

This bulletin is dedicated in loving memory of
Ceanne Butt R.N.
 January 23, 1953 – December 27, 2009
 from sisters-in-law
 Glenda Winsor and Gloria Le Feuvre and families

St. James United Church

December 27, 2015/Baptism

Minister:	Rev. Terrie Jackson
Minister of Visitation:	Rev. Pamela Jones-Fitzgerald
Minister of Youth/Christian Education:	Susan Sheppard, DLM
Choir:	Senior
Organist:	Doreen Brown

Please remain seated comfortably until invited to stand.
Please turn off your cell phone during the Service.

Musical Prelude

Carol Sling

Welcome & Life & Work of St. James

Sharing the Peace:

One: May a heart of peace rest with you.

All: And also with you.

(You are invited to share the peace with your neighbours.)



Entry into the Celebration

Lighting of Community Candle

Call to Worship (responsive)

One: Light looked down and saw darkness.

All: "I will go there," said light.

One: Peace looked down and saw war.

All: "I will go there," said peace.

One: Love looked down and saw hatred.

All: "I will go there," said love.

One: So He, the Lord of Light, the Prince of Peace, the King of Love, came down and crept in beside us.

Opening Prayer: (together) Creator of all times and seasons, and of all the seasons of our lives, we gather in this sacred place, thankful for the days that have been, and hopeful for the days that shall be. May we become one with ourselves and You in all the seasons to come. Amen.

Carol: *Good Christian Friend, Rejoice* 35

Time with our Children and The Circle Song

Baptismal Hymn: *A Little Child the Saviour Came* 445

Sacrament of Holy Baptism

Presentation



Parents' Baptismal Vows

Congregational Commitment (together, standing as you are able):

We have heard the will of the parents. We receive these children in Christ's name as we ourselves have been received. We all belong to the one household of Christ. We will support these parents and these children through prayer, and provide a community of faith in which they are welcome to belong. May we serve God's world together. Amen.

Affirmation of Faith: A New Creed 918

Prayer of Thanksgiving & Pouring of the Water

Action of Baptism

Theodore Andrew James Gullage Wallace, son of Emily Sarah Gullage & Ryan Andrew Wallace;

Juliana Kathryn Sheppard, daughter of Kara Nicole Murphy Sheppard & Stephen Christopher Sheppard;

Jacob Leo Fox, son of Stacey Sharon Young & James Eledred Fox.

Blessing: (together) May God bless you and keep you. May God's face shine upon you and be gracious to you. May God look upon you with kindness and give you peace.

Invitation to the Offering

Offering

Offertory Hymn: *In the Bleak Midwinter, v.4* 55

Offertory Prayer: (together) Touch these gifts, O God, given out of love, make them a blessing to all who receive, as well as to all who have given. Amen.

Centering Silence

Hebrew Scripture: 1 Samuel 2: 18-20, 26
God blesses the boy Samuel.

Musical Offering

Gospel: Luke 2 : 41-52
The boy Jesus learns at the Temple.

Carol: *Gentle Mary Laid her Child* 46

Meditation
A Litany for the Past Year

First candle is lit
One: We light this candle remembering all the children who were baptised this year, and whom we in our own congregation have baptised.
All: This light beams so that all children may be able to grow up receiving affection and protection. *Silence*

Second candle is lit
One: We light this second candle bearing in mind all those married couples who have celebrated wedding anniversaries this year, those who are newlywed, and especially those who have celebrated silver and golden jubilees.
All: This light beams for their mutual happiness, and for their strength to uphold each other even in difficult situations.
Silence

Third candle is lit
One: We light this third candle remembering all those who have experienced grief and loss this year - the death of a loved one, the ending of a significant relationship, the loss of employment.
All: This light beams for their continuing comfort and support. *Silence*

Fourth candle is lit
One: We light this fourth candle commemorating all the people, near and far, who had to live under wars, and have suffered violence and anxiety this year.
All: This light beams that we and they may have a real and lasting peace.*Silence*

Fifth candle is lit
One: We light this fifth candle remembering all those who have visited our congregation for a first time, and decided to call this congregation 'home' this year.

