

Welcome to St. Mark's

On this 3rd Sunday of Advent we declare that the Joy of the Lord is our strength. We welcome everyone to this worship service as we give joyful praise to our King who comes in the name of the Lord. We wish for everyone a tremendous blessing as we worship and fellowship together by God's grace. We extend special welcome to anyone who is worshipping with us for the first time.

If you are new to St. Mark's, we pray that your time with us this morning will be a blessing to you, and we invite you to fill in the blue Welcome Card in the pew rack and place it in the offering plate so that we have a record of your time with us.

Infants, toddlers, and children are welcome as part of our worship in the sanctuary! Following the first part of the service each Sunday, many of our children and youth go with their teachers to Sunday School. Children who are visiting are invited to join in!

Nursery: The Service can be heard from the Nursery downstairs for the convenience of parents with babies and toddlers

Thank You for Helping with Today's Service:

Greeters: Maxine Fox and Elaine Smith

Duty Elder: Mavis Thomas

Sound Technicians: Edward Forsyth & Bryan Pradeepson

Bulletin: Sheba & Anthony Sampras



If you require pastoral services please fill out one of the cards in the pew and place it in the offering plate, contact Rev. Germaine Lovelace at 204-297-3950 or 905-677-4514. His email address is: lovemarlon2000@yahoo.com.

Rev. Lovelace is also available here at the church office every Tuesday – Friday 10:30 am to 4:00 pm.

Upcoming Worship & Church Events



- **Advent 3:** On this 3rd Sunday in Advent we worship through song, scripture and praise as we welcome the Prince of Peace into our lives. **All are invited to share in a time of fellowship in the Lower Hall following this worship service. We are also seeking volunteers to provide or prepare refreshment for our fellowship time. Please speak with Velda Walkes if you would love to volunteer in this ministry.**
- **White Gift Sunday:** Today December 15, we share our gifts with others through White Gift Sunday. Please bring non-perishable food and winter socks for Evangel Hall Mission.

- **St Mark's Young Society:** St. Mark's Young Society will meet for our annual Christmas Carolling and Potluck Supper today, 3:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
- **Cantata:** On Sunday, December 22nd we will share in worship and our Christmas Cantata at 11:00 am. Come and be blessed.
- **Christmas Eve:** We gather for our festival of Lessons and Carols, "Born to Die, Born to Rise" on Christmas Eve, December 24th at 7:00 pm. Please come and share in singing Christmas Carols and reading the story of Christ's Nativity.
- **Need a Lift?** Do you want to attend church but do not have regular transportation to get here? Please speak with Rev. Germaine if you require a ride to get to church on Sundays and we will help you get here.
- **Scriptures Readers:** If you would love to participate in our worship services through reading scripture please speak with one of the Elders or Rev. Lovelace.
- **Music Ministry:** This week the Senior choir will have three practices. Tuesday, Dec.17 @ 7:00 p.m., Thursday, Dec.19 @ 2:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. with a Potluck supper in between practices.
- The Intermediate choir is invited to attend the dinner at 6:00 p.m. with the food being provided by the Senior choir.
- A rehearsal of the Cantata will follow the meal.
- Both the Five Alive Singers and the Intermediate choir will rehearse following the service of worship. New members, Oliver Singh and Isaac Asumadu-Sakyi are invited to attend.

If you are interested in volunteering to help with the greeting and welcoming ministry or if you have notices for the bulletin, please talk with the Duty Elder for that Sunday or contact Sam Alfred at 416-258-4435 or sla1302@sympatico.ca (A Duty Elder's list is on the notice board in the narthex.)

Flowers in the sanctuary today were donated by Marcia Mullings

A Flower Chart is posted in the Narthex kindly fill in the Sunday or month you would like to donate flowers for the Sanctuary or Contact Cynthia Gooden at 905-673-7246 or Ivy Jones at 416-878-6620

Offering Envelopes: If you need 2020 Offering Envelopes please contact Shirley Sumere @ 905-676-9850 or an Elder.

