



ST. JOHN'S NORWAY

ANGLICAN CHURCH IN THE BEACHES



ST. JOHN'S NORWAY
ANGLICAN CHURCH IN THE BEACHES

WELCOME TO ST. JOHN'S NORWAY

We are so glad to have you worship with us!

*We are a growing, diverse, and energetic faith community learning to follow Jesus together.
Wherever you are on your spiritual journey, you are invited to join us.*



ST. JOHN'S NORWAY
470 Woodbine Avenue
Toronto, Ontario
M4E 2H6

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Twitter: [@stjnorway](https://twitter.com/stjnorway)

Third Sunday of Advent

10:30 AM – Sunday, December 14, 2025

Celebrant: The Rev. Tay Moss

Preacher: The Rev. Molly Finlay

Deacon: The Rev. John Quaggin

Readers: Christine Lambert, Andrew Matthews

Intercessor: Mary Miller

Candle Lighting: Jada Blackwood & Hunter Dunlop

Chalice Bearer: Susan Bennett, Christine Lambert

Server: Ardith Baerveldt

Music Director: Declan Tse

Soloists: Zyion Stephens, Tarquin Wongkee, Daniel Rojas

Prelude Music

Welcome & Gathering of the Community

(Please stand)

Advent Hymn

CP 91 - People Look East! The Time is Near (verse 3)

Birds, though you long have ceased to build,
guard the nest that must be filled;
even the hour when wings are frozen
God for fledging time has chosen.
People, look east and sing today:
Love, the bird, is on the way.

(Please remain standing)

The Lighting of the Advent Candles

Reader 1 We light this candle as a symbol of God's love for us and our love for one another.

The third candle is lit.

Reader 2 For the Lord will fulfill his promise to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. A righteous Branch will spring up for David; and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the Land.

All Come, Lord Jesus, come!

Opening Hymn

CP 132 – *Of Eternal Love Begotten* (verses 1, 5, 6)

Of eternal love begotten,
ere the worlds began to be,
he is Alpha and Omega,
he the source, the ending he,
of the things that are, that have been,
and that future years shall see,
evermore and evermore.

O ye heights of heaven adore him;
angel hosts, his praises sing;
all dominions bow before him,
and extol our God and king;
let no tongue on earth be silent,
every voice in concert ring,
evermore and evermore.

Christ, to thee, with God the Father,
and, O Holy Ghost, to thee,
hymn and chant and high thanksgiving,
and unwearied praises be,
honour, glory, and dominion,
and eternal victory,
evermore and evermore.

Celebrant The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
and the love of God,
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,
be with you all.

All **And also with you.**

Celebrant Almighty God,
All **to you all hearts are open,
all desires known,
and from you no secrets are hidden.
Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration
of your Holy Spirit,
that we may perfectly love you,
and worthily magnify your holy name;
through Christ our Lord.
Amen.**

Collect of the Day

Celebrant Let us pray.
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.

All **Amen.**

(Please be seated)

The Proclamation of the Word

The Readings

Christine A reading from the Book of Isaiah.

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 singing. 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 unstopped; 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 traveller, 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.

(Isaiah 35:1-10)

Christine The Word of the Lord.
People Thanks be to God.

Canticle 18 (The Song of Mary)

Choir My soul rejoices in the Lord; I glorify the holy name of God.

All My soul rejoices in the Lord; I glorify the holy name of God.

Choir

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,
my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour.

For you, Lord, have looked with favour on your lowly servant;
from this day all generations will call me blessed:

All

My soul rejoices in the Lord; I glorify the holy name of God.

Choir

You, the Almighty, have done great things for me,
and holy is his name.

You have mercy on those who fear you,
from generation to generation.

All

My soul rejoices in the Lord; I glorify the holy name of God.

Choir

You have shown strength with your arm,
and scattered the proud in their conceit.

Casting down the mighty from their thrones,
and lifting up the lowly.

