

The Service of Lessons and Carols

28th December 2025 10 a.m.



St. Peter Anglican Church, 228 S. Dogwood Street, Campbell River BC

ORDER OF SERVICE

WELCOME, all wonders in one sight!
Eternity shut in a span.
Summer in winter, Day in night,
Heaven on earth, God in man.
Great little one whose all-embracing birth
Brings earth to heaven, stoops heaven to earth.

Richard Crashaw (1613-1649)

Please stand for the opening hymn.

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

CP# 123 Once in Royal David's City

Once in Royal David's city, Stood a lowly
cattle shed
Where a mother laid her baby
In a manger for his bed
Mary was that mother mild, Jesus Christ
her little child.
He came down to earth from heaven
Who is God and Lord of all,
And his shelter was a stable,
And his cradle was a stall;
With the poor and mean and lowly Lived
on earth our Saviour holy.
Not in that poor lowly stable
With the oxen standing by,
We shall see him, but in heaven
Set at God's right hand on high
When, like stars his children crowned
All in white shall gather round.

Words: C. F. Alexander (1818-1895)

Music: IRBY H. J. Gauntlett (1805-1876);

WELCOME

Please remain standing, as the Rector gives:

THE BIDDING

At the conclusion of the Bidding, all join in the Lord's 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 this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And 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.

Please be seated.

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT



Mountains behind St. Peter Anglican Church

Photo: Rick & Jane Monchak

The parish of St Peter Anglican Church and St Saviour Anglican Church is located on the uncaded, traditional territory of the Ligwi'da'xw people: the We Wai Kai, Wei Wai Kum, and Kwiakah First Nations; the uncaded traditional territory of the Klahoose First Nation; the uncaded traditional territory of the K'omoks First Nation and the uncaded traditional territory of the Homalco 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.

FIRST LESSON

Genesis 3:8-15

THEY HEARD the sound of the Lord God walking in the garden at the time of the evening breeze, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the Lord God among the trees of the garden. But the Lord God called to the man, and said to him, 'Where are you?' He said, 'I heard the sound of you in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked; and I hid myself.' He said, 'Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?' The man said, 'The woman whom you gave to be with me, she gave me fruit from the tree, and I ate.' Then the Lord God said to the woman, 'What is this that you have done?' The woman said, 'The serpent tricked me, and I ate.' The Lord God said to the serpent, 'Because you have done this, cursed are you among all animals and among all wild creatures; upon your belly you shall go, and dust you shall eat all the days of your life. I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; he will strike your head, and you will strike his heel.'

Please stand to sing.

CAROL: CP# 140 It Came Upon A Midnight Clear

It came upon the midnight clear,
That glorious song of old,
From angels bending near the earth,
To touch their harps of gold;
"Peace on the earth, to all good men,
From Heaven's most gracious King."
The world in solemn stillness lay,
To hear the angels sing.

For lo! the days are hastening on,
By prophets seen of old,
When the ever circling years,
Shall come the time foretold;
When the new heaven and earth shall
own The Prince of Peace, their King,
And the whole world send back their
song Which now the angels sing.

Yet with the woes of sin and strife
The world has suffered long;
Beneath the angel strain have rolled
Two thousand years of wrong;
And we, amid our wars hear not
The words of peace they bring;
Oh, listen now, and still your strife
To hear the angels sing.

Please be seated.

Music Richard Storrs Willis (q819-1900)

SECOND LESSON

Isaiah 11:1-9

A SHOOT SHALL come out from the stock of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots. The 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. His 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; but 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. Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist, and faithfulness the belt around his loins.

The 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. The cow and the bear shall graze, their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den. They will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain; for earth will be full of the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea.

Please stand to sing.

CAROL: CP# 117 Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming

Lo, how a Rose e'er blooming
from tender stem hath sprung,
of Jesse's lineage coming,
as seers of old have sung.
It came, a blossom bright,
amid the cold of winter,
when half spent was the night.

Isaiah 'twas foretold it,
the Rose I have in mind;
with Mary we behold it,
the virgin mother kind.
To show God's love aright,
she bore to us a Saviour,
when half spent was the night.

