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The Right Rev. Dr. Logan McMenamie, Bishop
The Rev. Sandra Hounsell-Drover, Rector
The Rev. Dr. Paul Schumacher, Associate Priest

***“Together in Christ
we seek to love God and
to love and serve all others”***

December 22, 2019

Advent 4

Baptism & Pageant Sunday



Sunday Services are at 8:30 a.m. (Traditional Rite)
10:00 a.m. (Contemporary)

Office Hours are Mon to Thurs, 9:00-Noon; **Closed Friday.**
Celtic Eucharist and Gospel Discussion Wednesdays at 10:00 a.m.

WELCOME TO CHURCH OF THE ADVENT

If you are a newcomer, please identify yourself to the Sidespersons or priest so we can welcome you and tell you about our church.

We recognize that we worship on the traditional lands of Coast Salish peoples. We commit ourselves to continue with our First Nations neighbours on the journey of healing, truth and reconciliation.

We are pleased to welcome The Right Reverend Dr. Logan McMenamie.

Rev. Sandra Hounsell-Drover preaches and presides today.

8:30 a.m. Holy Communion
Book of Common Prayer, p. 67

Isaiah 7:10-16

Psalms 80:1-7, 16-18 Pg. 433

Romans 1:1-7

Matthew 1:18-25

Administrator

William Dolan

William Dolan

Elizabeth Bennett

Rev. Sandra Hounsell-Drover

Eric Spurling

10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist
Book of Alternative Services, p. 185

Liturgical Assistant is Mike Armstrong

Acoylte is William Hounsell-Drover

Sidespeople are Pat Graham & Betty Leach

Director of Music is Nell Howard

THE GATHERING OF THE COMMUNITY

Leader: As we meet together, we begin by remembering the Lekwungen speaking people, on whose traditional land we now gather in gratitude. We acknowledge their story and their stewardship of the land and water, the plants and animals, through the many generations.

As we meet together, we remember those who have called this place their home in recent years—the community of faith known as Church of the Advent, whose joyful spirit embraces us. Now let us greet one another with words and signs of welcome.

Sentence of the Day: A virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and his name shall be called Emmanuel: God with us.

Opening Hymn: VU 6 A Candle is Burning (Verses 1-4)

A candle is burning, a flame warm and bright,
a candle of HOPE in December's dark night.
While angels sing blessings from heaven's starry sky,
our hearts we prepare now for Jesus is nigh.

A candle is burning, candle of PEACE,
a candle to signal that conflict must cease.
For Jesus is coming to show us the way,
a message of peace humbly laid in the hay.

A candle is burning, A candle of JOY,
a candle to welcome brave Mary's new boy.
Our hearts fill with wonder and eyes light and glow,
as Joy brightens winter like sunshine on snow.

A candle is burning, a candle of LOVE,
a candle to point us to heaven above.
A baby for Christmas, a wonderful birth,
for Jesus is bringing God's Love to our earth.

Welcome:

The Advent Wreath

Lighting of the Advent Wreath: Where the Promise Shines

A Candle Lighting Ceremony for Advent Words by Sylvia G. Dunstan Music by Bob Moore, Setting by Joel Raney

Fourth Sunday of Advent - The Promise of Love

Advent is a time for God's people to reawaken their longings.
God so loved the world that he gave his one and only son.
When we longed for the silence to be broken,

God so loved the world that he gave his one and only son.
When we longed for the light that shines in the darkness,
God so loved the world that he gave his one and only son.
When we longed for the peace that surpasses understanding,
God so loved the world that he gave his one and only son.

Candle Lighting

Today we light **four candles**. The first candle is the light of hope granting strength to the weary. The second candle is the light of peace that surpasses our understanding. The third candle is the light of joy that touches the depths of our soul. The fourth candle reminds us of the light of God's love poured out in the person and work of Jesus Christ.

Congregation response song:

Lead us on, lead us on – to a morning where the promise shines.
Lead us on, lead us on – to a morning where the promise shines.
To a morning where the promise shines.

Closing Prayer: God of grace, **you so loved the world that you gave your one and only Son to all who believe. Jesus is the true gift of Advent, shining forth your glory and grace. As the light has grown brighter through the season, we pray that you would shine forth the promise of your hope, peace, joy, and love within our lives and within our world. Amen.**

Collect of the day: God of all hope and joy, **open our hearts in welcome, so that your Son Jesus Christ at his coming may find in us a dwelling prepared for him; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.**

Pageant Preparation

Choir Anthem: *Posada*

Words by Mary Louise Bring. Musc by Tony Alonso. Arranged by Chris De Silva.

THE STORY OF FAITH IS PROCLAIMED

Part 1: Mary and Joseph

Carol: CP 120 O Little Town of Bethlehem (Verses 1 & 2)

Part 2: The Animals

Carol: Jesus our Brother

Jesus our brother, kind and good,
was humbly born in a stable rude.
And the friendly beasts around him stood,
Jesus our brother, kind and good.

