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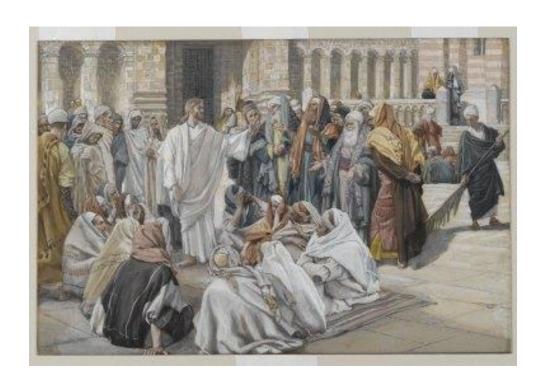
The Very Rev. Ansley Tucker, Diocesan Administrator The Rev. Dr. Paul Schumacher, Interim Priest

> "Together in Christ we seek to love God and to love and serve all others"

**September 27, 2020** 

Pentecost 17

# **Sunday Virtual Worship Service**



## WELCOME TO CHURCH OF THE ADVENT

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.

Rev. Dr. Paul Schumacher presides & preaches.

Organ prelude - 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.

<u>Welcome</u>: Good morning and welcome to this service of worship on the Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost. My name is Paul Schumacher and I am the interim priest-in-charge during this time of transition, here at the Church of The Advent.

Now, we invite you to come, come with your doubts, your strengths, your weaknesses and your fears. Come and join our readers, prayer leaders, music director and choir members, along with our technical team, as we offer prayer and praise to our Creator. For God loves us all and all are welcome in this space.

<u>Scripture Sentence of the Day</u>: Scripture shares with us, "My sheep hear my voice, says the Lord; I know them, and they follow me".

# Opening Hymn: CP 601 "God Whose Giving Knows No Ending"

(Robert L. Edwards © 1989 renewal The Hymn Society in USA and Canada - © by permission of Mr. G.A. Gabe)

God, whose giving knows no ending, From your rich and endless store – Nature's wonder, Jesus' wisdom, Costly cross, grave's shattered door – Gifted by you, we turn to you, Offering up ourselves in praise; Thankful song shall rise forever, Gracious Donor of our days.

Skills and time are ours for pressing Toward the goals of Christ, Your Son: All at peace in health and freedom, Races joined, the church made one. Now direct our daily labour, Lest we strive for self alone. Born with talents, make us servants Fit to answer at your throne.

Treasure, too, you have entrusted,
Gain through powers your grace conferred,
Ours to use for home and kindred,
And to spread the gospel word.
Open wide our hands in sharing,
As we heed Christ's age-less call,
Healing, teaching, and reclaiming,
Serving you by loving all.

# **Greeting:**

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.

<u>Act of Praise</u>: A Prayer (From the Lutheran prayer book)

Please join me in the spirit of this prayer:

Almighty and eternal God, you show perpetual loving kindness to us your servants. Because we can not rely on our own abilities, grant us your merciful judgement, and help us to embody the generosity of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Lord. **Amen.** 

#### **Collect of the Day:**

Grant, O merciful God,

That your Church, being gathered by your Holy Spirit into one, May show forth your power among all peoples, To the glory of your name; Through Jesus Christ our Lord, Who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, One God, now and forever.

Amen.

#### THE STORY OF FAITH IS PROCLAIMED

## Chat @ the Chancel:

<u>Song</u>: G 776 "Thuma Mina/ Send Me, Jesus" (Thuma Mina – South African) (© 1984 Utryck, Walton Music Corp., agent)

Send me, Jesus, send me, Jesus, send me, Jesus, send me, Lord. Lead me, Jesus, lead me, Jesus, lead me, Lord. I will go Lord, I will go Lord, in Your name Lord, I will go. To you, O LORD, I lift up my soul.

O my God, in you I trust;
do not let me be put to shame;
do not let my enemies exult over me.

Do not let those who wait for you be put to shame;
let them be ashamed who are wantonly treacherous.

Make me to know your ways, O LORD; teach me your paths.
Lead me in your truth, and teach me, for you are the God of my salvation; for you I wait all day long.

Be mindful of your mercy, O LORD, and of your steadfast love, for they have been from of old.

Do not remember the sins of my youth or my transgressions; according to your steadfast love remember me, for your goodness' sake, O LORD!

Good and upright is the LORD; therefore he instructs sinners in the way.

**Second Reading:** Philippians 2:1-13

Joan Hoffman

If then there is any encouragement in Christ, any consolation from love, any sharing in the Spirit, any compassion and sympathy, make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others. Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God,

did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness.

And being found in human form, he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death—even death on a cross.

Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name

that is above every name,
so that at the name of Jesus
every knee should bend,
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,
and every tongue should confess
that Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.

Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed me, not only in my presence, but much more now in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; for it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

For the Word of God is scripture, For the Word of God is among us, For the Word of God is within us, Thanks be to God.

# Hymn of the Day: G 787 "Take Up Your Cross"

(David Haas © 2001, GIA Publications, Inc.)

## Refrain:

If you lose your life for my sake, you will find it; If you want to save your life, let it go.

