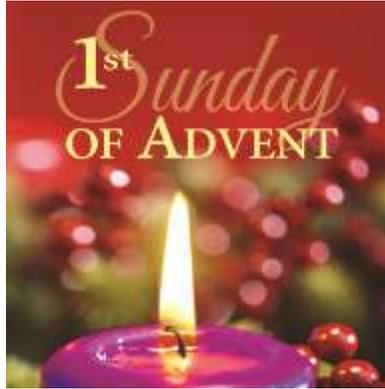


**A Service of Morning Prayer
for November 28, 2021
First Sunday of Advent**



Look up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near. *Luke 21:28*

Lighting of the First Advent Candle - the Candle of HOPE

Voice 1: As winter days dim and bow to early darkness, you, God of light, set watch in the night sky and beckon the wise to follow.

Voice 2: When hope hangs low in the human heart, you, loving creator, kindle compassion, breathing life into the early embers of change and empathy.

Light the candle.

Voice 1: We light a candle for hope, sending prayers high into the inky heavens and dreams deep into the human soul.

Voice 2: As Advent dawns, God of all hope, shine your light on the story of the saints who journeyed before us. May the seeds they planted in the world – peace, joy, love – take hold in our hearts and stretch towards the light.

All: We light a candle for hope. May it light the way.

CP 88 Come Thou Long Expected Jesus

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

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

3. Born thy people to deliver;
Born a child and yet a King;
Born to reign in us forever:
Now thy gracious kingdom bring.

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

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
And the love of God,
And the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,
Be with you all.

And also with you.

May his grace and peace be with you.
May he fill our hearts with joy.

Almighty God,
**To you all hearts are open,
 All desires known,
 And from you no secrets are hidden.
 Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts
 By the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,
 That we may perfectly love you,
 And worthily magnify your holy name;
 Through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Psalm 25:1-10 *Refrain:* To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul.

25:1 To you, O LORD, I lift up my soul.

25:2 O my God, in you I trust; do not let me be put to shame; do not let my enemies exult over me.

25:3 Do not let those who wait for you be put to shame; let them be ashamed who are wantonly treacherous.

25:4 Make me to know your ways, O LORD; teach me your paths.

25:5 Lead me in your truth, and teach me, for you are the God of my salvation; for you I wait all day long.

25:6 Be mindful of your mercy, O LORD, and of your steadfast love, for they have been from of old.

25:7 Do not remember the sins of my youth or my transgressions; according to your steadfast love remember me, for your goodness' sake, O LORD!

25:8 Good and upright is the LORD; therefore he instructs sinners in the way.

25:9 He leads the humble in what is right, and teaches the humble his way.

25:10 All the paths of the LORD are steadfast love and faithfulness, for those who keep his covenant and his decrees.

A Reading from Jeremiah 33:14-16

33:14 The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah.

33:15 In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David; and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land.

33:16 In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will live in safety. And this is the name by which it will be called: "The LORD is our righteousness."

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

CP 622 How Bright Appears the Morning Star

1 How bright appears the Morning Star,
with mercy beaming from afar;
the host of heav'en rejoices.
O Righteous Branch, O Jesse's Rod,
true Light of Light and God of God,
we, too, will lift our voices:
Jesus, Jesus, holy, holy, yet most lowly,
ever near us;
great Emmanuel, swift to hear us.

2 Though circled by the hosts on high,
you looked on us with pitying eye
and saved your sinful creature.
The whole creation's Head and Lord,
by highest seraphim adored,
you took our very nature;
Amen, amen, alleluia, alleluia,
praise be given
ever more by earth and heaven.

A Reading from 1 Thessalonians 3:9-13

3:9 How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy that we feel before our God because of you?

3:10 Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you face to face and restore whatever is lacking in your faith.

3:11 Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus direct our way to you.

3:12 And may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, just as we abound in love for you.

3:13 And may he so strengthen your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

CP 577 God of Grace and God of Glory

1. God of grace and God of glory,
on thy people pour your power.
Now fulfill you church's story,
bring its bud to glorious flower.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
for the facing of this hour,
for the facing of this hour.

