**December 5th, 2021 – Second Sunday of Advent**

**Holy Eucharist**

*This service is Livestreamed via Facebook and the Parish website.*

*We welcome everyone worshipping with us today whether in person or online.*

**The Gathering of the Community**

**Words of Welcome and Acknowledgment**

We begin by acknowledging that we live, work, play, and worship on the traditional and unceded territory of the Coast Salish peoples

including the Katzee, Tsawwassen, Semiahmoo and Kwantlen Nations.

May our words and our actions reflect our awareness and appreciation of this.

**Processional Hymn** – **CP 393 Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise**

**The Greeting**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and

the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**And also with you.**

**The Collect for Purity**

Almighty God,

**to you all hearts are open, all desires known,**

**and from you no secrets are hidden.**

**Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,**

**that we may perfectly love you,**

**and worthily magnify your holy name;**

**through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

**Kyrie Eleison**

**Lord, have mercy.**

**Christ, have mercy.**

**Lord, have mercy.**

**The Collect**

Almighty God,

**who sent your servant John the Baptist**

**to prepare your people to welcome the Messiah,**

**inspire us, the ministers and stewards of your truth,**

**to turn our disobedient hearts to you,**

**that when the Christ shall come again to be our judge,**

**we may stand with confidence before his glory;**

**who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,**

**one God, now and for ever. Amen.**

**The Lighting of the Advent Wreath**

God our Father,

you spoke to the prophets of old

of a Saviour who would bring peace.

You helped them to spread the joyful message

of his coming kingdom.

Help us, as we prepare to celebrate his birth,

to share with those around us

the good news of your power and love.

We ask this through Jesus Christ,

the light who is coming into the world. **Amen.**

*Two Blue Candle are Lit*

**Lord Jesus, light of the world,**

**the prophets said you would bring peace**

**and save your people in trouble.**

**Give peace in our hearts at Christmas**

**and show all the world God’s love.** **Amen.**

People of God: be glad!

Your God delights in you,

giving you joy for sadness

and turning the dark to light.

Be strong in hope therefore;

for your God comes to save.

You are God’s children.

**Lord, make us one in the love of Christ**

**today and for ever.** **Amen.**

**The Proclamation of the Word**

**First Reading** – Malachi 3:1-4

See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple. T

he messenger of the covenant in whom you delight indeed, he is coming, says the Lord of hosts. But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears?

For he is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap; he will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the descendants of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, until they present offerings to the Lord in righteousness.

Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the Lord as in the days of old and as in former years."

Listen to what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

**Thanks be to God**

**Canticle 19**

**REFRAIN The dawn from on high shall break upon us.**

Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel; he has come to his people and set them free. He has raised up for us a mighty Saviour, born of the house of his servant David. **R**

Through his holy prophets he promised of old, that he would save us from our enemies, from the hands of all who hate us. He promised to show mercy to our fathers and to remember his holy covenant. **R**

This was the oath he swore to our father Abraham, to set us free from the hands of our enemies, free to worship him without fear, holy and righteous in his sight all the days of our life. **R**

You, my child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High, for you will go before the Lord to prepare his way, to give his people knowledge of salvation by the forgiveness of their sins. **R**

In the tender compassion of our God the dawn from on high shall break upon us, to shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death, and to guide our feet into the way of peace. **R**

Glory to God, Source of all being, eternal Word and Holy Spirit:

**as it was in the beginning, is now and will be for ever. Amen**

**Second Reading** – Philippians 1:3-11

I thank my God every time I remember you, -constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, -because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now. -I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ. -It is right for me to think this way about all of you, because you hold me in your heart, for all of you share in God's grace with me, both in my imprisonment and in the defence and confirmation of the gospel.

For God is my witness, how I long for all of you with the compassion of Christ Jesus. And this is my prayer, that your love may overflow more and more with knowledge and full insight -to help you to determine what is best, so that in the day of Christ you may be pure and blameless, having produced the harvest of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ for the glory and praise of God.

Listen to what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

**Thanks be to God**

**Gradual Hymn –CP 103 On Jordan’s Bank, the Baptist’s Cry**

**The Gospel** – Luke 3: 1-6

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.**

In the fifteenth year of the reign of Emperor Tiberius, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was ruler of Galilee, and his brother Philip ruler of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias ruler of Abilene, during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John’s son of Zechariah in the wilderness.

He went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, -as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah,

"The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.

Every valley shall be filled, and every mountain and hill shall be made low, and the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough ways made smooth; -and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.'"

