



Order of Service for December 11, 2022
The Third Sunday of Advent
Gaudete Sunday
Service of Holy Eucharist
9:30 am
Officiating: The Rev'd Fergus Tyson
Preaching: The Rev'd Dr. Bob Mummery



Leap for Joy

For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leaped for joy.

Luke 1:44

Jesus always promises joy. ... Joy is a free leaping toward the unexpected, a lifting up of what is new, a reaching out to heaven in hope, a touching of the Kingdom, an expectant tiptoeing.

(Henri J.M. Nouwen, *Peacework*, 79-80)

The Third Sunday of Advent is a day of joy. Today is traditionally known as Gaudete (Latin for “joy”) Sunday. We light the pink- or rose-coloured candle on our Advent wreaths as a sign that we are closer to our goal: the celebration of the birth of Christ.

Jesus is our joy—not because he solves all of our problems or eradicates everything that pains our world—but because he joins us here and then promises to be with us always. With joy we reach with him toward heaven, we touch God’s kingdom, we leap toward the unexpected and extraordinary.

Today is a joyful day. Jesus is coming soon!

Lord Jesus Christ, you are the source of our joy. As an infant, you reminded us that God is gentle and loves what is small. As a man on this earth, you reminded us that God is calling us to follow you, no matter what the cost. Help us to be small, help us to follow. This is our joy. Amen.



Service of Holy Eucharist

The Gathering of the Community

Pre-Service Music: Red Songbook (RSB) #312 Therefore the Redeemed (Please join in this time of worship, as we prepare for the Service.)

Welcome and Opening Prayer

Opening Hymn: Common Praise (Blue Book—CP) #88 Come Thou Long Expected Jesus (screens)

Greeting: BAS (Green Book), p. 185 (screens)

Collect for Purity (screens)

Collect of the Day (screens)

Children's Time (Advent Candle Lighting)

Prayer for the Advent Wreath (screens)

The Proclamation of the Word

The First Reading

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. ISAIAH 35:1-10

Reader: The word of the Lord.

People: *Thanks be to God.*

Canticle 18a p. 86 (screens)

The Second Reading

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.

JAMES 5:7-10

Reader: The word of the Lord.

People: *Thanks be to God.*

Gradual Hymn: CP # 91 People, Look East! The Time is Near (screens)

The Holy Gospel

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: *And also with you.*

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

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

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."

MATTHEW 11:2-11

Leader: The Gospel of Christ.

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

Sermon

The Apostles' Creed (screens)

The Prayers of the People

We Rejoice in God's Blessings (screens)

We Share God's Concern for the World (screens)

Confession and Absolution (screens)

The Peace (screens)

The Celebration of the Eucharist

Offertory (screens); Choir Anthem: The Holy One of Israel

Prayer over the Gifts (screens)

Eucharistic Prayer 3: p. 198 (screens)

Proper Preface for Advent: p. 219 (screens)

The Lord's Prayer, Form 1: p. 211 (screens) (sung)

The Breaking of the Bread, Form 5: p. 212 (screens)

The Communion (You're invited to partake.)

Communion Hymns: CP # 94 Wait for the Lord;
RSB #352 Worthy is the Lamb; CP # 132 Of Eternal Love
Begotten (screens)

Hymn after Communion (Please stand.): RSB # 86 Give Thanks
(screens)

Prayer after Communion (screens)

The Blessing (screens)

Announcements (screens)

Closing Hymn: CP #312 Sing a New Song Unto the Lord
(screens)

Sending (screens)

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You're invited to join us for Coffee, right after the Service, in-person in the Hall; and/or at 11:45, online via Zoom. Here's the Zoom link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87399496922?pwd=eWxvZDdTYUVuNjZdUZ4MjFHWFdQdz09>. We'd love to share these times of fellowship with you!

Reserved Sacrament can be picked up from the Office on Tuesday to Thursday from 9 am to noon. If you are not partaking during the Service, a written copy of the "Prayer for Communion" is available on our website in the same location as this Order of Service.

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Traditional Land Acknowledgement

Creator, you made all people of every land. In the spirit of respect and truth, we honour the traditional Treaty 7 territory of the Blackfoot Confederacy, including the Siksika, Kainai, and Piikani Nations, the Stoney Nakoda, including the Chiniki, Bearspaw, and Wesley Nations, and the Tsuu T'ina Nation. We acknowledge the Métis Nation of Alberta, Region Three. In the spirit of reconciliation and because we are all treaty people, we also acknowledge all people who make their homes in the traditional Treaty 7 territory of Southern Alberta.



Prayers for this Week

(bold italics indicate new or special emphasis this week)

In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer we pray for ***the Anglican Church of Kenya*** .

