*Look up and raise your heads, because
your redemption is drawing near. (Luke 21:28)*

Sunday, November 29, 2020: Advent 1 - Hope



**Collect for Purity (sung by Jodi Penner)**

**Opening Song: *O Come, O Come Emmanuel***

O come, O come Emmanuel
And ransom captive Israel
That mourns in lonely exile here
Until the Son of God appear

(*Chorus*) Rejoice, rejoice, Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel

O come Thou Dayspring come and cheer
Our spirits by Thine advent here
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night
And death's dark shadows put to flight

(*To Chorus*)

O come Thou Wisdom from on high
And order all things far and nigh
To us the path of knowledge show
And cause us in her ways to go

(*To Chorus*)

O come Desire of nations bind
All peoples in one heart and mind
Bid envy strife and quarrels cease
Fill the whole world with heaven's peace

(*To Chorus*)

**Lighting of the First Advent Candle: Hope**

**All: In a world filled with doubt, fear, and uncertainty, we are called to reflect God’s hope, a hope that is not reliant on things or possessions.**

Reader 1: Isaiah the Prophet cried out to God, I wish you would open the heavens that separate us and come down, making the mountains quake because you are here. Make your name known to all who are against you. Make the nations tremble because of your presence.

Reader 2: You came before and did awesome things that we did not expect; you made our world shake at the sight of you. In all the history of the world, no ears have heard and no eyes have seen any God other than you.

Reader 1: You work for those who wait for you.

Reader 2: We wait and hope, as we light this candle.

*(Please pause as we light one candle, then respond.)*

**All: Loving God, come and shine your light in the world! Grant us the courage to share the hope You give us in Jesus, as we prepare the way for the hope of the world, God-with-us, Emmanuel.**

**Penitential Rite**

Leader: Dear friends in Christ, as we prepare to worship almighty God, let us with penitent and obedient hearts confess our sins, that we may obtain forgiveness by his infinite goodness and mercy.

*Silence is Kept*

**All:** **Most merciful God, 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.**

Leader: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.

**All:Amen.**

**Morning Prayer**

Leader: Lord, open our lips,

**All: And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.**

Leader: O God, make speed to save us.

**All: O Lord, make haste to help us. 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. Alleluia!**

Leader: The kingdom of God is at hand: O come, let us worship.

**All: Be joyful in the Lord, all you lands; serve the Lord with gladness and come before his presence with a song. Know this: The Lord himself is God; he himself has made us, and we are his; we are his people and the sheep of his pasture. Enter his gates with thanksgiving; go into his courts with praise; give thanks to him and call upon his name. For the Lord is good; his mercy is everlasting; and his faithfulness endures from age to age.**

**The Reading of Scripture**

First Reading: Isaiah 64:1-9

*O that you would tear open the heavens and come down, so that the mountains would quake at your presence--as when fire kindles brushwood and the fire causes water to boil-- to make your name known to your adversaries, so that the nations might tremble at your presence! When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect, you came down, the mountains quaked at your presence. From ages past no one has heard, no ear has perceived, no eye has seen any God besides you, who works for those who wait for him. You meet those who gladly do right, those who remember you in your ways. But you were angry, and we sinned; because you hid yourself we transgressed. We have all become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous deeds are like a filthy cloth. We all fade like a leaf, and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away. There is no one who calls on your name, or attempts to take hold of you; for you have hidden your face from us, and have delivered us into the hand of our iniquity. Yet, O LORD, you are our Father; we are the clay, and you are our potter; we are all the work of your hand. Do not be exceedingly angry, O LORD, and do not remember iniquity forever. Now consider, we are all your people.*

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

**People:** **Thanks be to God.**

Canticle: Psalm 80:1-7, 17-18



**Refrain:**

*1 Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph like a flock;*

*shine forth, you that are enthroned upon the cherubim.*

*2 In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin, and Manasseh,*

*stir up your strength and come to help us.* ***Refrain***

*3 Restore us, O God of hosts; \**

*show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.*

*4 O Lord God of hosts, \**

*how long will you be angered despite the prayers of your people?* ***Refrain***

*5 You have fed them with the bread of tears; \**

*you have given them bowls of tears to drink.*

*6 You have made us the derision of our neighbours, \**

*and our enemies laugh us to scorn.*

*7 Restore us, O God of hosts; \**

*show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.* ***Refrain***

*17 And so will we never turn away from you; \**

*give us life, that we may call upon your name.*

*18 Restore us, O Lord God of hosts; \**

*show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.* ***Refrain***

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 1:3-9

*Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind--just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you--so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.*

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

**People:** **Thanks be to God.**

**Processional Chorus – *Emmanuel***

Emmanuel, Emmanuel

His name is called Emmanuel (2x)

God is with us, He is with us

His name is called Emmanuel (2x)

We love him so, we love him so

His name is called Emmanuel (2x)

**The Gospel Reading**

Leader: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Leader: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St. Mark

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

Gospel Reading: Mark 13:24-37

*"But in those days, after that suffering, the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, and the stars will be falling from heaven, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken. Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in clouds' with great power and glory. Then he will send out the angels, and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven. "From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away. "But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. Beware, keep alert; for you do not know when the time will come. It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch. Therefore, keep awake--for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or at dawn, or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake."*

Leader: The Gospel of Christ.

