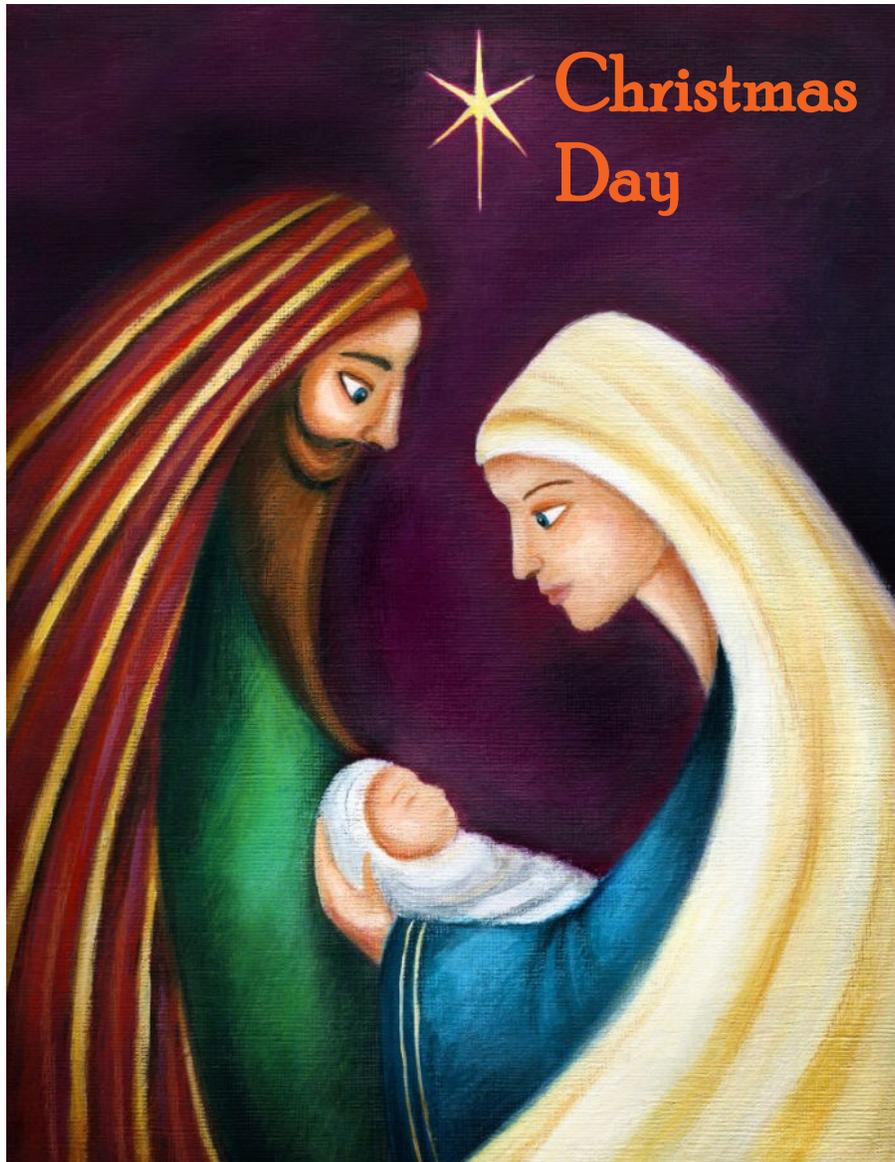




St Hilda's By the Sea Anglican Church

Open Doors · Open Hearts · Open Minds

December 25, 2017 † 10:00 am Family Eucharist



Celebrant & Preacher: The Rev. Clarence Li
Music: Linda Kern
Readers: Annie Webb
Altar Guild: Muriel Prior, Win Wright

Altar Flowers: Given by Jacqueline Allan Gye to the glory of God and with thanks for our clergy at St. Hilda's as we are all moved to new possibilities.