The Gospel of Christ

**Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ**

**Homily:** *The Rev’d Philippa Segrave-Pride*

**The Apostles’ Creed**

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.**

**Prayers of the People**

**Confession and Absolution**

God is steadfast in love and infinite in mercy. God welcomes sinners and invites them to this table. Let us confess our sins confident in God’s forgiveness.

*Silence is kept.*

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.**

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. **Amen.**

**The Peace**

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

**And also with you.**

**The Celebration of the Eucharist**

**Offertory Hymn –** **CP#381 Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven**

**Prayer over the Gifts**

God our strength,

**we are nothing without you.**

**Receive all we offer you this day**

**as you sustain us with your mercy;**

**in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

**The Great Thanksgiving Eucharistic Prayer 3**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Blessed are you, gracious God,

creator of heaven and earth;

we give you thanks and praise

through Jesus Christ our Lord,

who in the fullness of time came among us in our flesh,

and opened to us the way of salvation.

Now we watch for the day when he will come again

in power and great triumph to judge this world,

that we, without shame or fear, may rejoice to behold his appearing.

Therefore we praise you,

joining our voices with angels and archangels

and with all the company of heaven,

who for ever sing this hymn

to proclaim the glory of your name.

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,**

**heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

We give thanks to you, Lord our God,

for the goodness and love

you have made known to us in creation;
in calling Israel to be your people;
in your Word spoken through the prophets;

and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus your Son.

For in these last days you sent him
to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary,
to be the Saviour and Redeemer of the world.

In him, you have delivered us from evil,
and made us worthy to stand before you.
In him, you have brought us
out of error into truth,
out of sin into righteousness,
out of death into life.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death,

a death he freely accepted,

our Lord Jesus Christ took bread;
and when he had given thanks to you,

he broke it, and gave it to his disciples,

and said, “ Take, eat: this is my body which is given for you.

Do this for the remembrance of me.”

After supper he took the cup of wine;

and when he had given thanks,
he gave it to them,
and said, “Drink this, all of you:

this is my blood of the new covenant,

which is shed for you and for many

for the forgiveness of sins.
Whenever you drink it,

do this for the remembrance of me.”

Therefore, Father, according to his command,

**we remember his death,
we proclaim his resurrection,**

**we await his coming in glory;**

and we offer our sacrifice

of praise and thanksgiving

to you, Lord of all;

presenting to you, from your creation,

this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God,

to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts,

that they may be the sacrament
of the body of Christ
and his blood of the new covenant.
Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice,
that we, made acceptable in him,
may be sanctified by the Holy Spirit.

In the fullness of time, reconcile all things in Christ,
and make them new,
and bring us to that city of light
where you dwell with all your sons and daughters;

through Jesus Christ our Lord,
the firstborn of all creation,
the head of the Church,
and the author of our salvation;

by whom, and with whom, and in whom,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all honour and glory are yours, almighty Father,

now and for ever.
**Amen.**

**The Lord’s Prayer**

Rejoicing in God’s new creation, let us pray as our Redeemer has taught us.

**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.**

**The Breaking of the Bread**

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ

**We, being many, are one body,**

**for we all share in the one bread.**

God of promise, you prepare a banquet for us in your kingdom.

**Happy are those who are called**

**to the supper of the Lamb.**

**The Communion**

The gifts of God for the people of God.

**Thanks be to God**

**Agnus Dei**

**O Lamb of God,**

**You take away the sins of the nations,**

**Have mercy on us.**

**O Lamb of God,**

**You take away the guilt of creation,**

**Have mercy on us.**

**O Lamb of God, I am not worthy,**

**Yet say one word that will heal my wounded spirit.**

**O Lamb of God,**

**You take away the sins of Your people,**

**O Grant us Your peace.**

*Please proceed to the altar for communion as directed, we ask that you sanitise your hands before receiving Communion.*

**Prayer after Communion**

Faithful God,

**we thank you for feeding us with this heavenly banquet.**

**Help us always to hear the prophet's call**

**to turn our hearts to you;**

**in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord. Amen**

**The Doxology**

Glory to God,

**whose power working in us**

**can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine.**

**Glory to God from generation to generation**

**in the church and in Christ Jesus**

**for ever and ever. Amen.**

**The Blessing with Birthday & Anniversary Candles**

*Do you have a birthday or Anniversary during December? If so, please do come forward to the altar to receive a candle and blessing. Then we sing…*

**May the blessing of God be upon you**

**The blessing of the Father and the Son,**

**And may the Spirit of God the Spirit of Love (Peace on 2nd X)**

**Be with you all your Days.**

**The Blessing**

Christ the Sun of Righteousness shine upon you,

scatter the darkness from before your path,

and make you ready to meet him when he comes in glory.

