

# Church of the Advent

Anglican Christian Witness on Victoria's Westshore

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***Together in Christ we seek to love God  
and to love and serve all others***

*The Right Rev Dr. Logan McMenamie, Bishop*

*The Rev Sandra Hounsell-Drover*

*Rev Paul Schumacher (Deacon)*

**December 24, 2017**

**ADVENT 4**



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

10:00 a.m. (Contemporary)

**Office Hours** are Monday through Thursday from 9:00-Noon  
**Celtic Eucharist and Gospel Discussion** Wednesdays at 10:00 a.m.

## **WELCOME TO THE CHURCH OF THE ADVENT**

*If you are a newcomer, please identify yourself to the Sidespersons or priest so we can welcome you and tell you about our church.*

### **Prelude**

*Leader: As we meet together, we begin by remembering the people of the Coast Salish People, 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 together, we remember those who have called this place their home in recent years—the community of faith known as Church of the Advent, whose joyful spirit embraces us. Now let us greet one another with words and signs of welcome.*

*The Rev Sandra Hounsell-Drover presides today.  
Rev Paul Schumacher preaches today.*

<p><b>9:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist</b> <b>Book of Alternative Services, p. 185</b></p>
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*Liturgical Assistant is **Sheila Dearsley**  
Sides people are **Evelyn & Ed Robinson***

### **THE COMMUNITY GATHERS**

**Sentence of the Day:** I am the servant of the Lord; let it be to me according to his word.

Gathering Hymn: **CP 88 Come, Thou Long-expected Jesus**

Welcome

### **The Advent Wreath**

#### **LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH: Where the Promise Shines:**

A Candle Lighting Ceremony for Advent Words by Sylvia G. Dunstan Music by Bob Moore, Setting by Joel Raney

#### **Fourth Sunday of Advent - The Promise of Love – Bob Garland**

Responsive Litany

\*congregation reads the bold text

Advent is a time for God's people to reawaken their longings.

**God so loved the world that he gave his one and only son.**

When we longed for the silence to be broken,  
**God so loved the world that he gave his one and only son.**  
When we longed for the light that shines in the darkness,  
**God so loved the world that he gave his one and only son.**  
When we longed for the peace that surpasses understanding,  
**God so loved the world that he gave his one and only son.**

### **Candle Lighting**

Today we light four candles. The **first candle** is the light of hope granting strength to the weary. The **second candle** is the light of peace that surpasses our understanding. The **third candle** is the light of joy that touches the depths of our soul. The **fourth candle** reminds us of the light of God's love poured out in the person and work of Jesus Christ.

### **Congregation response song:**

**Lead us on, lead us on – to a morning where the promise shines.  
Lead us on, lead us on – to a morning where the promise shines.  
To a morning where the promise shines.**

### **Closing Prayer...**

God of grace, **you so loved the world that you gave your one and only Son to all who believe. Jesus is the true gift of Advent, shining forth your glory and grace. As the light has grown brighter through the season, we pray that you would shine forth the promise of your hope, peace, joy, and love within our lives and within our world. Amen.**

### **Collect of the Day**

O God of Elizabeth and Mary, **you visited your servants with news of the world's redemption in the coming of the Saviour. Make our hearts leap with joy and fill our mouths with songs of praise, so that we may announce glad tidings of peace and welcome your Christ into our midst. Amen**

### **PROCLAMATION**



Childrens' Ministry time  
**CP 126 Away in a Manger**

vss. 1 & 2

**First Reading:** 2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16

**Mike Armstrong**

**Sung Magnificat: CP 363 My Soul Proclaims Your Glory, Lord**

**Second Reading:** Romans 16:25-27

**Sheila Bull**

**Gospel Hymn: CP 117 Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming**

Vss 1 & 2 before the Gospel – Vs 3 following the Gospel

**Gospel** Luke 1:26-38

**Rev Paul Schumacher**

**The Sermon:**

**Rev Paul Schumacher**

**Apostles Creed:**

p. 189

**Prayers of the People:**

**Neil Mikkonen**

**Confession and Absolution:**

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The Peace

**Congregation**

**THE SACRED MEAL IS SHARED**

Offertory Hymn: **CP 362 Tell Out, My Soul**

**Prayer over the Gifts:**

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

**Eucharistic Prayer #3**

p. 198

**Sanctus CP 722** (Picardy)

**The Lord's Prayer**

by Gordon Light

**Breaking of the Bread #5**

p. 212

*Friends, this is the joyful feast of unity. Christ has gathered his people around the earth to commune at this table. And so, come: you from the East and you from the West, from the North and from the South. Come. Come with your doubts, come with your hopes, come with your inadequacies and with your strengths. Come, for this is a table where all are invited, and all are welcome.*

