

*Welcome to the Anglican Parish  
of St. Philip by-the-Sea*



*“Journeying together in God’s love”*

7113 Lantzville Road,  
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Interim Rector: The Reverend Heather Robinson  
office: 250 390-3641 (Office hours: W, Th., 9am-12:30)

**Sunday, December 12, 2021**  
**Third Sunday of Advent**

## **Gathering Hymn: SP 17    Glory and Praise to Our God**

### **Advent Candle Song:**

**Joy is a song that welcomes the dawn,  
telling the world that the Saviour is born.**

**When God is a child there's joy in our song.  
The last shall be first and the weak shall be strong,  
and none shall be afraid. (twice through)**

### **Collect of the Day**

God of power and mercy, you call us once again to celebrate the coming of your Son. Remove those things which hinder love of you, that when he comes, he may find us waiting in awe and wonder for him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

### **Old Testament:**

**Zephaniah 3:14-20**

Sing aloud, O daughter Zion;  
shout, O Israel!  
Rejoice and exult with all your heart,  
O daughter Jerusalem!  
The LORD has taken away the judgements against you,  
he has turned away your enemies.  
The king of Israel, the LORD, is in your midst;  
you shall fear disaster no more.  
On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem:  
Do not fear, O Zion;  
do not let your hands grow weak.  
The LORD, your God, is in your midst,  
a warrior who gives victory;

he will rejoice over you with gladness,  
he will renew you in his love;  
he will exult over you with loud singing  
as on a day of festival.  
I will remove disaster from you,  
so that you will not bear reproach for it.  
I will deal with all your oppressors  
at that time.  
And I will save the lame  
and gather the outcast,  
and I will change their shame into praise  
and renown in all the earth.  
At that time I will bring you home,  
at the time when I gather you;  
for I will make you renowned and praised  
among all the peoples of the earth,  
when I restore your fortunes  
before your eyes, says the LORD.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.  
**Thanks be to God.**

### **Canticle 3:            Song of Thanksgiving (Isaiah 12.2–6)**

Surely, it is God who saves me;  
**I will trust in him and not be afraid.**

For the Lord is my stronghold and my sure defence,  
**and he will be my Saviour.**

Therefore you shall draw water with rejoicing  
**from the springs of salvation.**

And on that day you shall say,  
**Give thanks to the Lord and call upon his name;**

make his deeds known among the peoples;  
**see that they remember that his name is exalted.**

Sing the praises of the Lord, for he has done great things,  
**and this is known in all the world.**

Cry aloud, inhabitants of Zion, ring out your joy,  
**for the great one in the midst of you is the Holy One of Israel.**

## **Epistle**

**Philippians 4:4-7**

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.  
**Thanks be to God.**

## **Gradual Hymn: CP 513**

**Guide My Feet**

## **Gospel:**

**Luke 3:7-18**

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

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

John said to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, 'You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruits worthy of repentance. Do not begin to say to yourselves, "We have Abraham as our ancestor"; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham.

Even now the axe is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.'

And the crowds asked him, 'What then should we do?' In reply he said to them, 'Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise.' Even tax-collectors came to be baptized, and they asked him, 'Teacher, what should we do?' He said to them, 'Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you.' Soldiers also asked him, 'And we, what should we do?' He said to them, 'Do not extort money from anyone by threats or false accusation, and be satisfied with your wages.'

As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, John answered all of them by saying, 'I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing-fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing-floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.'

So, with many other exhortations, he proclaimed the good news to the people.

The Gospel of Christ.

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

## **The Prayers of the People**

Let us pray.

God our holy and unshakeable creator, we seek your undergirding joy for the people of planet earth. Where there is conflict, terrorism and war, bless all those who work for peace and reconciliation.

**Holy Lord, bring your peace and joy.**

Where there is exploitation of the weak and the poor, bless those who work for emancipation.

**Holy Lord, bring your judgement and joy.**

Where there are refugee camps, prison compounds, and ethnic discrimination, bless those who work for justice and liberty.

**Holy Lord, bring your rescue and joy.**

Where there is addiction to drugs, alcohol and gambling, bless those who provide programmes for rehabilitation.

**Holy Lord, bring your healing and joy.**

Where there is hunger, malnutrition, disease, and despair, bless the agencies that bring compassion and practical help.

**Holy Lord, bring your hope and joy.**

Where there are the lonely, the suffering and the sorrowing, bless the merciful who are lovingly there for them.

**Holy Lord, bring your comfort and joy.**

Where the church is weak and struggling against big odds, bless all those sturdy souls who keep the faith and practice the love.

**Holy Lord, bring your abundant grace and joy.**

**Amen.**

## Offertory Hymn

CP 368                      **He Came Down That We May Have Love**

## Communion Hymns:

CP 619    **Fairest Lord Jesus**  
SB 69    **This is the Body of Christ**

## Recessional Hymn

CP 508    **I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say**

*In the Worldwide Anglican Communion, we pray for:* The Anglican Church of Canada

*In our Diocese of British Columbia, we pray for:* Anna, our bishop. Holy Trinity, North Saanich - Ian Powell. Diocese of Yukon - Bishop Lesley Wheeler-Dame.

*This week in our Parish Family of St. Philip by-the-Sea, we pray for* our interim priest, Heather Robinson. We pray for Rod Foggett, Nancy Gallagher, John Garenkooper and for all their families. We pray for peace and for all refugees around the world.

## **Advent Sundays at St. Philip-by-the Sea - 2021**

Love – Sunday, Dec 19th - PWRDF Sunday (The Primate's World Relief and Development Fund)

The funds collected will be donated towards items in the PWRDF's gift-giving catalogue by the Outreach Group, which includes Maureen Lawrence. Please make your cheque payable to St. Philip By-The-Sea and make a note in the memo line that it is to go to the "PWRDF" for this collection. Or, go online shopping in the PWRDF "world of gifts" catalogue from the comfort of your own home and show your love to others. You can access the catalogue and information about their Advent reflections by going to their website: <https://pwrdf.org>

