

Third Sunday of Advent



10:30 Service of Holy Eucharist

Sunday, December 15th, 2024

“Glorifying God as Agents of His Reconciliation”

Lighting the Advent Wreath

Leader: Scripture points us to the mystery of God's work, pointing us beyond our confusion of mind and darkness of heart, reminding us of the voice which cries in the wilderness: Prepare the way of the Lord.

People: We will use our time in the wilderness of uncertainty and doubt, of anxiety and care, to prepare a way for the Lord, to receive the greater one who is to come!

Leader: Through John's testimony we are pointed to the Light, the Light that illuminates the darkness of the world.

People: We respond to John's invitation to believe in Jesus the Light of the World!

We light the first candle of Advent to remind us to keep awake and be ready.

We light the second candle of Advent to remind us to repent and to be open to God's new work among us.

We light the third candle of Advent to remind us to believe in Jesus the Light of the World.

ALL: Christmas is Coming (sung)

Chorus:

**Christmas is coming
the Church is glad to sing
and let the advent candles
brightly burn in a ring.**

**The first is for God's promise
to put the wrong things right,
and bring to earth's darkness
the hope of love and light.**

**The second is for the Prophet
Who said that Christ would come.
With good news for many
And angry words for some.**

**The third is for the Baptist,
Who cried 'Prepare the way,**

**be ready for Jesus,
Both now and every day'**

THE HOLY EUCHARIST

Sentence: Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.
All flesh shall see the salvation of God. *Luke 3:4,6*

Hymns are from "The Celebration Hymnal" in the pews.
Please stand.

O Come, O Come Emmanuel

O come, O come, Emmanuel,
And ransom captive Israel,
That mourns in lonely exile here,
Until the Son of God appear.

Chorus

**Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel.**

O come, Thou Dayspring, come and cheer
Our spirits by Thine advent here
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night
And death's dark shadows put to flight

O come, Thou Wisdom from on high
And order all things far and nigh;
To us the path of knowledge show
And cause us in her ways to go.

O come, Desire of nations, bind
All peoples in one heart and mind.
Bid envy, strife, and quarrels cease;
Fill the whole world with heaven's peace.
John Mason Neale | Thomas Helmore

THE GATHERING OF THE COMMUNITY

Welcome – The Reverend Oz Lorentzen

Rev. Oz: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
and the love of God,
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,
be with you all.

People: And also with you.

Here I am to Worship

Tim Hughes© 2000 Kingsway's Thankyou Music/worshiptogether.com songs

Light of the World,

You stepped down into darkness,

Opened my eyes, let me see

Beauty that made this heart adore You,

Hope of a life spent with You.

So here I am to worship,

Here I am to bow down,

Here I am to say that You're my God.

You're altogether lovely, altogether worthy,

Altogether wonderful to me.

King of all days, oh so highly exalted,

Glorious in heaven above.

Humbly You came to the earth You created,

All for love's sake became poor.

I'll never know how much it cost

To see my sin upon that cross.

I'll never know how much it cost

To see my sin upon that cross.

Please be seated.

Moment of silence to collect our hearts and minds in prayer.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Rev. Oz: Almighty God,
God of power and mercy,

You call us once again
To celebrate the coming of your Son.
Remove those things which hinder love of you,
that when he comes,
he may find us waiting in awe and wonder
for him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and forever.

People: Amen

CHILDREN'S TALK

THE PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

THE READINGS

First Reading – Zephaniah 3:14-20

Reader: A reading from Zephaniah.

Shout for joy, daughter of Zion!

Shout in triumph, Israel!

Rejoice and triumph with all your heart,

Daughter of Jerusalem!

15 The Lord has taken away His judgments against you,

He has cleared away your enemies.

The King of Israel, the Lord, is in your midst;

You will no longer fear disaster.

16 On that day it will be said to Jerusalem:

“Do not be afraid, Zion;

Do not let your hands fall limp.

17 The Lord your God is in your midst,

A victorious warrior.

He will rejoice over you with joy,

He will be quiet in His love,

He will rejoice over you with shouts of joy.

