



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 4  
21 December 2025**

514 CARNARVON STREET, NEW WESTMINSTER, B.C. V3L 1C4

**Phone:** 604 521-2511

**Office:** Weijin Ross

**Rector:** the Rev. Stephanie Shepard

**Website:** [www.holytrinitycathedral.ca](http://www.holytrinitycathedral.ca)  
[administrator@holylrinitycathedral.ca](mailto:administrator@holylrinitycathedral.ca)  
[stephanie@holylrinitycathedral.ca](mailto:stephanie@holylrinitycathedral.ca)

*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**

**'O Come, O Come Emmanuel'**

*Common Praise 89 (tune Veni Emmanuel)*

- All*                    **O come, O come, Emmanuel  
and ransom captive Israel  
that mourns in lonely exile here  
until the Son of God appear.  
Rejoice! Rejoice!  
Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel.**
- High voices*       **O come, O Wisdom from on high,  
who orders all things mightily;  
to us the path of knowledge show,  
and teach us in her ways to go.  
Rejoice! Rejoice!  
Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel.**
- Low voices*       **O come, O come, great Lord of might,  
who to your tribes on Sinai's height  
in ancient times once gave the law,  
in cloud and majesty and awe.  
Rejoice! Rejoice!  
Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel.**
- Choir*                **O come, O Rod of Jesse's stem,  
from every foe deliver them  
that trust your mighty power to save,  
and give them victory o'er the grave.  
Rejoice! Rejoice!  
Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel.**
- Low voices*       **O come, O Key of David, come,  
and open wide our heavenly home;  
make safe the way that leads on high,  
and close the path to misery.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel.**

*High Voices*      **O come, O Dayspring from on high  
and cheers us by your drawing nigh;  
disperse the gloomy clouds of night,  
and death's dark shadow put to flight.  
Rejoice! Rejoice!  
Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel.**

*All*                      **O come, Desire of nations, bind  
in one the hearts of humankind;  
O bid our bitter conflict cease,  
and be for us our Prince of Peace.  
Rejoice! Rejoice!  
Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel.**

## **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 join the hope alight in the young girl's eyes,  
Of the mighty put to flight by a baby's cries?  
When the lowest and the least are the foremost at the feast,  
Will you hide, or decide to meet the light?**

## ***The Collect of the Day***

Presider: 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 PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD**

### ***The First Reading: Isaiah 7:10-16***

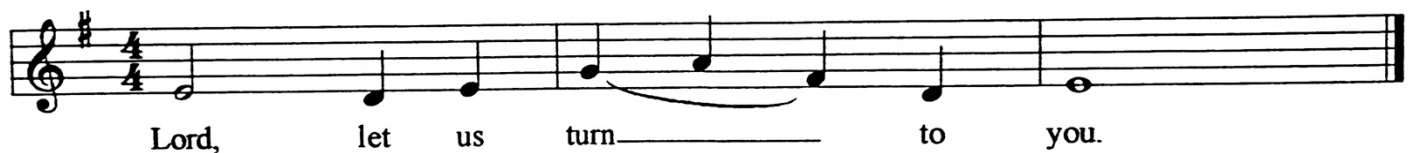
Reader: A reading from the prophet Isaiah,

<sup>10</sup> Again the LORD spoke to Ahaz, saying, <sup>11</sup> Ask a sign of the LORD your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven. <sup>12</sup> But Ahaz said, I will not ask, and I will not put the LORD to the test. <sup>13</sup> Then Isaiah said: 'Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary mortals, that you weary my God also? <sup>14</sup> 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. <sup>15</sup> He shall eat curds and honey by the time he knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good. <sup>16</sup> 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.

Reader: Holy Word, Holy Wisdom.

**All:        Thanks be to God.**

## ***The Psalm: 80:1-7 & 17-19***



***Refrain: Lord, let us turn to you.***

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.

***Refrain***

Restore us, O God of hosts;  
show the light of your countenance,  
and we shall be saved.

