



10:00am HANGING OF THE GREENS

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT - PEACE

DEC 03, 2023



Opening Hymn: MP # 490 O Come, let us adore Him

The Gathering:

Leader: Restore us, O Lord God of hosts;

Response: Show the light of Your countenance, and come among us.

Leader: Show us Your mercy, O Lord,

Response: and grant us Your salvation.

Leader: Blessed is the King who comes in the Name of the Lord!

Response: Peace in heaven and glory in the highest.

LIGHTING OF THE 2ND ADVENT CANDLE - PEACE

Priest: This is the Second Sunday of Advent when we recall the Peace we have in Christ. Let us pray.

Leader: Eternal God, like John the Baptist, we also come before you from the wilderness of our lives, to prepare the way of the Holy One and to make our hearts ready to receive your Word.

All: Make our hearts ready to receive your Word!

Leader: We give thanks to you, for you hold us in your heart.

All: Grant us the gift of your Peace!

Leader: We pray to be filled with the love and compassion that comes from Jesus Christ, whose advent we await.

All: Make our hearts ready to receive your Word!

All: Grant, O God, that as we rejoice in the hope and peace of the coming of our Saviour, we may seek to prepare the way of his coming by advancing his kingdom in the world and caring for the needs of others, that we may not be condemned in the day of your appearing; for your tender mercy's sake. Amen.

Lighting of the first and second purple candles.

Sing:

Prepare the way of the Lord, Prepare the way of the Lord

And all people will see the salvation of our God

Explanation of the service: When John the Baptist was asked who he was, he replied, “I am the voice shouting in the wilderness; prepare the way of the Lord.”

Dear friends, we gather here to prepare a place for our Saviour, Jesus Christ. As Christians, we look for more in Christmas than material things.

We seek to touch the original event – to make a place for hope brought by Christ’s birth. The hope of the season is the promise of a precious Love in the form of a tiny baby, a Saviour Son who would become the Lamb of God, sent to take away the sins of the world. Our homes and communities are decorated in preparation to celebrate this wonderful gift from God. Also, we prepare our house of worship for His coming, dressing it in beautiful apparel. We use the evergreen garland and wreaths, candles, Christmas tree, poinsettias, and familiar songs and Scripture readings. White doves and white poinsettias remind us that Christ came to bring peace in a troubled world. Christ will come again to establish that peace in the midst of all creation. Christians associate the white dove with God’s Holy Spirit. Through the Holy Spirit “the Word became flesh” and was born of the Virgin Mary.

The Proclamation of the Word and the Decoration of the church

God’s LIFE through Jesus.

Isaiah 61:1-4. The Good News of Deliverance

1 The Spirit of the Lord God is upon me, because the Lord has anointed me to bring good tidings to the afflicted; he has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to those who are bound; 2 to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn; 3 to grant to those who mourn in Zion— to give them a garland instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, the mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit; that they may be called oaks of righteousness, the planting of the Lord, that he may be glorified. 4 They shall build up the ancient ruins, they shall raise up the former devastations; they shall repair the ruined cities, the devastations of many generations.

John 1:1-4 The Word Became Flesh

1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. 2 He was in the beginning with God; 3 all things were made through him, and without him was not anything made that was made. 4 In him was life and the life was the light of men.

The evergreen garland with some holly: Holly is evergreen; a symbol of eternal life obtained through Christ Jesus, who shed His blood, as

symbolized by the red berries and thorns, that we might have life. Life is filled with thorns and red berries, but God also gives us a feeling of happiness, of being alive, of being green.

Song: Now the holly bears a berry

Now the holly bears a berry as white as the milk,
And Mary bore Jesus, who was wrapped up in silk

Refrain: And Mary bore Jesus Christ our Saviour for to be,

And the first tree in the greenwood, it was the holly.
Holly, holly, And the first tree in the greenwood, it was the holly.

