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*The Very Rev. Ansley Tucker, Diocesan Administrator*

*The Rev. Dr. Paul Schumacher, Interim Priest*

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

**January 24, 2021**

**Epiphany 3**

**Sunday Virtual Worship Service**



***WELCOME TO CHURCH OF THE ADVENT***

*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. Dr. Paul Schumacher presides & preaches.*

*Organ prelude - Nell Howard*

## THE GATHERING OF THE COMMUNITY

Leader: Good morning. As we meet today, we begin by remembering the Songhees and Esquimalt nations, on whose traditional land we now gather in gratitude. We acknowledge their story and their stewardship of the land and the water, the plants, and the animals, through the many generations.

As we meet, we remember those who have called this place their home in recent years—the community of faith known as Church of the Advent. Let us share our hope, your faith, and our joy, together, in signs of welcome.

**Welcome:** Welcome to this service of worship on the Third Sunday after Epiphany. My name is Paul Schumacher, and I am the interim priest-in-charge here at the Church of The Advent, during this time of transition.

We invite you to come and join our readers, prayer leaders, music director and choir members, along with our technical team, as we offer prayer and praise to our Creator. Come, come with your doubts, your strengths, your weaknesses, and your fears, for God loves us all and all are welcome in this space.

**Scripture Sentence of the Day:** Scripture shares with us, “The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe in the gospel.”

### **Opening Hymn: CP #430 “Will You Come and Follow Me”**

(Text: John L. Bell; Music: Traditional Scottish melody, arr. John L. Bell {1949- } Text and arr. © 1987 WGRG The Iona Community (Scotland). Used by permission of G.I.A. Publications, Inc., exclusive agent)

Will you come and follow me if I but call your name?  
Will you go where you don't know and never be the same?  
Will you let my love be shown, will let my name be known,  
Will you let my life be grown in you and you in me?

Will you leave yourself behind if I but call your name?  
Will you care for cruel and kind and never be the same?  
Will you risk the hostile stare should your life attract or scare?  
Will you let me answer prayer in you and you in me?

Will you let the blinded see if I but call your name?  
Will you set the prisoners free and never be the same?  
Will you kiss the leper clean and do such as this unseen,  
And admit to what I mean in you and you in me?

Will you love the “you” you hide if I but call your name?  
Will you quell the fear inside and never be the same?  
Will you use the faith you've found to reshape the world around,  
Through my sight and touch and sound in you and you in me?

Lord, your summons echoes true when you but call my name.  
Let me turn and follow you and never be the same.  
In your company I'll go where your love and footsteps show.  
Thus, I'll move and live and grow in you and you in me.

**Greeting:**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
And the love of God,  
And the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,  
Be with you all.

**And also with you.**

**Act of Praise:** A Prayer (*from the Lutheran prayer book*)

Please join me in the spirit of this prayer:

Thanks be to you, Lord Jesus Christ, most merciful redeemer, for the countless blessings and benefits you give. May we know you, love you, and follow you day by day, praising you with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

**Collect of the Day:**

Almighty God, **by grace alone you call us and accept us in your service. Strengthen us by your Spirit and make us worthy of your call; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

**THE STORY OF FAITH IS PROCLAIMED**

**Chat @ the Chancel:**

**Song: G 591 "This Little Light of Mine"**

(Henry Dixon Loes, harmony Horace C. Boyer © 1992)

This little light of mine I'm gonna make it shine,  
This little light of mine I'm gonna make it shine;  
This little light of mine I'm gonna make it shine,  
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

Everywhere I go, I'm gonna let it shine,  
Everywhere I go, I'm gonna let it shine,  
Everywhere I go, I'm gonna let it shine,  
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

Jesus gave it to me, I'm gonna let it shine,  
Jesus gave it to me, I'm gonna let it shine,  
Jesus gave it to me, I'm gonna let it shine,  
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

**Psalm:** 62: 6-14 (BAS Pg. 782)

6 For God alone my soul in silence waits; \* truly, my hope is in him.

7 He alone is my rock and my salvation, \* my stronghold, so that I shall not be shaken.

8 In God is my safety and my honour; \* God is my strong rock and my refuge.

9 Put your trust in him always, O people, \* pour out your hearts before him, for God is our refuge.

10 Those of high degree are but a fleeting breath, \* even those of low estate cannot be trusted.

11 On the scales they are lighter than a breath, \* all of them together.

12 Put no trust in extortion; in robbery take no empty pride; \* though wealth increase, set not your heart upon it.

13 God has spoken once, twice have I heard it, \* that power belongs to God.

14 Steadfast love is yours, O Lord, \* for you repay everyone according to his deeds.

**Second Reading:** 1 Corinthians 7:29-31

I mean, brothers and sisters, the appointed time has grown short; from now on, let even those who have wives be as though they had none, and those who mourn as though they were not mourning, and those who rejoice as though they were not rejoicing, and those who buy as though they had no possessions, and those who deal with the world as though they had no dealings with it. For the present form of this world is passing away.

For the Word of God is scripture,  
For the Word of God is among us,  
For the Word of God is within us,

**Thanks be to God.**

**Hymn of the Day:** VU #563 “Jesus, You Have Come to The Lakeshore”

(Text: Ceareo Gabarain 1979, translation: Gertrude C. Suppe, George Lockwood, Raquel Gutierrez-Achon 1987; Music: Ceareo Gabarain 1979. Harmony: Skinner Chavez-Melo 1987; Words, translation and music © 1979 Ediciones Paulinas, administered by Oregon Catholic Press. Harmony © 1987 Skinner Chavez-Melo. Used by permission of Juan Francisco Chavez)

Jesus, you have come to the lakeshore,  
Looking for neither wealthy nor wise ones,  
You only asked me to follow humbly.

