



Diocese of
New Westminster
ANGELICAN CHURCH OF CANADA



St. John the Evangelist Anglican Church

Doing God's Love Since 1899

November 30, 2025

The First Sunday of Advent

Contemplative Service

Please maintain silence in the sanctuary

10:00 a.m. Family Eucharist

Celebrant : The Reverend Georgina Harris

Preacher: Alison Brookfield

St. John the Evangelist Anglican Church

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WELCOME

We are glad you have joined us for worship this morning. We ask that you please turn all cell phones and other electronic devices to silent or "off". Thank you.

After the service, we invite everyone (especially newcomers!) to join us for coffee or tea, and visit our Welcome Table downstairs in the Lounge. This is a place where you can learn more about the various activities and groups here at St. John's, find contact information, ways to get involved and have fun! We look forward to getting to know you better!

The Anglican Church

As Anglicans we believe that God is eternal, the earth maker, the pain bearer, the life giver; source of all that is and shall be; father and mother of us all. We learn that God is one, yet revealed as Father, Son, and Holy Spirit; Creator, Redeemer and Sustainer - a Holy Trinity.

We believe that Christians learn about God in the Bible, in the teaching of the Church summed up in the Apostles' and Nicene Creeds, and through sharing in the living community of faith. We believe Jesus Christ was incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Saviour and Redeemer of the world. We are an Apostolic Church, meaning that Bishops are a part of our leadership and we can trace our line of Bishops back to the 12 Apostles.

As Anglicans we get to know God by God's initiative in our thinking and understanding: by experiencing and reflecting on the wonder and mystery of creation, birth and death, love, forgiveness and the need to find meaning and worth beyond ourselves.

Everyone is welcome at St. John's, whether you were raised Anglican, or followed another faith, or you have no faith background at all. We hope you find what you are looking for in our service today.

Flowers in the Sanctuary

The official Flower Calendar is in the Narthex. Please sign up for the Sunday that you would like to donate Altar Flowers, even if you signed up somewhere else previously. If you have any questions, please contact Donna in the office.

Our Service Today

The Contemplative Service is a quieter eucharistic service and allows more space for prayerful contemplation. The liturgy (the words of the service) are contemporary, inclusive and spirit-filled, and derived from the Celtic tradition from the Iona and Northumbria communities. In keeping with this tradition, we would kindly ask that on the Sunday of the Contemplative Service you enter the sanctuary quietly.

As we proceed through the service, this bulletin will help you recognize when to stand and when to sit, when to speak and when to sing, when to pray silently and when to pray aloud. We invite you to read aloud with us anytime the bulletin says **All**.

Ministering today at our 10:00 a.m. service:

Celebrant:	The Reverend Georgina Harris
Preacher:	Alison Brookfield
Liturgical Assistant:	Jill Parsons, Chaplain
Crucifer and Altar Server:	Hazel Breakey
Choir Director:	Christie Smith
Music Director:	Galina Martynioug, piano and organ
Readers:	Naomi Madisa, Ann Burch
Intercessor:	Ann Hasle
Eucharistic Administrators:	Christine Williams, Farid Madisa
Welcome Table:	Alison Brookfield
Greeter:	Linda Harrison

The Offertory Plate sits at the back of the church:

We do not "pass the plate" at St. John's. We invite you to place your donation on the Offertory Plate at the back of the church anytime. During the Offertory Hymn the plate is brought forward to the altar.

Your thoughtful and generous gifts to St. John's enable our worship and ministries to our community. One-time or recurring donations can be made by visiting our website www.stjohnnv.ca, or by scanning this QR code with your smartphone.



Chapel Candles

At any time during the service, you are welcome to prayerfully light a candle in the chapel in honour of a loved one, or in a prayer of concern.

Prelude & Announcements

Three bells are rung.

Advent Call to Worship - Prepare the Way

Processional Hymn - O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

We stand for the Processional Hymn, as the ministry team enters the sanctuary.

Territorial Acknowledgement

Celebrant We acknowledge with respect that we worship on the traditional territories of the Squamish - Mother of the Wind, the Tsleil-Waututh - People of the Inlet, and the Musqueam - People of the River Grass. Let us pray that we may live more deeply into the calls to action from Canada's Truth and Reconciliation Commission.

All May the living Christ lead us all on pathways of reconciliation and peace. Amen

The Grace

Celebrant We gather in the name of God,

All Creator of the universe, source of true humanity, mother and father of all. Amen.

