



The Anglican Parish of Christ Church  
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## *Third Sunday of Advent*

**December 12, 2021**

*The Spirit of the Lord God is upon me, because the Lord has anointed me  
to bring good tidings to the afflicted. Isaiah 61:1*

**10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist (The Book of Alternative Services)**

Celebrant and Preacher: The Venerable Susan Oliver  
Reader: Barb Norton  
Lay Reader: Alexis Taylor  
Crucifier: Keith Spencer

The flowers on the altar are offered to the glory of God  
and in loving memory of Peg and Charlie Young from Arlene.

We are Treaty people of Treaty 6 Territory; a covenant between Nations, witnessed by the Creator. We commit ourselves to the sharing of this land and its sacred gifts together in peace by welcoming all peoples and genders in the spirit of Treaty and wâhkôhtowin, as all our relations.

Prelude:

Opening Hymn: #103 On Jordan's Banks, the Baptist's Cry

On Jordan's bank, the Baptist's cry announces that the Lord is nigh;  
awake and hearken, for he brings glad tidings of the King of kings.

Then cleansed be every breast from sin; make straight the way for God  
within.

Prepare we in our hearts a home, where such a mighty guest may come.

For thou art our salvation, Lord, our refuge and our great reward;  
without thy grace we waste away, like flowers that wither and decay.

To heal the sick stretch out thine hand, and bid the fallen sinner stand;  
shine forth, and let thy light restore earth's own true loveliness once more.

All praise, eternal Son, to thee whose advent doth thy people free;  
whom with the Father we adore and Holy Ghost for evermore.

## ***The Gathering of the Community***

*(Please stand)*

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.**

Kyrie

Solo: Kyrie eleison;     **All: Kyrie eleison, Kyrie eleison**  
Solo: Christe eleison;   **All: Christe eleison, Christe eleison.**  
Solo: Kyrie eleison;     **All: Kyrie eleison, Kyrie eleison**

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.**

Celebrant: God of power and mercy, you call us once again to celebrate the coming of your Son. Remove those things which hinder love of you, that when he comes, he may find us waiting in awe and wonder for him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Lighting of the Advent Wreath

We praise you, O God, for this victory wreath that marks our days of preparation for Christ's advent. As we light the candles on this wreath, strengthen our hearts as we await the Lord's coming in glory. Enlighten us with your grace, that we may serve our neighbours in need. Grant this through Christ our Lord, whose coming is certain and whose day draws near. **Amen.**

Children's Talk

## ***The Proclamation of the Word***

First Reading: (Zephaniah 3:14-20)

Sing aloud, O daughter Zion; shout, O Israel! Rejoice and exult with all your heart, O daughter Jerusalem! The Lord has taken away the judgements against you, he has turned away your enemies. The king of Israel, the Lord, is in your midst; you shall fear disaster no more. On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem: Do not fear, O Zion; do not let your hands grow weak. The Lord, your God, is in your midst, a warrior who gives victory; he will rejoice

over you with gladness, he will renew you in his love; he will exult over you with loud singing as on a day of festival. I will remove disaster from you, so that you will not bear reproach for it. I will deal with all your oppressors at that time. And I will save the lame and gather the outcast, and I will change their shame into praise and renown in all the earth. At that time I will bring you home, at the time when I gather you; for I will make you renowned and praised among all the peoples of the earth, when I restore your fortunes before your eyes, says the Lord.

Carol: The King Shall Come (with bells and choir)

Second Reading: (Philippians 4:4-7)

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Gradual Hymn #89 O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

O come, O come, great Lord of might, who to your tribes  
on Sinai's height in ancient times once gave the law,  
in cloud and majesty and awe.

Refrain:

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel!

Reader: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Reader: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to  
St. Luke (3:7-18)

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

John said to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruits worthy of repentance. Do not begin to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our ancestor'; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire." And the crowds asked him, "What then should we do?" In reply he said to them, "Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise." Even tax collectors came to be baptized, and they asked him, "Teacher, what should we do?" He said to them, "Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you."

