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*The Right Rev. Anna Greenwood-Lee, Bishop*

*The Rev. Ingrid Andersen, Priest*

***"Together in Christ  
we seek to love God and  
to love and serve all others"***

**Third Sunday of Advent**

**Gaudete Sunday**

**December 11, 2022**



**Sunday Services** are at 8:30 a.m. (Traditional Rite)

10:00 a.m. (Contemporary)

**Office Hours** are Mon to Thurs, 9:00 – Noon; Closed Friday

**Midweek Prayer Service** Wednesdays at 10:00 a.m. (Chapel)

**Online Bible Study & Discussion** Thursdays at 10:00 a.m.

## **WELCOME TO CHURCH OF THE ADVENT**

*If you are a newcomer, please identify yourself to the sidespersons or priest so we can welcome you and help you to enjoy the service.*

*We recognize that we worship on the traditional lands of Coast Salish peoples. We commit ourselves to continue with our First Nations neighbours on the journey of healing, truth, and reconciliation.*

*Reverend Ingrid Andersen preaches & presides.*

*This service is being broadcast live on the Internet.*

*By attending this morning, you acknowledge and consent to the fact that video images of you may appear there.*

**10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist  
Book of Alternative Services, p. 185**

*Lay Eucharistic Minister is Mike Armstrong  
Sidespeople are Pat Graham & Tony Quinton  
Director of Music is Nell Howard*

### **THE GATHERING OF THE COMMUNITY**

Leader: As we meet today, we begin by remembering the Songhees and Esquimalt nations, on whose traditional land we now gather in gratitude. We acknowledge their story and their stewardship of the land and water, the plants, and animals, through the many generations.

As we meet today, we remember those who have called this place their home in recent years—the community of faith known as Church of the Advent. Let us greet one another with words and signs of welcome.

#### **Introit: Come Thou Long Expected Jesus**

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*Sung by Linda & Bill Van Sickle*

**Sentence of the Day:** The Spirit of the Lord God is upon me, because the Lord has anointed me to bring good tidings to the afflicted.

#### **Opening Hymn: CP 362 Tell Out My Soul**

#### **Lighting of the Advent Wreath: Where the Promise Shines**

(A Candle Lighting Ceremony for Advent Words by Sylvia G. Dunstan Music by Bob Moore, Setting by Joel Raney)

## Third Sunday of Advent - The Promise of Joy

Led by Dayle Robertson & Bev Somers

Advent is a time for God's people to reawaken their longings.

**Sorrow may last for a night, but joy comes in the morning.**

In the darkness, we long to see the light.

**Sorrow may last for a night, but joy comes in the morning.**

In the silence, we long for a comforting word.

**Sorrow may last for a night, but joy comes in the morning.**

In hardship, we long for an act of love.

**Sorrow may last for a night, but joy comes in the morning.**

In Christ, we celebrate and rejoice in the promise of joy.

**Sorrow may last for a night, but joy comes in the morning.**

### Candle Lighting:

*(Advent candles lit by the Glanfield family)*

Today we light three candles. The **first candle** radiates the hope given through Jesus Christ. The **second candle** calls us to embrace and extend Christ's peace to an unsettled world. The **third candle** extends the promise of joy to restless souls. Though darkness is present and earthly trials weigh heavy, the promise of Advent offers true joy that sustains a weary people.

### Sung:

**Lead us on, lead us on – to a morning where the promise shines.**

**Lead us on, lead us on – to a morning where the promise shines.**

**To a morning where the promise shines.**

**Closing Prayer: Gracious Lord, our joy is found in you, for not only did you enter into this world, but you became the hope of the world. From the cradle to the cross, you invite us to share in your victory. This is the fountain from which our joy flows. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,

And the love of God,

And the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,

Be with you all.

**And also with you.**

**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.**

## THE STORY OF FAITH IS PROCLAIMED

### Chat @ the Chancel:

#### **Hymn: MV 183 I'm Gonna Shout, Shout, Shout**

© 1998 by Bruce Harding

I'm gonna shout, shout, shout out my love for Jesus, for Jesus.  
I'm gonna shout, shout, shout out my love for God's most holy Child!  
For whatever I might do today, at home, at school, at work, at play,  
I've got Jesus' love deep down inside of me!

I'm gonna raise, raise, raise up my hands for Jesus, for Jesus.  
I'm gonna raise, raise, raise up my hands for God's most holy Child!  
For whatever I might do today, at home, at school, at work, at play,  
I've got Jesus' love deep down inside of me!

I'm gonna dance, dance, dance all around for Jesus, for Jesus.  
I'm gonna dance, dance, dance all around for God's most holy Child!  
For whatever I might do today, at home, at school, at work, at play,  
I've got Jesus' love deep down inside of me!

