The Anglican Parish of St. Peter and St. Paul December 1st 2024

Advent One



Look up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.

Prelude

Words of Welcome

(Clergy enters; please stand)

Musical opening CP 91 People Look East! The Time is Near

People, look east! The time is near of the crowning of the year.

Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table.

People look east and sing today: love, the guest, is on the way.

Furrows, be glad! Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there: give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flower may flourish. People, look east and sing today: Love, the rose, is on the way.

Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled; even the hour when wings are frozen God for fledging time has chosen.

People, look east and sing today: Love, the bird, is on the way.

Stars, keep the watch: when night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together.

People, look east and sing today: Love, the star, is on the way.

Angels, announce with shouts of mirth
Christ who brings new life to earth.
Set every peak and valley humming
with the word, the Lord is coming.
People, look east and sing today: Love, the Lord, is on the way.

The Gathering of the Community (Wild Goose Big Book of Liturgies Iona Community)

God of time and God of eternity For you we wait

God of outer space and God closer that we can imagine

For you we wait

God of the roaring noise of the world and God of silence

For you we wait

In our work and play, our going out and our coming in

For you we wait

In this place and in this time

For you we wait

(Advent one: the candle of hope is lit while Psalm 130 is read)

Psalm 130

(rewritten by Nan Merrill Praying the Psalms 2007)

I wait for you, my soul waits, for in your Love I would live; My soul awaits the Beloved as one awaits the birth of a child or as one awaits the fulfillment of their destiny.

O sons and daughters of the Light, welcome the Heart of your heart!
Then you will climb the sacred Mountain of Truth;
You will know mercy and love in abundance,
Then will your transgressions be forgiven;
and you will know the Oneness of All.

Collect

Common Worship: Additional Collects (2004) alt.

Let us pray,

God of justice, as your kingdom dawns, turn us from the darkness of sin to the light of holiness, so that we may be ready to meet you in our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

Advent Song (VU7)

Hope is a star that shines in the night, leading us on till the morning is bright.

When God is a child there's joy in our song. The last shall be first and the weak shall be strong, and none shall be afraid.

(please be seated)

The Proclamation of the Word

Reading One: Jeremiah 33:14-16

A reading from the prophet Jeremiah.

The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will fulfil the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David; and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will live in safety. And this is the name by which it will be called: 'The Lord is our righteousness.'

Hear what the Spirit is saying.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 25

Of David.
To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul.
O my God, in you I trust;
do not let me be put to shame;
do not let my enemies exult over me.

Do not let those who wait for you be put to shame; let them be ashamed who are wantonly treacherous.

Make me to know your ways, O Lord; teach me your paths.

Lead me in your truth, and teach me, for you are the God of my salvation; for you I wait all day long.

Be mindful of your mercy, O Lord, and of your steadfast love, for they have been from of old.

Do not remember the sins of my youth or my transgressions; according to your steadfast love remember me, for your goodness' sake, O Lord!

Good and upright is the Lord; therefore he instructs sinners in the way.

He leads the humble in what is right, and teaches the humble his way.

Reading Two: 1 Thessalonians 3:9-13

A reading from the letter to the Thessalonians.

How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy that we feel before our God because of you? Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you face to face and restore whatever is lacking in your faith.

Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus direct our way to you. And may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, just as we abound in love for you. And may he so strengthen your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints.

Hear what the Spirit is saying.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Hymn CP 95 O Come Divine Messiah

(Text: Simon-Joseph Pellegrin 1663-1745) translation Sister Mary of St Philip: Music 16th Century French traditional, public domain)

O come, divine Messiah! The world in silence waits the day When hope shall sing its triumph and sadness flee away. Dear Savior, haste. Come, come to earth Dispel the night and show your face and bid us hail the dawn of grace. O come, divine Messiah! The world in silence waits the day When hope shall sing its triumph and sadness flee away.

O Christ, whom nations sigh for whom priest and prophet long foretold Come break the captive fetters. Redeem the long-lost fold.

Dear Savior, haste. Come, come to earth

Dispel the night and show your face and bid us hail the dawn of grace.

O come, divine Messiah! The world in silence waits the day

When hope shall sing its triumph and sadness flee away.

Gospel Reading: Luke 21:25-36

The Lord be with you. And also with you.