Celebrant We gather in the name of Jesus,

All Word made flesh, saviour of wounded humanity, lover of all. Amen.

Celebrant We gather in the name of the Holy Spirit,

**All Lord and giver of life,
All midwife of our new humanity,
 inspirer of us all. Amen.**

Celebrant Come then, Eternal God:
**All Be present here. Befriend us here.
Renew us here.**

The Collect

Celebrant Almighty God,
**All give us grace to cast away the works of darkness
and put on the armour of light,
now in the time of this mortal life
in which your Son Jesus Christ
came to us in great humility,
that on the last day,
when he shall come again in his glorious majesty
to judge both the living and the dead,
we may rise to the life immortal;
through him who lives and reigns
with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. Amen.**

Lighting of the Advent Candle - Hope Is A Star

We sing the first verse of the Advent song while a liturgical assistant prepares to light the Candle of Hope.

Waiting in Hope

Please be seated. Children of all ages are invited to gather around the Advent Wreath.

First Voice On this first Sunday in Advent, we light this candle and name it Hope.

The first blue candle is lit.

Second Voice When we light it, we feel excited.
We are looking forward to something special.
What can it be? When is it going to happen?
When we light this candle, we feel hopeful
as we wait in this season.

First Voice This candle reminds us that the prophet Isaiah
was longing for God's presence too.

Second Voice It reminds us that the people in the early church
were longing for God's presence too.

First Voice This candle is a symbol
for our own longing for God to be with us.
We wait in hope for God to surprise us
and break into our lives.

**All O God, come, travel with us through Advent.
Give us the courage to spread hope in the world.
Amen.**

The Proclamation of the Word

The First Reading: read by Naomi Madisa.

A reading from the Book of Isaiah.

The word that Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem. In days to come the mountain of the Lord's house shall be established as the highest of the mountains, and shall be raised above the hills; all the nations shall stream to it. Many peoples shall come and say, "Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob; that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths." For out of Zion shall go forth instruction, and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem. He shall judge between the nations, and shall arbitrate for many peoples; they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more. O house of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the Lord!

Isaiah 2:1-5

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

All Thanks be to God.

Psalm 122 - Rejoice, Rejoice, Come Sing With Me

Please stay seated as we sing the psalm together.

The Second Reading: Read by Ann Burch.

A reading from the Letter of Paul to the Romans.

Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armour of light; let us live honourably as in the day, not in revelling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarrelling and jealousy. Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

Romans 13:11-14

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

All Thanks be to God.

Gradual Hymn - You Servants of the Lord

Before the reading of the Gospel, we sing the first three verses of the Gradual Hymn. Please stand for the Gradual Hymn and the Gospel if you are able.

The Gospel

Three bells are rung.

We turn to face the Liturgical Assistant as they read the Gospel from the centre of the sanctuary.

Liturgical Assistant The Lord be with you.

All **And also with you.**

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

All **Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

But about that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. For as the days of Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away, so too will be the coming of the Son of Man. Then two will be in the field; one will be taken and one will be left. Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken and one will be left. Keep awake therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. But understand this: if the owner of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour.

Matthew 24:36-44

Liturgical Assistant The Gospel of Christ.

All **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

At the conclusion of the Gospel, we sing the last 2 verses of the Gradual hymn.

Sermon Alison Brookfield

Time for Reflection

Please stand as you are able.

An Affirmation of Faith

Celebrant Let us confess the faith of the Church, as we say,

**All You, O God, are supreme and holy.
 You create our world and give us life.
 Your purpose overarches everything we do.
 You have always been with us.
 You are God.**

**You, O God, are infinitely generous,
 good beyond all measure.
 You came to us before we came to you.
 You have revealed and proved
 your love for us in Jesus Christ,
 who lived and died and rose again.
 You are with us now.
 You are God.**

**You, O God, are Holy Spirit.
 You empower us to be your gospel in the world.
 You reconcile and heal; you overcome death.
 You are our God. We worship you. Amen.**

The Prayers of the People will be sung by the choir.

You are invited to sit, kneel, or stand, whichever is most comfortable for you for the prayers of the people.

When the Prayers of the People are sung, we do not read this page aloud. We invite you to keep all these people, and everyone gathered here today, in your prayers this week.