In the Anglican-Lutheran Prayer Cycle: In the Anglican Church we pray 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;*** and in the Lutheran Church we pray for ***Trina Gallop Blank, Assistant to the National Bishop, Communications and Resource Generation, and the staff of Communications; Kyle Giesbrecht, Director of Finance and Administration, and the staff of Finance and Administration.***

In our Diocesan Cycle, we pray for the people of the parishes of ***Holy Trinity, Rocky Mountain House and St. Cuthbert & St. George, Sundre*** and for their ***lay ministers, Gerald Ingeveld and John Gishler (hon.)***. We also pray for the ***Bishop, Archdeacons and Regional Deans (BARDS)***.

We lift to you our friends, in our Companion Diocese, the Windward Islands.

In our Parish Cycle, we pray today for ***Rick and Robbie; Susan, James and Lauren; Steve and Cec; Gaetanne, Stacy, Freddie and Jonathan;*** We remember our clergy, Fergus, Cyril, Norman, Bob, Betty and their families.

We pray for our foster child Desta Keweti.

Heavenly Father, giver of life and health, comfort and strengthen those of our parish who are sick, injured or distressed, and those approaching or recovering from surgery, especially we lift up to you ***the family of Joy (Abby's sister); Herb & the family of Debbie;*** Antony; Judy; ***Roger and Helen (parents of Paul); Dinah; Bill; the family of John;*** Debra, Lori and family of Josie; Crystal (niece of Rosemarie); ***Bill & Pat; Sean, Shannon, & Steve;*** the family of Bob; ***the family of Carmen and Sonny; Shelly;*** John; ***the family of Bonnie; Gerald; Brian; Gerald and Louise (Shannon's father and mother); Megan and family, Molly*** (mother of Sian); ***the family of Anne; Stephen; Dwight (Dorothy-Ann's cousin); Chris; Jo;*** the family of Brenda (relative of the Collers); ***the family of Joan (mother of Richard); Tracy; Roxie and the family of Andy; Robert; Janet; Irma & Cyril; Julia; Vern (brother-in-law of Rick); the Herritt family; Gina; Gael; Verna and her family; Michael; Barb;*** Jen; ***the family of Leslie; Patrick;*** the family of Tom; ***Sandra; Jordan; the family of Lene; the family of Helen;*** Eleanor; ***Jackie K. (sister of Pauline); Dorothy;*** the family of ***Mauricia (mother of Ella);*** Max & Rebecca; ***Anne; Dozy & Obie & family; Karla;*** the family of ***Kathy; Kevin;*** Richard (friend of Anne); ***Terry; Jerrod; Melissa and her family (friends of Jenn);*** Dennis; ***Mike;*** the family of ***Val; Alyssa (granddaughter of Betty), Martin; Chinazor; Sheila;*** the family of ***Linda; Melissa and her family; Adrianna;*** Peggy; ***Bob and Joanne; Laura (sister of Kim); the family of Douglas; Michelle;*** the family of ***Ian;*** Pat; Christine; ***Rick (brother of Sheila); Gwen; Jacquie;*** the family of ***Gwendoline; Jackie (cousin of Julie); Ellen; Pauline; Tucker (M'Laurel & Scott's child);*** Monika (mother of Dennis); ***Kathy (daughter of Bob & Joanne); King Charles & all the Royal Family; Trudy (cousin of Iona); Veronica (sister Of Cec); Len; Andrea and Andrew's family; Margaret; Ken;*** Marlene; ***the family of James (father of Allison); the family of Ginny; and Cindee (sister of Rick Coller).***

We pray for containment of COVID-19 worldwide; actions guided by the safety of others; protection for all those on the front lines or especially vulnerable to its effects, in particular all who are homeless; and full restoration of health for all those who are ill. We also pray especially that our healthcare workers and healthcare system will not be overwhelmed by the number of cases of the virus. And we pray especially for all in our Parish who are sick with this virus. Please enable us to support them in any way they need.

We pray for all those whose lives have been thrown in turmoil by storms, floods, fires, famine, or other climate disasters. We remember all who are struggling economically. Please help us all to stand together in hard times.

We pray for the Indigenous Peoples of this land. We give thanks for the immeasurable privilege of sharing the journey of life together.

We pray for forgiveness for the terrible harm inflicted by Residential Schools, and for the racism that still infects our hearts and is an open wound in our country; for an end to all forms of prejudice and bigotry; for justice; for reconciliation, and new paths forward that respect and honour all of God's precious children.

We pray for peace and justice in our own country and throughout the world. We remember the people of Ukraine, the Holy Land, USA, Nigeria, and all whose lives have been torn apart by violence. We pray for safe haven for the over 80 million people in the world whom violence has forced to flee their homes. We stand in solidarity with all whose lives have been devastated by human evil, and all seeking to make the world as it ought to be. We pray for protection and guidance for all in law enforcement or our military in danger at home or overseas. May your Holy Spirit guide world leaders to seek just resolutions to all conflicts, that all people may come to know your peace that passes all understanding and war be no more.

We thank you for your healing touch, which sustains us every day; and for all the many healings that have taken place in our parish; and your unending mercy as you hear our prayers.



The flowers on the Altar are given to the Glory of God