



The Anglican Parish of Christ Church Bolton

Third Sunday of Advent

December 15, 2024

8 am & 10 am Holy Eucharist

Preacher & Celebrant ~ Rev. Don Davidson



Processional Hymn

Common Praise – 103, On Jordans Bank



✘ The Gathering of the Community

Acknowledgement of Territory

We acknowledge that we are in the traditional territory of the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation, the Anishinaabe peoples, on whose land and by whose waters we gather to worship, listen, learn, share and heal together in the name of our creator, the Holy One of Blessing.

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.**

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.

✘ The Collect of the Day

said together

**God for whom we watch and wait,
You sent John the Baptist
To prepare the way of your Son:
Give us courage to speak the truth,
To hunger for justice,
And to suffer for the cause of right,
With Jesus Christ our Saviour. Amen.**

✂ Advent Wreath

Reader 1: No matter what troubles overwhelm us today, Isaiah reminds us that in all of our preparation and passionate pursuit of God's coming kingdom, we must not forget that God's salvation has come and is coming. "With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation". With joy you will remember that God's salvation is already present among us.

All: Faced with the troubles and the suffering of the world, we choose to live in joyful presence to God and one another. We will not turn away from the pain and the hurt in our world, and we will not stop rejoicing in God, whose salvation fills us to overflowing that God's love might flow through us and flood our troubled world with hope, peace, and joy.

Reader 2: We light this candle of joy as a sign of our commitment to be present to ourselves, our friends, our families, and our neighbors that in sharing our vulnerable lives we might share in the glorious joy of God's salvation together.

Light the first two blue candles and the third (pink/rose) candle of the Advent wreath.



ADVENT GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Based on VENI, VENI, EMMANUEL
Adapted by Michael Prendergast and Joseph Sullivan

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,
ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

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✠ The Liturgy of the Word

A READING FROM THE BOOK OF ZEPHANIAH

Sing aloud, O daughter Zion; shout, O Israel! Rejoice and exult with all your heart, O daughter Jerusalem! The Lord has taken away the judgements against you, he has turned away your enemies. The king of Israel, the Lord, is in your midst; you shall fear disaster no more. On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem: Do not fear, O Zion; do not let your hands grow weak. The Lord, your God, is in your midst, a warrior who gives victory; he will rejoice over you with gladness, he will renew you in his love; he will exult over you with loud singing as on a day of festival. I will remove disaster from you, so that you will not bear reproach for it. I will deal with all your oppressors at that time. And I will save the lame and gather the outcast, and I will change their shame into praise and renown in all the earth. At that time I will bring you home, at the time when I gather you; for I will make you renowned and praised among all the peoples of the earth, when I restore your fortunes before your eyes, says the Lord.

ZEPHANIAH 3:14-20

Listen for the leading of the Spirit. **Thanks be to God.**

✠ CANTICLE 3

REFRAIN Ring out your joy, for the Holy One of Israel is in your midst. Surely, it is God who saves me; I will trust in him and not be afraid. For the Lord is my stronghold and my sure defence, and he will be my Saviour. **R**

Therefore you shall draw water with rejoicing from the springs of salvation. And on that day you shall say, Give thanks to the Lord and call upon his name; make his deeds known among the peoples; see that they remember that his name is exalted. **R**

Sing the praises of the Lord, for he has done great things, and this is known in all the world. Cry aloud, inhabitants of Zion, ring out your joy, for the great one in the midst of you is the Holy One of Israel. **R**

✠ The Gospel

May God be with you. **And also with you.**

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

John said to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruits worthy of repentance. Do not begin to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our ancestor'; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire." And the crowds asked him, "What then should we do?" In reply he said to them, "Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise." Even tax collectors came to be baptized, and they asked him, "Teacher, what should we do?" He said to them, "Collect no more

than the amount prescribed for you." Soldiers also asked him, "And we, what should we do?" He said to them, "Do not extort money from anyone by threats or false accusation, and be satisfied with your wages." As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, John answered all of them by saying, "I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire." So, with many other exhortations, he proclaimed the good news to the people. LUKE 3:7-18

The Gospel of Christ. **Praise be to you, O Jesus Christ.**

✘ **Sermon**

✘ **Profession of Faith ~ the Apostles' Creed**

Let us confess our faith, 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.

✘ The Prayers of the People

✘ Confession and Absolution

Dear friends in Christ,

God is steadfast in love and infinite in mercy; God welcomes sinners and invites them to this table. Let us confess our sins, confident in God's forgiveness.

Silence is kept

Most merciful God,

we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone.

We have not loved you with our whole heart;

we have not loved our neighbours as ourselves.

We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us, that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your name. Amen.

Almighty God have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and keep you in eternal life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

✘ The Peace

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

The members of the community may greet one another in the name of Christ

✘ The Celebration of the Eucharist

Offertory Hymn

Gather – 255, God of all People



✘ **The 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.

✘ **Eucharistic Prayer**

sit, kneel or stand for the prayer

God be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts

We lift our hearts to God.

Let us give thanks to God our creator

It is right to give God thanks and praise.

It is right and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give you thanks, God almighty, everlasting One. Because you sent your beloved to redeem us from sin and death, and make us heirs in Christ of eternal life; that when Jesus shall come again in power and great triumph to judge the world, we may, without shame or fear rejoice to behold his appearing. Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven, who forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your name.

Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God of hosts,

Heaven and earth are full of your glory

Glory to you, O Lord most high.

Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosannah in the highest.

All holy and glorious God, our creator, we give you thanks because in your loving wisdom you brought all things into being, and are truly worthy of praise from every creature you have made.

Again and again we have turned away from you; yet in every age your steadfast love has called us to return, to live in union with you: for it is your eternal purpose to put new life into all things and make them holy.

Through your beloved Jesus Christ who took our human nature you have redeemed the world from the bondage of sin: and by the power of your Holy Spirit you have gathered a people to yourself, to make known in every place the perfect offering which Jesus made to the glory of your Name.

Hear us therefore, through Jesus Christ; and grant that these gifts of bread and wine may be unto us, Christ's body and blood

For on the night Jesus was betrayed Jesus took bread, and after giving thanks to you, broke it and gave it to the disciples and said, "Take this and eat it: this is my body which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

And after supper Jesus took the cup of wine; and after giving thanks, gave it to them and said: "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. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Let us proclaim the mystery of our faith.

Jesus is Lord. Christ has reconciled us to God. Christ makes all things new.

And so, Heavenly God, rejoicing in Christ's Holy Incarnation; Blessed Passion and Perfect Sacrifice made once for all upon the Cross; Christ's mighty resurrection from the dead; Glorious ascension into heaven; And looking for Christ's coming again in glory; we offer you this bread and this cup. We pray that you will accept this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving; and grant that all who eat and drink of the body and blood of your beloved our great high priest, may be renewed by your Holy Spirit, and be one body, one Spirit in Christ.

Let faith and love increase in us. Unite us with all bishops, all other ministers of your Word and Sacraments, and with the whole people of God, living and departed, whom you have made for yourself.

Confirm us in holiness, that we may be found ready to join the company of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Holy Apostles, and all your saints, when Jesus comes again: forever giving you thanks and praise through Jesus from whom all good things do come.

With Christ, and in Christ, and through Christ, by the power of the Holy Spirit, we worship you, God almighty, with all who stand before you in earth and heaven, in songs of everlasting praise.

**Blessing and Honour and Glory and Power Be yours for even 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.**

✠ The Breaking of the Bread & the Communion

God of promise, you prepare a banquet for us in your kingdom.
Happy are those who are called to the supper of the Lamb.

AGNUS DEI

Then the eucharistic bread is solemnly broken and the consecrated bread and wine are prepared for holy communion. The litany "Lamb of God" is sung during the breaking of the bread.



Cantor:

1. Je-sus, Lamb of
2. Je-sus, Bread of
3. Je-sus, Prince of



God,
Life, you take a-way the sins of the world: have
Peace,



Last time

Cantor:

All:

mer-cy on us. Je-sus, Lamb of God; you



take a-way the sins of the world: grant us your peace.

Music: *Mass of Creation*, Marty Haugen, © 1984, GIA Publications, Inc.

The gifts of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God.**

Communion Hymn

Gather – 592, Behold the Lamb





Postlude

Common Praise – 94, Wait for the Lord



✕ Prayer after Communion

Merciful God, may this eucharist free us from our sins, fill us with unending joy, and prepare us for the birthday of our Saviour. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ, who is Lord now and for ever. Amen.

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, forever and ever. Amen.

✘ **Announcements**

✘ **Blessing**

Recessional Hymn

Gather – 352, I want to Walk as a Child of the Light



✘ **Dismissal**

Let us go in peace to love and serve the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**



THE SEASON OF

Advent



CHRIST CHURCH BOLTON

PRAYER LIST



Praying for our church family, friends, and neighbours:
take a few minutes each day to say a few names and ask God to care for them.

Laura	Pat	Margaret
Jean & Terry	Vera & Family	Havard
Marg & Gary	Carol Ohlers	Joyce
Bill & Dorothy	Mary Stone	Brianna
Mike Bewcyk	Gerri Hill	Heather Broadbent
Susan	Carole Whitehead	Janice & Family
Lisa & Family	Brian	Darlene
Virginia & Imants	Christina	Ann
Helen	Yvonne & David	Lynda, Taylor & Family

If you wish to have a name added to the prayer list, please go to
<https://christchurchbolton.ca/prayer-requests/> or call/email the church office.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION: Spiritual direction available at our church.
For details contact Wilma Clarke at (647) 518-1770 or wclarke1205@gmail.com

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MINISTERS OF THE DAY

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Lector
Prayer Leader
Sidesperson(s)/Greeter(s)
Chancel Guild

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Heather Somers
Janet Niedoba
Carol Davies
Peter & Jane Heron
Carol Davies