



# St. Mary the Virgin Anglican Church

*The Second Sunday of Advent, December 5, 2021*

“Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.  
All flesh shall see the salvation of God.” *Luke 3.4, 6*

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## Welcome

*The Parish of St. Mary the Virgin is a member of the Diocese of British Columbia and the Anglican Church of Canada. We are an inclusive and welcoming parish: the sacraments of the church (baptism, communion and marriage) are available to all people on equal terms. Christ welcomes you, and so do we. As a parish we acknowledge with gratitude that we live, work and play on the traditional lands of the Lekwungen peoples. We commit ourselves, as a settler church and people, to continue with our First Nations hosts on the journey of truth-telling, healing, and reconciliation.*

**VISITORS** *Welcome!* We are delighted that you have joined us for worship.

**COMMUNION** All are invited to receive communion. For your safety, only the bread will be shared. Be assured that in the Anglican Church of Canada it has always been our tradition that receiving only one of the elements is considered full Communion.

Gluten free wafers for communion are available. Please request it from the person who is distributing the bread.

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## 10:00am Service

*From The Church of England, Common Worship*

Presider & Preacher:	The Rev'd Canon Craig Hiebert
Ministers of Welcome:	Chris Moeckl, Pat Smit
Music Director:	Curt Bergen
Musicians:	The St. Mary Singers, Alexa Ste Marie

*Note: in the service order, words set in **bold italic type** are said by the congregation.*

*Congregational singing is now permitted while wearing a mask indoors,  
with or without outdoors this is in order to maintain the safety of all.*

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## THE COMMUNITY GATHERS BEFORE GOD

### PRELUDE & PROCESSION

*“Prelude on Winchester New”, William Lloyd Webber*

### WELCOME

### GREETING

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.***

### LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLE

1: Today is the second Sunday of Advent.

Advent is a time of waiting. We wait for God to send divine love and light into our dark world.

2: How does this happen?

1: God's light comes through Jesus, who became a human being just like you and me, so that he could show us the way back to God's divine love and light.

3: A reading from the prophet Malachi: “I the LORD All-Powerful, will send my messenger to prepare the way for me. Then suddenly the Lord you are looking for will appear in his temple. The messenger you desire is coming with my promise, and he is on his way.”

1: We continue to wait for the coming of Jesus. Last Sunday, we began in the dark, then lit one candle. Today, on the second Sunday of Advent, we light two candles.

*First and second candles are lit. While this is being done, the following is read:*

2: Every week in Advent, we light another candle. Each candle that we light reminds us that the Light of the World will soon come to us in the human form of the baby Jesus.

***The Way of the Lord is being prepared in our hearts. May every valley be filled, and every mountain and hill be made low. May the crooked paths be made straight and the rough ways smooth. When our Lord comes, may all of us then see the salvation of God. Amen.***

## **STILLNESS**

Let us hold this moment open to the Spirit of God.

*Silence is kept.*

## **COLLECT OF THE DAY**

God of timeless grace, ***you fill us with joyful expectation: make us ready for the message that prepares the way, so that with uprightness of heart and holy joy we may eagerly await the coming of your Son, Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, now and for ever. Amen.***

Revised Common Lectionary Prayers (2002) alt.

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## **THE STORY OF FAITH IS PROCLAIMED**

### **READING FROM THE NEW TESTAMENT**

Philippians 1. 3-11, Warren Steck

<sup>3</sup>I thank my God every time I remember you, <sup>4</sup>constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, <sup>5</sup>because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now. <sup>6</sup>I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ. <sup>7</sup>It is right for me to think this way about all of you, because you hold me in your heart, for all of you share in God's grace with me, both in my imprisonment and in the defence and confirmation of the gospel. <sup>8</sup>For God is my witness, how I long for all of you with the compassion of Christ Jesus. <sup>9</sup>And this is my prayer, that your love may overflow more and more with knowledge and full insight <sup>10</sup>to help you to determine what is best, so that on the day of Christ you may be pure and blameless, <sup>11</sup>having produced the harvest of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ for the glory and praise of God.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

***Thanks be to God.***



Music by George Black, © 2000 Anglican Book Centre

**Refrain: *The dawn from on high shall break up on us.***

Blessed be the Most High, the God of Israel,  
you have come to your people and set them free.  
You have raised up for us a mighty Saviour,  
born of the house of your servant David. **R.**

Through your holy prophets, you promised of old  
to save us from our enemies, from the hands of all who hate us,  
to show mercy to our forebears,  
and to remember your holy covenant. **R.**

This was the oath you swore to our father Abraham:  
to set us free from the hands of our enemies,  
free to worship you without fear,  
holy and righteous before you,  
all the days of our life. **R.**

And you, child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High,  
for you will go before God to prepare the way,  
to give God's people knowledge of salvation  
by the forgiveness of their sins. **R.**

In the tender compassion of our God  
the dawn from on high shall break upon us,  
to shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death,  
and to guide our feet into the way of peace. **R.**

## GOSPEL HYMN

*"Sleepers Awake!" A Voice Astounds Us (110)*

Text tr. Carl Daw, Jr. (1944-). Tr. © 1982 Hope publishing Co.

