



The Reverend Stephanie Wood

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Bishop

The Right Rev. Anna Greenwood-Lee

Diocese of Islands and Inlets

December 21, 2025

Fourth Sunday of Advent



**"The Fourth Sunday of Advent whispers to the soul: Love came down,
not as a thunderclap, but as a child, so we might learn to love
without fear."**

The parish of St Peter 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 Homalco First Nation and the unceded traditional territory of the K'omoks 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.

Fourth Sunday of Advent—December 21, 2025

CP=Common Praise Hymn book

SNC=Sing a New Creation Hymn book

**Processional Hymn: CP# 269 Heavenly Message
Welcome**

Land Acknowledgement

"We light this candle as we prepare for the coming of your Son.
Awaken our hearts to you this Advent season, so that when Christ
arrives, we are ready to receive him with all our hearts, all our minds,
and all our strength. Amen".

Lighting the Advent Wreath (ELW 240)

Light one candle to watch for Messiah:
Let the light banish darkness.
He shall bring salvation to Israel,
God fulfills the promise.

Light two candles to watch for Messiah:
let the light banish darkness.
He shall feed the flock like a shepherd,
gently lead them homeward.

Light three candles to watch for Messiah;
Let the light banish darkness.
Lift your heads and lift high the gateway
for the King of glory.

Light four candles to watch for Messiah:
let the light banish darkness.
He is coming tell the glad tidings.
Let your lights be shining!

Sentence

A virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and his name shall
be called Emmanuel: God with us. *Matthew 1.2*

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.

All **And also with you.**

Confession and Absolution

Celebrant Dear friends in Christ,
God is steadfast in love and infinite in mercy;
God welcomes sinners
and invites them to this 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.

All **Amen**

Collect of the Day

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. you call us once again
to celebrate the coming of your Son. **Amen.**

The Proclamation of the Word

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

All: Our hearts and minds are open.

First Reading	Isaiah 7:10-16	Judy Antonelli
Psalm	Psalm 80:1-7, 16-18	
	Page 812	Kristina Melvin
Second Reading	Romans 1:1-7	Judy Antonelli

Gospel Acclamation:

**Alleluia, Lord and saviour; open now your saving word.
Let it burn like fire within us; speak until our hearts are stirred.
Alleluia! Lord, we sink for the good news that you bring.**

Celebrant God is with you.

All And also with you.

Celebrant The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to
Matthew

All Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Gospel [Matthew 11:18-25](#)

Celebrant The Gospel of Christ.

**All Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.
Alleluia (Sung)**

Silent Reflection

Affirmation of Faith (Hear O Israel)

Celebrant Let us confess our faith, as we say,
All **Hear, O Israel,
The Lord our God, the Lord is one.
Love the Lord your God with all your heart,**

**with all your soul, with all your mind,
and with all your strength.**

**This is the first and the great commandment.
The second is like it:
Love your neighbour as yourself.
There is no commandment greater than these**

Prayers of the People

The Peace

Celebrant The peace of Christ be with you.
All **And also with you.**
The people greet one another in the name of Christ.

Offertory Hymn SNC# 77 My Soul Cries Out

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. Richard (1197-1253) of Chichester

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.

Eucharistic Prayer 4

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 to give you thanks and praise,
O Lord, our God, sustainer of the universe,
you are worthy of glory and praise

People **Glory to you for ever and ever.**

Celebrant At your command all things came to be:
the vast expanse of interstellar space,
galaxies, suns, the planets in their courses,
and this fragile earth, our island home;
by your will they were created and have their being.

People **Glory to you for ever and ever.**

Celebrant From the primal elements
you brought forth the human race,
and blessed us with memory, reason, and skill;
you made us the stewards of creation.

People **Glory to you for ever and ever.**

Celebrant But we turn against you, and betray your trust;

and we turn against one another.
Again and again you call us to return.
Through the prophets and sages
you reveal your righteous law.
In the fullness of time you sent your Son,
born of a woman, to be our Saviour.
He was wounded for our transgressions,
and bruised for our iniquities.
By his death he opened to us
the way of freedom and peace

People **Glory to you for ever and ever.**

Celebrant Therefore we praise you,
 joining with the heavenly chorus,
 with prophets, apostles, and martyrs,
 and with those in every generation
 who have looked to you in hope,
 to proclaim with them your glory,
 in their unending hymn:

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 Blessed are you, Lord our God,
 for sending us Jesus, the Christ,
 who on the night he was handed over
 to suffering and death,
 took bread, said the blessing,
 broke the bread, gave it to his friends,
 and said, "Take this, and eat it:
 his is my body which is given for you.
 Do this for the remembrance of me."
 In the same way, after supper,

he took the cup of wine;
he gave you thanks,
And said, "Drink this, all of you:
this is my blood of the new covenant,
which is shed for you and for all
for the forgiveness of sins.
Whenever you drink it,
do this for the remembrance of me."

People **Glory to you for ever and ever.**

Celebrant Gracious God,
we recall the death of your Son Jesus Christ,
we proclaim his resurrection and ascension,
and we look with expectation for his coming
as Lord of all the nations.
We who have been redeemed by him,
and made a new people by water and the Spirit,
now bring you these gifts.
Send your Holy Spirit upon us
and upon this offering of your Church,
that we who eat and drink at this holy table
may share the divine life of Christ our Lord.

People **Glory to you for ever and ever.**

Celebrant Pour out your Spirit upon the whole earth
and make it your new creation.
Gather your Church together
from the ends of the earth into your kingdom,
where peace and justice are revealed,
that we, with all your people,
of every language, race, and nation,
may share the banquet you have promised;

through Christ, with Christ, and in Christ,
all honour and glory are yours,
creator of all.

