

ST. MATTHEW'S

The Anglican Church in the Glebe

4th Sunday of Advent



December 21, 2025

THE HOLY EUCHARIST

Service Setting:

Mathias

Prelude: Schmucke dich, O Liebe Seele

J.S.Bach

Processional Hymn: 89 O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

Veni Emmanuel

Today we are presenting a nativity set from Germany and a set that reminds us the story of the birth of Jesus.

God, you are... Love.

We can see You in the love that Mary and Joseph are giving to Baby Jesus. And the love of the shepherds, and kings, and angels and animals. They are showing us how to love you and each other.

Help us to... show that love to each other and all people and animals, including some of our favourite animals like elephants and giraffes, cats and groundhogs.

So that we...

Can see when other people and friends need our help.

And we can respond with love to their needs, hurts, and joys. Just like you respond to everything that we feel and need with your love.

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 185,
and our hymnody is taken from the blue Common Praise hymnal.*

Collect of the Day

Heavenly Father, who chose the Virgin Mary, full of grace, to be the mother of our Lord and Saviour, now fill us with your grace, that we in all things may embrace your will and with her rejoice in your salvation; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Trisagion: 707

THE PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

First Reading: Isaiah 7: 10-16

Again the LORD spoke to Ahaz, saying, “Ask a sign of the LORD your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven.” But Ahaz said, “I will not ask, and I will not put the LORD to the test.” Then Isaiah said, “Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary mortals that you weary my God also? Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son and shall name him Immanuel. He shall eat curds and honey by the time he knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good. For before the child knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good, the land before whose two kings you are in dread will be deserted.

Psalm 80: 1-7, 16-18

Havergal

Second Reading: Romans 1: 1-7

Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus, called to be an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God, which he promised beforehand through his prophets in the holy scriptures, the gospel concerning his Son, who was descended from David according to the flesh and was declared to be Son of God with power according to the spirit of holiness by resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord, through whom we have received grace and apostleship to bring about the obedience of faith among all the gentiles for the sake of his name, including you who are called to belong to Jesus Christ, To all God’s beloved in Rome, who are called to be saints: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

Gradual Hymn: 117 Lo, How a Rose E’er Blooming

Gospel Acclamation: 711

A virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and his name shall be called
Emmanuel: God with us. *Matthew 1: 23*

The Holy Gospel: Matthew 1: 18-25

Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be pregnant from the Holy Spirit. Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to divorce her quietly. But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, “Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.” All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet: “Look, the virgin shall become pregnant and give birth to a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel,” which means, “God is with us.” When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife but had no marital relations with her until she had given birth to a son, and he named him Jesus.

Sermon: The Reverend Geoffrey Chapman

Apostles’ Creed

pg 189

Prayers of the People

Confession and Absolution

pg 191

The Peace

pg 192

THE CELEBRATION OF THE EUCHARIST

Offertory Hymn: 96 Creator of the Stars of Night

Conductor Alme Siderum

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

Gracious God, by the power of the Spirit who sanctified the mother of your Son, make holy all we offer you this day. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ the 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: 74 For the Bread Which You Have Broken

Omni Due Dic Maria

Anthem: E'en So Lord Jesus

P. Manz

Prayer after Communion

Faithful God, in this sacrament we receive the promise of salvation. May we, like the Virgin Mary, be obedient to your will. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord.

The Blessing

pg 214

Announcements

Recessional Hymn: 269 Heavenly Message

Pied-de-Port

Dismissal

pg 215

Postlude: Canzona in d

J.S.Bach

Readings for Next Week

Isaiah 63: 7-9

Psalm 148

Hebrews 2: 10-18

Matthew 2: 13-23

Worship Leaders & Volunteers

8:00am

Celebrant and Preacher: The Rev. Geoffrey Chapman

Reader and Server: Cathy Simons

10:30am

Celebrant and Preacher: The Rev. Geoffrey Chapman

Greeters: Virginia Lindsay and Diane McCauley

Sidesperson: Elaine Gordon

Servers: Leslie Jones, Owen Farrelly and Rebecca Laffin

Readers: Lisa Sheehy and Kathi Racine

Communion Ministers: Elizabeth Kent, Leslie Jones and Ruth Frayne

Prayers of the People: Debora Fleming

Altar Guild: Janice Sonnen, Dale McKenzie, Elizabeth macMillan, Ruth Frayne, Darina

Griffin Anastasia Iwauala and Judy Billingsley (flowers)

Coffee Hour: Seddigh Faraji and Shouresh Assimi

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 Anglican Church of Burundi

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: Multifaith Housing Initiative (MHI)
- The Anglican Council of Indigenous Peoples, the Rt. Rev. Christopher Harper, National Indigenous Anglican Archbishop, Sacred Circle Events, and the ministry of reconciliation
- 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
- St. James, Otter Lake and all who minister there
- St. Paul's, Hazeldean-Kanata and the Reverend Canon Stephen Silverthorne

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, Sandra, Ryan, Sarah, John and Rachel

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 faithful life of Louis Scheffer, who died on December 14, and for Sandra (his wife), family and friends who mourn his death.

We pray with the children, youth and parishioners as we discover nativity sets from around the world. This week's set is from Germany.

Liturgical Calendar

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
Sun	Dec 28	8:00am	Said Holy Eucharist	1 st Sunday after Christmas
Sun	Dec 28	10:30am	Sung Holy Eucharist	1 st Sunday after Christmas

Announcements

Dec 21, 7pm	Nine Lessons and Carols
-------------	-------------------------

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.

New! 2025 Tax Receipts: Any donations you would like included with your 2025 tax receipt, must be received no later than Dec. 31, 2025.

New! Creation Matters: Think green! Getting ready for Christmas day, and after - Time to get that small number of thoughtful presents wrapped! Avoid buying new wrapping paper. Use newspaper, out-of-date maps or use reusable bags. Use the ribbon you saved last year! Buy locally and regionally grown and produced food for your special meals. Use the food that you froze in the fall from your garden or local market! Focus holiday gatherings on relationships rather than large amounts of food, and recycle and compost everything you can. Joy, peace, love and good health to you this Christmas!

New! Christmas Items for Sale: It's not too late to purchase the following locally-made and re-purposed items in preparation for Christmas!:

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

See Julia Lipinska after the 10:30 AM service this Sunday!

New! St. Luke's Table needs: This is the final Sunday to bring in the following needed items in order of priority: **mittens, gloves, toques**. Please drop them off in the box at the back of the church. Thank you for your generosity to-date! Contact Julia Lipinska at lipinskaj@rocketmail.com with questions.

New! Bring in your used stamps to help fund ministries to end leprosy (also known as Hansen's disease). Cut a 1/4 inch border around your stamps and put in the marked box at the back of the church. Thank you! Contact Julia Lipinska at lipinskaj@rocketmail.com with questions.

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

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

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