

Liturgy at Home

St. James' Anglican Church



Christmas Day
December 25, 2025 | 9:00 am



Welcome

We acknowledge with gratitude and respect our presence on the ancestral, traditional and un-ceded territory of the x^wməθk^wəyəm (Musqueam), Sḵwxwú7mesh (Squamish), and səłilwətał (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 its as an aid to your prayers at home. You will draw strength, we hope, from the knowledge that fellow-parishioners will be praying alongside you.

The Parish Intercession Lists are being prayed daily. Please make any requests to the Parish Office at office@stjames.bc.ca.

About St. James'

St. James' is an inclusive Christian community, worshipping in the Anglo-Catholic tradition. For more information, please see our website: 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

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

INVOCATION

Gathering together on the ancestral, traditional and un-ceded territory of the x^wməθk^wəyəm (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

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

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. O sing to the Lord a new song, for he has done marvellous things. **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.

ADDRESS

Jenn Ashton

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 have nowhere to lay their heads.
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

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

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.

ALMA REDEMPTORIS MATER

O loving mother of the Saviour,
ever the open gate to heaven,
and star of the sea,
O hasten to aid us,
who though falling strive to rise again.

Bearing as a virgin, while nature stood in awe,
your own Maker, your own holy Lord,
ever virgin, after as before,
when the mouth of Gabriel
uttered that great 'Ave,'
O take pity on us sinners.



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
Peter NS Leong, Kee Buoi Yeo, Michael Chong,
Alywin Leong, Paul Yeo, Silvester Leong
and all who have left us to be with the Lord

in loving memory of
Elaine Jan
by Dianne Globe

in loving memory of
their mother, Sheila Paterson,
from Pamela, Shannon and Lane McDonald

in memory of
Phui Thin Loo and Won Tshin Ho
from their loving family.
Forever in our hearts

and in memory of all our loved ones
as we celebrate the coming of our Lord
by Tanya, Rocky and family.

CLERGY

Rector: Mother Amanda Ruston: mtr.amanda@stjames.bc.ca

Non-Emergency #: 604-685-2532 xt 504 Emergency #: 604-825-2379

Street Outreach: Father Matthew Johnson: matthew@streetoutreach.net

Non-Emergency #: 604-685-7522 or #: 604-685-2532 xt 502

Honorary Assistants: Father Neil Gray; Father Neil Fernyhough ;

The Reverend Joyce Locht, Deacon (ret'd); Sister Mary Christian Cross, Deacon (ret'd)

PARISH STAFF

Parish Administrator: Fiorella Mauro: Mon-Tues-Thurs-Fri: office@stjames.bc.ca

Music Directors (Interim): Brigid Coult/Susan Ohannesian

Music Series: musicseries@stjames.bc.ca

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

PARISH COUNCIL

Chair: Louisa Farrell

PARISH OFFICERS

Rector's Warden: Reece Wrightman wardens@stjames.bc.ca

Warden: Leah Postman wardens@stjames.bc.ca

Warden: Joanna Lam wardens@stjames.bc.ca

Trustees: Ross Hornby; Michelle Heshka; Bev Wilson

Treasurer: Andrew Campbell treasurer@stjames.bc.ca

Envelope Secretary: Wayne Sample envelope.secretary@stjames.bc.ca

Parish Privacy Officer & Vestry Clerk: Linda Adams



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