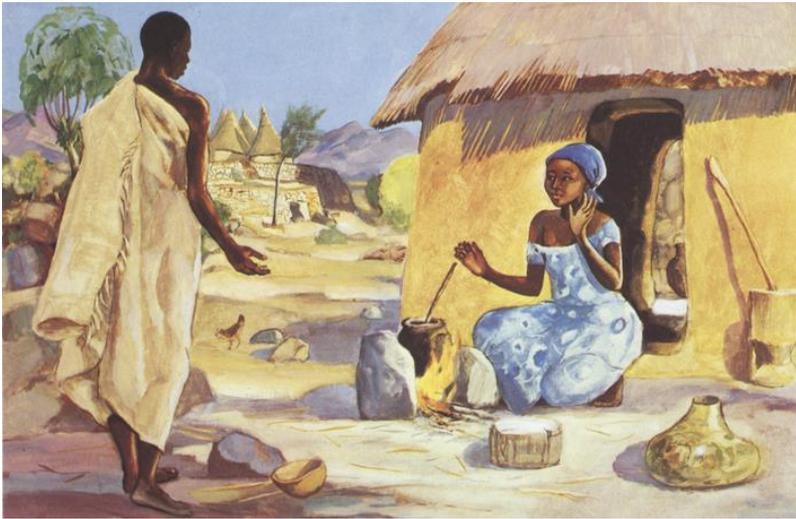




ST. LUKE'S ANGLICAN CHURCH, PALERMO

Fourth Sunday of Advent Sunday,
December 19, 2021 ♦ 10:30 am



The Reverend Garfield Wu – Presider & Preacher

Welcome to St. Luke's!

We are glad to be able to worship with you. Our service will look a little different than usual week as we take precautions to prevent the spread of COVID-19. Though this time may bring challenges, we know that nothing can separate us from the love of God.

None of us comes to church by accident. No matter what joys, burdens, or problems you bring with you this day, we pray that God's grace will touch you and fill you with the hope and commitment to live your life with peace, courage, compassion, and love.

THE PROCESSION

Processional Hymn

O Come, Divine Messiah – CP #95

1. O come, divine Messiah;
the world in silence waits the day
when hope shall sing its triumph
and sadness flee away.

REFRAIN

Dear Saviour haste! Come, come to earth.
Dispel the night and show your face,
and bid us hail the dawn of grace.
O come, Divine Messiah;
the world in silence waits the day
when hope shall sing its triumph
and sadness flee away.

2. O Christ, whom nations sigh for,
whom priest and prophet long foretold,
come, break the captives' fetters,
redeem the long-lost fold.

REFRAIN

3. You come in peace and meekness
and lowly will your cradle be;
all clothed in human weakness
shall we your God head see.

REFRAIN

Greeting

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.**

Collect for Purity

Celebrant: Almighty God,

All: to whom 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.

Trisagion

(Sung three times)

All: Holy God,
holy and mighty,
holy immortal one,
have mercy upon us.

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Celebrant: We wait for the coming of Christ, the light of the world.

All: Come Lord Jesus.

The fourth candle is lit, followed by this response:

Celebrant: The true light, which enlightens everyone, is coming into the world.

All: Come Lord Jesus.

Celebrant: The light shines in the darkness and the darkness will not overcome it.

All: Christ, shine in your church today.

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.**

THE PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

A Reading from the Letter to the Hebrews *Hebrews 10:5-10*

Therefore, when Christ came into the world, he said:

“Sacrifice and offering you did not desire,
but a body you prepared for me;
with burnt offerings and sin offerings
you were not pleased.

Then I said, ‘Here I am—it is written about
me in the scroll—

I have come to do your will, my God.’”

First he said, “Sacrifices and offerings, burnt offerings and sin offerings you did not desire, nor were you pleased with them”—though they were offered in accordance with the law. Then he said, “Here I am, I have come to do your will.” He sets aside the first to establish the second. And by that will, we have been made holy through the sacrifice of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gradual Hymn

God, We Praise You – CP#331 (v.1, 3, 4)

1. God, we praise you! God, we bless you!
God, we name you sovereign Lord!
Mighty King whom angels worship,
Father, by your church adored:
all creation shows your glory.
heaven and earth draw near your throne,
singing “Holy, Holy, Holy,
Lord of hosts and God alone!”

3. Jesus Christ, the king of glory,
everlasting son of God,
humble was your virgin mother,
hard the lonely path you trod;
by your cross is sin defeated,
hell confronted face to face,
heaven opened to believers,
sinners justified by grace.

