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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”***

**September 12th, 2021 – 16th Sunday After Pentecost
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 preaches & presides with Colleen Lissamer.

Organ prelude - Nell Howard

THE GATHERING OF THE COMMUNITY

Welcome: Good morning, and welcome to this service of worship on this Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost. My name is Paul Schumacher, and I am the interim priest-in-charge at the Church of The Advent during this time of transition. Again, this morning, we are joined by Colleen Lissamer, who is to be ordained a deacon in the Anglican Church.

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, “I do not glory except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world.”

Opening Hymn: CP#450 “You Call Us, Lord to Be”

(Text: Jane Manton Marshall {1924-} © 1982 Hope Publishing Company. Music: John David Edwards {1806-1885}.)

You call us, Lord, to be a people set apart,
To feel with thoughtful mind and think with tender heart.

Refrain:

***Thus chosen, now, O Lord, we ask for faith in your
Unfailing grace to make us equal to the task.***

You call us, Lord, to care for self and neighbour too,
To take the risk and dare to show what love can do. ***Refrain***

You call us, Lord, to be good stewards of the earth,
To tend it as a place of blessedness and worth. ***Refrain***

You call us, Lord, to serve: to die that we may live,
To know we best receive when joyfully we give. ***Refrain***

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: *(From the Lutheran Book of Worship)*

O God, through suffering and rejection you bring forth our salvation and by the glory of the cross you transform our lives. Grant that, for the sake of the Gospel, we may turn from the lure of all that is evil, take up our cross, and follow your Son Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Lord.

Amen.

Collect of the Day: Almighty God, **you call your Church to witness that in Jesus Christ we are reconciled to you. Help us to proclaim the good news of your love, so all who hear it may turn to you, 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: VU 289 "It Only Takes a Spark"

(Text: Kurt Kaiser {1969-} Music: Kurt Kaiser {1969-}. Text and Music used by permission of Budjohn Songs.)

It only takes a spark to get a fire going,
And soon all those around can warm up in its glowing,
That's how it is with God's love once you've experienced it,
You spread God's love to everyone, you want to pass it on.

What a wondrous time is spring when all the trees are budding,
The birds begin to sing, the flowers start their blooming,
That's how it is with God's love, once you've experienced it,
You want to sing, it's fresh like spring, you want to pass it on.

I wish for you, my friend, this happiness that I've found,
On God you can depend, it matters not where you're bound,
I'll shout it from the mountain top, I want my world to know,
The Lord of love has come to me, I want to pass it on.

Psalm: 124 (BAS Pg. 884)

1 If the Lord had not been on our side, * let Israel now say;

2 If the Lord had not been on our side, * when enemies rose up against us;

3 Then would they have swallowed us up alive * in their fierce anger toward us;

4 Then would the waters have overwhelmed us * and the torrent gone over us;

5 Then would the raging waters * have gone right over us.

6 Blessed be the Lord! * he has not given us over to be a prey for their teeth.

7 We have escaped like a bird from the snare of the fowler; * the snare is broken, and we have escaped.

8 Our help is in the name of the Lord, * the maker of heaven and earth.

Second Reading: James 3:1-12

Not many of you should become teachers, my brothers and sisters, for you know that we who teach will be judged with greater strictness. For all of us make many mistakes. Anyone who makes no mistakes in speaking is perfect, able to keep the whole body in check with a bridle. If we put bits into the mouths of horses to make them obey us, we guide their whole bodies. Or look at ships: though they are so large that it takes strong winds to drive them, yet they are guided by a very small rudder wherever the will of the pilot directs. So also, the tongue is a small member, yet it boasts of great exploits.

How great a forest is set ablaze by a small fire! And the tongue is a fire. The tongue is placed among our members as a world of iniquity; it stains the whole body, sets on fire the cycle of nature, and is itself set on fire by hell. For every species of beast and bird, of reptile and sea creature, can be tamed and has been tamed by the human species, but no one can tame the tongue—a restless evil, full of deadly poison. With it we bless the Lord and Father, and with it we curse those who are made in the likeness of God. From the same mouth come blessing and cursing. My brothers and sisters, this ought not to be so. Does a spring pour forth from the same opening both fresh and brackish water? Can a fig tree, my brothers and sisters, yield olives, or a grapevine, figs? No more can saltwater yield fresh.

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#386 “When I Survey The Wondrous Cross”

(Text: Isaac Watts {1674-1748}; Music: Melody *Psalmody in Miniature, Second Supplement, 1780?*; harm. Edward Miller {1731-1807}; desc. David R Riley {1947-} ©.)

