

# St Aidan's, Elmvale Acres

The Anglican Diocese of Ottawa



December 14, 2025

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*Welcome to St. Aidan's--we are blessed by your presence today! Hymns are found in the blue "Common Praise" book.  
We acknowledge that the land on which we gather is the traditional territory of the Algonquin Anishnaabeg People.*

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## The Gathering of the Community

**Hymn 108:** Hark, a Herald Voice is Sounding

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*

God of glory and compassion, at your touch the wilderness blossoms. Grant perseverance and patience to all who long for your Son's return, so that we may announce in word and deed the good news of the kingdom. We ask this through Christ whose day draws near. **Amen.**

## The Proclamation of the Word

### A Reading from 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

Holy Word, Holy Wisdom. **Thanks be to God.**

### Psalm 146:4-9

When they breathe their last, they return to earth, **and in that day their thoughts perish.**  
Happy are they who have the God of Jacob for their help! **For their hope is in the Lord their God,**  
Who made heaven and earth, the seas, and all that is in them; **who keeps promises for ever;**  
Who gives justice to those who are oppressed, **food to those who hunger and sets the prisoners free.**  
The Lord opens the eyes of the blind! **The Lord lifts up those who are bowed down and loves the righteous.**  
The Lord cares for the stranger **and sustains the orphan and widow, but frustrates the way of the wicked.**

### A Reading from 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

Holy Word, Holy Wisdom. **Thanks be to God.**

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

### The Holy Gospel

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

The Gospel of Christ. **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

### Homily

**Creed Hymn 44 (Tune 35)**

### The Prayers of the People

*Response:* God of Mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

*We pray for Lynn, Sylvy, Jane, Meredith, Sandra, Judy, Karen, Linda, David, Weldon.*

### Confession and Absolution

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

**Most merciful God, 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.**

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.**

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

**Hymn 456: He Comes to Us as One Unknown**

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### The Celebration of the Eucharist

#### Prayer over the Gifts

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. **Amen.**

## Eucharistic Prayer Two

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

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

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

Now with all creation we raise our voices to proclaim the glory of your name.

*(Sung) 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.*

All glory and honour are yours, Father and Son, with the Holy Spirit in the holy Church, now and for ever. **Amen**

## The Lord's Prayer

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

God of promise, you prepare a banquet for us in your kingdom.

**Happy are those who are called to the supper of the Lamb.**

The Gifts of God for the People of God. **Thanks be to God.**

*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, grant us peace.*

## The Communion

*For Communion from the Pews, tell our Sidesperson, or raise your hand; otherwise, Communion is offered at Altar Rail.*

## Prayer after Communion

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. **Amen.**

Be steadfast in faith, joyful in hope, and untiring in love all the days of your life; and the blessing of God Almighty, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be with you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Let us bless the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

**Hymn 101: Hail to the Lord's Anointed**

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*After worship, all are welcome to Coffee Time in Lindisfarne Hall!*

**Important Update from Rev. Rosemary:** I will be having minor throat surgery on December 16, and will return to work within a few weeks. Rev. Canon David Clunie is delighted to cover all of St Aidan's services, including Christmas Eve and Day. You will remain in my prayers, until I return in the New Year!

**Today is the FINAL DAY for St Aidan's 2025 Advent Project in support of the Gloucester Emergency Food Cupboard:** Decorate a box any size and fill it or add your items to one of the decorated boxes at the church. If you are unable to shop and wish to make a cash donation we can shop for you. Suggested items are pancake mix & syrup, candy, jams, cake mix and icing, biscuit, muffin & cookie mixes, cookies, crackers, chocolate, hot chocolate mix, and dessert mixes. Unfortunately, due to health regulations homemade items cannot be used. One item that they find is hardest for them to collect and most in need is shampoo & conditioner. For further information, please contact Debbie Trickey at 613-797-5219 or [dwtickey@rogers.com](mailto:dwtickey@rogers.com).

**Pageant Volunteers:** Please join us for rehearsal in the Choir Room after worship! Still interested in participating? Please speak with Leslie MacDonald-Hicks or contact her at [macdonaldhicks@proton.me](mailto:macdonaldhicks@proton.me) or 613-220-6884.

**Wednesday 10:00 am Service and Coffee Time:** Join St Aidan's for our last Wednesday gathering on December 17, before the holidays! Rev. Canon David Clunie and Téa Mamaladze will be with us. There will be no Wednesday Service on December 24th or December 31st; we will resume on Wednesday, January 7th.

**Christmas Memorial Flowers and Decorations:** You are invited to contribute money towards the flowers and decorations in the sanctuary this Christmas. If you would like your loved ones to be listed in the church bulletin on Christmas Eve, please add their names to the sheet posted in the link by **Wednesday December 17**. All monies for flowers must be separate from regular donations and cheques should be made payable to "St. Aidan's Anglican Church". Put your contribution in the special CHRISTMAS FLOWER OFFERING envelope located with the sign-up sheet, complete the information on the envelope and place it on the collection plate. *A tax receipt will be issued for donations of \$20 and over.*

**Chairs for Narthex:** Thank you to Janet and Stephen Talbot for their generous donation of folding, cushioned chairs for the Narthex, which we use regularly for Wednesdays and other gatherings!

**St Aidan's Sunday School:** Our next gathering is January 4th at 9:30 am, in Lindisfarne Hall!



### Santa's Golf Challenge: Week Two Update



Like many of our parishioners, Santa is very new to Golf. However, he's been practicing his swing at home while watching TV. Now he's had fun at the first hole, and reached \$4,408.75. Santa did find out that driving a Golf Cart is a lot harder than steering Santa's Sleigh! Unfortunately, it also looks like the weather might turn; there are dark clouds ahead...

The storm was averted; the sun came out. Santa realized that his game still had hope! Santa discovered his stroke count was off as he did not calculate all of his practice he did in November. His stroke count is now **\$20,855 of \$60,000!** Will Santa make it out of the sand trap...

**Breaking News!** If Santa reaches \$49,000, two of St Aidan's Golf Pros will help Santa with his swing! The Pros will even take 2 swings, for every 1 of Santa's! This is a very generous Matching offer from St Aidan's Golf Pros--2 to 1!

**What do you think Santa will encounter at the next hole? Can you help Santa with his golf skills, to get to \$60,000?**



Christmas at St Aidan's

Advent Sundays at 9:30 am

Christmas Eve at 7:00 pm

Christmas Day at 9:30 am

***All are welcome on Wednesdays for BCP Eucharist at 10:00 am, and/or Coffee Time at 10:30 am!***

Celebrant: Rev. Rosemary Parker  
Homily: Nancy Gover, Lay Reader  
Music Director: Téa Mamaladze  
Reader: Janet Talbot  
Intercessor: Irene Fonte  
Server: Susan Burns-Simpson  
Lay Administrator: Rita Code  
Greeter: Owen Robinson  
Sidespeople: Donna Robinson

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Wardens: Nancy Gover, Claire Chapdelaine, and Phil Charko