



***Welcome to the parish of
St. Philip by-the-Sea, Lantzville B.C.***

**Sunday, December 21st, 2025
4th Sunday of Advent
9:30 a.m. Service of Morning Prayer
(Book of Common Prayer)**

Welcome and Announcements

(Please stand, as you are able)

The Opening Sentence

I am the servant of the Lord; let it be to me according to his word.

Luke 1:38

The Lighting of the Advent Candles

Leader: This is the fourth Sunday in Advent. Each Sunday we have lit a new candle. The first candle represents **hope**, the second stands for **peace**, and last Sunday we lit the pink candle which represents **joy**.

(The first three candles will now be lit)

Leader: The **fourth candle** on the Advent wreath is called the **Candle of Love**. Its warm light tells us that the waiting is almost over and that Jesus, our Savior, is near. This candle teaches us that love is more than just a feeling it is a choice to care, to forgive, and to give.

(The fourth candle will now be lit)

Together we pray: **Lord Jesus, as we light this fourth candle, fill our hearts with your love. Help us to bring peace and kindness to others. Be near us as we wait for you with joy. Amen.**

Psalm 80:1-7, 16-18

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. **R**

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. **R**

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. **R**

Let your hand be upon the man of your right hand, 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. Restore us, O Lord God of hosts; show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved. **R**

The First Reading

A Reading from the Prophet Isaiah

(Ch. 7:10-16)

The Second Reading

A Reading from the Letter of Paul to the Romans

(Ch 1:1-7)

The Gospel

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew

(Ch. 1:18-25)

The Collect

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. Amen.

The Offertory

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. **Amen.**

Announcements

- Jan 1:** Celtic Music for Mediation - 2pm - St. George's Church, Cadboro Bay
- Jan 1:** Old Music for the New Year - 2:30pm - Christ Church Cathedral
- Jan 4th:** An invitation from Rev. Rosemary - Killian is turning one and he wants to celebrate with you all. We would love you to join us for celebrating and blessing our Killian on his first birthday on January 4th at St Philip's by-the-Sea Church. We will gather following the church service in the hall for brunch / appetizers. All are heartily invited.
- Jan 8th:** Parish Council Meeting – 7pm
- Jan 15th:** Men's Breakfast – 8:30am – Country Grocer Café Bowen Rd
- Jan 27:** The Bishop's Dinner - 5:30pm - Laurel Point Inn.
Purchase tix through Eventbrite or [click here](#)

All detailed event information can be found on the St. Philips website under the Events page: www.stphiliplantzville.ca

With special thanks to:

- Doug Sowden, Mark Taylor, Nicole McDaid and Diane Elliott who served as service leader, greeter and reader, Zoom manager and prayer leader.

*Your leadership, support and example are greatly valued and appreciated. **THANK YOU!***

In the Worldwide Anglican Community, we pray for: *The Anglican Church of Burundi.*

In our Diocese of British Columbia, we pray for: *Christ Church Cathedral School, Victoria.*

This week in our Parish of St. Philip by-the-Sea, we pray for: *Doug Sowden, Jill Stedman, Susie Stephens, Heidi Stokes, Sylvia Tabata and for all their families. We pray for peace and for all refugees around the world.*

UPCOMING SERVICE REMINDERS

Wednesday, December 24th, 2025, **4pm**

Christmas Eve

Service of Holy Eucharist (BAS)

Celebrant: Caleb Lawrence

Thursday, December 25th, 2025, **10am**

Christmas Day

Service of Holy Communion (BCP)

Celebrant: The Rev. Rosemary Mathews

Sunday, December 28th, 2025, 9:30am

First Sunday after Christmas

Service of Holy Eucharist (BAS)

Celebrant: The Rev. Leslie Flynn