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The Very Rev. Ansley Tucker, Diocesan Administrator

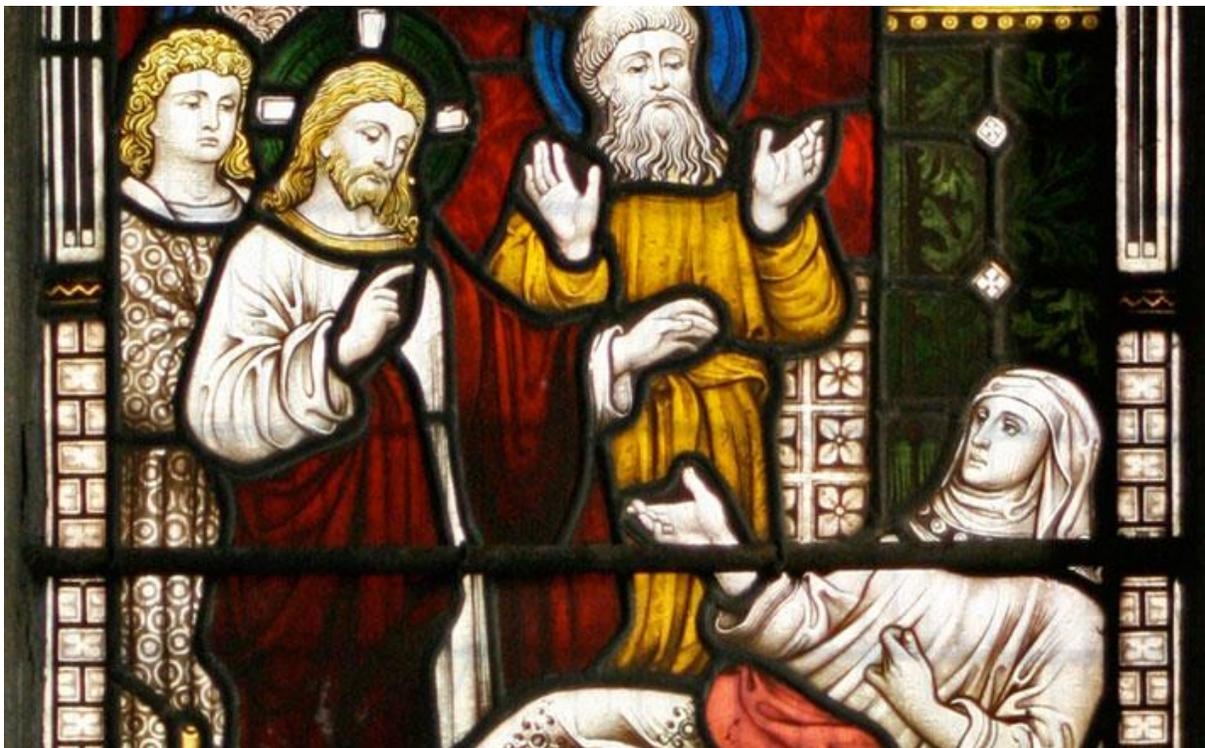
The Rev. Dr. Paul Schumacher, Interim Priest

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

February 7, 2021

Epiphany 5

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, our faith, and our joy, together, in signs of welcome.

Welcome: Welcome to this service of worship on the Fifth 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, “He took our infirmities and bore our diseases.”

Opening Hymn: CP #565 “Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah”

(Text: William Williams {1717 - 1791}; Trans. Peter Williams {1723-1796}, alt. Music: John Hughes {1873- 1932} ©. Reprinted with permission of Ms. C.A. Webb)

Guide me, o thou great Jehovah, pilgrim through this barren land.
I am weak, but thou art mighty; hold me with thy powerful hand.
Bread of heaven, bread of heaven, feed me till I want no more,
Feed me till I want no more.

Open now the crystal fountain whence the healing stream doth flow;
Let the fire and cloudy pillar lead me all my journey through.
Strong deliverer, strong deliverer, be thou still my strength and shield, be thou
still my strength and shield.

When I tread the verge of Jordan, bid my anxious fears subside;
Death of death, and hell’s destruction, land me safe on Canaan’s side: songs of
praises, songs of praises, I will ever give to thee,
I will ever give to thee.

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:

Most holy God, the earth is filled with your glory, and before you angels and saints stand in awe. Increase our vision so we may see your power at work in the world, and by your grace make us heralds of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Lord. **Amen.**

Collect of the Day:

Merciful Lord, **grant 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 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: 147:1-12 (BAS Pg. 906)

1 Hallelujah!

How good it is to sing praises to our God! *
how pleasant it is to honour him with praise!

2 The Lord rebuilds Jerusalem; * he gathers the exiles of Israel.

3 He heals the brokenhearted * and binds up their wounds.

4 He counts the number of the stars * and calls them all by their names.

5 Great is our Lord and mighty in power; * there is no limit to his wisdom.

6 The Lord lifts up the lowly, *
but casts the wicked to the ground.

7 Sing to the Lord with thanksgiving; *
make music to our God upon the harp.

8 He covers the heavens with clouds *
and prepares rain for the earth;

9 He makes grass to grow upon the mountains *
and green plants to serve mankind.

10 He provides food for flocks and herds *
and for the young ravens when they cry.

11 He is not impressed by the might of a horse, *
he has no pleasure in the strength of a man;

12 But the Lord has pleasure in those who fear him, *
in those who await his gracious favour.

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 9:16-23

If I proclaim the gospel, this gives me no ground for boasting, for an obligation is laid on me, and woe betide me if I do not proclaim the gospel! For if I do this of my own will, I have a reward; but if not of my own will, I am entrusted with a commission. What then is my reward? Just this: that in my proclamation I may make the gospel free of charge, so as not to make full use of my rights in the gospel.

