

CHALMERS' LIFE & MISSION

Welcome to Worship. Our service today will be in-person and livestreamed through our website at ChalmersLondon.com. If you are visiting with us, please fill out a visitor card, found in the pews, and drop it in the offering plate or the visitor card basket on the information table.

This morning we welcome Reachout Gospel Choir as they share their Christmas Cantata.

This Week at a Glance: DECEMBER 17-24

SUNDAY	In-Person & Livestream Worship Carol Sing at 9:45 am	10:00 am
TUESDAY	Session Meeting	7:00 pm
WEDNESDAY	Advent Bible Study (Final Session) Care & Share Food Pickup Knitting Circle Reachout Choir Rehearsal	10:30 am 12:00 pm 1:00 pm 7:30 pm
THURSDAY	Choir Rehearsal	6:30 pm
FRIDAY	Senior Satellite Exercise	9:00 am
SUNDAY	In-Person & Livestream Worship Christmas Eve—Carols & Lessons Christmas Eve—Candlelight Communion	10:00 am 7:00 pm 10:00 pm

Office Hours: Monday to Thursday, 8:30 am—2:30pm. Call 519-681-7242 or email chalmerspresbyterian@bellnet.ca with any questions or admin needs.

Rev. Andrew Thompson's office hours are Mondays 9:30—2:30, Wednesdays & Thursdays 9:30 am to noon and Fridays, 9:30 am to 2:30 pm.

CHRISTMAS EVE

Volunteers: DECEMBER 17 DECEMBER 24 AM 7 PM 10 PM

HOSTS	Bill George Lorna Wilson Ann Hunter	Muriel Bertling Mavis Love-Symonds Christine Hunter	Keith Spooner Cathy Spooner	Mary Vair Marg Ward Maureen Bruff
AUDIO VISUALS	Torry Thibodeau / Bob Finlay Islay Thibodeau Lizz Thibodeau	Tammy McRonald Jack Hardy Rose Marie Finlay	Tom Vannus Richard Cote Marilyn McFadden	Andrea Bruce Islay Thibodeau Lizz Thibodeau
FELLOWSHIP	Brian & Pat MacKay	No Coffee Hour		
NURSERY	Carolyn Walker, Paige Hardy	Nursery available unsupervised		
SUNDAY SCHOOL	Linda Adamson, Carolyn Walker	Christmas Presentation		

CHALMERS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH Worship Celebration

December 17, 2023

Third Sunday of Advent



Chalmers' Ministry Team:

Ministers
Clerk of Session
Music Director
Office Administrator
Caretaker
Pastor

All the People of Chalmers
Tom Hunter
Beth Hickey
Wendy Sibley
Brad Dobbie
Rev. Andrew Thompson

342 Pond Mills Road

519-681-7242

www.chalmerslondon.com

WE APPROACH GOD

Instrumental Prelude

Chalmers' Life and Mission

Bob Finlay

Call to Worship (please see PWS&D Insert)

Lighting of the JOY Candle

McFadden Family

Hymn of Praise: *Infant holy, infant lowly*

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Prayers of Adoration & Confession, and **The Lord's Prayer**

Assurance of Pardon

The Peace: One: May the peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

All: And also with you.

Choir Anthem: *Come With Comfort for Your People* by Winnagene Hatch

Celebrating with the Children

Hymn of Praise: *Come Emmanuel*

WE LISTEN TO GOD'S WORD

Prayer for Illumination

Responsive Reading: Luke 1:46-55 "The Magnificat"

One: 'My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour,
for he has looked with favour on the lowliness of his servant.

**All: Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed;
for the Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy is his name.**

One: His mercy is for those who fear him from generation to generation.

**All: He has shown strength with his arm;
he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts.**

One: He has brought down the powerful from their thrones, and lifted up the lowly;
he has filled the hungry with good things, and sent the rich away empty.

**All: He has helped his servant Israel, in remembrance of his mercy,
according to the promise he made to our ancestors,
to Abraham and to his descendants for ever.'**

Scripture Readings: Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11

Luke 1: 26-38

Loretta Duffin

One: The Gospel of the Lord

All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ

Message: **Favored One**

Hymn of Praise: *In the bleak midwinter*

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WE RESPOND TO GOD

Ordination & Commissioning of Elders *(please see insert)*

Offering of our Gifts

Offering Praise: *Give thanks with a grateful heart*

(White gifts can be placed under the Christmas tree during the hymn)

Offering Prayer and Prayers of the People

Hymn of Praise: *Hope is a star*

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Benediction

Benediction Song: *Emmanuel, Emmanuel*

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Instrumental Postlude

CHOIR ANTHEM **Come With Comfort For your People** by Winnagene Hatch

Come with comfort for Your people, Peace and comfort, mighty God! Comfort those who live in darkness, waiting for the rising of the Lord. Tell them that all war is ended. God will reign in peace and love. Come with comfort for Your people, Waiting for the rising of the Lord!

The herald cries in the desert: Prepare the way for the Lord. Make straight a path before Him, and hear good news in His word. The valleys shall be lifted, The mountains will be brought low. He feeds His flock like a shepherd, And leads where they should go.