Website:

Our Technology committee has updated our website. Please visit our website at: <http://stmarksmalton.ca>. Give us your feedback!

Especially in our prayers

“ Please be in prayer for members of our church family who are sick, or who are homebound:



“ Nashwill Gordon

“ Lee Younger

“ Muriel Bennett

“ Helen Forsyth

“ Sandra & James Moravek

“ Edna Hazel

“ Verna Dockendorff

“ Isaac Cornelius (Sheba’s Sampras’ Brother-in-law) who was in intensive care and is now home recovering from illness.

“ Les Irvine who had emergency surgery to repair a broken hip and is now in rehabilitation at Brampton Civic Hospital.

“Greg Somar & Joseph Seecharran (Susan Ramneres’ nephew and 1st Cousin who are both recovering from illness)

“ Abhijit Ghosh is recovering well at home after his recent bypass surgery. Abhijit sends thanks to his church family for all the prayers on his behalf.

“ Mr. Devaprasad Martin (Father of Charles Martin who is faithfully going through chemotherapy as he battles cancer)

“ Cordaleen Hinds who had surgery and is recovering well so far.

“ Other Members of our church family and community who are facing health issues and mobility challenges.

“ Each week we join millions of Christians who pray for one another. Let us hold in our hearts Christians in parts of Asia & the Middle East, Africa and other parts of the world who are being persecuted because of their faith.

Please also hold these concerns in your prayers, today and throughout the week:

“ For refugee families and individuals seeking shelter and safety, and for all who are working to provide it: May God magnify their efforts.

“For the people of Hong Kong as protests continues and anger and hurt continue to rise.

“ For all discerning the way forward in difficult circumstances, may God’s light lead and guide them forward.

Prayer Chain: If you would like the prayer chain to pray for you or for a particular concern please contact Rev. Germaine Lovelace at 905-677-4514 or stmarkschurchmalton@gmail.com.

Please contact the church office if you would like to hear more about St Mark’s at 905-677-4514 or stmarkschurchmalton@gmail.com

We’re At Advent

Advent is the beginning of the church year for most churches in the Western tradition. It begins on the fourth Sunday before Christmas Day, which is sometimes the last Sunday in November, and ends on Christmas Eve at sundown. Sometimes the fourth Sunday of Advent is Christmas Eve.

Meaning of Name:

The term Advent comes via Old English from the Latin *adventus* (“arrival”). It is a combination of *ad* (to) + *venire* (come). In Advent, we are anticipating the arrival of the baby Jesus ushering in hope, joy, peace and love for all people.

The season of Advent is a highlight of any congregation’s life. It is a time of joy, color, light, and anticipation. And it is a time of worship. This is a season that calls us to fall to our knees in worship of the awesome God. Advent is the season where we remember that God chose to put on flesh and dwell among us. God reached down from incomprehensible heights to touch the life we live.

The third week of Advent is a time of joy, a time of being thankful for all that has been given—the promise of the Savior who has come, who is present, and who promises a return. The third Sunday of Advent is traditionally called *Gaudete unday*. *Gaudete* is the Latin word meaning “rejoice.” Some people mark this Sunday on their Advent wreath with a pink candle instead of a purple candle. This Sunday is a joyful reminder that our salvation is near. “Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, rejoice! The Lord is near.” ***Philippians 4:4,5***

Benediction

*May the Lord, Mighty God,
Bless and keep you forever,
Grant you peace, perfect Peace,
Courage in every endeavour.
Lift up your heart and see His face
Full of grace forever,
May the Lord, Mighty God,
Bless and keep you forever*

He Came Down That We May Have Hope

1 He came down that we may have love;
he came down that we may have love;
he came down that we may have love;
hallelujah forevermore.

2 He came down that we may have peace;
he came down that we may have peace;
he came down that we may have peace;

hallelujah forevermore.

3 He came down that we may have joy;
he came down that we may have joy;
he came down that we may have joy;
hallelujah forevermore.

4 He came down that we may have life;
he came down that we may have life;
he came down that we may have life;
hallelujah forevermore.