



WE ACKNOWLEDGE THAT AS A PARISH OF THE DIOCESE OF NEW WESTMINSTER,
WE GATHER ON THE TRADITIONAL AND UNSURRENDERED TERRITORY OF THE
HALQ'EMEYN-SPEAKING COAST SALISH PEOPLES, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO
THE QAYQAYT, MUSQUEAM, KWITWETLEM, KWANTLEN, TSAWWASSEN. AND TSEIL-
WAUTUTH, WE SEEK TO WALK A PATH OF RECONCILIATION & HEALING.

**10 am Eucharist
Advent 2
7 December 2025**

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*Whether you have been a lifelong Anglican or are new to our tradition, we welcome you this morning! If you are not familiar with Anglican worship, simply allow the words, music and symbols to speak to you. Participate as fully as you feel comfortable in doing. We stand to sing and sit to listen. Some people kneel for prayer, some sit and some stand. Please do what is comfortable for you. You are invited to join in the words in **bold type**. Music for the songs is found in the blue Common Praise or green Songs for a Gospel People hymnbook in the pews.*

Prelude

Welcome

Gathering Hymn

'There's a Voice in the Wilderness'
Common Praise 106 (tune Ascension)

**There's a voice in the wilderness crying,
a call from the ways untrod:
prepare in the desert a highway,
a highway for our God!
The valleys shall be exalted,
the lofty hills brought low;
make straight all the crooked places,
where the Lord our God may go!**

**O Zion, give voice to good tidings,
ascend to the heights and sing!
Proclaim to a desolate people
the coming of their King.
The works of pride all perish,
like flowers they shall decay;
the power and pomp of nations
shall pass like a dream away.**

**But your word, O God, is faithful,
your arm, O Lord, is strong;
you stand in the midst of nations,
and you will right the wrong.
You will feed your flock like a shepherd,
and fold the lambs to your breast;
in pastures of peace you'll lead them,
and give to the weary rest.**

**There's a voice in the wilderness crying,
a call from the ways untrod:
prepare in the desert a highway,
a highway for our God!
The valleys shall be exalted,
the lofty hills brought low;
make straight all the crooked places,
where the Lord our God may go!**

THE GATHERING OF THE COMMUNITY

Greeting

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

People: And also with you.

Presider: We gather here from many places on land that is the traditional and unsundered territory of the Halq'emeyn-speaking Coast Salish peoples.

People: May Christ lead us on right pathways as we seek truth and reconciliation in action.

Young People's Time

Candle-lighting Song

**Will you step into the light that can free the slave?
It will stand for what is right, it will heal and save.
By the pyramids of greed there's a longing to be freed.
Will you hide, or decide to meet the light?**

The Collect of the Day

Presider: Let us pray,

**All: Almighty God,
Who sent your servant John the Baptist
to prepare your people to welcome the Messiah,
Inspire us, the ministers and stewards of your truth,
to turn our disobedient hearts to you,
that when the Christ shall come again to be our judge,
we may stand with confidence before his glory;
Who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
One God, now and for ever. Amen.**

THE PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

The First Reading: Isaiah 11:1-10

Reader: A reading from the prophet Isaiah,

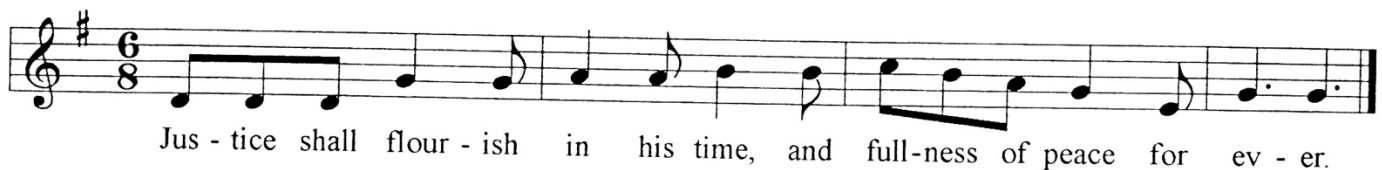
A shoot shall come out from the stock of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots. ²The spirit of the LORD shall rest on him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD. ³His delight shall be in the fear of the LORD. He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide by what his ears hear; ⁴but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked. ⁵Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist, and faithfulness the belt around his loins.

