

The Anglican Parish of St. Peter, Quamichan

SEASON OF ADVENT



DECEMBER 6, 2020
LESSONS AND CAROLS



Officiant: People of God in this place and in all places, once again, we give thanks that you are worshipping with this community and we welcome you to the Anglican church of St. Peter, Quamichan as part of our virtual church family. Today, in order to honour this season of Advent, we will be offering a service of Advent Lessons and Carols.

Opening Acknowledgement:

Officiant: In this time and place, we gather on the unceded ancestral territories of the Coast Salish people and the Cowichan Tribes.
In this time and place we gather in the name of the living God.
In this time and place we gather with the community of faith around the globe and across the ages.
In this time and place we are not alone, but one in Christ.
In this time and place Hallowed, expectant, one people in God.

All: **In this time and place heaven and earth are one. In the name of the Holy and Blessed One, Creator, Redeemer and Holy Spirit. Amen.**

The Second Sunday in Advent – Peace

Invitation:

Officiant: We come to the second week of the season of Advent and gather around a wreath of lights. The wreath reminds us of the circle of our human community and the lights illuminate the many ways in which we bring ourselves to the Incarnation, God's longed-for presence among us — human and holy, Emmanuel — God with us and God among us.

Scripture: Luke 2:11-14

Officiant: But the angel said to them, 'Do not be afraid; for see — I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David, a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.' And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, Glory to God in the highest and peace on earth, good will to all!

Lighting the Candles and Illuminating the Places of Peace

Light one purple/blue candle and gently touch the Bible

Officiant: We light this candle for the Christmas story that shines hope on our lives.

Light the second purple/blue candle

Officiant: We light this candle to shine on the places that bring us peace, including this church, and the places and people that need peace this day.

Officiant: Together let us pray:

All: Emmanuel, we find peace in places near and far, expected and unexpected. Help us in this Advent season to pray for peace in our lives, our relationships, our communities, and our world. Amen.

Service of Lessons and Carols

Officiant: We gather here to recall the mystery of our redemption. Though we have been drawn away from God, God never stopped loving us. The prophets told of the coming of a Messiah who would initiate a reign of justice and peace. This promise was fulfilled in the incarnation of Jesus Christ. As we are attentive to the words of scripture and familiar melodies may the God of Advent open our hearts to reflect with joy on this wondrous mystery.

Hymn: Hills of the North, Rejoice

Reading 1: Genesis 1, 2:1-3 – God creates the Earth

Officiant: O God of Creation,

All: You spoke and the world came into being. You created all things in heaven and earth, filled them with richness and beauty and saw that they were good. Open our hearts to be grateful all that You have created and walk gently on the earth. Amen.

Song: What a Wonderful World

Reading 2: Genesis 3:1-20 – The man and the woman eat the forbidden fruit

Officiant: O God of promise,

All: You created a world that is Good – an environment at peace and in balance - place for us to walk with You in Fullness of life. But we turn away from you time and time again. Open our hearts to see your goodness and help us to always return to you. Through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.

Hymn: CP 111 – Herald! Sound the Note of Judgement

Reading 3: Jeremiah 23:5-8 – The promise of a reign of justice

Officiant: O God of Deliverance,

All: You promised that days are coming which would bring justice that would never end. Open our minds to become a reconciled and righteous people working towards justice and peace throughout the world. Through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.

Hymn: CP 89 – O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

Reading 4: Isaiah 11:1-10 – God promises there will be a world of peace and justice

Officiant: O God of Peace,

All: You foretold of a bringer of peace. One who full of the Spirit of wisdom and understanding, of counsel and might, of justice and faithfulness. Open our lives to the immeasurable peace which you bring. Through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.

Song: Imagine

Reading 5: Isaiah 65:17-25 – God promises a world renewed

Officiant: O God of New Things,

All: You tell of a promise of a new day of joy and peace and yet we are skeptical and expect things to go as they have been these last few months. Open our hearts to the new things you have for us and help us be glad and rejoice in your promises. Through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.

Hymn: CP 109 – When the King Shall Come Again

Reading 6: Isaiah 9: 1-6 – Out of darkness will come a great light

Officiant: O God of light,

All: You gave us a baby to brighten our lives and gladden our hearts. When the world grows dark and the days are long, lonely or uncertain you are always there, shining. Open our hearts to trust that you are always with us. Through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.

Hymn: CP 91 – People Look East

Reading 7: Luke 1:5-23 - Announcement of the birth of John, to become the Baptist

Officiant: O God of miracles,

All: You sent angels to bring news of miraculous joy and left your servant speechless at your unbelievable promises. Open our hearts to see your miracles around us each and every day so we can always speak of your goodness. Through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.

Hymn: CP 103 – On Jordan’s Bank, the Baptist’s Cry

Reading 8: Luke 1:26-38 – Gabriel tells Mary of God’s plan for her to conceive the Son of God

Officiant: O God of the unexpected,

All: You chose one we would never expect to bare your Son Jesus, and Mary trusted You with her whole heart welcoming what was to come. Open our hearts to welcome you and be ready like Mary to serve you in unexpected ways. Through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.

Hymn: CP 362 – Tell out my Soul

Reading 8: Luke 1: 39- 56 – The Canticle of Mary

Officiant: God of life,

All: You sent Mary with haste to visit her cousin Elizabeth in her hour of need. May we too rejoice in the Lord when we can find ways to connect with those we care about and share in their needs and their joys. Open our hearts to always be your loving presence for each other and the world. Through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.

Closing Words

Blessing

Officiant: May the Sun of Righteousness shine upon you and scatter the darkness from before your path; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. Amen.

Hymn: CP 114 – Lo He Comes with Clouds Descending

Dismissal

Deacon: Alleluia – Let us bless the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God. Alleluia.