The Gospel

Luke 1:39-55

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.

At that time Mary got ready and hurried to a town in the hill country of Judea, where she entered Zechariah’s home and greeted Elizabeth. When Elizabeth heard Mary’s greeting, the baby leaped in her womb, and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit. In a loud voice she exclaimed: “Blessed are you among women, and

blessed is the child you will bear! But why am I so favored, that the mother of my Lord should come to me? As soon as the sound of your greeting reached my ears, the baby in my womb leaped for joy. Blessed is she who has believed that the Lord would fulfill his promises to her!”

And Mary said:

“My soul glorifies the Lord
and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,
for he has been mindful
of the humble state of his servant.

From now on all generations will call
me blessed,
for the Mighty One has done great things for
me—

holy is his name.

His mercy extends to those who fear him,
from generation to generation.

He has performed mighty deeds with his arm;
he has scattered those who are proud in
their inmost thoughts.

He has brought down rulers from their thrones
but has lifted up the humble.

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

He has helped his servant Israel,
remembering to be merciful
to Abraham and his descendants forever,
just as he promised our ancestors.”

The Gospel of Christ.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

4. Christ, at God's right hand victorious,
you will judge the world you made.
Lord, in mercy help your servants
for whose freedom you have paid:
raise us up from dust to glory,
guard us from all sin today.
King enthroned above all praises,
save your people, God, we pray.

The Sermon

The Rev. Garfield Wu

Vocal Solo: Performed by Wendy Cousins

The Apostle's Creed

Celebrant: Let us confess the faith of our baptism 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.

The Prayers of the People

Litany #12 (from BAS p. 119)

Celebrant: O Wisdom, from the mouth of the Most High, you reign over all things to the ends of the earth: come and teach us how to live.

All: **Lord Jesus, come soon!**

Celebrant: O Lord, and head of the house of Israel, you appeared to Moses in the fire of the burning bush and you gave the law on Sinai: come with outstretched arm and ransom us.

All: **Lord Jesus, come soon!**

Celebrant: O Branch of Jesse, standing as a sign among the nations, all kings will keep silence before you and all peoples will summon you to their aid: come, set us free and delay no more.

All: **Lord Jesus, come soon!**

Celebrant: O Key of David and sceptre of the house of Israel, you open and none can shut; you shut and none can open: come and free the captives from prison.

All: **Lord Jesus, come soon!**

Celebrant: O Morning Star, splendour of the light eternal and bright Sun of righteousness: come and enlighten all who dwell in darkness and in the shadow of death.

All: **Lord Jesus, come soon!**

Celebrant: O King of the nations, you alone can fulfil their desires: Cornerstone, you make

opposing nations one: come and save the creature you fashioned from clay.

All: **Lord Jesus, come soon!**

Celebrant: O Emmanuel, hope of the nations and their Saviour: come and save us, Lord our God.

All: **Lord Jesus, come soon!**

Family Cycle of Prayer:

Richard & Paula Scott, Margie & Bob Simms, Stephen & Natasha Skolny, Jo Stadnyk, Nicole & Kevin Stevenson, Judy & Robert Szucs, and their families.

In the Diocese of Niagara:

St. Saviour, The Brock Memorial Church, Queenston; the Rev. Janet Cashin, Priest in Charge; and the people of that parish.

Let us take a moment to say the names of those we know to be in need, or allow those things are weighing heavy on our hearts this day to come before the Lord. [...]

So, we commend ourselves and all for whom we pray to the mercy and protection of our heavenly Father. **Amen.**

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.

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.

All: Amen.

The Peace

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

THE CELEBRATION OF THE EUCHARIST

Preparation of the Gifts

Offertory Hymn

I Come with Joy – SGP #60 (v.1- 4)

1. I come with joy to meet my Lord,
forgiven, loved and free,
in awe and wonder to recall
his life laid down for me,
his life laid down for me.
2. I come with Christians far and near
to find, as all are fed,
the new community of love

in Christ's communion bread,
in Christ's communion bread.

3. As Christ breaks bread and bids us share,
each proud division ends.
The love that made us, makes us one,
and strangers now are friends,
and strangers now are friends.
4. And thus with joy we meet our Lord.
His presence, always near,
is in such friendship better known;
we see and praise him here;
we see and praise him here.

The Prayer over the Gifts

Gracious God, by the power of the Spirit who sanctified the mother of your Son, make holy all we offer you this day. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord.
Amen.

The Great Thanksgiving (Eucharistic Prayer #3)

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts,

All: **We lift them to the Lord.**

Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: **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.”

