**

**Amen.**

# Spiritual Communion

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## THE LORD'S PRAYER

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,  
for ever and ever.  
**Amen.**

## AGNUS DEI

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world: have mercy upon us.  
O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world: have mercy upon us.  
O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world: grant us thy peace.

## SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

*As we are unable to receive the Blessed Sacrament at this time,  
meditate quietly for a moment on these words of Jesus from St. John 6:*

"I am the Bread of Life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, whoever believes in me will never thirst."

*Then, in union with the Body of Christ in every time and place, pray:*

O come to my heart, Lord Jesus. There is room in my heart for thee.

## **HYMN**

Yea, Lord, we greet thee,  
born this happy morning.  
Jesu, to thee be glory given.  
Word of the Father,  
now in flesh appearing.  
O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him,  
Christ the Lord.



# Concluding Rite

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## **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Let us pray.

Generous Creator,  
in faith and joy  
we celebrate the birth of your Son.  
Increase our understanding and our love  
of the riches you have revealed in him,  
who is Lord now and for ever.

**Amen.**

## **THE GRACE**

Christ, the Son of God, born of Mary,  
fill us with grace to trust his promises and obey his will.

**Amen.**

May the grace of Our Lord Jesus Christ,  
+and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,  
be with us all evermore.

**Amen.**

## **DISMISSAL**

Let us bless the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **AVE REGINA CAELORUM**

Hail, Queen of Heaven, beyond compare,  
to whom the angels homage pay.  
Hail, Root of Jesse, Gate of Light,  
which opened for the world's new day.

Rejoice, O Virgin unsurpassed,  
in whom our ransom was begun.  
For all your loving children pray,  
to Christ our Saviour and your Son.



## CHRISTMAS FLOWER DEDICATIONS

The flowers on the High Altar  
are given to the Glory of God

in loving memory of Grace Grant

in loving memory of Marie Evans  
from Jim Evans & Fiorella Mauro

in loving memory of Su Yin Lai & En Kong Lai

in loving memory of Kee Buoï Yeo, Peter Leong,  
Michael Chong, & Alywin Leong  
from The Family

in memory of Daniel Northcott

in loving memory of our mother, Sheila Paterson,  
from her children,  
Pamela, Shannon, & Lane McDonald

And for the blessings of the year to pass  
and the one to come,  
by Sharon Lou-Hing.

## **CLERGY**

Rector: Father Kevin Hunt: [fr.kevin@stjames.bc.ca](mailto:fr.kevin@stjames.bc.ca) 778-984-3208

Assistant Priest: Mother Amanda Ruston: [mtr.amanda@stjames.bc.ca](mailto:mtr.amanda@stjames.bc.ca)  
604-825-2379

Street Outreach: Father Matthew Johnson: [matthew@streetoutreach.net](mailto:matthew@streetoutreach.net)  
604-685-7522 (non-emergency #)

Deacon: Revd Joyce Locht: [joyce.locht@gmail.com](mailto:joyce.locht@gmail.com) 604-614-9915

Honorary Assistants: Sister Mary Christian Cross, Deacon;

Father Neil Gray; Father Neil Fernyhough

Clergy may be contacted through the Office: 604-685-2532.

## **PARISH STAFF**

Parish Administrator: Fiorella Mauro: Mon-Tues-Thurs-Fri: [office@stjames.bc.ca](mailto:office@stjames.bc.ca)

Organist & Choirmaster: Gerald Harder; Assistant Organist: PJ Janson

Music Series: [musicseries@stjames.bc.ca](mailto:musicseries@stjames.bc.ca)

Building Manager: Darren Campbell: Tues-Sat: 7 am - noon, 778-839-4432.

Building Maintenance Assistant: Francis D'Emilio: Sun-Mon am, 604-809-9108.

## **PARISH COUNCIL**

Chair: Louisa Farrell

## **PARISH OFFICERS**

Rector's Warden: Andrew Campbell [wardens@stjames.bc.ca](mailto:wardens@stjames.bc.ca)

Warden: Peggy Smyth [wardens@stjames.bc.ca](mailto:wardens@stjames.bc.ca)

Warden: Leah Postman [wardens@stjames.bc.ca](mailto:wardens@stjames.bc.ca)

Trustees: Pamela McDonald; Ross Hornby; Michelle Heshka

Treasurer: Reece Wrightman [treasurer@stjames.bc.ca](mailto:treasurer@stjames.bc.ca)

Envelope Secretary: Wayne Sample [envelope.secretary@stjames.bc.ca](mailto:envelope.secretary@stjames.bc.ca)

Parish Privacy Officer & Vestry Clerk: Linda Adams

Archivist: Paul Stanwood



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