

**PARISH OF THE ASCENSION
NOVEMBER 28, 2021
FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT
HOPE**

THE GATHERING OF THE COMMUNITY

The grace and peace of our Saviour Jesus Christ be with you,
And also with you.

THEME CONVERSATION

This is the First Sunday of Advent and, to begin our celebration of the Advent Season, we have the lighting of the first candle of our Advent Wreath. This first candle is The Candle of Hope. As we light this candle, we reaffirm the hope we have in Christ Jesus our Saviour.

THE FIRST CANDLE OF THE WREATH IS LIT.

A CANDLE IS BURNING

*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.*

Blessed are you, sovereign Lord, God of our ancestors:
to you be praise and glory forever.
You called the patriarchs to live by the light of faith
and to journey in the hope of your promised fulfillment.
Blessed be God for ever.

May we be obedient to your call
and ready and watchful to receive your Christ,
a lamp to our feet and a light to our path;
for you are our light and our salvation.
Blessed be God for ever.

OPENING HYMN: 88 All Verses

COLLECT OF THE DAY

Let us pray,

(Silence is kept)

God of justice and peace,

from the heavens you rain down mercy and kindness.

Raise our heads in expectation,

so that we may yearn for the coming day of the Lord
and stand without blame before your Son, Jesus Christ,
who lives and reigns for ever and ever. **Amen.**

A READING FROM THE BOOK OF THE PROPHET JEREMIAH

The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David; and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will live in safety. And this is the name by which it will be called: "The LORD is our righteousness." (33: 14 – 16)

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 25: 1 – 9

Refrain: To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul.

To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul; my God, I put my trust in you; let me not be humiliated, nor let my enemies triumph over me. Let none who look to you be put to shame; let the treacherous be disappointed in their schemes. **Refrain.**

Show me your ways, O Lord, and teach me your paths. Lead me in your truth and teach me, for you are the God of my salvation; in you have I trusted all the day long. **Refrain.**

Remember, O Lord, your compassion and love, for they are from everlasting. Remember not the sins of my youth and my transgressions; remember me according to your love and for the sake of your goodness, O Lord. **Refrain.**

Gracious and upright are you, O Lord; therefore you teach sinners

in your way. You guide the humble in doing right and teach your way to the lowly. **Refrain.**

A READING FROM THE FIRST LETTER OF PAUL TO THE THESSALONIANS

How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy that we feel before our God because of you? Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you face to face and restore whatever is lacking in your faith. Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus direct our way to you. And may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, just as we abound in love for you. And may he so strengthen your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints. (3: 9 – 13)

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Thanks be to God.

GRADUAL HYMN: Christ is the Worlds True Light (back cover)

THE HOLY GOSPEL

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

THE HOLY GOSPEL OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST ACCORDING TO LUKE

Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Jesus said: "There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves. People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in a cloud' with power and great glory. Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near." Then he told them a parable: "Look at the fig tree and all the trees; as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know that summer is already near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of

God is near. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away. "Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and that day catch you unexpectedly, like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place, and to stand before the Son of Man." (21: 25 – 36)

The Gospel Of Christ.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

THE SERMON

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Let us declare our faith in God,

We believe in God the Father,

from whom every family

in heaven and on earth is named.

We believe in God the Son,

who lives in our hearts through faith,

and fills us with his love.

We believe in God the Holy Spirit,

who strengthens us

with power from on high.

We believe in one God:

Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

In joyful expectation of his coming to our aid
we pray to Jesus.

Come to your Church as Lord and judge.

We pray for the parishes of Trinity/Port Rexton, Twillingate, and
for those worhiping in the Anglican Church in Brazil

Help us to live in the light of your coming

and give us a longing for your kingdom.

Let us pray to the Lord,

Lord Jesus, come in glory

Come to your world as Sovereign of the nations.

We pray for Elizabeth, our Queen.

Before you rulers will stand in silence.

