



# *Welcome to St. George's*

## **Community Festival of Readings and Carols**

### **December 24, 2020**

**7:30 PM**

*I bring you good news of a great joy which will come to all the people;  
for to you is born this day a Saviour, Christ the Lord. Luke 2:10-11*

We are a Christian church within the Anglican tradition and we welcome people of all Christian traditions as well as people of other faiths and people of little or no faith. Welcome to our church family!

**Rector** The Rev. Canon Ralph Blackman  
**Organist** Gerry Manning  
**Singers** Paula Turnbull, Sarah Schmidt-McQuillan, Chad Morey, Ian Dickieson  
Auri Fell, Alexander Ly, Lenny Muth  
**Reader** Marlena Tureski

We wish to acknowledge that we meet on land that, at the time of contact, was held by the Attawandaron as an area of trade and ceremony by the 2 rivers. At various times the land was occupied by both Haudenosaunee from the south and Anishnaabe from the north. In more recent times the Huron Treaty gave rights to the Mississaugas of New Credit. May we who dwell on or visit this land also be good stewards and honour those who came before us.

**Prelude** *On December Five and Twenty: Fum! Fum! Fum!* Richard Lind

### **Welcome and Gathering Prayer**

**Carol** *A-Caroling We Go* arr. Philip Kern

**1<sup>st</sup> Reading** *Luke 2:1-16*

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, 'Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.' And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, 'Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favours!'

When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, 'Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.' So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger.

**Carol** *Once in Royal David's City*

**2<sup>nd</sup> Reading** *Matthew 2:1-12*

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, magi from the East came to Jerusalem, asking, 'Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage.' When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. They told him, 'In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet: "And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel." '

Then Herod secretly called for the magi and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, 'Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage.' When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure-chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

**Carol** *God Rest You Merry, Gentlemen* arr. James Neal Koudelka

**3<sup>rd</sup> Reading** *A Carol for Children* Ogden Nash

**Music** *Mary, Don't You Know* Mark Lowry

*All I Want for Christmas* arr. Auri Fell

**4<sup>th</sup> Reading** *The Peace of Wild Things* Wendell Berry

**Carol** *Ding Dong, Merrily on High* arr. Lou Harris

### **Reflection and Blessing**

**Carol** *We Wish You a Merry Christmas* arr. Arthur Frackenpohl  
*(A Bach Merry Christmas)*

**Postlude** *Sleigh Bells Across the Snow* Malcolm Archer

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- On our website (www.saintgeorge.ca)
- E-transfer to bookkeeper@saintgeorge.ca
- Cheque to our mailing address

## *Office Hours:*

The office is closed to the public at this time. The office email and voicemail are checked regularly.

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