



40 years

Anglican Church
of the Advent
we create belonging

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The Right Rev. Anna Greenwood-Lee, Bishop
Rev. Sr. Ingrid Andersen, Priest

Season of Creation & Welcome Back Sunday

Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

10:00 a.m. Service

September 13, 2026



Living Water
Season of Creation 2026

IMMERSION IN LIVING WATER

Ezekiel 47:9, 12

Sunday Services are at 8:30 a.m. (Traditional Rite)

10:00 a.m. (Contemporary)

Office Hours Mon to Thurs 9:30 am – 12:30 pm

Online Bible Study Thursdays at 6:00 p.m.

WELCOME TO ANGLICAN CHURCH OF THE ADVENT

If you are new to our parish, please identify yourself to the sidespersons or priest so we can welcome you and tell you about our church.

We recognize that we worship on the traditional lands of Coast Salish peoples. We commit ourselves to continue with our First Nations neighbours on the journey of healing, truth, and reconciliation.

The Rev. Sr. Ingrid Andersen preaches & presides.

This service is being broadcast live on the Internet. By attending this morning, you acknowledge and consent to the fact that video images of you may appear there.

Please have your electronic devices on silent mode during the service.

10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist

Lay Eucharistic Minister is Carol Denton

Sidespeople are Gwen & Doug Doust

Ministry of the Chalice – Joan Hoffman

Director of Music is Nell Howard

THE GATHERING OF THE COMMUNITY

Leader: As we meet today, we begin by remembering the Songhees and x^wsepsəm nations, on whose traditional land we now gather in gratitude. We acknowledge their story and their stewardship of the land and water, the plants, and animals, through the many generations. As we meet today, we remember those who have called this place their home in recent years — the community of faith known as Anglican Church of the Advent. Let us greet one another with words and signs of welcome.

Introit: Hush! Hush!

Words and Music African - American spiritual: arr. Stephen Lee (2006) Used by permission

Opening Hymn: SNC 96 All Creation Danced in Answer

Author: John Core (2006) © 2006 Wayne Leupold Editions, Inc.; © Patrick Michaels

All creation danced in answer when God's voice first touched the air
and the great eternal cantor called a universe to prayer,
called to praise and to thanksgiving all that filled the space about,
sought a hymn from all things living, bid the stones themselves cry out.

Jesus gave the tune new texture, love song for a world set free:
gospel sung in full, rich measure, earth's voice, but God's melody;
passion music, sad and somber, discord on a cross was built,
giving way to bright new timbre in the Easter morning's lilt.

And the Spirit comes, composing music made of wind and fire,
in its new-found tones disclosing all the heart and soul require,
forging from day's hum and thunder, from that mixture sweet and strong,
psalms and hymns of awe and wonder: daily life as sacred song.

Come, my friends, sing, dance in answer as God's music fills the air
and the great eternal cantor calls us yet to praise and prayer,
bids us join the endless singing, till all earthly song shall cease;
heaven's voice alone goes ringing through a universe at peace.

Sentence of the Day: A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another as I have loved you.

Collect of the Day: O God, having shown us how far your love goes in saving the lost and forgotten, mercifully grant that we might join you in the work of reuniting with all creatures; through Jesus Christ the Wisdom of Creation, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, now and for ever. Amen.

(Please be seated)

THE STORY OF FAITH IS PROCLAIMED

Chat at the Chancel:

Hymn: If I Were a Butterfly (Vs 3)

Author: Brian Howard. © 1974, 1975 Celebration

If I were a wiggly worm, I'd thank you, God, that I could squirm.
And if I were a billy goat, I'd thank you, God for my strong throat.
And if I were a fuzzy wuzzy bear, I'd thank you, God, for my fuzzy wuzzy hair,

Refrain: But...I just thank you, God for making me "me."
For you gave me a heart and you gave me a smile.
You gave me Jesus and you made me your child.
And I just thank you, God, for making me "me."

