

# St. Alban's Anglican Church

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**BCP 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent**  
**December 15<sup>th</sup>, 2024**  
**8:30 am**  
All Welcome.

December 15<sup>th</sup>, 2024, 8:30 am service – BCP 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent

*St. Alban's Anglican Church, Richmond, acknowledge with deep gratitude that we gather on the ancestral unceded lands of the Musqueam people, the hən'q'əmin'əm' language group. We acknowledge that the land on which we gather is God's land, and we seek today to live into reconciliation.*

*Advent is the time when the people of the Church prepare for the coming of Christ Jesus now as well as long ago in Bethlehem. There are changes in our liturgy for the next three Sundays to help us hold this special time while the world around us is racing to Christmas.*

### ***The Lighting of the Advent Wreath***

*Leader:* Christ is our faith and our life.

***All:* May the peace of Emmanuel be with us all.**

*Leader:* And love shine in our hearts.

***All:* Our joy is in the coming of the Lord.**

*(Three violet candles are lit.)*

*Leader:* Let us pray: that our hope may be strengthened.

*(Pause for silent prayer.)*

*Leader:* God of our heart's desire, the warmth of Your love and our minds are searching for the light of Your Word. Increase our longing for Christ our Saviour and give us the strength to grow in our joy so that the day of His coming may find us prepared and filled with joy.

***All:* Amen.**

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 them that trespass against us; And lead us not into temptation, But deliver us from evil. Amen.

### ***THE COLLECT.***

**ALMIGHTY God, unto whom all hearts be open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of thy Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love thee, and worthily magnify thy holy Name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Minister.

OUR Lord Jesus Christ said: Hear O Israel, The Lord our God is one Lord; and thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind, and with all thy strength. This is the first and great commandment And the second is like unto it: Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets.

**People. Lord, have mercy upon us, and write both these thy laws in our hearts, we beseech thee.**

Lord, have mercy upon us.  
**Christ, have mercy upon us.**  
Lord, have mercy upon us.

*Then the Priest shall say:*

The Lord be with you;  
**People. And with thy spirit.**

*Collect*

God of power and mercy,  
**you call us once again  
to celebrate the coming of your Son.  
Remove those things which hinder love of you,  
that when he comes,  
he may find us waiting in awe and wonder  
for him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever. Amen.**

*A Reading from the Book of Zephaniah*

Sandy Scherban

Sing aloud, O daughter Zion; shout, O Israel! Rejoice and exult with all your heart, O daughter Jerusalem! The Lord has taken away the judgements against you, he has turned away your enemies. The king of Israel, the Lord, is in your midst; you shall fear disaster no more. On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem: Do not fear, O Zion; do not let your hands grow weak. The Lord, your God, is in your midst, a warrior who gives victory; he will rejoice over you with gladness, he will renew you in his love; he will exult over you with loud singing as on a day of festival. I will remove disaster from you, so that you will not bear reproach for it.

I will deal with all your oppressors at that time. And I will save the lame and gather the outcast, and I will change their shame into praise and renown in all the earth. At that time I will bring you home, at the time when I gather you; for I will make you renowned and praised among all the peoples of the earth, when I restore your fortunes before your eyes, says the Lord. *Zephaniah 3: 14-20*

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

**Thanks be to God.**

*Canticle 3, BAS (Isaiah 12:2-6)*

***REFRAIN Ring out your joy, for the Holy One of Israel is in your midst.***

Surely, it is God who saves me; I will trust in him and not be afraid. For the Lord is my stronghold and my sure defence, and he will be my Saviour. **R**

Therefore you shall draw water with rejoicing from the springs of salvation. And on that day you shall say, Give thanks to the Lord and call upon his name; make his deeds known among the peoples; see that they remember that his name is exalted. **R**

Sing the praises of the Lord, for he has done great things, and this is known in all the world. Cry aloud, inhabitants of Zion, ring out your joy, for the great one in the midst of you is the Holy One of Israel. **R**

*A Reading from the Letter of Paul to the Philippians*

David Kimpton

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. *Philippians 4:4-7*

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

**Thanks be to God.**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

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

**Glory to you, O Jesus Christ.**

John said to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruits worthy of repentance. Do not begin to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our ancestor'; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire." And the crowds asked him, "What then should we do?" In reply he said to them, "Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise." Even tax collectors came to be baptized, and they asked him, "Teacher, what should we do?" He said to them, "Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you." Soldiers also asked him, "And we, what should we do?" He said to them, "Do not extort money from anyone by threats or false accusation, and be satisfied with your wages." As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, John answered all of them by saying, "I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire." So, with many other exhortations, he proclaimed the good news to the people. *Luke 3:7-18*

The Gospel of Christ.

**Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

**I BELIEVE in one God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, And of all things visible and invisible: And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, Begotten of the Father before all worlds; God, of God; Light, of Light; Very God, of very God; Begotten, not made; Being of one substance with the Father; Through whom all things were made:**

**Who for us and for our salvation came down from heaven, And was incarnate by the Holy Ghost of the Virgin Mary, And was made man, And was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried, And the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures, And ascended into heaven, And sitteth on the right hand of the Father.**

**And he shall come again with glory to judge both the quick and the dead: Whose kingdom shall have no end.**

**And I believe in the Holy Ghost, The Lord, The Giver of Life, Who proceedeth from the Father and the Son, Who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified, Who spake by the Prophets. And I believe One, Holy, Catholic, and Apostolic Church.**

**I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins. And I look for the Resurrection of the dead, And the Life of the world to come. Amen.**

Offer unto God the Sacrifice of Thanksgiving and pay thy vows unto the most high.

The Priest prepares the table.

#### THE OFFERTORY

**BLESSED be thou, LORD God of Israel, for ever and ever. All that is in the heaven and in the earth is thine.**

**All things come of thee, and of thine own have we given thee**

Let us pray.

#### THE INTERCESSION.

ALMIGHTY and everliving God, who by thy holy Apostle hast taught us to make prayers and supplications, and to give thanks, for all:

We humbly beseech thee most mercifully to accept our alms and oblations, and to receive these our prayers, which we offer unto thy Divine Majesty; beseeching thee to inspire continually the universal Church with the spirit of truth, unity, and concord:

And grant that all they that do confess thy holy Name may agree in the truth of thy holy Word, and live in unity and godly love.

We beseech thee also to lead all nations in the way of righteousness; and so to guide and direct their governors and rulers, that thy people may enjoy the blessings of freedom and peace:

And grant unto thy servant CHARLES our King, and to all that are put in authority under him, that they may truly and impartially administer justice, to the maintenance of thy true religion and virtue.

Give grace, O heavenly Father, to all Bishops, Priests, and Deacons, and specially to thy servant John our Bishop, that they may both by their life and doctrine set forth thy true and living Word, and rightly and duly administer thy holy Sacraments: Prosper, we pray thee, all those who proclaim the Gospel of thy kingdom among the nations:

And to all thy people give thy heavenly grace, and specially to this congregation here present, that, with meek heart and due reverence, they may hear and receive thy holy Word; truly serving thee in holiness and righteousness all the days of their life.

And we most humbly beseech thee of thy goodness, O Lord, to comfort and succour all them, who in this transitory life are in trouble, sorrow, need, sickness, or any other adversity, especially those for whom our prayers are desired.

We remember before thee, O Lord, all thy servants departed this life in thy faith and fear: and we bless thy holy Name for all who in life and death have glorified thee; beseeching thee to give us grace that, rejoicing in their fellowship, we may follow their good examples, and with them be partakers of thy heavenly kingdom.

Grant this, O Father, for Jesus Christ's sake, our only Mediator and Advocate, to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honour and glory, world without end. **Amen.**

**YE** that do truly and earnestly repent you of your sins, and are in love and charity with your neighbours, and intend to lead the new life, following the commandments of God, and walking from henceforth in his holy ways: Draw near with faith, and take this holy Sacrament to your comfort; and make your humble confession to Almighty God.