The Church: We pray for the Right Reverend Dame Sarah Mullally, Archbishop-designate of Canterbury. We pray for Archbishop John Stephens our Metropolitan, and Archbishop Shane Parker, Primate of the Anglican Church of Canada. We pray for Archbishop Christopher Harper, National Indigenous Anglican Archbishop and Presiding Elder of the Sacred Circle. Also, we pray for Patrick our Priest, and for our Celebrant today, the Reverend Georgina Harris. For Jill in her discernment, work and studies to become an Anglican Priest. For St. Matthew, Abbotsford - The Reverend James Hwang; Chaplains to the Retired Clergy – The Reverend Karin Fulcher, Archdeacon Andrew Pike. For Primate Brent Alawas, Bishop Benny Lang-akan and the Clergy and People of the Episcopal Diocese of Northern Philippines. Our companion parish, St. John the Evangelist Mission and Outstations, Pasnadan, The Reverend Tristan Bati-el.

The Local Community: City & District of North Vancouver, Queen Mary Community School, Lookout Housing and Health Society of the North Shore.

The World: Give peace in our time, O Lord:
Peace and reconciliation among the nations;
Peace and unity within the churches;
Peace and harmony in our communities and our homes;
Peace and love in all our hearts;
for the sake of Jesus Christ our Saviour. Amen.

Those in Need: For those who are sick, hospitalized and in need of our prayers. This week, our prayers are requested especially for these members and friends of our St. John's faith community: Laurie Stringer, Mir and his family, Madeline Cooper, Kelly Blake, Patrick, Simon Drake, Dianne McLatchie

The Dearly Departed: We pray for all who have passed on from this life and live forever in our hearts.

In Thanksgiving: In our cycle of prayer, we pray for these members of our faith community: Mohammadreza Emamifard and Narges Talebzadeh, Amir Tehvani, Barbara Tobias, Elphas and Rose Wamunga, Fei and Rong Wang, and their families.

Confession and Absolution

Celebrant Dear friends in Christ,
 God is steadfast in love and infinite in mercy;
 God welcomes us
 and invites us to this table.
 Let us confess our sins,
 confident in God's forgiveness.

(A prayerful 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.

All Amen.

Sharing of The Peace

Please stand as you are able.

Celebrant May the peace of Christ always be with you.
All And also with you.

The members of the community may greet each other in the name of the Lord. Many of us will simply smile and say "Peace be with you".

The Offertory

The Offertory Plate can be found at the back of the church by the double doors, and you may place your donation there anytime before or during the service. Your thoughtful and generous gifts enable our worship and ministry to our community and the world. We sincerely thank you.

We stand for the Offertory Hymn. After the Offertory Hymn, the Offertory Plate will be presented to the altar.

Offertory Hymn - Lo, He Comes with Clouds Descending

The Celebration of the Eucharist

Preparation of the Gifts

The liturgical assistants set the Altar and prepare the gifts of bread and wine for the Eucharist. The Offertory Plate, that holds our donations for the needs and responsibilities of the Church, is then brought forward to be blessed before the Altar.

The Doxology

All (sung)	Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below; Praise Him above, ye heavenly host: Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.
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The Prayer Over the Gifts

Celebrant All	God of love and power, your word stirs within us the expectation of the coming of your Son. Accept all we offer you this day, and sustain us with your promise of eternal life. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.
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Please remain standing.

The Great Thanksgiving

Celebrant This is the table of the Lord Jesus Christ.
 It is to be made ready
 for those who love him
 and who want to love him more.
 So come,

**All we who have much faith
 and we who have little,
 we who have been here often
 and we who have not been for a long time,
 we who have tried to follow
 and we who have failed.**

Celebrant Come. This is our Lord's invitation.

**All It is his will that those who seek him
 should meet him here.**

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,
 God of power and might,
 heaven and earth are full of your glory.
 Hosanna in the highest.
 Blessed is the One who comes
 in the name of the Lord.
 Hosanna in the highest,
 Hosanna in the highest.**

Celebrant Now let us hear the story
 of how this sacrament began:
 On the night on which Jesus was betrayed,
 he sat at supper with his disciples.
 While they were eating,
 he took a piece of bread, said a blessing,
 broke it and gave it to them with the words,
 "This is my body. It is broken for love of you.
 Do this to remember me".

Celebrant Later he took a cup of wine, saying:
 "This cup is God's new covenant,
 sealed with my love and my life blood.
 Drink from it, all of you, to remember me."

**All So now, following Jesus' example and command,
 we take this bread and this wine,
 the ordinary things of the world
 which Christ will make special.
 And as he said a prayer before sharing,
 let us do so too.**

Celebrant And now, lest we believe
 that our praise alone fulfills your purpose,
 we fall silent and remember him who came because
 words weren't enough.

