

DECEMBER 13, 2020
ADVENT THREE



*Welcome to our service of Holy Eucharist. All are welcome, we are glad that you are here. The people are invited to join in everything that is in **BOLD** type, while the Celebrant will speak the plain type.*

The people stand.

ENTRANCE HYMN, O COME, O COME EMMANUEL

1 O come, O come, Immanuel,
and ransom captive Israel
that mourns in lonely exile here
until the Son of God appear.

Refrain:

Rejoice! Rejoice! Immanuel
shall come to you, O Israel.

2 O come, O Wisdom from on high,
who ordered all things mightily;
to us the path of knowledge show
and teach us in its ways to go. Refrain

3 O come, O come, great Lord of might,
who to your tribes on Sinai's height
in ancient times did give the law
in cloud and majesty and awe. Refrain

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLES

First Reader: On this third Sunday of Advent,
as we think about the coming of Jesus Christ,
we light the candle of joy.

Second Reader. When Christ comes into our lives,
He brings the fullness of joy.
He anoints our hearts with the oil of gladness.

First Reader: When Jesus was born,
the angels said that His coming was
good news of great joy for all people.

**All: Because Christ has come to us,
we can live every day in the joy of the Lord.
Praise to His name!**

COLLECT OF THE DAY

Let us pray:

God of all hope and joy,
**open our hearts in welcome,
so that your Son Jesus Christ at his coming
may find in us a dwelling prepared for him;
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. Amen**

THE PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

The people sit.

First Reading: A reading from the Prophet Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11

The spirit of the Lord God is upon me, because the Lord has anointed me; he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed, to bind up the broken-hearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and release to the prisoners; to proclaim the year of the Lord's favour, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn; to provide for those who mourn in Zion - to give them a garland instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, the mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit. They will be called oaks of righteousness, the planting of the Lord, to display his glory. They shall build up the ancient ruins, they shall raise up the former devastations; they shall repair the ruined cities, the devastations of many generations. For I the Lord love justice, I hate robbery and wrongdoing; I will faithfully give them their recompense, and I will make an everlasting covenant with them. Their descendants shall be known among the nations, and their offspring among the peoples; all who see them shall acknowledge that they are a people whom the Lord has blessed. I will greatly rejoice in the Lord, my whole being shall exult in my God; for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation, he has covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels. For as the earth brings forth its

shoots, and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up, so the Lord God will cause righteousness and praise to spring up before all the nations.

PSALM 126 (We say the psalm responsively. The people read the **BOLD**.)

1 When God restored the fortunes of Zion,*
then were we like those who dream.

**2 Then was our mouth filled with laughter,*
and our tongue with shouts of joy.**

3 Then they said among the nations,*
"God has done great things for them."

**4 God has done great things for us,*
and we are glad indeed.**

5 Restore our fortunes, O God,*
like the watercourses of the Negev.

**6 Those who sowed with tears*
will reap with songs of joy.**

7 Those who go out weeping, carrying the seed,*
will come again with joy, shouldering their sheaves.

**Glory to God our Creator, to God's most Holy Word,
and to the Spirit, indwelling:***
as it was in the beginning, is now and will be for ever. Amen.

The Lord be with you,

And also with you.

The Holy Gospel according to John,

Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ.

JOHN 1:6-8, 19-28

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. This is the testimony given by John when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, "Who are you?" He confessed and did not deny it, but confessed, "I am not the Messiah." And they asked him, "What then? Are you Elijah?" He said, "I am not." "Are you the prophet?" He answered, "No." Then they said to him, "Who are you? Let us have an answer for those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?" He said, "I am the voice of one crying out in the wilderness, 'Make straight the way of the Lord,'" as the prophet Isaiah said. Now they had been sent from the Pharisees. They asked him, "Why then are you

baptizing if you are neither the Messiah, nor Elijah, nor the prophet?" John answered them, "I baptize with water. Among you stands one whom you do not know, the one who is coming after me; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandal." This took place in Bethany across the Jordan where John was baptizing.

JOHN 1:6-8, 19-28

The Gospel of Christ,

Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ

CANTICLE: THE MAGNIFICAT

**My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,
for he has looked with favor on the lowliness of his servant. Surely, from now on all
generations will call me blessed; for the Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy
is God's name.**

**God's mercy is for those who fear from generation to generation. He has shown strength
with his arm; he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts.**

God has brought down the powerful from their thrones, and lifted up the lowly;

God has filled the hungry with good things, and sent the rich away empty.

**God has helped his servant Israel, in remembrance of his mercy,
according to the promise he made to our ancestors, to Abraham and Sarah and to their
descendants forever.**

SERMON

AN AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

We are called to proclaim the truth and let us believe:

It is not true that this world and its people are doomed to die and to be lost.

**This is true: I have come that they may have life
in all its abundance.**

It is not true that we must accept inhumanity and discrimination, hunger and poverty, death
and destruction.

**This is true: The deaf hear, the dead are raised to life,
the poor are hearing the good news.**

It is not true that violence and hatred should have the last word
and that war and destruction have come to stay forever.

**This is true: Death shall be no more,
neither shall there be mourning nor crying nor pain any more.**

It is not true that we are simply victims
of the powers of evil who seek to rule the world.