⁶The wolf shall live with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the kid, the calf and the lion and the fatling together, and a little child shall lead them. ⁷The cow and the bear shall graze, their young shall lie down together, and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. ⁸The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den. ⁹They will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain; for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the LORD as the waters cover the sea. ¹⁰On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples; the nations shall inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious.

Reader: Holy Word, Holy Wisdom.

All: Thanks be to God.

The Psalm: 72:1-7 & 18-19



Refrain: Justice shall flourish in his time, and fullness of peace forever

Give the king your justice, O God,
and your righteousness to the king's son;
that he may rule your people righteously
and the poor with justice;

Refrain

That the mountains may bring prosperity to the people,
and the little hills bring righteousness.

He shall defend the needy among the people,
he shall rescue the poor and crush the oppressor.

Refrain

He shall live as long as the sun and moon endure,
from one generation to another.

He shall come down like rain upon the mown field,
like showers that water the earth.

Refrain

In his time shall the righteous flourish;
there shall be abundance of peace till the moon shall be no more.

Blessed are be the Lord God, the God of Israel,
who alone do wondrous deeds!

And blessed be his glorious name for ever!

and may all the earth be filled with his glory. Amen. Amen. ***Refrain***

The Second Reading: Romans 15:4-13

Reader: A reading from Paul's Letter to the Romans,

⁴ For whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, so that by steadfastness and by the encouragement of the scriptures we might have hope. ⁵ May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus, ⁶ so that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

⁷ Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. ⁸ For I tell you that Christ has become a servant of the circumcised on behalf of the truth of God in order that he might confirm the promises given to the patriarchs, ⁹ and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written, 'Therefore I will confess you among the Gentiles, and sing praises to your name';

¹⁰ and again he says, 'Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people';

¹¹ and again, 'Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles, and let all the peoples praise him';

¹² and again Isaiah says, ‘The root of Jesse shall come, the one who rises to rule the Gentiles; in him the Gentiles shall hope.’

¹³ May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Reader: Holy Word, Holy Wisdom.

All: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Hymn

‘Prepare the Way of the Lord’

Common Praise 107 (tune Prepare the Way)

Sung 3 times through:

**Prepare the way of the Lord,
prepare the way of the Lord,
and all people will see
the salvation of our God.**

The Gospel: Matthew 3:1-12

Reader: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

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

All: Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, ² ‘Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.’ ³ This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said, ‘The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: “Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.”’

⁴ Now John wore clothing of camel’s hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. ⁵ Then the people of Jerusalem and all Judea were going out to him, and all the region along the Jordan, ⁶ and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. ⁷ But when he saw many Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, ‘You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to

come? ⁸ Bear fruit worthy of repentance. ⁹ Do not presume to say to yourselves, "We have Abraham as our ancestor"; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. ¹⁰ Even now the axe is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.

¹¹ 'I baptize you with water for repentance, but one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. ¹² His winnowing-fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing-floor and will gather his wheat into the granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.'

Reader: The Gospel of Christ.

All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Gospel Hymn *(continued)*

**Prepare the way of the Lord,
prepare the way of the Lord,
and all people will see
the salvation of our God.**

Teaching

The Rev. Stephanie Shepard

The Prayers of the People

Leader: let us pray to the Lord, who receives all who come in love and humility. To the bidding, 'God of our hope' please respond, 'have mercy on us.' God of our hope,

All: Have mercy on us.

Leader: Renew the life of the Church, that her people shall hear the call of the future and not rest in the comfort of the past. We lift up Archbishop-designate of Canterbury Sarah, our Primate Shane, national indigenous Archbishop Chris, our Metropolitan John, and the clergy who serve this parish. May those whom the Lord has called be confident in his mercy but not forgetful of his judgment. God of our hope,

All: Have mercy on us.

Leader: Grant repentance to the nations of this world, for the cleansing of what is false and evil, and the building of what is true and good. We pray for those places where there is conflict, oppression, disaster, or need... *pause here*

... Root out the complacency of those who will not confess error and the indifference of those that tolerate injustice. God of our hope,

All: Have mercy on us.

Leader: Trusting in no achievements of our own, claiming no privilege in the values of this world, may we walk a path of peace with our family and neighbours. We remember those we live and work and play with... *pause here*

... Help us to fulfill the will of the Lord by waiting upon God's word. God of our hope,

All: Have mercy on us.

Leader: Have mercy on all who think that their position sets them above error and beyond judgement. Have mercy also on those who are afraid to turn to the light and are without hope. God of our hope,

All: Have mercy on us.

