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The Right Rev. Dr. Logan McMenamie, Bishop
The Rev. Sandra Hounsell-Drover, Rector
The Rev. Dr. Paul Schumacher, Associate Priest

***“Together in Christ
we seek to love God and
to love and serve all others”***

December 29, 2019

Christmas 1



Sunday Services are at 8:30 a.m. (Traditional Rite)
10:00 a.m. (Contemporary)

Office Hours are Mon to Thurs, 9:00-Noon; **Closed Friday.**
Celtic Eucharist and Gospel Discussion Wednesdays at 10:00 a.m.

WELCOME TO CHURCH OF THE ADVENT

If you are a newcomer, please identify yourself to the Sidespersons or priest so we can welcome you and tell you about our church.

We recognize that we worship on the traditional lands of Coast Salish peoples. We commit ourselves to continue with our First Nations neighbours on the journey of healing, truth and reconciliation.

Rev. Sandra Hounsell-Drover preaches and presides today.

<p>8:30 a.m. Holy Communion Book of Common Prayer, p. 67</p>

Isaiah 63:7-9

Psalms 148 Pg. 519

Hebrews 2:10-18

Matthew 2:13-23

Administrator

Suzanne Bullen

Suzanne Bullen

Lenn Enns

Rev. Sandra Hounsell-Drover

David Gregory

<p>10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist Book of Alternative Services, p. 185</p>

Liturgical Assistant is Helen Thomas
Sidespeople are Ed & Evelyn Robinson
Director of Music is Nell Howard

THE GATHERING OF THE COMMUNITY

Leader: As we meet together, we begin by remembering the Lekwungen speaking people, on whose traditional land we now gather in gratitude. We acknowledge their story and their stewardship of the land and water, the plants and animals, through the many generations.

As we meet together, we remember those who have called this place their home in recent years—the community of faith known as Church of the Advent, whose joyful spirit embraces us. Now let us greet one another with words and signs of welcome.

Sentence of the Day: Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts; let the word of Christ dwell in you richly.

Opening Hymn: CP 143 Angels, From the Realms of Glory

Greeting:

Let us tell of God's unfailing love for us.

We will sing praises for all that God has done.

With mercy and constant love.

God has richly blessed all people.

Let us worship God together and sing praises for all that God has done.

Centering Stillness: Let us hold this moment open to the Spirit of God. (*silence*)

Collect of the day: Almighty God, you have shed upon us the new light of your incarnate Word. May this light, enkindled in our hearts, shine forth in our lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

THE STORY OF FAITH IS PROCLAIMED

Chat @ the Chancel:

Carol: CP 127 O Come Little Children

First Reading: *Isaiah 63:7-9*

Carolyn Hamar

Psalm: 148

Pg. 907

Second Reading: *Hebrews 2:10-18*

Gemma Hamblin

Gospel Hymn: CP 153 Good Christians All, Rejoice

(Verses 1-2 before the gospel; verse 3 following.)

Gospel Reading: *Matthew 2:13-23*

Joan Hoffman

Sermon:

Rev. Sandra Hounsell-Drover

Affirming the Christian Narrative: We believe and trust in God the Father Almighty We believe and trust in Jesus Christ, his Son. We believe and trust in the Holy Spirit. We believe and trust in the Three in One.

RESPONDING TO THE WORD OF GOD

Prayers of the People:

Sue Hamblin

Confession & Absolution:

O God, you search us out and know us, and all that we are is open to you. We confess that we have sinned.

In your mercy, Lord, forgive us and heal us.

When we make no room for Christ, and fail to welcome him into our lives,

In your mercy, Lord, forgive us and heal us.

When we follow shooting stars and squander our gifts in Herod's court,

In your mercy, Lord, forgive us and heal us.

When we seek to cut down those who might rise above us,

In your mercy, Lord, forgive us and heal us.

When we sanitize your birthplace and erase from memory the poor and displaced,

In your mercy, Lord, forgive us and heal us.

When we sing sweet sentiments over Christ's birth, and fail to rejoice over his everyday presence,

In your mercy, Lord, forgive us and heal us.

We turn to you, O Christ, perfect union of Spirit and flesh;

We renounce evil; We claim your love; we choose to be made whole.

Assurance of Pardon: In the silence, in the dreams, in the wonder, in the words, God comes to save us and have mercy on us.

It is fitting that we offer our thanks and praise to the One who forgives us. Thanks be to God! Amen.

The Peace:

THE SACRED MEAL IS SHARED

Offertory Hymn: CP 140 It Came Upon the Midnight Clear

Prayer over the Gifts: God of light, in the birth of your Son we see your glory. May we who share in this mystery grow daily in your love. This we ask in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord. Amen.

Eucharistic Prayer:

God is here.

The Spirit is with us.

Lift up your hearts and minds.

We lift them to God.

Let us give thanks to God the Creator.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Great Creator, with wit and wisdom you formed the universe. In expectation, your Spirit brooded over all: the midwife of transformation.

At your Word, the skies, the seas, the lands and all life came to be.

In you, all created things shared life with one another. In ceremony and song, dance and art, these relationships were portrayed and honoured by the first peoples of these Islands and Inlets. The plants, the cedars, the creatures of forest, sea and air revealed your wonder and majesty. When we turned from you, connections were broken and creation suffered.

Still, you continued to bring light from night, freedom from slavery, and life from death. Therefore, together with our ancestors in faith and with your beloved creation we sing:

**Holy, holy, holy, God of power and might;
Heaven and earth are full, are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is the One who comes, who comes in God's name.
Hosanna in the highest. (MV 206)**

We praise you, Source of all, for the living Word: Jesus. Born in poverty; a child refugee, a worker with his hands. He gathered disciples and taught and healed the people. He freely shared our sorrow, joy, and pain. In vulnerability, he showed power over sin and triumphed over death. On the night before Jesus died, he feasted with his companions. He took bread, gave thanks, broke it and gave it to them saying, "Take, eat, this is my body which is given for you, do this to remember me."

