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The Right Rev. Anna Greenwood-Lee, Bishop

The Rev. Dr. Paul Schumacher, Interim Priest

The Rev. Colleen Lissamer, Deacon

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

**November 21st, 2021 – Reign of Christ the King Sunday
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

Welcome: Good morning, and welcome to this service of worship on this the twenty-sixth and last Sunday after Pentecost for 2021, also known as Reign of Christ the King Sunday. My name is Paul Schumacher, and I am interim priest-in-charge here at the Church of The Advent during this time of transition. I am joined today by the Rev. Colleen Lissamer who will be our preacher. As we meet today, we begin by remembering the Songhees and Esquimalt nations, 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 today, we remember those who have called this place their home in recent years—the community of faith known as Church of the Advent. Let us greet one another with words and signs of welcome.

Come, come with your doubts, your strengths, your weaknesses, and your fears, for God loves us all and all are welcome in this space. We invite you to 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.

Scripture Sentence of the Day Scripture shares with us, “Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Blessed is the kingdom of our father David that is coming!”

Opening Hymn: CP# 383 “Jesus Shall Reign”

(Text: Isaac Watts {1674 - 1748}, alt. Music: John Hatton {? - 1793}. Public Domain.)

Jesus shall reign where ‘er the sun
Doth its successive journeys run,
His kingdom stretch from shore to shore,
Till moons shall wax and wane no more.

People and realms of every tongue
Dwell on his love with sweetest song,
And infant voices shall proclaim
Their early blessings of his name.

Blessings abound where ‘er he reigns,
The prisoners leap to lose their chains,
The weary find eternal rest,
And all the who suffer want are blest.

Let every creature rise and bring
Peculiar honours to our King,
Angels descend with songs again,
And earth repeat the loud Amen.

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.

Act of Praise: O God, to serve you is freedom, and to know you is unending joy. We worship you; we glorify you; we give thanks to you for your great glory. Abide with us, reign in us, and make this world into a fit habitation for your divine majesty. We ask this through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Collect of the Day: Almighty and everlasting God, **whose will it is to restore all things in your well-beloved Son, our Lord and King, grant that the peoples of the earth, now divided and enslaved by the power of sin, may be freed and brought together under His gentle and loving hand, 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: Rev. Paul

Song: Song: VU#577 – “I’ve Got Peace Like a River”

(Words and Music: African-American spiritual.)

I got peace like a river,
I got peace like a river,
I got peace like a river in my soul.
I’ve got a river in my soul.

I’ve got joy like a fountain,
I’ve got joy like a fountain,
I’ve got joy like a fountain in soul.
I’ve got a fountain in my soul.

I’ve got love like an ocean,
I’ve got love like an ocean,
I’ve got love like an ocean in my soul.
I’ve got an ocean in my soul.

First Reading: 2 Samuel 23:1-7

Now these are the last words of David:

The oracle of David, son of Jesse,
the oracle of the man whom God exalted,
the anointed of the God of Jacob,
the favourite of the Strong One of Israel:

The spirit of the LORD speaks through me,
his word is upon my tongue.
The God of Israel has spoken,
the Rock of Israel has said to me:
One who rules over people justly,
ruling in the fear of God,
is like the light of morning,
like the sun rising on a cloudless morning,
gleaming from the rain on the grassy land.

Is not my house like this with God?
For he has made with me an everlasting covenant,
ordered in all things and secure.
Will he not cause to prosper
all my help and my desire?
But the godless are all like thorns that are thrown away;
for they cannot be picked up with the hand;
to touch them one uses an iron bar
or the shaft of a spear.
And they are entirely consumed in fire on the spot.

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.

Psalm: 132:1-13 (BAS Pg. 889)

1 Lord, remember David, * and all the hardships he endured;

2 How he swore an oath to the Lord * and vowed a vow to the Mighty One of Jacob:

3 "I will not come under the roof of my house, * nor climb up into my bed;

4 I will not allow my eyes to sleep, * nor let my eyelids slumber;

5 Until I find a place for the Lord, * a dwelling for the Mighty One of Jacob"

6 "The Ark! We heard it was in Ephratah; * we found it in the fields of Jearim.

