



the Parish of St. Dunstan

On the traditional lands of the Sto:lo Nation

November 24, 2019

Reign of Christ



ORDER OF SERVICE, PAGE 4
CALENDAR OF EVENTS, PAGE 8
WEEKLY PRAYER, PAGE 9

Welcome!

This is a diverse & safe congregation for people wherever they are on their journey with Christ. We are an inclusive church which means we celebrate women in leadership, children at the Eucharist & welcome LGBTQ+ people to participate fully in the community.

W O R S H I P

This is the Fall of Feasts. For the next few months we will focus on our priorities as Christians & learn how to celebrate them.

For Children

The **Nursery** is staffed & open for children ages 0 to 4.

There is Sunday School this morning for children ages 5 to 12.

Activity bags are available in the entry near the colouring table.

All our volunteers & staff have a criminal record check.

Taking Communion

Everyone is welcome to receive bread & wine as a sign of our commitment to Christ & Christ's commitment to us.

There are **gluten-free wafers** for those who need it & **juice** for those who prefer.

Prayers for healing with the anointing of oil is offered beneath the cross during Communion. Please **light a candle** as a sign of your prayers.

Today's Scripture

Introductions to the Lessons by Bill Bennett

Jeremiah 23: Jeremiah speaks of the failure of the 'shepherds' of God's people to care for their flock & issues a promise.

Colossians 1: This reading includes what is probably an early hymn on the humiliation & exaltation of Christ.

Luke 23: At the crucifixion of Jesus, the soldiers mock him by the notice placed above him.

Sermon Notes

Today's Christian Priority: the Reign of Christ

The last Sunday of the Christian calendar has come upon us. Here we celebrate the Reign of Christ, that in the end God's rule & authority will govern this world & the hearts of all people. In the end lion will lie down with lamb. In the end rich & poor alike will taste the bountiful goodness of the earth. In the end all shall be well & all shall be well, & all manner of things shall be well.

The Reign of Christ comes to us in a surprising & terrifying way: a cross.

The King of the universe is killed on a cross. This is the path to true life & salvation.

How can this be?

Today we take a moment & wonder the incredible path of life God has made known to us in the triumphant crucified king. Next week we begin the wonder all over again as we wait with longing & expectation for his arrival as a little baby & Lord of our hearts.

Advent is near. This Advent we will focus on simplicity & how we might practice it in a world filled with complexity.

The liturgy is taken from the Book of Alternative Services of the Anglican Church of Canada. Hymns numbers are indicated after the hymn title & found in the blue Common Praise hymn book. The readings are taken from the Revised Common Lectionary. The entire service is projected on the wall.

Gathering the Community

the Greeting, Announcements & the Collect for Purity

How Precious is Your Love

There is Room for All

Glorious in Majesty, 618

the Prayer of the Day

Proclaiming the Word

The Prophet Jeremiah (23:1-6)

Psalm 46

Paul's Letter to the Colossians (1:11-20)

My Song is Love, 184

the Gospel according to Luke (23:33-43) & the Sermon

the Nicene Creed, the Prayers of the People, the Confession & Absolution

the Peace & the Offering

Like a Tree

Holy Communion

All are welcome to receive bread & wine (or juice) at Communion.

Wait for the Lord, 94

Jesus, Remember Me, 634

May Your Heart Live; I See a New Heaven

Sending the Community

the Blessing

The Whole Earth is Full & Shine, Jesus, Shine

Coffee & refreshments are served in the hall following the service.

Please visit the Welcome Table in the hall or the Information Table in the entry if you have any questions.

OUTREACH

Monday

Fraser River Counselling at St. Dunstan's

Low cost counselling is provided by supervised counselling students from Trinity Western University. For more information, please connect with an intake worker at 604-513-2113.

Tuesday

Aldergrove Food Bank Soup Kitchen

The Parish of St. Dunstan's has committed to cooking & serving soup on the 2nd & 4th Tuesday of each month. Please connect with Ann Embra at 604-534-9292 or ann_embra@telus.net to learn how you can get involved.

ESL

Classes are at 7pm. All are welcome. For more information please connect the church office.

Thursday

Community Meal

Each Thursday at 4:30pm.

Want to help create this amazing meal? Please sign up on the poster at the entrance to the Worship Space. For more information on what volunteering involves, please connect with Laura Wallace at 604-856-6463, 604-807-3524 or laura_w@telus.net

Stewardship

*Have you considered signing up for **pre-authorised debit (PAD)**? It is easy & a good way to support the church even when you cannot be present for a service. Please connect with David or one of the other parish leaders for more information.*



PWRDF

The Primate's World Relief
and Development Fund

For more information, please visit PWRDF.ORG. There you can read all about the good work it does, current areas of need & how you can participate.

