

Sunday, November 28, 2021: Advent 1: HOPE

*Look up and raise your heads, because
your redemption is drawing near. (Luke 21:28)*





ST. PAUL’S COVID-19 RESPONSE

**Welcome!!** During this unique time in history, services will look a bit different than normal. We want to care for the whole parish during this time and one way to care for one another is keeping each other safe. As such, we ask you to follow these guidelines while worshiping with us:

* **Experiencing Cough, Fever, or Other Symptom/s?** Go home immediately andplease stay home for fourteen days following the end of your symptoms.
* **Wear a Mask.** All parishioners must wear a mask to all services (as per City of Edmonton bylaw 19408). Exceptions to this include children under the age of two and those with a medical condition where wearing a mask is not possible. Masks may be removed when taking communion but must be replaced immediately following. If you do not have a mask, we have cloth masks available in the foyer.
* **Maintain Physical Distance.** At all times, please remain a minimum of six feet (three seat spaces) from all other individuals not part of your family unit. You will find tape on the floor six feet apart in multiple locations to help you maintain this distance. Please also maintain physical distance outside.
* **Listen to the Ushers.** There will be ushers inside and outside to help direct these new procedures. Please heed their direction as they are trying to keep everyone safe and healthy.
* **Sanitize Hands Frequently.** Please sanitize your hands upon entry and before taking communion. You may also sanitize as often as you would like during the service. Please also try to refrain from touching surfaces and your face.
* **Recycle Bulletins.** Please do not leave bulletins in the pews. A recycle bin is available at each exit. You may also take the bulletin home.

**Opening Song: *Even So Come***

All of creation all of the earth

Make straight a highway

A path for the Lord

Jesus is coming soon

Call back the sinner, wake up the saint

Let every nation shout of Your fame

Jesus is coming soon

*(Chorus)*

Like a bride waiting for her groom

We'll be a Church ready for You

Every heart longing for our King, we sing

Even so come, Lord Jesus come

Even so come, Lord Jesus come

There will be justice all will be new

Your name forever faithful and true

Jesus is coming soon *(To Chorus)*

So we wait we wait for You

God we wait You're coming soon

So we wait we wait for You

God we wait You're coming soon

*(To Chorus)*

God we wait we wait for You

God we wait You're coming soon

**Lighting of the First Advent Candle: Hope (Jae Armstrong and Pat Stretch)**

Reader 1: Today is the first Sunday of Advent. Advent is a time of waiting. We wait for God to send divine love and light into our dark world.

Reader 2: Today we light the first candle of the Advent wreath. Each candle has a meaning. The first represents Hope.

*The candle is lit*

Reader 1: Isaiah 9:2 says, “The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness – on them light has shined.”

Reader 2: Psalm 33:20 says, “We wait in hope for the LORD; he is our help and our shield.” Let us pray together:

**All: Eternal God, as we await the coming of our savior, give us the courage to hope. Give us grace to see your plans of redemption for our lives, for this community, and for the world. Through Jesus Christ, the source of our redemption and hope. Amen.**

**Penitential Rite**

Leader: Dear friends in Christ, as we prepare to worship almighty God, let us with penitent and obedient hearts confess our sins, that we may obtain forgiveness by his infinite goodness and mercy.

*Silence is Kept*

**All:** **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.**

Leader: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.

**All:Amen.**

**Morning Prayer**

Leader: Lord, open our lips,

**All: And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.**

Leader: O God, make speed to save us.

**All: O Lord, make haste to help us. Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen. Alleluia!**

Leader: The kingdom of God is at hand: O come, let us worship.

