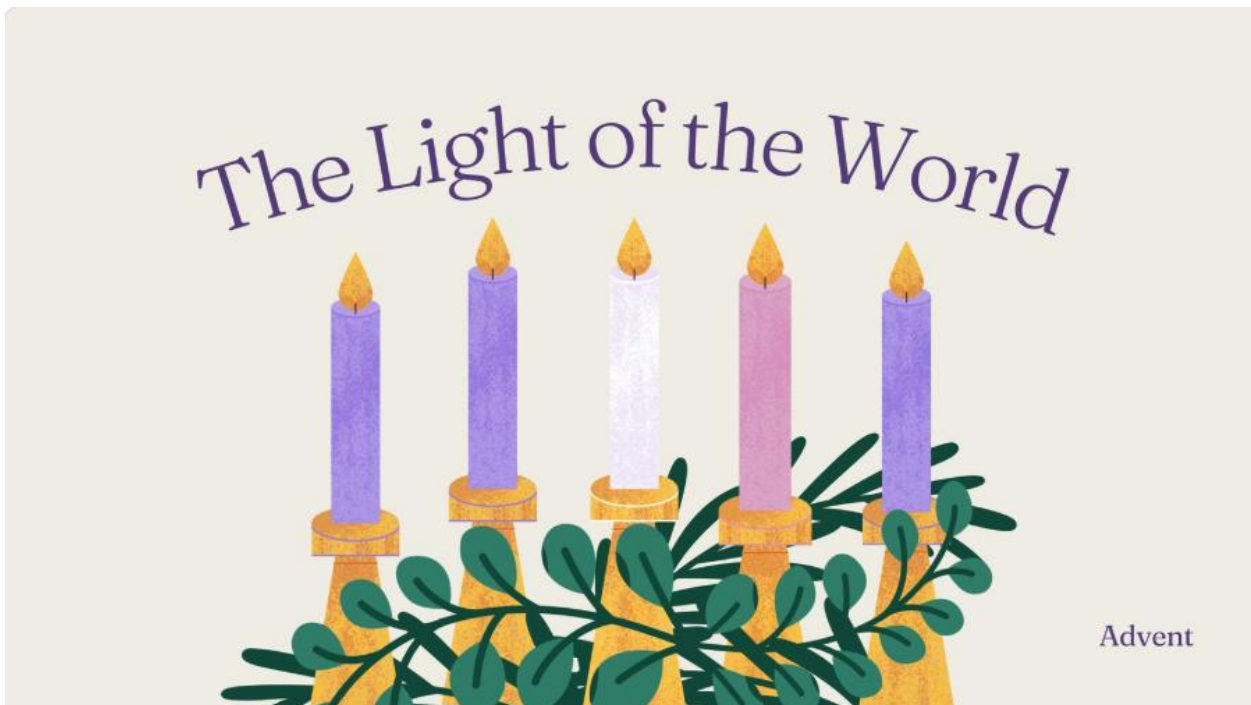


St Stephen the Martyr Anglican Church, Burnaby

Morning Prayer with Zoom Option

The Fourth Sunday of Advent

Sunday, December 21, 2025 - 10:00 AM



The Zoom code for **all** our worship services are:

Meeting ID: 83846564281 Passcode: 244245

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83846564281?pwd=DxZqcFXDEK6Fi7uS7Srv906FS7Xd3I.1>

Today Sara Shaw leads us in Morning Prayer.

*Thank you for joining us for worship this morning! This document provides a guide for our time together. You are invited to join in saying the words in **bold**. Bookmarks to pre-mark the hymnals are available where you picked up this guide. Hymns today are in the blue “Common Praise” hymnals.*

Words of Welcome

🎵 Opening Hymn – “O Come, O Come Emmanuel”

CP-89

Officiant In this time and place, we gather on the unceded ancestral lands of the Squamish, Musqueam, Tsleil-Waututh, and kwikwəłəm (Kwikwetlem) Nations.

All From many places and peoples we come to this house of prayer.

Officiant In this time and place, we await the coming of Emmanuel, God with us.

All O Come, O Come, Emmanuel.

Officiant In this time and place, we await God’s transformation of the world.

All O Come, O Come, Emmanuel.

Officiant In this time and place, we await the coming of the Commonwealth of peace.

All O Come, O Come, Emmanuel.