Leader: May all those who are in need of healing of body, mind, and spirit find your encouragement and peace. We lift up to you the names of those on our hearts either silently or aloud...*pause here*

... God of our hope,

All: Have mercy on us.

Leader: May those who have died find mercy at the heart of judgment and be cleansed from all their sins so that they may stand perfect before the eternal perfection of God. Give us grace at this time to know that we too must die in this life to enter the next. God of our hope,

All: Have mercy on us.

Leader: May Christ, who knows the secrets of all hearts mercifully hear our prayers.

All: Amen.

Confession, Absolution, and Peace

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

Silence is kept

All: Most merciful God, 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.

Presider: 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.

Presider: May the peace of the Lord be always with you.

All: And also with you.

THE HOLY COMMUNION

Offering Hymn

'Come, O Lord, and Set Us Free'

Common Praise 113 (tune Maranatha)

Come, O Lord, and set us free. Maranatha.

**Desert and dry land shall grow green in praise;
clay will rejoice with full bloom:**

**showers of flowers given birth in dead earth;
in colours they echo Love's song.**

Come, O Lord, and set us free. Maranatha.

**Strengthen the hearts of the fearful and weak;
be strong; fear not, God is near,
coming in power and loosing our bonds,
setting the captives free.**

Come, O Lord, and set us free. Maranatha.

**We have been waiting and longing for light,
watching for signs of the Lords.**

**“Promised of ages,” “Messiah to come,”
hear us, we beg you: “Come, save!”**

Come, O Lord, and set us free. Maranatha.

**Give us a star in the sky day and night,
sign of your promise to save.**

**Over the mountains we follow its light,
hoping for sign of your life.**

Come, O Lord, and set us free. Maranatha.

The Prayer over the Gifts

Presider: Let us pray,

**All: God our strength,
we are nothing without you.
Receive all we offer you this day,
as you sustain us with your mercy,
in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

The Great Thanksgiving

ELW III

Presider: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Presider: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

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

People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Presider: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, Creator of all, through Jesus Christ our Lord; whose way the prophets and John

the Baptist prepared, proclaiming him to be the Messiah, and calling us to repentance, that may turn back towards the light of your love in Christ. Therefore, with angels and archangels, and all the company of heaven, we praise your glorious name and join their unending hymn:

Sanctus

Common Praise 735 (tune Schubert)

**All: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might.
Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might.
Heaven and earth are full, full of your glory,
Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest!**

Presider: Holy One, the beginning and the end, the giver of life;
Blessed are you for the birth of creation.
Blessed are you in the darkness and the light.
Blessed are you for your promise to your people.
Blessed are you in the prophets' hopes and dreams.
Blessed are you for Mary's openness to your will.
Blessed are you for your Son Jesus, the Word made flesh.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me. Again after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: this cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

All: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Presider: With this bread and this cup we remember your Word dwelling among us, full of grace and truth. We remember our new birth in his death and resurrection. We look with hope for his coming.

All: Come, Lord Jesus.

Presider: Holy God, we long for your Spirit. Come among us. Bless this meal. May your Word take flesh in us. Awaken your people. Fill us with your light. Bring the gift of peace on earth.

All: Come, Holy Spirit.

Presider: All praise and glory are yours, Holy One of Israel, Word of God incarnate, Power of the Most High, One God, now and forever.

All: Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Presider: In the language closest to your heart, let us pray as Jesus taught us:

You are invited to use either the traditional or contemporary version in English or the language you find most helpful for prayer.

**Our Father who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our trespasses
as we forgive those who
trespass against us.
Lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
the power, and the glory
for ever and ever. Amen.**

**Our Father in heaven,
Hallowed be your name.
Your kingdom come,
Your will be done
on earth as in heaven.
Give us this day 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**

Agnus Dei

Common Praise 747 (tune Schubert)

**Jesus, Lamb of God, have mercy on us.
Jesus, bearer of our sins, have mercy on us.
Jesus, redeemer, redeemer of the world,
Give us your peace, give us your peace.**

Presider: Dear friends in Christ, God bids you welcome to this table. Here we are strengthened for the journey. Here strangers become friends and the seeker finds God's wisdom speaking to them. See who you are and become what you see. These are the gifts of God for the people of God.

People: Thanks be to God.

The Communion

You are invited to come forward to receive bread and wine. Gluten-free wafers are available. You receive the fullness of Christ's love if you prefer to take one kind (just the bread or the wine). If you would prefer to have a blessing, please let the priest know.