Now the holly bears a berry as green as the grass,
And Mary bore Jesus, who died on the cross -- Refrain

Now the holly bears a berry as black as the coal,
And Mary bore Jesus, who died for us all -- Refrain

Now the holly bears a berry, as blood is it red,

Then trust we our Saviour, who rose from the dead -- Refrain

God’s people will bloom with LIFE, and will seek PEACE

Reading: Isaiah 61:10-11

10 I will greatly rejoice in the Lord, my soul shall exult in my God; for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation, he has covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels. 11 For as the earth brings forth its shoots, and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up, so the Lord God will cause righteousness and praise to spring forth before all the nations.

Luke 2:13-14

13 And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying, 14 “Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among men with whom he is pleased!”

The Poinsettia: The poinsettia has red leaves, the red again a symbol Christ’s blood, which gives us life, which is symbolized by the green leaves.

The poinsettia, a Christmas flower, reminds us that Christ is like a flower, which will bloom again in the desert – the desert may refer to the waiting of Advent and to our human situation – when God comes at Christmas. The legend of the poinsettia is that a Mexican girl wept because of her poverty and out of her tears sprang the flower.

Song: Let there be peace on earth

Let there be peace on earth And let it begin with me;

Let there be peace on earth, The peace that was meant to be.
With God our Creator, Children all are we.

Let us walk with each other In perfect harmony.

Let peace begin with me, Let this be the moment now.

With ev'ry step I take, Let this be my solemn vow:

To take each moment And live each moment In peace eternally.
Let there be peace on earth And let it begin with me.

God's promises to surround us with love.

Reading: Hosea 14:4-8 Assurance of Forgiveness

4 I will heal their faithlessness; I will love them freely, for my anger has turned from them. 5 I will be as the dew to Israel; he shall blossom as the lily, he shall strike root as the poplar; 6 his shoots shall spread out; his beauty shall be like the olive, and his fragrance like Lebanon. 7 They shall return and dwell beneath my shadow, they shall flourish as a garden; they shall blossom as the vine, their fragrance shall be like the wine of Lebanon. 8 O E'phraim, what have I to do with idols? It is I who answer and look after you. I am like an evergreen cypress, from me comes your fruit.

The wreath: The wreath is made of evergreens, a symbol of eternal life which Christ is coming at Christmas to bring. The circle suggests the everlasting covenant God makes with us, and the love of God which encircles us and holds us close, like we hold a baby, like Mary held her infant.

Hymn: MP# 752 -- When He comes

God promises a PEACEFUL RULER

Reading: Zechariah 9:9-10 The Coming Ruler of God's People

9 Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion! Shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem! Lo, your king comes to you; triumphant and victorious is he, humble and riding on an ass, on a colt the foal of an ass. 10 I will cut off the chariot from E'phraim and the war horse from Jerusalem; and the battle bow shall be cut off, and he shall command peace to the nations; his dominion shall be from sea to sea, and from the River to the ends of the earth.

The mistletoe: Mistletoe has no roots and no seeds. Its propagation is a mystery, like the mystery of God's love and God's presence with us in an infant. Where the mistletoe hung, was a place to meet in peace, to exchange the kiss of peace.

Hymn: MP#456 -- Make me a channel of Your peace

• God promises to BEAUTIFY His Church, and we are the many gifts to beautify and to be the Church.

Reading: Isaiah 60:13-15

13 The glory of Lebanon shall come to you, the cypress, the plane, and the pine, to beautify the place of my sanctuary; and I will make the place of my feet glorious. 14 The sons of those who oppressed you shall come bending low to you; and all who despised you shall bow down at your feet; they shall call you the City of the Lord, the Zion of the Holy One of Israel. 15 Whereas you have been forsaken and hated, with no one passing through, I will make you majestic for ever, a joy from age to age.

Ephesians 4:2-6

2 with all lowliness and meekness, with patience, forbearing one another in love, 3 eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. 4 There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope that belongs to your call, 5 one Lord, one faith, one baptism, 6 one God and Father of us all, who is above all and through all and in all.

The tree: The psalmists, like Isaiah, also speak of being planted like a tree by the waters. It reminds us to be steadfast. Some of the ancient peoples of Europe worshipped at sacred trees. Christian missionaries encouraged them to keep devotion using the trees, but to change their focus to create a Christian tradition.

