

ST. MATTHEW'S

The Anglican Church in the Glebe

3rd Sunday of Advent and Baptism



December 14, 2025

*This morning we celebrate the baptisms of Michael William Bolick, Benjamin
Byron Bolick and their father Andrew Michael Bolick.*

THE HOLY EUCHARIST

Service Setting:

Mathias

Prelude: Es ist Ein' Ros' Entsprungen

J. Brahms

Processional Hymn: 362 Tell Out, My Soul

Woodlands

Today we present a nativity set from Ukraine and the Godly Play program. There are also Indigenous and Inuit nativities scenes.

God, you are... Joy.

You bring us together to celebrate, rejoice, and have fun!

Help us to... see the joy of little babies and the awesome potential of each new life.
And to share our excitement about the fun of celebration.

So that we can... share the fun and joy of Christmas with other people.

And share what we have so everyone has what they need.

Amen.

The candle is lit.

THE GATHERING OF THE COMMUNITY

We worship this morning upon the traditional and unceded territory of the Algonquin Anishnaabeg people. **May we live upon this land in peace, truth and love.**

*Our liturgy is taken from the green Book of Alternative Services, beginning on page 151,
and our hymnody is taken from the blue Common Praise hymnal.*

Collect of the Day

God of power and mercy, you call us once again to celebrate the coming of your Son.

Remove those things which hinder love of you, that when he comes, he may find us waiting in awe and wonder for him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

THE PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

First Reading: Isaiah 35: 1-10

The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad; the desert shall rejoice and blossom; like the crocus it shall blossom abundantly and rejoice with joy and shouting. The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it, the majesty of Carmel and Sharon. They shall see the glory of the LORD, the majesty of our God. Strengthen the weak hands and make firm the feeble knees. Say to those who are of a fearful heart, "Be strong, do not fear! Here is your God. He will come with vengeance, with terrible recompense. He will come and save you." Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf shall be opened; then the lame shall leap like a deer, and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy. For waters shall break forth in the wilderness and streams in the desert; the burning sand shall become a pool and the thirsty ground springs of water; the haunt of jackals shall become a swamp; the grass shall become reeds and rushes. A highway shall be there, and it shall be called the Holy Way; the unclean shall not travel on it, but it shall be for God's people; no traveler, not even fools, shall go astray. No lion shall be there, nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it; they shall not be found there, but the redeemed shall walk there. And the ransomed of the LORD shall return and come to Zion with singing; everlasting joy shall be upon their heads; they shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

Psalm 146: 4-9

Norris

Second Reading: James 5: 7-10

Be patient, therefore, brothers and sisters, until the coming of the Lord. The farmer waits for the precious crop from the earth, being patient with it until it receives the early and the late rains. You also must be patient. Strengthen your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is near. Brothers and sisters, do not grumble against one another, so that you may not be judged. See, the Judge is standing at the doors! As an example of suffering and patience, brothers and sisters, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord.

Gradual Hymn: 100, Comfort, Comfort

Psalm 42

Gospel Acclamation: 714

The Spirit of the Lord God is upon me, because the Lord has anointed me to
bring good tidings to the afflicted. *Isaiah 61.1*

The Holy Gospel: Matthew 11: 2-11

When John heard in prison what the Messiah was doing, he sent word by his disciples and said to him, "Are you the one who is to come, or are we to wait for another?" Jesus answered them, "Go and tell John what you hear and see: the blind receive their sight, the lame walk,

those with a skin disease are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have good news brought to them. And blessed is anyone who takes no offense at me.” As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds about John: “What did you go out into the wilderness to look at? A reed shaken by the wind? What, then, did you go out to see? Someone dressed in soft robes? Look, those who wear soft robes are in royal palaces. What, then, did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. This is the one about whom it is written, ‘See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way before you.’ “Truly I tell you, among those born of women no one has arisen greater than John the Baptist, yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.

Sermon: The Reverend Geoffrey Chapman

Presentation and Examination of the Candidates *pg 153*

Prayers for the Candidates *pg 155*

The Celebration of Baptism *pg 156*

The Peace *pg 162*

THE CELEBRATION OF THE EUCHARIST

Offertory Hymn: 91 People, Look East *Besacon*

Thank you for supporting the ministry of St. Matthew's. There are offering alternatives to the Collection Plate: 1. St. Matthew's website at www.stmatthewsottawa.ca 2. The QR code to the right will take you directly to the 'Donate Now' page on our website (tax receipts will be issued) 3. The TipTap machine at the back of the church, Glebe Ave entrance, for credit/debit cards (no tax receipt).