18 I will gather those who are worried about the appointed feasts—

They came from you, Zion;

The disgrace of exile is a burden on them.

19 Behold, I am going to deal at that time

With all your oppressors;
I will save those who limp
And gather the scattered,
And I will turn their shame into praise and fame
In all the earth.

20 At that time I will bring you in,
Even at the time when I gather you together;
Indeed, I will make you famous and praiseworthy
Among all the peoples of the earth,
When I restore your fortunes before your eyes,"
Says the Lord.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Canticle 3

Surely, it is God who saves me;*

I will trust in him and not be afraid.

For the Lord is my stronghold and my sure defence,*
and he will be my Saviour.

Therefore you shall draw water with rejoicing,*
from the springs of salvation.

And on that day you shall say,*

Give thanks to the Lord and call upon his name;

make his deeds known among the peoples;*

see that they remember that his name is exalted.

Sing the praises of the Lord, for he has done great things,*
and this is known in all the world.

Cry aloud, inhabitants of Zion, ring out your joy,*

for the great one in the midst of you is the Holy One of Israel.

Glory to the Father, and to the son, and to the holy spirit:*

As it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever.

Amen.

Second Reading – Philippians 4: 4-7

Reader: A reading from Philippians

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice! ⁵ Let your gentle *spirit* be known to all people. The Lord is near. ⁶ Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and pleading with thanksgiving let your requests be made

known to God. ⁷ And the peace of God, which surpasses all comprehension, will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Please stand.

The Gospel – Luke 3: 7-18

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia

Reader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Reader: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

People: Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

So he was saying to the crowds who were going out to be baptized by him, “You offspring of vipers, who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? ⁸ Therefore produce fruits that are consistent with repentance, and do not start saying to yourselves, ‘We have Abraham as our father,’ for I say to you that from these stones God is able to raise up children for Abraham. ⁹ But indeed the axe is already being laid at the root of the trees; so every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.”¹⁰ And the crowds were questioning him, saying, “Then what are we to do?” ¹¹ And he would answer and say to them, “The one who has two tunics is to share with the one who has none; and the one who has food is to do likewise.” ¹² Now even tax collectors came to be baptized, and they said to him, “Teacher, what are we to do?” ¹³ And he said to them, “Collect no more than what you have been ordered to.” ¹⁴ And soldiers also were questioning him, saying, “What are we to do, we as well?” And he said to them, “Do not extort money from anyone, nor harass anyone, and be content with your wages.” ¹⁵ Now while the people were in a state of expectation and they all were thinking carefully in their hearts about John, whether he himself perhaps was the Christ, ¹⁶ John responded to them all, saying, “As for me, I baptize you with water; but He is coming who is mightier than I, and I am not fit to untie the straps of His sandals; He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit

and fire. 17 His winnowing fork is in His hand to thoroughly clear His threshing floor, and to gather the wheat into His barn; but He will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire.” 18 So with many other exhortations he preached the gospel to the people.

Reader: The Gospel of Christ.

People: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia

THE SERMON – The Reverend Oz Lorentzen

After the sermon, silence is kept for a moment of reflection.

Please stand.

THE NICENE CREED

Leader: Let us confess our faith, as we say,

People: We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one being with the Father.
Through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven:
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,
and was made man.
For our sake he was crucified
under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again**

**in accordance with the scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory
to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father.
With the Father and the Son
he is worshipped and glorified.
He has spoken through the prophets.**

**We believe in one holy catholic
and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism
for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

Please kneel or sit to pray.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Leader: Lord, in your mercy,

All: hear our prayer.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Invitation to Confession

Silence is kept for a moment of reflection.

Rev. Oz: Most merciful God,

All: we confess that we have sinned against you

in thought, word, and deed,

by what we have done,

and by what we have left undone.

We have not loved you with our whole heart;

we have not loved our neighbours as ourselves.

We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.

For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,

**have mercy on us and forgive us,
that we may delight in your will,
and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your name. Amen.**

Rev. Oz: Almighty God have mercy upon you,
pardon and deliver you from all your sins,
confirm and strengthen you in all goodness,
and keep you in eternal life;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

THE PEACE

Rev. Oz: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: And also with you.

