



ST. PAUL'S PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
A National Historic Site: Hamilton, Ontario, Canada

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE

December 24, 2022. 11 pm

WELCOME TO ST. PAUL'S

We are so glad that you've come to worship the Lord with us today, and we hope that you will experience the presence of Christ among us. In the pew are the following tools for participation in this service. The blue "Book of Praise" contains our hymns, the red "Book of Psalms" contains the responsive psalms, and the blue "New English Bible" contains the scripture passages. If an item has an asterisk (), then please stand if you are able. Large print Hymnals are available in the back of the Sanctuary. An usher would be happy to help you.*

WE COME TOGETHER BEFORE GOD

Prelude Hymns 151, 147, 142

Intruit – "All Glory Be To God" G. Young

*Call to Worship

*Opening Hymn 159 "Oh come, all ye faithful"

Welcome

Prayer of Approach and Confession

Assurance of Forgiveness

Response to Forgiveness Gloria Patri

*Hymn 165 "O little town of Bethlehem"

WORD OF GOD READ AND PROCLAIMED

*Responsive Psalm 84, ref I Reader: Branden Moffat

Isaiah 9:1-7 (page 819, OT)

Luke 2:1-7 (page 71, NT)

Lighting the Christ candle on the Advent wreath

Advent Reading V - "The Christ Candle" Branden Moffat

*Hymn 144 "Twas in the moon of wintertime"

Anthem "Nativity Carol" John Rutter

Sermon "Dirty Stables, Lifeless Fables, Turning Tables"
Rev. Dr. J. Mark Lewis

Silent Reflection

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD WITH CELEBRATION

*Hymn 154 "Silent Night"

Prayers of Thanksgiving and Intercession

The Lord's Prayer 831 Book of Praise

Announcements

The Offering

Offertory "Sir Christémas" Wm. Mathias

*The Doxology 830 Book of Praise

Prayer of Dedication

WE GO FORTH IN THE JOY OF THE LORD

*Hymn 148 "It came upon the midnight clear"

Benediction & Choral Amen

Postlude "In Dulci Jubilo" J.S. Bach

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

St. Paul's is situated on the traditional territories of the Erie, Neutral, Huron-Wendat, Haudenosaunee, and Mississaugas. This land is covered by the Dish With One Spoon Wampum Belt Covenant, which was an agreement between the Haudenosaunee and Anishinabek to share and care for the resources around the Great Lakes. All peoples have been invited into this treaty in the spirit of peace, friendship and respect. We further acknowledge that this land is covered by the Between the Lakes Purchase, 1792, between the Crown and the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation.

Land acknowledgments are essential as we move forward on a path to reconciliation and are guided by the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's 94 Calls to Action.

AN INCLUSIVE & AFFIRMING CONGREGATION

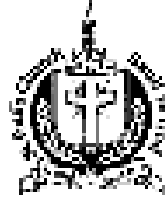
The church is called to be a welcoming, nurturing, loving and supportive community—a true church family. As affirmed by the 2021 General Assembly, all people whatever their sexual orientation or gender identity are equally beloved by God. The Session of St. Paul's endorses these truths and will strive to create a church where all people are included and affirmed.

IN CASE OF EMERGENCY



An automated external defibrillator is available in the hallway outside the main office.

ST. PAUL'S VISION



St. Paul's Presbyterian Church is a Christian community in downtown Hamilton, embodying Jesus' acceptance and love of all people and supporting the growth of God's people in faith and service.

ST. PAUL'S TEAM

Minister (Interim):	Rev. Dr. J. Mark Lewis
Clerk of Session:	Jer Dubash
Director of Music:	Blair Havers
Chimer:	Branden Moffat
Custodian:	Ruparain Sydney
Office Administrator:	Natanya Hill
Today's Ushers:	Trish Haycock, North Aisle Murray McDowall, South Aisle

ST. PAUL'S CONTACT INFO

Website:	www.stpaulshamilton.ca
Email:	info@stpaulshamilton.ca
Phone:	905-522-2792
Mail:	70 James St. S. Hamilton, ON L8P 2Y8

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Holiday Services at St. Paul's–

- There will be no service tomorrow, on Christmas Day.
- New Year's Day- Sunday Service at 11am.

Choir Rehearsal – There will be no choir rehearsal on December 29th. Choir will resume as usual on January 5th at 7pm.

Year-End Christmas Giving – Thank you for your generous giving this season. If you'd like to contribute to this fund, please use a "Christmas gift" envelope from your pew, or simply place a "Christmas Gift" sticker onto your regular numbered envelope.

The church office will be closed for the Holidays – The St. Paul's office will be closed from December 27th - January 4th, while Natanya visits her family in Virginia. If you have an emergency and need to speak with someone during this time, please contact Mark Lewis: revmarklewis@gmail.com. Any non-urgent phone messages or emails will be responded to during temporary office hours on January 5th-6th.

2023 Giving Envelopes are ready for pick-up – If your envelope number is between 1 & 50, please pick up your labeled boxed set from the front pew by the piano today. If you do not find your name and would like to obtain an envelope number and set, please email info@stpaulshamilton.ca. You can expect a response in early January. Thanks!

Cheques made payable to St. Paul's Presbyterian Church - Please note that cheques donated to the church need to be made payable exactly to: "St. Paul's Presbyterian Church." The bank is no longer accepting shortened versions of the name. Thank you!

THIS WEEK AT ST. PAUL'S

Sunday, December 25th

Merry Christmas! No service today.

Tuesday-Thursday, December 27-29th

St. Paul's Office is closed.

Thursday, December 29th

NO Choir Rehearsal

Friday, December 30th

5:30pm: Rental in Centennial Hall

MISSION MOMENTS

In Malawi, 13-year-old Selia was raised by her single mother after her father passed away. Her mother sold tomatoes to support Selia and her five siblings. When Selia was in grade nine, her mother's business no longer generated

enough income to support the family. At the time, Selia was attending the Neno Girls Secondary School, where Presbyterian World Service & Development provides bursary support for girls from low-income families. The bursary allowed Selia to stay in school and successfully complete her studies. The benefits of education for girls extend not only to them individually, but also to their future families.