The Prayer over the Gifts

God of hope, renew in us the joy of your salvation and make us a living sacrifice to you, for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.

The Great Thanksgiving: Eucharistic Prayer 3 *pg 198*

Sanctus and Benedictus *Mathias*

The Lord's Prayer *McNeil Robinson*

The Breaking of the Bread *pg 212*

The Communion *pg 213*

Agnus Dei *Mathias*

Communion Hymn: 78 Deck Yourself, My Soul, with Gladness *Schmucke Dich*

Anthem: Gaudete *Traditional*

Prayer after Communion

Merciful God, may this eucharist free us from our sins, fill us with unending joy, and prepare us for the birthday of our Saviour. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ, who is Lord now and for ever.

The Blessing *pg 214*

Announcements

Recessional Hymn: 111 Herald! Sound the Note of Judgement *Neander*

Dismissal *pg 215*

Postlude: Herr Christ, der ein'ge Gottes-Sohn *J.S.Bach*

Readings for Next Week

Isaiah 7: 10-16
Psalm 80: 1-7. 16-18
Romans 1: 1-7
Matthew 1: 18-25

Worship Leaders & Volunteers

8:00am

Celebrant and Preacher: The Rev. Geoffrey Chapman

Reader and Server: Leslie Jones

10:30am

Celebrant and Preacher: The Rev. Geoffrey Chapman

Greeters: Sue Rayner and Marg Terrett

Sidesperson: Norm Lewis

Servers: Cathy Simons, Victor Laing and Owen Farrelly

Readers: Catherine Simons and Bill Thurlow

Communion Ministers: Diane McCauley, Jim McCarthy and Pam Mackenzie

Prayers of the People: Bruce Miller

Altar Guild: Jane Oulton, Wendy Pullan, Robina Bulleid, Cathy Simons and Judy Billingsley (flowers)

Coffee Hour: Kathy and Brian Laffin

The Rev. Geoff Chapman: 613-854-0643, revgeoffchapman@stmatthewsottawa.ca

Honorary Assistants: The Most Rev. Barry Curtis, The Rev. Katherine (Katie) Tait

Theological Student: Sarah Keeshan

Interim Director of Music: Barbara Hallam-Price

Parish Administrator: Catherine James McGuinty: 613-234-4024

Rector's Warden: John McBride

People's Warden: Kevan Pipe

Deputy Wardens: Janice Messam and Wendy Pullan

Clergy Home Visits

Our clergy are happy to visit you. To arrange for a home visit with one of our clergy members please contact the office at 613-234-4024.

Pastoral Care Emergencies

For Pastoral Emergencies please contact Rev. Geoff Chapman at 613-854-0643.

This Week, Please Pray For:

In our Anglican Cycle of Prayer: The Church of Bangladesh

In our Diocesan Prayer Calendar: Archbishop Shane Parker, Primate of Canada; Archbishop Anne Germond, Metropolitan of the Ecclesiastical Province of Ontario, as well as:

- Our Diocesan Partner: Kairos Ottawa and Saint Paul University
- The Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada, Bishop Larry Kochendorfer and Bishop Carla Blakley
- and for the guidance of the Holy Spirit as we prepare to elect a new bishop: for those discerning a call to let their name stand for election; for the candidates; for Members of Synod; and for our diocesan Administrator, Bishop Michael Bird
- Parish of South Dundas and The Reverend Mark Lewis

In our Parish: Our Rector, The Reverend Geoffrey Chapman, our Honorary Assistant Clergy: The Most Reverend Barry Curtis and the Reverend Katherine Tait and our theological student Dr. Sarah Keeshan

Those who are in need of our prayers and those who are ill: Lois, Michael, Peter, Susan, Liz, Stephanie, Sally, Jim, Maureen, John, Elizabeth, Cathie and Jeffrey

Please give prayers for those who have died, may their souls rest in peace and rise in glory, and may all who mourn know God's comfort and peace.

This morning we give prayers of thanksgiving for the baptisms of Michael William Bolick, Benjamin Byron Bolick and their father Andrew Michael Bolick. May they grow in God's grace and love.