He has filled the hungry with good things,
and sent the rich away empty.

All

My soul rejoices in the Lord; I glorify the holy name of God.

Choir

You have come to the help of your servant Israel,
to remember the promise of mercy,

the promise made to our forebears,
to Abraham and his children for ever.

All

My soul rejoices in the Lord; I glorify the holy name of God.

Andrew

A reading from the Letter of James.

Be patient, therefore, beloved, 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. Beloved, 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, beloved, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord.
(James 5:7-10)

Andrew
People

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Please stand for the reading of the Gospel.

The Gospel is carried down the centre aisle into the midst of the people gathered, as a symbol of God's sending out of Jesus—who is the "Word made flesh" into the world.

All

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Deacon
People
Deacon
People

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.
The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.
Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

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, the lepers 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 offence 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."
(Matthew 11:2-11)

Deacon The Gospel of Christ.
People Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

All Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

The Sermon

The Rev. Molly Finlay

The Apostles' Creed

Celebrant Let us confess our faith as we say,
All I believe in God,
the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the Virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again.
He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

(Please sit or kneel for prayer)

The Prayers of the People

Confession and Absolution

Celebrant Dear friends in Christ,
God is steadfast in love and infinite in mercy;
he welcomes sinners
and invites them to his table.
Let us confess our sins,
confident in God's forgiveness.

Silence is kept.

Celebrant Most merciful God,
All **we confess that we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbours as ourselves.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us and forgive us,
that we may delight in your will,
and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your name.
Amen.**

Celebrant Almighty God have mercy upon you,
pardon and deliver you from all your sins,
confirm and strengthen you in all goodness,
and keep you in eternal life;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

(Please stand)

The Peace

Celebrant
People

The peace of the Lord be always with you.
And also with you.

Sharing “peace” with one another is an ancient Christian tradition, not only in the words of Jesus, but also in the practices of the Christian community.

Passing the peace began as a way for people in the Christian community to be reconciled to one another before making their offering at the altar.

It is for this reason that the Peace always comes before Communion.

We impart the Peace of Christ with one another when we greet each other in this meaningful way.

(Please remain standing and join in singing)

Offertory Music *Praise Ye the Lord of Hosts from Christmas Oratorio (Saint-Saens)*

Choir

Praise ye the Lord of Hosts, Sing his Salvation,
Bless His name, show forth his praise in his holy house!

All

**Praise ye the Lord of Hosts, Sing his Salvation,
Bless His name, show forth his praise in his holy house!**

Choir

Rejoice, ye heav'ns, and be joyful on earth,
Rejoice in the face of the Lord, for He cometh. Alleluia.

All

**Rejoice, ye heav'ns, and be joyful on earth,
Rejoice in the face of the Lord, for He cometh. Alleluia.**

Choir

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia. **[Repeat]**

All

**Rejoice, ye angels, rejoice all ye nations,
Now in the face of the Lord, for He cometh. Alleluia.**

The Celebration of the Eucharist

Invitation to Offering

We at St. John the Baptist Norway give regularly to God's work through offerings and other gifts. Our offerings support the life of the parish, as well as the work we do in the world, both locally and globally.

We invite you to contribute financially as you can to the life and ministry of the parish.

If you wish to donate online through Canada Helps, please scan the QR code and follow the link. To sign up for pre-authorized giving, you may contact the Church Office at admin@stjohnsnorway.com or call us at 416-691-4560. Thank you!



(Please stand)

The Prayer over the Gifts

Celebrant 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.

People Amen.

The Great Thanksgiving

Celebrant The Lord be with you.
People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.
People **We lift them to the Lord.**

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Celebrant Blessed are you, gracious God,
creator of heaven and earth;
we give you thanks and praise
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who in the fullness of time came among us in our flesh,
and opened to us the way of salvation.
Now we watch for the day when he will come again
in power and great triumph to judge this world,
that we, without shame or fear,
may rejoice to behold his appearing.
Therefore we praise you,
joining our voices with angels and archangels
and with all the company of heaven,
who for ever sing this hymn
to proclaim the glory of your name.

