**December 26th, 2021 – Christmas 1**

**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#123 Once in Royal David’s City**

**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.**

**Hymn of Praise – CP#135 Shepherds in the Field Abiding**

**The Collect**

Almighty God,

**you have shed upon us the new light**

**of your incarnate Word.**

**May this light, enkindled in our hearts,**

**shine forth in our lives;**

**through Jesus Christ our Lord,**

**who lives and reigns with you,**

**in the unity of the Holy Spirit,**

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

**The Proclamation of the Word**

**First Reading** – 1 Samuel 2:18-20, 26

Samuel was ministering before the Lord, a boy wearing a linen ephod. His mother used to make for him a little robe and take it to him each year, when she went up with her husband to offer the yearly sacrifice. Then Eli would bless Elkanah and his wife, and say, "May the Lord repay you with children by this woman for the gift that she made to the Lord"; and then they would return to their home.

Now the boy Samuel continued to grow both in stature and in favour with the Lord and with the people.

Listen to what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

**Thanks be to God**

**Psalm 148: 7-14**

7 Praise the Lord from the earth,

**you sea-monsters and all deeps;**

 8 Fire and hail, snow and fog,

**tempestuous wind, doing his will;**

9 Mountains and all hills,

**fruit trees and all cedars;**

10 Wild beasts and all cattle,

**creeping things and wingèd birds;**

11 Kings of the earth and all peoples,

**princes and all rulers of the world;**

12 Young men and maidens,

**old and young together.**

13 Let them praise the name of the Lord,

**for his name only is exalted, his splendour is over earth and heaven.**

14 He has raised up strength for his peopleand praise for all his loyal servants,

**the children of Israel, a people who are near him. Hallelujah!**

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** - Colossians 3:12-17

As God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. Bear with one another and, if anyone has a complaint against another, forgive each other; just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body. And be thankful.

Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; teach and admonish one another in all wisdom; and with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God. And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

Listen to what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

**Thanks be to God**

**Gradual Hymn –CP 126 Away in a Manger**

**The Gospel** – Luke 2: 41-52

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.**

Now every year his parents went to Jerusalem for the festival of the Passover. And when he was twelve years old, they went up as usual for the festival. When the festival was ended and they started to return, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem, but his parents did not know it. Assuming that he was in the group of travellers, they went a day's journey. Then they started to look for him among their relatives and friends. When they did not find him, they returned to Jerusalem to search for him. After three days they found him in the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. And all who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers. When his parents saw him they were astonished; and his mother said to him, "Child, why have you treated us like this? Look, your father and I have been searching for you in great anxiety." He said to them, "Why were you searching for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?"

But they did not understand what he said to them. Then he went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was obedient to them. His mother treasured all these things in her heart.

And Jesus increased in wisdom and in years, and in divine and human favour.

The Gospel of Christ

**Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ**

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

**The Nicene Creed**

Let us confess our faith, as we say,

**We believe in one God,**

**the Father, the Almighty,**

**maker of heaven and earth,**

**of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,**

**the only Son of God,**

**eternally begotten of the Father,**

**God from God, Light from Light,**

**true God from true God,**

**begotten, not made,**

**of one being with the Father.**

**Through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation**

**he came down from heaven:**

**by the power of the Holy Spirit**

**he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,**

**and was made man.**

**For our sake he was crucified**

**under Pontius Pilate;**

**he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again**

**in accordance with the scriptures;**

**he ascended into heaven**

**and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again in glory**

**to judge the living and the dead,**

**and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit,**

**the Lord, the giver of life,**

**who proceeds from the Father.**

**With the Father and the Son**

**he is worshipped and glorified.**

**He has spoken through the prophets.**

**We believe in one holy catholic**

**and apostolic Church.**

**We acknowledge one baptism**

**for the forgiveness of sins.**

**We look for the resurrection of the dead,**

**and the life of the world to come. 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#122 In the Bleak Midwinter**

**Prayer over the Gifts**

God of light,

**in the birth of your Son we see your glory.**

**May we who share in this mystery grow daily in your love.**

**This we ask 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,

because in the mystery of the Word made flesh

you have caused a new light to shine in our hearts,

to give knowledge of salvation

in the face of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

Now with angels and archangels

and the whole company of heaven,

we lift our voices

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.**

**The Communion**

The gifts of God for the people of God.

**Thanks be to God**

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

**Prayer after Communion**

Source of truth and joy,

**may we who have received the gift of divine life**

**always follow the way of your Son.**

**This we ask 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**

The peace of God

which passes all understanding,

keep your hearts and minds

in the knowledge and love of God and of our Lord Jesus Christ.

And the blessing of God Almighty,

the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit

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

**Sending Hymn** **–** **CP#145** **Good King Wenceslas**

**Dismissal**

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

**Thanks be to God. Alleluia**

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**Notices and Prayer List for the week beginning 26th December 2021**

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

**before Noon on Thursday**.

**The flowers** in church today are given in celebration of the nativity of our Lord. We are grateful for all the donations received.

**We pray for the whole Anglican Church of Canada –** we pray especially for our primate, Archbishop Linda Nichols. We pray also for Director Joe Vecsi and the staff of Communications and Information Resources; Treasurer and Chief Financial Officer Amal Attia; and the staff of Financial Management and Administration.

**Anglican Communion –** we pray for the Iglesia Anglicana de la Region Central de America.

**In our Diocesan Cycle** - we pray for our Bishop, the Rt. Rev’d John Stephens. We also pray for: St. John the Evangelist, North Vancouver - The Rev’d Patrick Blaney; St. Stephen the Martyr, Burnaby - The Rev’d Ruth Monette and St. Stephen, West Vancouver - The Rev’d Ken Vinal.

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:** Mae Ellis, Boima & Mildred Fahnbulleh and Caroline Fennings. We pray for their work, ministry, and families here and away.

**Notices**

**Thank you to the ministry teams who contributed our worship over Christmas.**

**Your support is very much appreciated.**

**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 providing for the flowers placed on the Altar to the glory of God, in celebration, in thanksgiving, or in memory of loved ones.  The cost is usually in the $40 - $50 range. 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

**This Week’s Ministry Team**

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

**Music –** Matthew Ma

**Crucifer/Server and Psalmist** – Wendy Russell

**Prayers of the Community** – Lynn Turner

**Readers –** Angelita Sotana and Kelly Foulds

**Greeters –** Christine and Simon Lee

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

**Altar Guild –** Judy Glanville and Carol Young

Next week’s Ministry Team

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

**Prayers of the Community –** Cathy Anderson

**Readers –** Matthew Ma and Kelly Foulds

**Greeters –** Cynthia and Anil Richards

**Altar Guild –** Joan Hnedish, Lynn Turner and Jane Denton

**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