

St. Alban's Anglican Church



*Songs for
the Season*

Advent Lessons and Carols

December 13th, 2024, 7:00 pm

A Community Service of Readings and Music

Please join us and enjoy the reception following in the church hall!

Prelude

Queen of Sheba
Largo from “Winter”
Sonata in D major, I & II

F. Handel
A. Vivaldi
T. Albinoni

Jonathan Der (violin), Benjamin Sigerson (piano)

Carol (stand)

O Come All Ye Faithful

CP 118

**O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant,
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;
come and behold him, born the King of angels,
O come let us adore him...
Christ the Lord.**

**God of God, light of light,
lo, he abhors not the virgin’s womb
very God, begotten not created
O come let us adore him...
Christ the Lord.**

**Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation
sing, all ye citizens of heaven above
glory to God in the highest:
O come let us adore him...
Christ the Lord.**

**See how the shepherds, summoned to his cradle,
Leaving their flocks draw nigh with lowly fear;
We too will thither bend our joyful footsteps;
O come let us adore him...
Christ the Lord.**

**Yea, Lord we greet thee, born this happy morning;
Jesus to thee be glory given;
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing:
O come let us adore him..
Christ the Lord.**

Welcome

Reverend Bill Mok
St. Albans Anglican Church

Territorial Acknowledgement

Robyn Hanson

Greetings

Mr. Bill McNulty, *Richmond City Councillor*

Lighting of the Advent Candle:

Brandon Mok
St. Alban's Anglican Church

ADVENT PRAYER:

Megan Mok
St. Alban's Anglican Church

ALMIGHTY God, give us grace that we may cast away the works of darkness, and put upon us the armour of light, now in the time of this mortal life, in which your Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that in the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious Majesty, to judge both the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, now and ever. Amen.

Isaiah 40:1-11

Amanda Hansen
St. Anne's Anglican Church

Prayer

The Rev. Marnie Peterson
St. Anne's Anglican Church

Carol (be Seated)

O Little Town of Bethlehem

CP 120

**O little town of Bethlehem,
how still we see thee lie!
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep
the silent stars go by.
Yet in thy dark streets shineth
the everlasting light;
the hopes and fears of all the years
are met in thee tonight.**

**For Christ is born of Mary;
and, gathered all above,
while mortals sleep, the angels keep
their watch of wond'ring love.
O morning stars, together
proclaim the holy birth,
and praises sing to God the King,
and peace to men on earth.**

**How silently, how silently,
the wondrous gift is giv'n!
So God imparts to human hearts
the blessings of His heav'n.**

**No ear may hear His coming,
but in this world of sin,
where meek souls will receive Him still,
the dear Christ enters in.**

**O holy Child of Bethlehem,
descend to us, we pray;
cast out our sin and enter in;
be born in us today.
We hear the Christmas angels,
the great glad tidings tell;
O come to us, abide with us,
our Lord Emmanuel!**

Isaiah 35:1-10

Marg Dixon
South Arm United Church

Prayer

Rev Lauren Kirkey
South Arm United Church

Carol (stand)

Once in Royal David's City

CP 123

**Once in Royal David's city
Stood lowly cattle shed,
Where a mother laid her Baby
In a manger for His bed:
Mary was that mother mild,
Jesus Christ her little Child.**

**He came down to earth from heaven,
Who is God and Lord of all,
And His shelter was a stable,
And His cradle was a stall;
With the poor, and mean, and lowly,
Lived on earth our Saviour holy.**

**Not in that poor lowly stable,
With the oxen standing by,
We shall see Him; but in heaven,
Set at God's right hand on high;
Where like stars His children crowned
All in white shall wait around.**

Poem

Unexpected by Ann Weems

Jabin Litwiniec
St. Alban's Anglican Church

Even now we simply do not expect
to find a deity in a stable.
Somehow the setting is all wrong:
the swaddling clothes too plain,
the manger too common for the likes of a Savior,
the straw inelegant,
the animals, reeking and noisy,
the whole scene too ordinary for our taste.
And the cast of characters is no better.
With the possible exception of the kings,
who among them is fit for this night?
the shepherds? certainly too crude,
the carpenter too rough,
the girl too young.
And the baby!
Whoever expected a baby?
Whoever expected the advent of God in a helpless child?
Had the Messiah arrived in the blazing light of the glory
of a legion of angels wielding golden swords,
the whole world would have been conquered for Christ
right then and there
and we in the church-to say nothing of the world! -
wouldn't have so much trouble today.
Even now we simply do not expect
to face the world armed with love

