

**The Anglican Parish of Mississippi Lake  
welcomes you to worship with us!**

*We gather this day on traditional Anishinaabe Algonquin territory.  
May we always dwell on this land with respect and peace.*

**Sunday, December 22, 2024 –  
Fourth Sunday of Advent**

*The full order of service we're using today can be found in the Book of Alternative Services on page 185 or one of our worship booklets. Speak to a greeter if you're unsure what we're using this morning.*

***Hymns will be announced, and hymn numbers  
are posted on the hymn board.***

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

**Lighting of the Advent wreath**

O Emmanuel, hope of the nations and their Saviour: come and  
save us, Lord our God.  
**Lord Jesus, come soon!**

***Four candles are lit.***

Source of all light, send your Son Jesus Christ to shine in our dark  
world. Help us to prepare our hearts to receive him who lives and  
reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, now and for ever. **Amen.**

*A hymn may follow.*

### **The 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. **Amen**

### **First reading**

A reading from the book of Micah

You, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah, who are one of the little clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to rule in Israel, whose origin is from of old, from ancient days. Therefore he shall give them up until the time when she who is in labour has brought forth; then the rest of his kindred shall return to the people of Israel. And he shall stand and feed his flock in the strength of the Lord, in the majesty of the name of the Lord his God. And they shall live secure, for now he shall be great to the ends of the earth; and he shall be the one of peace.

*Micah 5: 2-5a*

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **Responsive reading**

*Our responsive reading today is from Canticle 18a.*

*The congregation is invited to respond by reading aloud the verses in bold type.*

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,  
my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour;  
**for he has looked with favour on his lowly servant.**

From this day all generations will call me blessed:  
**the Almighty has done great things for me, and holy is his name.**

He has mercy on those who fear him  
**in every generation.**

He has shown the strength of his arm,  
**he has scattered the proud in their conceit.**

He has cast down the mighty from their thrones,  
**and has lifted up the lowly.**

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

He has come to the help of his servant Israel,  
**for he has remembered his promise of mercy,**

the promise he made to our fathers,  
**to Abraham and his children for ever.**

**Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.**

*Canticle 18a. (Luke 1: 46-55)*

## Second reading

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews

When Christ came into the world, he said, "Sacrifices and offerings you have not desired, but a body you have prepared for me; in burnt offerings and sin offerings you have taken no pleasure. Then I said, 'See, God, I have come to do your will, O God' (in the scroll of the book it is written of me)." When he said above, "You have neither desired nor taken pleasure in sacrifices and offerings and burnt offerings and sin offerings" (these are offered according to the law), then he added, "See, I have come to do your will." He abolishes the first in order to establish the second. And it is by God's will that we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

*Hebrews 10: 5-10*

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **Gospel**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke

**Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit and exclaimed with a loud cry, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me? For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leaped for joy. And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfilment of what was spoken to her by the Lord."

[And Mary said, "My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour, for he has looked with favour on the lowliness of his servant. Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed; for the Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy is his name. His mercy is for those who fear him from generation to generation. He has shown strength with his arm; he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts. He has brought down the powerful from their thrones, and lifted up the lowly; he has filled the hungry with good things, and sent the rich away empty. He has helped his servant Israel, in remembrance of his mercy, according to the promise he made to our ancestors, to Abraham and to his descendants forever."]

*Luke 1:39-45 (46-55)*

The Gospel of Christ.

**Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

## The Prayers of the People

**In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer** we pray for The Church of the Province of Uganda

**In the Anglican-Lutheran-Moravian Cycle of Prayer for Canada,** we pray for The Rt. Rev. Christopher Harper, National Indigenous Anglican Archbishop, and the staff of Indigenous Ministries; the Anglican Council of Indigenous Peoples; Dawn Maracle, Indigenous Justice Animator. Carmen Ramirez, Assistant to the National Bishop, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion; Peter Wall, Assistant to the National Bishop for Worship. The Rev. Melissa Johnson, president of the Eastern District Executive Board of the Moravian Church Northern Province.

**In our Diocese,** we pray for Shane, our Bishop, Anne, our Metropolitan and the Acting Primate of the Anglican Church of Canada, as well as Staff at Ascension House; Christ Church Cathedral, Ottawa: The Very Reverend Beth Bretzlaff, The Reverend Canon Douglas Richards, and Deacon Jarrett Carty.

We pray for our own needs and for the needs of others... *(please offer your prayers aloud or quietly in silence provided).*

Waiting and watching for our sure and certain hope, let us pray for the world redeemed, the church reformed, and for all people restored in the coming one, with the words 'Hear our prayer'.

O Wisdom from on high, you come and dwell among us, granting strength and sustenance for all. Feed the flock of your whole creation, that the ends of the earth may rejoice in your abundant supply. Lord in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

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O Key of David, you unlock your gates of glory and splendour, and even the trees of the field clap their hands and the mountains and hills ring out their joy. Strengthen our commitment to care for your whole creation, that it may continue to sing your praises. Lord in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

O Lord of might, you stir up your power and come, revealing yourself to us in lowliness and service. Inspire all who serve your church as bishops, pastors, and associates in ministry, that they may serve faithfully. Lord, in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

O Branch of Jesse, your arms reach out with healing and wholeness. Grant this healing to all nations, that violence and destruction would give way to peace and harmony among all the peoples of the earth. Lord in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

O Dayspring from on high, your presence spills over like a fountain, bringing light for all in any darkness. Comfort those for whom the burden of anxiety and depression is heavy, that they may see your light and know your love. Lord in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

O Emmanuel, you are with us, offering comfort for our sorrows and healing for our souls. We bless you for our beloved who are now at rest in you. Keep us one with them in the blessed hope of the resurrection. Lord in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

Alert and on guard for the coming of the Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting all things to your never-failing love in Jesus Christ our Saviour. **Amen.**

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*If you would like to request prayers from the prayer team for yourself or someone you love, please contact the church office at [office@lakesideanglicans.ca](mailto:office@lakesideanglicans.ca) or 613-257-3178.*

**This Week in the Parish: December 23**

**Tuesday, December 24:**

St James Breakfast Table. 8:30-10:30 a.m.

**Christmas Eve Service Times**

**4:00 p.m.**

St James Carleton Place  
St. Bede's Nolan's Corners  
St James Franktown

**7:00 p.m.**

St James Carleton Place  
Christ Church Ashton  
St George's Clayton

**Christmas Morning. December 25.**

10:00 a.m. at St James Carleton Place.

**Sunday, December 29**

Parish of Mississippi Lake Joint Church Service.

10 a.m.

Location: St James Carleton Place.

**Loaf & Ladle will be held after the service on the 29<sup>th</sup>.**

Donations are welcome.

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**CHURCH OFFICE HOURS THIS WEEK:**

*Open: Monday December 23-Tuesday December 24*

*Closed: December 25 to January 1*

Clergy available for emergencies 613-257-1424

**PLEASE NOTE:**

***Effective January 2025, the church office will be closed Mondays.***

***Regular hours will be Tuesday to Friday 9 am to 1pm.***