**ALMIGHTY God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, Maker of all things, Judge of all: We acknowledge and confess our manifold sins and wickedness, Which we from time to time most grievously have committed, By thought, word, and deed, Against thy Divine Majesty. We do earnestly repent And are heartily sorry for these our misdoings. Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father; For thy Son our Lord Jesus Christ's sake, Forgive us all that is past; And grant that we may ever hereafter Serve and please thee In newness of life, To the honour and glory of thy Name; Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

ALMIGHTY God, our heavenly Father, who of his great mercy hath promised forgiveness of sins to all them that with hearty repentance and true faith turn unto him: Have mercy upon you; pardon and deliver you from all your sins; confirm and strengthen you in all goodness; and bring you to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Hear what comfortable words our Saviour Christ saith unto all that truly turn to him.

Come unto me all that labour and are heavy laden, and I will refresh you. St Matthew 11. 28.

God so loved the world, that he gave his only-begotten Son, to the end that all that believe in him should not perish, but have eternal life. St John 3. 16

Hear also what Saint Paul saith.

This is a true saying, and worthy of all to be received, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners. 1 Timothy 1. 15.

Hear also what Saint John saith.

If any one sin, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous; and he is the propitiation for our sins. 1 St John 2. 1, 2.

#### THANKSGIVING AND CONSECRATION

THE Lord be with you;

**People. And with thy spirit.**

Priest. Lift up your hearts;

**People. We lift them up unto the Lord.**

Priest. Let us give thanks unto our Lord God;

**People. It is meet and right so to do.**



IT is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places give thanks unto thee, O Lord, Holy Father, Almighty, Everlasting God, Creator and Preserver of all things. THEREFORE, with Angels and Archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious Name; evermore praising thee and saying:

**HOLY, Holy, Holy, Lord God of hosts, Heaven and earth are full of thy glory. Glory be to thee, O Lord Most High.**

**BLESSED is he that cometh in the Name of the Lord: Hosanna in the highest.**

#### CONSECRATION

BLESSING and glory and thanksgiving be unto thee Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who of thy tender mercy didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to take our nature upon him, and to suffer death upon the Cross for our redemption; who made there, by his one oblation of himself once offered, a full, perfect, and sufficient sacrifice, oblation, and satisfaction, for the sins of the whole world; and did institute, and in his holy Gospel command us to continue, a perpetual memorial of that his precious death, until his coming again.

Hear us, O merciful Father, we most humbly beseech thee; and grant that we receiving these thy creatures of bread and wine, according to thy Son our Saviour Jesus Christ's holy institution, in remembrance of his death and passion, may be partakers of his most blessed Body and Blood; who, in the same night that he was betrayed, took Bread; and, when he had given thanks, he brake it; and gave it to his disciples, saying, Take, eat; this is my Body which is given for you: Do this in remembrance of me.

Likewise after supper he took the Cup; and, when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, Drink ye all, of this; for this is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the remission of sins: Do this, as oft as ye shall drink it, in remembrance of me.

**Wherefore, O Father, Lord of heaven and earth, we thy humble servants, with all thy holy Church, remembering the precious death of thy beloved Son, his mighty resurrection, and glorious ascension, and looking for his coming again in glory, do make before thee, in this sacrament of the holy Bread of eternal life and the Cup of everlasting salvation, the memorial which he hath commanded;**

**And we entirely desire thy fatherly goodness mercifully to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, most humbly beseeching thee to grant, that by the merits and death of thy Son Jesus Christ, and through faith in his blood, we and all thy whole Church may obtain remission of our sins, and all other benefits of his passion;**

**And we pray that by the power of thy Holy Spirit, all we who are partakers of this holy Communion may be fulfilled with thy grace and heavenly benediction; through Jesus Christ our Lord, by whom and with whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, world without end. AMEN.**

THE peace of the Lord be always with you;

**People. And with thy spirit.**

**WE do not presume to come to this thy Table, O merciful Lord, Trusting in our own righteousness, But in thy manifold and great mercies.**

**We are not worthy So much as to gather up the crumbs under thy Table. But thou art the same Lord, Whose property is always to have mercy: Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, So to eat the Flesh of thy dear Son Jesus Christ, And to drink his Blood, That our sinful bodies may be made clean by his Body, And our souls washed through his most precious Blood, And that we may evermore dwell in him, And he in us. Amen**

O LAMB of God, that takest away the sin of the world, **have mercy upon us.**

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, **have mercy upon us.**

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, **grant us thy peace.**

#### THE COMMUNION

Let us pray.