7 Let us go to God's dwelling place; * let us fall upon our knees before his footstool."

8 Arise, O Lord, into your resting-place, * you and the ark of your strength

9 Let your priests be clothed with righteousness; * let your faithful people sing with joy.

10 For your servant David's sake, * do not turn away the face of your anointed.

11 The Lord has sworn an oath to David; * in truth, he will not break it:

12 "A son, the fruit of your body * will I set upon your throne.

13 If your children keep my covenant and my testimonies that I shall teach them, * their children will sit upon your throne for evermore."

Second Reading: Revelation 1:4b-8

John to the seven churches that are in Asia:

Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before his throne, and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth.

To him who loves us and freed us from our sins by his blood, and made us to be a kingdom, priests serving his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion for ever and ever. Amen.

Look! He is coming with the clouds;
every eye will see him,
even those who pierced him;
and on his account all the tribes of the earth will wail.

So it is to be. Amen.

'I am the Alpha and the Omega', says the Lord God, who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.

For the Word of God is scripture,
For the Word of God is among us,
For the Word of God is within us,

All: Thanks Be to God

Hymn of the Day: CP#374 "Alleluia, Sing to Jesus

(Text: William Chatterton Dix {1837-1898}. Music: Rowland Huw Prichard {1811-1887. Public Domain})

Alleluia! Sing to Jesus! His, the sceptre, his, the throne,
Alleluia! His, the triumph, his, the victory alone.
Hark! The songs of peaceful Zion thunder like a mighty flood,
Jesus, out of every nation, hath redeemed us by his blood.

Alleluia! Not as orphans are we left in sorrow now,
Alleluia! He is near us, faith believes, nor questions how.
Though the cloud from sight received him, when the forty days was o'er.
Shall our hearts forget his promise, "I am with you ever more"?

Alleluia! Bread of heaven, thou on earth our food, our stay,
Alleluia! Here the sinful flee to thee from day to day,
Intercessor, Friend of sinners, earth's Redeemer, plead for me,
Where the songs of all the sinless sweep across the crystal sea.

Alleluia! King eternal, thee the Lord of lords we own,
Alleluia! Born of Mary, earth thy footstool, heaven thy throne.
Thou within the veil hast entered, robed in flesh, our great high priest,
Thou on earth both priest and victim in this eucharistic feast.

Alleluia! Sing to Jesus! His, the sceptre, his, the throne,
Alleluia! His, the triumph, his, the victory alone.
Hark! The songs of peaceful Zion thunder like a mighty flood,
Jesus, out of every nation, hath redeemed us by his blood.

Gospel: John 18:33-37

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to **John**.

Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ.

Then Pilate entered the headquarters again, summoned Jesus, and asked him, 'Are you the King of the Jews?' Jesus answered, 'Do you ask this on your own, or did others tell you about me?' Pilate replied, 'I am not a Jew, am I? Your own nation and the chief priests have handed you over to me. What have you done?' Jesus answered, 'My kingdom is not from this world. If my kingdom were from this world, my followers would be fighting to keep me from being handed over to the Jews. But as it is, my kingdom is not from here.' Pilate asked him, 'So you are a king?' Jesus answered, 'You say that I am a king. For this I was born, and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone who belongs to the truth listens to my voice.'

The Gospel of Christ.

Praise to You, Lord Jesus Christ.

Sermon: Rev. Dr. Paul Schumacher

Affirmation of Faith:

We believe that Jesus took the form of a servant, so we commit ourselves to serve others.

We believe that God is love, so we commit ourselves to reconciliation.

We believe that Jesus gives us his Spirit, so we commit ourselves to his work in the world.

We believe that God is the light of life, so we commit ourselves to bearing God's light to this world.

We believe that the Holy Spirit speaks through us, so we commit ourselves to proclaim the good news of God's gift of abundant life for all, in the world that God loves. Amen

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

Prayers of the People November 14, 2021

Gracious God, at the end of time as we know it, you will be there. Help us, through the power of the Holy Spirit, to have no fear of that day or of that hour, for your Son, Jesus, our Savior, will be there for us.