The angel of God who was going before the Israelite army moved and went behind them; and the pillar of cloud moved from in front of them and took its place behind them. It came between the army of Egypt and the army of Israel. And so the cloud was there with the darkness, and it lit up the night; one did not come near the other all night. Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea. The Lord drove the sea back by a strong east wind all night, and turned the sea into dry land; and the waters were divided. The Israelites went into the sea on dry ground, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left. The Egyptians pursued, and went into the sea after them, all of Pharaoh's horses, chariots, and chariot drivers. At the morning watch the Lord in the pillar of fire and cloud looked down upon the Egyptian army, and threw the Egyptian army into panic. He clogged their chariot wheels so that they turned with difficulty. The Egyptians said, "Let us flee from the Israelites, for the Lord is fighting for them against Egypt." Then the Lord said to Moses, "Stretch out your hand over the sea, so that the water may come back upon the Egyptians, upon their chariots and chariot drivers." So Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and at dawn the sea returned to its normal depth. As the Egyptians fled before it, the Lord tossed the Egyptians into the sea. The waters returned and covered the chariots and the chariot drivers, the entire army of Pharaoh that had followed them into the sea; not one of them remained. But the Israelites walked on dry ground through the sea, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left. Thus the Lord saved Israel that day from the Egyptians; and Israel saw the Egyptians dead on the seashore. Israel saw the great work that the Lord did against the Egyptians. So the people feared the Lord and believed in the Lord and in his servant Moses.

Hear what the Spirit says to the Church.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm: 114

Hallelujah! When Israel came out of Egypt, *** the house of Jacob from a people of strange speech,**

Judah became God's sanctuary *** and Israel his dominion.**

The sea beheld it and fled; *** Jordan turned and went back.**

The mountains skipped like rams, *** and the little hills like young sheep.**

What ailed you, O sea, that you fled? *** O Jordan, that you turned back?**

You mountains, that you skipped like rams? * **you little hills like young sheep?**

Tremble, O earth, at the presence of the Lord, * **at the presence of the God of Jacob.**

Who turned the hard rock into a pool of water * **and flint-stone into a flowing spring.**

Second Reading: Romans 14:1-12

Dayle Robertson

Welcome those who are weak in faith, but not for the purpose of quarrelling over opinions. Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables. Those who eat must not despise those who abstain, and those who abstain must not pass judgement on those who eat; for God has welcomed them. Who are you to pass judgement on servants of another? It is before their own lord that they stand or fall. And they will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make them stand. Some judge one day to be better than another, while others judge all days to be alike. Let all be fully convinced in their own minds. Those who observe the day, observe it in honour of the Lord. Also those who eat, eat in honour of the Lord, since they give thanks to God; while those who abstain, abstain in honour of the Lord and give thanks to God. We do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living. Why do you pass judgement on your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the judgement seat of God. For it is written, "As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall give praise to God." So then, each of us will be accountable to God.

Hear what the Spirit says to the Church.

Thanks be to God.

(Please stand as you are able for the Gradual Hymn.)

Gradual Hymn: MV 95 How Deep the Peace

Author: Lynn Bauman © 2000 Lynn Bauman, from "Ancient Songs Sung Anew: the Psalms as Poetry" Music copyright © 2004 Borealis Music

How deep the peace, the confidence, of those whose wrongs are forgiven.
How deep the peace, the confidence, of those whose hearts are healed.

(Please remain standing for the Gospel reading)

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ.

Gospel: Matthew 18:21-35

Rev. Ingrid Andersen

Then Peter came and said to Jesus, "Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?" Jesus said to him, "Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times. For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.' And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat, he said, 'Pay what you owe.' Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you.' But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. Then his lord summoned him and said to him, 'You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?' And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart."

The Gospel of Christ.

Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.

Sermon: Rev. Ingrid Andersen

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

Prayers of the People:

Janet Denford

(Please be seated for the prayers)

Each petition will end with – Creator, in your mercy.

Please respond with – **Hear our prayer.**

Confession & Absolution: We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning you created us in your image and placed us in a well-watered garden. In the desert, you promised pools of water for the parched, and you gave your people water from the rock. When we did not know the way, you sent the Good Shepherd to lead us to still waters. At the cross, you washed us from Jesus' wounded side, and on this day, you shower us again with the water of life. You bathe us in your forgiveness, grace, and love. You satisfy all who thirst and give us the life only you can give.