2. Lo! the hosts of evil round us
scorn your Christ, assail his ways!
Fears and doubts too long have bound us,
free our hearts to work and praise.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
for the living of these days,
for the living of these days.

3. Cure your children's warring madness;
bend our pride to your control;
shame our wanton, selfish gladness,
rich in goods and poor in soul.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
lest we miss your kingdom's goal,
lest we miss your kingdom's goal.

4. Set our feet on lofty places;
gird our lives that they may be
Armoured with all Christ-like graces
In the fight for liberty.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
lest we fail ourselves and thee,
lest we fail ourselves and thee.

The Gospel

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke
Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Luke 21:25-36

21:25 "There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves.

21:26 People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken.

21:27 Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in a cloud' with power and great glory.

21:28 Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near."

21:29 Then he told them a parable: "Look at the fig tree and all the trees;

21:30 as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know that summer is already near.

21:31 So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near.

21:32 Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all things have taken place.

21:33 Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

21:34 "Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and that day catch you unexpectedly,

21:35 like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth.

21:36 Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place, and to stand before the Son of Man."

The Gospel of Christ

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Sermon by the Rev. Alison Westervelt

CCLI 7084823 Hope Has a Name

1. There is a song I know it well
A melody that's never failed
On mountains high in valleys low
My soul will rest
My confidence in You alone

Chorus

***Hope has a name His name is Jesus
My Savior's cross has set this sinner
free
Hope has a name His name is Jesus
Oh Christ be praised I have victory***

2. There is a light salvation's flame
Christ undefeated trampled the grave
See now the cross be lifted high
The light has come the light has won
Behold the Christ

Chorus...

3. There'll be a day my hope complete
Now home in glory Your face I'll see
My pain no more my fear will cease
I bow my life I fix my eyes
On Christ my king
I bow my life I fix my eyes
On Christ my king

Chorus...

Affirmation of Faith (The Apostles' Creed)

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
 creator of heaven and earth.
 I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
 He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
 and born of the Virgin Mary.
 He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
 was crucified, died, and was buried.
 He descended to the dead.
 On the third day he rose again.
 He ascended into heaven.
 and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
 He will come again
 to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
 the holy catholic Church,
 the communion of saints,
 the forgiveness of sins,
 the resurrection of the body,
 and the life everlasting. Amen.**

Prayers of the People compiled and led by Betty Johnson

For our intercessions today we will use Litany Number 12 found on page 119 of the BAS.

(In joyful expectation let us pray to our Saviour and Redeemer, saying, "Lord Jesus, come soon!")

We pray in the world for the Igreja Episcopal Anglicana do Brasil.

In Canada, we pray for the Diocese of Saskatchewan: The Rt Rev. Michael Hawkins, Bishop; The Rt. Rev Adam Halkett, Bishop of Missinipi; The Rt Rev. Isaiah Larry Beardy, Assisting Bishop of Missinipi

In our Diocese, we pray for Stephen, our Bishop and for St. Mary, Edgerton and St. Thomas, Wainwright: Rachael Parker, Rector; and for our St. Peter's family especially our clergy Heather and Alison; and for Nadine, our music ministry. We also pray for all the volunteers, especially those who worked so hard to open our church for worship for the first time since the Covid pandemic started.

In the Diocese of Buye, we pray for Kumana Parish; Athanase Minani, catechist.

And we pray for the people of the Whitefish Lake First Nation.

We pray for the peaceful repose of the souls of those who have died, especially Matthew Bezanson and David Page and comfort for those who mourn.

We pray for those for whom our prayers are requested: Sandra, Merle, Mona, Lois W, Ray and Mary, Irene, Kathryn, Helen, Jenifer, Judy, Tony and Mary Jean, Luisa, Lois D, Stacey, Marguerite, Evelyn and Willis, Miranda, Iain, Diane and Bill, Maxime, Barry W, Geraldine, Florence, Joan, baby Emelia

In addition, we pray for the people who are experiencing weather disasters happening throughout the world, especially in British Columbia and the East Coast. We also pray for all those dealing with the effects of Covid 19.