Let us pray to the Lord,

Lord Jesus, come in glory.

Come to the suffering as Saviour and comforter.

We pray for all those on the Ascension prayer cycle and other family and friends known to us.

Break into our lives,

where we struggle with sickness and distress,

and set us free to serve you for ever.

Let us pray to the Lord,

Lord Jesus, come in glory.

Come to us as shepherd and guardian of our souls.

We remember those who have died, especially Coady Dunne and Susan Oake.

Give us with all the faithful departed

a share in your victory over evil and death.

Let us pray to the Lord,

Lord Jesus, come in glory.

Come from heaven, Lord Jesus, with power and great glory.

Lift us up to meet you,

and all your saints and angels

we may live and reign with you in your new creation.

Let us pray to the Lord,

Lord Jesus, come in glory.

(Silence is kept)

Come, Lord Jesus, do not delay;

give new courage to your people,

who trust in your love.

By your coming, raise us to share in the joy of your kingdom on earth as in heaven,

where you live and reign with the Father and the Spirit,
one God for ever and ever. **Amen.**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

(Silence is kept)

Heavenly Father,
you have created a universe of light:
forgive us when we return to darkness
-the darkness of unbelief,
-the darkness of self interest and lack of vision,
-the darkness of distrust,
Lord, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.

Lord Jesus,
you are the light of the world:
cleanse and heal our blinded sight
-when we are blind to your presence in others,
-when we are blind to our neighbours' needs
-when we are blind to the cries of the marginalized
Christ, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy.

Holy Spirit, you give us light in our hearts:
renew us in faith and love.
Lord, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.

Almighty God,
who in Jesus Christ has given us
a kingdom that cannot be destroyed,
forgive you your sins,
open your eyes to God's truth,
strengthen you to do God's will
and give you the joy of God's kingdom,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

SHARING THE PEACE

God will speak peace to his people,
to those who turn to him in their hearts.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.
And also with you.

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

OFFERTORY HYMN: 95 vs. 1, 2, 3

THE PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS

God of abundance,
we bring before you the precious fruits of your creation,
and with them our very lives.
Teach us patience and hope
as we care for all those in need
until the coming of your Son,
our Saviour and Lord. **Amen.**

THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give thanks and praise.

Blessed are you, gracious God,
creator of heaven and earth;
we give you thanks and praise
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who in the fullness of time came among us in our flesh,
and opened to us the way of salvation.
Now we watch for the day when he will come again
in power and great triumph to judge the world,
so that we, without shame or fear,
may rejoice to behold his appearing.
Therefore we praise you,
joining our voices with angels and archangels
and with all the company of heaven,
who for ever sing this hymn
to proclaim the glory of your name.

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

Holy God, the beginning and the end, the giver of life:
Blessed are you for the birth of creation.
Blessed are you in the darkness and in the light.
Blessed are you for your promise to your people.
Blessed are you for the prophets' hopes and dreams.
Blessed are you for Mary's openness to your will.
Blessed are you for your Son, Jesus, the Word made flesh.

In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body given for you.
Do this in remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died.
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.**

With this bread and cup we remember
your Word dwelling among us, full of grace and truth.
We remember our new birth in his death and resurrection.
We look with hope for his coming.
Come, Lord Jesus.

Holy God, we long for your Spirit.
Come among us. Bless this meal.
May your Word take flesh in us.

Awaken your people. Fill us with light.
Bring the gift of peace on earth.
Come, Holy Spirit.

All praise and glory are yours, Holy God of Israel,
Word of God incarnate, Power of the Most High,
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER

Awaiting his coming in glory,
as our Saviour taught us, so we pray

**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.**

God of promise,
you prepare a banquet for us in your kingdom
**Happy are those who are called
to the supper of the lamb.**

THE COMMUNION

The gifts of God for the People of God,
Thanks be to God.

