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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”***

April 18, 2021

Easter 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

Welcome: Good morning. Christ is risen! Alleluia! Welcome to this service of worship on the Third Sunday of Easter. My name is Paul Schumacher, and I am the interim priest-in-charge during this time of transition, here at the Church of The Advent.

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 water, the plants, and animals, through the many generations.

As we meet today, 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 greet one another with words and signs of welcome.

Come, come with your doubts, your strengths, your weaknesses, and your fears, for God loves us all and all are welcome in this space. 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.

Scripture Sentence of the Day: Scripture shares with us, “Lord Jesus, open to us the scriptures; make our hearts burn within us while you speak.”

Opening Hymn: CP244 “We Walk by Faith”

(Text: Henry Alford {1810-1871}, alt. Music: Marty Haugen {1950-} © 1984 G.I.A. Publications, Inc.)

We walk by faith, and not by sight,
no gracious words we hear from him who spoke as none'er spoke,
but we believe him near.

We may not touch his hands and side,
nor follow where he trod; but in his promise we rejoice and cry,
“My Lord and God!”

Help then O Lord, our unbelief,
and may our faith abound, to call on you when you are near,
and seek where you are found:

That, when our life of faith is done,
in realms of clearer light, we may behold you as you are,
with full and endless sight.

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.*

Holy and righteous God, **you are the author of life, and you have adopted us as your children. Fill us with your word of life, that we may live in witness to the resurrection of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

Collect of the Day: O God, **your Son made himself known to his disciples in the breaking of bread. Open the eyes of our faith, that we may see him in his redeeming work, 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: MV 121 “**Hey Now, Singing Hallelujah**”

(Words and Music: Linnea Good 1998. Words and music © 1998 Borealis Music, used by permission.)

Refrain:

Hey now! Singing hallelujah!

Hey now! The morning has come!

Hey now! Singing hallelujah!

The tomb was empty at the rising sun.

Jesus loved the people and they said he was king,
Hey now, the tomb was empty.
He turned all the tables on everything.
Hey now, the tomb was empty. ***Refrain***

Jesus had power and they took him away.
Hey now, the tomb was empty.
They nailed him to a cross and they killed him one day.
Hey now, the tomb was empty. ***Refrain***

Jesus loves people and he lives again.
Hey now, the tomb was empty.
Calls us disciples and he calls us his friends.
Hey now, the tomb was empty. ***Refrain***

Psalm: 4 (BAS Pg. 707)

1 Answer me when I call, O God, defender of my cause; *
you set me free when I am hard-pressed;
have mercy on me and hear my prayer.

2 “You mortals, how long will you dishonour my glory; *
how long will you worship dumb idols
and run after false gods?”

3 Know that the Lord does wonders for the faithful; *
when I call upon the Lord, he will hear me.

4 Tremble, then, and do not sin; *
speak to your heart in silence upon your bed.

5 Offer the appointed sacrifices *
and put your trust in the Lord.

6 Many are saying,
“Oh, that we might see better times!” *
Lift up the light of your countenance upon us, O Lord.

7 You have put gladness in my heart, *
more than when grain and wine and oil increase.

8 I lie down in peace; at once I fall asleep; *
for only you, Lord, make me dwell in safety.

Second Reading: 1 John 3:1–7

See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. Beloved, we are God’s children now; what we will be, has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is. And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

Everyone who commits sin is guilty of lawlessness; sin is lawlessness. You know that he was revealed to take away sins, and in him there is no sin. No one who abides in him sins; no one who sins has either seen him or known him. Little children, let no one deceive you. Everyone who does what is right is righteous, just as he is righteous.

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 589 “Lord, Speak to Me”

(Words: Frances Ridley Havergal {1872} Music: Samuel Sebastian Wesley {1872} ©Public Domain.)

Lord, speak to me that I may speak
In living echoes of your tone,
As you have sought, so let me seek
Your straying children lost and lone.

O lead me, so that I may lead
The wandering and the wavering feet,
O feed me, so that I may feed
Your hungering ones with manna sweet.

O teach me, so that I may teach
The precious truths which you impart,
And wing my words, that they may reach
The hidden depths of many a heart.

