



GLADWIN HEIGHTS UNITED CHURCH  
3474 Gladwin Road Abbotsford BC V2S 7B4  
Phone: 604.852.3984 Email: ghuc@shaw.ca  
www.gladwinheightsunitedchurch.org



## December 3, 2023 Monthly Announcements



**Minister:** Rev. Tim Bowman  
**Song Leader:** Deborah Handley  
**Pianist:** Jacob Greenan  
**Office Administrator:** Angela Darychuk

**Welcome to our joint Advent 1 service with All Saints Anglicans and St Andrew's. We look forward to seeing you all this Sunday! Worship is at 10:00 am. Coffee Time follows. Worship will be at 33077 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue. Note** – there will not be a service at Gladwin this day.

**Inclement Weather** In the event of inclement weather please check our website, facebook page or contact our office for updated Event and Service information.

## Hymns for November 26, 2023

MV 4 - "All Who Are Thirsty"  
VU 600 - "When I Needed a Neighbour"  
VU 59 - "Joy to the World"  
MV 115 - "Behold, I Make All Things New"  
MV 182 - "Grateful" [Chorus, v2, Chorus]  
MV 219 - "Ameni"

**Annual Reports** Attention all committee leaders: Annual reports are due **January 15<sup>th</sup> 2024**.

**2024 Offering Envelopes** Our envelopes are available in the office.

**2024 United Church Calendars for Sale:** We have a limited supply of 2024 calendars for sale. \$8.50 each. Please let the office know if you would like one.

**Socks for Souls** We are collecting toques, socks, mitts – The collection box is located in the Narthex. Delivery day will be December 17<sup>th</sup>, 2023.

## *Happy Birthday*

Sam Assels	December 6
Rita Green	December 11
Kate Jordan	December 12
Jackie Goudal	December 15
Irene Hill	December 22
Ross Gordon	December 27
David Assels	December 31

## Minister's Message

*He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.*

*And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.*

*- John 1:10-14*

Siblings in Christ,

During the season of Advent we celebrate the one who is coming into the world: Jesus of Nazareth, who has a human body and a human nature and lives a human lifetime, who is also at the same time the incarnate creative and pre-existent Word of God: not two beings, but one, possessing all of these human and divine attributes at once. This is how his contemporaries experienced him, and Saint Anselm famously proposed that therefore his death could uniquely save us, because as a human he shared our natures and as God he redeemed them.

Anselm understood our sin as pride and disobedience, but Patrick Cheng has suggested from a queer perspective that sin can be insistence on boundaries and categories that isolate and disempower people. Bisexual people are rejected because they do not fit into boxes labelled 'male' or female. Sometimes it is assumed that all people of colour are straight and all queer people are white. Those who are, say, black and lesbian have been ignored by African American feminists. And so on. Rigid categories and boundaries erase people and isolate them from their natural communities.

Jesus Christ transcended and transcends the boundaries of race and class and gender that too often become oppressive. Jesus Christ as simultaneously human and divine dissolves the boundary between us and God, and continues to

dissolve those boundaries that limit the expression of our full humanity and our divine worth and dignity.

This feels especially timely as both of our congregations are imagining collective futures that may look different from what we have known. In doing so we must look behind traditional binary thinking: member vs. adherent, insider vs. outsider, Sunday morning vs. the rest of the week, with the building or without the building, in our home community vs. away from it, etc. The key to creative ministry to the Word of God may involve blurring boundaries in imitation of Jesus Christ, the Word of God.

Thank you for joining me on this adventure, my friends. May you know the love of God, a grace and possibility that denies all boundaries.

Yours in Christ,

Tim

### Regional Prayer Cycle for December 2023

<https://www.prayercycles.ca/>

Each Prayer Cycle invites Prayer each week for a Community of Faith in the Region.

You are encouraged to name the community in your worship, to email a message indicating your prayer support, to pray for church personnel, and to include an ecumenical / interfaith focus.

Dec 3 [Prince George: Trinity](#)

Dec 10 [Eagle Ridge](#)

Dec 17 [Whitehorse](#)

Dec 24 [St. Andrew's Kaslo](#)

Dec 31 [Aldergrove](#)

**2024 United Church Calendars for Sale:** We have a limited supply of 2024 calendars for sale. \$8.50 each. Please let the office know if you would like one.

**CELEBRATION AND HOLIDAY TEA** funds raised from the Holiday tea and our Celebration box totaled over \$4250.00! Thank you to all for your support and participation!

### *Upcoming Happenings*

**December 3, 2023** The Advent of Hope. Joint service at 10am with All Saints and St Andrew's. Worship location 33077 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue. **Note** – there will not be a service at Gladwin this day.