THE CELEBRATION OF THE EUCHARIST

Offertory

In the Bleak Midwinter

Performed by Gillian Sandham, Bonnie McDonald and
Carol Fedoruk

Please be seated.

PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS

Rev. Oz: God of hope,
Renew in us th joy of your salvation
And make us a living sacrifice to you,
For the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.

People: Amen.

The Great Thanksgiving

Rev. Oz: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Rev. Oz: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Rev. Oz: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Rev. Oz: Blessed are you, gracious God,
creator of heaven and earth;
we give you thanks and praise
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who in the fullness of time came among us in our flesh,
and opened to us the way of salvation.
Now we watch for the day when he will come again
in power and great triumph to judge this world,
that we, without shame or fear,
may rejoice to behold his appearing.
Therefore we praise you,
joining our voices with angels and archangels
and with all the company of heaven,
who for ever sing this hymn
to proclaim the glory of your name.

**People: Holy, holy, holy Lord.
God of power and might.
Holy, holy, holy Lord.
God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full, full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who
comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.**

Rev. Oz: We give thanks to you, Lord our God,
for the goodness and love
you have made known to us in creation;
in calling Israel to be your people;
in your Word spoken through the prophets;
and above all in the Word made flesh,
Jesus your Son.

For in these last days you sent him
to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary,
to be the Saviour and Redeemer of the world.
In him, you have delivered us from evil,
and made us worthy to stand before you.

In him, you have brought us
out of error into truth,
out of sin into righteousness,
out of death into life.

On the night he was handed over
to suffering and death,
a death he freely accepted,
our Lord Jesus Christ took bread;
and when he had given thanks to you,
he broke it, and gave it to his disciples,
and said, "Take, eat:
this is my body which is given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine;
and when he had given thanks,
he gave it to them
and said, "Drink this, all of you:
this is my blood of the new covenant,
which is shed for you and for many
for the forgiveness of sins.
Whenever you drink it,
do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, Father, according to his command,
**All: we remember his death,
we proclaim his resurrection,
we await his coming in glory;**

Rev. Oz: and we offer our sacrifice
of praise and thanksgiving
to you, Lord of all;
presenting to you, from your creation,
this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God,
to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts,
that they may be the sacrament
of the body of Christ

and his blood of the new covenant.
Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice,
that we, made acceptable in him,
may be sanctified by the Holy Spirit.

In the fullness of time,
reconcile all things in Christ,
and make them new,
and bring us to that city of light
where you dwell with all your sons and daughters;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
the firstborn of all creation,
the head of the Church,
and the author of our salvation;

by whom, and with whom, and in whom,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all honour and glory are yours, almighty Father,
now and forever.

People: Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER *(sung)*

Rev. Oz: As our Saviour taught us, let us pray,

People: 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.

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

Rev. Oz: God of promise,
you prepare a banquet for us in your kingdom.

People: **Happy are those who are called
to the supper of the Lamb.**

In Anglican churches, everyone who is baptized is welcome to come and receive communion. You may kneel or stand at the altar rail to receive communion. If you are unable to come to the altar rail, please notify the sides people and they will alert the Communion Servers to come to you. You may receive communion at either the front or at the rear of the church, when available. If you would like to come forward for a blessing instead of communion, please indicate this by crossing your arms over your chest.

Communion is an important part of our worship. Please use this time to prayerfully prepare yourself for communion and to reflect on Jesus' gift after you have received communion. You may find singing the Communion Hymns helpful. Please refrain from talking during this time.

Thou Didst Leave Thy Throne

Thou didst leave Thy throne and Thy kingly crown,
When Thou camest to earth for me;
But in Bethlehem's home was there found no room
For Thy holy nativity.

O come to my heart, Lord Jesus,
There is room in my heart for Thee.

Heaven's arches rang when the angels sang,
Proclaiming Thy royal degree;
But of lowly birth didst Thou come to earth,
And in great humility.

O come to my heart, Lord Jesus,
There is room in my heart for Thee.