Christmas Message from the Rector



*"I won't take no for an answer,"
God began to say
to me*

*when He opened His arms each night
wanting us to
dance.*

The story of the Nativity which Christians and many non-Christians alike gather to commemorate each year is where this dance began. Catherine of Siena, a 14th century mystic who regarded God's heart being "more gentle than the Virgin's first kiss upon the Christ," penned this poem to invite us to re-imagine God as a lover whispering, "Shall we dance?"

Have you ever danced with God? When was your last dance with the One who is the-love-embodied? Have you forgotten the steps and are a bit embarrassed to take God's hand? Perhaps you have never learned. Or are you too broken, too grief-stricken, too scared or too angry to even desire to take the first step?

We discovered earlier this year that our beautiful dance hall — St. Hilda's sanctuary — needs to be rebuilt due to structural issues. Yet our dance this Christmas continues because the dancer "won't take no for an answer." And here you are, joining us yet once again gazing into the starlit manger to savour the longing, intimacy, and excitement of Dancing with the Stars. Could I ask you to take a moment this Christmas to consider supporting St. Hilda's towards the cost of re-building our sanctuary where many first and future dances begin?

This Christmas let this peace-child, Jesus, be your Lord of the Dance so that you may dance to your wholeness, dance to a better world, and dance to a joyous hope where all are at home. Merry Christmas!

*Dance, then, wherever you may be, I am the Lord of the Dance, said he,
And I'll lead you all, wherever you may be,
and I'll lead you all in the Dance, said he.*

Clarence



✠ The Gathering of Community ✠

Prelude

Welcome & Introduction to the Service

All stand as able at the sound of the singing bowl.

🎵 **Processional Hymn** *O Come, All Ye Faithful*CP118 vs 1,3,5

O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant,
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem:
come and behold him, born the king of angels
*O come let us adore him, O come let us adore him,
O come let us adore him, Christ the Lord.*

Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,
sing, all ye citizens of heaven above;
glory to God in the highest:

Yea, Lord we greet thee, born this happy morning;
Jesus, to thee be glory given;
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing:

Celebrant 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.**

Celebrant Almighty 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.**

🎵 **Glory to God** CP679

Glory be to God on high, and in earth peace, good will towards all.
We praise thee, we bless thee, we worship thee, we glorify thee,
we give thanks to thee for thy great glory,
O Lord God, heavenly King, God the Father almighty,
O Lord, the only begotten Son, Jesus Christ;
O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,
that takest away the sin of the world, receive our prayer.

cont'd over →

Those that sittest at the right hand of God the Father,
have mercy upon us.
For thou only art holy; thou only art the Lord;
thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost,
art most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

Collect for Christmas Day

Celebrant May God be with you.

PEOPLE **And also with you.**

Celebrant God whose word became flesh,

ALL **breathe a new song of joy and praise into the world,
so that we may bear the good news of your salvation
and proclaim your promise of peace
to the ends of the earth;
through Christ the Word. Amen.**

All are seated

✠ The Proclamation of the Word of God ✠

After each reading, there will be a short time of quiet meditation

The First Reading Isaiah 52:7-10 Annie Webb

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to the church

ALL **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 98 *Spoken by all*

- 1 Sing a new song to the Lord,
who has done marvellous things,
whose mighty hand and holy arm have won the victory.
- 2 O Lord, you have made known the victory;
you have openly shown your righteousness
in the sight of the nations.
- 3 You remember your mercy and faithfulness to the house of Israel,
and all the ends of the earth have seen your victo-ry, O God.
- 4 Shout with joy to the Lord, all you lands;
lift up your voice, rejoice and sing.
- 5 Sing to the Lord with the harp,
with the harp and the voice of song.
- 6 With trumpets and the sound of the horn
shout with joy before our sovereign, the Lord.
- 7 Let the sea make a noise and all that is in it,
the lands and those who dwell therein.
- 8 Let the rivers clap their hands,
and let the hills ring out with joy before the Lord,
who is coming to judge the earth.

9 In righteousness shall God judge the world
and the peoples with equity.

The Second Reading Hebrews 1:1-4 Annie Webb

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to the church.