(Adapted from All Creation Sings, ELCIA)

We lament that we have neglected this gift and have taken the waters for granted.

The response in this lament is 'ashamnu', which means in Hebrew 'as we have all been guilty'.

We look upon your waters, O God, and we grieve:
Rivers run polluted. Oceans choke with plastic.
Marine life disappears from warming seas.
Coral reefs fade and fisheries collapse. **Ashamnu**

The seas rise and swallow coasts.
Storms grow stronger. Floods destroy homes.
Drought cracks the Earth and children thirst.
Fire destroys homes and destroys life. **Ashamnu**

We confess that we have not guarded your waters.
We have consumed water without restraint.
We have polluted what you called good.
We have forgotten that the river of life flows from your throne. **Ashamnu**

Absolution: God's mercy flows like living water. The love of God, incarnate in Jesus who spoke to troubled waters, forgives us and calms our hearts so that justice may flow to all the dry places in our lives. In the name of Christ, may this grace free us to follow and proclaim the good news of the healing of all creation. **Amen.**

(from Season of Creation, Anglican Communion 2026)

(Please stand as you are able for the Peace)

The Peace:

The peace of the Lord be always with you.
And also with you!

All are warmly welcomed to join us at the Lord's Table. If you prefer not to receive communion but prefer to receive a blessing, please cross your arms over your chest. Gluten-free bread is available upon request. Please leave your communion glasses in the bowls on the left and right as you return to your seat.

THE SACRED MEAL IS SHARED

Offertory Hymn: PoP 124 When We Have Wandered

Author: David Bjorlin © Text: David Bjorlin, b.1984; © 2020 GIA Publications, Inc.

When we have wandered far from our homeland,
sowing rebellion, reaping despair,
Christ waits to claim us— save us, not shame us—
ever revealing God's tender care.

And while returning, still at a distance,
Christ runs to meet us, waiting no more.
Not to disgrace us, but to embrace us,
Christ comes to pardon, heal, and restore.

While we still wander lost and defeated,
yet Christ comes searching where we now roam—
seeks till he finds us, and in love binds us
to God's great mercy leading us home.

Prayer over the Gifts: Holy God, accept all we offer you this day. May we who are reconciled at this table bring wholeness to our broken world. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord. Amen.

Eucharistic Prayer:

May God be with you

And also with you

Lift up your hearts

We lift them up

Let us give thanks to God our Creator

It is right to give our thanks and praise

It is right at all times and in all places to thank and praise you Creator of all. We praise you here on the land of the Songhees and x^wsepsəm nations where the Pacific Ocean meets the shore, where city and forest, wilderness and industry

are side by side. We praise you at a time when the body of earth is broken again and again.

We give thanks for our place in the story of salvation. Our ancestors journeyed with you in creation and migration. They depended on the land, were displaced from the land and displaced others from their lands. They knew you in tents and cities, on mountains and by wells, in families and in dreams, and through wilderness prophets who spoke of cedars and listened to ravens.

Together with angels and ancestors, orca and salmon, bear and raven, salal and cedar we join our voices with all creation in this ancient honour song.

The Sanctus: VU 951 Santo, Santo, Santo (Anon., Argentina)

Santo, santo, santo. Mi Corazón te Adora!

Mi Corazón te sabe decir; Santo eres Dios!

Holy, holy, holy, my heart, my heart adores you!

My heart is glad to say the words: You are holy, God!

We give thanks to you for Jesus, whose first bed was a feed trough. He was baptized into the Jordan, tested in the wilderness, he travelled in fishing boats and told parables of farmers and seeds, labour and wages, yeast and bread. On the night before he died, Jesus took bread, food of the poor, the work of field and hearth, he gave thanks, broke it and gave it to his friends saying: Take and eat, this is my body, given for you, do this to remember me.