**Communion Distributors: David Gregory, Bill Bull, Kerry Blain**

*During communion the Parish Choir sings; God of All People* by David Haas

**Prayer after Communion:**

God for whom we wait, **in this meal you give us a foretaste of that day when the hungry will be fed with good things. Send us forth to make known your deeds and to proclaim the greatness of your name, through Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Lord. Amen**

Doxology

p. 214

**SENDING FORTH**

**Blessing**

May God's joy be in our hearts and God's love surround our living. Each day and night and wherever we roam, may we know God's presence.

In growing and learning, in joy and sorrow, in friendship, in solitude, in beginnings and endings, may God keep us and bless us all the days of our lives.

May the blessing of God – the Beginning, the End, and the Everlasting, be with us and remain with us always. Amen.

**Shared Ministry:**

**The Wardens**

**Commissioning Hymn: Down the Road to Bethlehem**

Tune: Elizabethan Serenade

Down the road to Bethlehem, angels watching over them,  
came a lady so pure and true in her mantle blue,  
and her time come due for her child

In the fields of Bethlehem, angels sing on high for them,  
shepherds hearing that summons clear, with a holy fear  
and with joy draw near to the child.

Far away from Bethlehem, stars and angels guiding them,  
in their raiment of purest gold come the kings of old,  
and their gifts unfold for this child.

May we all to Bethlehem, sing our songs of joy for them,  
for that lady so pure and true in her mantle blue,  
and for Joseph too, and the child.

Text: Herbert O'Driscoll Music: Ronald Binge Reprinted underOneLicense.net #A-712884.

**Commissioning** (*please turn towards the Narthex doors*)

May you live within the light of love in these coming days. May love call forth the songs you sing. May love enliven your celebrations. May love be within you, and may love surround you. May you know—deeply know—the abundance of God’s steadfast love.

**We go forth from this place in peace as the people of Love. Amen.**  
**Alleluia.**

**TODAY WE PRAY**

*Yola - (Jos, Nigeria) The Rt Revd Markus Ibrahim.*

*For Fred our Primate, Logan our Bishop, John our Metropolitan, Revd. Sandra Hounsell-Drover and Deacon Paul Schumacher.*

*For S. Mary the Virgin, Oak Bay - Craig Hiebert.*

*For the Diocese of Caledonia.*

*In the Selkirk region, we pray for our Regional chaplaincies in hospitals (Peter Shurvin, Karen Wilson).*

**FOR THOSE WHO HAVE ASKED US TO PRAY FOR THEM**

*Val, Maureen, Brad and Tytti, Brenda, Elmer, Alan, Dave, Jack, Jane, Peter & Beverly, Allen & Lorraine, Marie, Steven, Lily and Carrie.*

**PRAYERS FOR OUR CHURCH FAMILY**

*We pray for the Rogers family, the Seeley family, the Seppala family, the Skinner family, the Smith family, the Smith family, and the Somers family.*

*May God bring peace and joy to them and their extended families.*

**READINGS FOR NEXT WEEK:**

*Christmas 1: Isaiah 61:10 – 62:3; Ps 148; Galatians 4:4-7; Luke 2:22-40*

**SHARED MINISTRY**

**THIS WEEK**

Monday, Dec. 25<sup>th</sup> – One Service only 10:30

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

**The office will be closed starting Dec. 22 reopening January 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2018!**

Tickets for the 2018 **Police Chorus** Concert are available in the office or see Jose Perena Pratt.

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**WE WANT TO KNOW YOU ...** but we need to be able to contact you, so ...

If you are a newcomer, or if we can help in any way, please let us know. Please fill in the relevant information and give it to a Sidesperson or place it on the collection plate. **Completion of the following information indicates your consent for this parish to gather this information and to use it for reasonable purposes of the church under The Privacy of Information Act.**

NEWCOMER

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

COURSE INFORMATION

HELP

SETUP CONTRIBUTIONS

YOUTH CONNECTION

Name	
Address	Postal Code
Email	Phone