Officiant In this time and place we commit ourselves to work with Christ that all these things may be accomplished.

All In the name of God, Source of all being, Eternal Word and Holy Spirit. Amen.ⁱ

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

🎵 Hymn - “Hope is a Star”

SNC-35

See page 10

The children and their teachers move to Sunday School.

The Proclamation of the Word

First readingⁱⁱ - Isaiah 7:10-16

Our reader is Roxee

The kings of Syria and Israel are bent on conquering Jerusalem and installing a puppet king on Judah’s throne – one not descended from David. Speaking through Isaiah, God has told Ahaz, King of Judah, to trust in God rather than in human counsel. If Ahaz stands firm in faith, the conquest will fail.

Again the Lord spoke to Ahaz, saying, “Ask a sign of the Lord your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven.” But Ahaz said, “I will not ask, and I will not put the Lord to the test.” Then Isaiah said, “Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary mortals that you weary my God also? Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son and shall name him Immanuel. He shall eat curds and honey by the time he knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good. For before the child knows

how to refuse the evil and choose the good, the land before whose two kings you are in dread will be deserted.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God’s People.

All Thanks be to God!

The cantor sings the refrain first, then everyone repeats it the second time. The cantor sings the verses.



Show the light of your coun-te - nance, and we__ shall be saved.

Refrain: Show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.

Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph like a flock;
shine forth, you that are enthroned upon the cherubim.
In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin, and Manasseh,
stir up your strength and come to help us. Restore us, O God of hosts;
show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved. **[Refrain]**

O God of hosts, how long will you be angered despite the prayers of your people?
You have fed them with the bread of tears; you have given them bowls of tears to drink.
[Refrain]

You have made us the derision of our neighbours, and our enemies laugh us to scorn.
Restore us, O God of hosts; show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.
[Refrain]

Let your hand be upon your chosen people, those you have made so strong for yourself.
And so will we never turn away from you; give us life, that we may call upon your name.
Restore us, O God of hosts; show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.
[Refrain]

Second reading - Romans 1:1-7 Our reader is Elaine

The Church at Rome was one Paul had neither founded nor visited, although he hopes to meet the members of this community soon, to share spiritual gifts with them, and for the encouragement of their faith and his.

Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus, called to be an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God, which he promised beforehand through his prophets in the holy scriptures, the gospel concerning his Son, who was descended from David according to the flesh and was declared to be Son of God with power according to the spirit of holiness by resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord, through whom we have received grace and apostleship to bring about the obedience of faith among all the gentiles for the sake of his name, including you who are called to belong to Jesus Christ,

To all God's beloved in Rome, who are called to be saints: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

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

All Thanks be to God!

🎵 **Gradual Hymn** – "Prepare the Way"

CP-107

Gospel Reading – Matthew 1:18-25

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.

Matthew has told us of Jesus' descent from David, through Joseph. A marriage contract has been signed by Joseph (or his parents) and by Mary's parents. Certainly in earlier times if a bride was found by her husband to be already pregnant, she could be stoned to death. But Mary is with child through divine intervention.

Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be pregnant from the Holy Spirit. Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to divorce her quietly. But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet: "Look, the virgin

shall become pregnant and give birth to a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel," which means, "God is with us." When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife but had no marital relations with her until she had given birth to a son, and he named him Jesus.

The Gospel of Christ.

All Praise to You, Lord Jesus Christ.

Homily – via video

The Rev Neil Jongbloed

Opportunity for Contemplation with Musical Interlude

Natan Bádue

Responsory

Officiant Now it is time to awake out of sleep,

All for the night is far spent and the day is at hand.

Officiant Now is our salvation nearer than when we first believed,

All for the night is far spent.

Officiant Let us therefore cast off the works of darkness and put on the armour of light,

All for the day is at hand.

Officiant Put on the Lord Jesus Christ and make no provision for the flesh,

All for the night is far spent and the day is at hand.

Canticle: A Song of the Wilderness (*Isaiah 35:1, 2b-4a, 4c-6, 10*)

Officiant The wilderness and the dry land shall rejoice, the desert shall blossom and burst into song.

All They shall see the glory of the Lord, the majesty of our God.

Officiant Strengthen the weary hands, and make firm the feeble knees.

All Say to the anxious, 'Be strong, fear not, your God is coming with judgement, coming with judgement to save you.'