Again after supper he took the cup of wine, fruit of the land, gave thanks and gave it to his friends saying: This is my blood, which is shed for you. When you do this, do it in memory of me. Remembering Jesus' life, death and resurrection and awaiting his coming kingdom, we offer you this bread and this cup.

Creator, send your Spirit on these gifts so that we know Jesus in them and are gathered together with everyone who shares this sacred meal of justice and community. Fill us with the courage and love of Jesus, that we may strive for justice and peace, respect the dignity of every human being, and safeguard the integrity of creation.

Bring us with all your saints to your commonwealth of sparrow and lily, child and beggar which is both now and yet to come. All honour and glory are yours, Creator, Christ and Spirit, now and forever. **Amen.**

Lord's Prayer:

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Our Father in Heaven, Hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us today 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 pow'r and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread:

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.

We, being many, are one body, for we all share in the one bread.

The gifts of God for the People of God.

Thanks be to God.

The Communion:

Communion Anthem: Lord, Your Hands Have Formed This World *(Sung by Choir)*

Text Ramon and Salio Oliano; Music arr. John Bell 1991

Prayer after Communion: God of peace, in this eucharist we have been reconciled to you and to our neighbours. May we who have been nourished by holy things always have the courage to forgive. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord. Amen.

Doxology: 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.

SENDING FORTH

Shared Ministry:

Birthdays & Anniversaries:

Sending out of Lay Eucharistic Visitors:

In the name of God and of this congregation, we send you forth bearing these holy gifts, that those to whom you go may share with us in Christ's body and blood.

We being many, are one body, because we all share in the one bread.

May those who receive it from you be strengthened and encouraged in the community we have together in our Lord Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

Blessing:

Commissioning Hymn: MV 144 Like a Healing Stream

Author: Bruce Harding © 2003 by Bruce Harding

Like a healing stream in a barren desert, spirit water bringing life to dusty earth,
God is trickling through our lives as in a dream unfolding,
Promising revival and rebirth...like a healing stream.

Like a gentle rain on a thirsty garden, spirit water come to nourish tiny seed,
God is bubbling through the soil to coax a new creation,
Yearning for an end to want and need... like a gentle rain.

Like a river strong with a restless current, spirit water rushing on to distant shore,
God is carving out a channel in a new direction,
Calling for an end to hate and war... like a river strong.

Like a mighty sea reaching far horizons,
spirit water with a love both deep and wide,
God is working in our hearts to shape a new tomorrow:

God will always challenge and provide!

Like a mighty sea, like a river strong,
Like a gentle rain, like a healing stream.

Commissioning:

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. **In the name of Christ!**

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INTERCESSIONS

TODAY WE PRAY

For The Anglican Church in Aotearoa, New Zealand, and Polynesia.

We pray for our Primate Shane, John our Metropolitan,

Anna our Bishop, and Ingrid our Priest.

*In the Western Peninsula & Gulf Islands region for all in ministry at St Margaret,
Galiano Island.*

FOR THOSE WHO HAVE ASKED US TO PRAY FOR THEM

*We pray for those who have asked for our prayers and for those we know and love,
especially Dirk, Don, Barb, Audrey, Cena, Andrew, Tina, Jenny, Jim, Wayne, and
Neil, and the residents and staff of The Priory.*

READINGS FOR NEXT WEEK

Exodus 16:2-15; Psalm 105:1-6, 37-45; Philippians 1:21-30; Matthew 20:1-16

SHARED MINISTRY

Monday Home Church - The Monday Home Church study group resumes meeting weekly via Zoom this Monday, Sept 14th at 7 pm. Bill and Linda Van Sickles serve as hosts for these sessions. This group enjoys fellowship with one another and a real desire to deepen our understanding of our faith and scriptures.

We focus our study by watching video lecture series published by the Great Courses Teaching Company, the Faith and Reason Organization and other sources. We open with a prayer, watch the video presentation, have an informal discussion about the lecture and close with the grace.

This Monday, we begin a 24 lecture series called “Comparative Religion”, by Professor Kimball, from the Great Courses organization. Here is a short course description: *Explore how five great world religions address core issues—including creation stories, concepts of the divine, and ultimate goals—in parallel and different ways.*

If you have any questions and/or are interested in joining in, please get in touch with Bill or Linda at 778 265 5347 or lindavs51@gmail.com. We can send you the link for the Zoom session.