***Refrain***

O Lord 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.  
You have made us the derision of our neighbours,  
and our enemies laugh us to scorn.

***Refrain***

Restore us, O God of hosts;  
show the light of your countenance,  
and we shall be saved.

***Refrain***

Let your hand be upon the man of your right hand,  
and the son of man 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.

***Refrain***

Restore us, O Lord God of hosts;  
show the light of your countenance,  
and we shall be saved.

***Refrain***

## ***The Second Reading: Romans 1:1-7***

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

Paul, a servant of Jesus Christ, called to be an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God,<sup>2</sup> which he promised beforehand through his prophets in the holy scriptures,<sup>3</sup> the gospel concerning his Son, who was descended from David according to the flesh<sup>4</sup> 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,<sup>5</sup> 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,<sup>6</sup> including yourselves who are called to belong to Jesus Christ,<sup>7</sup> 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.

Reader: Holy Word, Holy Wisdom.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

### **Gospel Hymn**

‘How Bright Appears the Morning Star’  
*Common Praise 622 (tune Wer Schön Leuchtet)*

**How bright appears the morning star  
With mercy beaming from afar:  
the host of heaven rejoices.  
O righteous Branch of Jesse's rod,  
True Light of light and God of God,  
we too, will lift our voices.  
Jesus, Jesus, holy, holy,  
Yet most lowly, ever near us,  
Great Emmanuel, swift to hear us.**

## ***The Gospel: 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.**

<sup>18</sup> 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 with child from the Holy Spirit. <sup>19</sup> Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and

unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly. <sup>20</sup> 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. <sup>21</sup> She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.' <sup>22</sup> All this took place to fulfil what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet: <sup>23</sup> 'Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel', which means, 'God is with us.' <sup>24</sup> When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife, <sup>25</sup> but had no marital relations with her until she had borne a son; and he named him Jesus.

Reader: The Gospel of Christ.

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

### **Gospel Hymn (*continued*)**

**Though circled by the hosts on high,  
You looked on us with pitying eye  
and saved your sinful creature;  
The whole creation's head and Lord,  
By highest seraphim adored,  
you took our very nature.  
Amen, amen, alleluia,  
Alleluia, praise be given  
evermore by earth and heaven.**

***Teaching***

The Rev. Stephanie Shepard

### ***The Prayers of the People***

Leader: In joyful expectation, let us pray to our Saviour and Redeemer.  
To the bidding, please respond, 'Lord Jesus, come soon'.

O Wisdom from the mouth of the Most High, you reign over all things on earth: come and teach us how to turn our lives to you and follow in your path.

**All: Lord Jesus, come soon!**

Leader: O Lord and head of the house of Israel, you appeared to Moses 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 kings will keep silence before you and all peoples will summon you to their aid. Come among us in our every need.

**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, splendour of the light eternal and bright Sun of righteousness: come and enlighten all who dwell in darkness and in the shadow of death.

**All: Lord Jesus, come soon!**

Leader: O King of the nations, you alone can fulfil their desire. Cornerstone, you make opposing nations one: come and save the creature you fashioned from clay.

**All: Lord Jesus, come soon!**

Leader: O Emmanuel, hope of the nations and their Saviour: come and save us, Lord our God.

**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.**

*You are invited to share a sign of God's peace with your neighbours, respecting their comfort with distance and touch.*

## **THE HOLY COMMUNION**

### ***Offering Hymn***

**'Hail to the Lord's Anointed'**

***Common Praise 101 (tune Crüger)***

**Hail to the Lord's anointed, great David's greater Son!  
Hail, in the time appointed, his reign on earth begun!  
He comes to break oppression, to set the captives free,  
To take away transgression, and rule in equity.**

**He shall come down like showers upon the fruitful earth,  
And love, joy, hope, like flowers, spring in his path to birth.  
Before him on the mountains shall peace the herald go,  
And righteousness in fountains from hill to valley flow.**