O Flower, whose fragrance tender
with sweetness fills the air,
dispels with glorious splendour
the darkness everywhere.
True man, yet very God,
from sin and death now save us,
and share our every load.



Text: German, 15 century

Please be seated

THIRD LESSON

Luke 1:26-38

IN THE SIXTH month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, 'Greetings, favoured one! The Lord is with you.' But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. The angel said to her, 'Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favour with God. And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. He will reign over the house of Jacob for ever, and of his kingdom there will be no end.' Mary said to the angel, 'How can this be, since I am a virgin?' The angel said to her, 'The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. For nothing will be impossible with God.' Then Mary said, 'Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word.' Then the angel departed from her.

Please Stand to Sing

CAROL: CP# 269 Heavenly Message

Heavenly message, brought by an angel, Coming
to lift the hopes of the earth; Bringing to Mary
humble and lowly, God's invitation to give the
Christ birth.

Refrain:

*Mary we hail you, full of God's favour blessed are
you , and blessed your son; He will be called the
child of the highest, Saviour of all, the holy one.*

Mary replied to Gabriel's message,
"I am the servant, maid of the Lord. Let it be done
just as you have spoken. My soul rejoices in God,
saving word. *Refrain*

In the beginning, when God had spoken,
through God's own Word all things came to be;
Now by that Word, embodied through Mary,
God's glory blazes, that our eyes may see. *Refrain*

FOURTH LESSON

Luke 2:1-7

IN THOSE DAYS a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

Please Stand to Sing

CAROL: CP# 120 O Little Town of Bethlehem

O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie!
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by;
yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting light;
The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.

For Christ is born of Mary; and, gathered all above,
While mortals sleep, the angels keep their watch of wondering love,
O morning stars, together proclaim the holy birth,
and praises sing to God the King, and peace to all the earth.

How silently, how silently the wondrous gift is given!
as love imparts to human hearts the blessings of God's heaven.
No ear may hear his coming; but in this world of sin,
Where meek souls will receive him, still the dear Christ enters in.

O holy Child of Bethlehem, descend to us, we pray;
Cast out our sin, and enter in, be born in us today.
We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell:
O come to us, abide with us, our Lord Emmanuel.

Text: Phillips Brooks (1835-1893)

Music: Lewis Henry Redner (1831-1908)

Please be seated

FIFTH LESSON

Luke 2:8-16

IN THAT REGION there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, 'Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.' And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, 'Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favours!'

When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, 'Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.' So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger.

Please Stand to Sing

CAROL: CP# 139 The First Nowell

The first Nowell the angel did say
Was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay
In fields where they lay keeping their sheep
On a cold winter's night that was so deep.

Refrain:

*Noel Noel Noel Noel
Born is the King of Israel*

They looked up and saw a star
Shining in the east beyond them far
And to the earth it gave great light
And so it continued both day and night. *Refrain*

And by the light of that same star
Three wise men came from country far
To seek for a king was their intent
And to follow the star wherever it went. *Refrain*

This star drew nigh to the northwest
O'er Bethlehem it took its rest
And there it did both stop and stay
Right over the place where Jesus lay. *Refrain*

Then entered in those wise men three
Full reverently upon their knee
And offered there in his presence
Their gold and myrrh and frankincense. *Refrain*

Then let us all with one accord
Sing praises to our heavenly Lord
Who has made heaven and earth of nought
And with his blood salvation bought. *Refrain*



Melody English traditional (17th century?)

SIXTH LESSON

Matthew 2:1-11

IN THE TIME of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, asking, 'Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage.' When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. They told him, 'In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet: "And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel."' Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, 'Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage.' When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure-chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

Now after they had left, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, 'Get up, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you; for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him.' Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother by night, and went to Egypt, and remained there until the death of Herod.



CAROL: CP# 137 What Child Is This

What Child is this who, laid to rest
On Mary's lap, is sleeping?
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet
While shepherds watch are keeping?

*This, this is Christ the King
Whom shepherds guard and angels sing
Haste, haste, to bring Him laud
The Babe, the Son of Mary*

Why lies he in such mean estate
Where ox and ass are feeding?
Good Christian, fear for sinners here
The silent Word is pleading.