Song: O Christmas Tree

O Christmas tree, O Christmas tree, You stand in verdant beauty!
O Christmas tree, O Christmas tree, You stand in verdant beauty!

Your boughs are green in summer's glow,
And do not fade in winter's snow.

O Christmas tree, O Christmas tree, You stand in verdant beauty!

O Christmas tree, O Christmas tree, I love your spreading branches!
O Christmas tree, O Christmas tree, I love your spreading branches!

At Christmastime you're green and fair
While other trees of leaves are bare.

O Christmas tree, O Christmas tree, I love your spreading branches!

God promises to give LIGHT.

Isaiah 60:1-6 The Ingathering of the Dispersed

1 Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you. 2 For behold, darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples; but the Lord will arise upon you, and his glory will be seen upon you. 3 And nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your rising. 4 Lift up your eyes round about, and see; they all gather together, they come to you; your sons shall come from far, and your daughters shall be carried in the arms. 5 Then you shall see and be radiant, your heart shall thrill and rejoice; because the abundance of the sea shall be turned to you, the wealth of the nations shall come to you. 6 A multitude of camels shall cover you, the young camels of Mid'ian and Ephah; all those from Sheba shall come. They shall bring gold and frankincense, and shall proclaim the praise of the Lord.

The candles and lights: Christ Jesus is the light of the world. In the darkness of Advent, a light is going to shine; there is light at the end of the tunnel.

Hymn: MP#652 The Light of Christ

Blessing of the decorations: Bless, O God, these gifts of the earth and this work of faithful hands, which beautify and furnish this building in preparation for the celebration of the birth of the Saviour Jesus Christ. Grant that these earthly things may help us to behold the order and beauty of heavenly things. Amen

A reading from the Gospel of Matthew 1:18-25

The Birth of Jesus the Messiah

18 Now the birth of Jesus Christ took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child of the Holy Spirit; 19 and her husband Joseph, being a just man and unwilling to put her to shame, resolved to divorce her quietly. 20 But as he considered this, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, "Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary your wife, for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Spirit; 21 she will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." 22 All this took place to fulfil what the Lord had spoken by the prophet: 23 "Behold, a virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and his name shall be called Emman'u-el" (which means, God with us). 24 When Joseph woke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took his wife, 25 but knew her not until she had borne a son; and he called his name Jesus.

Offertory Hymn: MP#337 In The Bleak Midwinter

Prayer over the gifts:

God of hope, renew in us the joy of Your salvation and make us a living sacrifice to You, for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Prayers of the people:

Leader: Surrounded by warmth and love, let us remember those who struggle in a cold and violent world; these lights, O God, remind us of Christ who comes as the Light of the world.

Response: May we, Your Church, also light the world.

Leader: O God, the mistletoe reminds us of the peace that Christ brings.

Response: May east and west, north and south meet in unity and understanding.

Leader: The poinsettia reminds us that You will restore the earth as a garden of paradise.

Response: May we be caretakers of the earth's bounty.

Leader: The tree, Lord, reminds us that You will restore the earth as a garden of paradise.

Response: May our community of faith give life and love to those in need around us.

Leader: The garland reminds us of the hope and joy that You, O God, give in the midst of sorrow and pain.

Response: May those in any kind of pain or trouble or sorrow experience Your presence incarnate in us.

Leader: We have clothed this building with beautiful decorations, preparing to celebrate the birth of our King.

Response: O God, clothe me with robes of salvation justice.

Leader: As the earth brings forth the bud,

Response: So God will cause justice and praise to spring up in all nations.

THE 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.

The Lord's Prayer

Recessional Hymn: MP#539 Once in royal David's city (v. 1,2,6)

Blessing:

May you be at peace with one another, and with all people, because the One who comes in God's Name stands at the door. Amen

ST PAUL'S – PARISH NEWS

Anglican Parish of the Nerepis & St. John
Church of the Resurrection – St. Paul's – St. Peter's

*We remember in our Prayers
Frank, Joan & Zenith*

CHRISTMAS MEMORIALS We welcome you to honour your loved ones with a Christmas Memorial. Envelopes are by the main entrance. You may also opt to send an email transfer to therezadm@gmail.com If you do, please include in the "details" area who your memorial is for. THANK YOU.

