



## ***Holy Trinity Anglican Church***

63 William Street, Yarmouth, NS

*A community of Faith since 1796*

**Christmas Eve**

**4:00 pm December 24<sup>th</sup>, 2018**

**The Christmas Story in Word and Song**

**Family Eucharist**

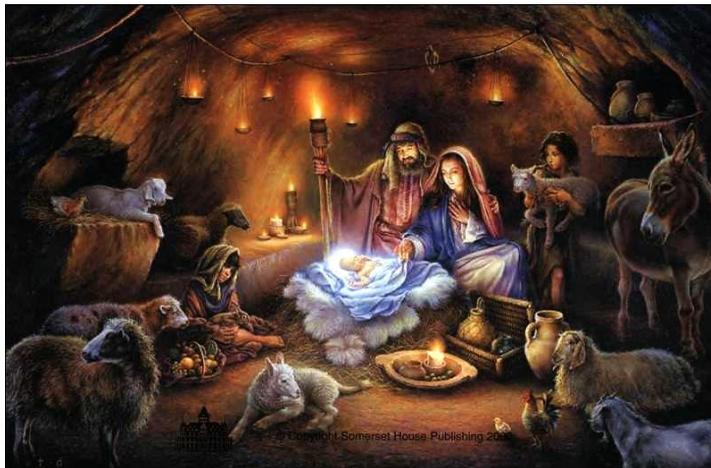


### **Welcome**

Holy Trinity Anglican Church, in the Parish of Yarmouth and Tusket, welcomes all to pray and worship the Lord our God. Within our walls you will find joy and solace, people from all walks of life, all gathered to worship and praise God in word and song. In our community you will find friendship and belonging, fun and laughter, support and care. We are glad you came to be with us today.

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Our Christian life is expressed in our commitment to know the love of God in faithful worship and to participate in the outpouring of that love by humble service in the community. We know Christ present in the Sacrament of the Altar inasmuch as we discern his presence in our neighbour. *Dr. Robert Crouse (paraphrased)*

**FAMILY EUCHARIST  
CHRISTMAS EVE 2018**

The young people tell the Christmas Story in word and song  
Celebrant & Preacher: The Reverend Tory Byrne  
Musicians: Gregory Watters, & Julie Chandler  
The hymns are from the blue hymn book Common Praise.

***Welcome***

***Opening Sentence***

I bring you good news of a great joy which will come to all the people; for to you is born this day a Saviour, Christ the Lord.

*Luke 2.10-11*

*Please stand and sing as the young people come forward*

***Opening Hymn: #120 “O Little Town of Bethlehem”***

***The Greeting***

***Priest:*** The Grace and peace of our Lord, Jesus Christ, the Love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with you all.

***People:*** **And also with you.**

***Youth:*** Come, children, families and friends, to worship God on this Nova Scotia Christmas Eve. Let us celebrate God's coming to us, and to all people everywhere, in the new born baby.

***People:*** **For unto us a Child is born; unto us a Son is given. The Prince of Peace! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

***Lighting the Christ Candle***

***Youth:*** Advent has been a time of waiting, dreaming, healing and promise. Our time of preparation is over and we celebrate the birth of Jesus.

***Adult:*** Each week during Advent we lit another candle on our wreath, and each week the candles glowed and the light shone more brightly. (*We relight the four Advent candles.*)

***Youth:*** We have read Bible verses that have spoken to us of God's faithfulness and of the hopes and dreams of God's people through the ages. The people waited and dreamed for a Messiah who would bring healing and peace. God's promise was kept. The Saviour has come.

***Adult:*** God's love has been shown in a most wonderful way: a child has been born. We know him as Emmanuel - God with us; we know him as Jesus - the one who saves; we know him as the fullest expression of God's love for us.