COMMUNITY CARE

- Reconciliation** *The priest is available to hear confession by appointment.*
- Listening Prayer** *Prayer for those in crisis or need. For more information please connect with Katherine Murray at katherine.murray22@gmail.com.*
- Spiritual Direction** *Trained Spiritual Directors are available. To arrange please email StDunstansCentre@gmail.com*
- Ride Sharing** *If you need a ride, or can offer one, please let someone at the Information Booth know.*
- Visiting** *If you need a visit, please call the office to arrange. If you would like to become a pastoral visitor, please connect with the priest.*
- Prayer Chain** *If you wish someone to be remembered in our Prayer Chain Ministry, please email the office.*
-

Men's Coffee

Wednesdays at 9am

Men's Breakfast

the 2nd Sunday of the month in the hall

Women's Coffee & Crafts

Fridays at 10am

Women's Breakfast

the 2nd Sunday of the month at McDonald's

Advent Challenge

This Advent we will collect money for the Diocesan care+share program. All monies collected will go to the Urban Aboriginal Ministry of the Diocese of New Westminster. St. Dunstan's has been a recipient of funds from care+share in the past for our Thursday Meal program.

Let's give back! For more information, visit VANCOUVER.ANGLICAN.CA.

Please identify all gifts to care+share on the offering envelope.

CHRISTIAN FORMATION

Children

Messy Church every 3rd Friday of each month (September to May) at 4:30pm. Messy Church includes stories, crafts, dinner & Holy Communion. It is planned with the whole family in mind. All are welcome. Please connect with Carol Tindall at 604-866-6125 for more information & how to volunteer.

St. Dunstan's & St. Andrew's Youth

This week we meet at M.P. & Jessie's home in Abbotsford. Please call for directions!

We will have opportunities to lead games & crafts as well as spend time together for a Bible Study.



ST DUNSTAN'S CENTRE FOR
**SPIRITUAL
RENEWAL**

The Centre for Spiritual Renewal is the name we give to our Adult Christian Formation programs at St. Dunstan's. Please pick up the most recent program guide & check our website regularly for more information on coming events.

Centering Prayer

Wednesdays at 6:30pm, Fridays at 11:30am
20 minutes of silence & connection with God.

Study Group

Wednesday at 7pm
A drop-in series of studies meant to inspire your faith. This group is a great way to meet members and ask important questions.


November *the Women around Jesus*

*This week we welcome parishioner **Merrill Young** who will lead us in a study of the sisters, Mary & Martha.*

Lectio & Labyrinth

Fridays, from Noon to 1pm
A chance to practice our journeying & listening together. Indoor labyrinth practices are available.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Events marked with  are through the Centre for Spiritual Renewal.

Advent Quiet Day



*Saturday, November 30th from 9am to 12pm
With the Reverend Helen Tervo & Lorie Martin
More information can be found in the Centre for Spiritual
Renewal program*

Christmas Tea & Bake Sale *Saturday, December 7th from 1 to 4pm*

Spiritual Practice Series



*Sunday, December 8th from 7 to 8:30pm
Time with Mary with David Taylor & Lorie Martin
More information can be found in the Centre for Spiritual
Renewal program*

Langley Chorus Christmas Concert

*Saturday, December 14th from 3 to 5pm
tickets available at the door*

St. Dunstan's Choir Christmas Sing a Long

*Sunday, December 15th from 7 to 8pm
Admission by donation
Refreshments following in the Hall*

Messy Church

Friday, December 20th from 4:30 to 6:30pm

Christmas Eve

*Tuesday, December 24th
6pm Family Service with pop-up pageant.
10:30pm Candlelight Service*

WEEKLY PRAYER

The following is a resource to help you connect with Sunday's theme & continue your prayers through the week. This can be done on your own or in the family group. This liturgy is based on Home Prayers found in the Book of Alternative Services (p. 687). **If you do not have a prayer book, please take & keep one for your use.**

It might seem silly to name **Christ** as a Christian Priority. Christ is in the name **Christian**, after all. However, it is important every once in a while to deliberately reflect on Christ who is both the founder of our faith & the goal of it. Christ inspires two of the greatest Christian visions of God: the Trinity & the Incarnation. The Trinity is the vision of God as the eternal relationship of love. God is Lover, Beloved & Love, Father, Son & Holy Spirit. The Incarnation is the radical vision of the world that maintains all matter matters – this world matters, this world is holy.

1. The Preparation

A candle is lit as someone prays,

God of peace, grant that the kingdoms of this world may become the kingdom of our Lord & Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

2. The Reading & Reflection

Read the passage from Scripture then reflect using the wonder questions as your guide. This guide uses the New Revised Standard Version.

We will follow the First Letter of Peter this week to get a glimpse of who Jesus is & what Jesus has done. First Peter is a short letter of exhortation to the young church that has experienced harassment by others even to the point of suffering. The writer, who some claim to be the apostle Peter himself, encourages the church to remain faithful by looking to Christ & recalling what Christ has done, as well as to continue to live lives that represent Christ's teachings in order to live as examples to those around them.

CHRIST IS RISEN FROM THE DEAD – 1 PETER 1:1-12

Notes on the reading:

- The writer begins by reminding us that Jesus is the Son of the Father (v. 3) & that his resurrection is the foundation of our hope. "Jesus is risen from the dead" is the earliest declaration of the Good News.
- The current sufferings of the church are a painful reminder that Jesus is invisible now. However Jesus will be revealed again (v.7). We do not have to see Jesus to accept the hope that he is risen from the dead (v. 8).
- Suffering leads to glory, according to the author of this letter. Just as Jesus' suffering led to his resurrection.