GIVING OF COMMUNION

COMMUNION HYMN: 93 All verses

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION AND BLESSING

Let us pray:

God for whom we wait,
in this meal you give us a foretaste of that day
when the hungry will be fed with good things.
Send us forth to make known your deeds
and to proclaim the greatness of your name,
through Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Lord. **Amen.**

Glory to God,
**whose power, working in us,
can do infinitely more
than we can ask or imagine.**
**Glory to God from generation to generation,
in the Church and in Christ Jesus,
for ever and ever. Amen.**

Christ the Sun of Righteousness shine upon you,
scatter the darkness from before your path,
and make you ready to meet him when he comes in glory;
and the blessing....

HYMN BEFORE THE DISMISSAL: 101 vs. 1, 2, 4

THE DISMISSAL

With love and compassion,
come, Lord Jesus.

With judgment and mercy,
come, Lord Jesus.

In power and glory,
come, Lord Jesus.

In wisdom and truth,
come, Lord Jesus.

As we await our coming Saviour,
Let us go forth bearing God's promise to the world.
Thanks be to God.

Ascension Prayer Cycle: Aden, Amelia, Amy, Angela, Ann, Annie, Aubrey, Audrey, Barbara, Bertha, Brenda, Brian, Brittany, Brandon, Callum, Carl, Cathy, Christina, Cindy, Claire, Clarence, Connie, David, Debra, Delilah, Dennis, Derrick, Don, Donna, Doreen, Dot, Douglas, Dulcie, Ed, Edie, Edgar, Elaine, Emily, Erin, Evelyn, Finnley, Frederick, Fred, Frank, Flo, Garrett, Gary, George, Gerald, Glenda, Gordon, Harry, Ike, Ina, Ingrid, Ira, Jack, Janet, Jason, Jennifer, Jenny, John, Josephine, Joan, Junior, Kent, Kevin, Kim, Laura, Leo, Leonie, Lori, Luke, Madeline, Marie, Marsha, Mark, Marion, Marylou, Maxine, Maxwell, Melvin, Michael, Michelle, Mike, Mona, Nancy, Oskar, Pam, Peter, Rachel, Randell, Rochelle, Rodney, Roland, Ruby, Ruth, Rita, Sadie, Sam, Sean, Shirley, Stephen, Susan, Tina, Todd, Tom, Valerie and Warwick.

Acknowledgements

The contents and structure of this liturgy are drawn from the *Book of Alternative Services* and from the following: (a) ‘Trial Use Collects for Years A, B, and C etc. Anglican Church of Canada’, the collect of the day and ‘A Liturgical Psalter. General Synod 2016 Edition. For trial use within the Anglican Church of Canada,’ the psalm. (b) *Evangelical Lutheran Worship* (2006), prayer over the gifts p.64; Eucharistic prayer, p.110, although the preface is drawn from the *Book of Alternative Services*, alt.; prayer after communion, p.65; (c) *Common Worship: Times and Seasons*, Church of England, 2006/ 2013, Advent Wreath prayer, alt., p.51; an affirmation of faith, p.100; prayers of the people alt., p.36; confession/ absolution, p. 56, 57; introduction to the peace, p.38; blessing, p.41; and acclamation and dismissal, p.42.

CHRIST IS THE WORLD'S TRUE LIGHT

Christ is the world's true light,
Its captain of salvation.
The daystar clear and bright,
And joy of every nation.
New life new hope awakes,
Where'er we own His sway.
Freedom her bondage breaks,
And night is turned to day.

In Christ all races meet,
Their ancient feuds forgetting.
The whole round world complete,
From sunrise to its setting.
When Christ is throned as Lord,
All shall forsake their fear.
To ploughshare beat the sword,
To pruning-hook the spear.

One Lord in one great name,
Unite us all who own thee.
Cast out our pride and shame,
That hinder to enthrone thee.
The world has waited long,
Has travailed long in pain.
To heal its ancient wrong,
Come Prince of Peace and reign.