Gesu Bambino

Pietro A. Yon

*Rachel Eaton (Soprano), Alex Gowans (baritone)
Jonathan Der (violin), Eshantha Peiris (piano)*

**Hark! the herald angels sing, Glory to the new born king.
 Peace on earth, and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled.
 Joyful, all ye nations rise, join the triumph of the skies;
 with the angelic host proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem"
 Hark! the herald angels sing, Glory to the new born King.**

**Christ, by highest heaven adored, Christ, the everlasting Lord,
 late in time behold him come offspring of a virgin's womb.
 Veiled in flesh the Godhead see; hail, the incarnate deity,
 pleased as man with man to dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel!
 Hark! the herald angels sing, Glory to the new born King.**

**Hail the heaven-born Prince of Peace! Hail the Sun of Righteousness!
 Light and life to all He brings, Risen with healing in His wings
 Mild He lays His glory by born that man no more may die
 Born to raise the sons of earth born to give them second birth
 Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the new-born king"**

Luke 1: 26-38

Alex Gowans
 Our Saviour Lutheran Church

Prayer

Pastor Christoph Reiners
 Our Saviour Lutheran Church

Carol (be seated)

What Child Is This

CP 137

**Refrain: This, this is Christ the king, whom shepherds guard and angels sing; haste,
 haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mary.**

**What child is this, who, laid to rest, on
 Mary's lap is sleeping? Whom angels greet with
 anthems sweet, while shepherds watch are keeping? Refrain**

**Why lies he in such mean estate where
 ox and ass are feeding? Good Christian, fear:
 for sinners here the silent Word is pleading. Refrain**

**So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh; come,
peasant, king, to own him.
The King of kings salvation brings; let loving hearts enthrone him.
*Refrain***

Christmas Time is Here

Benjamin Sigerson
St. Alban's Anglican Church

Luke 1:39-45

Jackie D'Souza
St. Paul Roman Catholic Church

Prayer

The Rev Katherine Hough
St. Augustine Anglican Church

Interlude

Jesu Joy of Man's Desiring
Richmond Delta Youth Orchestra

Bach

Carol (be seated)

Away in a Manger

CP 126

**Away in a manger, no crib for a bed,
the little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head.
The stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay,
the little Lord Jesus, asleep on the hay.**

**The cattle are lowing, the baby awakes,
but little Lord Jesus no crying he makes.
I love you, Lord Jesus; look down from the sky,
and stay by my side until morning is nigh.**

**Be near me, Lord Jesus I ask you to stay
close by me forever, and love me, I pray.
Bless all the dear children in your tender care,
and fit us for heaven, to live with you there.**

Choir Anthem

Songs of the Promise

by Joseph Martin

Luke 2: 1-7

Beverly Holt,
Gilmore Park United Church

Prayer

Rev Bruce McAndless- Davis
Gilmore Park United Church

Carol (stand)

The First Nowell

CP 139

**The first Nowell the angel did say
was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay,
in fields where they lay keeping their sheep,
on a cold winter's night that was so deep.**

Refrain:

*Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell,
born is the King of Israel.*

**They looked up and saw a star
shining in the east beyond them far;
and to the earth it gave great light,
and so it continued both day and night.**

Refrain

**And by the light of that same star
three wise men came from country far;
to seek for a king was their intent,
and to follow the star wherever it went.**

Refrain

**Then entered in those wise men three,
full reverently upon their knee,
and offered there in his presence
their gold, and myrrh, and frankincense.**

Refrain

**Then let us all with one accord
sing praises to our heavenly Lord,
that hath made heaven and earth of nought,
and with his blood our life hath bought.**

Refrain

Poem

The Christmas Spirit, by Ann Weems

Jabin Litwiniec
St. Alban's Anglican Church

The Christmas Spirit
is that hope
which tenaciously clings
to the hearts of the faithful
and announces
in the face
of any Herod, the world can produce
and all the inn doors slammed in our faces
and all the dark nights of our souls
that with God
all things are possible,
that even now
unto us
a Child is born!