*This, this is Christ the King
Whom shepherds guard and angels sing
Haste, haste, to bring Him laud
The Babe, the Son of Mary.*

So bring Him incense, gold and myrrh
Come peasant, king to own Him
The King of kings salvation brings
Let loving hearts enthrone Him.

*This, this is Christ the King
Whom shepherds guard and angels sing
Haste, haste, to bring Him laud
The Babe, the Son of Mary.*

Text: William Chatterton Dix (1837-1898)

SEVENTH LESSON

Colossians 1.15-20

HE IS THE IMAGE of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation; for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers—all things have been created through him and for him. He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together. He is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything. For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross.

Please stand to sing.

CAROL: CP# 132 Of Eternal Love Begotten

Of eternal love begotten,
ere the worlds began to be,
he is Alpha and Omega,
he the source, the ending he,
of the things that are, that have been,
and that future years shall see,
evermore and evermore.

At his Word the worlds were framed.
He commanded, it was done:
heaven and earth and depths of ocean,
in their threefold order one;
all that grows beneath the shining,
of the moon and burning sun,
evermore and evermore.

O that birth for ever blessed,
when the virgin, full of grace,
by the Holy Ghost conceiving,
bare the Saviour of our race,
and the babe, the world's redeemer,
first revealed his sacred face,
evermore and evermore.

Text: Aurelius Clemens Prudentius (348-413)

Music: Melody plainsong (12th Century?)

Please stand for the Lesson from the Gospel of John:

EIGHTH LESSON

John 1:1-14

All: The Lord be with you
and also with you.

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to John.

All: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

IN THE BEGINNING was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

All: This is the Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.



Please stand to sing the hymn.

CAROL: CP# 118 O Come All Ye Faithful

O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant,
O come ye, O come ye, to Bethlehem.
Come and behold him, born the King of angels;
O come let us adore him,
O come let us adore him,
O come let us adore him, Christ the Lord!

God of God, Light of Light,
Lo, he abhors not the virgin's womb.
Very God, begotten not created;
O come let us adore him,
O come let us adore him,
O come let us adore him, Christ the Lord!

Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,
Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!
Glory to God, all glory in the highest;
O come let us adore him,
O come let us adore him,
O come let us adore him, Christ the Lord!

See how the shepherds, summoned to his cradle, Leaving
their flocks in the fields, draw nigh with lowly fear.
We, too, will thither bend our footsteps;
O come let us adore him,
O come let us adore him,
O come let us adore him, Christ the Lord!

Yea, Lord we greet thee, born this happy morning,
Jesus, to thee be glory given.
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing.
O come let us adore him,
O come let us adore him,
O come let us adore him, Christ the Lord!

Text: Latin, 18th century
tr. F. Oakeley (1802-1880) and others

Music: ADESTE FIDELES, ., F. Wade (1711-1786);
descant: William Llewellyn (1925-2023)

Please remain standing.

THE COLLECT AND BLESSING

O GOD, WHO makes us glad with the yearly remembrance of the birth of your only son, Jesus Christ: Grant that as we joyfully receive him for our Redeemer, so we may with sure confidence behold him when he shall come to be our judge; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, world without end.

All: Amen.

CHRIST, WHO by his Incarnation gathered into one things earthly and heavenly, fill you with peace and goodwill and make you partakers of the divine nature; and the blessing . . .

All: Amen.

Please remain standing to sing the final hymn.

1) Hark the herald angels sing
Glory to the newborn King
Peace on earth and mercy mild
God and sinners reconciled
Joyful all ye nations rise
Join the triumph of the skies
With th'angelic hosts proclaim
Christ is born in Bethlehem

*Hark the herald angels sing
Glory to the newborn King*

2) Christ by highest heaven adored
Christ the everlasting Lord
Late in time behold him come
Offspring of the Virgin's womb
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see
Hail th'incarnate deity
Pleased as one of us to dwell
Jesus our Emmanuel

*Hark the herald angels sing
Glory to the newborn King*

3) Hail the heaven-born Prince of Peace
Hail the Sun of Righteousness
Light and life to all he brings
Ris'n with healing in his wings
Mild he lays his glory by
Born that we no more may die
Born to give each child of earth
Born to give us second birth

*Hark the herald angels sing
Glory to the newborn King*