#### **First Reading:** Isaiah 35:1-10

*Barb Gossman*

The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad, the desert shall rejoice and blossom; like the crocus it shall blossom abundantly, and rejoice with joy and singing. The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it, the majesty of Carmel and Sharon. They shall see the glory of the Lord, the majesty of our God. Strengthen the weak hands, and make firm the feeble knees. Say to those who are of a fearful heart, "Be strong, do not fear! Here is your God. He will come with vengeance, with terrible recompense. He will come and save you." Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped; then the lame shall leap like a deer, and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy. For waters shall break forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert; the burning sand shall become a pool, and the thirsty ground springs of water; the haunt of jackals shall become a swamp, the grass shall become reeds and rushes. A highway shall be there, and it shall be called the Holy Way; the unclean shall not travel on it, but it shall be for God's people; no traveller, not even fools, shall go astray. No lion shall be there, nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it; they shall not be found there, but the redeemed shall walk there. And the ransomed of the Lord shall return, and come to Zion with singing; everlasting joy shall be upon their heads; they shall obtain joy

and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

For the Word of God in scripture,  
For the Word of God among us,  
For the Word of God within us,  
**Thanks be to God.**

**Canticle 18a:** Luke 1:46-55 (BAS Pg. 86)

*Mike Armstrong*

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord, my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour;  
**\* for he has looked with favour on his lowly servant.**

From this day all generations will call me blessed: **\* the Almighty has done great things for me, and holy is his name.**

He has mercy on those who fear him **\* in every generation.**

He has shown the strength of his arm, **\* he has scattered the proud in their conceit.**

He has cast down the mighty from their thrones, **\* and has lifted up the lowly.**

He has filled the hungry with good things, **\* and the rich he has sent away empty.**

He has come to the help of his servant Israel, **\* for he has remembered his promise of mercy,**

The promise he made to our fathers, **\* to Abraham and his children for ever.**

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.

**Second Reading:** James 5:7-10

*Dayle Robertson*

Be patient, therefore, beloved, until the coming of the Lord. The farmer waits for the precious crop from the earth, being patient with it until it receives the early and the late rains. You also must be patient. Strengthen your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is near. Beloved, do not grumble against one another, so that you may not be judged. See, the Judge is standing at the doors! As an example of suffering and patience, beloved, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord.

For the Word of God in scripture,  
For the Word of God among us,  
For the Word of God within us,  
**Thanks be to God.**

*(Please stand if you are able)*

**Gospel Hymn: VU 578 As A Fire is Meant For Burning**

© 1992, GIA Publications (Ruth Duck)

As a fire is meant for burning with a bright and warming flame,  
so the church is meant for mission, giving glory to God's name.  
Not to preach our creeds or customs, but to build a bridge of care,  
we join hands across the nations, finding neighbours everywhere.

We are learners; we are teachers; we are pilgrims on the way.  
We are seekers; we are givers; we are vessels made of clay.  
By our gentle, loving actions, we would show that Christ is light.  
In a humble, listening Spirit, we would live to God's delight.

As a green bud in the springtime is the sign of life renewed,  
so may we be signs of oneness 'mid earth's peoples, many hued.  
As a rainbow lights the heavens when a storm is past and gone,  
may our lives reflect the radiance of God's new and glorious dawn.

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

**Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ.**

**Gospel Reading:** Matthew 11:2-11

*Rev. Ingrid Andersen*

When John heard in prison what the Messiah was doing, he sent word by his disciples and said to him, "Are you the one who is to come, or are we to wait for another?" Jesus answered them, "Go and tell John what you hear and see: the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have good news brought to them. And blessed is anyone who takes no offence at me." As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds about John: "What did you go out into the wilderness to look at? A reed shaken by the wind? What then did you go out to see? Someone dressed in soft robes? Look, those who wear soft robes are in royal palaces. What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. This is the

one about whom it is written, 'See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way before you.' Truly I tell you, among those born of women no one has arisen greater than John the Baptist; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he."

The Gospel of Christ.

**Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.**

(Please be seated after the reading)

**Sermon:** Rev. Ingrid Andersen

(Please stand if you are able)

**The Creed:** (Adapted from Shore to Shore)

We believe that Jesus took the form of a servant, so we commit ourselves to serve others.

We believe that God is love, so we commit ourselves to reconciliation.

We believe that Jesus gives us the Spirit, so we commit ourselves to her work in the world.

We believe that God is the light of life, so we commit ourselves to bearing God's light to this world.

We believe that the Holy Spirit speaks through us, so we commit ourselves to proclaim the good news of God's gift of abundant life for all, in the world that God loves. Amen.

### RESPONDING TO THE WORD

**Prayers of the People:**

*Mike Armstrong*

(Please be seated for the prayers)

Each petition will end with: **Come Lord Jesus**

Please respond with: **Hear Our Prayer**

**Confession & Absolution:**

Dear friends in Christ, God is steadfast in love and infinite in mercy; welcoming of sinners and inviting us to table. Let us confess our sins, confident in God's forgiveness.