Carol (stand)

Mary's Boy Child

Long time ago in Bethlehem
So the Holy Bible say
Mary's boy child, Jesus Christ
Was born on Christmas day
Hark, now hear the angels sing
A new King born today
And man will live forevermore
Because of Christmas day

While shepherds watch their flock by night
Them see a bright new shining star
Them hear a choir sing
The music seemed to come from afar
Trumpets sound and angels sing
Listen to what they say
That man will live forevermore
Because of Christmas day

Now Joseph and his wife Mary
Come to Bethlehem that night
Them find no place to borne she child
Not a single room was in sight
Trumpets sound and angels sing
Listen what they say

*That man will live forevermore
Because of Christmas day
By and by, they find a little nook
In a stable all forlorn
And in a manger, cold and dark
Mary's little boy was born
Trumpets sound and angels sing
Listen what they say
That man will live forevermore
Because of Christmas day*

Prayers for the World

Pam Hiensch
St. Alban's Anglican Church

Lord's Prayer (seated)

Sung

Gordon Light

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name;
Your kingdom come, your will be done on earth,
as in heav'n. Give us today our daily bread;
forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours;
now and forever. Amen.**

Light dimming, candles lit

Carol (stand)

Silent Night

CP 119

**Silent night! Holy night! All is calm,
all is bright round yon virgin mother and child.
Holy infant so tender and mild, sleep in
heavenly peace, sleep in heavenly peace.**

**Silent night! Holy night! Shepherds quake
at the sight: glories stream from heaven afar,
heavenly hosts sing alleluia, Christ the
Saviour is born, Christ the Saviour is born.**

**Silent night! Holy night! Son of God,
love's pure light radiant beams from thy holy face,
with the dawn of redeeming grace, Jesus,
Lord, at thy birth. Jesus, Lord, at thy birth.**

Blessing and Sending Forth

All the Ministers and Priests

May the Spirit of hope lead you
to prepare the way of the Lord;
may the God of comfort embrace you,
as the valleys are lifted up,
and every mountain and hill made low;
may the Child of Promise leap within you,
as together we journey through this Advent time.
Amen.

Candles extinguished

Carol (stand)

Joy to the World

CP 154

**Joy to the World! The Lord is come let earth receive her King!
Let every heart prepare him room, and heaven and nature sing, and
heaven and nature sing, and heaven, and heaven and nature sing.**

**Joy to the Earth! The Saviour reigns let folk their songs employ,
while fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains, repeat the sounding
joy, repeat the sounding joy, repeat, repeat the sounding joy.**

**No more let sins and sorrows grow,
nor thorns infest the ground;
He comes to make His blessings flow
far as the curse is found,
far as the curse is found,
far as, far as the curse is found.**

**He rules the earth with truth and grace, and makes the nations prove
The glories of his righteousness and wonders of his love,
and wonders of his love, and wonders, wonders of his love.**

Postlude (seated)

Rondeau
Richmond Delta Youth Orchestra

J. J. Mouret

Thank you all for coming this evening!

Please join us in the hall after the Songs for the Seasons for some goodies and refreshments.

Organist: Ron Steveson, Jonathan Der

Piano: Eshantha Peiris, Benjamin Sigerson

Vocalists: Rachel Eaton, Alex Gowans

Brent van Dusen (percussion) - Tabito Mita (double bass)

Richmond Delta Youth Orchestra Chamber ensemble – Jonathan Der (Violin/Conductor)

www.rdyo.ca

We are thankful for the voices from the following faith communities

St. Alban's Anglican Church, St. Anne's Anglican Church, Gilmore Park United, South Arm United Church, Our Saviour Lutheran Church, St. Paul Roman Catholic Church, Richmond Baptist Church.

Posters: Rachel Eaton

Programme: Jennifer Kirk



Christmas Eve Service Dec 24th 7pm

Christmas Day Service Dec 25th 10 am

All Welcome!