This morning we give prayers of thanksgiving for the safe arrival of **Theodore ("Teddy") Michael Goddard**, who was born on December 8 to Yana and Chris, proud big brother Jack and Grandparents Randi and Michael. May Theodore grow in God's grace and love.

We pray with the children and youth of St. Matthew's Anglican Church as they discover nativity sets from around the world. This week's set is made of olive wood from Bethlehem with the help of St. George College in Jerusalem. St. George's workers have been faced with precarious employment due to a lack of pilgrims, and we pray for that needed support.

Liturgical Calendar

Sun	Dec 14	8:00am	Said Holy Eucharist	3 rd Sunday of Advent
Sun	Dec 14	10:30am	Sung Holy Eucharist	3 rd Sunday of Advent
Thu	Dec 18	10:00am	Said Holy Eucharist	Week of Advent 3
Sun	Dec 21	8:00am	Said Holy Eucharist	4 th Sunday of Advent
Sun	Dec 21	10:30am	Sung Holy Eucharist	4 th Sunday of Advent
Sun	Dec 21	7:00pm		Nine Lessons and Carols
Wed	Dec 24	4:00pm	Sung Holy Eucharist	Nativity of our Lord with Pageant
Wed	Dec 24	10:00pm	Sung Holy Eucharist	Nativity of our Lord Candlelight Service
Thu	Dec 25	10:00am	Said Holy Eucharist	Christmas Day

Announcements

Dec 14	St. Nicolas Party
Dec 21, 7pm	Nine Lessons and Carols

New! St. Nicholas Party: St. Matthew's annual St. Nicholas Party will be held today following the 10:00am. service. We invite all our parish family to join us for this special event and enjoy a delicious luncheon. Children will have the opportunity to decorate Christmas gift bags and there will also be a mini Scarf and Jewellery sale for those special Christmas gifts.

New! Cookie Ministry: December is the month for St. Matthew's "Cookie Ministry" when we deliver tins of homemade Christmas cookies to members of our congregation who can no longer join us for worship in person. If you would like to join our team to either bake or deliver the cookies, please contact Virginia Lindsay at dvilindsay@bell.net or 613 237-5827. We plan to pack the tins on Thursday, December 18 and hope to have them delivered on December 19-20.

New! Out of the Cold Supper: St Matthews will once again host the Out of the Cold Supper at Southminster United Church on Saturday, February 28, 2026. We have participated in this worthy initiative for many years now as part of our outreach activities. We need about 18 volunteers in total over the course of an afternoon, from about 1pm to 6pm. Indeed, we have been so fortunate to have had many wonderful repeat helpers from previous years. We are responsible for setting up the tables, preparing and cooking a meal from scratch, serving the meal, sharing in fellowship with guests and clean up. We set up shifts to distribute the responsibilities, so the work is manageable.

In past years, we have served as many as 70 guests who have welcomed a warm, home-cooked meal on a cold winter's night. In these challenging times of higher food prices, it has become harder for many people to manage. If you have some time to participate, please get in touch with me at abiguza@gmail.com. Many thanks for all you do to help others, Anita

New! Give thoughtful gifts with a smaller environmental footprint

- Take a jar of St. Matthew's crab apple jelly (\$10) as a perfect host gift!
- Consider giving home-made or locally-made consumable treats such as baking, preserves, honey, soap or adult beverages
- Give an experience like theatre or live music, or an electronic subscription
- Shop St. Matthew's online Treasures Boutique at <https://event.auctria.com/456e4271-f70f-4e34-9492-4928ed66b464/>
- Shop at second-hand, consignment and vintage stores. Browse Facebook Market place and Kijiji.

Visit the Creation Matters table downstairs after the Sunday 10:30 AM service. It's not too late to purchase the following locally-made and re-purposed items, support St. Matthew's and cross items off your Christmas to-do list all in one place!:

- crab apple jelly – perfect neighbour, stocking stuffer and host gifts!
- note pads made from Matthew's bulletins, and
- Christmas gift tags made from recycled Christmas cards

New! St. Luke's Table, a ministry of our diocese, is in need of the following winter items, in order of priority: **mittens, gloves, toques.**

If you are able to bring a pair of something warm for our friends who need them, please drop them off in the box at the back of the church by Sunday December 21. Consider making this donation as a Christmas gift for a friend and let them know! Contact Julia Lipinska at lipinskaj@rocketmail.com with any questions. Thank you.