2024 ANGLICAN PRINTED CALENDARS: A limited number of calendars will be for sale this year. Be sure to get yours! The 2024 Calendar is illustrated with attractive paintings of Anglican churches throughout Canada. They will be \$10 each. (please try to have correct cash) Please see Cindi-Lee to pre-order.

OUTFLOW: DEC 27TH is our next serving night at Outflow. Anyone who would like to be involved, please contact April Medford 738-2396 or Paula Nason 738-2437

OUTFLOW IS IN NEED OF PASTA SAUCE AND BREAD: If you can help out, it would be greatly appreciated!

DEC 20TH: Is our Wednesday Social!!! Come along from 10:30 til noon for some wonderful social time of refreshments, conversation, games, and live entertainment!!

OFFERINGS: The offering plate is located at the back of the seating area, in the center isle. You may leave your offering there, or Email transfer to therezadm@gmail.com NO PASSWORD NEEDED. Rhythmic giving is also available by EFT (automatic electronic fund transfer) Contact Jean Wilson at 757-8004 or jean_wilson@msn.com

PARISH OFFERINGS OCT 2023:

Budget: \$19,718 Received: \$18,880 **Difference: -\$838**

Includes Oct Fundraiser with \$10,000 raised

THANKSGIVING OFFERINGS 2023:

Budget: \$4,000 Received: \$4,479 **Difference: +\$479**

SUNRISE PLAYPARK: Drop in Play on Tue & Thurs 9AM-1PM. Saturday 1PM-5PM. To book a Party please check out the website at www.sunrisepark.ca

WALKING CLUB: Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 10 – 11 AM in Rez Sanctuary.

COZY CORNER – COME ONE, COME ALL!!!! A clothing exchange for everyone. WE ACCEPT GENTLY WORN, CLEAN CLOTHING! REGULAR VOLUNTEERED HOURS ARE.... Monday: 10 AM – 12 PM, Thursday: 12 PM – 2 PM & 6 PM – 8 PM Saturday: 10 AM – 12 PM

COZY CORNER NEEDS YOUR HELP!! We are in need of gently used winter jackets, boots, and warm clothing for children and adults. There are quite a few newcomers in our community that need our help. Your donations are much appreciated.

SUNDAY SCHOOL: All children in Kindergarten to Grade 5 are welcome. When it is announced that the children can leave for Sunday School there will be someone at the back of the sanctuary to help them find their way to the Sunday School room. Parents are more than welcome to come along and drop off your child, especially if this is their first time to join us for Sunday School

YOUTH GROUP-KINGDOM COME: Juniors K-5 630-730 and Seniors (Grade 6-12) 7:45-8:45! All are welcome and invite your friends.

CONFIRMATION: Anyone 12 and up and is interested in Confirmation please let Jason know. Classes will start in the New Year. Youth Minister's Contact Info: Email- jasonasmith1214@gmail.com
Cell – 506 645 1840

O ANTIPHONS meditations – Dec 17 through 23rd: These services will be held at The Resurrection beginning at 5:30PM to 5:50PM. In the whirl of Christmas, take a moment to stop, reflect, and expect the King. A set of ancient poems centred on the names of Jesus. We will rest in silence, poetry, music and light.

PARISH CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES – SUNDAY **DEC 24, 2023**

9:00AM: CPC Traditional Service at The Resurrection

11:00AM: BAS Service at St Paul's

4:00PM: BAS Family Friendly Service at The Resurrection

CONTACT US

Office Administrator: Cindi-Lee Campbell

OFFICE HOURS:

Mondays: 8:30am – 12:00pm

Tuesdays: 8:30am – 3:30pm

Wednesdays: 8:30am – 12:00pm

Phone: 506 738-3474 Email: therezadm@gmail.com

STAY CONNECTED

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Liturgical Ministries

Celebrant: Karen Scovil & Anne Byers

Greeters: Debbie Anderson

Music: Anne Byers

Revised Common Lectionary Readings for Next Sunday:

Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11

1 Thessalonians 5:16-24

Psalm Luke 1:46b-55

John 1:6-8, 19-28