And the blessing of God Almighty,

the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit

be with you now, and always. **Amen**

**Sending Hymn** **–** **CP#106 There’s a Voice in the Wilderness**

**Dismissal**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Alleluia!

**Thanks be to God. Alleluia**

**Notices and Prayer List for the week beginning 5th December 2021**

To assist the office, please ensure that any items for the Notices are received

**before Noon on Thursday**.

**The flowers** on the altar this morning are given for the glory of God as we look forward to Christ’s coming.

**We pray for the whole Anglican Church of Canada –** we pray especially for our primate, Archbishop Linda Nichols and the staff of the Primate’s Office.

**Anglican Communion –** we pray for the Anglican Church of Burundi.

**In our Diocesan Cycle** - we pray for our Bishop, the Rt. Rev’d John Stephens. We also pray for: The Deanery of Kingsway – The Rev’d Wilmer Toyoken, Regional Dean.

We pray for our companion diocese of Northern Philippines. We pray for our own twinned parish of Holy Apostles, Abatan, and their priest, Father Joey Napat-a.

In all these prayers for the church near and far, we pray for the people and clergy and for the ministries flowing from these places into the communities.

**In our Parish Cycle we pray for:** the Chatterjea family, John & Sharron Owen Chretien and Pat Clegg. We pray for their work, ministry, and families here and away.

**Notices**

**Christmas Bazaar** Thank you to all who made our Christmas Bazaar such a success!

**Multicultural Carols and Lessons** - If you would like to take part, read a lesson in your first language, or any other language you speak, and/or sing a Christmas carol from your homeland, Please see one of the Wardens or Philippa to find out more.

**Prayer Requests to the Prayer Circle** – please be in touch with Judy Nicholson who will receive and forward your prayer requests to the prayer circle.  If you do not have her contact details, please send an email to the office email address and it will be passed on to her for distribution.

**Altar Flowers** – Please consider contributing to the cost of the Christmas Poinsettias that decorate our Church during Christmas week, and offer them in memory or thanksgiving.  Contact Heather Herd for details.  You may make your donation by cheque made out to St. Helen's Anglican Church and send it in the mail or leave it in the offering plate on a Sunday or by Interac e-Transfer. The email address to transfer electronically is: giving2sthelen@gmail.com

**Dates for Your Calendar**

Dec. 19th Carol Service

Dec. 24th 7pm and 11pm Christmas Eve service

Dec. 25th 10am Christmas Day service

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On Jordan’s Bank, the Baptist’s Cry: Public Domain

Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven: Public Domain

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord: adapt. Marcia Pruner, 1980 Church Pension Fund

Lord’s Prayer: SFAGP, 1987, W: International Committee on English ion the Liturgy, 1986

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**This Week’s Ministry Team**

**Officiant/Preacher**– The Rev’d Philippa Segrave-Pride

**Music –** Matthew Ma

**Crucifer/Server and Psalmist –** Maureen Thompson

**Prayers of the Community –** Cathy Anderson

**Readers –** Ian Mulcaster and Kelly Foulds

**Greeters –** Mary Patterson and Wendy Russell

**Livestream Tech –** Zoltan Barabas/ Simon Lee

**Altar Guild –** Lynn Turner and Jane Denton

**Fellowship Servers –** Wendy and Peter Russell

Next week’s Ministry Team

**Crucifer/Server and Psalmist –** Kelly Foulds

**Prayers of the Community –** Lynn Turner

**Readers –** Pat Clegg and Cynthia Richards

**Greeters –** Brownee Hamilton and Glenda Colquhoun

**Altar Guild –** Jane Denton and Brownee Hamilton

**Fellowship Servers –** Anne Nelitz, Lavina Howard and Cathy Anderson

**Contact Details for the Priest in Charge - The Rev’d Philippa Segrave-Pride**

If you would like to contact Philippa, her details are as follows:

**Email:** sainthelensrector@gmail.com

**Office Number:** 604 581 4800 **Mobile:** 778 838 3132

**Day Off:** usually Monday

**Parish Office email:** churchoffice@shawbiz.ca

**Phone Number:** 604 581 4800