Soldiers also asked him, "And we, what should we do?" He said to them, "Do not extort money from anyone by threats or false accusation, and be satisfied with your wages." As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, John answered all of them by saying, "I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire." So, with many other exhortations, he proclaimed the good news to the people.

Reader: The Gospel of Christ

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

Gradual Hymn #89 O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel!

Sermon

Archdeacon Susan Oliver

The Apostle's Creed

**All: I believe in God, the Father almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended to the dead. On the third day, he rose again. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

The Prayers of the People

Celebrant: Dear friends in Christ, God is steadfast in love and infinite in mercy; he welcomes sinners and invites them to his table. Let us confess our sins, confident in God's forgiveness.

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.**

Celebrant: Almighty God have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness and keep you in eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

***The Peace***

*(Please stand)*

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

**People: And also with you.**

*We offer the peace of Christ collectively, rather than individually.  
Please feel free to smile at your neighbour, but refrain from shaking hands.*

***The Celebration of the Eucharist***

Offertory Hymn: #104 Joy Shall Come

Joy shall come, even to the wilderness,  
and the parched land shall then know great gladness;  
as the rose, as the rose shall deserts blossom,  
deserts like a garden blossom.  
For living springs shall give cool water,  
in the desert streams shall flow;  
for living springs shall give cool water,  
in the desert streams shall flow.

Prayer over the Gifts

*(Please stand)*

Celebrant: God of hope,

**All: renew in us the joy of your salvation and make us a living sacrifice to you, for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

*BAS, pg. 196*

**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: We give you thanks and praise, almighty God, through your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Redeemer. .... By his resurrection he brings us into the light of your presence. Now

with all creation we raise our voices to proclaim the glory of your name.

Response: #735 Holy, Holy, Holy Lord

**All: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might. Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full, full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest.**

Celebrant: Holy and gracious God, accept our praise, through your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ; ..... All glory and honour are yours, Father and Son, with the Holy Spirit in the holy Church, now and for ever.

**People: Amen.**

Celebrant: And now, as our Saviour Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

**All: 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.**

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

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

Music during Communion:

In the Lord I'll Be Ever Thankful (Taize)

In the Lord I'll be ever thankful, in the Lord I will rejoice.  
Look to God, do not be afraid,  
Lift up your voices, the Lord is near;  
Lift up your voices the Lord is near.

Choir: Thou Shalt Know Him (Sirett)

Nothing Can Trouble (Taize)

Nothing can trouble, nothing can frighten,  
Those who seek God shall never go wanting.

Nothing can trouble, nothing can frighten,  
God alone fills us.

Prayer after Communion

*(Please stand)*

Celebrant: Merciful God,

**All:** may this eucharist free us from our sins, fill us with unending joy, and prepare us for the birthday of our Saviour. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ, who is Lord now and for ever. Amen.

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.

Blessing

Announcements

Recessional Hymn: #368 He Came Down

He came down that we may have hope;  
he came down that we may have hope;  
he came down that we may have hope, hallelujah for evermore.

He came down that we may have peace;  
he came down that we may have peace;  
he came down that we may have peace, hallelujah for evermore.

He came down that we may have joy;  
he came down that we may have joy;  
he came down that we may have joy, hallelujah for evermore.

He came down that we may have love;  
he came down that we may have love;  
he came down that we may have love, hallelujah for evermore.

The Dismissal

Celebrant: Go forth in the name of Christ.

**All:** **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude:

**This week we pray for:** Diocese of The Territory of the People, British Columbia. Christ Church, Edmonton: Susan Oliver (s. Stephen Martin), Rector; Maureen Crerar and Martin Garber-Conrad, Honorary Assistants; Arlene Young and Sheila Moorey, Vocational Deacons; Alison Hurlburt (s. Christopher Uren), Parish Evangelist; Ronald Laginski, Administrative Assistant. Buyé Diocese, Rwiri Parish: Gabriel Manirakiza, catechist. Métis Nation of Alberta.

*Readings for Next Sunday*

Micah 5:2-5a; Canticle 18 (Luke 1:47-55) or Psalm 80:1-7;  
Hebrews 10:5-10; Luke 1:39-45. (46-55)

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