



## **THE SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT DECEMBER 8, 2024**

Welcome to our service this morning! We hope that your experience with us this morning is both an opportunity for you to feel closer to God and a chance to connect (or reconnect) with a caring community.

The Church can be a place for people who are searching, questioning, and discovering and we are committed to ensuring that this parish is a place of diverse people where there are no barriers. Whether you are a person of faith or one who doubts --or like most of us reside somewhere in between — we hope that you will feel at home here.

We would like to acknowledge that the land on which we gather is the traditional territory of the Anishnaabeg, specifically the Aamjiwanaang First Nation.

During the Eucharist (sometimes called The Lord's Supper, Holy Communion, or Mass) our understanding is that all baptized persons are welcome to take part. Coming forward to the rail, and by extending your cupped hands you indicate that you would like to receive the bread, and it will be placed in your hand. Gluten-free wafers are available, so just let us know if you need that option. If you would prefer to receive a blessing, please cross your arms across your chest. The wine is also shared, and you may either drink from the offered chalice (gently guiding it to your mouth) or lightly touch the base of the chalice to indicate that you prefer not to drink. Whether you take the bread, the wine, or both, our belief is that you have fully participated in the sacrament.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to share them with us

1. 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.
  
2. 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.
  
3. 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.
  
4. 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.
  
5. 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.

## Advent Candle Liturgy

*Two blue candles are lit first.*

Leader: In joyful expectation,  
let us call out to Christ,  
who is our salvation.  
Lord, you come as the messenger  
of the good news of God's salvation.  
Lord, come and save us.

**All: Lord, come and save us.**

Leader: Lord,  
you come and bring forth in us  
a rich harvest of justice and peace.  
Lord, come and save us.

**All: Lord, come and save us.**

Leader: Lord,  
come to build your Kingdom among us,  
for we are ready!  
Lord, come and save us.

**All: Lord, come and save us.**

Let us pray.  
God of power and mercy,  
open our hearts to welcome you.  
Remove those things  
which stop us from showing love,  
so that we can show that we are one with Christ.  
We ask this through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

## Hope is a Star

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

## Refrain:

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.

2. Peace is a ribbon that circles the earth,  
giving a promise of safety and worth.

**Refrain**

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

**People: And also with you.**

## \*The Collect for Purity

Celebrant: Almighty God,

**All: 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**

## \*Kyrie



## **\*Collect of the Day**

**Reader: A reading from the Apocryphal writings, taken from the Book of Baruch.**

Take off the garment of your sorrow and affliction, O Jerusalem, and put on forever the beauty of the glory from God. Put on the robe of the righteousness that comes from God; put on your head the diadem of the glory of the Everlasting; for God will show your splendour everywhere under heaven. For God will give you evermore the name, Righteous Peace, Godly Glory." Arise, O Jerusalem, stand upon the height; look toward the east, and see your children gathered from west and east at the word of the Holy One, rejoicing that God has remembered them. For they went out from you on foot, led away by their enemies; but God will bring them back to you, carried in glory, as on a royal throne. For God has ordered that every high mountain and the everlasting hills be made low and the valleys filled up, to make level ground, so that Israel may walk safely in the glory of God.

The woods and every fragrant tree have shaded Israel at God's command. For God will lead Israel with joy, in the light of his glory, with the mercy and righteousness that come from him.

**Reader: Hear the wisdom of the Hebrew Scriptures.**

**People: Thanks be to God.**

## **Canticle 19**

Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel;

**he has come to his people and set them free.**

He has raised up for us a mighty Saviour,

**born of the house of his servant David.**

Through his holy prophets he promised of old,

**that he would save us from our enemies,**

**from the hands of all who hate us.**

He promised to show mercy to our fathers

**and to remember his holy covenant.**

This was the oath he swore to our father Abraham,  
**to set us free from the hands of our enemies.**  
Free to worship him without fear,  
**holy and righteous in his sight all the days of our life.**

You, my child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High,  
**for you will go before the Lord to prepare his way,**  
to give his people knowledge of salvation  
**by the forgiveness of their sins.**

In the tender compassion of our God  
the dawn from on high shall break upon us,  
**to shine on those who dwell in darkness**  
**and the shadow of death,**  
**and to guide our feet into the way of peace.**

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:  
**as it was in the beginning,**  
**is now, and will be for ever. Amen.**

**Reader: A reading from the Christian writings, taken from  
Paul's Letter to the Church in Philippi.**

I thank my God every time I remember you, -constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, -because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now. -I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ. -It is right for me to think this way about all of you, because you hold me in your heart, for all of you share in God's grace with me, both in my imprisonment and in the defence and confirmation of the gospel.