O fill me with your fullness, Lord,
Until my very heart o’er flows
In kindling thought and glowing word,
Your love to tell, your praise to show.

Gospel: Luke 24: 36b-48

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

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

Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ.

Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, ‘Peace be with you.’ They were startled and terrified and thought that they were seeing a ghost. He said to them, ‘Why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? Look at my hands and my feet; see that it is I, myself. Touch me and see; for a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have.’ And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. While in their joy they were disbelieving and still wondering, he said to them, ‘Have you anything here to eat?’ They gave him a piece of broiled fish, and he took it and ate in their presence.

Then he said to them, ‘These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you—that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled.’ Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, and he said to them, ‘Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things.

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 - April 18, 2021

Christ, the stone which the builders rejected, God has made the cornerstone of a new community. In that name by which we are founded, let us draw near in confidence.

I will end each petition with: For this let us pray to the Lord.
Please respond with: **Lord have mercy.**

The risen Christ opened the minds of the disciples to understand the scriptures. May the church find in the scriptures healing, mission, and good news for all.

For this let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

Christ showed wounded hands and feet to his unbelieving apostles. May we see the risen one in all the wounded of our world.

For this let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

Christ our cornerstone intercedes for us before God. Let us and all in authority heed God's call for justice in the church, in our community, and in the nation.

For this let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

We are saved by a God who is light, in whom there is no darkness at all. Let us beg for God's light in those places which seem darkest. Let us ask that God enlighten all who inflict darkness on others. Let us ask that God shine on those who are victims of evil.

For this let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

In the power of Christ's name, we are healed. Let us recall all who need healing. We are strengthened by Christ's resurrection to share the power of the Spirit with all the suffering. We pray for all in any need especially Bill, Christopher, Dianne, Sheila, Barb, Jamie, and Dimas, and all in the healing professions.

For this let us pray to the Lord: ***Lord, have mercy.***

God of Joy, thank you for the gift of a good laugh. Like music and love, it speaks all languages and has a healing power all its own. Help us to remember there is nothing life-giving about being gloomy. Let our belief in you and our trust in your care be so complete that our joy will be the sure sign of your presence in this world that needs you so much.

Loving God, you have glorified your Son Jesus and given him the name by which we are saved. Give us the courage to act in his name. Accept our praise, offered in his name, for we offer this prayer through and with and in Jesus, your Son and our Saviour. **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.**

And now, 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 #378 "Crown Him with Many Crowns"

(Text: Matthew Bridges [1800-1894] and Godfrey Thring [1823-1903], Music: George Job Elvey [1816-1893]
©Public Domain)

Crown him with many crowns, the Lamb upon the throne:
Hark, how the heavenly anthem drowns all music but its own!
Awake my soul, and sing of him who died for thee,
And hail him as thy matchless King through all eternity.

Crown him the Lord of life, who triumphed o'er the grave.
And rose victorious in the strife for those he came to save.
His glories now we sing who died and rose on high,
Who died eternal life to bring, and lives that death may die.

Crown him the Lord of peace, whose power a sceptre sways
From pole to pole, that wars may cease, absorbed in prayer and praise.
His reign shall know no end; and round his pierced feet
Fair flowers of paradise extend their fragrance ever sweet.

Crown him the Lord of love; behold his hands and side,
Rich wounds yet visible above, in beauty glorified.
All hail, Redeemer, hail! For thou hast died for me;
Thy praise shall never fail throughout eternity.

Commissioning: Almighty God, your Son first entrusted Mary Magdalene with the joyful news of his resurrection. Following the example of her witness, may we proclaim Christ as our living Lord and one day be with him in glory, through Jesus Christ, Our Saviour and King, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, One God, now and forever. **Alleluia. Amen.**

TODAY WE PRAY

Pray for The Church of Ireland.

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

*Pray for S. Philip by-the-Sea, Lantzville, & Territory of the People Anglican Church.
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, Barb, Azeita, Margaret, Dimas, Garry, Sharron, Steven, Bill, & Lorraine.
We also pray for those we remember in the quiet of our own hearts.*