**All: Be joyful in the Lord, all you lands; serve the Lord with gladness and come before his presence with a song. Know this: The Lord himself is God; he himself has made us, and we are his; we are his people and the sheep of his pasture. Enter his gates with thanksgiving; go into his courts with praise; give thanks to him and call upon his name. For the Lord is good; his mercy is everlasting; and his faithfulness endures from age to age.**

**Children’s Focus (Andrew Whistance-Smith)**

**Kid’s Club and Youth Dismissal**

**The Reading of Scripture**

***First Reading: Jeremiah 33:14-16***

*The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David; and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will live in safety. And this is the name by which it will be called: "The LORD is our righteousness."*

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

**People:** **Thanks be to God.**

***Canticle: Psalm 25 1:9 (Sung)***

*To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul; my god, I put my trust in you.*

*Let me not be humiliated, nor let my enemies triumph over me.*

*Let none who look to you be put to shame.*

*Let the treacherous be disappointed in their schemes.* ***Refrain***

*Show me you ways, O Lord,*

*and teach me your paths.*

*Lead me in your truth and teach me,*

*for you are the God of my salvation: in you have I trusted all the day long.* ***Refrain***

*Remember, O Lord , your compassion and love,*

*For they are from everlasting.*

*Remember not the sins of my youth and my transgressions;*

*Remember me according to your love, and for the sake of your goodness, O Lord.* ***Refrain***

*Gracious and upright is the Lord; therefore he teaches sinners in his way.*

*He guides the humble in doing right and teaches his way to the lowly.*

*All the paths of the Lord are love and faithfulness*

*To those who keep his covenant and his testimonies.* ***Refrain***

***Second Reading: 1 Thessalonians 3:9-13***

*How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy that we feel before our God because of you? Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you face to face and restore whatever is lacking in your faith. Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus direct our way to you. And may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, just as we abound in love for you. And may he so strengthen your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints.*

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

**People:** **Thanks be to God.**

**Gospel Processional – *Ready My Heart***

Alleluia, Alleluia

Alleluia, Christ the Saviour is born

**The Gospel Reading**

Reader: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Reader: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St. Luke.

**People: Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

***Gospel Reading: Luke 21:25-36***

*"There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves. People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in a cloud' with power and great glory. Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near." Then he told them a parable: "Look at the fig tree and all the trees; as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know that summer is already near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away. "Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and that day catch you unexpectedly, like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place, and to stand before the Son of Man."*

Reader: The Gospel of Christ.

**People: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

**Worship Through Song**

***Ready My Heart***

Ready my heart

For the birth of Immanuel

Ready my soul for the Prince of Peace

Heap the straw of my life

For His body to lie on

Light the candle of hope

Let the child come in

Alleluia, Alleluia

Alleluia, Christ the Saviour is born

Mine is the home

That is poor and is barren

Mine is the stable of cold and stone

Break the light to each corner

Of doubt and of darkness

Now the Word is made flesh

For the birth of me

Alleluia, Alleluia

Alleluia, Christ the Saviour is born

***Even So Lord Jesus Come***

Even so, Lord Jesus come

Oh divine and glorious son

Though we live as Your body

Here on earth

Even so Lord Jesus come

Holy Father, Sovereign Lord

Your creation's one adored

By Your hand we receive Your majesty

Even so Lord Jesus come

Holy Spirit breath of life

Light a path through darkest night

In Your care we confess

Our deepest sigh

Even so Lord Jesus come

**Listening Time**

**Sermon by David Heritage – Sermon Notes:**

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**Affirmation of Faith – Christ Accompanies Us**

Celebrant: *(pg. 189)* Let us confess the faith of our baptism, as we say,

**All: We believe in God, Creator of all things, heavenly father, Soul of infinite love, wisdom, and power, ruler of all that is and all that is to come, who is mystery, yet revealed. We follow Christ, God’s chosen one, who loved and served humbly, who healed the broken and included the outcast, who chose to suffer rather than harm for the sake of the healing of all Creation, who gave his life for our redemption, and who was raised by God to new life. In his teaching, in his death and resurrection, and in his presence with us in all circumstances, he reveals God to us. He calls us to serve him for the sake of proclaiming God’s grace. We trust that he accompanies us and will help, guide, heal, and defend us through all difficulty and suffering. We believe the Holy Spirit sustains us, and guides us and empowers us as servants of God’s grace. We live as the body of Christ, in the power of forgiveness and the reality of resurrection, and the light of eternal life. Amen.**

**Prayers of the People**

Leader: In joyful expectation let us pray to our Saviour and Redeemer,

saying, “Lord Jesus, come soon!” O Wisdom, from the mouth of the Most High, you reign over all things to the ends of the earth: come and teach us how to live.