O Wisdom, from the mouth of the Most High, you reign over all things to the ends of the earth: come and teach us how to live.

Lord Jesus, come soon!

O Lord, and head of the house of Israel, you appeared to Moses in the fire of the burning bush and you gave the law on Sinai: come with outstretched arm and ransom us.

Lord Jesus, come soon!

O Branch of Jesse, standing as a sign among the nations, all kings will keep silence before you and all peoples will summon you to their aid: come, set us free and delay no more.

Lord Jesus, come soon!

O Key of David and sceptre of the house of Israel, you open and none can shut; you shut and none can open: come and free the captives from prison.

Lord Jesus, come soon!

O Morning Star, splendour of the light eternal and bright Sun of righteousness; come and enlighten all who dwell in darkness and in the shadow of death.

Lord Jesus, come soon!

O King of the nations, you alone can fulfil their desires: Cornerstone, you make opposing nations one: come and save the creature you fashioned from clay.

Lord Jesus, come soon!

O Emmanuel, hope of the nations and their Saviour: come and save us, Lord our God.

Lord Jesus, come soon!

Compassionate God, you have answered our prayers and we are able to once again, open the doors of St. Peter's to worship in person. We give you thanks and praise for this blessed event and we pray that even as we gather in separate places we are bound together in love and fellowship by your divine grace and compassion.

As we journey together through this season of Advent, we put our trust in you that you will bless our on-line worship services as they continue, and that this loving community of St. Peter's will prove to be a blessing both to those who attend in person and those who worship from home, reminding us that the church is not only the building where worship happens but that the church lives in us as you live in us.

Hasten, O Father, the coming of thy kingdom; and grant that we thy servants, who now live by faith, may with joy behold thy Son at his coming in glorious majesty; even Jesus Christ, our only Mediator and Advocate. Amen.

Collect

Almighty God,
 give us grace to cast away the works of darkness
 and put on the armour of light,
 now in the time of this mortal life
 in which your Son Jesus Christ
 came to us in great humility,
 that on the last day,
 when he shall come again in his glorious majesty
 to judge both the living and the dead,
 we may rise to the life immortal;
 through him who lives and reigns
 with you and the Holy Spirit,
 one God, now and for ever. Amen.

And now, as our Saviour Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,
**Our Father, who art in heaven,
 hallowed be thy name,
 thy kingdom come,
 thy will be done,
 on earth as it is in heaven.
 Give us this day our daily bread.
 And forgive us our trespasses,
 as we forgive those who trespass against us.
 And lead us not into temptation,
 but deliver us from evil.
 For thine is the kingdom,
 the power, and the glory,
 for ever and ever. Amen.**

CP 114 Lo, He Comes with Clouds Descending

1. Lo, he comes with clouds descending,
 Once for favoured sinners slain;
 Thousand thousand saints attending
 Swell the triumph of his train:
 Hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah!
 God appears on earth to reign.

2. Every eye shall now behold him,
 Robed in dreadful majesty;
 All who set at nought and sold him,
 Pierced, and nailed him to the tree,
 Deeply grieving, deeply grieving, deeply
 grieving,
 Shall the true Messiah see.

3. Now redemption, long expected,
 See, in solemn pomp appear;
 All his saints, on earth rejected,
 Thrill the trumpet sound to hear:
 Hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah!
 See the day of God appear!

4. Yea, amen, let all adore thee,
 High on thine eternal throne;
 Saviour, take the power and glory;
 Claim the kingdom for thine own:
 O come quickly! O come quickly! O come
 quickly!
 Hallelujah! Come, Lord, come!

The Dismissal

Look up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near. *Luke 21:28*

Let us bless the Lord
Thanks be to God.

May the God of peace enable us to do His will in every kind of goodness working in us what pleases Him, through Jesus Christ, to whom be the glory for ever and ever. Amen.

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

Thanks be to God.