



Dec. 11, 2024

### The third week of Advent

The third week of the season is characterized by joy. The third candle lit during this week is usually pink, signifying the joy that comes from the nearing celebration of Christmas. Often referred to as the "Shepherd's Candle," it emphasizes the joy announced by the angels at Jesus' birth.

This week serves as a vibrant reminder for Christians to experience and share joy amidst life's challenges and to celebrate the joyous message of the gospel. It encourages believers to find delight not only in the festivities of Christmas but also in the life and teachings of Jesus. Advent invites us to enter into the dance between joy and sadness where life is lived. When we lose one we love, we mourn their loss, and we celebrate their life.

The third Sunday of Advent is a time to celebrate joy and the message of the gospel. It's also a time to reflect on the first half of Advent and look ahead to the final weeks. Here are some things to know about the third Sunday of Advent:

- **Joy**

The third Sunday of Advent is often called Gaudete Sunday, which is Latin for "rejoice". This Sunday emphasizes joy as a Christian virtue and a gift from God. Joy can help people find meaning in their lives, sustain relationships, and guard against despair.

- **Candle lighting**

The third candle lit during this week is usually pink and is known as the "Shepherd's Candle". It symbolizes the joy of the angels at the birth of Jesus.

- **Worship**

The third Sunday of Advent is often a time with many opportunities for worship.

- **Reflection**

The third week of Advent is a time to pause and reflect on the first half of the season. It's also a time to look ahead to the final weeks and prepare for the coming of Christ.

***"And the ransomed of the Lord shall return and come to Zion with singing; everlasting joy shall be upon their heads; they shall obtain gladness and joy, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away".***

***Isaiah 35:10***

## NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Christmas Angel Program for Food Basket Families

The St James Food Basket will be closed for two weeks in a row (December 25th and January 1st) at a time when food insecurity is increasing. Therefore, the Food Basket plans to give out \$20 gift cards to each household member on Wednesday, December 18th. They expect to give out 900 to 1000 gift cards to their client families. The Outreach Committee would like to continue our past support for the Christmas gift cards and provide a bit of Christmas cheer for people who are finding their resources stretched even further during the holiday season.

Outreach is asking the congregation for monetary donations to be used to purchase gift cards. Please mark your donations (cash, cheque or e-transfer) for the Outreach Account and include your envelope number. We would appreciate receiving your donations by December 15th at the latest in order that we can send the funds to the Food Basket for them to purchase the gift cards. This is the 5th year that we have had this program and the response from our members has always been very positive. Thank you in advance for your support in bringing the joy of Christmas to those in need in our community.

### Prayer Roster

We are looking for additional congregants to help with the Prayer of Thanksgiving and Intercession. If you feel that you would like to volunteer to read this prayer occasionally on a Sunday morning, please speak to Bob Twynam. This is not a difficult task, as this prayer can be found on the Presbyterian Church in Canada's website. All you have to do is print it off and you are set. **OR** if you feel that you would like to make up your own prayer, you are most welcome to do so.

NEW



### A Fall Devotional Update

A **new** edition of **Our Daily Bread** (December/January/February), as well as the current edition of **These Days** (October/November/December) are available on the table in the church vestibule and in the devotional box on the church porch.

### Coffee/Tea Sign - Up



The sign-up sheet for coffee/tea service after worship is on the bulletin board opposite the kitchen downstairs. Please sign yourselves up or sign up your committee so that our Fellowship time after church can continue.

Dec. 8 – Harry & Pat

Dec. 15 – Rachael & Nancy J.

Dec. 22 - ????

Dec. 29 - ????

## PRAYER REQUESTS AND PASTORAL CARE

\* Pray for the people of war-torn countries who are living in fear and uncertainty. Pray for those close to home who need your special love and guidance during trying times.

\* Please keep in your prayers the following: Robert Soth, Zachariah Mwangi, Shirley P., Josephine Wong, Shelia Thomas' grandson, Carter, Ed L., Bob N., Lenore C., Charlotte Prentice, Joan and Peter K., Margaret M's brother, Simon, the Jarvis family, Olive S., Roman & Adrian P., Jean Fox's nephew, Ryan, Anna C. and Gordon F.

Please keep these folks, and indeed, everyone in our church family and people around the world, in your prayers.

**Note from your editor: Could you please advise us from time to time on the status of your loved ones so that updates can be recorded and shared to prove that the power of prayer does work miracles.**

### Sing! Etobicoke, Encore, 2024 Fall Schedule

Date	Start Time	Location	Workshop Theme	Registration Link
16-Dec-24	9:30 AM	GV	Holiday	F24SE10

#### True Beauty

Your beauty should not come from outward adornment, such as elaborate hairstyles and the wearing of gold jewelry or fine clothes. Rather, it should be that of your inner self, the unfading beauty of a gentle and quiet spirit, which is of great worth in God's sight. – 1Peter 3:3-4

True beauty comes from having a heart that loves the Lord. By cultivating kindness, humility and gentleness, you please God. Ask Him to help you serve and love others and to serve them with sincerity and compassion so that His love can shine through you. Glorious God, may I reflect Your love and glory through my inner beauty and be a light to those around me.