In recent years, we enjoyed courses such as “The Challenge of Jesus”, “The Challenge of Paul”, “The History and Archeology of the Bible” and “Great Figures of the New Testament”.

Fall Garden Clean-Up Day - Join us on **Saturday, September 19 at 9:00 a.m.** as we come together to tend, refresh, and care for our parish grounds. All volunteers are welcome, and no experience is needed — just a willingness to lend a hand and to enjoy time in community. Garden gloves, a spade and rainproof clothing are recommended.

Don't miss Jazz Vespers Sept 20 at 7pm! Anglican Church of the Advent is thrilled to welcome jazz vocalist Diane Pancel. Diane is a multi-award winning recording artist and international cabaret star. Known for her ability to connect with the audience, Diane brings her unique style to American Songbook Cabaret hits. Diane has performed alongside artists such as David Foster, Nelly Furtado, Michael Chiklis, Leanne Rimes, Matt Dusk, and more recently the Victoria Symphony. Diane will be accompanied by Ashley Wey on piano and Louis Rudner on bass. Suggested donation \$20.

September Training Opportunity with Greater Victoria Acting Together (GVAT) -

Sept 25 & 26: We will be hosting GVAT's *Foundations of Community Organizing* intensive training course this September, over a Friday evening and a Saturday.

How to Register: See your newsletter for the registration link. You will receive an e-mail with zoom and event details closer to the event. This training is free for members of the Anglican Church of the Advent. Register soon!

When: September 25th: 6-8pm (Online, via Zoom) and September 26th: 9-3:30pm (In person, hall).

Book Sale - Mark your calendars for our giant annual book sale, coming soon on **Saturday, October 3rd, 9 am to 3 pm!** Of course, there will also be the pre-sale on the evening of **Friday, October 2nd, 6 to 8 pm.**

We are now accepting donations of gently used books. Books can be dropped off during office hours Monday through Thursday, or you can call the parish office to make alternate arrangements.

What we are not accepting:

- Please no encyclopedias or Reader's Digest.
- No very old musty, dusty books. Some of our volunteers suffer from severe allergies to dust and mold. Thank you!

Book Sale Prep Week: Signup sheets are now out in the Narthex for volunteers to sign up to help with the book sale preparations, all happening from September 28th through to October 2nd, and on the day of the Sale. Additionally, we are looking for volunteers who can assist with the redistribution of unsold books.

Posters: Please pick up a poster or two from the Narthex and display them wherever you can in the community. Help spread the word!

From the Parish Library: On this week's Top Shelf are more books from the Environment section, including Mary Robinson's uplifting Climate Justice: Hope, Resilience, and the Fight for a Sustainable Future. Joining them is The Book of Joy, from His Holiness the Dalai Lama and Archbishop Desmond Tutu.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Sep 15 Parish Council Mtg, 6:45 pm

Sep 20 Jazz Vespers feat. Diane Pancel, Ashley Wey & Louis Rudner

Sep 23 Community Lunch

Sep 24 Prayer Shawl Mtg, 10 am, St. John's Rm

Sep 26 Spanish Service & Potluck, 6 pm

Sep 27 Parish Coffee Welcome, after 10:00 service

Sept 28-Oct 2 BOOK SALE PREP WEEK

Oct 3 BOOK SALE DAY

Taize, 5 pm

Oct 6 Election Town Hall, 7 pm

Oct 7 Community Coffee Social, 9:30 - 11 am

Oct 12 Parish Office Closed

Oct 13-15 Ingrid is away

Oct 17 Environmental Expo, 10 am

Family Movie Night, 6 pm, Hall

Oct 20 Parish Council Mtg, 6:45 pm

Oct 22 Prayer Shawl Mtg, 10 am

Oct 24 Spanish Service, 5 pm

Harvest Dinner, 6 pm

Oct 28 Community Lunch

Oct 31 Parish Council Working Morning, 9-12:30, Chapel