Officiant Then shall the eyes of the blind be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped;

All then shall the lame leap like a hart, and the tongue of the mute sing for joy.

Officiant For waters shall break forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert;

All the ransomed of the Lord shall return with singing, with everlasting joy upon their heads.

Officiant Joy and gladness shall be theirs, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

All Glory to God, Source of all being, eternal Word and Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now and will be for ever. Amen.

Prayers of the People

Led by Bob D

Leader In joyful expectation let us pray to God, our Saviour and Redeemer.

O Wisdom from the mouth of the Most High, you reign over all things to the ends of the earth: come and teach us how to live.

All Lord Jesus, come soon.

Leader O Head of the house of Israel, you appeared in the fire of the burning bush and you gave the law on Sinai: come with outstretched arm and ransom us.

All Lord Jesus, come soon.

Leader O Branch of Jesse standing as a sign among the nations, all rulers will keep silence before you and all peoples will summon you to their aid: come, set us free and delay no more.

All Lord Jesus, come soon.

Leader O Key of David and sceptre of the house of Israel, you open and none can shut; you shut and none can open: come and free the captives from prison.

All Lord Jesus, come soon.

Leader O Morning Star, bright Sun of righteousness: come and enlighten all who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death.

All Lord Jesus, come soon.

Leader O Emmanuel, hope of the nations: come and save us, O Anointed One.

All Lord Jesus, come soon.

Additional intercessions, petitions and thanksgivings may be offered in silence or aloud.

Leader O God of Elizabeth and Mary, you visited your servants with news of the world's redemption in the coming of the Saviour. Make our hearts leap with joy and fill our mouths with songs of praise, so that we may announce glad tidings of peace and welcome the Christ in our midst. Amen.

All Amen.

The Peace is an invitation for us to greet those with whom we worship as a sign of our reconciliation to them through the blessing of God's absolution of our sins.

You are invited to greet those sitting nearest you with a handshake or other non-touch greeting.

The Passing of the Peace

Officiant God will speak peace to his people, to those who turn to him in their hearts.

Let us turn to one another and say, 'The peace of the Lord be always with you.'

All And also with you.

During the singing of the Offertory Hymn, the greeters will bring the offering plates through the congregation. Financial offerings may be placed in the plates at the entrances to the worship space or made online at www.ststephenburnaby.ca/pages/donate. St Stephen's depends on the generosity of our members and visitors to continue to offer Christ's light to our neighbours.

All Yours, Lord, is the greatness, the power, the glory, the splendour,
and the majesty; for everything in heaven and on earth is yours.
All things come from you, and of your own do we give you.

Collect of the Day

Officiant Let us pray.

All God of grace, give us the faith of Joseph to see the Spirit's work where the
world sees only shame; to listen to the promise and to awaken to the cry of
life renewed and love reborn; through Jesus Christ, the one who is to
come. Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Officiant Awaiting his coming in glory and gathering our prayers and praises into one, let
us pray as our Saviour taught us.

 **Hymn** – *“The Lord's Prayer”*

CP-744


The Sending Forth of the Community

Doxology

Officiant 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.

Announcements

 **Sending Hymn** – *“Soon and Very Soon”*

Song Book
See page 8 and 9

Dismissal

Officiant Let us Bless the Lord.

All Thanks be to God

Officiant May Christ, when he comes, find us watching and waiting.

All Amen.

ST STEPHEN THE MARTYR ANGLICAN CHURCH

CONTACT INFORMATION

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Rector: The Venerable Ruth Monette

Music Director: Natan Bádue

Parish Administrator: Lois Holmlund

Rentals: rentals@ststephenburnaby.ca

Wardens: Val Krause and Sara Shaw

Associate Warden: Sandra Sutherland

THANK YOU to our Lay Worship Leader, Sara Shaw, and to all our choir members; our readers; our tech support: Shin and Josie; and to our other volunteer servers this Sunday: our Zoom host: Barb; Parish host: Sandra; our Greeters: Man and Lois; Prayer leader: Bob D; our Offering caretaker: Elaine; Altar Guild: Josie and Roxee; Sunday School: Betty.

TERRITORIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT: WE ACKNOWLEDGE THAT ST. STEPHEN THE MARTYR IS LOCATED ON THE UNCEDED LANDS OF THE COAST SALISH PEOPLES, ON THE SHARED TRADITIONAL TERRITORY OF SKWŪWŪ7MESH (SQUAMISH), səliłwətaʔ (TSLEIL-WAUTUTH), XʷMƏŌKʷƏYƏM (MUSQUEAM) AND kʷikʷəłəm KWIKWETLEM (COQUITLAM) FIRST NATIONS.

Liturgical Note:

In the context of Christian worship, Israel does not refer to the current political state but either to the historic Hebrews of the ancient Near East, or in Christian theology, to all people who put their faith and trust in Jesus Christ.

Elements of this liturgy without an endnote come from the "Supplementary Eucharistic Prayers, Services of the Word and Night Prayer" (2001)

Hymns, unless noted otherwise, are from the "Common Praise" hymnal of the Anglican Church of Canada. All other hymns are licenced via: OneLicence Church Music copyright permission.

Endnotes

ⁱ The Opening Sentences are modified from a resource provided by Christ Church Cathedral, Vancouver.

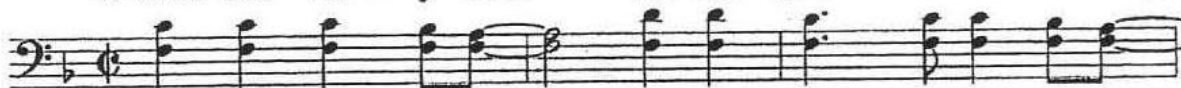
ⁱⁱ The notes on the readings are from the Revised Common Lectionary Commentary, at the montreal.anglican.org site [Link](#), written by Chris Haslam.

ⁱⁱⁱ The Psalms are taken from the George Black Psalter at the Church of the Redeemer website, Anglican Church of Canada. <https://theredeemer.ca/music/george-black-psalter/>

79 Soon and Very Soon



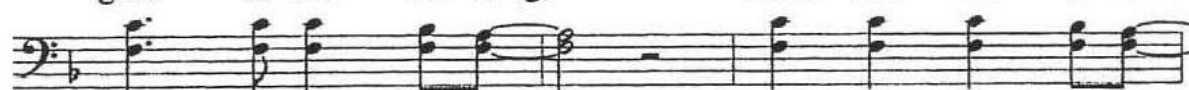
1. Soon and ver - y soon we are goin' to see the King,
2. No more cry - in' there we are goin' to see the King,
3. No more dy - in' there we are goin' to see the King,
4. Soon and ver - y soon we are goin' to see the King,



Soon and ver - y soon we are
 No more cry - in' there we are
 No more dy - in' there we are
 Soon and ver - y soon we are



goin' to see the King, Soon and ver - y soon
 goin' to see the King, No more cry - in' there
 goin' to see the King, No more dy - in' there
 goin' to see the King, Soon and ver - y soon



we are goin' to see the King, Hal - le -



CONTINUED

lu - jah, Hal - le - lu - jah, we're goin' to see the King!

This system consists of a treble and bass staff in B-flat major. The treble staff features a melody with eighth and quarter notes, while the bass staff provides a harmonic accompaniment with chords and moving lines. The lyrics are written below the treble staff.

Hal - le - lu - jah, Hal - le -

This system continues the melody and accompaniment. It includes first and second endings marked '1., 2.' and '3., 4.' above the treble staff. The lyrics 'Hal - le - lu - jah, Hal - le -' are positioned below the treble staff.

lu - jah, Hal - le - lu - jah, Hal - le - lu - jah.

This system concludes the piece with a final melodic phrase and accompaniment. The lyrics 'lu - jah, Hal - le - lu - jah, Hal - le - lu - jah.' are written below the treble staff.

Text: Andraé Crouch
 Tune: Andraé Crouch
 © 1976, Bud John Songs, Inc./Crouch Music/ASCAP

Hope Is a Star 35

C Unison

1 Hope is a star that shines in the night,
 2 Peace is a rib - bon that cir - cles the earth,
 3 Joy is a song that wel - comes the dawn,
 4. Love is a flame that burns in our heart.

lead - ing us on till the morn - ing is bright.
 giv - ing a prom - ise of safe - ty and worth.
 tell - ing the world that the Sav - iour is born.
 Je - sus has come and will nev - er de - part.

Refrain

When God is a child there's joy in our song. The last shall be

first and the weak shall be strong, and none shall be a - fraid.