Holy and gracious One, **forgive our sins. The ones we can remember, and those we have forgotten. Forgive the wrong actions we have committed, and the right**

**actions we have avoided. Forgive the times we have been weak, unkind or judgmental and failed to live out your kingdom call to justice and love. Forgive the lies we have told, the truths we have avoided and the pain we have caused others. Creator of all, have mercy on us, and make us whole. Amen.**

*(Early Irish, adapted from A Celtic Primer p. 95)*

May Almighty God, who in Jesus Christ has given us a kingdom that cannot be destroyed, forgive you your sins, open your eyes to God's truth, strengthen you to do God's will and give you the joy of his kingdom, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*(From New Patterns for Worship Church of England)*

**The Peace: (Please stand if you are able for the Peace)**

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

**And also with you!**

**THE SACRED MEAL IS SHARED**

**Offertory Hymn: VU 16 Mary, Woman of Promise**

© 1994 Selah Publishing Co.

Mary, woman of the promise, bearer of your people's dreams,  
through your open, willing spirit waters of God's goodness streamed.

Mary, song of holy wisdom, sung before the world began,  
faithful to the Word within, you carried out God's wondrous plan.

Mary, morning star of justice; mirror of the Radiant Light,  
in the shadows of life's journey, be a beacon for our sight.

Mary, model of compassion, wounded by your offspring's pain,  
when our hearts are torn by sorrow, teach us how to love again.

Mary, woman of the Gospel; precious home for treasured seed,  
help us to be true disciples bearing fruit in word and deed.

**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.**

**Eucharistic Prayer #3:** BAS Pg. 198  
(From "Mass of Comfort and Joy" by David Haas)

**Holy, Holy, Holy:** (*sung*)

**Lord's Prayer:** (*sung*)

(By David Haas)

**The Breaking of the Bread:** BAS Pg. 212 (#5)

*All are welcome to join us at the Lord's Table. If you prefer not to receive communion but prefer to receive a blessing, please cross your arms over your chest. Gluten-free bread is available upon request.*

**The Communion:**

**Communion Anthem:** G 417 Warm the Time of Winter

*Sung by Kathy Middleton & Dayle Robertson*

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*(Please stand if you are able for the Prayer after 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.

**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.

**SENDING FORTH**

**Blessing:** (*Please stand if you are able*)

The peace of God, which passes all understanding,  
keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God,  
and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord;  
and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,  
be amongst you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

**Shared Ministry:**

## Birthdays & Anniversaries:

### Commissioning Hymn: CP 91 People Look East

#### Commissioning:

Go in the peace of Christ to love and serve the Lord.

**Thanks be to God!**

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### ***INTERCESSIONS***

#### **TODAY WE PRAY**

*Pray for The Anglican Church of Kenya.*

*Pray for Barry our Executive Archdeacon, Anna our Bishop,  
& Ingrid our Priest.*

*Pray for Holy Trinity (North Saanich), & Diocese of Yukon.*

*In the Western, Peninsula & Gulf Islands Region for Church of the Advent.*

#### **FOR THOSE WHO HAVE ASKED US TO PRAY FOR THEM**

*Christopher, Mark, Dianne, Bill, Greg, Barbra, Charlotte, Bill, Bernie, Colleen, Neil,  
Aila, Greg, Caleb, Bonnie, Jim, Margret, Kate, & Cheryl.*

*The patients & staff of the Priory.*

*We pray for all those mourning the loss of loved ones.*

*We also pray for those we remember in the quiet of our own hearts.*

## MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Dec 13, 14, 15 – Rev. Ingrid away on Retreat  
Dec 13 – What-Sew-Ever, Main Hall, 10 am  
Dec 15 – Online Bible Study, Zoom, 10 am  
Dec 18 - Fourth Sunday of Advent & PAGEANT SUNDAY  
Dec 24 – Christmas Carols from 6:30 - 7 pm & 9:30 – 10 pm  
    7 pm Christmas Eve Service & 10 pm Christmas Eve Service  
Dec 25 - Online Christmas Service, 8:30 am (Zoom link – see newsletter)  
Dec 26 – Jan 7 – Rev. Ingrid away  
Jan 1 – 9:30 am Nine Lessons and Carols (Note: combined service)  
Coming Soon.....  
Mar 5 – Police Chorus Concert 2023

## ***SHARED MINISTRY***

### Police Chorus Concert – March 5<sup>th</sup>, 2023

The Church of the Advent is pleased to welcome back and present ***The Greater Victoria Police Chorus*** in concert on March 5th, 2023!

Tickets are now available for purchase at \$25.00 each through the church office. They make great Christmas stocking stuffers and gifts!

### ALREADY? Yes, it's that time of year!

As you have noticed, our little brown envelopes for flowers are here again. As you may or may not be aware, your Altar Guild receives no money for flowers except from YOU, our wonderful parishioners. We ask for your support in purchasing flowers for Christmas. We also know at this time of year, most of us are short on cash. We are asking only for a small contribution of whatever you have in your pockets! Please help us with this special ministry. **Thank you so much.**

**-Your Altar Guild**

### Christmas Morning Service

We will have an online Christmas Morning Service for anyone who wishes to join us. Christmas day is a Sunday. The service is from 8:30 to 9:15 am via Zoom. Please check the weekly newsletter for the Zoom link or contact Caroline in the office.