ALL Thanks be to God.

 **Gradual Hymn** *Hark the Herald Angels Sing* CP138 vs 1-2

Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King,
peace on earth, and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled."

Joyful, all ye nations, rise, join the triumph of the skies;
with the angelic host proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem."

Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King."

Christ, by highest heaven adored; Christ, the ever lasting Lord;
late in time behold him come, offspring of a virgin's womb.

Veiled in flesh the God-head see; hail, the incarnate deity,
pleased as one of us to dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel! *Refrain*

All remain standing as able

Celebrant May God be with you

PEOPLE And also with you

Celebrant The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John

PEOPLE Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ

Gospel Reading John 1:1-14

After reading

Celebrant The Gospel of Christ

PEOPLE Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

 **Gradual Hymn** *Hark the Herald Angels Sing* CP138 vs 3

Hail, the heaven-born Prince of Peace!

Hail, the Sun of Righteousness!

Light and life to all he brings, risen with healing in his wings.

Mild he lays his glory by, born that we no more may die,

born to raise each child of earth, born to give us second birth.

Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King."

Sermon *The Rev. Clarence Li*

After the sermon, remain seated for a short quiet meditation.

Affirmation of Faith

Celebrant Let us affirm our faith together saying

**ALL I believe in God, Creator of the universe,
dwelling forever beyond time and space.**

cont'd over→

**I believe in Jesus Christ who came to live
among us and let us see what God is like.
And I believe in the Holy Spirit sent from God
through Jesus, to be our guide and comforter.
Therefore I believe in love,
in hope, compassion, joy and faith,
and forgiveness beyond eternal life.**

Prayers of the People

Please stand, sit or kneel according to your praying custom. Names upheld in the prayers can be found on the Parish List on the back page. You are also welcome to name your loved one(s) aloud or silently in your heart.

Leader: *Emmanuel, now with us,* **Response:** **Hear our prayer.**

The Peace

All stand as able as we share the peace

Celebrant Blessed be Christ the Prince of Peace,

PEOPLE **who breaks down the walls that divide.**

Celebrant The peace of God be always with you.

PEOPLE **And also with you**

✠ The Holy Communion ✠

The Offertory

During the hymn, the bread and wine for the Lord's Supper are presented alongside with the offering of money to symbolize the offering of ourselves and of the whole creation to God in thanksgiving for the many blessings we experienced.

 **Offertory Hymn** *I Saw Three Ships*

1. I saw three ships come sailing in,
on Christmas day, on Christmas day.
I saw three ships come sailing in,
on Christmas day in the morning.
2. And what was in those ships all three...
3. The Virgin Mary and Christ were there...
4. Then let us all rejoice amain...

Prayer over the Gifts

Celebrant God of peace,

ALL **your Son Jesus Christ has reconciled us to you.**

May all we offer you today

renew us as members of your household.

We ask this in his name. Amen.

Eucharistic Preface

“Eucharist” means “thanksgiving”. This is a ritual meal to re-enact the Last Supper that Jesus shared with his friends to remind them of his sacrificial love for humanity and the whole creation. All stand as able.

The Prayer of Great Thanksgiving

Celebrant The Lord be with you

PEOPLE And also with you.

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

PEOPLE We lift them to the Lord.

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

PEOPLE It is right to offer thanks and praise.

Celebrant Blessed are you, Gracious God, creator of heaven and earth...

...Therefore with all the angels of heaven, we lift our voices and sing our joyful hymn of praise to proclaim the glory of your name, singing:



Sanctus CP683

**ALL Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Hosts,
heaven and earth are full of thy glory.
Glory be to thee, O Lord most high.
Blessed is the one who cometh in the name of the Lord:
Hosanna in the highest.**

Celebrant We give thanks to you, Lord our God...

Therefore, Father, according to his command,...

**PEOPLE we remember his death,
we proclaim his resurrection,
we await his coming in glory;**

Celebrant and we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving...

...all honour and glory are yours, almighty Father,
now and for ever.

PEOPLE Amen.