1. "Sleepers, wake!" A voice astounds us;  
the shout of rampart-guards surrounds us:  
"Awake, Jerusalem, arise!"  
Midnight's peace their cry has broken,  
their urgent summons clearly spoken:  
"The time has come, O maidens wise!  
Rise up, and give us light;  
the bridegroom is in sight.  
Alleluia!  
Your lamps prepare and hasten there,  
that you the wedding feast may share."
2. Zion hears the watchmen singing.  
Her heart with joyful hope is springing;  
she wakes and hurries through the night.  
Forth he comes, her bridegroom glorious  
in strength of grace, in truth victorious:  
her star is risen, her light grows bright.  
Now come, most worthy Lord,  
God's Son, incarnate Word,  
alleluia!  
We follow all and heed your call  
to come into the banquet hall.
3. Lamb of God, the heavens adore you;  
let saints and angels sing before you,  
as harps and cymbals swell the sound.  
Twelve great pearls, the city's portals:  
through them we stream to join the immortals  
as we with joy your throne surround.  
No eye has known the sight;  
no ear heard such delight:  
alleluia!  
Therefore we sing to greet our King;  
forever let our praises ring.

## GOSPEL

Luke 3. 1-6

*Before the Gospel is read, the reader says:*

God be with you.

***And also with you.***

The Good News of Jesus according to Luke.

***Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.***

In the fifteenth year of the reign of Emperor Tiberius, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was ruler of Galilee, and his brother Philip ruler of the region of Ituraea

and Trachonitis, and Lysanias ruler of Abilene, <sup>2</sup> during the high-priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. <sup>3</sup> He went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, <sup>4</sup> as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah,

“The voice of one crying out in the wilderness:

“Prepare the way of the Lord,  
make his paths straight.

<sup>5</sup> Every valley shall be filled,  
and every mountain and hill shall be made low,  
and the crooked shall be made straight,  
and the rough ways made smooth;  
<sup>6</sup> and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.”

The Gospel of Christ

*Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.*

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## RESPONDING TO THE WORD

### SERMON

### ANTHEM

*On Jordan's Bank, the Baptist's Cry*

Klug's Geistliche Lieder, 1543 harmonized by J.S. Bach, arr. Simon Andrews

### AFFIRMING OUR FAITH

The Apostles Creed

Let us confess the faith of our baptism, as we say,

*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.*

Let us pray, seeking God's mind as we face the needs and concerns of our time:

Blessed Lord, Hear us

**and set your people free.**

*In your prayers this week remember the following: Those in need of healing and care, including Derek, Colin, Brynn, Dorothy, Kat, Mary, Carrie, Peter and the family of Sandy. Our diocese of islands and inlets and for Anna, our Bishop, Lynn, our Metropolitan, and Linda, our Primate. The parish of Church of the Advent, Colwood and their clergy Paul Schumacher & Colleen Lissamer. Diocese of Kootenay and Archbishop Lynne McNaughton. The Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada, and Bishop Susan Johnson. In the Church further afield, pray for the Igreja Episcopal Anglicana do Brasil. Pray for all those whose lives have been disrupted by ongoing storms and flooding and storm damage. Pray for the continued work of all health care workers. Pray for the ongoing work of truth-telling, healing, and reconciliation.*

**CONFESSION OF SIN AND ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

When the Lord comes, he will bring to light the things now hidden in darkness, and will disclose the purposes of the heart. Therefore in the light of Christ let us confess our sins.

cf 1 Corinthians 4.5

*Silence is kept.*

Lord Jesus, you came to gather the nations  
into the peace of your kingdom:

Lord, have mercy.

**Lord, have mercy.**

You come in word and sacrament  
to strengthen us in holiness:

Christ, have mercy.

**Christ, have mercy.**

You will come in glory  
with salvation for your people:

Lord, have mercy.

**Lord, have mercy.**

*The Presider reminds us of God's healing and forgiveness*

**PEACE**

*The congregation stands*

Know in you life the love of God, the forgiveness of sins and the joy of salvation.

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

*Remaining in our places, we share physically-distant signs of Peace with those around us.*

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## THE SACRED MEAL IS SHARED

*For safety, the Collection Plate has been placed at the back of the church for use as you arrive. It will be moved to the front of the church during the Offertory hymn and placed in a location where you may place your gifts as you come to receive Communion. Please also consider one of the other means of giving that do not require our volunteers and staff to handle cash and cheques: electronic donations on our website via CanadaHelps, or bi-weekly or monthly direct debit donations via our diocesan Electronic Collection Plate (details are available in a brochure at the entrance, or on the website: [www.stmarysoakbay.ca/donate](http://www.stmarysoakbay.ca/donate)).*

### OFFERTORY

1. Lamb of God, to thee we raise  
hymns of holy love and praise  
for the saint and prophet born  
to be herald of the morn.
2. Like the morning star he rose,  
thine appearing to disclose;  
like an ensign lifted high,  
He declared thy kingdom nigh.
3. Filled with grace and sanctity  
from his blest nativity,  
he, the new Elias, came  
bearing zeal's most sacred flame.