All **Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

Celebrant

We give thanks to you, Lord our God,
for the goodness and love
you have made known to us in creation;
in calling Israel to be your people;
in your Word spoken through the prophets;
and above all in the Word made flesh,
Jesus your Son.
For in these last days you sent him
to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary,
to be the Saviour and Redeemer of the world.
In him you have delivered us from evil,
and made us worthy to stand before you.
In him you have brought us
out of error into truth,
out of sin into righteousness,
out of death into life.

On the night he was handed over
to suffering and death,
a death he freely accepted,
our Lord Jesus Christ took bread;
and when he had given thanks to you,
he broke it, and gave it to his disciples,
and said, "Take, eat:
this is my body which is given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine;
and when he had given thanks,
he gave it to them
and said, "Drink this, all of you:
this is my blood of the new covenant,
which is shed for you and for many
for the forgiveness of sins.
Whenever you drink it,
do this for the remembrance of me."

All

Therefore, Father, according to his command,
**We remember his death,
we proclaim his resurrection,
we await his coming in glory;**

Celebrant

and we offer our sacrifice
of praise and thanksgiving
to you, Lord of all;
presenting to you, from your creation,
this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God,
to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts,
that they may be the sacrament
of the body of Christ
and his blood of the new covenant.
Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice,
that we, made acceptable in him,
may be sanctified by the Holy Spirit.

In the fullness of time,
reconcile all things in Christ,
and make them new,
and bring us to that city of light
where you dwell with all your children;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
the firstborn of all creation,
the head of the Church,
and the author of our salvation;

by whom, and with whom, and in whom,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all honour and glory are yours, almighty Father,
now and forever.

People

Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Celebrant And now, as our Saviour Christ has taught us,
we are bold to say,
People **Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.**

The Breaking of the Bread

Celebrant God of promise,
you prepare a banquet for us in your kingdom.
People **Happy are those who are called
to the supper of the Lamb.**

The Communion

Celebrant The gifts of God for the people of God.
People **Thanks be to God!**

All **Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:
have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:
have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:
grant us peace.**

CP 690 - *Lamb of God*

*We are pleased to offer communion in both kinds—the bread and wine.
You are welcome to take a small sip of wine from the chalice server,
guiding the cup with your hand, or you can simply pass the cup by.
Please know that you are receiving full communion with the bread alone.*

Communion Music

*Jesus Christ the Apple Tree (E. Poston)
CP 94 – Wait for the Lord (Taizé)*

Wait for the Lord,
whose day is near.
Wait for the Lord:
be strong, take heart!

(Please stand)

Prayer after Communion

Celebrant Let us pray.
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.
People **Amen.**

Doxology

Celebrant Glory to God,
All whose power, working in us,
can do infinitely more
than we can ask or imagine.
Glory to God from generation to generation,
in the Church and in Christ Jesus,
for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The Blessing

Announcements

(Please stand)

Closing Hymn

CP 89 – O Come, O Come Emmanuel (verses 5–7)

O come, O Key of David, come,
and open wide our heavenly home;
make safe the way that leads on high,
and close the path to misery.

Refrain:

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to you, O Israel!

O come, O Dayspring from on high,
and cheer us by your drawing nigh;
disperse the gloomy clouds of night,
and death's dark shadow put to flight. **[Refrain]**

O come, Desire of nations, bind
in one the hearts of humankind;
O bid our sad divisions cease,
and be for us our Prince of Peace. **[Refrain]**

Dismissal

Deacon Go in peace, to love and serve the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God!**

Postlude Music

St. John's This Week

Today	Blue Christmas Service in the Sanctuary 5pm
Wednesday	Mid-Week Eucharist in the Chapel 12noon
Thursday	Hand Chime Choir Rehearsal in the Sanctuary 5:45pm Choir Rehearsal in the Sanctuary 7pm
Sunday	Lessons & Carols Service in the Sanctuary 10:30am

Welcome to St. John's Norway

No matter where you find yourself on your journey of faith, **you are so welcome to be here with us!** We are a community of people—young and old, from all backgrounds and walks of life, who are learning to follow Jesus. We ask questions, don't avoid the tough issues that life presents, and we want to love our neighbours. Please [fill out a Welcome Card online](#). We would love to hear from you!