**Kings shall fall down before him, and gold and incense bring;  
All nations shall adore him, his praise all people sing.  
To him shall prayer unceasing and daily vows ascend,  
His kingdom still increasing, a kingdom without end.**

**O'er every foe victorious, he on his throne shall rest,  
From age to age more glorious, all blessing and all blest.  
The tide of time shall never his covenant remove.  
His name shall stand forever: that name to us is Love.**

## ***The Prayer over the Gifts***

Presider: Let us pray,

**All: Gracious God,  
by the power of the Spirit  
who sanctified the mother of your son,  
make holy all we offer you this day,  
so that we, like Mary and Joseph,  
may hear and receive your Word  
in our homes and our hearts. 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**

**'How the World Longs for Your Birth'**  
*Common Praise 90 (tune Nun Komm)*

**How the world longs for your birth,  
bearing news of human worth;  
to our labour bring your mirth:  
Maranatha, come Lord, come.**

**How the earth awaits your seed,  
parched and barren from our greed;  
now to hallow it we need:  
Maranatha, come Lord, come.**

**How we ache to know your peace;  
wars and weapons still increase;  
bid our hate and fears to cease:  
Maranatha, come Lord, come.**

**How our minds for healing long,  
broken bodies to be strong,  
wounded hearts to learn your song:  
Maranatha, come Lord, come.**

**God, who sets your people free,  
God, who comes, our flesh to be,  
now we wait your reign to see:  
Maranatha, come Lord, come.**

**To our darkness bring your light;  
fill our longing eyes with sight.  
In our lives shine ever bright;  
Maranatha, come Lord, come.**

Anthem- HTC Choir  
'O Little Town of Bethlehem' (arr. S. Hodges)

## **THE SENDING FORTH OF THE COMMUNITY**

### ***The Prayers after Communion***

Presider: Let us pray:

**All: Faithful God,  
In this sacrament we receive the promise of salvation.  
May we, like Mary and Joseph,  
Be obedient to your will.  
We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord. 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**

'Lo, He Comes with Clouds Descending'  
*Common Praise 114 (tune Helmsley)*

**Lo! He comes with clouds descending,  
once for favoured sinners slain;  
thousand thousand saints attending,  
swell the triumph of his train:  
Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!  
God appears on earth to reign.**

**Every eye shall now behold him  
robed in dreadful majesty;  
all who set at naught and sold him,  
pierced and nailed him to the tree,  
deeply grieving, deeply grieving, deeply grieving,  
shall the true Messiah see.**

Now redemption, long expected,  
see in solemn pomp appear;  
all His saints, on earth rejected,  
thrill the trumpet sound to hear:  
Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!  
See the day of God appear!

Yea, Amen! let all adore thee,  
high on thine eternal throne;  
Saviour, take the power and glory,  
claim the kingdom for thine own;  
O come quickly! O come quickly! O come quickly!  
Halleluiah! Come, Lord, come!

## **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:	Brian Dobbin
Greeters, 10 am:	Shawn Shenfield & Gerry Rowse
Reader:	Celeste Snowber
Chalice Administrators:	Carol Murdoch & Sybil Collett
Presider & Preacher:	the Rev. Stephanie Shepard
Server:	Greg Kennelly
Crucifer:	Linda Gravlin
Music Director:	Kyumin Lee & The HTC Choir

## **THIS WEEK AT HOLY TRINITY CATHEDRAL**

### ***NO Wednesday Midweek Service***

**Wednesday December 24, Family Christmas Eve Service 4-5 pm**

**Wednesday December 24, Choral Christmas Eve Service 7:30-9 pm**

**Thursday December 25, Christmas Day Service 10-11 am**

**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.*

## **TONIGHT AT HTC**

**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 artists Benjamin Sigerson on piano and Ben Boardman on bass.*

**Next week's Readings for Christmas 1, December 28, 2025:**

**Isaiah 63:7-0; Psalm 148; Hebrews 2:10-18; Matthew 2:13-23**