**December 12th, 2021 – Third 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 101 Hail to the Lord’s Anointed**

**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**

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.**

**The Lighting of the Advent Wreath**

God our Father,

you gave to Zechariah and Elizabeth in their old age

a son called John.

He grew up strong in spirit,

prepared the people for the coming of the Lord,

and baptized them in the Jordan to wash away their sins.

Help us, who have been baptized into Christ,

to be ready to welcome him into our hearts,

and to grow strong in faith by the power of the Spirit.

We ask this through Jesus Christ,

the light who is coming into the world.

**Amen.**

*Two Blue and the Pink Candle are Lit*

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

**John told the people to prepare,**

**for you were very near.**

**As Christmas grows closer day by day,**

**help us to be ready to welcome you now.**

**Amen.**

People of God: return!

You are called to be God’s own.

From the mountains announce the good news.

God comes in justice and peace,

to all who follow his ways.

You are God’s children.

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

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

**The Proclamation of the Word**

**First Reading** – 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.

Listen to what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

**Thanks be to God**

**Canticle 3**

**REFRAIN Ring out your joy, for the Holy One of Israel is in your midst.**

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. **R**

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. **R**

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. **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 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.

Listen to what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

**Thanks be to God**

**Gradual Hymn –CP 98 Hark the Glad Sound! The Saviour Comes**

**The Gospel** – Luke 3:7-18

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.**

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 ax 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**

**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#379 Rejoice, the Lord is King**

**Prayer over the Gifts**

God of hope,

**renew in us the joy of your salvation**

**and make us a living sacrifice to you,**

**for the sake 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.

**All 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**

Merciful God,

**may this eucharist free us from our sins,**

**fill us with unending joy,**

**and prepare us for the birthday of our Saviour.**

**We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ,**

**who is Lord now and for ever. 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**

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#108 Hark, a Herald Voice Is Sounding**

**Dismissal**

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

**Thanks be to God. Alleluia**

**Notices and Prayer List for the week beginning 12th December 2021**

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

**before Noon on Thursday**.

**The greenery** at the altar this morning are given for the glory of God by Jacquie Stinson in memory of Richard Stinson, a wonderful husband, as well as father & grandfather of the Stinson and Alam family.

**We pray for the whole Anglican Church of Canada –** we pray especially for our primate, Archbishop Linda Nichols. We pray also for The Venerable Alan Perry, General Secretary, and the staff of the General Secretary’s Office; Melanie Delva, Reconciliation Animator; Dawn Maracle, Animator, Indigenous Justice – Interim

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

**In our Diocesan Cycle** - we pray for our Bishop, the Rt. Rev’d John Stephens. We also pray for: the Deanery of Royal City/South Burnaby – The Rev’d Greg Jenkins, Regional Dean; and the Deanery of Point Grey – The Rev’d Christine Rowe, 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:** Jo Codling, Glenda & Joe Colquhoun and Dickson & Vynita Daniel. We pray for their work, ministry, and families here and away.

**Notices**

**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 7:30pm Carol Service

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

Dec. 25th 10am Christmas Day service

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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

Hark, a Herald Voice Is Sounding: Public Domain

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**This Week’s Ministry Team**

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

**Music –** Matthew Ma

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

**Prayers of the Community –** Lynn Turner

**Readers –** Pat Clegg and Cynthia Richards

**Greeters –** Brownee Hamilton and Glenda Colquhoun

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

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

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

Next week’s Ministry Team

**Crucifer –** Alex Mason

**Psalmist and Prayers of the Community –** Cathy Anderson

**Readers –** Mareen and Roshan Mathew

**Greeters –** Jacquie Stinson and Pat Clegg

**Altar Guild –** Josie Francis, Heather Herd and Kelly Foulds

**Fellowship Servers –** Josie & Roy Francis and Caroline Fennings

**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