Choir

The choir rehearses on Thursdays at 7pm in the Sanctuary.
We are always looking for new members! If you're interested, please contact Declan at music@stjohnsnorway.com for more details.

Decoration Help for Saturday, December 20th

It's all hands on decking the halls of our Sanctuary in preparation for Christmas! The Chancel Guild needs people to decorate all around the Sanctuary. If this interests you, please contact Marion Cronsberry at (416) 694-6248.

JOIN US FOR OUR

LESSONS & CAROLS

Service

◆ **DECEMBER 21 10:30AM** ◆



ST. JOHN'S NORWAY
ANGELICAN CHURCH IN THE BEACHES

THE LIGHT SHINES IN THE DARKNESS

John 1:5

ADVENT & CHRISTMAS AT ST. JOHN'S NORWAY

SUNDAY DECEMBER 14

5PM BLUE CHRISTMAS SERVICE CONTEMPLATIVE & COMFORTING

SUNDAY DECEMBER 21

10:30AM LESSONS & CAROLS SERVICE WITH HAND CHIME CHOIR

WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 24

2 - 4PM NATIVITY ANIMALS VISIT IN OUR PARKING LOT

4PM CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE FOR FAMILIES WITH POP-UP
PAGEANT

7PM CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE CLASSIC WITH CAROLS

10PM CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE CANDLELIT & CHORAL

THURSDAY DECEMBER 25

9AM CHRISTMAS DAY SERVICE

470 WOODBINE AVENUE, TORONTO, ON M4E 2H6
(416) 691-4560 STJOHNSNORWAY.COM

Come and see!



ST. JOHN'S NORWAY
ANGLICAN CHURCH IN THE BEACHES

Buy a Mug & Give a Mug

TAKE A PIECE OF YOUR PARISH CHURCH
HOME WITH YOU THIS ADVENT!



*Buy a couple
and give one
to a friend!*

SUPPORT OUR INITIATIVE TO GIVE AWAY
OUR SJN MUGS TO VISITORS THIS
CHRISTMAS BY BUYING ONE FOR \$20!



ST. JOHN'S NORWAY
ANGELICAN CHURCH IN THE BEACHES

Come and see!



*What are we
talking about,
anyway!?*

***Discovering what we mean
when we say our Creeds***

**AN ADULT
FORMATION COURSE**

STARTING SUNDAY JANUARY 11
UNTIL SUNDAY FEBRUARY 8
AFTER OUR 10:30AM SERVICE
IN THE LOWER HALL

Come and see!



ST. JOHN'S NORWAY

ANGELICAN CHURCH IN THE BEACHES

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The land we are standing on today is the traditional territory of many nations including the Mississaugas of the Credit, the Anishnabeg, the Chippewa, the Haudenosaunee and the Wendat peoples and is now home to many distinct First Nations, Inuit, and Métis Peoples. We also acknowledge that Toronto is covered by Treaty 13 signed with the Mississaugas of the Credit, and the Williams Treaties signed with multiple Mississaugas and Chippewa bands.

LET'S GET SOCIAL!

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Find the latest news and current events at
www.stjohnsnorway.com

TO REACH US

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Cemetery Supervisor: Amber Viscount	(416) 691-2965
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Deputy Wardens: Vivian Clements, Janice Yorke, Matthew Neugebauer	

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www.stjohnsnorway.com



COME AND SEE.

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