*Lamb of God, to Thee We Raise (270)*

4. Kinsman of the King divine,  
greatest of the prophets' line,  
blest forerunner of the Lord,  
who his praises can record?
5. Mighty preacher, by whose word  
souls to penitence were stirred  
those who long in sin had strayed  
then the call divine obeyed.
6. Make us, Lord, like him to be  
fearless witnesses for thee;  
faithful unto death be found,  
and at last by thee be crowned.

### 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.**

*Evangelical Lutheran Worship (2006) alt.*

### THE CELEBRATION OF THE EUCHARIST

*Common Worship (CW) Prayer A  
with Advent Extended Preface M1*

*The congregation remains standing, as they are able*

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.***

It is indeed right and good to give you thanks and praise, almighty God and everlasting Father, through Jesus Christ your Son. For when he humbled himself to come among us in human flesh, he fulfilled the plan you formed before the foundation of the world to open for us the way of salvation. Confident that your promise will be fulfilled, we now watch for the day when Christ our Lord will come again in glory. And so we join our voices with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven to proclaim your glory for ever praising you and saying:

*sung: 735*

***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.***

Accept our praises, heavenly Father, through your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ, and as we follow his example and obey his command, grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit these gifts of bread and wine may be to us his body and his blood; who, in the same night that he was betrayed, took bread and gave you thanks; he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me.

In the same way, after supper he took the cup and gave you thanks; he gave it to them, saying: 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. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

Therefore, heavenly Father, we remember his offering of himself made once for all upon the cross; we proclaim his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension; we look for the coming of your kingdom, and with this bread and this cup we make the memorial of Christ your Son our Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus:

***Dying you destroyed our death,***

***rising you restored our life:***

***Lord Jesus, come in glory.***

Accept through him, our great high priest, this our sacrifice of thanks and praise, and as we eat and drink these holy gifts in the presence of your divine majesty, renew us by your Spirit, inspire us with your love and unite us in the body of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Through him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, with all who stand before you in earth and heaven, we worship you, Father almighty, in songs of everlasting praise:

***Blessing and honour and glory and power be yours for ever and ever. Amen.***

### **THE 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.***

*Silence is held*

### **THE 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

*Please follow the direction of the greeters as they invite rows to receive communion. Please maintain a single flow: approach via the main aisle and return via the side aisles. If you do not wish to receive communion, but someone else in your aisle wishes to pass by you, please exit your pew temporarily to allow them to pass at a safe distance. You are also welcome to approach the presider for a blessing only—this is traditionally indicated simply by crossing your hands over your chest as you approach.*

*One of the ministers will bring the Bread out into the garden to serve those worshipping outside.*

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## WE ARE SENT INTO THE WORLD

### 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.**

Evangelical Lutheran Worship (2006) alt.

### AFFIRMATION

*The congregation stands*

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.***

### BLESSING

### HYMN

*People Look East! The Time is Near (91)*

Text: Eleanor Farjeon(1881-1965). © David Higham Associates Ltd.

Music: Melody French Traditional; harm. Martin Shaw(1875-1958),

alt. Harm. © Oxford University Press.

1. People, look east! The time is near  
of the crowning of the year.  
Make your house fair as you are able,  
trim the hearth and set the table.  
People, look east and sing today:  
Love, the guest, is on the way.
2. Furrows, be glad! Though earth is bare,  
one more seed is planted there:  
give up your strength the seed to nourish,  
that in course the flower may flourish.  
People, look east and sing today:  
Love, the rose, is on the way.
3. Birds, though you long have ceased to  
build,  
guard the nest that must be filled;  
even the hour when wings are frozen  
God for fledging time has chosen.  
People, look east and sing today:  
Love, the bird, is on the way.
4. Stars, keep the watch: when night is dim  
one more light the bowl shall brim,  
shining beyond the frosty weather,  
bright as sun and moon together.  
People, look east and sing today:  
Love, the star, is on the way.

5. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth  
Christ who brings new life to earth.  
Set every peak and valley humming  
with the word, the Lord is coming.  
People, look east and sing today:  
Love, the Lord, is on the way.

## DISMISSAL

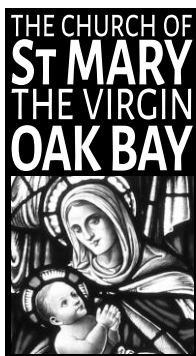
As we await our coming Saviour,  
go in the peace of Christ.

***Thanks be to God.***

## POSTLUDE

*Wachet Auf, ruft uns die Stimme* (Awake, a Voice is Calling), BWV 645, J.S. Bach

*The musical postlude is a part of worship, extending the beauty of holiness so that the congregation can remember and give thanks for our encounter with God's Word as it has been experienced this day. You are invited to use this time for reflection, remaining seated.*



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### The Stewards of St Mary's

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