(Silent reflection)

Setting our wisdom, our will, and our words aside,
**All emptying our hearts,
 and bringing nothing in our hands,
 we yearn for the healing, the holding, the
 accepting, the forgiving, which Christ alone can
 offer.**

(Silent reflection)

Celebrant Merciful God, send now,
 in your abounding kindness and generosity,
 your Holy Spirit to settle on this bread and wine
 and fill them with the fullness of Jesus.

**All May that same Spirit rest on us,
 converting us from the patterns of this passing
 world, until we conform to the shape of him
 whose food we now share. Amen.**

(Silent Reflection)

The Lord's Prayer

Cantor

As our Sa-viour Christ has taught us, we now pray,

All

Our Fa-ther in hea-ven, hal-lowed be your Name,
 your king-dom come, your will be done, on earth as in hea-ven.
 Give us to-day our dai-ly bread.
 For-give us our sins as we for-give those who sin a-gainst us.
 Save us from the time of tri-al, and de-liv-er us from e-vil.
 For the king-dom, the power, and the glo-ry are yours,
 now and for ev-er. A-men.

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.**

The Communion

Celebrant The Gifts of God, for the people of God.
All Thanks be to God.

Please be seated as the Communion is prepared.

All who love God and desire Christ are welcome to receive communion. Gluten-free wafers are available. Please let the Eucharistic Administrator know if you wish to receive one. Please note intinction, (dipping the bread into the wine), is not permitted.

Communion Hymns

- **This is the Body of Christ**
- **Of the Father's Love Begotten**
- **Every Star Shall Sing a Carol**

The Eucharistic administrators will first serve Communion to the choir. Then they will stand at the front of the church and the congregation will come forward in two lines down the centre aisle to take Communion. If you want to come forward for a blessing, please line up for the minister and cross your arms over your chest.

Celebrant Takes Communion

After the congregation has been served, the celebrant takes Communion at the altar, saying the following.

Celebrant: The body of Christ, food for our journey.
The blood of Christ, the cup of love.

And now I invite you here, and you at home, to put your hand over your heart and accept the communion of God.

All Amen.

The communion hymns continue as the Liturgical Assistants clear the altar.

Prayer after Communion

Please stand as you are able.

Celebrant God for whom we wait,

**All you have fed us with the bread of eternal life.
 Keep us ever watchful,
 that we may be ready to stand before the Son of man.
 We ask this in the name of Christ the Lord. Amen.**

The Doxology

Celebrant 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,
 for ever and ever. Amen.**

The Blessing

Three bells are rung

Recessional Hymn - The Advent of our King

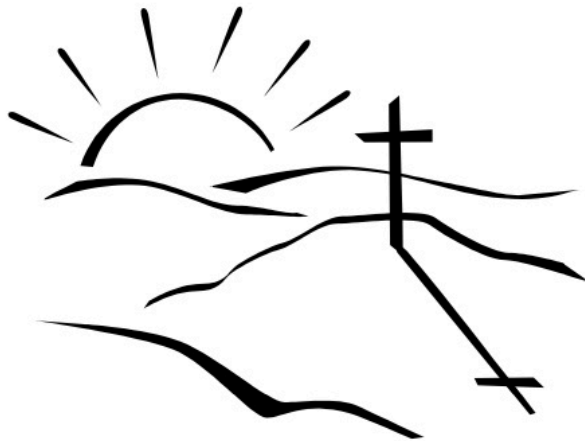
Dismissal

Liturgical Assistant
All

Words of dismissal
Thanks be to God.

There is a brief musical postlude for those who wish to stay.

Advent Decorating - *We invite you to please stay after the service to help us decorate the church for the Christmas season! Many hands make light work! Thank you so much!*



Thank you for blessing us with your presence today.
Please do join us downstairs in the Lounge
for our tea and coffee fellowship.

Faithful Friends

Activity Page for Any Age

Advent Has Begun

The season of Advent has now begun, a time to get ready for the birth of Jesus Christ. Joseph and Mary begin their long journey to Bethlehem to be counted in the census. In our church, the figures of Mary and Joseph journey from the back of the church to the altar during the season of Advent. Can you find them? How long do you think they walked to get to Bethlehem?

Word Play

Unscramble the letters to find words.

T V D N A E

U R N O J Y E

H O P S J E

E E E H H L T B M

Draw a Picture

Mary and Joseph are travelling a long way. Draw a picture of them on their journey.