

St. John the Divine Anglican Church



Sunday November 29th, 2020
First Sunday of Advent
Service of the Word

We gather on the unceded territory of the Squamish Nation

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Diocese of New Westminster
ANGLICAN CHURCH OF CANADA

*Take a deep breath.
And again.*

The Gathering of the Community

Leader	The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all
All:	And also with you.
Leader	Let us pray.
All	We thank you, O God, that you have again brought us together on the Lord's Day to praise you for your goodness and to ask your blessing. Give us grace to see your hand in the week that is past, and your purpose in the week to come; through Christ our Lord. Amen
Leader	Dear friends in Christ, as we turn our hearts and minds to worship almighty God, let us confess our sins.
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	Merciful God, grant to your faithful people pardon and peace, that we may be cleansed from all our sins and serve you with a quiet mind; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen
Leader	May the Peace of God be with you.
All	And also with you.

Lo, he comes with clouds descending,
once for favoured sinners slain;
thousand thousand saints attending
swell the triumph of his train:
Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah
God appears on earth to reign.

Every eye shall now behold him
robed in dreadful majesty;
all who set at nought and sold him,
pierced and nailed him to the tree,
deeply grieving, deeply grieving, deeply grieving,
shall the true Messiah see.

Now redemption, long expected see in see in solemn pomp appear; all his saints,
on earth rejected, thrill the trumpet sound to hear
Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah
See the day of God appear!

Yea, Amen, let all adore thee,
high on thine eternal throne;
Saviour, take the power and glory,
claim the kingdom for thine own:
O come quickly, O come quickly, O come quickly,
Hallelujah, Come, Lord, come!

Text: John Cennick

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The Collect of the Day

Prayers for an Inclusive Church (2009) alt.

God of unveiled truth, in times of darkened sun and waning moon, lift up our
hearts and waken our love to announce the coming dawn of unexpected peace;
through Jesus Christ, the one who is to come. Amen.

The Proclamation of the Word

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.

Psalm 80:1-7, 16-18

Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph like a flock;
shine forth, you that are enthroned upon the cherubim.

In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin, and Manasseh,
stir up your strength and come to help us.

Restore us, O God of hosts;
show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.

O Lord God of hosts,
how long will you be angered despite the prayers of your people?

You have fed them with the bread of tears;
you have given them bowls of tears to drink.

You have made us the derision of our neighbours,
and our enemies laugh us to scorn.

Restore us, O God of hosts;

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

Let your hand be upon the man of your right hand,
the son of man you have made so strong for yourself.

And so will we never turn away from you;
give us life, that we may call upon your name.

Restore us, O Lord God of hosts;
show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.

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.

Gradual Hymn: Wait for the Lord

CP #94

Wait for the Lord

Wait for the Lord, whose day is near.

Wait for the Lord: be strong, take heart!

Gospel: Mark 13:24-37

Jesus said, "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."

Sermon

The Apostle's Creed

Leader Let us confess our faith as we say,

**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

Offertory Hymn: You Servants of the Lord

CP #93

Your servants of the Lord, each in your calling wait,
observant of his heavenly Word, and watchful at his gate.

Let all your lamps be bright, and trim the golden flame;
attentive stand, as in his sight, for awesome is his name.

Watch; 'tis your Lord's command, and while we speak, he's near;
mark the first signal of his hand, and ready all appear.

How happy shall we be if in his service found!
We shall our Lord with rapture see and be with honour crowned!

Christ shall the banquet spread with his own royal hand,
and raise each faithful servant's head amid the angelic band.

We invite you to make a gift to support the ministry of St. John the Divine. St. John's accepts e-transfers, online donations through the website and mailed cheques. To learn more, go to

squamishanglicanchurch.ca/pages/donatetostjohn-the-divine-squamish

Leader
All

Gathering our prayers and praises into one, let us pray as our Saviour taught us,
Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name, your kingdom come,
your will be done, on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen

Leader

All

Glory to God
**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, forever and ever. Amen**

Leader

All

May the God of hope fill us with all joy and peace in believing through the power of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

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St. John the Divine Prayers for November 29th, 2020

The Church

St. Andrew, Langley - The Reverend Andrew Halladay, The Reverend Helen Lingham

Primate of the Anglican Church of Canada, The Most Reverend Linda Nichols

The Venerable Alan Perry, General Secretary and The General Synod Staff

St. John the Divine – The Reverend Cameron Gutjahr

Immediate Prayer Requests

Edie, Jessica, Muriel, Susan, Eleanor, Lori, The Howe Sound Women's Centre, the residents of Hilltop House, the residents of Shannon Falls and the patients of Squamish General Hospital.

In this time of COVID-19, we pray for all who are sick, for all who are grieving, for health care professionals, researchers and emergency personnel.

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Reflection

by Canon Donald J. Lawton

We spend on what we know. This is a well-known concept in advertising and merchandising. The purpose of advertising is to make the consumer aware of the products and services available so that he or she will understand how those products and services relate to their lives. The consumer will then be motivated to make their purchases. They spend because of what they know.

It is the same for stewardship and the Church. We support what we know and what we understand. We support it because we know what our Church does. We know that the role of the Church is to provide the facility, the resources and the programs so that people can experience the presence of God in their lives and come into a living relationship with our Lord Jesus Christ. The Church does this through a variety of ways which include pastoral care, Christian formation, public worship and social outreach.

In today's restricted situation because of COVID 19, we do not see a lot of this work going on, but it is still taking place. Worship by YouTube and live streaming, Christian education by zoom, pastoral care by phone and socially distanced meetings. We still have people coming to sit and pray in the church because this is a holy place where they can feel, in some way, the presence of the Holy One. And all of us need the encouragement and inspiration of the worshipping Christian community to empower us to live and share our spiritual life.

Spending our stewardship money to support our local church is an important part of our spiritual life. It is an active part of our relationship with Christ and it is a way for us to make a difference in our local community. Reflect on what you know about the place of our local church in your spiritual life and spend (support) accordingly.