Thou camest, O Lord, with the living word
That should set Thy people free;
But with mocking scorn, and with crown of thorn,
They bore Thee to Calvary.
O come to my heart, Lord Jesus,
There is room in my heart for Thee

When the heavens shall ring, and the angels sing,
At Thy coming to victory,
Let Thy voice call me home, saying "Yet there is room,
There is room at My side for thee."
My heart shall rejoice, Lord Jesus,
When Thou comest and callest for me.

Hymn is from the blue "Common Praise Hymnal" in the pews.

Be Still and Know

Tom Fettke

Be still and know that I am God
Be still and know that I am God
Be still and know that I am God

I love you with a steadfast love
I love you with a steadfast love
I love you with a steadfast love

In Thee, O Lord, I put my trust
In Thee, O Lord, I put my trust
In Thee, O Lord, I put my trust

Holy Spirit

Townsend/Getty

Holy Spirit, living breath of God,
Breathe new life into my willing soul.
Let the presence of the risen Lord,
Come renew my heart and make me whole.
Cause Your Word to come alive in me;

Give me faith for what I cannot see,
Give me passion for Your purity;
Holy Spirit, breathe new life in me.

Holy Spirit, come abide within,
May Your joy be seen in all I do.
Love enough to cover every sin,
In each thought and deed and attitude.
Kindness to the greatest and the least,
Gentleness that sows the path of peace.
Turn my strivings into works of grace;
Breath of God show Christ in all I do.

Holy Spirit, from creation's birth,
Giving life to all that God has made,
Show Your power once again on earth,
Cause Your church to hunger for your ways.
Let the fragrance of our prayers arise;
Lead us on the road of sacrifice,
That in unity the face of Christ
May be clear for all the world to see.

Lamb of God

Twila Paris

Your only Son, no sin to hide
But You have sent Him from Your side
To walk upon this guilty sod
And to become the Lamb of God
Oh, Lamb of God, sweet Lamb of God
I love the holy Lamb of God
Oh, wash me in Your precious blood
My Jesus Christ, the Lamb of God

Your gift of love, they crucified
They laughed and scorned Him as He died
The humble King, they named a fraud
And sacrificed the Lamb of God
Oh, Lamb of God, sweet Lamb of God

I love the holy Lamb of God
Oh, wash me in Your precious blood
My Jesus Christ, the Lamb of God

I was so lost, I should have died
But You have brought me to Your side
To be led by Your staff and rod
And to be called a lamb of God
Oh, Lamb of God, sweet Lamb of God
I love the holy Lamb of God
Oh, wash me in Your precious blood
'Til I am just a lamb of God

Please stand and sing.

Post Communion Song

I Cannot Tell

Ken Bible; inspired by William Y Fullerton ©1996 Pilot Point Music

I cannot tell why He, the King of Heaven
Should leave the peace of all eternity
Why God Himself should lay aside His splendour
To leave the Father's side and come to me
But this I know, our silence filled with singing
And all our darkness fled from heaven's light
When Christ the Lord, so human, yet so holy
In love was born a child for me that Holy night

I cannot tell why He, the Joy of Heaven
Should give Himself to suffer for my sin
Why Holy God should love me in my shamefulness
Why He should die to draw my soul to Him
But this I know, That Christ the Lord is risen
And praise His Name, He's risen now in me
Because He lives, I'll rise to life eternal
He took my guilty heart and I'm forever free

I cannot tell when He will rule the nations
How He will claim His loved ones as His own
And who can tell the Holy jubilation
When all His children gather round His throne

But this I know, All flesh will see His glory
And skies will burst as all creation sings
The Son will rise on one eternal morning
When Christ the Saviour of the world is Lord and King

Please stand.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Rev. Oz: Merciful God,

People: Amen.

May this eucharist free us from our sins,
Fill us with unending joy,
And prepare us for the birthday of our Saviour.
We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ,
Who is Lord now and forever.

Rev. Oz: Glory to God,

**People: 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.**

THE BLESSING

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

Charles Wesley, 1707-1788

Come, thou long expected Jesus,
Born to set thy people free;
From our fears and sins release us,
Let us find our rest in thee.

Israel's strength and consolation,
Hope of all the earth thou art;
Dear desire of every nation,
Joy of every longing heart.