All: This light beams in order that we continue to explore and enjoy everything we have received, as a gift. *Silence*

Sixth candle is lit
One: We light this sixth candle mindful of the people who have often put their lives at risk to maintain our freedoms, reconciliation and peace this year.

All: This light beams as a symbol of hope even in the midst of experiences of powerlessness and suffering. *Silence*

Seventh candle is lit
One: We light this seventh candle having each and every one of us in mind, bearing each other in our strengths and weaknesses, anxieties and hopes.
All: This light beams on the pathways we have welcomed and where we didn't want to go. It will continue to shine for each and every one of us on the new pathways we will tread. *Silence*

Lord's Prayer

Closing Carol: *Angels, from the Realms of Glory* 36

Parting Words:
One: After the words, a quiet. After the songs, a silence. After the crowd, only the memory recalls the gathering.
All: Peace and justice have need of us after the words, the music, and the gathering.
One: God grant you the depth for dedication to justice.
All: God grant us the will to be apostles of peace.

Words of Blessing

Musical Postlude

Ushering this week is provided by:
Ushers in Charge: Oliver Wellon
Greeter: Jean Thompson
Ushers: Bruce Hunt, Phil Saunders, Eric King, Baxter Howse



St. James United Church Life and Works, December 27, 2015

We offer our condolences to the following:

- *the family and friends of Dorothy Cummings who passed away on December 15.
- *Michelle Butt and family on the passing of her father, Kurt Karl Gebhard von Schilling, on December 19 in Waterloo, Ontario;
- *John, Steve and Jane Anthony on the passing of their father, Austin, on December 21. His funeral will be held in Barrett's Chapel tomorrow at 11am;
- * Karen Giannou and family on the passing of Karen's brother, Bruce, on December 21. There will be a Memorial Service for him at George Street UC on Tuesday, December 29 at 2pm.

We acknowledge the following donations:

- * **to the Bethany Danielle Pike Memorial Camp Fund** in loving memory of father Capt. Walter Blackwood, mother Mildred Blackwood and brother Walter Blackwood Jr. from Lorna Jamieson; in appreciation of Stephen Pike from the CRA Management Team; in loving memory of Joanne Hapgood from Luke, Cathy, Stephanie, Janna and Jillian Grenning;
- ***to Project Grace** in loving memory of Joanne Hapgood from Luke, Cathy, Stephanie, Janna and Jillian Grenning and on behalf of Albert & Vickie Styles from William & Renata Styles;
- ***to the Roof Fund** on behalf of Albert & Vickie Styles from William & Renata Styles.

The beautiful poinsettias in the Sanctuary are in loving memory of the following:

- *Eric and Roma Paul from Nancy and Anthony;
- *Nellie and Bill Bishop, former members of the congregation, from children Karen, Keith and Beverley, and grand-daughter Kara Sheppard and family;
- *Annie & Matthew Brake from their family.

During periods of extreme weather, a committee consisting of Council Chair, Property Chair and the Clerk of Session (or their designates) in consultation with the Ministerial staff will determine if it is not reasonable to open for Sunday worship. Notification to the Congregation will be via VOWR, other radio stations, and the recorded telephone message by 8:30 am on the Sunday in question. A telephone contact sheet consisting of other key people to receive early notification will be maintained. This list includes, but is not restricted to the chief usher, musicians, and choir.

Making last minute contributions over the Christmas period:

Office hours are December 28: closed; December 29, 30, 31: 10am-3pm.
If you wish to make a contribution outside of these hours, there is a secure mail box (lock box) for your use to the right of the exterior office door, and ensure your contribution is clearly marked for 2015. The financial year end is Dec. 31.