***Youth:*** Today we light the Christ candle, the candle which represents Jesus. It is the centre of this wreath, just as Jesus is the centre of our lives. The light of Christ shines for all to see. (*We light the white Christ candle.*)

**All: Generous God, you have prepared us again to receive your gift of love, joy, hope and healing. You have given each of us new life in the birth of Jesus. May we know God-with-us, Emmanuel, today and always. Amen.**

## ***A Reading from the Book of Isaiah***

A Lesson from the Prophet Isaiah

How beautiful on the mountains

are the feet of the messenger who brings good news - breaking the news that all's well,

- proclaiming good times,

- announcing salvation,

- telling Zion, "Your God reigns!"

Voices!

Listen!

Your scouts are shouting - thundering shouts -

shouting joyfully together.

They see with their own eyes that

God is coming back to Zion.

Break into song!

Boom it out, you ruins of Jerusalem:

"God has comforted His people!

He has redeemed Jerusalem!"

God has rolled up His sleeves.

All the nations can see His holy muscles.

Everyone,

- from one end of the earth to the other -

is seeing God at work;

God is doing His salvation work!

*Isaiah 52:7-10*

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the people of God

**Thanks be to God**

*Tableau: Mary with Gabriel*

**Song: My God is So Great**

**My God is so great, so strong and so mighty;**

**There's nothing my God cannot do. (clap hands)**

**My God came to us as a small baby, Jesus;**

**There's nothing my God cannot do. (clap hands)**

**The mountains are His, the rivers are His,**

**The stars are His handiwork too**

**My God is so great, there is nothing my God cannot do,  
for you!**

*Tableau: Mary and Joseph travelling to Bethlehem; Jesus is born*

**Song: #136 “While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks”**

*Tableau: Angels at the manger*

**Song: #126 “Away in a Manger”**

**Gradual: #138 “Hark the Herald Angels Sing” vv. 1,2**

*Please remain standing for the Gospel*

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

*The Holy Gospel* of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St. Luke

**Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ**

About that time Caesar Augustus ordered a census to be taken throughout the Empire. This was the first census when Quirinius was governor of Syria. Everyone had to travel to his own ancestral hometown to be accounted for. So Joseph went from the Galilean town of Nazareth up to Bethlehem in Judah, David’s town, for the census. As a descendant of David, he had to go there. He went with Mary, his fiancée, who was pregnant. While they were there, the time came for her to give birth. She gave birth to a son, her firstborn. She wrapped him in a blanket and laid him in a manger, because there was no room in the hostel. There were shepherders camping in the neighbourhood. They had set night watches over their sheep. Suddenly, God’s angel stood among them and God’s glory blazed around them. They were terrified. The angel said, “Don’t be afraid. I’m here to announce a great and joyful event that is meant for everybody, worldwide: A Saviour has just been born in David’s town, a Saviour who is Messiah and Master. This is what you’re to look for: a baby wrapped in a blanket and lying in a manger.” At once the angel was joined by a huge angelic choir singing God’s praises: Glory to God in the heavenly heights, Peace to all men and women on earth who please him.

*Luke 2:1-14 (The Message)*

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

**Gradual: #138 “Hark the Herald Angels Sing” v. 3**

*Homily*

**Song: #150 “On This Day Earth Shall Ring”**

*The Creed:*

I believe in God above. I believe in Jesus’ love. I believe the Spirit too, comes to tell us what to do.

*The Peace*

This holy night the angels sang, ‘Glory to God in the highest heaven, And on earth peace to all in whom he delights.’

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

**And also with you.**

*We share a sign of Christ’s peace with each other*

*Offertory Music*

*Please be seated while music is played and the offering is received*

### *Prayer over the Gifts*

Source of light and gladness, accept all we offer on this joyful feast. May we grow up in him who unites our lives to yours; for he is Lord now and for ever. **Amen**

### *Great Prayer of Thanksgiving*

**Priest:** The Lord is here.

**People:** **His Spirit is with us.**

**Priest:** Lift up your hearts.

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

**Priest:** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**People:** **It is right to give thanks and praise.**

**Priest:** Why is it right to give thanks and praise?

**People:** **Listen, and we will hear.**

Lord of all life, you created the universe, where all living things reflect your glory. You give us this great and beautiful earth, to discover and to cherish.