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

**Worship Through Song**

***In Christ Alone***

In Christ alone my hope is found
He is my light, my strength, my song
This Cornerstone, this solid Ground
Firm through the fiercest drought

And storm
What heights of love

What depths of peace
When fears are stilled

When strivings cease
My Comforter, my All in All
Here in the love of Christ I stand

In Christ alone who took on flesh
Fullness of God in helpless babe
This gift of love and righteousness
Scorned by the ones He came to save
Till on that cross as Jesus died
The wrath of God was satisfied
For every sin on Him was laid
Here in the death of Christ I live

There in the ground His body lay
Light of the world by darkness slain
Then bursting forth in glorious Day
Up from the grave He rose again
And as He stands in victory
Sin's curse has lost its grip on me
For I am His and He is mine
Bought with the precious blood of Christ

No guilt in life, no fear in death
This is the power of Christ in me
From life's first cry to final breath
Jesus commands my destiny
No power of hell, no scheme of man
Can ever pluck me from His hand
Till He returns or calls me home
Here in the power of Christ I'll stand

***Living Hope***

How great the chasm

That lay between us
How high the mountain

I could not climb
In desperation I turned to heaven
And spoke Your name into the night
Then through the darkness

Your loving-kindness
Tore through the shadows of my soul
The work is finished, the end is written
Jesus Christ, my living hope

Who could imagine so great a mercy
What heart could fathom

Such boundless grace
The God of ages

Stepped down from glory
To wear my sin and bear my shame
The cross has spoken, I am forgiven
The King of kings calls me His own
Beautiful Saviour, I’m Yours forever
Jesus Christ, my living hope

(*Chorus*) Hallelujah

Praise the One who set me free
Hallelujah, death has lost its grip on me
You have broken every chain
There’s salvation in Your name
Jesus Christ, my living hope

Then came the morning

That sealed the promise
Your buried body began to breathe
Out of the silence the Roaring Lion
Declared the grave has no claim on me
(*repeat*)
Jesus, Yours is the victory (*To Chorus*)

**Listening Time**

**Sermon by the Rev. Dr. Myron Penner – Sermon Notes:**

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**Affirmation of Faith – 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.**

**Prayers of the People**

Leader: In peace let us pray to the Lord, saying, “Lord, have mercy.” For peace from on high and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

**All: Lord, have mercy.**

Leader: For the peace of the whole world, for the welfare of the holy Church of God, including those in the St. Paul’s Cycle of Prayer: RJ and Janette Chambers; Mack and Abigail Harding; Nathan and Deanna Kalles; and

Connie Pistawka; as well as all of those in the Anglican Cycle of Prayer; and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

**All: Lord, have mercy.**

Leader: For our bishops, and for all the clergy and people, let us pray to the Lord.

**All: Lord, have mercy.**

Leader: For Elizabeth our Queen, for the leaders of the nations, and for all in authority, let us pray to the Lord.

**All: Lord, have mercy.**

Leader: For this the city of Edmonton and for every city and community, including our community of Grovenor, and for those who live in them in faith, let us pray to the Lord.

**All: Lord, have mercy.**

Leader: For good weather, and for abundant harvests for all to share, let us pray to the Lord.

**All: Lord, have mercy.**

Leader: For those who travel by land, water, or air, for the sick and the suffering, for prisoners and captives, and for their safety, health, and salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

**All: Lord, have mercy.**

Leader: For our deliverance from all affliction, strife, and need, let us pray to the Lord.

**All: Lord, have mercy.**

Leader: For the absolution and remission of our sins and offences, let us pray to the Lord.

**All: Lord, have mercy.**

Leader: For all who have died, let us pray to the Lord.

**All: Lord, have mercy.**

Leader: Remembering all the saints, we commit ourselves, one another, and our whole life to Christ our God.

**All: To you, O Lord.**

Leader: Almighty God, you have given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplications to you, and you have promised through your well-beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together you will hear their requests. Fulfil now our desires and petitions, as may be best for us, granting us in this world knowledge of your truth, and in the age to come eternal life; for you, Father, are good and loving, and we glorify you through your Son Jesus Christ our Lord, in the Holy Spirit, now and for ever.