**This is true: The Lord whom we seek
will suddenly come to the temple;
and the Lord is like a refining fire.**

It is not true that our dreams of liberation, of human dignity,
are not meant for this earth and for this history.

**This is true: It is already time for us to wake from sleep.
For the night is far gone, the day is at hand.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Let us pray together, let us “Make our House Ready for the Lord”,
with a poem by Mary Oliver

Dear Lord, I have swept and I have washed but
still nothing is as shining as it should be
for you. Under the sink, for example, is an
uproar of mice — it is the season of their
many children. What shall I do? And under the eaves
and through the walls the squirrels
have gnawed their ragged entrances — but it is the season
when they need shelter, so what shall I do? And
the raccoon limps into the kitchen and opens the cupboard
while the dog snores, the cat hugs the pillow;
what shall I do? Beautiful is the new snow falling
in the yard and the fox who is staring boldly
up the path, to the door. And still I believe you will
come, Lord: you will, when I speak to the fox,
the sparrow, the lost dog, the shivering sea-geese, know
that really I am speaking to you whenever I say,
as I do all morning and afternoon: Come in, Come in.

Let us pray to the Lord saying; **Come in, come in.**

Come in to our church here in New Westminster as we prepare for the coming of the Lord. During these difficult times, help us to connect with one another so that we may share this journey in joy and faith.

Let us pray to the Lord saying; **Come in, come in.**

Come in to the halls of power where our leaders too are wondering what they shall do. Give them resolve and courage to make the difficult decision required of these trying times. Help them to serve with joy.

Let us pray to the Lord saying; **Come in, come in.**

Come in where there is strife and war in countries around the world. Bring peace and security, food and shelter, hope and faith to all those who suffer. Bring joy to those that have none.

Let us pray to the Lord saying; **Come in, come in.**

Come in to our homes, businesses, schools and hospitals in New Westminster and sit with all those who need your loving hand. Help everyone in our community to experience the joy of your presence.

Let us pray to the Lord saying; **Come in, come in.**

Come in to the places where your people have the most need. Meet the poor, the lonely, the hungry and fill their hearts with joy for the coming of the one who will save us all. We remember especially our sister Chantelle.

Let us pray to the Lord saying; **Come in, come in.**

Come in and comfort the grieving and give them peace and joy, knowing that their beloved now rest in glory with you. We remember those who have left us this year, Peggy, Vladim, Leif and Jason, and those who mourn for them, Donna and Irena.

Let us pray to the Lord saying; **Come in, come in.**

Gracious and loving God, we are waiting for you to come in. We are preparing our hearts with joy for your son to walk with us in this world. The path lies before us and we eagerly turn our gaze towards your coming.

In the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord and savior, we pray, Amen.

THE PEACE

The people stand.

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

OFFERTORY HYMN

PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS

Let us pray:

God of abundance,
we bring before you
the precious fruits of your creation,
and with them our very lives.
Teach us patience and hope
as we care for all those in need
until the coming of your Son,
our Saviour and Lord. Amen.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**
Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Blessed are you, gracious God . . .
. . . to proclaim the glory of your name:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of Power and Might
Heaven and Earth are Full of Your Glory,
Hosanna in the Highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord
Hosanna in the Highest.

We give thanks to you, Lord our God . . .
...therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith.

Christ has died; Christ has risen; Christ will come again

And we offer our sacrifice . . .
...now and for ever.

LORD'S PRAYER

As our Saviour taught us, let us pray,
Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as 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 power,
and the glory are yours,
now and for ever. Amen.

BREAKING OF THE BREAD

God of Promise,
you prepare a banquet for us in your kingdom.
Happy are those who are called
to the supper of the Lamb.

The gifts of God for the people of God.
Thanks be to God.

THE COMMUNION

The Table is ready and all are welcome

Receiving Communion at St. Barnabas:

Please extend both hands for bread; one hand for a wafer (to dip in the cup.) When receiving wine or grape juice, please assist the cupbearer by guiding the chalice with your hand. The silver cup contains wine and the pottery cup contains grape juice.

Please maintain respectful silence during communion.

THE PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

The people stand.

Let us pray:

All your works praise you, O God,
And your faithful servants bless you.

Gracious God
we thank you for feeding us
with the body and blood of your Son
Jesus Christ.

May we, who share his body,
live his risen life;
we, who drink his cup,
bring life to others;
we, whom the Spirit lights,
give light to the world.

Keep us firm in the hope you have set before us,
so that we and all your children shall be free,
and the whole earth live to praise your name;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRIEST'S BLESSING

Be steadfast in faith, joyful in hope, and untiring in love all the days of your life; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always.

SENDING HYMN: BORN IN THE NIGHT, MARY'S CHILD

Born in the night, Mary's Child,
a long way from your home;
coming in need, Mary's Child,
born in a borrowed room.

Clear shining light, Mary's Child,
your face lights up our way;
light of the world, Mary's Child,
dawn on our darkened day.

Truth of our life, Mary's Child,
you tell us God is good;
prove it is true, Mary's Child,
go to your cross of wood.

Hope of the world, Mary's Child,
you're coming soon to reign;
Savior of all, Mary's Child,
walk in our streets again.

SENDING OUT

Let us bless the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

TODAY'S WORSHIP TEAM

Presider: Emilie Preacher: Mavis

Music: Patti

Reader: Margaret

Prayers: Martha



Rejoice!