Therefore, Father, according to his command,

All: **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 sons and daughters; 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 for ever.

All: **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

Celebrant: And now, as our Saviour Christ has taught us, we are bold to say:

All: **Our Father in Heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in Heaven.
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
but deliver us from evil,
for the Kingdom, the Power,
and the Glory are yours,
now and for ever. Amen.**

The Breaking of the Bread

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

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

The Communion

Celebrant: The gifts of God for the people of God.

All: **Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

Invitation to Spiritual Communion

Celebrant: Dear friends, I invite you in this moment, wherever you may be, to receive Christ, in communion with the saints, and the gathering of God's people, unseen and yet present with us now. Many are made one.

The following prayer is said by all, during this prayer the elements may be elevated, in offering to the people.

Celebrant: We receive you Lord Jesus Christ,
All: **we welcome your presence in us, and together proclaim our love for you; with our hearts, minds, our souls and our strength, with the saints we worship you, with the angels we adore you, with your whole Church we proclaim your reign. Come to us, though many, and make us one in you. Amen.**

The Eucharist

A time of silence is kept to allow people to make their act of spiritual communion. Following this silence, the people physically present receive communion in one kind by taking the bread from the paten while the chalice remains covered upon the Altar. Finally, the celebrant reverently consumes the wine.

The following prayer may be used by those making spiritual communion from afar.

O Loving God, in union with Christian people throughout the world and across the centuries gathered to make Eucharist, hearing your holy Word and receiving the Precious Body and Blood of your

dear Son, I offer you praise and thanksgiving. Even while separated from tasting the Bread of Heaven and drinking the Cup of Life, I pray that you will unite me with all the baptised and with your Son who gave his life for us.

Come Lord Jesus, dwell in me and send your Holy Spirit that I may be filled with your presence.

Jesus, as the hem of your garment, touched in faith, healed the woman who could not touch your body, so may the soul of your servant be healed, for though I cannot receive you in the sacrament, I can, through this offering of my prayer, receive you in my heart; grant this for Christ's sake. Amen.

Violin Solo: Performed by Alina Zhang

THE SENDING OF GOD'S PEOPLE

The Prayer after Communion

Faithful God, in this sacrament we receive the promise of salvation. May we, like the Virgin Mary, be obedient to your will. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord. **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, forever and ever. **Amen.**

Blessing

The Celebrant blesses the people, and all respond,

Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Recessional Hymn

Prepare the Way, O Zion – CP #102

1. Prepare the way, O Zion,
your Christ is drawing near!
Let every hill and valley
a level way appear.
Greet one who comes in glory,
foretold in sacred story.

REFRAIN

Oh, blest is Christ that came
in God's most holy name.

2. He brings God's rule, O Zion;
he comes from heaven above.
His rule is peace and freedom,
and justice, truth, and love.
Lift high your praise resounding,
for grace and joy abounding.

REFRAIN

3. Fling wide your gates, O Zion;
your Saviour's rule embrace.
His tidings of salvation
proclaim in every place.
All lands will bow before him,
their voices will adore him.

REFRAIN

The Dismissal

Let us go out in peace to proclaim the risen Christ!
Thanks be to God. Hallelujah!

Postlude

This liturgy is used with the permission of the Bishop of Niagara.

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READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY Colossians 3:12-17; Luke 2:41-52

MORNING PRAYER AND BIBLE STUDY

Each Wednesday at 9:30 am

Our Morning Prayer services continue at St. Luke's and online! Join us for a nourishing liturgy followed by a short Bible Study each Wednesday morning. This is a fun and friendly time of discussion and learning. No prior knowledge of the Bible is required. Come and check it out!

This Wednesday's Readings:

**Psalm 80; 1 Samuel 7:18-29;
Galatians 3:1-14; Luke 1:46-56**

Contact: garfield@stlukepalermo.ca
or **647-878-8650** for details!

Use this Zoom Link to join the service online:
<https://zoom.us/j/8608948908>

Meeting ID: **860 894 8908**
Passcode: **810921**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

St. Luke's Christmas Services

We are excited to celebrate Christmas with you and the community at St. Luke's Anglican Church, Palermo. We will hold three services celebrating the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ:

Christmas Eve – Friday, Dec. 24

Family Service – 5:00 pm
Midnight Mass – 11:00 pm

Christmas Day – Saturday, Dec. 25

Worship Service – 10:30 am

Our capacity is currently limited to 40 people per service due to COVID-19 safety policies. Reserve your place on Eventbrite. Services will also be streamed online for those who cannot attend in person.