Celebrant As our Saviour taught us, let us pray,

**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.
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

Celebrant We break the bread of life
and that life is the light of the world.

 **PEOPLE God here among us,
light in the midst of us,
bring us to light and live.**

Agnus Dei CP685

**O Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world:
have mercy upon us.**

**O Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world:
have mercy upon us.**

**O Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world:
grant us thy peace.**

The Invitation

Sharing the Gifts

If you know the brokenness of life, its fractures within and its division without, then you have participated in the broken body of Christ and you are invited to share in the breaking of bread.

If you desire to know the love of God that overcomes indifference and despair, if you desire the reconciliation that overcomes estrangement and alienation, then you are invited to share the cup of the new covenant.

Receiving Communion

The bread is received in the open palm. It is usual Anglican practice to drink the wine from the common cup. Wine and unfermented grape juice are served. If you would prefer to receive a gluten-free wafer or grape juice, please inform the person administering the bread or wine when they approach you. If you would prefer to receive a blessing instead of Communion, you are welcome to come forward and place your hands across your chest.

Prayer After Communion

Celebrant Father and Mother of all,

**PEOPLE the child born for us is the Saviour of the world.
May he who made us your children
welcome us into your kingdom,
where he is alive and reigns with you now and for ever.**

Closing Blessing

Celebrant May we who have been touched by the Word made flesh
Be his body for the world,
his hands to bring blessing,

His sense to glory,
in the promise of creation restored;
And the blessing of God:
Life Giver, Pain Bearer, Love Maker
be among you and remain with you always.



ALL Amen.

Recessional Hymn: Joy to the World.....*Alternate text by G.P. Haddon*

Joy to the world! The Christ is here!
The gift of peace to bring!
Let ev'ry heart a welcome place prepare.
And heav'n and nature sing, and heav'n and nature sing,
And heav'n, and heav'n and nature sing!

Joy to the earth! The saviour lives!
With song your voice employ;
While fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains
Repeat the sounding joy, Repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat, repeat the sounding joy!

Christ fills the world with truth and grace,
And asks each life to prove
The glories of God's righteousness
And wonders of God's love, And wonders of God's love,
And wonders, and wonders of God's love!

Dismissal

PEOPLE Thanks be to God.

Postlude



Parish Events and Notices

Rector's Epiphany Open House: Saturday January 6, 1:00-5:00 pm

Come and celebrate the joy of Christmas and the New Year at an Open House at the Rector's home (4972 Geer Road, Davis Bay) on the Feast of Epiphany. In honour of the Three Wise Magi, Clarence and Dave are inviting you to bring along a note describing in brief **one wise lesson** you have learnt to share. Food and drinks will be provided. No gifts, please. A donation to the Rector's Discretionary Fund for Benevolence would be appreciated. Parking instructions: Please carpool if possible and park along Geer Road and save the few parking spots up the driveway for people who have mobility challenges. Thanks.

Notice of Special Vestry Meeting: Church Committee is asking all parishioners to make time to attend a Special Vestry Meeting on January 14, 2018 at 11:30 am to decide on a course of remediating the church. The formal motion with additional information will be circulated in writing and posted on the parish website in due course.

Office Closed: The Church Office will be closed from Dec 26 to 29 for the holidays.

Sunday School: There will be no Sunday School on December 31.

Office Administrator on Holidays: Karen will be on holidays the week of Jan 2-5, but the office will still be open from 10am to noon, Tuesday to Friday.

St.Hilda's Choir: No choir rehearsals until Thursday January 11, 2018.

Ndandini Scholarship Campaign: Through our Rotary partnership, St. Hilda's helps students and families in Ndandini, Kenya with their high school fees. You may make a donation or give a 'gift of education' donation as a Christmas gift to your family and friends. Please mark your donation 'Ndandini'. For those donating as a Christmas gift, Ndandini Scholarship Christmas Gift Cards are available to let your recipient know about the gift you have given on their behalf.

ASSANTE SANA! Thank you everyone for your tremendous support of the Ndandini Knapsack campaign. Over \$1800 was raised this year – the equivalent of 3 full scholarships or 12 one year scholarships. St. Hilda's you are amazing!

The Twelve Days of Christmas: Monday January 1, 7:00 pm at St. Bart's. Come experience the fullness of Christmas with a concert of beautiful choral and organ music. From the sounds of Thomas Tomkins to favorites by Sir David Willcocks, join MOTET Chamber Choir as we celebrate this most wonderful time of year and take you on a musical journey to Epiphany. Admission by donation.

Vocal Intent Songs for a New Day Concert: Saturday January 6 at 4:30 pm at Sunshine Coast Arts Centre. The group has chosen selections that are an inspiration for a new day and a new year. Admission by donation. Jon Eriksson and Tom Kellough are two of the singers and Katherine Hume will be joining them on the piano.

Week At-a-Glance at St. Hilda's			
Mon	25	10:00 am	Christmas Day Service Parish Hall
OFFICE CLOSED December 26 to 29			
Sat	30	11:30 am	Worship Set-up Parish Hall
Sun	31	8:30 am 10:00 am	Traditional Eucharist Family Eucharist Parish Hall Parish Hall
<p>Readings for December 31, First Sunday after Christmas 1st Reading: Isaiah 61:10--62:3.... Reader: Kathleen Scott/Annie Webb 2nd Reading: Galatians 4:4-7..... Reader: Michael Scott / John Webb Psalm 148 Gospel: Luke 2:22-40</p>			



This liturgy has been compiled from various sources, including:

- Collect from Revised Common Lectionary Prayers (2002, alt)
- Psalm text from *A Liturgical Psalter (5th ed) Pointed for Psalm Tones* by The Rev Dr Richard Geoffrey Leggett and Pointed by The Rev James Brown.
- Affirmation of Faith by Francis Somerville
- Prayer over the Gifts, Eucharistic Christmas Preface & Prayer 3, and Prayer after Communion from *Book of Alternative Services* Copyright © 2004 by the General Synod of the Anglican Church of Canada. All rights reserved. Reproduced under license from ABC Publishing, Anglican Book Centre, a ministry of the General Synod of the Anglican Church of Canada, from Anglican Liturgical Li-

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PARISH PRAYER FOR THE WEEK	
Anglican Communion	Yola - (Jos, Nigeria) The Rt Revd Markus Ibrahim
Diocese & Partners	St. Stephen the Martyr, Burnaby - The Rev April Stanley St. Stephen, West Van - The Rev Jonathan Lloyd, The Rev Ayoob Adwar St. John the Apostle, Port Moody - The Rev Stephanie Shepard, The Rev Anne Anchor, The Rev Trudi Shaw St. John the Evangelist, North Vancouver - The Rev Patrick Blaney St. John the Divine, Maple Ridge - The Rev Georgina Harris, St. John the Divine, Squamish - The Rev Nicholas Parker St. John, Shaughnessy - The Ven John Stephens, The Rev Liz Hamel, The Rev Pitman Potter <hr style="width: 20%; margin: 5px auto;"/> Holy Trinity Mission in Bantey (twinned with St. Hilda's) Companion Diocese: Bishop Brent Alawas, & the Clergy & People of the Episcopal Diocese of Northern Philippines BC Synod of the ELCIC, Bishop Gregory Mohr
Local Agencies	Alcoholics Anonymous
Local Churches	Christ the Redeemer
UN MDG Project	Kenya: the Community Greenhouses
Prayer Requests	Kira Crawford & family Sharon Doan: peace & comfort while in palliative care Wayne Greggain: for comfort and healing Jenny: ongoing healing from tumor Norman Robert (Annie Webb's brother): healing from cancer Ty: wisdom to go for cancer check-up
Rest in Peace	Canon Douglas William
Parish Families	Robert Watson, Karen Weatherington & Jon Eriksson & Joshua, John & Annie Webb, Win & John Wright

Prayer requests are listed for 4 weeks - to extend, please contact the office.