

THE ANGLICAN PARISH OF ST. MARK

"Drawing People to the Light"

Part of the Diocese of British Columbia

www.bc.anglican.ca



ADVENT 3 DECEMBER 14TH, 2025 10:00 A.M. – A EUCHARISTIC LITURGY FOR THE ISLANDS

We acknowledge with thanksgiving that we gather to worship on the territories of the Kwakwaka'wakw, Nuu-Chah-Nulth and Coast Salish Peoples.

*We are grateful for our growing relationship with the Qualicum First Nation.
As part of the Anglican Church of Canada, a church of Settlers and First Nations,
we commit ourselves to a journey of truth and reconciliation between the indigenous peoples
of this land and the non-native peoples of Canada.*

THE HOLY EUCHARIST

Before the service, please observe silence so that we can be in quiet prayer.

Musician: *Pippa Williams*

Welcome

Processional Hymn: CP 91 People, Look East! The Time is Near

The Lighting of the Advent Candle

Officiant: The first two candles in our Advent wreath are lit again to remind us of God's gifts of hope and peace. Today we will light the third candle, the candle of joy.

People: As we wait for Christmas, the birth of Jesus, we look forward to the joyful celebrations we will share with those we love. The prophet Zephaniah calls us to shout for joy because God will gather all people and renew them in love. We remember when Jesus was born in Bethlehem, the angel told the shepherds not to be afraid because they brought "good news of a great joy, which shall be to all people."

Officiant: Paul reminds Christians, "Rejoice in the Lord always." The third candle reminds us of our joy in the coming of Jesus Christ and our joy in the anticipation of the second coming when joy will be fulfilled for all.
(Third candle is lit)

People: God of Joy, thank you, for your promise of joy. Help us to recognize the moments of joy in our lives, and to live joyfully so that others may come to be filled with the joy that comes from following in your way. Amen.

Christ, Be Our Light!

Choir: Verse 3

Congregation: Refrain

Words and Music by
BERNADETTE FARRELL

Congregation:

Christ, be our light! Shine in our
hearts. Shine through the dark - ness.
Christ, be our light! Shine in your
Church gath - ered to - day.

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for use by your congregation to join in with the choir while they sing this anthem. No other
use of this part is authorized for any other purpose.

The Community Gathers before God

- Celebrant:* In this time and place
We gather on the ancestral lands of the Kwakwaka'wakw, Nuuchah-nulth
and Coast Salish peoples.
- People:* **From many places and peoples we come to this house in prayer.**
- Celebrant:* In this time and place
We are not alone
For we meet in the presence of the living God.
- People:* **For we meet in the presence of the living God.**

Celebrant: In this time and place
We are not alone
For the Risen Jesus stands in our midst.

People: **The Risen Jesus stands in our midst.**

Celebrant: In this time and place
We are not alone
For the wind of the Spirit moves in and through us.

People: **The wind of the Spirit moves in and through us.**

Celebrant: In this time and place
We are not alone
For we gather with the whole company of heaven,
In this time and in this place heaven and earth are one.

People: **In the name of God, Creator, Saviour and Holy Spirit. Amen.**

Collect of the Day: Stir up the wills of all who look to you, Lord God, and strengthen our faith in your coming, that, transformed by grace, we may walk in your way; through Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

The Story of Faith is Proclaimed

The Reading from the Hebrew Scriptures: Isaiah 35:1-10

Reader The word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God**

Psalm 146: 4-9

When their breath departs, they return to the earth;
on that very day their plans perish.

**Happy are those whose help is the God of Jacob,
whose hope is in the LORD their God,**

who made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them;
who keeps faith forever;

**who executes justice for the oppressed;
who gives food to the hungry.**

The LORD sets the prisoners free;

the LORD opens the eyes of the blind.
The LORD lifts up those who are bowed down;
the LORD loves the righteous.

**The LORD watches over the strangers;
he upholds the orphan and the widow,
but the way of the wicked he brings to ruin.**

The Reading from the New Testament Letters: James 5:7-10

<i>Reader</i>	The word of the Lord.
<i>People</i>	Thanks be to God.

Gradual Acclamation: CP 100 Comfort, Comfort Ye My People vs 1,2/ 3

The Holy Gospel: Matthew 11:2-11

<i>Celebrant</i>	God be with you.
<i>People</i>	And also with you.
<i>Celebrant</i>	The Good News of Jesus according to Matthew.
<i>People</i>	Glory to you, Jesus Christ.

When John heard in prison what the Messiah was doing, he sent word by his disciples and said to Jesus, "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, those with a skin disease 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 offense 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."

<i>Celebrant</i>	The Gospel of Christ.
<i>People</i>	Praise to you, Jesus Christ.

Sermon **The Ven Elizabeth Northcott**

Anthem A Tiny Child Shall Come

The Creed

<i>Celebrant:</i>	Let us affirm our faith in Jesus Christ the Son of God.
<i>People</i>	Though he was divine he did not cling to equality with God, But made himself nothing. Taking the form of a slave, He was born in human likeness. He humbled himself and was obedient to death, even death on the cross. Therefore God has raised him on high, and given him the name above every name: that at the name of Jesus , every knee should bow, And every voice proclaim that Jesus Christ is Lord, To the glory of God the Father. Amen

Cf. Philippians 2: 6-11 from Creating Uncommon Worship by Richard Giles

The Prayers of the People (sit, stand or kneel)

Confession and Absolution

<i>People</i>	Jesus, forgive my sins. Forgive the sins I can remember, and also the sins I have forgotten. Forgive the wrong actions I have committed, and the right actions I have omitted. Forgive the times I have been weak in the face of temptation, and those when I have been stubborn in the face of correction.
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Forgive the times I have been proud of my own achievements, and those
when I have failed to boast of your works.
Forgive the harsh judgements I have made of others,
And the leniency I have shown myself.
Forgive the lies I told to others, and the truths I have avoided.
Forgive me the pain I have caused others, and the indulgence I have shown
to myself.
Jesus have pity on me, and make me whole.