Born thy people to deliver,

Born a child and yet a King,
Born to reign in us forever,
Now thy gracious kingdom bring.

By thine own eternal spirit
Rule in all our hearts alone;
By thine all sufficient merit,
Raise us to thy glorious throne.

DISMISSAL

Leader: As we await our coming Saviour,
go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People: In the name of Christ. Amen

Prayers of the People – December 15, 2024

James wrote, “The earnest prayer of a righteous person has great power and produces wonderful results.” (James 5:16b)
This week we pray especially for:

OUR CHURCH

The Most Reverend Gregory Kerr-Wilson, Metropolitan of the Ecclesiastical Province of Rupert’s Land & Archbishop of the Anglican Diocese of Calgary

The Most Reverend Anne Germond, Acting Primate of The Anglican Church of Canada

The Right Reverend Leopold Friday, Bishop of our Companion Diocese of the Windward Islands

The Most Reverend Justin Welby, Archbishop of Canterbury

In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer

The Anglican Church of Tanzania.

In the Anglican Diocese of Calgary

St. Cuthbert & St. George, Sundre, Mr. Gerald Ingeveld, lay minister. They Rev. John Gishler (Hon.) Bishop, Archdeacons and Regional Deans (BARDS).

In our Sister Diocese of the Windward Islands

St. David and St. Paul on Grenada. The Rev. Fr. Edward Mark, Priest-in-Charge.

In the Anglican Church of Canada

The Venerable Alan Perry, General Secretary, and the staff of the General Secretaries Office.

In the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada

Peace Anthony-Idoko Director of Finance and Administration, and the Staff of Finance and Administration.

The Moravian Church in Canada

Mr. David Jones, District President, and the members of Board of Elders of the Canadian District of the Moravian Church Northern Province.

OUR KING AND ALL IN AUTHORITY

King Charles III, Prime Minister Justin Trudeau,
Premier Danielle Smith, Mayor Linnsie Clark
MP Danielle Smith- Brooks and Medicine Hat

OUR WORLD

Kelly and Peter with Overseas Missionary Fellowship
Persecuted Christians everywhere

OUR CITY CHURCHES

St. Paul Lutheran Church, Ken Edel

OUR PARISH

St. Barnabas Church with The Reverend Oz Lorentzen
and his family – Delynne, Soren & Laec
The Reverend John Willems, Blenda and their family
Emiliana Cawalo, Ric and Anne Carrier, David Carter; and
their families.
Offering Counters
Compassion Canada & Teguh and Timo in Indonesia
The GriefShare Program
The Saturday Meal Program
The Medicine Hat Ecumenical Campus Ministry

OUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS IN NEED

Pat Oliver, Valerie Collingwood, Dave, Jim; Sherry; Deanna;
Betty Ann; Tobin; Lorna; Scott; Kevin; Wade; Helen; Harvey;
Arleen; Becca; Chase; Alicia; and their families

If you or anyone you know would like prayer, call the Office at
(403) 526-7713.

ST. BARNABAS ANGLICAN CHURCH



Our Mission is Glorifying God as
Agents of His Reconciliation.

"God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself -
and He has committed to us the word of reconciliation."
2 Corinthians 5:19

Rector: The Reverend Dr. Oz Lorentzen

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The Reverend John Willems

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Secretary: Karen Ginther

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Rector's Warden: Elaine Snyder; People's Warden: Gordon Nott

Parish Council Members Lionel Brideson, Roger Jaeger, and Munden Coates.



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We give thanks for the service of these people this morning:

Celebrant	Reverend Oz Lorentzen
Lay Assistant	Scott Raible
Prayers of the People	Kathy Exner
Advent Wreath Lighters	Roger and Bev
Music	Carol Fedoruk
Reader(s)	Gordon and Sherry Nott
Greeters	Jill and Steve Gloin
Bread/Wine Presenters	Lynne and Neil Windjack
Sound Board	Alan Deans
Lock-up	Steve Gloin
Offering Counters	Brian & Barb Klein, Munden Coates
Altar Guild	Sharon Hogg and Grace Marshall