

THE ANGLICAN PARISH OF ST. MARK

“Drawing People to the Light”

Part of the Diocese of British Columbia

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CHRISTMAS EVE DECEMBER 24TH, 2025 LITURGY OF THE ISLANDS

We acknowledge with thanksgiving that we gather to worship on the territories of the Kwakwaka'Wakw, Nuuchah-Nulth and Coast Salish Peoples.

We are grateful for our growing relationship with the Qualicum First Nation.

As part of the Anglican Church of Canada, a church of Settlers and First Nations, we commit ourselves to a journey of truth and reconciliation between the indigenous peoples of this land and the non-native peoples of Canada.

THE HOLY EUCHARIST

Guest musician

Pippa Williams

Processional Hymn: CP 123 Once in Royal David's City

Officiant Advent has been a time of waiting and anticipating Jesus' coming.
Our time of preparation is over now we celebrate the birth of Jesus.

People: **Each week during Advent we lit another candle on our wreath. We remembered God is the source of our hope, peace, love and joy.**

Officiant: We remember tonight God's love has been shown in a most wonderful way. A child has been born. This child is called Emmanuel – God with us. His name is Jesus – the one who saves; Out of God's infinite love God gave us God's self in Jesus.

(Christ candle is lit)

People: **Tonight, we light the white candle in the centre of the wreath for God's gift of Jesus. Just as the candle is the centre of the wreath, Jesus is the centre of our lives. Christ's light shines for all to see.**

Gloria



Glo - ri - a, glo - ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o!
Glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, Glo - ry in the high - est!
Glo - ri - a glo - ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o!

Glo - ri - a, glo - ri - a, al - le - lu - ia! al - le - lu - ia!
Glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, al - le - lu - ia! al - le - lu - ia!
Glo - ri - a, glo - ri - a al - le - lu - ia! al - le - lu - ia!

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Collect of the Day:

Almighty God, you made this holy night shine with the brightness of the true Light.
Grant that here on earth we may walk in the light of Jesus' presence and in the last day
wake to the brightness of his glory; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives
and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

First Reading: Isaiah 9:2-7

Psalm 96

O sing to the Lord a new song;
sing to the Lord, all the earth.

**Sing to the Lord; bless his name;
tell of his salvation from day to day.**

Declare his glory among the nations,
his marvelous works among all the peoples.

**For great is the Lord and greatly to be praised;
he is to be revered above all gods.**

For all the gods of the peoples are idols,
but the Lord made the heavens.

**Honor and majesty are before him;
strength and beauty are in his sanctuary.**

Ascribe to the Lord, O families of the peoples,
ascribe to the Lord glory and strength.

**Ascribe to the Lord the glory due his name;
bring an offering, and come into his courts.**

Worship the Lord in holy splendor;
tremble before him, all the earth.

**Say among the nations, "The Lord is king!
The world is firmly established; it shall never be moved.
He will judge the peoples with equity."**

Let the heavens be glad, and let the earth rejoice;
let the sea roar and all that fills it;
let the field exult and everything in it.
Then shall all the trees of the forest sing for joy

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**before the Lord, for he is coming,
for he is coming to judge the earth.
He will judge the world with righteousness
and the peoples with his truth.**

Second Reading: Titus 2:11-14

Gradual Hymn: CP 120 Little Town of Bethlehem vs 1,2 / 3,4

Gospel Luke 2: 1-20

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.

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. ¹⁰ 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. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

Celebrant: This is the gospel of Christ

People – Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ

Sermon The Venerable Elizabeth Northcott

Anthem Infant Holy, Infant Lowly

The Creed

Celebrant: Let us affirm our faith in Jesus Christ the Son of God.

People **Though he was divine he did not cling to equality with God,
But made himself nothing.
Taking the form of a slave, He was born in human likeness.
He humbled himself and was obedient to death, even death on the cross.
Therefore God has raised him on high, and given him the name above
every name: that at the name of Jesus , every knee should bow,
And every voice proclaim that Jesus Christ is Lord,
To the glory of God the Father. Amen**

Cf. Philippians 2: 6-11 from Creating Uncommon Worship by Richard Giles

The Prayers of the People (sit, stand or kneel)

Confession and Absolution

People **Jesus, forgive my sins.
Forgive the sins I can remember, and also the sins I have forgotten.
Forgive the wrong actions I have committed, and the right actions I have
omitted.
Forgive the times I have been weak in the face of temptation, and those
when I have been stubborn in the face of correction.
Forgive the times I have been proud of my own achievements, and those
when I have failed to boast of your works.
Forgive the harsh judgements I have made of others,
And the leniency I have shown myself.
Forgive the lies I told to others, and the truths I have avoided.**

Forgive me the pain I have caused others, and the indulgence I have shown to myself.

Jesus have pity on me, and make me whole.

Early Irish from A Celtic Primer p.85

Celebrant May the Lord of all healing and forgiveness draw you to himself, and cleanse you from all your sins that you may behold the glory of his Son, the word made flesh, Jesus Christ our Lord.