Take up your cross, deny yourself:

Come follow me, follow me.

How will you profit by gaining the world, While you forfeit all of your life? What will you give in return? (Refrain)

Before I return in glory,
I will give you the gift of my love:
You will never taste death,
You will never taste death. (Refrain)

Gospel: Matthew 21:23-32 Joan Hoffman

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ.

When he entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching, and said, 'By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?' Jesus said to them, 'I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things. Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?' And they argued with one another, 'If we say, "From heaven", he will say to us, "Why then did you not believe him?" But if we say, "Of human origin", we are afraid of the crowd; for all regard John as a prophet.' So they answered Jesus, 'We do not know.' And he said to them, 'Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things.

'What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, "Son, go and work in the vineyard today." He answered, "I will not"; but later he changed his mind and went. The father went to the second and said the same; and he answered, "I go, sir"; but he did not go. Which of the two did the will of his father?' They said, 'The first.' Jesus said to them, 'Truly I tell you, the tax-collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you. For John came to you in the way of righteousness and you did not believe him, but the tax-collectors and the prostitutes believed him; and even after you saw it, you did not change your minds and believe him.

The Gospel of Christ.

Praise to You, Lord Jesus Christ.

<u>Sermon:</u> Rev. Dr. Paul Schumacher

#### **Affirmation of Faith:**

Let us confess the faith of our baptism, 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.

#### **RESPONDING TO THE WORD**

Gracious Giver of all good things, through your Son you have called us to take up our cross and to give our lives for the sake of Christ: Hear the cries of your suffering people through all the earth; grant us zeal to serve you and to rejoice in hope.

I will end each petition with We give you thanks, O God.

Please respond with and call upon your name.

We give you thanks, O God, and call upon your Name.

Inspire your Church, O Holy One, with genuine love, that we may outdo one another in showing honour, rejoicing in hope, being patient in suffering, persevering in prayer, and living peaceably with all.

We give you thanks, O God, and call upon your name.

Inspire our nation to resist what is evil and hold fast to what is good, that we may forgo vengeance and overcome evil with good.

We give you thanks, O God, and call upon your name.

Observe the misery of all who suffer from harsh taskmasters or from injustice or genocide. Hear their cries and come quickly to their rescue.

We give you thanks, O God, and call upon your name.

Guard us from being stumbling blocks to those among whom we live, and guide us to serve our neighbors humbly in the power of the cross.

We give you thanks, O God, and call upon your name.

Inspire our community to set our minds on divine things as we bring our concerns to you. We thank you for your radiant presence among us and for all our gracious blessings, especially for Rick and Barb.

We return to you the lives to those who have followed Jesus into the glory of his Father. We give you thanks, O God, and call upon your name. Amen.

<u>Confession and Absolution:</u> Dear friends in Christ, God is steadfast in love and infinite in mercy; he welcomes sinners and invites them to share in his forgiveness. Let us confess our sins, confident in God's forgiveness.

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.

May Almighty God have mercy upon you, forgive you all your sins through the grace of Our Lord, Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. Amen.

The Lord's Prayer: And now, as our Saviour Christ has taught us, we are bold to pray...

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

#### **Blessing:**

May the peace of God which passes all understanding,
Keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge of God, our Creator,
Jesus Christ, our Redeemer, And the Holy Spirit, our Comforter.
And may the blessing of the God the Father, Son, and the Holy Spirit, be with you this day and forever more. Amen.

## **Shared Ministry:**

# Commissioning Hymn: CP 520 "The King of Love my Shepherd Is"

(Henry Williams Baker - 1821-1877)

The King of love my shepherd is, Whose goodness faileth never; I nothing lack if I am his And he is mine forever.

Where streams of living water flow, My ransomed soul he leadeth, And where the verdant pastures grow, With food celestial feedeth.

Perverse and foolish oft I strayed, But yet in love he sought me, And on his shoulder gently laid, And home rejoicing brought me. In death's dark vale I fear no ill With thee, dear Lord, beside me; Thy rod and staff my comfort still, Thy cross before to guide me.

Thou spread'st a table in my sight; Thy unction grace bestowth; And O what transport of delight From thy pure chalice floweth!

And so through all the lengths of days Thy goodness faileth never Good Shepherd, may I sing thy praise Within thy house forever!

<u>Commissioning:</u> Almighty God, grant that you holy word which has been proclaimed this day may enter into our hearts through your grace, that it may produce in us the fruit of the Spirit for witness and service in the world and to the praise and honour of your name, through Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Lord. **Amen.** 

# **TODAY WE PRAY**

Pray for the Province of the Episcopal Church of Sudan
Pray for Ansley our Diocesan Administrator, & Paul our Interim Priest-In-Charge.
For S. Michael & All Angels, Royal Oak. For Diocese of Kootenay.
In the Selkirk Region for Military Chaplaincies.

## FOR THOSE WHO HAVE ASKED US TO PRAY FOR THEM

Today, we remember Dianne, Rick & Barb, Sheila, Alice, Carol Ann, Joan, & Maureen. We also pray for those we remember in the quiet of our own hearts.