

# First Sunday of Advent

November 29, 2020



**The Anglican Parish of St. Peter, Winnipeg**

*Purpose: To be a Christian community seeking to love God, grow in faith, and serve the world.*

## THE GATHERING OF THE COMMUNITY

***Acknowledgement of the Land:*** “We acknowledge that we meet and work in Treaty 1 land, the traditional lands of the Anishinabe, Cree (Ininew), and Dakota peoples, and the homeland of the Métis nation. We are thankful for these first inhabitants and we commit to working together toward justice, truth, and reconciliation.”

Prelude: Warm the Time of Winter

When the wind of winter blows, bringing times of solitude,  
Fill the silent, icy night; be our hearts' compassion.

When we shiver in despair, when the chill of death comes near,  
Hold us, Spirit, calm our fear, while the evening deepens.

Holy Light, warm our night; warm the time of winter.

*Welcome*

**Opening Hymn: All Earth Is Waiting**

**All earth is waiting to see the Promised One,  
and open furrows await the seed of God.  
All the world, bound and struggling, seeks true liberty;  
it cries out for justice and searches for the truth.**

**Thus says the prophet to those of Israel,  
'A virgin mother will bear Emmanuel.'  
One whose name is 'God with us', our Saviour shall be,  
through whom hope will blossom once more within our hearts.**

**Mountains and valleys will have to be made plain,  
open new highways, new highways for our God,  
who is now coming closer, so come all and see,  
and open the doorways as wide as wide can be.**

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*The Greeting*

*Presider:* The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, be with you all.

*All:* **And also with you.**

***Lighting the Advent Wreath***

*Presider:* Today, we enter the Season of Advent, the time of preparation for the birth of our Lord. The first candle we light is the candle of peace, a vision of peace brought to the world in the coming of Jesus. (*One candle is lit.*) The people of Israel, in their quest for peace, looked back to the time of King David.

They believed the coming of the Messiah would be like a key unlocking the door of peace once known in David's time.

Peace is a rib - bon that cir - cles the earth, giv - ing a prom - ise of  
 safe - ty and worth. When God is a child there's joy in our song. The  
 last shall be first and the weak shall be strong, and none shall be a -  
 fraid.

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**Collect of the Day**

*Officiant:* Let us pray  
 God of truth, unveiled in Christ, and for whom we continue to wait: lift up our unknowing hearts through your Spirit, and waken our sleeping love to announce the coming dawn of new beginnings and unexpected peace; through Jesus Christ, the one who is to come. Amen.

*Officiant:* Let us now feast at the table of God's word.

**THE PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD**

**Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19**

*Reflecting on today's psalm – Psalm 80 is a troubled reflection: God seems angry and distant, and life feels out-of-joint. Yet Israel waits on the powerful “Lord God of hosts” as the only one who can make life whole and good. In our world, we too can experience this anguish. Can we begin Advent with the same hope, waiting for God's restoration and life?*

*Refrain:*

Re - store us, O God of hosts; show the light of your count - e - nance, and we  
 shall be saved.

Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph like a flock;  
shine forth, you that are enthroned upon the cherubim.  
In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin, and Manasseh,  
stir up your strength and come to help us. *Refrain*

O Lord God of hosts,  
how long will you be angered despite the prayers of your people?  
You have fed them with the bread of tears;  
you have given them bowls of tears to drink.  
You have made us the derision of our neighbours,  
and our enemies laugh us to scorn. *Refrain*

Let your hand be upon the man of your right hand,  
the son of man you have made so strong for yourself.  
And so will we never turn away from you;  
give us life, that we may call upon your name. *Refrain*

**Gospel: Mark 13:24-37**

*Reader:* The Lord be with you.

*All:* **And also with you.**

*Reader:* The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark

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

*Reader:* The Gospel of Christ

*All:* **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

*Reflection*

*Hymn: #94 Wait for the Lord x4*

Taizé

**Wait for the Lord, whose day is near.  
Wait for the Lord: be strong, take heart!**

*The Apostles' Creed*

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

*All:* **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*

*Response:*



## *Peace*

*Presider:* May the peace of Christ be with you all.

*All:* **And also with you.**

## *Prayer of Lament*

*Presider:* In union, blessed Jesus, with the faithful gathered at every altar of your Church where your blessed Body and Blood are offered, we long to offer you praise and thanksgiving, for creation and all the blessings of this life, for the redemption won for us by your life, death, and resurrection, for the means of grace and the hope of glory.

We believe that you are truly present in the Holy Sacrament, and, since we cannot at this time receive communion, we pray you to come into our hearts. We unite ourselves with you and embrace you with all our hearts, our souls, and our minds. Let nothing separate us from you; let us serve you in this life until, by your grace, we come to your glorious kingdom and unending peace. Amen.

## *Lord's Prayer*

*Presider:* As our Saviour taught us, let us pray,

*All sing:* **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.**

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*Presider:* Come Lord Jesus, and dwell in our hearts in the fullness of your strength; be our wisdom and guide us in right pathways; conform our lives and actions to the image of your holiness; and, in the power of your gracious might, rule over every hostile power that threatens or disturbs the growth of your kingdom, who with the Father and the Holy Spirit, lives and reigns, one God, in glory everlasting. Amen.

*Presider:* Glory to God  
*All:* 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, forever and ever. Amen.

### THE SENDING FORTH

#### **Closing Hymn: # 95 O Come, Divine Messiah**

O come, divine Messiah;  
The world in silence waits the day  
When hope shall sing its triumph  
And sadness flee away.

Dear Savior, haste!  
Come, come to earth.  
Dispel the night and show your face,  
And bid us hail the dawn of grace.

O come, divine Messiah;  
The world in silence waits the day  
When hope shall sing its triumph  
And sadness flee away.

#### ***Blessing***

*Presider:* May the blessing of God, the giver of every perfect gift; and Christ, who summons us to service; and the Holy Spirit, who inspires selfless generosity and love, be with us all. Amen.

#### ***Dismissal***

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

*All:* **Thanks be to God!**

Postlude: Awake to the Day

*Please join us after worship for conversation and community time together.*



**In your prayers this week, please remember:** Paul Rozniatowski, Bernice Nemeth, Peter Mulla, Grayson Justin Beayla Nemeth, Ruth Cadick, Beth Hiscox, Gladys Oelkers, Ruth Kensinger, Adele Nuytten, Ginny and Bob Kellington, Janet Billington, Debbie Ackland, Evan Bacon, Joan Cook, George Green, Roy and Annie Bowkett, Anastasia Lambert,

Ewen Newton and family, Blair, Tom and Jan Walters, Bev Smith.

**In our parish cycle of prayer:** Nigel and Ira Moore, Susan Bjerring, Terri Oelkers, Audrey Dennis

**In the Anglican Communion:** Pray for the Lusitanian Church. **In the Anglican Church of Canada and the ELCIC:** our Primate Linda, National Indigenous Archbishop Mark and the Anglican Council of Indigenous People, our Metropolitan Greg National ELCIC Bishop Susan, and the members of the Joint Anglican-Lutheran Commission. **In our Diocese,** our Bishop Geoffrey, Bishop of our Companion Diocese, Michael, and for MNO Synod Bishop Jason, for our congregations and communities, and for a greater personal awareness of the journey through Advent.