

Lighting of the Advent Candles O Come, O Come Emmanuel #89 verses 1 and 2

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

All flesh shall see the salvation of God.

Luke 3.4, 6

Processional Hymn

Prepare the Way, O Zion #102

Readings:

Isaiah 40:1-11

Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13

Pgs 818-819

2 Peter 3:8-15(a)

Gospel Acclamation

#712

The Holy Gospel:

Mark 1:1-8

Offertory Hymn:

Where Jordan Cuts the Wilderness #105

Communion & Ablutions Hymn:

Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence #48

Recessional Hymn:

Hark, a Herald Voice is Sounding #108

Receiving Holy Communion: *This is the table of Christ made ready for those who love him and for those who want to love him more. So come, whether you have much faith or little, have tried to follow or are afraid you have failed. Come because it is Christ's will that those who want to meet him might meet him here. If you prefer to receive a blessing, please indicate this by placing your arms across your chest. We ask that you not dip the bread into the chalice. If you are not comfortable with the common cup, please receive only the bread. Our tradition says that to receive any part of the Eucharist is to receive the full grace of the Sacrament. (Gluten free bread is available on request).*

Our Ministers today

Host: Elizabeth Mickelson

Greeter: Jim Green

Readers: Brenda Coopman and Erminie Reid

Prayers of the People: Eleanor Blair

Servers: Bruce Adderley

Eucharistic Assistants: Elizabeth Mickelson and David Reid

Chancel Guild: Erminie Reid and Lois Colpitts

Coffee Hosts Audrey and Neil Love, Mary Ripley and Grace Dawson

Food Cupboard..... Linda, Connie, Sharon, Grace, Mary, Brenda, Shirley,
Mark, Wayne and Jim

Anglican Cycle of Prayer: We are asked to pray for Western North Carolina (IV, The Episcopal Church) and The Rt Revd Porter Taylor.

Anglican Lutheran Cycle of Prayer: We are asked to pray for the Primate, Archbishop Fred Hiltz and staff of the Primate's Office of the Anglican Church of Canada of the Anglican Church of Canada (ACC); and National Bishop Susan Johnson and national staff of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada (ELCIC).

Diocesan Cycle of Prayer: Our prayers are asked for The Anglican Journal, The Rev Peter Simmons, Editor.

Parish Cycle of Prayer: Joanne McMahan, Dan McQueen, Arlene Meservier, Carl and Elizabeth Mickelson, Dawn Mills, George Morton Judy Mostow and Mark Myers.

A Discernment Prayer for Our New Church

as we prayerfully work towards discerning our future and the possible merger being explored.

We ask your blessing on Bishop Anne and our pastors. We pray for their spiritual and physical strength as they carry out their ministries. Grant that the people of the St. Luke's, St. John's & St. Michael and All Angels' congregations may remain faithful to their calling and rightly proclaim the word of truth. You see the concerns we have in the face of the unknown as our parishes discern our future. We ask you to fill us with openness and joyful expectation and to guide and bless us, as we seek to move forward together in hope, so that we can continue walking and working in your mission and in fellowship. Amen.

Calendar for the Week

December 13 Warden's Meeting at 11:00 am
 Advisory Meeting at 6:00 pm
December 14 Choir Rehearsal at 7:00 pm
December 15 Craft Group at 10:00 am

Scripture Readings for the Second Sunday of Advent

Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11
1 Thessalonians 5:16-24

Psalms 126
John 1:6-8, 19-28

Attendance:

54
EOP: \$1,022.62 Givings: \$602.00 Total: \$ 1,624.62

We expect at this rate of givings that we will have a shortfall of ~\$12,000.00 for 2017.

Parish News

Advent Study: *First Light: Jesus and the Kingdom*

First Light is a 12-session DVD and web-based study of the historical Jesus and the Kingdom of God with two of the world's leading Jesus scholars (John Dominic Crossan and Marcus Borg) on location throughout the Galilee and Jerusalem.

Themes (2 can be covered each session)

1. The Matrix of Jesus
2. The Advent of the Messiah
3. God's Great Cleanup
4. Collaborative Eschaton
5. The Lake as the World
6. Parables as Lures
7. Jesus as Lord
8. Substitutionary Atonement?
9. Demonstrations in Jerusalem
10. The Crowd & the Crucifixion
11. Resurrection as Resistance
12. America as the New Rome

The sessions will be on Tuesdays at St John the Evangelist Anglican Church starting at 2:00 pm. For more information contact Rev Gail Clifton at 768-9865 or gailx2@shaw.ca.

Anglican Journal, Algoma Anglican and St. John's Lamplighter - there are copies of the most recent editions of these publications at the back of the church. If you have not received copies and would like one, please take one.

The Calendar Lady is back – see Liz Whalley for your 2018 Church Calendar @ \$7 each.

Chancel Guild Anyone wishing to donate towards the altar Christmas flowers are asked to please contact Audrey Love at 344-4955 or speak to me at church. Thanks Audrey.