The Good News of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ

'There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves. People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. Then they will see "the Son of Man coming in a cloud" with power and great glory. Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.'

Then he told them a parable: 'Look at the fig tree and all the trees; as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know that summer is already near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

'Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and that day does not catch you unexpectedly, like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place, and to stand before the Son of Man.'

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

Gospel Hymn CP 95 O Come Divine Messiah

(Text: Simon-Joseph Pellegrin 1663-1745) translation Sister Mary of St Philip: Music 16th Century French traditional, public domain)

You come in peace and meekness and lowly will your cradle be; All clothed in human weakness shall we your Godhead see. Dear Savior, haste. Come, come to earth Dispel the night and show your face and bid us hail the dawn of grace. O come, divine Messiah! The world in silence waits the day When hope shall sing its triumph and sadness flee away.

Sermon: The Rev. Gail Rodger

Special Musical: *Christmas is Coming* (Words and music: Joel Raney, Hope publishing)

Announcements

The Creed (cf Ephesians)

We believe in God the Father, from whom every family

in heaven and on earth is named.

We believe in God the Son, who lives in our hearts through faith, and fills us with his love.

We believe in God the Holy Spirit, who strengthens us with power from on high.

We believe in one God; Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.

Prayers of Intercession and Thanksgiving

Prayers of the People

Confession and Absolution (Iona Traditional)

Dear friends in Christ, not out of dread or fear, but believing that God is faithful to forgive, let us rid ourselves of what we need to carry no longer. (*Silence is kept*)

Eternal God, maker of the skies above,
Lowly Christ, born amidst the growing earth,
Spirit of life, wind over the flowing waters,
in earth, sea and sky you are there.
O hidden mystery, sun behind all suns, soul behind all souls,
in everything we touch, in everyone we meet, your presence is around us, and we
give you thanks, but when we have not touched but trampled your creation, when
we have not met but missed you in one another, when we have not received but
rejected you in the poor, forgive us, and hear our plea for mercy.

Listen to the words of Jesus for all who are truly sorry and seek to renew their lives: "Your sins are forgiven. Go in peace, come, follow me."

Lead us now, Holy God, to acknowledge your costly generosity by living as forgiven people, until heaven and earth rejoice and the whole earth cries, Glory! Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

(after passing the peace please be seated)

Hymn CP 88 Come Thou Long Expected Jesus

(Text: Charles Wesely, Music: Melody Psalmodia Sacra Gotha 1715, 1983 Hope Publishing Co., public domain)

Come, thou long-expected Jesus, born to set thy people free; from our fears and sins release us; let us find our rest in thee.

Israel's strength and consolation, hope of all the earth thou art; dear desire of every nation, joy of every longing heart.

Born thy people to deliver; born a child and yet a King; born to weigh in us forever. now thy gracious kingdom bring.

By thine own eternal Spirit, rule in all our hearts alone; by thine all-sufficient merit, raise us to thy glorious throne.

Prayer over the Gifts:

God of love and power, your word stirs within us the expectation of the coming of your Son. Accept all we offer you this day and sustain us with your promise of eternal life. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Eucharistic Prayer (Please stand)

(Evangelical Lutheran worship, prayer #4 Advent) (music from Great Thanksgiving setting 1. CP719 Common Praise).

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right and good, our duty and our joy that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, mighty and merciful God, through our Saviour Jesus Christ; You comforted your people with the promise of the Redeemer, through whom you will also make all things new in the day when he comes in righteousness. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

(sung)

Holy, holy holy, Lord, God of power and might; Heaven and earth are full of your glory Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest, Hosanna in the highest.

Holy one, the beginning and the end, the giver of life:

Blessed are you for the birth of creation.

Blessed are you in the darkness and in the light.

Blessed are you for your promise to your people.

Blessed are you in the prophets' hopes and dreams.

Blessed are you for Mary's openness to your will.

Blessed are you for your Son Jesus, the Word made flesh.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

With this bread and cup we remember your Word, dwelling among us, full of grace and truth. We remember our new birth in his death and resurrection. We look with hope for his coming again.

Come Lord Jesus. Come Lord Jesus, come.

Holy God, we long for your Spirit. Come among us. Bless this meal. May your Word take flesh in us. Awaken your people. Fill us with your light. Bring the gift of peace on earth.

