

## The Reverend Stephanie Wood

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## **Bishop**

The Right Rev. Anna Greenwood-Lee
Diocese of Islands and Inlets
December 24, 2023

Fourth Sunday of Advent—Christmas Eve



# Fourth Sunday of Advent, December 24, 2023—Christmas Eve Processional Hymn: CP 118 O Come All Ye Faithful

Welcome

Land Acknowledgement

#### Sentence:

A virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and his name shall be called Emmanuel: God with us. *Matthew 1.23* 

#### The Grace

Celebrant:

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

People: And also with you.

Advent Wreath—screen Share "Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah, VS. 1,2,3,4"

Advent 4—Prayer for Lighting the Candle

Lord Jesus, light of the world,

Blessed is Gabriel, who brought good news;

Blessed is Mary, your mother and ours.

Bless your Church preparing for Christmas;

and bless us your children, who long for your coming.

Amen

### **Confession and Absolution**

Celebrant:

Dear friends in Christ,

God is steadfast in love and infinite in mercy;

God welcomes sinners

and invites them to his table.

Let us confess our sins,

Confident in God's forgiveness.

Silence is kept.

Celebrant: Most merciful God,

All: 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.

#### Celebrant

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.

People: Amen.

Silence is kept.

Collect for Purity

Almighty God,

All:

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.

Collect of the Day:

Celebrant:

Heavenly Father, who chose the Virgin Mary, full of grace,

to be the mother of our Lord and Saviour, now fill us with your grace, that we in all things may embrace your will and with her rejoice in your salvation; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

#### The Proclamation of the Word

Let us listen for the Word of God in Holy Scripture.

First Reading <u>Isaiah 2: 2-7</u>

**Psalm** Psalm 89, Page 823 1-4

Second Reading Titus 2: 11-14

Gospel Acclamation: Screen Share

Gospel <u>Luke 2: 1-7</u>

Celebrant: God is with you.

All: And also with you.

Celebrant: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John

**All: Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.** Celebrant: The Gospel of Christ.

All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ. Alleluia

#### Sermon

## **Affirmation of Faith (Nicene Creed)**

Celebrant: Let us confess our faith, as we say,

All: 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 The Peace

The peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.

## Offertory Hymn: CP120 O Little Town of Bethlehem

Celebrant: Thanks be to you,

All: Lord Jesus Christ,
for all the benefits you have given us,
and all that you have borne for us.
In our sharing in this Eucharist,
in Church or at home,
we ask you to come spiritually into our hearts.
O most merciful redeemer,
friend and brother,
may we know you more clearly,
love you more dearly, and follow you more nearly,
day by day.

Amen.

St. John The Divine Anglican Church, Victoria B.C., Alastair Singh- McCollum

Let us pray.

## Prayer over the Gifts

Gracious God, by the power of the Spirit who sanctified the mother of your Son, make holy all we offer you this day. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord.

#### Celebrant:

The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.** Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: it is right to give our thanks and praise.

## **Eucharistic Prayer 3**

#### Advent

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.

All: 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.

#### Celebrant:

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.

We give thanks to you, Lord our God,

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, All: we remember his death, we proclaim his resurrection, we await his coming in glory;

## Celebrant:

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 children; 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.

As our Saviour taught us, let us pray,

## The Lord's Prayer

All: 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 forever.
Amen.

## The Breaking of the Bread

Celebrant: 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.

Celebrant: The gifts of God for the people of God.

All: thanks be to God

Lamb of God: Screen Share—Advent Sentence

**Distribution Hymns:** 

CP 117 Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming

**CP 119 Silent Night** 

CP 123 Once in Royal David's City

## **Prayer after Communion:**

Faithful God,

in this sacrament we receive the promise of salvation.

May we, like the Virgin Mary,

be obedient to your will.

We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord.

## Glory to God

All: 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,

Forever and ever.

Amen.

Blessing

**Announcements** 

Recessional Hymn: CP 154 Joy to the World

Dismissal

LA: Go in peace to love and serve our living God.

All: Thanks be to God

## **Parish Happenings**

- Office hours: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday 9-1
- $\Rightarrow$  NOTE: The church office will be closed from Dec 24 to Jan 2.
- Coffee Hour: Every Monday 10 am, St. Matthew's room. Also on Zoom (no coffee hour Dec 25 or Jan 1)
- **Prayer Chain** meeting Is the first Wednesday of every month at 10:30. The next meeting is January 3, 2024
- Midweek Eucharists: all are welcome, please join us:

Wednesday—Midweek Eucharist 12:30 Thursday – Meditative Eucharist 12:30 (Mid week services will continue throughout the Christmas Season)

- ACW Gathering Every Friday 10 am in the library
- **Mindfulness Group**: Every Wednesday in the library at 3:30. (*Note that Mindfulness will only be on Zoom for the Christmas Season*)

#### **Announcements**

- If you have an announcement for the bulletin, email or phone the church office. Alternately a written note can be left in the pocket on the office door. Email: admin@stpeterscampbellriver.com. Or, you can address the congregation after the service.
- Prayer Chain Requests? Email the Prayer Chain if you have a
  prayer request prayerchain@stpeterscampbellriver.com. There is
  also box in the Narthex where you may leave a prayer message.
  Prayers will be offered for one month, if you wish longer, please
  contact the Prayer Chain.
- December 24 Christmas Eve Services 4 p.m. and 10 p.m.
- December 25 Christmas Day Service 10 a.m.
- December 25 Christmas Dinner in the Hall at 5 p.m.
- December 31 Service of Lessons and Carols

#### **Blood Donor Clinics:**

Campbell River, Thunderbird Hall—1420 Weiwaikum Road December 26-28

Tuesday 12:30 pm to 6:30 pm Wednesday 10:30 am to 6:30 pm Thursday 12:00 pm to 6:30 pm

#### WELCOME!

#### Parish Staff and Leaders

Rector's Warden: Lois Tirebuck People's Warden: Pauline Woods

Deputy Wardens: Frank Maga and Tony Smith

Treasurer: Holly Finn Church Administrator:

Musicians: Georgia Smith & Kate Fitzsimmons

Custodian: Janice Kozak Prayer Chain: Sue Vickery

Communications Director: Trina Soltys

Envelope Secretary: Frank Maga Healing Prayer Ministry: Sue Vickery

Lay Assistants and Readers: Pauline Woods

Mindfulness: Jane Jennings Coffee Monday: Jennifer Coolen

Librarian: Jane Jennings Safe Church: Andrea Charlton PWRDF Rep: Barb Henshall Building: George Wagner

ACW: Bev Lawrence

Sidesperson: Pam Hedderson Zoom master: Tony Smith

The parish of St Peter Anglican Church and St Saviour Anglican Church is located on the unceded, traditional territory of the Ligwi'da'xw people: the We Wai Kai, Wei Wai Kum, and Kwiakah First Nations; the unceded traditional territory of the Klahoose First Nation; the unceded traditional territory of the K'omoks First Nation and the unceded traditional territory of the Homalco First Nation. We seek a new relationship with the first peoples here; one based on honour and respect. We pray that we may live more deeply into the Calls to Action of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission.