

ST Catherines
CHURCH



2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT
DECEMBER 5, 2021
10 AM TRADITIONAL SERVICE



Presider: Rev. Sharon Smith
Music: Rob Gloor & Singers
Coffee Group: Penny Zuk, Roslyn Jackson and Elizabeth Barratt
Greeters: Marion Porter & Gillian Holland
Altar Guild: Bonnie Grundy
Reader 1: Heather Luccock
Reader 2: Vivian McGie
Intercessor: Lynn Spence
Livestream: Armin and Gordon Lee
Sunday Teacher: Ethan Spence

As you enter the church, we invite you to light a votive candle to remember a person or situation that you carry on your heart. Candles are also available during communion.

GATHERING

Prelude

Welcome & Intentions: Rev Sharon Smith

Presider: In this time and place
We gather on the unceded
ancestral lands of the Squamish
and Tsleil-Watuth nations

**All: From many places and peoples
we come to this house of prayer.**

Presider: In this time and place we await the
coming of Emmanuel, God with us.

All: Maranatha, Come Christ Come.

Presider: In this time and place, we await
God's transformation of the world,

All: Maranatha, Come Christ Come.

Presider: In this time and place, we await
the coming of peace on earth.

All: Maranatha, Come Christ Come.

Kyrie Eleison (Lord have mercy)

Leader: Lord, have mercy.

All: Lord, have mercy.

Leader: Christ, have mercy.

All: Christ, have mercy.

Leader: Lord, have mercy.

All: Lord, have mercy.

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Reader: We light this candle of love,
remembering your abiding love
for us, and manifested through
the person and life of Jesus.



Gathering Hymn: People, Look East! The Time Is Near

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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

People: And also with you.

Presider:

Ever-present God,

All:

**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**

Prayer of the Day (Collect):

*(Anglican Church of Canada; Faith, Worship and Ministry
Work Group)*

Presider:

God of mercy,

All:

**may the radiance of your redeeming
love rise in our hearts, lighting the
way from the shadow of darkness and
guiding our feet into the way of peace.
Amen.**

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

Reading 1: Malachi 3:1-4

God announces a covenant with Israel. A messenger will prepare the way for the coming of the Lord by offering words for the refining of God's people.

See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple. The messenger of the covenant in whom you delight—indeed, he is coming, says the LORD of hosts. But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears?

For he is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap; he will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the descendants of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, until they present offerings to the LORD in righteousness. Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the LORD as in the days of old and as in former years.

Reader: Let us hear what the Spirit is saying.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

The Song of Zechariah - Luke 1: 68-79

The Canticle is prayed responsively. Led by Heather Luccock

Leader: Blessed are you, Lord, the God of Israel,
you have come to your people
and set them free.

People: **You have raised up for us a mighty Savior,
born of the house of
your servant David.**

Leader: Through your holy prophets, you promised
of old to save us from our enemies,
from the hands of all who hate us,

People: **to show mercy to our forebears,
and to remember your holy
covenant.**

Leader: This was the oath you swore to our
father Abraham:
to set us free from the hands of our
enemies,

People: **free to worship you without fear,
holy and righteous before you, all the days
of our life.**

Leader: And you, child, shall be called the prophet of
the Most High,
for you will go before the Lord to
prepare the way,

**People: to give God's people knowledge of salvation
by the forgiveness of their sins.**

Leader: In the tender compassion of our God
the dawn from on high shall break upon us,

**People: to shine on those who dwell in darkness and
in the shadow of death,
and to guide our feet into the way of
peace. Amen**



Artist: Jyoti Sahi

Reading 2: Philippians 1:3-11

The apostle Paul, pastor of many new churches, writes a tender-hearted letter about his joy of partnership with the Christians of Philippi. He encourages them to grow in love and knowledge.

I thank my God every time I remember you, constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now. 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. 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 defense and confirmation of the gospel. For God is my witness, how I long for all of you with the compassion of Christ Jesus. And this is my prayer, that your love may overflow more and more with knowledge and full insight to help you to determine what is best, so that in the day of Christ you may be pure and blameless, having produced the harvest of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ for the glory and praise of God.

Reader: Let us hear what the Spirit is saying.

People: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Hymn: Prepare the Way, O Zion

Prepare the way, O Zion,
your Christ is drawing near!
Let every hill and valley
a level way appear.
Greet one who comes in glory,
foretold in sacred story.

Refrain

Refrain
Oh, blest is Christ that came
in God's most holy name.

He brings God's rule, O Zion;
he comes from heaven above.
His rule is peace and freedom,
and justice, peace, and love.
Lift high your praise resounding,
for grace and joy abounding.

Refrain

Gospel Reading: Luke 3:1-6

John the Baptist is a herald of Jesus, whose way is prepared by “repentance for the forgiveness of sins.” As we hear the careful record of human leaders, we sense the spectrum of political and religious authority that will be challenged by this coming Lord.

Presider: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Presider: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus
Christ according to Luke

People: 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, during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness.

He went into all the region around the Jordan,
proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the
forgiveness of sins, 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.

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;
and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.’ ”

Presider:

The Gospel of Christ.

People:

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.



Image from Sunday and Seasons

Gospel Hymn cont:

Fling wide your gates, O Zion:
your Saviour's rule embrace.
His tidings of salvation
proclaim in every place.
All lands will bow before him,
their voices will adore him

Refrain

Refrain

Oh, blest is Christ that came
in God's most holy name.

Homily: Rev. Sharon

Reflective Silence follows.

Affirmation of Faith:

Presider: Moses said,

**All: Hear, O Israel, the Lord our God,
the Lord is one.**

Presider:

All:

And Jesus affirmed:

**Love the Lord your God with
all your heart,
with all your soul, with all your
mind,
And with all your strength.
This is the first and the great
commandment, the second is like it:
Love your neighbor as yourself.
There is no commandment greater
than these.**

All:

Spirit of God, search our hearts.



Artist: Museo Idzaro Galdiano

PRAYER

Prayers of the People

Confession:

Presider: Dear friends in Christ,
God is steadfast in love and infinite in mercy;
God welcomes all
and invites us to this table.
Let us confess our sins,
confident in God's forgiveness.

Silence is kept.

Presider: Most merciful God,

All: 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.

Presider: Gracious 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 the Christ. Amen.

The Passing of the Peace

Presider: The peace of Christ be always with you.
People: And also with you.

The community, standing at our seats, greet one another saying or gesturing: 'Peace be with you'.

Communion

Preparing the Table: Come Down, O Love Divine

Come down, O Love divine,
seek thou this soul of mine,
and visit it with thine own ardour glowing;
O Comforter, draw near,
within my heart appear,
and kindle it, thy holy flame bestowing.

O let it freely burn,
till earthly passions turn
to dust and ashes in its heat consuming;
and let thy glorious light
shine ever on my sight,
and clothe me round, the while my path illumining.

Let holy charity
mine outward vesture be,
and lowliness become mine inner clothing;
true lowliness of heart,
Which takes the humble part,
and o'er its own shortcomings weeps with loathing.

And so the yearning strong,
with which the soul will long,
Shall far out-pass the power of human
telling;
For none can guess its grace,
till they become the place
wherein the Holy Spirit finds a dwelling.



Artist: Jan Richardson

Prayers over the Gifts:

Presider: God of love and power,
**All: your word stirs within us
the expectation of the coming of the
Christ child. Accept all we offer you this
day, and sustain us with
your promise of life.
Amen**

The Eucharistic Prayer (*ELCIC III for Advent*)

Presider: May God be with you.
People: And also with you.
Presider: Lift up your hearts.
People: We lift them to God.
Presider: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Presider: Blessed are you gracious God,
Creator of heaven and earth;
Source of light and life.
In the fullness of time
you come among us enfleshed.
And so, together with all the choirs of
angels, your peoples on earth and in
heaven, we praise your name and join the
unending hymn:

Presider:

In the night
in which he was betrayed,
Jesus, in a room with his friends, took
bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and
shared it
saying take and eat;
this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper,
he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink,
saying; This cup
is the new covenant in my blood
shed for you and for all people
for the forgiveness of sin,
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Presider: Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

**All: Christ has died
Christ is risen,
Christ will come again.**

Presider: With this bread and cup
we remember your Word
dwelling among us,
full of grace and truth,
We remember our new birth
And we look with hope for Christ's coming.

All: Come, Lord Jesus

**All: Holy God,
we long for your Spirit,
Come among us,
Bless this meal,
May your Word take flesh in us.
Awaken your people.
Fill us with your light
Bring the gift of peace on earth.
Come, Holy Spirit.**

Presider: All praise and glory are yours,
Holy One of Israel,
Word of God incarnate,
And Holy Spirit,
one God, now and forever,

All: Amen.

Lord's Prayer (*Sung*):

**All: 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.**

**All: Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil,
For the kingdom, the power and the glory
are yours, now and forever. Amen.**

Fraction (Breaking of Bread):

Presider: God of promise, you prepare a banquet for us
at your table.

**All: Happy are those who are called to the
supper of the Lamb.**

Invitation to the Table:

Presider: The gifts of God for the people of God.

People: Thanks be to God.

Communion:

All people are welcome to receive Communion of one kind (Wafers). Gluten free wafer are available upon request.

Please wear your mask and sanitize your hands before receiving. We ask that you wait until you have returned to your seat before removing your mask and eating.

While the communion is being administered, we respectfully ask that you keep the silence.

Communion Hymn: Where Charity and Love Prevail

Where charity and love prevail,
there God is ever found;
Brought here together by Christ's love,
by love are we thus bound.

With grateful joy and holy fear
His charity we learn;
Let us with heart and mind and strength
now love him in return.

Forgive we now each other's faults
as we our faults confess;
And let us love each other well
in Christian holiness.

Let strife among us be unknown,
let all contention cease;
Be his the glory that we seek,
be ours his holy peace.

Let us recall that in our midst
dwells God's begotten Son;
As members of His body joined,
we are in him made one.

Love can exclude no race or creed
if honoured be God's name;
Our family embraces all
whose Father is the same.



Artist: Sister Hermine

Prayer after Communion:

Presider:

God for whom we wait,

All:

**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 the Christ,
our Lord Amen.**

Sending

Announcements

Prayer of Blessing – Rev. Sharon

Presider: We who are anxious over many things

All: look to your coming among us.

Presider: We who are blessed in so many ways

All: long for the embrace of your love.

Presider: We whose hearts are heavy

All: seek the company of your presence.

Presider: We are your people,

All: walking in darkness, yet seeking the light. Amen.

Sending Hymn: There's a Voice in the Wilderness

There's a voice in the wilderness crying,
a call from the ways untrod:
prepare in the desert a highway,
a highway for our God!

The valleys shall be exalted,
the lofty hills brought low;
make straight all the crooked places
where the Lord our God may go!

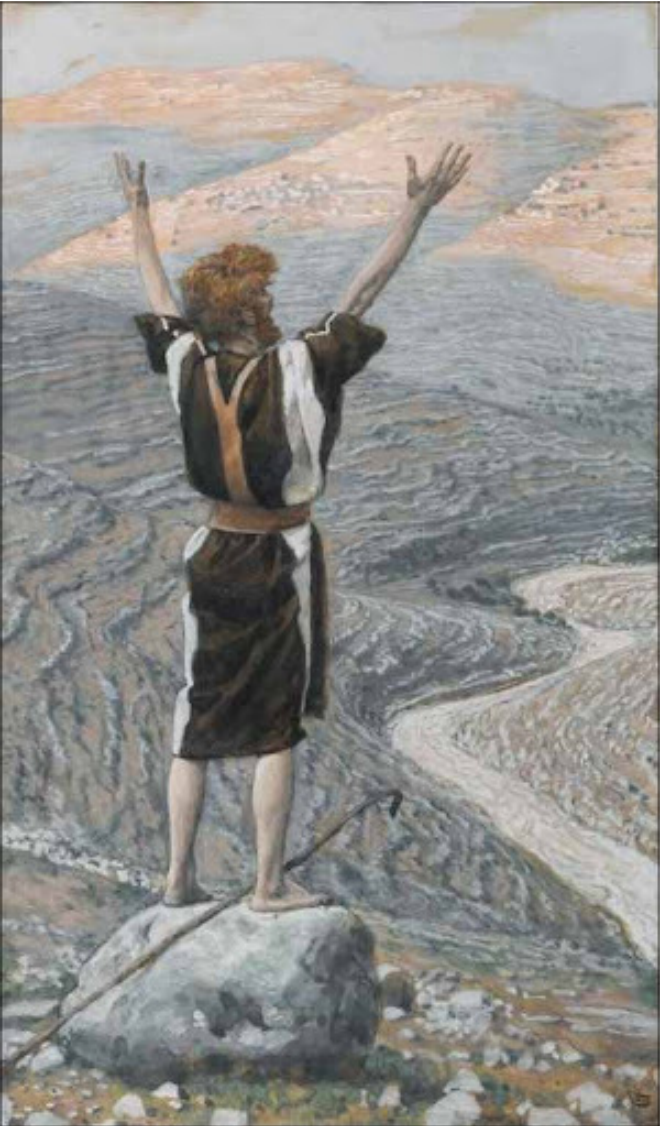
O Zion, give voice to good tidings,
Ascend to the heights and sing!
Proclaim to a desolate people
the coming of their King.

The works of pride all perish,
like flowers they shall decay,
the power and pomp of nations
shall pass like a dream away.

But Your word, O God, is faithful,
Your arm, O Lord, is strong;
You stand in the midst of nations,
and you will right the wrong.

You will feed your flock like a shepherd,
and lambs will gently hold,
in pastures of peace you'll lead them,
and bring them safe to the fold.

There's a voice in the wilderness crying,
a call from the ways untrod:
prepare in the desert a highway,
a highway for our God!
The valleys shall be exalted,
the lofty hills brought low;
make straight all the crooked places
where the Lord our God may go!



Artist: James J. Tissot

Dismissal

Presider: Go in peace to follow the way of
Christ in this complex time,

People: Thanks be to God.



Artist: Leah Newton

CHRISTMASTIDE SERVICES

December 21st, 2021, 7-8 pm

Blue Christmas Service

St Andrews United Church

For any who need a quiet service for lament this season

December 24th, 2021, 3 – 3:45 pm

Intergenerational Christmas Eve Pageant

St Catherine's Church



Please join us as we journey to Bethlehem and experience the night Jesus was born. Pageant will take place in person, with Covid 19 safety protocols in place: Wearing masks & distancing in the pews.

We hope you, your children and grandchildren will become a character in our pageant. A shepherd, a sheep, Mary, an angel or a star... all are welcome.

St Catherine's Preschool has costumes and props which will be made available at 2:30 pm in the lobby.

December 24th, 2021, 5 pm
Traditional Christmas Eve
Service
St Catherine's Church



We are gathering in person this year, following Covid 19 safety plan protocols.

A one-hour Traditional Service with music, candlelight, readings, prayers, a Eucharist/ Communion (open to all) and homily.

To accommodate larger numbers we are requiring:

- A Vaccine Passport shown at the door OR
- Proof of a negative COVID test within 72 hours of attendance.

The service will be livestreamed for those unable to attend, viewed on St Catherine's YouTube channel.

December 25th, 2021, 10 am

Christmas Day Service

St Agnes Church

There will be a celebration of the Eucharist at 10 AM on Christmas Day at St Agnes. Guest celebrant will be the Reverend Helen Dunn of St Clement's, and the preacher will be Archdean Stephen Muir.

All are invited to this regional service for North Vancouver Anglicans and Lutherans (and anyone else who would like to come!).

If you would like to participate in this service as a reader or intercessor, please contact Archdeacon Muir at priest@saintagnes.ca.

Covid safety protocols in effect as per the diocesan policy.

St Agnes is located at 530 East 12th Street, North Vancouver, 1/2 block west of Grand Boulevard.

December 26th, 2021, 10 am

Lessons and Carols,

St. Catherine's Church



Nine Lessons (Readings) and Carols, also known as the Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols and Service of Nine Lessons and Carols, is a service of Christian worship traditionally celebrated on or near Christmas Eve.