**All: Amen.**

**The Collect**

Leader: Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness and put on the armour of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which your Son Jesus Christ came to us in great humility, that on the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge both the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

**All: Amen.**

**The Lord’s Prayer**

Leader: 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.**

**Closing Song: *The Solid Rock***

My hope is built on nothing less
Than Jesus' blood and righteousness
I dare not trust the sweetest frame
But wholly lean on Jesus' name

(*Chorus*) On Christ the solid Rock I stand
All other ground is sinking sand
All other ground is sinking sand

When darkness veils His lovely face
I rest on His unchanging grace
In every high and stormy gale
My anchor holds within the veil

(*To Chorus*)

His oath, His covenant, His blood
Support me in the whelming flood
When all around my soul gives way
He then is all my hope and stay

(*To Chorus*)

When He shall come

With trumpet sound
O may I then in Him be found
Dressed in His righteousness alone
Faultless to stand before the throne

(*To Chorus*)

**The Dismissal**Celebrant: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

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

**No In-Person Services until at least December 20**

Following the Government of Alberta declaring a state of public health emergency, along with stricter, mandatory measures to limit the spread of COVID-19, Bishop Jane has taken the decision to keep church buildings in the Diocese closed until at least December 15 (meaning we would not be back in-person until at least December 20).

It is quite possible that this closure will get extended and we will provide an update as soon as we know more. As this is an important time in the life of the church, St. Paul’s may also be making decisions to aid in our service planning for the Christmas season.

The office will remain closed over this time with staff working from home as much as possible. If you need to meet with any member of staff, please email them directly to set up an appointment.

Please keep each other in your prayers over this unusual time.

**Community Corner for November 29**

A big THANK YOU and WELL DONE to all the participants at our **Gingerbread Night** this past Friday. Houses were built, decorations added and fun was had by all. Drawing on our heads was a great success!

**Winter Wellness** – The Canadian Mental Health Association has a **Winter Wellness Guide**available at <https://edmonton.cmha.ca/wp-content/uploads/2020/11/CMHA-Edmonton-Winter-Mental-Health-Guide-1.pdf> This is especially important to review this year! Michelle is hosting a **90-minute** **virtual session** on Thursday December 10 from 7-8:30 to discuss options in the City of Edmonton and to explore resources. Please register with her at michelle@stpauls-anglican.ca

**Netflix Coffee Talk** – Please join us online for our coffee/tea/cocoa time to discuss the newest shows! We have changed to Tuesday evenings from 7-8:15 pm. Our next chat is on December 1, looking into "The Queen's Gambit". You only need to have watched the first episode to join the discussion. If you've watched more, that's okay too! Please register with Michelle via email michelle@stpauls-anglican.ca



**Anglican Cycle of Prayer:**

Diocese of Caledonia: the Rt. Rev. David Lehmann, Bishop. St. Peter, Edmonton: Heather Liddell, Rector; Alison Ward-Westervelt, Vocational Deacon; Kathy Hutchinson, Parish Evangelist. Buyé Diocese, Kobero Parish (St. Stephen): Elie Ndacayisenga, Rector. Frog Lake First Nation.

**Next Week’s Ministry Teams:**

Music: Asher and Team

Service Team: None (no in-person service)

Reader/Prayers: Asher and Team

**This Week’s Ministry Teams:**

Music: Jodi and Team

Service Team: None

Reader/Prayers: Jodi and Team

**St. Paul’s Cycle of Prayer:**

RJ and Janette Chambers;

Mack and Abigail Harding;

Nathan and Deanna Kalles;

Connie Pistawka;

**For Care/Concern Team
or other prayer requests,** **email**:

office@stpauls-anglican.ca

**For urgent prayer requests call**

 the church office: (780) 455-0771

**For pastoral emergencies call:**

(587) 334-2130

@StEdmonton

facebook.com/stpachurchedmonton

**St. Paul’s Vestry:**

 Paul Dowie, *Rector’s Warden*

Margot Byer, *People’s Warden*

David Heritage, *Treasurer*

Barb Dixon, *Vestry Member*

John Green, *Vestry Member*

Deanna Kalles, *Vestry Member*

David Parker, *Vestry Member*

Carol Rudat, *Vestry Member*

**Office Hours:**

Monday-Thursday: 9:00AM-12:00PM

Closed: Fri/Sat/Sun and Stat Holidays

 **St. Paul’s Anglican Church**

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Website: www.stpauls-anglican.ca

**St. Paul’s Staff:**

 *Rector:* The Rev. Myron B. Penner
*Community Outreach:* Michelle Schurek

*Youth Leader:* Abigail Harding

*Office Administrator:* RJ Chambers