***Refrain:***

***O Jesus, with eyes you have searched me.  
And while smiling, have spoken my name,  
Now my boat's left on the shoreline behind me,  
By your side I will seek other seas.***

You know so well my possessions,  
My boat carries no gold and no weapons,  
You will find there my nets and labour.

***(Refrain)***

You need my hands, full of caring.  
Through my labours to give others rest,  
And constant love that keeps on loving.

***(Refrain)***

You, who have fished other oceans,  
Ever longed for by souls who are waiting,  
My loving friend, as thus you call me.

***(Refrain)***

**Gospel:** Mark 1: 14-20

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to **Mark.**

**Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ.**

Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, and saying, 'The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news.'

As Jesus passed along the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net into the lake—for they were fishermen. And Jesus said to them, 'Follow me and I will make you fish for people.' And immediately they left their nets and followed him. As he went a little farther, he saw James son of Zebedee and his brother John, who were in their boat mending the nets. Immediately he called them; and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired men and followed him.

The Gospel of Christ.

**Praise to You, Lord Jesus Christ.**

**Sermon:** Rev'd Dr. Paul Schumacher

**Affirmation of Faith:**

Let us confess the faith of our baptism, 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.**

**RESPONDING TO THE WORD**

**Prayers of the People January 24, 2021**

As God is moved by the sincerity of our repentance, so too God is pleased by the faithfulness of our prayers. Let us offer our prayers to God, saying: Lord In your mercy, **hear us, Lord.**

I will end each petition with Lord In your mercy. Please respond with hear us, Lord

You have called us, O God, to follow you. Give us the grace to listen to your call, to lay aside the things of this world, and to follow you.

Lord In your mercy, **hear us, Lord.**

You have sent us, O God, into the world to tell the story of your love and faithfulness. Give us a holy zeal for the proclamation of the gospel in this place and in all the world.

Lord In your mercy, **hear us, Lord.**

You have called, O God, persons of varieties of gifts to serve your church. Bless, we pray, the ministries of musicians and artists, scholars and writers, pastors and teachers, that their work enrich our common life and offer us a glimpse of the life to come.

Lord In your mercy, **hear us, Lord.**

You gave life, O God, for us and for all people. We remember before you those who are sick especially Dianne, Sheila, Maureen, Barb, Mae, and Dimas. We pray for those who mourn, the family and friends of Alice, especially Terry & Neil. We pray for all those who rejoice. As you have reached out to us in love, so inspire us to be present to those we have named before you.

Lord In your mercy, **hear us, Lord.**

As we are faithful in prayer, O God, so make us faithful in following you, that loving and serving you all the days of our lives, we may know the joy of the resurrection and may look with longing for your coming in power, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

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

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.**

May Almighty God have mercy upon you, forgive you all your sins through the grace of Our Lord, Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

**The Lord's Prayer:** And now, as our Saviour Christ has taught us, we are bold to pray...

**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.**

**Blessing:**

May the peace of God which passes all understanding,

Keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge of God, our Creator,

Jesus Christ, our Redeemer, And the Holy Spirit, our Comforter.

And may the blessing of the God the Father, Son, and the Holy Spirit, be with you this day and forever more. Amen.

## Shared Ministry:

### Commissioning Hymn: CP #656 "She Comes Sailing on The Wind"

(Text and melody by Gordon Light © 1987, Common Cup Company)

#### ***Refrain:***

***She comes sailing on the wind,  
Her wings flashing in the sun,  
On a journey just begun, she flies on.  
And in the passage of her flight  
Her song rings out through the night.  
Full of laughter, full of light, she flies on.***

Silent waters rocking on the morning of our birth.  
Like an empty cradle waiting to be filled.  
And from the heart of God  
The Spirit moved upon the earth,  
Like a mother breathing life into her child. ***Refrain.***

To a gentle girl in Galilee a gentle breeze she came,  
A whisper softly calling in the dark,  
The promise of a child of peace  
Whose reign would never end,  
Mary sang the Spirit song within her heart. ***Refrain.***

Long after the deep darkness that fell upon the world,  
After dawn returned in flame of rising sun,  
The Spirit touched the earth again,  
Again, her wings unfurled,  
Bringing life in wind and fire as she flew on. ***Refrain.***

**Commissioning:** Lord God, your loving kindness always goes before us, and follows, after us.  
Bring us into your light and direct our steps in the ways of goodness that come through the  
cross of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Lord. **Amen.**

### **TODAY WE PRAY**

*Pray for the Church of Bangladesh.  
Pray for Ansley our Diocesan Administrator, Anna our Bishop Elect,  
& Paul our Interim Priest-In-Charge.  
Pray for S. Paul, Nanaimo & Diocese of New Westminster  
In the Selkirk Region for S. Mary of the Incarnation, Metchosin.*



**FOR THOSE WHO HAVE ASKED US TO PRAY FOR THEM**

*Today, we remember Dianne, Rick & Barb, Sheila, Alice, Carol Ann,  
Joan, Maureen, Barb, Azeita, Margaret, Dimas, Garry, Terry & Neil.  
We also pray for those we remember in the quiet of our own hearts.*