Loving God, **Hear our Prayer.**

Lord God Almighty, even as you listened to Hannah as she poured out her soul to you in despair, hear our prayers, and use us as you used her in your holy work.

Loving God, **Hear our Prayer.**

Holy Spirit, keep us from making gods out of our needs and desires, and teach us to take refuge in your strength and counsel.

Loving God, **Hear our Prayer.**

Lord Jesus Christ, high priest, by your Holy Spirit you remember our sins no more. May we worship with a clean heart full of faith and seek to do good works for and with one another, for the day of your return approaches.

Loving God, **Hear our Prayer.**

We pray for the church in the world, in our diocese and in our community.

We pray for the all the leaders of our church and ask that you give them the wisdom and the knowledge they require to do your work.

Loving God, **Hear our Prayer.**

Come, Lord Jesus, into the lives of those whose need healing. We pray for Brian, Donna, Cynthia, Irene, Travis, Joan, Bill, Christopher, Dianne, Sheila, Barb, Kian, John, the staff and residents of Broadmead Lodge and any others you wish to name out loud or silently in your hearts.

Loving God, **Hear our Prayer.**

Loving Creator, we pray for all who mourn. We ask that they find comfort in You. We ask for your strength for them, in their time of need. Let them know they are loved and wrap them in Your love and warmth.

Loving God, **Hear our Prayer.**

We ask blessings on all hospital workers, all members of our Military, police, firefighters and first responders. Please watch over those here at home and those deployed throughout the world and return them safely to their families.

Loving God, **Hear our Prayer.**

May the love of God watch over you, May the peace of Christ fill your heart,
May the presence of the Holy Spirit fill your sleep and speak to you in your dreams.
Amen.

Confession and Absolution: Dear friends in Christ, God is steadfast in love and infinite in mercy; he welcomes sinners and invites them into his grace. 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, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and keep you in eternal life, through Jesus Christ, our Lord and Saviour. 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, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit, be with you
this day and forever more. **Amen.**

Shared Ministry:**Commissioning Hymn: “God Give Us Eyes to See Your Reign”**

(Text: David Bjorlin {1984-}. Music: Ralph Vaughan Williams {1872-1958}. © 2020 GIA Publications Inc.)

God, give us eyes to see your reign, a slowly growing light
Transfiguring our common world, restoring faith’s dim sight.
Illumine eyes in shadow’s gloom, where hate and greed hold sway,
For darkness is as light to you and you make bright our way.

God, give us ears to hear your voice amid the noise of life
That speaks a word of faith and hope and calms our inner strife.
Lord, tune our ears to hear the pain of every child that cries,
Who mourns injustice, hate, and war: your voice in human guise.

God, give us tongues to praise your works, and voices to proclaim
The story of redeeming love, the glory of your Name.
Embolden us to join the sound of tortured cries unheard,
To call on all to hear your voice, the justice speaking Word.

God, give us eyes to see your reign and ears to hear your voice,
Strong hands to do your kingdom’s work and voices to rejoice
That all our senses be employed in yet unfathomed ways
Till work and worship are as one in lives of endless praise.

Commissioning: O God, the protector of all who trust in you, without you nothing is strong,
nothing is holy. Embrace us with your mercy, that with you as our guide, we may live through
this temporal existence without losing sight of what is eternal, through Jesus Christ, our
Saviour. **Amen.**

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TODAY WE PRAY

Pray for The Church of Bangladesh.

Pray for Barry our Executive Archdeacon, Anna our Bishop,

Paul our Interim Priest-In-Charge, & Colleen our Deacon.

Pray for Christ Church, Alert Bay, & Diocese of Caledonia.

In the Selkirk Region for Military Chaplaincies.

FOR THOSE WHO HAVE ASKED US TO PRAY FOR THEM

Christopher, Dianne, Sheila, Barb, Bill, Kian, Travis,

Bob, Irene, Cynthia, Joan, John, Donna, & Brian.

The staff and residents of Broadmead Lodge.

We also pray for those we remember in the quiet of our own hearts.