New! Last Sunday to return Jesse Tree gifts: This **Sunday, December 14**, is the final day to return your gift, wrapped or in a gift bag, WITH the gift tag. Thank you to everyone who has already returned their gifts. We need the tags returned with the gifts so they can be matched with the gift recipient. Please also bring in any house supplies and other requests as mentioned last week by this Sunday. Thank you for participating in this initiative! Please contact admin@stmatthewsottawa.ca, or see Ashley Thorvaldson or Julia Lipinska with any questions.

Church Calendars: I have 12 church calendars for sale in the office. There are \$10 each. Please contact the office if you would like one. 613-234-4024 or admin@stmatthewsottawa.ca

Flower Dedications: If you would like to make a flower dedication in the Christmas bulletins please contact the office before December 19 with your message and your donation. 613-234-4024 or admin@stmatthewsottawa.ca

Casting for the Christmas Family Service (December 24 at 4:00 p.m.): As we start the season of Advent, the children and families of the Sunday School invite you to join us to prepare for the Nativity Pageant. This year's pageant is inspired by the Godly Play program the children have enjoyed over the past year. This presentation of the Nativity will focus on the traditional story and the wonder it inspires. We invite you to reach out to the children and

families in your life who may want to participate in this year's Christmas Eve family service. To help with planning, rehearsals will take place during Sunday school over the coming weeks: Advent 2 (Dec 7), Advent 3 (Dec 14) and Advent 4 (Dec 21). We will hold a dress rehearsal after the service on Dec 21 and start preparation for the Christmas Eve service at 3:00pm on December 24 ahead of the 4:00pm service.

Currently, we are looking to cast small actors in small parts; such as: **Narrators (2); Mary and Joseph; Angel Gabriel, Angels; Shepherds; Sheep and Magi (3). Also one donkey...** Grateful for your help to spread the word about this opportunity to come together as a community and celebrate the reason for the season with the children of our congregation. If you would like to be a part of this year's pageant, please let Admin@stmatthewsottawa.ca know. Thanks, Ashley

Nativities of the World: As we get ready to come close to the mystery of Christmas, St. Matthew's children and youth will present nativity sets from different countries and offer prayers in each week of Advent. The nativities will be displayed in the prayer alcove. They are from the following countries:

Advent 1 (Nov. 30) - Guatemala, Turkey, Uzbekistan

Advent 2 – Bethlehem, provided by St. George College in Jerusalem

Advent 3 - Ukraine, Godly Play, Indigenous and Inuit nativity stamps.

Advent 4 - Nativity with bible passages, Germany

To express gratitude, donations to the ADO campaign for St. George College or to St. Matthew's would be appreciated:

To St. Matthews: cheque to St. Matthew's or etransfer to finance@stmatthewsottawa.ca.

To St. George's: <https://www.saintgeorgescollegejerusalem.com/giving/>

Nine Lessons and Carols: St. Matthew's choir will present Nine Lessons and Carols on Sunday, December 21st at 7:00 pm. Come and sing some wonderful Christmas carols, listen to the readings and hear some beautiful new and old carols prepared by the choir.

Rides to Church: If you need a ride to church, please fill out the sign-up form located at the back of the church. If you are able to offer a ride, please check the form for names, neighbourhoods, and phone numbers of those requesting transportation. Hopefully we can match up some folks.

Kids' Choir: Kids choir has started up! If you have a child interested in singing who is 6-7 years of age or older, please contact Barb Hallam-Price at: bhallamprice@gmail.com. We meet on Mondays at 4:30 p.m. and currently the choir sings once a month on the last Sunday.

Office Hours & Pastoral Visitation: In the interest of being more available to all of you, especially for our many members who live near our parish, I will be keeping office hours from **10:00 am to noon** on Wednesdays specifically for you to stop by, as well as my home

visitation schedule on Tuesdays. Feel free to come by the office on Wednesday mornings if you want to connect with me, or reach out for a home visit as well. Geoff+

The Wednesday 11 AM Christian Meditation Group meets weekly via Zoom. For more information about the group, and to receive the Zoom link, please call Sue Rayner at 613-558-7899 or email m.s.rayner@sympatico.ca. To learn more about Christian Meditation please visit wccm.org.

217 First Avenue, Ottawa K1S 2G5
613 234-4024
admin@stmatthewsottawa.ca
www.stmatthewsottawa.ca