Get Your Christmas Tree from St. Cuthbert's Anglican Church Annual Christmas Tree Sale!

Bring a beautiful, fragrant Christmas Tree to your home and support the ministries of St. Cuthbert's parish in Oakville! The church's annual Christmas Tree sale is on now and will continue until stock runs out. Order your tree NOW to avoid disappointment!



Lot Hours:

Monday to Friday:

1:30p.m. – 5p.m. & 7p.m. – 9p.m.

Saturdays: 9a.m. – 5p.m.

Sundays: 11:30a.m. – 5p.m.

6-8' Balsam Fir: \$60

8'-10' Balsam Fir: \$80

Fresh Wreath: \$20

Large reindeer: \$75

Small reindeer: \$25

For more information, call St. Cuthbert's office at: **905-844-6200**
or email: stcuthbertoakville@gmail.com

St. Luke's New Year's Charity Concert *featuring the Clearview Ensemble*

January 1, 2022 at 7 pm

You're invited to a special New Year's Charity Concert, presented by the Clearview Ensemble. These talented young musicians want to serve their community and help people in need with beautiful music. The members of this ensemble are young and talented students from our local Clearview community. They all love classical music and have each won awards in various music festivals and RCM level examinations. Some members are concert masters in the OSYO. Come welcome a new year with an evening of great music presented by local neighbours!

Tickets are free – Order online at Eventbrite:

<https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/new-years-charity-concert-featuring-the-clearview-ensemble-tickets-221494214157>

ST. LUKE'S ANGLICAN
CHURCH, PALERMO

2022
New Year Charity
Concert

CLEARVIEW ENSEMBLE

Shostakovich: Waltz No. 2
Canon in D
Carmen Fantasy
Mozart Violin Concerto No.3
...

7pm, January 1, 2022
3114 Dundas Street West,
Oakville, ON

clearviewensemble@gmail.com

Health and Safety Protocol:

- Always wear a mask when in the Church.
- Please sanitize your hands as you come into the Church, going up for communion and coming down after communion and when you are leaving the building.
- Please take your bulletin home with you.

If you have any of the following symptoms, please contact your family doctor.

Symptoms of COVID-19 can vary from person to person.

Symptoms may also vary in different age groups. Some of the more commonly reported symptoms include:

- new or worsening cough
- shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- temperature equal to or over 38°C
- feeling feverish
- chills
- fatigue or weakness
- muscle or body aches
- new loss of smell or taste
- headache
- gastrointestinal symptoms (abdominal pain, diarrhea, vomiting)
- feeling very unwell

Children have been more commonly reported to have abdominal symptoms and skin changes or rashes.

In severe cases, the infection can lead to death.

Symptoms may take up to 14 days to appear after exposure to COVID-19.

Evidence indicates that the virus can be transmitted to others from someone who is infected but not showing symptoms. This includes people who:

- have not yet developed symptoms (pre-symptomatic)
- never develop symptoms (asymptomatic)

While experts know that these kinds of transmissions are happening among those in close contact or in close physical settings, it is not known to what extent. This means it is extremely important to follow the proven preventative measures.

For more information, please look online at

<https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/diseases/coronavirus-disease-covid-19.html>

Diocesan Vaccination Policy

The Diocese of Niagara has enacted a policy to increase the protection and safety of their parishioners, clergy, employees, and all whom we serve by reducing the transmission of COVID-19 in our church and office buildings and other ministry spaces.

Effective September 9, 2021, all clergy, licensed lay workers, diocesan staff, liturgical leaders (musicians, readers, servers, wardens, greeters, etc.), youth ministers, those ministering to vulnerable populations, and others in ministry positions will be required to receive at least one dose of vaccine for COVID-19 by September 30, 2021, with the second dose administered no later than October 31, 2021.

Staff and ministry personnel must submit proof of vaccination to Mary Anne Grant at the Diocese of Niagara.

If you volunteer at Nourishing Neighbours or another volunteer position, please submit your proof of vaccination to ***office@stlukepalermo.ca***.

Anyone in a ministry position who is subject to legal exemption from vaccination under the Human Rights Code, must provide reasonable proof of this exemption.

**Thank you for joining us today.
We do hope that you will come again.**

 fb.me/stlukepalermo

 [@stlukepalermo](https://twitter.com/stlukepalermo)

 [@stlukepalermo](https://www.instagram.com/stlukepalermo)





St. Luke's Anglican Church, Palermo

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Tel: 647-878-8650

Reader: Wendy Cousins

Music Director: Janet Correia

Duty Warden: Margie Simms

Greeter: Peter Malue