**All: Lord Jesus, come soon!**

Leader: O Lord, and head of the house of Israel, you appeared to Moses in the fire of the burning bush and you gave the law on Sinai: come with outstretched arm and ransom us.

**All: Lord Jesus, come soon!**

Leader: O Branch of Jesse, standing as a sign among the nations, all kings will keep silence before you and all peoples will summon you to their aid: come, set us free and delay no more.

**All: Lord Jesus, come soon!**

Leader: O Key of David and sceptre of the house of Israel, you open and none can shut; you shut and none can open: come and free the captives from prison.

**All: Lord Jesus, come soon!**

Leader: O Morning Star, splendour of the light eternal and bright Sun of righteousness: come and enlighten all who dwell in darkness and in the shadow of death.

**All: Lord Jesus, come soon!**

Leader: O King of the nations, you alone can fulfil their desires. Remembering those in the St. Paul’s Cycle of Prayer: Dudley Baker & Pat Halligan-Baker Scott & Adele Bosse-Morgan (and Jordan, Paige, Jenna, & Kaitlin) Nathan & Deanna Kalles; as well as all of those in the Anglican Cycle of Prayer. Cornerstone, you make opposing nations one: come and save the creature you fashioned from clay.

**All: Lord Jesus, come soon!**

Leader: O Emmanuel, hope of the nations and their Saviour: come and save us, Lord our God.

**All: Lord Jesus, come soon! Amen.**

**Offertory Song: *We Come***

Our hearts are empty without You

Barren and cold but for the bold

Hope that You Yourself planted within

*(Chorus)* In the mighty name of God

In the saving name of Jesus

In the strong name of the Spirit

We come, we cry, we watch

We wait, we look, we long for you

Sometimes we long for the morning

For a refrain from etchings in pain

Yet our loneliness draws us to You *(To Chorus)*

**The Collect**

Leader: Almighty and everlasting God, whose will it is to restore all things in your well-beloved Son, our Lord and King, grant that the peoples of the earth, now divided and enslaved by sin, may be freed and brought together under his gentle and loving rule; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

**All: Amen.**

**The Lord’s Prayer**

Celebrant: *(pg. 211)* As our Saviour taught us, let us pray,

**All: *(Sung)* Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and for ever. Amen.**

**Blessing**

**Congregational Announcements (Margot B.)**

**Closing Song: Come Thou Long Expected Jesus**

Come thou long expected Jesus

Born to set thy people free

From our sins and fears release us

Let us find our rest in thee

Israel’s strength and consolation

Hope of all the earth thou art

Dear desire of every nation

Joy of every longing heart.

Born thy people to deliver

Born a child and yet a king

Born to reign in us forever

Now thy gracious kingdom bring,

By thine own eternal spirit

Rule in all our hearts alone

By thine all sufficient merit

Raise us to thy glorious throne.

Hark a herald voice is sounding

“Christ is nigh” it seems to say

Cast away the dreams of darkness

O ye children of the day

Honor, glory, might and blessing

To the Father and the Son

With the Everlasting Spirit

While eternal ages run.