For God is my witness, how I long for all of you with the compassion of Christ Jesus. And this is my prayer, that your love may overflow more and more with knowledge and full insight -to help you to determine what is best, so that in the day of Christ you may be pure and blameless, having produced the harvest of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ for the glory and praise of God.

**Reader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.**

**People: Thanks be to God.**

**\*Gradual Hymn: *There's a Voice in the Wilderness***

Blue #106

1. There's a voice in the wilderness crying,  
a call from the ways untrod:  
prepare in the desert a highway,  
a highway for our God!  
The valleys shall be exalted,  
the lofty hills brought low;  
make straight all the crooked places,  
where the Lord our God may go!
2. O Zion, give voice to good tidings,  
ascend to the heights and sing!  
Proclaim to a desolate people  
the coming of their King.  
The works of pride all perish,  
like flowers they shall decay;  
the power and pomp of nations  
shall pass like a dream away.
3. But your word, O God, is faithful,  
your arm, O Lord, is strong;  
you stand in the midst of nations,  
and you will right the wrong.  
You will feed your flock like a shepherd,  
and fold the lambs to your breast;  
in pastures of peace you'll lead them,  
and give to the weary rest.
4. There's a voice in the wilderness crying,  
a call from the ways untrod:  
prepare in the desert a highway,  
a highway for our God!  
The valleys shall be exalted,  
the lofty hills brought low;  
make straight all the crooked places,  
where the Lord our God may go!

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

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

**People: Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

In the fifteenth year of the reign of Emperor Tiberius, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was ruler of Galilee, and his brother Philip ruler of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias ruler of Abilene, during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. He went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, -as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah, "The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight. Every valley shall be filled, and every mountain and hill shall be made low, and the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough ways made smooth; and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.'"

Celebrant: This is the Gospel of the Christ.

**People: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

## Homily

**Anthem:** *An Advent Prayer*

## \*The Nicene Creed

Celebrant: Let us confess our faith, as we say:

**All:**  
**We believe in one God,**  
**the Father, the Almighty,**  
**maker of heaven and earth,**  
**of all that is, seen and unseen.**  
**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,**  
**the only Son of God,**  
**eternally begotten of the Father,**  
**God from God, Light from Light,**  
**true God from true God,**



**begotten, not made,  
of one Being with the Father;  
through him all things were made.  
For us and for our salvation  
he came down from heaven,  
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit  
and the Virgin Mary and became truly human.  
For our sake he was crucified  
under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried.  
On the third day he rose again  
in accordance with the Scriptures;  
he ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again in glory  
to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father,  
who with the Father and the Son  
is worshiped and glorified,  
who has spoken through the prophets.  
We believe in one holy catholic  
and apostolic Church.  
We acknowledge one baptism  
for the forgiveness of sins.  
We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

### **Prayers of the People**

**V: Lord, in your mercy. R: Hear our prayer.**

## Confession and Absolution

Celebrant: Most merciful God,

**All: we confess that we have sinned against you  
in thought, word, and deed,  
by what we have done,  
and by what we have left undone.  
We have not loved you with our whole heart;  
we have not loved our neighbours as ourselves.  
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.  
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,  
have mercy on us and forgive us,  
that we may delight in your will,  
and walk in your ways,  
to the glory of your name. Amen.**

## \*The Peace

Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Celebrant: Reconciled to God, and one another,  
let us exchange a sign of Christ's peace.

## \*Offertory Hymn: *When the King Shall Come Again* Blue #109

1. When the King shall come again, all his power revealing;  
splendour shall announce his reign, life and joy and healing;  
earth no longer in decay, hope no more frustrated;  
this is God's redemption day longingly awaited.
2. In the desert, trees take root, fresh from God's creation;  
plants and flowers and sweetest fruit join the celebration;  
rivers spring up from the earth, barren lands adorning.  
Valleys, this is your new birth; mountains, greet the morning!

