



**St. Mark's Presbyterian Church**  
**7366 Darcel Avenue, Malton, Ontario.**  
**(905) 677-4514      stmarksmalton@gmail.com**

Minister: Rev. Germaine Lovelace  
Music Director: Jo-Ann Bischoff

*FOURTH ADVENT SUNDAY*

**December 22, 2019**

**The Cantata – Go Sing it On the Mountain**

*\* Please stand for these moments during the service if you are able to.*

**WE GATHER FOR WORSHIP**

\*Opening Carol: Hark the Herald Angel Sing      **# 139 Blue**

Welcome and Announcements

Rise, O People, and Bring Good News –  
Descant- Beulah, Delle, Valerie L & Emily

A Child is Gonna Come – Soloist – Velda Walkes

\*Carol: The Angel Gabriel From Heaven -      **# 156 Blue**

Call His Name Jesus – Solo Parts –  
Pamela Royer & Nuel Abenojar

Shepherds Awake – Intermediate Choir

Lighting the Candle of Love – (Advent Insert) –  
Intermediate Choir

Angel Band – Guitar Accompaniment by the Pradeepsons

Away in A Manger – The Five Alive Singers

Hush. Little Baby – Soloists –  
Beulah Francis & Dick Richards

Infant Holy, Infant Lowly – The Five Alive Singers

\*Carol: Go Tell It on The Mountain -      **# 133 Blue**

Go Sing It on The Mountain – Solo Parts –  
Velda Walkes & Valerie L

Carol: O Little Town of Bethlehem -      **# 165 Blue**  
(During the singing of this Carol we will give our tithes and  
Offering to the Lord)

Star Eternal – Soloist – Ivy Jones

Scottish Worship Carol – Soloist – Emily Rachpaul

Silent Night – The Five Alive Singers

Joyous Nowell to The World

Scripture Reading: Matthew 1:21-25 – Sam Alfred

Homily and Prayer – Rev. Germaine Lovelace

\*Carol: Joy to The World -      **# 153 Blue**

Benediction: May the Lord, Mighty God –  
Guitar Accompaniment by Anthony Sampras

## **Insert # 1 - Welcome to St. Mark's**

On this 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent we declare that ***"love is a flame that burns in our hearts, Jesus has come and will never depart."*** We welcome everyone to our Cantata, "Go Sing it on the Mountain," 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: Delcy and Andrew Asumadu-Sakyi

Duty Elder: Sam Alfred

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](mailto: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 4:** On this 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Advent we worship through song, scripture and praise as we welcome the Lord of Love into our lives. **All are invited to share in a time of fellowship in the Lower Hall following this worship service. Today's fellowship time is dedicated to our children here at St Mark's as we prepare a special meal to share in fellowship with them.**
- **Blue Christmas Sunday:** During today's service we remember our family and friends for whom the joy of Christmas is overshadowed by death, loss or unfortunate events. As we reflect throughout today's service we pray for healing and hope for them.
- **Christmas Eve:** We gather for our ***festival of Lessons and Carols, "Born to Die, Born to Rise"*** on Christmas Eve, December 24<sup>th</sup> at

7:00 pm. Please invite someone and come and share in singing Christmas Carols and reading the story of Christ's Nativity.

- **New Year's Eve:** We invite everyone to share in our New Year's Eve service on December 31<sup>st</sup> at 7:00 pm. Please invite your family and friends to share with you as we give God thanks for being with us throughout 2019 and look forward to God's guidance throughout 2020.
- **The Lord's Supper:** On Sunday January 5, 2020 we share in the Sacrament of Communion during our regular worship service. All are invited.
- **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.
- **Presbyterian Connection and Newsletter:** Please take copiers of the Presbyterian Connection (Winter Issue) and The Christmas Newsletter on the table in the Narthex.
- **Music Ministry:** The Senior Choir will practise on Christmas Eve at 6:20 p.m. The next practise will be on Sunday, Jan. 5 at 10:10 a.m.
- The Five Alive Singers are asked to meet briefly with Mrs. Bischoff following the service of worship.
- A short rehearsal will be held for the Intermediate Choir as well.
- We thank Gary Blake for providing the organ music today

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](mailto: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 1<sup>st</sup> 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](mailto: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](mailto: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.

On The last Sunday of Advent, we light the candle and focus on Love; love incarnate, love divine, love in the person and work of Jesus Christ.

Some churches hold a service of worship on the longest night of the year, which falls on or about December 21<sup>st</sup>, the Winter Solstice or on the Sunday closest to December 21<sup>st</sup>. The service on the Sunday closest to the 21<sup>st</sup> is observed as **“Blue Christmas Sunday.”** Blue? Yes, blue as in the blues. As in “I am feeling blue.” Not everyone is up and cheery for the Christmas holidays. Dealing with the death of a loved one, facing life after divorce or separation, coping with the loss of a job, living with cancer or some other dis-ease that puts a question mark over the future, and a number of other human situations make parties and joviality painful for many people in our congregations and communities. There is a growing attentiveness to the needs of people who are blue at Christmas. Increasing numbers of churches are creating sacred space for people living through dark times. Such services are reflective, accepting where we really are, and holding out healing and hope.

### **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*