*Celebrant* In the words and languages closest to our hearts we pray the prayer Jesus taught us...

**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 them that 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.**

ALMIGHTY and everliving God, we most heartily thank thee that thou dost graciously feed us, in these holy mysteries, with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son our Saviour Jesus Christ; assuring us thereby of thy favour and goodness towards us; and that we are living members of his mystical body, which is the blessed company of all faithful people; and are also heirs through hope of thy everlasting kingdom.

**And here we offer and present unto thee, O Lord, ourselves, our souls and bodies, to be a reasonable, holy, and living sacrifice unto thee. And although we are unworthy, yet we beseech thee to accept this our bounden duty and service, not weighing our merits, but pardoning our offences; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honour and glory, world without end. Amen.**

*Gloria*

Glory be to God on high, and in earth peace, good will towards all. We praise thee we bless thee, we worship thee, we glorify thee, we give thanks to thee for thy great glory, O Lord God, heavenly King, God the Father Almighty, O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesu Christ; O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us. Thou that takest away the sin of the world, receive our prayer. Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy upon us. For thou only art holy; thou only art the Lord; thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost, art most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

*Blessing*

*Dismissal*

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord...  
Thanks be to God.

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE – Third Sunday of Advent

December 15<sup>th</sup>, 2024

**For the World:** For peace in the world, especially in the Middle East between Israel and Gaza, Ukraine and Russia.

**For the Church:**

**In the Anglican Communion:** The Anglican Church of Tanzania.

**In the Anglican Church of Canada:** The Acting Primate Archbishop Anne Germond and the Venerable Alan Perry, General Secretary, and the staff of the General Secretary's Office.

**In the Diocese of New Westminster:**

· St. John the Divine, Maple Ridge - St. Michael, Vancouver - The Revd Wilmer Toyoken, Urban Aboriginal Ministry – Mr Stephen Seegerts.

Indigenous Archbishop, Archbishop Revd Chris Harper;

General Secretary, Archdeacon Alan Perry, and The General Synod Staff.

For our Companion Episcopal Diocese of Northern Philippines, Bishop Benny and our partner parish of Holy Innocents, Bebe.

**For the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada,** our Partner in Communion: Peace Anthony-Idoko, Director of Finance and Administration, and the staff of Finance and Administration MOR Mr. David Jones, District President, and the members of Board of Elders of the Canadian District of the Moravian Church Northern Province.

**For St. Alban's:** Fr. Bill, Deacon Kathy and Rev. John Marsh, our supply priest. For the Wardens and Synod delegates on the Search Committee for a new priest. For our staff, Benjamin and Jennifer. For our Outreach volunteers and those whom they serve. For the \*360 Ministry (Chinese Language Ministry). For members and visitors, present and on-line.

For the sick and needy: June S., Anne D., Sue R., Scott Stewart

+For those who have died in the peace of Christ especially for Hermine Scrubb. May light perpetual shine upon them and may they rest in peace.

**Staff Office hours:**

**Staff Office hours:**

**Jennifer** – Tues & Thurs work from home.

**Wed's and Fri** in the office 9am -12pm.

Please email:

- Reverend Bill Mok- Honourary Assistant,  
And Missioner of Chinese Language Ministry [email@frbillmok.ca](mailto:email@frbillmok.ca)
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***Ministering Through the Liturgy***

<i>Celebrant &amp; Preacher:</i>	Reverend John Marsh
<i>Reader:</i>	Sandy Scherban, David Kimpton
<i>Sidesperson:</i>	Larry Scherban
<i>Communion Administrator:</i>	Sandy Scherban
<i>Altar Guild:</i>	Stephanie Christie
<i>Flowers:</i>	Sue Robertson, Gillian Cellura, Pam Hiensch

The flowers in the sanctuary are given to the Glory of God.

*Credit:* shuttershock.com