

# St. James United Church

December 11, 2016/Third Sunday in Advent

White Gift/Youth Choir Christmas

Minister: Rev. Pamela Jones-Fitzgerald  
Minister of Youth/Christian Education: Susan Sheppard, DLM  
Acting Minister of Visitation: Rev. Ettie Gordon-Murray  
Organist: Ashley Ruby  
Choir: Youth Choir  
Choir Director: Doreen Brown

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

## Musical Prelude

## Welcome and Life and Work of St. James

**Introit:** *Christmas Gloria* Choir

## Lighting of the Community Candle

### Call to Worship: (responsive)

One: Holy One, You created the heavens and earth and all that is.

**All: Happy are those whose help is in God.**

One: You bring justice to the oppressed, food to the hungry and set the prisoners free.

**All: Happy are those whose help is in God.**

One: God, You lift up the humble and watch over all who are vulnerable.

**All: For all generations, praise God.**

### Opening Prayer (responsive) and lighting of Advent Candles: Kim & Gerry Mayo

One: This third Sunday of Advent, we light a candle for and remember God is the light on our path.

**All: Strengthen our hearts, for the coming of Christ is near.**

One: God is a God of justice who brings food to the hungry and inclusion to the rejected. God lifts up the lowly and lowers the mighty.

**All: Strengthen our hearts, for the coming of Christ is near.**

One: We join our hearts with that of the desert gushing with life. We join our joy with that of Mary who sings with excitement for the child to come.

**All: Strengthen our hearts, for the coming of Christ is near.**

## Sharing The Peace

*You are invited to share the peace with your neighbour*

**Special Music:** *Candle Light Song*  
*Angel's Lullaby*

**Hymn:** *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel* 1

## Children's Time

**Hymn:** *Away in a Manger* 69

**Special Solo:** *Gloria Deo* Kaitlyn Brown

## Offertory Invitation

## Offering

**Offertory Hymn:** *to the tune of My Life Flows On*  
*Sheep softly bleat, the angels sing, wise men and shepherds seek Him.*  
*The greatest gift we have received; a child born in Bethlehem.*  
*With grateful and with humble hearts, these gifts we gladly offer,*  
*to share God's love with all the earth, with Jesus Christ, our Saviour.*

**Offertory Prayer:** (together) Love takes many forms, O God, and peace is more than the absence of war. Compassion can be shared in a bowl of soup, and justice must be shared. Let these gifts we give be all these things and more, because we have given them into Your care and use. Amen.

**Special Music:** *Rhapsody of Christmas*

## Scripture Readings

**Hebrew Scripture:** Isaiah 35: 1-10 Trevor Bartlett

**Hymn:** *O Come, All Ye Faithful* 60

**Gospel:** Matthew 11: 2-11 Rev. Bill Bartlett

**Special Music:** *Still the Night*  
*Christmas in a Small Town*



**Meditation:** A Random Act of Kindness

**Special Solo:** *Mary, Did You Know?* Katelyn Mayo

### **Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer**

**Closing Hymn:** *Joy to the World* 59

**Readings:** Pamela Masterson  
Krista Brown

**Special Music:** *Angels Carol*

### **Blessing and Sending Forth**

### **Musical Postlude**

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### **Ushering this week is provided by:**

**Usher in Charge:** Ross Pilgrim

**Greeters:** Jack & Florence Head

**Ushers:** Betty Pilgrim, Rev. Bill & Daphne Coish, Oliver Wellon, Bruce Hunt

### **Accessibility at St. James United Church:**

Hearing Devices      Wheelchairs      Enlarged Bulletins

If you wish to use one of the above services that we offer, please speak with one of our ushers and they will be happy to assist you.

**Please remember** to NOT keep anything visible in your car when parking in the parking lot, particularly over the holiday season.

### **Christmas Schedule**

Saturday, December 24, Christmas Eve:

7pm Family Service with Youth and Senior Choirs

7.45pm Carols and Communion

Sunday, December 25:

11am Christmas Day Worship Service