"I," said the donkey, shaggy and brown,
"I carried his mother up hill and down;
I carried his mother to Bethlehem town."
"I," said the donkey, shaggy and brown.

"I," said the sheep with curly horn,
"I gave him my wool for his blanket warm;
He wore my coat on Christmas morn."
"I," said the sheep with curly horn.

Thus all the beasts, by some good spell,
in the stable dark was glad to tell.
Of the gift they gave Emmanuel,
the gift they gave Emmanuel.

Part 3: The Angels

Carol: CP 143 Angels from the Realms of Glory (Verse 1)

Part 4: The Shepherds

Carol: CP 135 Shepherds in the Field Abiding (Verses 1 & 4)

Part 5: Wise Persons and The Star

Carol: We Three Kings

We three kings of orient are; bearing gifts we traverse afar.
Field and fountain, moor and mountain, following yonder star.

O star of wonder, star of night, star with royal beauty bright.
Westward leading, still proceeding, guide us to thy perfect light.

Glorious now behold Him arise, King and God and Sacrifice;
Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia! Sounds through the earth and skies.

O star of wonder, star of night, star with royal beauty bright.
Westward leading, still proceeding, guide us to thy perfect light.

Part 6: Conclusion

Carol: Go Tell it on the Mountain

Refrain:

Go, tell it on the mountain, Over the hills and everywhere;

Go, tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born!

While shepherds kept their watching o'er silent flocks by night,
Behold throughout the heavens there shone a holy light. ***(Refrain)***

Down in a lowly manger the humble Christ was born,
And God sent us salvation that blessed Christmas morn. ***(Refrain)***

RESPONDING TO THE WORD OF GOD

Presentation and Examination of the Candidates: Pg. 153

Prayers for the Candidates: Pg. 155

Helen Thomas

The Celebration of Baptism

Thanksgiving over the Water: *Pg. 157*

The Baptismal Covenant: *Pg. 158*

Including the additional promise:

Will you strive to safeguard the integrity of God's creation, and respect, sustain and renew the life of the Earth?

I will, with God's help.

The Baptism: *Pg. 160*

The Giving of Light: *Pg. 160*

The Peace:

THE SACRED MEAL IS SHARED

Offertory Hymn: CP 95 O Come, Divine Messiah

Prayer over the Gifts: *(Sung)*

What can I give him, poor as I am?

If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb.

If I were a wise man, I would do my part;

yet what I can, I give him - give my heart.

Eucharistic Prayer #1:

Pg. 193

Sung

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to God.

Now let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

How good it is to give thanks and praise.

Eucharistic prayer continues...

Sanctus: (*'Hark the Herald Angels Sing' Melody*)

**Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord, God of power and might adored
heaven and earth are shining bright with the glory of your light!
Loud hosannas now we sing! In the highest may they ring!
Blessed is the Coming One, Christ, Emmanuel, your Son.
Glory in the highest! Holy God, your name be blessed.**

Eucharistic prayer continues...

Acclamation: (*'We Three Kings' Melody*)

**Dying Christ destroyed our death. Rising Christ restores our life.
Christ will come again in glory, raising us all to life.
Oh, God of power, God of might, God of love, our hearts delight:
Feed us, guide us, walk beside us, bless us with our gentle light.**

Eucharistic prayer continues...

Great Amen: (*'Infant Holy Infant Lowly' Melody*)

**God our Mother, Christ our Brother, Spirit in these gifts you vow: by
your giving, in our living, we become your body now. Bread is broken,
light revealing; word is spoken for our healing. Make us all your body
now. Amen. Amen.**

Lord's Prayer:

Breaking of the Bread #5:

Pg. 212

Invitation to Communion: *Friends, this is the joyful feast of unity. Christ has gathered his people around the earth to commune at this table. And so, come: you from the East and you from the West, from the North and from the South. Come. Come with your doubts, come with your hopes, come with your inadequacies and with your strengths. Come, for this is a table where all are invited, and all are welcome.*

Communion Distributors: Kerry Blain, Sheila & Lorne Dearsley

Prayer after Communion: Faithful God, in this sacrament we receive the promise of salvation. May we, like the Virgin Mary, be obedient to your will. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord. Amen.

Doxology:

Pg. 214

SENDING FORTH

Blessing:

Shared Ministry:

Commissioning Hymn: VU 644 I Was There to Hear Your Borning Cry

I was there to hear your borning cry,
I'll be there when you are old.
I rejoiced the day you were baptized,
to see your life unfold.

I was there when you were but a child,
with a faith to suit you well,
in a blaze of light you wandered off
to find where demons dwell.

