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The Right Rev. Anna Greenwood-Lee, Bishop

The Rev. Dr. Paul Schumacher, Interim Priest

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

February 14, 2021

Transfiguration Sunday

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 this Transfiguration Sunday and the Last Sunday after Epiphany for this church year. 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, “A great prophet has arisen among us! God has visited his people!”

Opening Hymn: VU #104 “We Have Come at Christ’s Own Bidding”

(Text: Carl P. Daw, Jr. 1988. Music: Cyril Vincent Taylor 1941. Words copyright © 1988, music copyright © 1942, renewed © 1970 Hope Publishing Company)

We have come at Christ’s own bidding to this high and lofty place,
Where we wait with hope and longing for some token of God’s grace.
Here we pray for new assurance that our faith is not in vain,
Searching like those first disciples for a sign both clear and plain.

Light breaks in upon our darkness, splendour bathes the flesh-joined Word;
Moses and Elijah marvel as the heavenly voice is heard.
Eyes and hearts behold with wonder how the Law and Prophets meet:
Christ, with garments drenched in brightness, stands transfigured and complete.

Strengthened by this glimpse of glory, fearful lest our faith decline,
We like Peter, find it tempting to remain and build a shrine.
But true worship gives us courage to proclaim what we profess,
That our daily lives may prove us people of the God we bless.

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:

Almighty God, whose Son was revealed in majesty before he suffered death upon the cross:
give us grace to perceive his glory, that we may be strengthened and changed into his likeness,
from glory into glory; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God,
now and forever. **Amen.**

Collect of the Day: Almighty and everliving God, **whose Son Jesus Christ healed the sick and restored them to wholeness of life, look with compassion on the anguish of our world, and by your power make whole all peoples and nations; 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: 50:1- 6 (BAS Pg. 768)

1 The Lord, the God of gods, has spoken; * he has called the earth from the rising of the sun to its setting.

2 Out of Zion, perfect in its beauty, * God reveals himself in glory.

3 Our God will come and will not keep silence; * before him there is a consuming flame, and round about him a raging storm.

4 He calls the heavens and the earth from above * to witness the judgement of his people.

5 “Gather before me my loyal followers, * those who have made a covenant with me and sealed it with sacrifice.”

6 Let the heavens declare the rightness of his cause; * for God himself is judge.

Second Reading: 2 Corinthians 4:3-6

And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. For we do not proclaim ourselves; we proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord and ourselves as your slaves for Jesus’ sake. For it is the God who said, ‘Let light shine out of darkness’, who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

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 #465 “Here in This Place New Light is Streaming”

(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).

Here in this place new light is streaming;
now is the darkness vanished away.
See in this space our fears and our dreamings,
brought here to you in the light of this day.
Gather us in - the lost and forsaken;
gather us in - the blind and the lame;
call to us now, and we shall awaken;
we shall arise at the sound of our name.

We are the young – our lives are a mystery;
we are the old – who yearn for your face.
We have been sung through – out all of history,
called to be light to the whole human race.
Gather us in – the rich and the haughty;
gather us in – the proud and the strong;
give us a heart so meek and so lowly;
give us the courage to enter the song.

Here we will take the wine and the water;
here we will take the bread of new birth.
Here you shall call your sons and your daughters,
call us anew to be salt for the earth.
Give us to drink the wine of compassion;
give us to eat the bread that is you;
nourish us well, and teach us to fashion
lives that are holy and hearts that are true.

Not in the dark of buildings confining,
not in some heaven, light years away,
but here in this place the new light is shining;
now is the kingdom, now is the day.
Gather us in and hold us forever;
gather us in and make us your own;
gather us in – all peoples together,
fire of love in our flesh and our bone.

Gospel: Mark 9: 2-9

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.

Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and John, and led them up a high mountain apart, by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his clothes became dazzling white, such as no one on earth could bleach them. And there appeared to them Elijah with Moses, who were talking with Jesus. Then Peter said to Jesus, 'Rabbi, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah.' He did not know what to say, for they were terrified. Then a cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud there came a voice, 'This is my Son, the Beloved; listen to him!' Suddenly when they looked around, they saw no one with them any more, but only Jesus.

As they were coming down the mountain, he ordered them to tell no one about what they had seen, until after the Son of Man had risen from the dead.

The Gospel of Christ.
Praise to You, Lord Jesus Christ.

Sermon: Rev. 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 - February 14, 2021
Transfiguration of Our Lord

I will end each petition with *Lord in your mercy*. Please respond with: ***Hear our prayer.***

Formed by the word and promise of God, let us pray that God's mercy, manifest in all the earth, may drive away all darkness. And that His providence will lead all people from death into life, saying,

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

For the church of Christ, knowing your glory dimly in this temporal life, may wait in humility and joy to see the full light of your glory,

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

For the nations of the earth and for their leaders, that they may learn the ways of your peace,

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

For the sick, especially Dianne, Sheila, Barb, and Dimas, for those who care for them, and for those known only to you, Dear Lord. For the dying, and for all who have asked for our prayers, that you will cause light to shine out of their darkness,

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

For those who mourn, 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.***

For all those not knowing your name, yet who seek to find you, that they will know that your everlasting mercy has enlightened them and called them by name,

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

Before you, O God, we offer all our prayers and all our needs. You are our life and light, our mercy and hope, and our ever-dawning day. Hear us through your Son, 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 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: VU #82 "A Light is Gleaming"

(Text and Music: Linnea Good 1992. © 1992 Borealis Music.)

Refrain:

***A light is gleaming, spreading its arms throughout the night, living in the light.
Come share its gladness, God's radiant love is burning bright, living the light.***

When light comes pouring into the darkest place,
It hurts our eyes to see the glow.
Sometimes a word of hope reminds us of our fears,
Our memories and tears. ***(Refrain)***

When light is round us and every shadow grows,
A star is there to light our way.
It tells a story of Jesus who came near to say:
"God's light will ever stay." ***(Refrain)***

And Jesus showed us a brighter path to walk.
He showed us things we hadn't seen.
Now we, like Jesus, can help creation shine,
And this will be a sign: ***(Refrain)***

So, let us live in the brightness God has given,
And let us rise to see the dawn.
We trust that God is here a-sparkle and a-blaze,
Warming all our days. ***(Refrain)***

Commissioning: Almighty God, the resplendent light of your truth shines from the mountaintop
into our hearts. Transfigure us by your beloved Son and illumine the world with your presence so
that all the earth may come to know you as Creator and Lord, through your Son Jesus Christ, who
lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

TODAY WE PRAY

Pray for the Anglican Church of Canada.

*Pray for Ansley our Diocesan Administrator, Anna our Bishop,
& Paul our Interim Priest-In-Charge.*

*Pray for S. Michael & All Angels & the Diocese of Caledonia.
In the Selkirk Region for S. David-by-the-Sea, Cordova Bay.*

FOR THOSE WHO HAVE ASKED US TO PRAY FOR THEM

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