Come Holy Spirit. Come Holy Spirit, come.

All praise and glory are yours Holy One of Israel, Word of God incarnate, Power of the Most High, one God now and forever.

Amen! Amen! Amen!

The Lord's Prayer (Stand, Sit or kneel as your custom)
And now, as our Saviour Christ has taught us, we are bold to sing, (adapt. from a change by R. Langdon VU960)

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive them that trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread

God of promise, you prepare a banquet for us in your kingdom.

Happy are those who are called to the supper of the Lamb.

<u>Invitation to table</u>

Friends, this is the joyful feast of unity. Christ has gathered his people around the earth to commune at this table. And so, come: you from the East and from the West, from the North and from the South. Come. Come with your doubts, come with your hopes, come with your inadequacies and with all your strengths. Come, for this is a table where all are invited and all are welcome.

The gifts of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

The Communion

(Communion is offered at three locations in turn: station one is at the back of the church near the candles for those who prefer to stand and/or are physically challenged by steps without railings; station two, brought to the pew please let the usher know if you would like it brought to the pew; station three: at the altar rail for all those who are able)

Instrumental musical selections during communion

Prayer after Communion (please stand)

Let us pray,

God for whom we wait, you have fed us with the bread of eternal life. Keep us ever watchful, that we may be ready to stand before the Son of man. We ask this in the name of Christ the Lord. **Amen.**

Prayer for Going into the World

(Wild Goose Big Book of Liturgies Iona Community)

God of Advent,

Among refugees and outcasts, you breathed your first breaths. In the cry of a newborn child you proclaimed Emmanuel God-with-us.

Come God in the margins, breathe into us the spirit of longing for your kingdom. Come this advent to make us dream and work for a better world of justice and freedom. Come, Lord, come.

Blessing

(Wild Goose Big Book of Liturgies Iona Community)

May the light of God

Lead us and make us unafraid

May the power of God

Protect us and make us strong

May the joy of God

Heal us and make us happy

May the grace of God

Bless us and keep us loving, now and evermore. Amen.

Sending Hymn: Christ, Be Our Light

(Music and text: Bernadette Farrell © 1993, Published by OCP. One License)

Longing for light, we wait in darkness. Longing for truth, we turn to you. Make us your own, your holy people, light for the world to see.

Refrain

Christ be our light! Shine in our hearts.
Shine through the darkness.
Christ, be our light! Shine in your church gathered today.

Longing for peace, our world is troubled. Longing for hope, many despair. Your word alone has power to save us. Make us your living voice. **Refrain**

Longing for food, many are hungry. Longing for water, many still thirst. Make us your bread, broken for others, shared until all are fed. **Refrain** Longing for shelter, many are homeless. Longing for warmth, many are cold. Make us your building, sheltering others, walls made of living stone. **Refrain**

Many the gifts, many the people, many the hearts that yearn to belong. Let us be servants to one another, making your kingdom come. **Refrain**

Dismissal

Go now and walk in the light of the Lord. In the name of Christ we go in hope to love and serve the Lord. Amen!

Postlude

Territorial Acknowledgement

We worship on the traditional lands of the Ləkwəŋən speaking peoples, who are the Esquimalt, Songhees and other Nations of the Salish and Coast Salish Peoples. We, who came from many lands to join the line of those worshipping here, commit our Church to continue the journey of truth and reconciliation with our First Nations' neighbours.

Weekly Cycles of Prayer

We pray for The Anglican Church of Mexico; for Linda Nicholls, our Primate; Bishop Chris Harper, the National Indigenous Archbishop; Diocese of Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island, Bishop Sandra Fyfe; and the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Canada.

In our diocese, we pray for our bishop, the Right Reverend Anna Green-wood Lee; and the faithful of Parish of Pender & Saturna Islands, North Saanich.

In our region, we pray for St Georges Cadboro Bay, The Rev. Christine Conkin.

In our parish we pray for: Karen Martin; Marge McIntosh; Lynda Miller; Joseph Motuz; Judy Parker; Kevyn Patey; Doreen Peets: Mavis Pillar.

In our community we pray for the Neighbourhood House and those who are marginalized in our society.

For the month of December in our parish ministry we pray for the members of our parish council.



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