When you heard the wonder of the word,
I was there to cheer you on,
you were raised to praise the living Lord,
to whom you now belong.

If you find someone to share your time,
and you join your hearts as one,
I'll be there to make your verses rhyme,
from dusk till rising sun.

In the middle ages of your life,
not too old, no longer young.
I'll be there to guide you through the night,
complete what I've begun.

When the evening gently closes in
and you shut your weary eyes,
I'll be there as I have always been with just one more surprise.

I was there to hear your borning cry,
I'll be there when you are old.
I rejoiced the day you were baptized,
to see your life unfold.

Commissioning: May starlight guide your steps towards this place of wonder. May angels sing their news as you travel to the manger. May promise fill these days as we watch at the edge of birth and may faith tell you, Emmanuel will be with us soon.

We go from here in the light and love of God. Amen.

~Coffee, tea, and juice are served in the Main Hall after the service~



TODAY WE PRAY

Pray for Christians in other denominations and the work of the ecumenical movement.

*For Linda our Primate, Melissa our Metropolitan,
Logan our Bishop, Sandra our Rector, & Paul our Associate Priest.
For Congregation of Two Saints Ministry & the Diocese of Caledonia.
In the Selkirk Region St-David-by-the-Sea, Cordova Bay.*

FOR THOSE WHO HAVE ASKED US TO PRAY FOR THEM

*Joan, Maureen, Elmer & Alice, Joan & Don, Anthony, Lucy, Dode, Barb,
Bonnie, Scott, Sarah, Kim, Helen, Mae, Gay, & Peter.*

SHARED MINISTRY

THIS WEEK

Monday, Dec. 23 – Friday Dec. 27 – Parish Office is closed.

Tuesday, Dec. 24 – Christmas Eve Services at 6 & 10 pm

READINGS FOR NEXT WEEK:

Is 63:7-9; Ps 148; Heb 2:10-18; Mt 2:13-23



MARK YOUR CALENDARS:

Dec. 23 – 27: Parish Office Closed

Dec. 24: Christmas Eve Services at 6 & 10 pm

Dec. 30: Blood Services Clinic

Dec. 31 - Jan. 1: Parish Office Closed

Jan. 7: What-Sew-Ever, 10 am

Jan. 8: Ladies Guild Meeting, 1:30 pm

Jan. 14: Scrap & Chat, 9:30 am; What-Sew-Ever, 10 am

Jan. 19: Jazz Vespers with the Kim Greenwood Trio, 7 pm

Jan. 21: Parish Council Meeting, 7 pm

Jan. 22: Ladies Guild Luncheon, 12 pm

Jan. 28: Scrap & Chat, 9:30 am; What-Sew-Ever, 10 am



DIRECTORY

<i>Church Office*</i>	Mon. – Thurs. 9 a.m. till Noon	250-474-3031
<i>Rector</i>	<i>Rev Sandra Hounsell-Drover</i>	250-391-8846
<i>Associate Priest</i>	<i>Rev Dr. Paul Schumacher</i>	778-350-5721
<i>Parish Administrator</i>	<i>Caroline DeCiantis</i>	250-474-3031
<i>Director of Music</i>	<i>Nell Howard</i>	250-479-2555
<i>Wardens</i>	<i>Joan Hoffman</i>	250 474-5446
	<i>Elizabeth Bennett</i>	250 642-0185
<i>Deputy Warden</i>	<i>Mary Wills</i>	250 474-4909
<i>Treasurer</i>	<i>The Office (office hours)</i>	250-474-3031
<i>Altar Guild/Lay Ministry</i>	<i>Kathy Middleton</i>	250-474-6914
<i>Facility Use</i>	<i>The Office (office hours)</i>	250-474-3031
<i>Financial Gifts Secretary</i>	<i>Barb Gossman</i>	250-478-4717
<i>Ladies Guild</i>	<i>Pat Graham (President)</i>	250 391-4473
<i>Custodian</i>	<i>Rick Smith</i>	250-474-3031
<i>Maintenance Coordinator</i>	<i>Ed Robinson</i>	250-888-6584
<i>Prayer Line</i>	<i>The office (office hours)</i>	250-474-3031

****For pastoral emergencies outside of office hours, please call 506-461-4825.***

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WE WANT TO KNOW YOU ... but we need to be able to contact you, so ...

If you are a newcomer, or if we can help in any way, please let us know. Please fill in the relevant information and give it to a Sidesperson or place it on the collection plate. ***Completion of the following information indicates your consent for this parish to gather this information and to use it for reasonable purposes of the church under The Privacy of Information Act.***

NEWCOMER

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

COURSE INFORMATION

HELP

SETUP CONTRIBUTIONS

YOUTH CONNECTION

Name	
Address	Postal Code
Email	Phone

We ask congregants to limit the use of fragrances.

THANK YOU!