The Peace

Offertory Hymn: CP 138 Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

The Sacred Meal is Shared

Prayer over the Gifts: God of hope, renew in us the joy of your salvation and make us a living sacrifice to you, for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Eucharistic Prayer (sit, stand or kneel)

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 indeed that we should praise you,
God of love, our source and our fulfilment,
for you create all things and in you we live and move and have our being.
Your wonder is manifest in land and sea and sky.
You made us in your image.
And even though we turn from you, again and again you call us to yourself,
and in every age, promise liberation.
As a mother tenderly gathers her children, you embraced a people as your own
to nurture them in your way of compassionate love.
You sent Jesus among us, incarnate of the Holy Spirit and born of Mary.
Jesus revealed your love for all Creation,
and showed us the way of reconciliation.
Having lived among us

Jesus suffered the cross, died, and in rising again
became the firstborn of the renewed family.

And so we gather around your table, with saints of every age and your beloved
creation we raise our voices and sing:

(Sung) **Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.**

Celebrant To you be glory, almighty God,
because on the night before he died,
Jesus took bread,
when he had given thanks,
he broke it, gave it to his disciples, and said:
Take, eat, this is my body
which is given for you: do this to remember me.

After supper he took the cup;
when had given thanks,
he gave it to them and said:
This is my blood of the new covenant,
poured out for you and for many;
do this to remember me.

Great is the mystery of faith.

People: **Christ has died,
Christ is risen,
Christ will come in glory.**

Celebrant Recalling Christ's death and resurrection,
we ask you to accept this our sacrifice of praise.
Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here, and on these gifts of bread and
wine that we may be fed with the body and blood of your Son.
When all creation groans, unite us in Christ and give us your hope that we
might be strengthened to do your work, as your body in the world.
Through Christ our Redeemer, in the power of the Spirit, all praise and glory
be yours, Almighty God, now and forever.

People **Amen.**

Celebrant As our Saviour taught us, let us pray,
The Lord's Prayer (sung)

Our Fath-er in hea-ven, hal-lowed be your name, your king-dom come.

your will be done, on earth as in hea-ven. Give us to-day

our dai-ly bread. For-give us our sins as we for-give those who sin a-

gainst us. Save us from the time of tri-al and de-liv-er us from

e- vil. For the king-dom, the pow'r, and the glo-ry are yours

now and for- ev- er. A- - men.

The Breaking of the Bread:

Celebrant Creator of all, who summons the salmon from the depths of the seas to yearn for the place of their origin.

People: **So may your Spirit stir in our hearts to return and find our home in you.**

Celebrant The gifts of God for the people of God.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

The Communion — All are welcome to share in the blessed bread and wine or to come for a blessing.

Prayer Ministry

Our healing prayer team invites you to join them to pray or give thanks to God in the narthex (entrance) during or after communion, or in the alcove under the Exit sign after the service. Confidentiality is assured.

Candle Lighting

As you are coming back from communion please take a candle and light it while we sing “What child is this” and ‘Silent Night’

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?

Chorus:

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.[Chorus]

So bring Him incense, gold, and myrrh,

Come, peasant, king to own Him.

The King of kings salvation brings;

Let loving hearts enthrone Him.

[Chorus]

Silent Night

Silent night, holy night,
All is calm, all is bright
Round yon virgin mother and child!
Holy Infant so tender and mild,
Sleep in heavenly peace,
Sleep in heavenly peace.

Silent night, holy night,
Son of God, love's pure light
Radiant beams from Thy holy face,
With the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth,
Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth.

Silent night, holy night,
Wondrous star, lend the light;
With the angels let us sing
Alleluia to our King;
Christ the Savior is born,
Christ the Savior is born.

The lights come on again and re-join in the prayer after communion:

Prayer after Communion: God for whom we wait, you have fed us with the bread of eternal life. Keep us ever watchful, that we may be ready to stand before the Son of man. We ask this in the name of Christ the Lord. Amen.

Glory to God, 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.

Blessing

Recessional Hymn: 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!

Refrain:

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;

[Refrain]

Sing, choirs of angels; sing in exultation;
sing, all ye citizens of heav'n above!
Glory to God, all glory in the highest!

[Refrain]

Yea, Lord, we greet Thee, born this happy morning;
Jesus, to Thee be all glory giv'n!
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing!

[Refrain]

Dismissal

<i>Leader</i>	Go from this place seeking Christ in all people:
<i>People</i>	We go to love and serve our neighbours as ourselves.

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*Please join us for conversation and refreshments in the Parish Hall
following the service.*

PRAYER FOR CHRISTMAS EVE

We praise you, loving God, that in Jesus Christ you have come to speak your word of love and life. Touch us with unearthly joy, like the singing of angels; fill us with wonder, like the eyes of children; teach us to humble ourselves before you. Like the worshipping Magi, may our journey to the manger be only the beginning of a lifetime of service to Jesus. Amen.

PRAYER FOR PARENTS

O God, who brings new life to birth, make your presence known to parents everywhere. Just as you were with Mary and Joseph in Bethlehem may the light of your Christmas star shine on families living in the shadow of violence and poverty. Send your angel choirs to life the hearts of mothers and fathers who raise their children alone. Give gifts, not necessarily of gold or frankincense, but of faith, hope, and love. Bless parents with wisdom to grant their children's reasonable requests, with courage to deny what may harm them, and with the desire to nurture a child's love for you, through Jesus Christ the Lord. Amen.

Merry Christmas to All