After supper he took the cup and when he had given thanks, he gave it to his companions saying, "Drink this, all of you; this is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and the world for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this to remember me."

Entering into the mystery of faith we call:

Come Source of life. Come, transforming Word. Come, Creator Spirit.

With his sacred presence unbounded by space and time, we offer to you this bread and cup. Send your Breath of Life, like wind, blowing where it will, north, east, south and west. May your Spirit brood over these gifts and all who feast at this table offering a foretaste of the eternal feast to come. May all who share your abundant gifts be incorporated as one body and one holy people, joined in the offering of Jesus' birth, life, death and resurrection for the reconciliation of all things. Reveal the unity of your Church and the mystery of our communion with our holy forebears and those yet to be born, that we may be guided in faith and walk gently on the earth. Glory and honour to you Triune God, dynamic of love, complete and perfect unity, now, and in all ages. **Amen.**

Lord's Prayer:

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Breaking of the Bread #6:

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Invitation to Communion: *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 you 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 your strengths. Come, for this is a table where all are invited, and all are welcome.*

*Communion Distributors: William & Peter Hounsell-Drover,
& Joan Hoffman*

Prayer after Communion: 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.**

Doxology:

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SENDING FORTH

Blessing:

Shared Ministry:

Commissioning Hymn: CP 146 Twas in the Moon of Wintertime

Commissioning: People who have been found, loved, and forgiven, go into God's world bringing messages of peace, love and hope to all you meet. Be prepared for lives of service, helping others in all kinds of needs and conditions. **We go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Amen. Alleluia!**

~Coffee, tea, and juice are served in the Main Hall after the service~



TODAY WE PRAY

Pray for Gahini (Rwanda).

For Linda our Primate, Melissa our Metropolitan,

Logan our Bishop, Sandra our Rector, & Paul our Associate Priest.

For Parish of Pender & Saturna Islands, & for the Diocese of New Westminster.

In the Selkirk Region for St. Peter (Lakehill).

FOR THOSE WHO HAVE ASKED US TO PRAY FOR THEM

Joan, Maureen, Elmer & Alice, Joan & Don, Anthony, Lucy, Dode, Barb, Bonnie, Scott, Sarah, Kim, Helen, Mae, Gay, & Peter.

SHARED MINISTRY

THIS WEEK

Monday, Dec. 30 – Blood Services Clinic, 12 – 6 pm

Tuesday, Dec. 31 – Parish office is closed.

Wednesday, Jan. 1 – Parish office is closed.

READINGS FOR NEXT WEEK:

Is 60:1-6; Ps 72:1-7, 10-14; Eph 3:1-12; Mt 2:1-12

MARK YOUR CALENDARS:

Dec. 30: Blood Services Clinic

Dec. 31 - Jan. 1: Parish Office Closed

Jan. 5: Canon Kevin Arndt will preach & preside at our Epiphany Services.

Jan. 7: What-Sew-Ever, 10 am

Jan. 8: Ladies Guild Meeting, 1:30 pm

Jan. 14: Scrap & Chat, 9:30 am; What-Sew-Ever, 10 am

Jan. 19: Jazz Vespers with the Kim Greenwood Trio, 7 pm

DIRECTORY

<i>Church Office*</i>	Mon. – Thurs. 9 a.m. till Noon	250-474-3031
<i>Rector</i>	<i>Rev Sandra Hounsell-Drover</i>	250-391-8846
<i>Associate Priest</i>	<i>Rev Dr. Paul Schumacher</i>	778-350-5721
<i>Parish Administrator</i>	<i>Caroline DeCiantis</i>	250-474-3031
<i>Director of Music</i>	<i>Nell Howard</i>	250-479-2555
<i>Wardens</i>	<i>Joan Hoffman</i>	250 474-5446
	<i>Elizabeth Bennett</i>	250 642-0185
<i>Deputy Warden</i>	<i>Mary Wills</i>	250 474-4909
<i>Treasurer</i>	<i>The Office (office hours)</i>	250-474-3031
<i>Altar Guild/Lay Ministry</i>	<i>Kathy Middleton</i>	250-474-6914
<i>Facility Use</i>	<i>The Office (office hours)</i>	250-474-3031
<i>Financial Gifts Secretary</i>	<i>Barb Gossman</i>	250-478-4717
<i>Ladies Guild</i>	<i>Pat Graham (President)</i>	250 391-4473
<i>Custodian</i>	<i>Rick Smith</i>	250-474-3031
<i>Maintenance Coordinator</i>	<i>Ed Robinson</i>	250-888-6584
<i>Prayer Line</i>	<i>The office (office hours)</i>	250-474-3031

****For pastoral emergencies outside of office hours, please call 506-461-4825.***

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WE WANT TO KNOW YOU ... but we need to be able to contact you, so ...
 If you are a newcomer, or if we can help in any way, please let us know. Please fill in the relevant information and give it to a Sidesperson or place it on the collection plate. **Completion of the following information indicates your consent for this parish to gather this information and to use it for reasonable purposes of the church under The Privacy of Information Act.**

NEWCOMER	CHANGE OF ADDRESS	COURSE INFORMATION
HELP	SETUP CONTRIBUTIONS	YOUTH CONNECTION

Name	
Address	Postal Code
Email	Phone

We ask congregants to limit the use of fragrances.

THANK YOU!