

Redeemer/ St. George's December Newsletter 2025



From the Pastor's Desk



"Therefore, stay awake, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming...Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect." -
Matthew 24:42-44

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Service schedule

Services in December will be as follows.

Dec. 7 Advent 2 Morning Prayer

Sunday Dec. 14 Service of the Word/Children's pageant

Sunday Dec. 21 Service of Lessons and Carols

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service 7:00 PM

Evensong Wednesdays Dec. 3, 10, 17 at 5:00

*Glory to
God in the highest,
and on earth
Peace & Good Will
toward men.*

-LUKE 2:14 (KJV)

@AMYGRANT

My dear friends,

This Advent/Christmas season I am reminded of the wide-eyes wonder of youth. The Christmas lights go up, rows of houses are decorated, streets are lit, garland is hung and finally stockings are, too. People seem more friendly and a little more forgiving. Snow falls and silence enfolds you. There is fresh baking, houses smell inviting. All of this, and more, contribute to that sense of magic, at Christmastime.

As a child, I remember staying up extra late Christmas Eve. I don't think I was hoping to see Santa Claus (though that would make for an easy comparison with what Jesus is talking about in referring to His second coming, in the passage referenced above). I think I was just excited. Excited to see the gifts people had gotten for me; excited to see people's reactions when they received the gifts that I had gotten for them – things that I thought they would be grateful for. The anticipation would keep me up late, and wake me up early.

When Jesus exhorts his followers to stay awake, and to be ready, He isn't saying that otherwise they might miss it. When He comes again, they will certainly receive the promises He has made, and will not miss out. But when He says to stay awake He is challenging the auto-pilot setting that we drift toward. Does life just happen to us, or do we happen to it? Are we making decisions that influence how we live, what we do, what we say, how we think?

St. Paul challenges us to walk in the light, no more in darkness. The kind of 'awake' that Jesus means is an attentiveness, that includes an intentionality.

I once fell asleep while driving. There are lots of circumstances I could give for what brought that about, but I once fell asleep while driving in the right lane on the Transcanada, heading east out of Calgary, only to wake up as we were going into the ditch in the centre (so I had drifted across the left lane). My father had been sleeping in the passenger seat next to me. We made it to Portage before we stopped for the day – we were wide awake, after that. We were aware. There was an attentiveness and an intentionality to what we did for the rest of the day. Jesus' invitation is to be awake, not to sleep at the wheel.

This is what St. Paul means when he challenges us to walk no more in darkness. Be awake! Be attentive! Be intentional! May our lives bring glory to the One who has given His Name to us – we are His people, Christ-followers! This is how we prepare Him room in our hearts.

God bless you all, this Advent and Christmas!

Jonathan+

This month at church:

Choir Practice Will be Tuesdays. All are welcome to join.

Dec. 2,9,16 at 6:15

Wednesdays Dec. 3,10,17 Confirmation classes

Wednesdays Dec. 3,10,17 Evensong at 5:00

Thursdays Dec. 4,11,18 at 2:00 bible study led by Jonathan

Christmas Eve candlelight service Dec. 24 at 7:00

Samaritan House and Christmas Cheer donations due Dec. 14

Every Sunday remember your Loonie for the little church
donation for Samaritan House safe and warm shelter.

"It is Christmas every time you let
God love others through you.

Christmas flower donation
needs to be in by Dec.
14.



How do
Christmas trees
get ready for a
night out?

They spruce up!





CHRISTMAS IS THE CELEBRATION OF THE BIRTH OF JESUS, THE SAVIOUR OF MANKIND



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A peek around church



Choir performance



Fabulous musicians



All Saints' Sunday



The children's talk is
Always entertaining

Remember your loonie for the little church

December 2025

January 2026
 Su Mo Tu We Th Fr Sa
 26 29 30 31 1 2 3
 4 5 6 7 8 9 10
 11 12 13 14 15 16 17
 18 19 20 21 22 23 24
 25 26 27 28 29 30 31

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
30	1	2	3 Confirmation Classes 4:00 Fairview 10:30	4	5	6
7 morning prayer Advent 2	8	9	10 Confirmation Classes 4:00 Hillcrest 10:30 Dinsdale 2:00 Evensong 5:00	11 Bible Study 2:00	12	13
14 Victoria Landing Children's Pageant Advent 3 Service of the Word	15	16	17 Hillcrest 10:30 Dinsdale 2:00 Confirmation Classes 4:00 Evensong 5:00	18 Bible Study 2:00	19	20
21 Lessons + Carols Advent 4	22	23	24	25 Bible Study 2:00	26	27
28 Communion	29	30	31 Christmas Eve Candlelight 7:00	Merry Christmas! 1 Happy New Year!	2	3