

**The Anglican Parish of St. Peter and St. Paul
1379 Esquimalt Road Esquimalt B.C. V9A 3R4
December 25th 2024 10 AM Christmas Day**



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.

Prelude:

Welcome: *The Rev. Gail Rodger*

Opening Hymn: CP143 Angels from the Realms of Glory

Gathering of the Community

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

And also with you.

Almighty God,

to you all hearts are open all desires known, and from you no secrets are hidden. Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy name, through Christ our Lord.

Amen

Gloria (Tune: chorus of Shepherds in the Fields Abiding)

Gloria in excelsis Deo

Gloria in excelsis Deo (*Be seated*)

Let us pray,

O God our Father, whose Word has come among us in the Holy Child of Bethlehem, may the light of faith illumine our hearts and shine in our words and deeds; through him who is Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

The Story of Faith is Proclaimed

First Reading Isaiah 9:2-7

A reading from Isaiah.

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light;
those who lived in a land of deep darkness—on them light has
shined.

You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy;
they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult
when dividing plunder.

For the yoke of their burden, and the bar across their shoulders, the
rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian.
For all the boots of the tramping warriors and all the garments rolled
in blood shall be burned as fuel for the fire.

For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests
upon his shoulders; and he is named
Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of
Peace.

His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace
for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and
uphold it
with justice and with righteousness from this time onwards and for
evermore.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 96

Sing to the Lord a new song;
sing to the Lord, all the whole earth.

**Sing to the Lord and bless his name;
proclaim the good news of his salvation from day to day.**

Declare his glory among the nations
and his wonders among all peoples.

**For great is the Lord and greatly to be praised;
he is more to be feared than all gods.**

As for all the gods of the nations, they are but idols;
but it is the Lord who made the heavens.

**Oh, the majesty and magnificence of his presence!
Oh, the power and the splendour of his sanctuary!**

Ascribe to the Lord, you families of the peoples;
ascribe to the Lord honour and power.

**Ascribe to the Lord the honour due his name;
bring offerings and come into his courts.**

Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness;
let the whole earth tremble before him.

**Tell it out among the nations: “The Lord is king!
he has made the world so firm that it cannot be moved;
he will judge the peoples with equity.”**

Let the heavens rejoice, and let the earth be glad;

let the sea thunder and all that is in it;
let the field be joyful and all that is therein.
**Then shall all the trees of the wood shout for joy
before the Lord when he comes,
when he comes to judge the earth.**

He will judge the world with righteousness
and the peoples with his truth. **Amen**

Second Reading: Titus 3:4-7

A reading from Titus.

But when the goodness and loving-kindness of God our Saviour appeared, he saved us, not because of any works of righteousness that we had done, but according to his mercy, through the water of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit. This Spirit he poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Saviour, so that, having been justified by his grace, we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.
Thanks be to God.

Hymn: CP153 Good Christians All Rejoice (*v. 1-2 before Gospel, v. 3 after*)

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

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

Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.

Luke 2:1-20 is proclaimed

The gospel of Christ.

Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ.

Hymn: CP153 Good Christians All Rejoice (*v. 1-2 before Gospel, v. 3 after*)

Christmas Message: *The Rev. Gail Rodger*

Hymn: CP 139 The First Nowell (verses 1 to 4 only)

Prayers of the People

The Peace

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

The Celebration of the Eucharist

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Generous Creator, in faith and joy we celebrate the birth of your Son. Increase our understanding and our love of the riches you have revealed in him, who is Lord now and for ever. **Amen.**

Eucharistic Prayer (*Please stand*)

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Blessed are you, gracious God,
creator of heaven and earth,
because in the mystery of the Word made flesh
you have caused a new light to shine in our hearts,
to give knowledge of salvation
in the face of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.
Now with angels and archangels
and the whole company of heaven,
we lift our voices
to proclaim the glory of your name.

(Tune: Hark the Herald Angels Sing Melody)

Holy, holy, holy Lord,

God of power and might adored

heaven and earth are shining bright

with the glory of your light.

Loud hosannas now we sing! In the highest may they ring!

Blessed is the coming one, Christ, Emmanuel, your Son.

Glory in the highest! Holy God, your name be blessed.

Holy God, source of life and goodness, all creation rightly gives you praise. In the fullness of time, you sent your Son Jesus Christ, to

share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all. He healed the sick and ate and drank with outcasts and sinners; he opened the eyes of the blind and proclaimed the good news of your kingdom to the poor and to those in need. In all things he fulfilled your gracious will.

On the night he freely gave himself to death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, “Take, eat: this is my body which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.”

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, “Drink this, all of you: this is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me.”

Gracious God, his perfect sacrifice destroys the power of sin and death; by raising him to life you give us life for evermore.

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith. (Tune: We Three Kings)

Dying Christ destroyed our death.

Rising Christ restores our life.

Christ will come again in glory, raising us all to life.

Oh, God of power, God of might, God of love, our hearts delight:

Feed us, guide us, walk beside us, bless us with gentle light.

Recalling his death, proclaiming his resurrection, and looking for his coming again in glory, we offer you, Father, this bread and this cup. Send your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these gifts, that all who eat and drink at this table may be one body and one holy people, a living sacrifice in Jesus Christ, our Lord. Through Christ, with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory is yours, almighty Father, now and for ever.

The Lord's Prayer

And now, with the words 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 the Bread

We break the bread of life, and that life is the light of the world

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

(Tune Infant Holy Infant Lowly)

God our Mother, Christ our Brother,

Spirit in these gifts you vow

By your giving, in our living, we become your body now

Bread is broken, light revealing; word is spoken for our healing

Make us all your body now. Amen. Amen.

The gifts of God for the people of God.
Thank be to God.

The Communion

(Communion will be offered at the altar rail or may be brought to the pew for those with mobility challenges. If receiving, please walk single file on the right to the front. Responses to receiving the host include: Amen: Hallelujah; or Thanks be to God.)

Prayer after Communion *(please stand)*

Let us pray,

Source of truth and joy, may we who have received the gift of divine life always follow the way of your Son. This we ask in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord. **Amen.**

Hymn: CP 140 It Came Upon the Midnight Clear

Blessing

May the true spirit of Christmas be with us all
the spirit of joy that overflows from the heart
and makes neighbours rejoice,
the spirit of peace that harmonises differences
and makes music of our common life.
the spirit of love that sings the mind
of God to the world.

And may the blessing of the manger –
God's creation all around;
the blessing of the shepherds –

God's people on the ground;
the blessing of the angels –
good news for all, and peace for the world,
be among us, and remain with us, always.

Hymn: CP154 Joy to the World

Go forth into the world rejoicing and loving one another in Christ.
Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

Postlude

A very blessed Christmas to you. Thank you for coming.



ST. PETER AND ST. PAUL
ESQUIMALT

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