I wonder if you have ever suffered.

I wonder where Jesus is in your suffering.

Monday

CHRIST IS COMING AGAIN – 1 PETER 1:13-25

Notes on the reading:

- The Christian life of hope is due to the promise that Jesus will return and offer grace (v. 13).
- The life of hope has ethical implications – we must live well (be holy) (v. 16).
- The early church used the metaphor of sacrifice to describe Jesus' suffering (v. 19). Sacrifice was a necessary suffering to affect change & bring peace. In the same way, Jesus' "sacrifice" brings hope that our suffering can be overcome by goodness, hope & faith (v. 21).
- The early church also used metaphors of purification (v. 22) to describe the process of change we are invited to participate in – becoming genuine (v. 22), imperishable (v. 23), & enduring (v. 25).

I wonder how what you hope for changes the way you live your life.

I wonder how the metaphor of sacrifice feels to you.

I wonder what other metaphor there is to describe Jesus' death & resurrection.

CHRIST IS BUILDING US INTO A TEMPLE FOR GOD – 1 PETER 2:1-10

Notes on the reading:

- Christ is described as a living stone, rejected by humans yet chosen & precious in God's sight (v. 4).
- The church is invited to be like Christ & be living stones. As living stones they be built into a spiritual house where they will act as priests to offer their own sacrifices to God through Jesus (v. 5). Here the writer is encouraging the church to imagine their sufferings as the same as Christ's. That is, their sufferings are just as holy and acceptable to God as Jesus' sufferings were.
- Suffering, rejection, & obstacles are not signs of God's abandonment, but a sign God has called us like God has called Christ. (v. 9)

I wonder if you have ever been rejected by someone.

I wonder how we can imagine our suffering being like Jesus' suffering.

I wonder how God calls you to be like Jesus.

CHRIST OVERTURNS SUFFERING – 1 PETER 2:11-25

Notes on the reading:

- These verses have been used to keep oppressive systems in power & keep oppressed people oppressed.
- It is unacceptable to use the suffering of Jesus as proof that people need to accept their lot in life.
- The power of these verses is that they were written to people in oppressed circumstances (slavery, persecution) & were words of empowerment & freedom.
- God will not let any oppressive system dictate the power of God to find ways of new life, healing & hope.

I wonder how you have been oppressed in your life.

I wonder how you have oppressed others.

I wonder how God shakes up systems of oppression

CHRIST IS LORD – I PETER 3:13-4:6

Notes on the reading:

- The church must remember that though they might suffer, the one hurting them are not Lord, Christ is Lord (v. 15). The proclamation of the early church that “Jesus is Lord” was a very dangerous thing to say as there was only one Lord, Caesar. Nevertheless it was sure ☩ certain hope for those who were suffering that there was a greater power than Caesar ☩ his minions. ☩ that greater power rose from the dead ☩ will come again.

I wonder what it means today that Jesus is Lord.

I wonder what other Lords try to scare us into submission.

3. Prayers & the Lord’s Prayer

Choose a litany from the Book of Alternative Services (beginning on page 110).

The liturgy concludes with the Lord’s Prayer.

Advent Begins Next Week!!!!

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 1ST – ADVENT 1

The First Sunday of Advent begins a new year in the Christian calendar. Our theme for the year is **gratitude**. Our theme for Advent is **simplicity**.

Readings: Isaiah 2:1-5, Romans 13:11-14, Matthew 24:36-44

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 8TH – ADVENT 2

The Second Sunday of Advent. Our theme for Advent is **simplicity**.

Readings: Isaiah 11:1-10, Romans 15:4-13, Matthew 3:1-12

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15TH – ADVENT 3

The Third Sunday of Advent. Our theme for Advent is **simplicity**.

Readings: Isaiah 35:1-10, Luke 1:46b-55, James 3:7-10, Matthew 11:2-11

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 22TH – ADVENT 4

The Fourth Sunday of Advent- Lessons ☩ Carols. Our theme for Advent is **simplicity**.

Readings: Genesis 2:4b-6, 8-9, 16-17, Genesis 3:1-9, 22-24, Isaiah 40:1-11, Isaiah 65:17-25, Luke 1:5-25, Luke 1:26-38, John 1:1-14



The Parish of St. Dunstan

3025-264th Street, Aldergrove, B.C. V4W 2W4

604-856-5393 st.dunstans@telus.net

ST-DUNSTANS.CA



The Parish of St. Dunstan, Aldergrove



Office hours

Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday 8:30 – 12:00 pm

Wardens

Theresa Tancock 604-614-7145
Lois Curtis 778-347-0817

Music Director

Carol Tindall 604-856-4695

Archbishop

the Most Reverend Melissa Skelton
vancouver.anglican.ca

Priest

the Reverend David Taylor
778-987-0530 dmatthew.taylor@gmail.com