#### UPCOMING EVENTS

- \* Tuesdays @ 11:00 AM – Walking Group – All are welcome
- \* Thursdays @ 2:00 PM – Worship service at Centennial Park Place
- \* Monday, Dec. 16 @ 9:30 AM – Sing! Etobicoke @ Graceview
- \* Monday, Dec. 16 @ 12:30 – Advent Lunch #3
- \* Friday, Dec. 13 @ 7:00 PM – Toronto Baroque Players Concert
- \* Tuesday, Dec. 24 @ 7:00 PM – Christmas Eve Service



Nov 29	Deck the Halls @6:30pm
Nov 30	Christmas Market @2pm, @ St. Giles Kingsway
Dec 1	First Advent Communion Sunday Service
Dec 2	Advent Lunch: The Promise of Truth @12:30pm
Dec 8	Second Advent Sunday Service
Dec 9	Advent Lunch: The Promise of Compassion
Dec 10	Elaine's Craft Club Lunch @ 12 pm @The Prince
Dec 15	Third Advent Sunday Service
Dec 16	Advent Lunch: The Promise of Restoration
Dec 22	Fourth Advent Sunday Service
Dec 23	Advent Lunch: The Promise of Justice
Dec 24	Christmas Eve Service @7pm
Dec 25	Christmas Day (no service)

\*Our services are now live streamed. Go to the church's website ([www.graceview.ca](http://www.graceview.ca)) to click the link for the most recent worship services on YouTube.

\* We also have our own Facebook page. (Graceview Presbyterian Church). This site shows the world all that we are and what we have to offer as a church. Check it out and be sure to "follow."

**Prayer Roster**

**Lay Readers**

**Welcome and Announcements**

Dec. 15 Margaret Munene  
 Dec. 22 Eric Lee  
 Dec. 29 Bob Twynam

Maureen Screen  
 Margaret Munene  
 Georgena Engineer

Lynne Bishop  
 Bob Twynam  
 Kathy Twynam

**WEEKLY GIGGLE**

**Entering Heaven**

Three men died on Christmas Eve and were met by Saint Peter at the pearly gates.

"In honor of this holy season," Saint Peter said, "You must each possess something that symbolizes Christmas to get into heaven."

The first man fumbled through his pockets and pulled out a lighter. He flicked it on. "It represents a candle," he said. "You may pass through the pearly gates," Saint Peter said.

The second man reached into his pocket and pulled out a set of keys. He shook them and said, "They're bells." Saint Peter said, "You may pass through the pearly gates."

The third man started searching desperately through his pockets and finally pulled out a pair of women's glasses.

St. Peter looked at the man with a raised eyebrow and asked, "And just what do those symbolize?"

The man replied, "They're Carol's."

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Do you have any news or prayer requests that you would like to share? Drop me a line and I will be happy to include it in the Weekly Email. Have a blessed week, everyone.

Susan [choppertini@hotmail.com](mailto:choppertini@hotmail.com)

Contact information for Pastor Eric Lee: 778-791-1741; [leefyeric@gmail.com](mailto:leefyeric@gmail.com)

NB: If the phone number for Pastor Eric does not connect you immediately (technical issues?) call the church (416-621-0888) and press #1 for Pastor Eric.

Email for Iris: [ericirishk@gmail.com](mailto:ericirishk@gmail.com)

\* Message from **Pastor Eric**: “FYI the Graceview website page below has been revamped, so as to keep people updated of our activities and events. Visit us and enjoy all that is good about Graceview”.

<https://graceview.ca/calendar-events>

DECEMBER 2024						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1 Holy Communion	2 Sing Etobicoke @Graceview Advent Lunch 12:30	3 Walking Group 11:00	4	5 Service @ CPP 2:00 PM Choir practice 6:30 PM	6	7
8	9 Sing Etobicoke @NPCC Advent Lunch 12:30	10 Walking Group 11:00	11	12 Service @ CPP 2:00 PM Choir practice 6:30 PM	13 Toronto Baroque Players 7:00 PM	14
15	16 Sing Etobicoke @Graceview Advent Lunch 12:30	17 Walking Group 11:00	18	19 Service @ CPP 2:00 PM Choir practice 6:30 PM	20	21
22	23 Advent Lunch 12:30	24 Christmas Eve Walking Group 11:00	25 Christmas Day	26 Service @ CPP 2:00 PM Choir practice 6:30 PM	27	28
29	30	31 New Year's Eve Walking Group 11:00				