You give us your love, even when things go wrong. Jesus knew hurt and pain. Through him you wipe away our tears, and fill us with your peace.

You made us all, each wonderfully different, to join with the angels and sing your praise:

**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.**

We thank you, loving Father, because, when we turned away, you sent Jesus, your Son. He gave his life for us on the cross and shows us the way to live.

Send your Holy Spirit that these gifts of bread and wine may be for us Christ's body and his blood.

Why do we share this bread and wine?

**Listen, and we will hear.**

On the night before he died, when darkness had fallen, Jesus took bread. He gave thanks, broke it, and shared it with his disciples, saying: 'This is my body, given for you. Do this to remember me.'

After they had eaten, he took the cup of wine, gave thanks, and shared it with his disciples, saying: - 'This is my blood, poured out for you and for many, for the forgiveness of sins.'

So Father, with this bread and this cup we celebrate his love, his death, his risen life. As you feed us with these gifts, send your Holy Spirit, and change us more and more to be like Jesus our Saviour.

How do we follow Jesus Christ?

**Listen, and we will hear.**

Help us, Father, to love one another, as we look forward to that day when suffering is ended, and all creation is gathered in your loving arms.

And now with all your saints we give you glory, through Jesus Christ, in the strength of the Spirit, today and for ever.

**Amen.**

### *The Lord's Prayer*

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

**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 Bread*

**Priest:** We break the bread of life, and that life is the light of the world.

**People:** **God here among us, light in the midst of us, bring us to light and life.**

**Priest:** My brothers and sisters, these are the gifts of God for the people of God.

**People:** **Thanks be to God.**

### *The Communion*

*This Christmas Eve we welcome ALL to come forward for Communion or a blessing. (If you do not wish to receive Communion, please cross your arms over your chest and you will receive a blessing. If you do not wish to receive from the common cup, you are invited to remain at the rail and acknowledge or touch the cup.)*

**Hymns during Communion:** #123 “Once in Royal David's City”

#148 “See Amid the Winter's Snow”

### *Prayer after Communion*

Father of all, tonight you have united earth and heaven in sending your Son to take our human nature. May we who have tasted heavenly things share in the life of his eternal kingdom. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Father of all, we give you thanks and praise, that when we were still far off you met us in your Son and brought us home. Dying and living, he declared your love, gave us grace, and opened the gate of glory.

**May we who share Christ's body live his risen life;**

**we who drink his cup bring life to others;**

**we whom the Spirit lights give light to the world.**

**Keep us firm in the hope you have set before us,  
so we and all your children shall be free,  
and the whole earth live to praise your name;  
through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

***Blessing:***

May the Father, Who has loved the eternal Son From before the foundation of the world, Shed that love upon you his children.

**Amen**

May Christ who by his incarnation gathers into one things earthly and heavenly, fill you with joy and peace.

**Amen.**

May the Holy Spirit, by whose overshadowing Mary became the God-bearer, give you grace to carry the good news of Christ.

**Amen**

And the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son and Holy Spirit, be with you and remain with you always.

**Amen.**

***Processional Hymn: #137 “What Child is This?”***

*We process to the crib to place Jesus*

You were born before the hills, O wisdom of the Lord, Gate of Redemption, Blessed be he who walks in your steps and tunes his heart to the counsels of your voice. Alleluia.