**December 10, 2023:** The Advent of Peace and White Gift Sunday. Service at 9:30am. Worship location – Gladwin Heights  
**White Gift Sunday** There is a greater need than ever for our donations to the Christmas bureau and food bank. We encourage the gift of cash in an envelope as your White gift. This will enable the Christmas bureau to purchase their most needed items.

**December 17, 2023** The Advent of Joy. Service at 9:30am.

**December 24, 2023** The Advent of Love. Joint service at 9:30am at **Gladwin Heights**. Worship location – 3474 Gladwin Road.

**December 24, 2023** Christmas Eve Joint service at 9pm with Gladwin Heights. St. Andrew's will host at 33077 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue.

**December 31, 2023** Lessons and Carols. Joint service at 10am with All Saints and Gladwin Heights. Worship location 33077 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue. **Note** – there will not be a service at Gladwin this day.

**gifts with vision:** looking for a gift idea? Gifts with Vision are an additional way to support the work of The United Church of Canada's Mission and Service partners. Catalogs are in the Narthex or contact the office.

### *Cluster Events*

**December 7, 2023** Wassail 6:30 to 8pm. 33077 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue, Lower Hall.

**December 13, 2023** Concert Film –Messiah/Complex. 7 pm. 33077 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue, James Street door.

**December 21, 2023** Concert Film –Light of Hope Returning. 7 pm. 33077 2nd Avenue, James Street door.

### *All is Calm Concerts*

**Join us December 6, 13, 20 2023 at Noon for our free concerts. You are welcome to bring a bag lunch.**

### **GLADWIN HEIGHTS IS A SCENT FREE ZONE**

Please do not wear scented product in our building.

#### **Church office Hours:**

St. Andrews' office is open 9:00am – **3:00** pm, Wednesday

Gladwin Heights' office is open 9:00am – **3:00** pm, Thursday

Remote office hours for both Gladwin Heights and St Andrew's are Monday and Tuesday 8:00 am to 3:00 pm.

#### **Reverend Tim's office hours:**

Until January, Tim is working remotely on Mondays and on Thursday afternoons. He is in the Gladwin Heights office from 10 AM to 4 PM Tuesdays, and the Saint Andrew's office from 10 to 4 on Wednesdays. Some flexibility is possible; please call if you would like to schedule an appointment. To contact Tim, call 778-791-3545 or email [bowmantimothy@gmail.com](mailto:bowmantimothy@gmail.com).

### **Coming soon**

*Please let us know if you have contributions to include in our announcements.*

## Lectionary for December 2023

### First Sunday of Advent December 3

Isaiah 64:1–9

Psalms 80:1–7, 17–19

1 Corinthians 1:3–9 Mark 13:24–37

### Second Sunday of Advent December 10

Isaiah 40:1–11

Psalms 85:1–2, 8–13

2 Peter 3:8–15a Mark 1:1–8

### Third Sunday of Advent December 17

Isaiah 61:1–4, 8–11

Psalms 126 or Luke 1:46b–55

1 Thessalonians 5:16–24 John 1:6–8, 19–28

### Fourth Sunday of Advent/Christmas Eve/Day December 24/25

2 Samuel 7:1–11, 16

Luke 1:46b–55 or Psalm 89:1–4, 19–26

Romans 16:25–27 Luke 1:26–38

Christmas Eve/Day Isaiah 9:2–7

Psalm 96

Titus 2:11–14

Luke 2:1–14, (15–20)

### First Sunday after Christmas December 31

Isaiah 61:10—62:3

Psalm 148

Galatians 4:4–7

Luke 2:22–40

## Gogo's Craft and Bake Sale

Saturday December 2 9am to noon. 3474  
Gladwin Road.

## Gladwin Height United Church

### Board Members

Chair – Gayle LaPointe

Secretary – Gina Hartley

Treasurer – Muriel Thomas

M & P Rep – Lois Chatham

Pastoral Care & Outreach – Arlene Kropp

Property Inside – Len & Carlene Stein

Property Outside – Daryl & Ellen Alstad

Sunday Morning Coordinator – Gladys Banks

UCW President – Carlene Stein

### Trustees

Jenny Matthews

Laura Bailey

Charles Bailey

Ellen Alstad

Tim Bowman

### Members of Joint Committees with St. Andrews

#### Joint Board

Gayle LaPointe

Arlene Kropp

Gladys Banks

#### Joint M & P

Lois Chatham

Kate Jordan

Samantha Assels

#### Joint Worship

Arlene Kropp

Rita Green

Tim Bowman

### Mid Fraser Cluster Rep

Julia Rohan

### Mid Fraser Affirming Committee

Patricia Lockhart