**The Dismissal**

Celebrant: Let us bless the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God. Amen.**

**Community Corner for November 28**

**Seeing Reconciliation**:

Watch the documentary Reserve 107 https://www.reserve107thefilm.com/

From the website: When a group of Mennonites and Lutherans in the town of Laird discover that the land they live on is in fact the former reserve of the Young Chippewayan First Nation, they are forced to acknowledge the history that has brought them to their present confrontation. Myths, assumptions and fears are shattered as this old injustice is about to provide an opportunity for friendship and renew a fierce determination to repair the wrongs of the past.

**Advent Fundraiser** for the month of December:

Community Outreach and Focus on Missions are fundraising to support Rev. Lori Calkins and the birth work she is doing with Indigenous communities. This work plays an essential role in healing, breaking intergenerational cycles of trauma, and cultural reawakening for Indigenous families of many nations. Our goal is $15,000.

Our monthly **Table Top Adventures** (aka Games Night) is coming up this Friday, December 3, 2021. If you enjoy board games, puzzles, crafting, etc., please join in! Vaccinations required—remember you must have the QR code to confirm vaccinations.

**Reflection Stations During Advent**

There are reflection stations set up in the church during season of Advent. If you are interested in creating a station or helping with set up, please talk to Michelle Schurek. She is also looking for clocks of all kinds for this activity: alarm clocks, wall clocks, travel clocks, watches, etc.

**Advent 4 Choir – December 19**

RJ is putting together a choir to sing two songs at the December 19 service. If you would like to participate, please join us for rehearsals following the services on December 5 and December 12. Each rehearsal will only be about 45 minutes in length.

**Advent and Christmas Services at St. Paul’s**

Sunday, December 19, 10:00am: Advent 4 – Lessons and Carols

Friday, December 24, 7:00pm: Christmas Eve Service

Saturday, December 25, 9:00am: Christmas morning service

**This Week’s Ministry Teams:**

Music/Sound: Andrew/Dave

Service Team: B Team

Prayers: Barb M.; Vestry: Margot B.

Chapel: Laurier B., Barb M., Kjeryn A.

Kid’s: Margot B.

**St. Paul’s Cycle of Prayer:**

Dudley Baker and Pat Halligan-Baker; Scott and Adele Bosse-Morgan (and Jordan, Paige, Jenna, and Kaitlin); Nathan and Deanna Kalles; and the friends and family of Jim Robertson

**Anglican Cycle of Prayer:**

Diocese of Saskatchewan: the Rt. Rev. Michael Hawkins, Bishop; the Rt. Rev. Adam Halkett, Bishop of Missinipi; the Rt. Rev. Isaiah Larry Beardy, Assisting Bishop of Missinipi. St. Mary, Edgerton and St. Thomas, Wainwright: Rachael Parker (s. Robert), Rector. Buyé Diocese, Kumana Parish: Athanase Minani, catechist. Whitefish Lake First Nation.

**Next Week’s Ministry Teams:**

Music/Sound: Andrew/Dave or John

Service Team: B Team

Prayers: Barb M. or Lauren. Vestry: Margot B.

Chapel: Laurier, Terry, Kjeryn. Kid’s: Margot

**St. Paul’s Staff:**

 *Rector:* The Rev. Myron B. Penner

*Community Outreach:* Michelle Schurek
*Youth Leader:* Abigail Harding

*Office Administrator:* Asher Hebert

**St. Paul’s Vestry:**

 Paul Dowie, *Rector’s Warden*

Margot Byer, *People’s Warden*

David Heritage, *Treasurer*

Barb Dixon, *Vestry Member*

John Green, *Vestry Member*

David Parker, *Vestry Member*

Connie Pistawka, *Vestry Member*

**Office Hours:**

Monday-Thursday: 9:30-11:30AM

Closed: Fri/Sat/Sun and Stat Holidays

 **St. Paul’s Anglican Church**

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**For Care/Concern Team
or other prayer requests,** **email**:

office@stpauls-anglican.ca

**For urgent prayer requests call**

 the church office: (780) 455-0771

**For pastoral emergencies call:**

(587) 334-2130