Hymns During Communion

'Creator of the Stars of Night'

Common Praise 96 (tune Conditor Alme Siderum)

**Creator of the stars of night,
thy people's everlasting light,
Jesus, redeemer of us all,
hear thou thy servants when they call.**

**Thou, sorrowing at the helpless cry
of all creation doomed to die,
didst save our lost and guilty race
by healing gifts of heavenly grace.**

**When earth was near its evening hour,
thou didst in love's redeeming power,
like bridegroom from his chamber,
come forth from a maiden mother's womb.**

**At thy great name, exalted now,
all knees in lowly homage bow;
All things in heaven and earth adore,
and own thee King for evermore.**

**To God the Father, God the Son,
and God the Spirit, Three-in-One,
Praise, honour, might, and glory be
from age to age eternally.**

Anthem- HTC Choir
'Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming' arr. Michael Wyatt

THE SENDING FORTH OF THE COMMUNITY

The Prayers after Communion

Presider: Let us pray:

All: Faithful God,
we thank you for feeding us with this heavenly banquet.
Help us always to hear the prophet's call
to turn our hearts to you, in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

Presider: 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, now and forever. Amen.

The Announcements

Sending Hymn

'When the King Shall Come Again'
Common Praise 109 (tune Tempus Adest Floridum)

**When the king shall come again, all his power revealing,
splendor shall announce his reign, life and joy and healing;
earth no longer in decay, hope no more frustrated,
this is God's redemption day longingly awaited.**

**In the desert, trees take root, fresh from God's creation;
plants and flowers and sweetest fruit join the celebration;
rivers spring up from the earth, barren lands adorning.
Valleys, this is your new birth; mountains greet the morning!**

**Strengthen feeble hands and knees; fainting hearts be cheerful!
God, who comes for such as these, seeks and saves the fearful.
Deaf ears, hear the silent tongues sing away their weeping; blind eyes, see
the lifeless ones walking, running, leaping!**

**There God's highway shall be seen where no roaring lion,
nothing evil or unclean, walks the road to Zion:
ransomed people homeward bound all your praises voicing,
see your Lord with glory crowned, share in his rejoicing!**

The Dismissal

Presider: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Postlude

The liturgy is based on the Book of Alternative Services, and the Collect of the Day is taken from "Alternative Collects RCL", Anglican Church of Canada. The prayers of the people are adapted from "Hear Our Prayer: Gospel Based Intercessions" by Raymond Chapman.



Liturgical Ministers today

Greeter & worship assistant, 8:00 am:	Valerie Hobson
Greeters, 10 am:	Shawn Shenfield & Kate Abel
Reader:	Rob Smith
Chalice Administrators:	Marney Godkin & ackie Lewis
Presider & Preacher:	the Rev. Stephanie Shepard
Server:	Greg Kennelly
Crucifer:	Linda Gravlin
Music Director:	Kyumin Lee
	& The Holy Trinity Cathedral Choir

THIS WEEK AT HOLY TRINITY CATHEDRAL

Tuesday Advent Series, 7-8:15 pm via Zoom+

Wednesday Midweek Eucharist, 9:30-10 am*

Wednesday Fellowship Time, 10-10:30 am in the Lounge

Wednesday Bible Study, 10:30-11:30 in the Lounge

Thursday Vespers, 5:30-6 pm via Zoom+

Saturday Community Brunch, 11 am- noon in the Hall

Sunday BCP Eucharist, 8-9 am.*

Sunday Choral Eucharist, 10-11:15 am*

**live-streamed over Facebook.*

+ link through the weekly newsletter. Sign up on the website.

Go to <https://www.holytrinitycathedral.ca/events>.

Click on the photo of the service. This will take you to Facebook. A box will come up asking for your Facebook login. Click the X on the right upper corner of the box. If you do not have Facebook you should be able to watch from the HTC site.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Monday, December 15, 6:00 – 9:00 PM

Christmas Movie Night in the Lounge

Sunday, December 21, 3:00-5:00 pm

A New Westminster Christmas

Featuring the Holy Trinity Cathedral Choir, the Royal Westminster Regimental Band, and guest artist Benjamin Sigerson on piano.

Next week's Readings for Advent 3

**Isaiah 35:1-10; Canticle 18 (Luke 1:47-55); James 5:7-10;
Matthew 11:2-11**