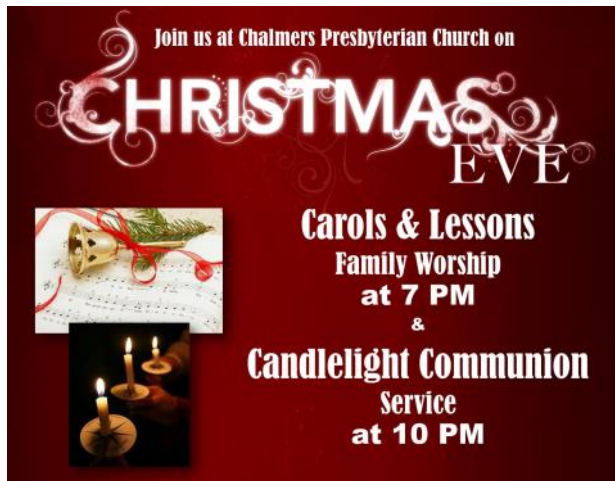
Come O long expected Jesus, Born to set Your people free. From our fear and sin release us. Let us find release in Thee. Love divine, all loves excelling, Joy to heav'n and earth impart. Fix in us Your humble dwelling. Enter ev'ry trembling heart.

Come with comfort for Your people, Peace and comfort, mighty God! Comfort those who live in darkness, waiting for the rising of the Lord! Come, O Lord! Come, O Lord.

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Please Pray

- ◆ For God's healing for **Barry M.** who is in hospital receiving treatment for an infection.
- ◆ For God's healing for **Janice C.**, who is receiving care at Kensington Village.
- ◆ For God's comfort for **Beverley E.** whose son, Stan McCarty, passed away November 30, and for healing as she continues to receive care in hospital.
- ◆ For God's healing for **Charles M.**, who is dealing with many health concerns; pray also for strength for Cathy as she cares for him.
- ◆ For God's healing for **Holly W.**
- ◆ Please continue to keep in your prayers **Helen L, Jackie H, Laura M, Betty S, Ed C, Bill C.**



Join us at Chalmers Presbyterian Church on

CHRISTMAS EVE

Carols & Lessons
Family Worship
at 7 PM
&
Candlelight Communion
Service
at 10 PM

Ordination & Commissioning Service for New Elders

This morning during morning worship we will celebrate the ordination and commissioning of 3 elders: **Muriel Bertling, Maureen Bruff and Lizz Thibodeau.**

Mission Moment

December 17: With support from Presbyterians Sharing, The Well Church (Mississauga) provides a welcoming space for those who identify as a third culture community; that is, one that is neither the culture of mostly immigrant parents nor the dominant culture of Canadian society. In a post-pandemic world, the ministry has decided to reset their focus around spiritual formation, in everything from small groups to children's ministry, retreats and conferences. They are also training leaders to be elders with spiritual formation at the centre. By focusing on spiritual formation and becoming more Christ-like, the congregation has not only grown closer as a community, but they also feel better equipped to share their personal stories of hope and transformation with friends and neighbours.

Stewardship Moment

The only investment I ever made which has paid consistently increasing dividends is the money I have given to the Lord. *J. L. Kraft – founder of Kraft Cheese Corporation, philanthropist*

Advent Bible Study

This Wednesday morning will be our final session. Join us from 10:30—11:30am as we finish our study of *"Heaven & Earth: Advent and the Incarnation"* by William H. Willimon. **All are welcome!**

URGENT! Kettle Volunteers Needed!!

There are still **SEVERAL** time slots needing to be filled for this coming week. Please visit the table in the narthex today and sign up if you are able to help out with this vital ministry!

From the Library...

Catching Christmas – by Terri Blackstock

Finn is a cab driver. He was a chef in his own restaurant, but when that didn't work out for him – well, he just wanted a job to pay the rent and put food on the table. All goes well for Finn until he gets a call to pick up a passenger and take her to a doctor's appointment. Thus Finn meets Callie. Callie is an older woman with one living relation – her granddaughter, Sydney. Sydney is the primary caregiver for Callie, but Sydney is a lawyer, and at the time this story takes place is involved in an important case that could mean the end of her career if she does not win it.

I don't want to tell too much of this story – but I really, really enjoyed it. It was a "can't put this book down" "Just another page of two" type of story. I'm sure y'all will enjoy reading it.

Christine Hunter, Librarian



TEEN CHALLENGE
ONTARIO MEN'S
MINISTRY TEAM
Come and hear a dynamic presentation by Teen Challenge Canada, featuring testimonies and stories of finding freedom from addiction!
WHEN
Sunday, January 21st
Morning Service
TIME
10:00am
www.tclondon.ca

A Teen Challenge Ministry Team

will be joining us on Sunday, January 21, 2024 in our 10 am service. Plan on joining us for this dramatic presentation of testimonies and stories of finding freedom from addiction!

Soup'er Sunday

Following the Teen Challenge presentation on Sunday, January 21, 2024 we will have a Soup'er Sunday luncheon with our guests. Please sign up in the narthex today, letting us know how many in your family will attend and if you are able to bring soup.

Pre-Service Carol Singing

This morning there will be carol-singing before the service begins. Carol requests may be made of Beth Hickey during the carol sing.

Christmas Eve Orchestra

If you play a musical instrument, you are invited to join our annual Christmas Eve Orchestra to accompany the carols at our 7pm service. Please contact Beth Hickey for more information.

Hat/Mitten/Scarf Donations

The ladies of the Knitting Circle are collecting donations of hand-knit or purchased hats, mitts or scarves – these may be placed on the 'mitten tree' in the narthex. We will be donating what we collect at the end of January to a worthy cause.

Christmas Letters are in the mail slots today. Please pick yours up after worship. Elders, please consider taking any you can hand deliver to shut in members of your district. Any letters remaining on Monday will be mailed. Thank you!

All those participating in the **Nativity Presentation** on December 24 are asked to meet in the Marshall Hall no later than 9:30 am.

Chalmers Upcoming Birthdays

Kathy McCartney	December 21
Holly Williams	December 25
Heather Reid	December 26
John David Biro	December 29

"He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High..."

Luke 1:32

Joy to the world