**I will sing your praise, O Lord,**

***Hymn: #119 “Silent Night” (taper candles will be lit)***

***Sending:***

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord      **In the name of Christ. Amen**

*Please remain standing for the exit of the youth and liturgical party and sit for the postlude.*

*In Memoriam*



*The Christmas bulletins are given in loving  
memory  
for \$25 Have your loved ones name added*

## MEETINGS AND HAPPENINGS

**CHRISTMAS LESSONS AND CAROLS:** Sunday December 30th 10:00 am

**SENIORS' AFTERNOON:** Tuesday January 8<sup>th</sup> 2pm-4pm

**CAFÉ WEDNESDAY:** Wednesday January 2nd 8:30 – 10:00am

**PARISH COUNCIL MEETING:** Tuesday January 8<sup>th</sup> 6-8pm

**LABYRINTH WALK:** Friday January 16<sup>th</sup> 6:30 – 8:30 pm Refreshments 8:30-9:00pm In the Parish Hall

## IN THE COMMUNITY

**SENIORS' AFTERNOON:** Please join us Tuesday January 8th, from 2:00-4:00 at the Parish hall. We are planning games, sweets, tea, snacks and fun!

**LABYRINTH WALK:** Embodiment of Prayer and Spiritual Connection. Friday January 16<sup>th</sup> 6:30 – 8:30 pm. Refreshments 8:30-9:00pm In the Parish Hall. All welcome. Donations accepted.

**MEAL-A-DAY FOR 100 DAYS:** "Meal-A-Day for 100 Days" is a new community initiative for the winter months that we can all stand behind! "Meal-A-Day for 100 Days" will provide one meal (breakfast, lunch or dinner) each day from mid-December to the end of March and is available to everyone in the community. Holy Trinity offers a homemade Breakfast Wednesdays 8:30-10:00, and a homemade Luncheon on Fridays 11:30-1:00pm.

Holy Trinity is delighted to be one of the providers in the Town of Yarmouth's 100 Meal program. Please go to the town website for the calendar of venues, and information on how to donate.

## MEMORIAL ORNAMENTS

Thank you to all who ordered Memorial Ornaments.

Ann Winkles, in memory of Jean, Ken, Elsie, Laurette, Pat

Ivan Dagley, in memory of Alvina Dagley

Paul Mazier, in memory of Elizabeth Mazier

Phyllis Kendell, in memory of Gordon, Eva, Everett, Donna, Ena, Melvin

Joanne Sheppard, in memory of Westley, Mary Ann, Gordon, Effie

Georgina Bent, in memory of George, Frieda, Joan Cecil

Richard Ryder, in memory of Ruth Olden

Sheila Watson, in memory of John A. Watson

Julie Chandler, in memory of Joan Jenkins, Gladys Williams

Roy Bent, in memory of Louise Bent

Grace Marginson, in memory of Robin Marginson, Everett & Christina Kenney

Denise Pothier, in memory of Mac Fuller, Nancy Doucette

## CHRISTMAS MEMORIAL FLOWERS

The flowers and potted plants throughout the church are given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of the following family and friends.

- ✘ Inez and John Derevjanik, Anthony Carpentieri and Maria and Enrico Mangiarotti in loving memory by Ms. Joanne Derevjanik
- ✘ Veronica and Reginald Miller, Hubert Blake, Loretta Mitchell, Dean Johnson, Althea Miller, and Jeanette Thomas in loving memory by Sandra and Charles Blake
- ✘ Husband – Malcolm H. Bradshaw; In-Laws Canon Alleyne and wife Margaret Bradshaw Joan Bradshaw, and Randy and Beryl Day, Dorothy and Earl Patte, Charles Bradshaw, David Bradshaw; parents – Eldon and Helen Ford; brother Henry Ford, by Shirley Bradshaw
- ✘ Bob and Barbara Harding, Bob and Doreen Sutherland and brother Earl Sutherland in loving memory of our parents by Glenn, Cheryl and family
- ✘ Elizabeth Mazier, Alelia and Henri Mazier; William and Bertha Haley Bill Haley in loving memory by Paul Mazier
- ✘ Charles Brittain in loving memory by his wife Gerry and daughter Ellen and grandchildren Erin and Alex
- ✘ Michael Clark in loving memory by Makiko Clark
- ✘ John Critchley in loving memory by his wife Beryl
- ✘ Capt. Regional Collier and Florence Collier in loving memory by Angela Collier
- ✘ Albert Richards, Laura Martell-Dyke, Marion & John Martell in loving memory from Iris Martell-Richards
- ✘ Paul Stoddard in loving memory by Betty and family
- ✘ Ardith Patten and Carole Koopmans in loving memory by Roanne Collier & family
- ✘ Walton and Josina Warner, F. Maxwell and Edith Rowe in loving memory by David and Chelle Warner
- ✘ Leonard Robicheau in loving memory by Maude, daughters Michelle and Wendy, sons in law, and grandchildren  
Randall Nickerson in loving memory by Patricia Nickerson
- ✘ David Hall in loving memory by Bea, Jim and Sheila