When I survey the wondrous cross
On which the Prince of glory died,
My richest gain I count but loss,
And pour contempt on all my pride.

Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast,
Save in the cross of Christ, my God,
All the vain things that charm me most,
I sacrifice them to his blood.

See, from his head, his hands, his feet,
Sorrow and love flow mingled down,
Did e'er such love and sorrow meet,
Or thorns compose so rich a crown?

Were the whole realm of nature mine,
That were an offering far too small,
Love so amazing, so divine,
Demands my soul, my life, my all.

Gospel: Mark 12:28-31

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.

One of the scribes came near and heard them disputing with one another, and seeing that he answered them well, he asked him, ‘Which commandment is the first of all?’ Jesus answered, ‘The first is, “Hear, O Israel: the Lord our God, the Lord is one; you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength.” The second is this, “You shall love your neighbour as yourself.” There is no other commandment greater than these.’

The Gospel of Christ.

Praise to You, Lord Jesus Christ.

Sermon: Colleen Lissamer

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 September 12, 2021

From New Patterns for Worship © The Archbishops' Council 2002.

From the Church of England's Common Worship website.

Let us pray to Our Creator, that all creation will be brought to fruition and good for all God's created order.

You have created the universe by your eternal Word and have blessed humankind in making us stewards of the earth. We pray for our island home, this planet we call the Earth. May we share and conserve its resources, live in reverence for all creation, and reside in harmony with one another.

Lord of creation, **in your mercy, hear us.**

You have given us a place of great resources in which we reside. A land of streams and springs, wheat and barley, vines and oil and honey, great cedars, beautiful skies, vast expanses of land and water teeming with life, all created by your almighty hand. We have through our own selfishness and unwillingness to share your gifts garnered a world of suffering and sorrow. We pray for those who bear the weight of affliction, those who live lives without the necessities of life. Show us the path so they may come to share the life of wholeness and plenty.

Lord of creation, **in your mercy, hear us.**

In Christ you call us to a new way of life, loving our neighbours before ourselves. Help us to treat with care and respect the world as it is as we live in hope and anticipation of the world as it will be when your kingdom comes, and your will is done. Thank you for those, living and departed, who have shown a true respect for your creation ... Help us to follow in their footsteps, until, with them, we see you face to face, where all is made new in Christ our Lord.

Lord of creation, **in your mercy, hear us.**

We pray for those who have asked for our prayers, and we pray for those who need prayers, but have no one to pray for them. We pray for Bob, Irene, Travis, Bill, Christopher, Dianne,

Sheila, Barb, Kian, Sierra, and the staff and residents of the Priory. I invite you now to pray aloud or silently for any others you hold in your heart. We pray that all who have asked for our prayers may know the healing power of God, and that those who die today may not die alone.

Lord of creation, **in your mercy, hear us.**

We pray for all who mourn the loss of loved ones, especially the family and friends of David Rolfe. Loving Lord hold them and all people who mourn in the warmth of Your arms. They do not mourn alone. Give us the strength and courage to help them through their time of sorrow.

Lord of creation, **in your mercy, hear us.**

O great Creator, dynamic of love, accept the petitions of your people here in this place. Grant us grace to live as good stewards of your Creation, through Jesus Christ, our Saviour and 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, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and keep you in eternal life, through Jesus Christ, our Lord and Saviour. 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, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit, be with you
this day and forever more. **Amen.**

Shared Ministry:

Commissioning Hymn: 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.

Commissioning: Tend the earth, care for God’s good creation, and bring forth the fruits of righteousness. Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. **In the name of Christ. Amen.**

“Let All Things Their Creator Bless”: Liturgy for Use During the Season of Creationtide, Diocese of Guilford, pp. 38-39

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TODAY WE PRAY

*Pray for the Anglican Church of Tanzania.
Pray for Barry our Executive Archdeacon, Anna our Bishop,
Paul our Interim Priest-In-Charge, & Colleen.
Pray for S. Philip, Oak Bay, & Diocese of Caledonia
In the Selkirk Region for Holy Trinity, Sooke.*

FOR THOSE WHO HAVE ASKED US TO PRAY FOR THEM

*Christopher, Dianne, Sheila, Barb, Carol Ann, Bill, Kian, Sierra, Travis, Bob, & Irene.
The staff and residents of the Priory.
Family and friends of David Rolfe.
We also pray for those we remember in the quiet of our own hearts.*