People **Glory to you for ever and ever. Amen**

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.**

(Communion: Music team immediately communicated after blessing of the elements)

Eucharistic Hymns

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world:
Have mercy on us, mercy on us, mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you give us hope as we wait for you:
Have mercy on us, mercy on us, mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world:
Grant us peace, grant us peace, grant us peace.**

**CP#114 Lo, He Comes with Clouds Descending
CP#98 Hark the Glad Sound!
CP#97 Jesus Came, the Heavens Adoring**

Ablutions:

CP#91 People, Look East! The Time is Near

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. **Amen.**

Glory to God

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,
Forever and ever. Amen**

Blessing

Announcements

Recessional Hymn: CP#362 Tell Out, My Soul

Sending Out:

LA: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord

All: **Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

Jesus' Example: Jesus released control of his path so God could lead instead.

Our Opportunity: Surrender over controlling behaviors and discern God's will In relationship with people who are oppressed.

From: 'The Church Cracked Open' Stewardship of Privilege: Using Your Power as Jesus Used His.

Parish Happenings

- **Office hours:** Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday 9-1,

closed on Fridays. **Note: the office will be closed from Dec. 25 to Jan 5th. The church will be open for the Service of Lessons and Carols on December 28.**

- **Coffee Hour:** Every Monday 10 am, St. Matthew's room. Also on Zoom. Join Zoom Meeting - Meeting ID: [812 0587 4273](#)
- **Prayer Chain** meeting is the first Wednesday of every month at 10:30.
- **Council Meeting:** every 3rd week of the month. Next meeting is December 16, 2025, 7pm in the Library.
- **Healing Services:** Usually the third Sunday of each month at 4 pm. The Next service is on January 18, 2026
- **Evening Prayer:** December 15th and 22nd at 6:30 pm on Monday Evenings. **No service** on December 30. Regular Evening Prayer begins again on January 5, 2026.
- **Midweek Eucharists:** all are welcome, please join us:
Wednesday—Midweek Eucharist 12:30
Thursday – Meditative Eucharist 12:30
- **Chat & Chill Gathering** Every Friday 10 am in the St. Matthew's Room.
- **Mindfulness Group:** Every Wednesday in the library from 3:30 to 4:15 pm.

Council Members Wanted: Our annual general meeting in February 2026 will select a new parish council to administer the church. Council will need a People's Warden, two Synod Delegates, an alternate Synod Delegate, and at least two new council members. Please consider getting involved in the workings of your church. **Reports must be submitted no later than January 5, 2026**

Christmas Services:

- December 24 at 4 pm: Christmas Eve Family Service
- December 24 at 10 pm: Christmas Eve Candlelight Service
- December 25 at 10 am: Christmas Day Service
- December 25 at 5 pm: Christmas Dinner in the church hall
- December 28 at 10 am: Service of Lessons & Carols

Parish Staff and Leaders

Rector's Warden: Tony Smith
 People's Warden: Pauline Woods
 Deputy Warden: Lois Tirebuck
 Deputy Warden: Rick Monchak
 Treasurer: Holly Finn
 Church Administrator/
 Communications: Trina Soltys
 Custodian: Janic Kozak
 Prayer Chain: Sue Vickery
 Envelope Secretary: Frank Maga
 Healing Prayer Ministry: Sue Vickery
 Lay Assistants & Readers: Pauline Woods
 Spirit Editor: Jane Monchak
 Spirit Design & Production: Trina Soltys
 Mindfulness: Jane Jennings

Coffee Monday: Jennifer Coolen
 Librarian: Jane Jennings
 Safe Church: Andrea Charlton
 Alongside Hope (formerly PWRDF)
 Representative: Barb Henshall
 Building & Grounds: George Wagner
 Chat & Chill (formerly ACW): Frances Payne
 Sides persons: Pam Hedderson
 Zoom master: Tony Smith
 Music Ministry: Kate Fitzsimmons,
 Georgia Smith, Lori Gooldrup
 Altar Guild: Kim Jarvis, Leslie MacLennan
 Community Garden Liaison: Rick Monchak

Budget to Nov 30, 2025

	Actual	Budget	Budget
	Jan-Nov	Jan-Nov	2025
Envelope - General	118,625	137,500	150,000
TOTAL REVENUE	170,900	176,716	192,582
TOTAL EXPENSE	200,753	196,143	\$214,253
NET INCOME	-29,854	-19,427	-21,671

WAYS TO GIVE AT ST. PETER

- During Sunday Worship: offering plate at each Sunday service. Cash or cheques are accepted.
- Automatic Withdrawal: 'PAR' can easily be set up. Contact the church treasurer.
- Give online: 'Donate' button located on the top right corner of the church website at stpeterscampbellriver.com. Or use the QR code below:



ALL IDENTIFIABLE FINANCIAL GIFTS ARE RECEIPTED ANNUALLY BY THE END OF FEBRUARY FOR THE PREVIOUS CALENDAR YEAR.

Zoom Sunday Service—It is always the same number. It is also noted in your weekly email. JOIN ZOOM MEETING (Point, control & click to open link)



[https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81674662027?](https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81674662027?pwd=OnRp57l8WlFWkl9LeT1Pzn07pjlsi.1)
[pwd=OnRp57l8WlFWkl9LeT1Pzn07pjlsi.1](https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81674662027?pwd=OnRp57l8WlFWkl9LeT1Pzn07pjlsi.1)