Early Irish from A Celtic Primer p.85

Celebrant May the Lord of all healing and forgiveness draw you to himself, and cleanse
you from all your sins that you may behold the glory of his Son, the word
made flesh, Jesus Christ our Lord.

The Peace

Offertory Hymn: CP 101 Hail to the Lord's Anointed

The Sacred Meal is Shared

**Prayer over the Gifts: 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.**

Eucharistic Prayer (sit, stand or kneel)

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.

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

Celebrant It is right indeed that we should praise you,
God of love, our source and our fulfilment,
for you create all things and in you we live and move and have our being.
Your wonder is manifest in land and sea and sky.
You made us in your image.

And even though we turn from you, again and again you call us to yourself,
and in every age, promise liberation.
As a mother tenderly gathers her children, you embraced a people as your own
to nurture them in your way of compassionate love.
You sent Jesus among us, incarnate of the Holy Spirit and born of Mary.
Jesus revealed your love for all Creation,
and showed us the way of reconciliation.
Having lived among us
Jesus suffered the cross, died, and in rising again
became the firstborn of the renewed family.
And so we gather around your table, with saints of every age and your beloved
creation we raise our voices and sing:

(Sung) **Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest. 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 To you be glory, almighty God,
because on the night before he died,
Jesus took bread,
when he had given thanks,
he broke it, gave it to his disciples, and said:
Take, eat, this is my body
which is given for you: do this to remember me.

After supper he took the cup;
when had given thanks,
he gave it to them and said:
This is my blood of the new covenant,
poured out for you and for many;
do this to remember me.
Great is the mystery of faith.

People: **Christ has died,
Christ is risen,
Christ will come in glory.**

Celebrant Recalling Christ's death and resurrection,

we ask you to accept this our sacrifice of praise.

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here, and on these gifts of bread and wine that we may be fed with the body and blood of your Son.

When all creation groans, unite us in Christ and give us your hope that we might be strengthened to do your work, as your body in the world.

Through Christ our Redeemer, in the power of the Spirit, all praise and glory be yours, Almighty God, now and forever.

People **Amen.**

Celebrant As our Saviour taught us, let us pray,

The Lord's Prayer (sung)

The musical score for 'The Lord's Prayer' is written in G major, 4/4 time. It consists of five staves of music. The lyrics are: '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'.

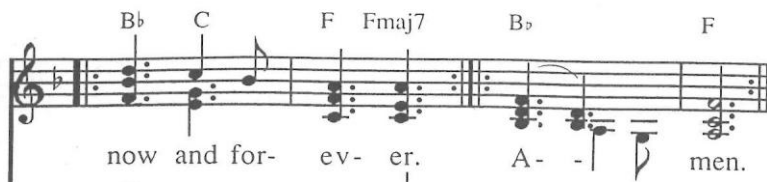
Our Fath-er in hea-ven, hal-lowed be your name, your king-dom come,

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 pow'r, and the glo-ry are yours



The Breaking of the Bread:

Celebrant Creator of all, who summons the salmon from the depths of the seas to yearn
for the place of their origin.

People: **So may your Spirit stir in our hearts to return and find our home in you.**

Celebrant The gifts of God for the people of God.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

The Communion — *All are welcome to share in the blessed bread and wine or to come for a blessing.*

Prayer Ministry

Our healing prayer team invites you to join them to pray or give thanks to God in the narthex (entrance) during or after communion, or in the alcove under the Exit sign after the service. Confidentiality is assured.

Post Communion Hymn: In Christ Alone

1. In Christ alone my hope is found,
He is my light, my strength, my song;
This Cornerstone, this solid Ground,
Firm through the fiercest drought and storm.
What heights of love, what depths of peace.
When fears are stilled, when strivings cease!
My Comforter, my All in All,
Here in the love of Christ I stand.

2. In Christ alone, who took on flesh,
Fullness of God in helpless babe!
This gift of love and righteousness,
Scorned by the ones He came to save.
Till on that cross as Jesus died,
The wrath of God was satisfied,
For every sin on Him was laid;
Here in the love of Christ I stand.

3. There in the ground His body lay,
Light of the world by darkness slain:
Then bursting forth in glorious Day
Up from the grave He rose again!
And as He stands in victory
Sin's curse has lost its grip on me.
For I am His and He is mine
Bought with the precious blood of Christ.

4. No guilt in life, no fear in death,
This is the power of Christ in me;
From life's first cry to final breath,
Jesus commands my destiny.
No power of hell, no scheme of man,
Can ever pluck me from His hand;
Till He returns or calls me home,
Here in the power of Christ I'll stand.

Prayer after Communion: God for whom we wait, 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.

Glory to God, 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.

Blessing

Recessional Hymn: CP 102 Prepare the Way, O Zion

Dismissal

<i>Leader</i>	Go from this place seeking Christ in all people:
<i>People</i>	We go to love and serve our neighbours as ourselves.

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*Please join us for conversation and refreshments in the Parish Hall
following the service.*

Alter Flowers

Flowers on the altar today are given to the Glory of God by Cathy MacFarlane

Special Christmas Eucharist

Special Eucharist tea will be held on December 17th beginning at 11:30am in the Church. Please join us for a special time of fellowship and celebration.
All are welcome.

Lessons and Carols of Christmas

Bishop Logan will be joining us for a special service of Lessons and Carols beginning at 2PM on Dec 21st followed by a tea.