For though I am free with respect to all, I have made myself a slave to all, so that I might win more of them. To the Jews I became as a Jew, in order to win Jews. To those under the law I became as one under the law (though I myself am not under the law) so that I might win those under the law. To those outside the law I became as one outside the law (though I am not free from God's law but am under Christ's law) so that I might win those outside the law. To the weak I became weak, so that I might win the weak. I have become all things to all people, so that I might by any means save some. I do it all for the sake of the gospel, so that I may share in its blessings.

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: CP #306 “O For A Thousand Tongues To Sing”

(Text: Charles Wesley {1707 – 1788}, alt.; Music: Thomas Haweis {1734 – 1820}, adapted. Samuel Webbe the younger {1770? – 1843}; desc. Craig Sellar Lang {1891-1971}. Desc. © Novello & Co., Ltd. Reprinted by permission of Shawnee Press, Inc. (ASCAP).

O for a thousand tongues to sing my dear Redeemer’s praise,
The glories of my God and King, the triumphs of his grace.

Jesus! The name that charms our fears, that bids our sorrows cease;
Tis music in the sinner’s ears, ‘tis life, and health, and peace.

Hear him, ye deaf, ye voiceless ones, your loosened tongues employ;
Ye blind, behold your Saviour comes, and leap, ye lame for joy!

My gracious Master and my God, assist me to proclaim,
To spread through all the earth abroad the honours of thy name.

Gospel: Mark 1: 29-39

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.

As soon as they left the synagogue, they entered the house of Simon and Andrew, with James and John. Now Simon’s mother-in-law was in bed with a fever, and they told him about her at once. He came and took her by the hand and lifted her up. Then the fever left her, and she began to serve them.

That evening, at sunset, they brought to him all who were sick or possessed with demons. And the whole city was gathered around the door. And he cured many who were sick with various diseases and cast out many demons; and he would not permit the demons to speak, because they knew him.

In the morning, while it was still very dark, he got up and went out to a deserted place, and there he prayed. And Simon and his companions hunted for him. When they found him, they said to him, ‘Everyone is searching for you.’ He answered, ‘Let us go on to the neighbouring towns, so that I may proclaim the message there also; for that is what I came out to do.’ And he went throughout Galilee, proclaiming the message in their synagogues and casting out demons.

The Gospel of Christ.

Praise to You, Lord Jesus Christ.

Sermon: Bill Geimer

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 February 7, 2021

I will end each petition with 'Lord, in your mercy.'

Please respond with **Hear our prayer**

Jesus went through Galilee preaching and healing and showing compassion to those in need. As God comes no less today to those for whom we pray, let us offer our prayers to God. saying:

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Creator of all, look with favor upon the peoples of the world. In your mercy, give to all people the necessities of a dignified life.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Ruler of creation instill wisdom and understanding among the leaders of nations. Guide them into ways of justice and peace.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Lord of the church gather us all into one holy communion. Give us the courage to look to you alone as the source of our unity.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Great Physician bring healing to all who suffer in body, mind, or spirit. We pray for those we know and love, especially Dianne, Sheila, Barb, and Dimas, for those who care for them, and for those known only to you. Inspire us to care for your gifts of healthy bodies and minds.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

For those who mourn, for the family and friends of Alice especially Terry & Neil, and for the family and friends of Maureen Wright, especially her husband Trevor, daughter Margaret, son Robert, and grandchildren Luke and Hannah. Rest eternal grant to her, O Lord and let light perpetual shine upon her.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Spirit of the living Christ fill us with expectation and eager longing for the coming of that day when no one will suffer, but when all will be gathered in heavenly joy and eternal prosperity.

Amen.

Confession and Absolution: Dear friends in Christ, God is steadfast in love and infinite in mercy; he welcomes sinners and invites them into his grace. 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 #576 “For the Healing of the Nations”

(Text: Fred Kaan {1929-}, alt. © 1988 Hope Publishing Co. Music: Henry Purcell {1659-1695}, *O God, thou art my God*; adapt. *The Psalmist*, 1842.)

For the healing of the nations, God we pray with one accord;
For a just and equal sharing of the things that earth affords.
To a life of love in action help us rise and pledge our word.

Lead us, Father, into freedom, from despair your world release,
That redeemed from war and hatred, all may come and go in peace.
Show us how through care and goodness fear will die and hope increase.

You, Creator God, have written your great name on human kind;
For our growing in your likeness, bring the life of Christ to mind;
That by our response and service earth its destiny may find.

Commissioning: Everlasting God, you give strength to the weak and power to the faint. Make us agents of your healing and wholeness, that your good news may be made known to the ends of your creation, through your Son Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Lord. **Amen.**

TODAY WE PRAY

*Pray for the Anglican Church of Burundi.
Pray for Ansley our Diocesan Administrator, Anna our Bishop,
& Paul our Interim Priest-In-Charge.
Pray for S. Philip, Oak Bay & Territory of the People Anglican Church.
In the Selkirk Region for S. Peter & S. Paul, Esquimalt.*

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, and Trevor.
We also pray for those we remember in the quiet of our own hearts.*