## A CHRISTMAS MESSAGE FROM REV. TORY

Love came down at Christmas, Love all lovely, Love Divine,  
Love was born at Christmas, Star and Angels gave the sign.  
Worship we the Godhead, Love Incarnate, Love Divine

So wrote poet Christina Rossetti in 1885. She captures the essence of the Incarnation. The divine came to us, to be God-with-us in a real, tangible way. And we celebrate the birth of the baby Jesus.

Now we can say, “Christmas is here! It’s here!” We say this with with gladness – and maybe a bit of relief. Or can we? I would challenge you and say that it isn’t really true. At least, it’s not God’s truth and it’s not the Christian’s truth. Why? Simply this, Christmas is not an event. Shopping, decorating, hanging stockings, wonderful Christmas dinners, even Christmas service, and even the birth of Jesus are events, and they all are important parts of Christmas, but none of them are Christmas. Christmas is not an event. Christmas is God’s eternal gift of love; nothing in all creation can destroy it. God’s love is a Way of Love, a Way of Life.

God chose to come to us as a baby, vulnerable, weak, unable to survive without human care to give us a choice. God, the vulnerable babe of Christmas is all about God giving us a choice, for that tiny babe in the manger faced a world full of danger and darkness. God asks us to accept this weakest of all beings as our saviour, as our redeemer, as our friend, our hope, peace, joy and love, asking, “Will you accept me”? The choice is ours. We are free to say no, - or yes. If we choose yes, it is a commitment to follow Jesus throughout life, to live the way Jesus showed us. It is truly a way of life – active, growing, sharing, giving and receiving. The early followers of Jesus were called Followers of the Way. It is a Way of Life, a Way of Love, that we live intentionally, actively. As the old saying goes, “sitting in a pew no more make you a Christian than sitting in a garage makes you a car.”

God chose to come to us, take fully human form, so that we might see that the Way of Love can be our way of life. We can know the hope and peace of Christ, We may find that deep ecstatic joy and know the fullness of love that God offers. Will we accept that by committing to the Way of love. Can you tend to God all the time? Pray daily. Read, study, and discuss scripture with others. Commit to give your gifts –, be involved.in the life of the Church, be involved in the life of the world. Let gratitude grow within you. Be the Gospel that others may see the love of God through you.

May this Christmastide be filled with joy and the Peace of Christ Jesus and the may the New Year bring you ever closer to Love divine and Love incarnate.

# Holy Trinity Church

## Christmas schedule

- Dec. 23**      **The Fourth Sunday of Advent, lighting the candle of LOVE**  
8:00am Traditional said Holy Communion  
11:00am      Contemporary Eucharist with Hanging of the Greens
- Dec. 24**      **Christmas Eve**  
4.00pm      Family & Friends Worship and Children's Pageant.  
All welcome, come as you are –  
PJ's & slippers or Top Hat & Tails  
8:30pm      Christmas Carols in the Church  
9:00pm      Contemporary ("BAS") choral Eucharist
- Dec. 25**      **Christmas Day**  
9:00am Traditional BCP Choral Holy Communion
- Dec. 26**      **St. Stephan's Day** (*the first Christian martyr*)  
5:00 pm      Candlelight Service at St. Stephen's Church in Tusket
- Dec. 30**      **1<sup>st</sup> Sunday after Christmas**  
10:00am      Christmas Lessons and Carols