Christmas services sign up sheets are on the bulletin board at the back of the church. If you can assist as Greeter, Readers, EA, etc. on any of these dates, please add your name ASAP to help those who are preparing many bulletins. Thank you. Erminie

EOP Donors: Any changes that need to be made to your givings and/or donations, please complete the form which is available at the back of the church and forward it to the church office, give to a warden, or place on the offering plate.

Food Cupboard: In December St. John's Cupboard will be open on three Sundays, the 10th, 17th, and the 31st. On the 17th we would like to provide an extra Christmas gift of Peanut Butter and Strawberry jam. Donations in the food baskets at the back of the church or cash donations to the food cupboard would be appreciated. As well the Cupboard is getting low on cans of tuna, and flaked chicken or ham. Thank you for your

support during the year.

Sunday School will take a break on Sundays, December 24th and December 31st. We will begin again on Sunday, January 7th, 2018.

Calendar of Upcoming Events

Dec 10 St Mark's Church at 7:00 pm presents a concert by the Kam Valley Fiddlers plus Sing-A-Long followed by refreshments.

Dec 10 Oras Chamber Choir at Hilldale Lutheran Church celebrating Kauneimmat joululaulut. See Erik Johannes Riekko for tickets.

Dec 12 Advent Study at St John the Evangelist Anglican Church starting at 2:00 pm

Dec 13 Knox United Church Hot Chocolate and Christmas Carols starting at 6:30 pm.

Dec 15 submission for the 2017 David Reid Volunteer of the Year Award are to be in to Volunteer Thunder Bay. See poster for more information.

Dec 21 Second Session. Learn to Read Music, St. Paul's Anglican Church, 6:30 - 7pm, Fee: by donation to be used towards organ fund (\$25 minimum), Led by: Dr. Sean Kim. For more information or to register please contact Laurie @ 707-3048 or email foodforthesoul@tbaytel.net.

Dec 22 Oras Chamber Choir at St Paul's United Church starting at 8:00 pm. See Erik Johannes Riekko for tickets (\$20.00).

When filling out your Christmas cards this year, take one card and send it to this address:

Any Canadian Forces Member
PO Box 5140 Stn Forces
Belleville ON K8N 5W6

If we pass this on and everyone sends one card, think of how many cards these wonderful, special people, who have sacrificed so much would get.

The Primate's World Relief and Development Fund (PWRDF) is the Canadian Anglican response for emergency relief, refugees, development and justice. And it's making a difference in the world. **PWRDF** is contributing \$20,000 from its Canadian Foodgrains Bank Account to a food relief project in Bangladesh for the Rohingya relief effort. This is one of many projects in the world.

Donations to PWRDF can be made on the website, by special church envelope, EOP (electronic offering program), or by phone 1-866-308-7973. You can also use mail and please make cheques payable to PWRDF. The address is:

The Primate's World Relief and Development Fund
The Anglican Church of Canada
80 Hayden Street
Toronto, ON M4Y 3G2.

Christmas is coming.

- See the World of Gifts Guide, on the website or the insert in the Anglican Journal. For the hard to buy for person or charitable gift, you can order seeds for farmers, livestock, contribute to projects worldwide, etc.
- You can order Christmas cards.
- You can subscribe to a daily Advent reflection.

For further information go to www.pwrdf.org.

Linda Rintamaki (rep)

Our Neighbours, Alpha Court are in Need

There will be no food hampers this year other than Christmas Cheer. Christmas Cheer gives hampers to families with children under the age of 16.

Alpha Court has virtually no families with children in that age range, but we have a lot of single people, elderly people, people with children over the age limit, and people with physical and/or mental health issues. The RFDA, in previous years, provided Christmas hampers for those not covered by the Christmas Cheer program, but this year they were not doing so. The Food Bank have, in the past, given food hampers to non-Christmas Cheer people, but this year they just did not have the resources for it – they would have about 1100 individuals and families (without children in the right age range) to do hampers for, and they can't do it on top of their regular work.

This leaves Alpha Court with 325 people who are hoping for some extra help (outside of Christmas dinner programs), who won't be getting any.

RFDA tells me that what they put in their hampers was more or less:

- 1/2 fresh ham (this is the most expensive part, but, they tell me, still cheaper than a chicken, much less a turkey)
- box pancake mix and syrup
- cheese and crackers
- margarine
- canned corn and other vegetables
- dried mashed potatoes
- maybe extras like canned fruit, cookies, Christmas candy...)

These hampers make a lot of difference to our clients. Because they are mostly non-perishable, they will last into January (even the ham, after it is cooked) – long after the Christmas dinners are done and gone.

There is a basket at the back of the church, for those who would like to make a donation.

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Brenda O'Neill

Rector's Warden:

Marg Boone

People's Warden:

Jim Green

Deputy People's Warden:

David Reid

Organist/Music Director:

Erik Johannes Riekkö