3. Strengthen feeble hands and knees;  
fainting hearts, be cheerful!  
God who comes for such as these,  
seeks and saves the fearful.  
Deaf ears hear the silent tongues sing away their weeping;  
blind eyes see the lifeless ones walking, running, leaping!
  
4. There God's highway shall be seen where no roaring lion,  
nothing evil or unclean walks the road to Zion:  
ransomed people, homeward bound all your praises voicing,  
see your Lord with glory crowned, share in his rejoicing!

**\*The Prayer over the Gifts**

**\*Eucharistic Prayer #3 (*Preface of Advent*)**



Celebrant: The Lord be with you.    People: And also with you.



Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.    People: We lift them to the Lord.



Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



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

Celebrant:    Blessed are you, gracious God...  
                  to proclaim the glory of your name:

All:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of power and might,

heav'n and earth are full, full of your glo - - ry. Ho -

- san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - - na, ho - san - na in the

high - - est. Bless - ed is he who comes, who

comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na, ho - san - na, ho -

- san - - na, ho - san - na in the high - - est.

Celebrant: We give thanks to you...  
Therefore, Father, according to his command:

All:

We re - mem - ber his death, we pro - claim his re - sur -

- rec - - tion, we a - wait his com - ing in glo - ry.

Celebrant: and we offer our sacrifice...now and for ever.

A - - men, a - - men.

# \*The Lord's Prayer



Our Fath - er in hea - ven, hal - lowed be your name, your king - dom come,



5 your will be done, on earth as in hea - ven. Give us to - day



10 our dai - ly bread. For - give us our sins as we for - give those who sin a



15 - gainst us. Save us from the time of tri - al and de - liv - er us from



19 e - vil. For the king - dom, the pow'r, and the glo - ry are yours



23 now and for - ev - er. A - men.

## **\*The Breaking of the Bread #5**

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

**All: Happy are those who are called  
to the supper of the Lamb.**

Celebrant: Gracious God,

**All: we offer ourselves to you in this sacred space  
and time, asking that we might be fully at  
peace with you in heart, mind, body and soul.  
We pray that you will also grant us peace with  
each other and our neighbours, that we might  
come before your table ready to receive the  
gift of your Son Jesus Christ's sacrifice: his  
body and blood. May your peace, necessary  
for our receiving the Sacrament, be granted to  
us now and for ever more. In Christ's name we  
pray. Amen.**

Celebrant: These are the gifts of God for the People of God.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

*All baptized Christians are invited to come forward for communion*

**Communion Hymns: *Jesus Calls...Him***

Blue #59

*We Who Live...Symbol*

Blue #69

*All Who Hunger*

Purple #30

**\*Prayer After Communion**

## **\*Doxology**

Celebrant: Glory to God,  
**All: whose power working in us,  
can do infinitely more  
than we can ask or imagine.  
Glory to God  
from generation to generation,  
in the Church and in Christ Jesus,  
for ever and ever. Amen.**

## **\*Recessional Hymn: *Herald! Sound the Note of Judgement* Blue #111**

1. Herald! Sound the note of judgement,  
warning note of right and wrong,  
turning us from sin and sadness,  
til once more we sing the song.  
Sound the trumpet! Tell the message!  
Christ the Saviour King has come!
2. Herald! Sound the note of gladness!  
Tell the news that Christ is here;  
make a pathway through the desert  
for the one who brings God near.  
Sound the trumpet! Tell the message!  
Christ the Saviour King has come!
3. Herald! Sound the note of pardon!  
Those repenting are forgiven,  
God restores the wayward children,  
and to all new life is given.  
Sound the trumpet! Tell the message!  
Christ the Saviour King has come!

4. Herald! Sound the note of triumph!  
Christ has come to share our life,  
bringing God's own love and power,  
granting victory in our strife.  
Sound the trumpet! Tell the message!  
Christ the Saviour King has come!

**\*Dismissal**

Celebrant: Our liturgy has ended, but our service is just  
beginning. Let us go forth rejoicing  
in the power of the Spirit.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

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