

December 1, 2024

First Sunday of Advent

10:00 a.m. – Eucharist

## ***Welcome***

*Hearing Assistive Devices and Large Print service leaflets are available  
Please ask an usher for assistance*



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### The Gathering of the Community

**Processional Hymn #88** “Come, Thou Long-expected Jesus” Text by Charles Wesley

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| 1 Come thou long-expected Jesus,<br>born to set thy people free;<br>from our fears and sins release us;<br>let us find our rest in thee. | 3 Born thy people to deliver;<br>born a child and yet a King;<br>born to reign in us forever:<br>now thy gracious kingdom bring.      |
| 2 Israel’s strength and consolation,<br>hope of all the earth thou art;<br>dear desire of every nation,<br>joy of every longing heart.   | 4 By thine own eternal Spirit,<br>rule in all our hearts alone;<br>by thine all-sufficient merit,<br>raise us to thy glorious throne. |

#### Greeting

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*Celebrant* The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with you all.

*People* **And also with you.**

#### Lighting of the Advent Wreath

#### First Candle – The Candle of Hope

##### The Patriarchs, Abraham, the Old Testament Ancestors of Jesus

*Leader* Light and peace, in Jesus Christ our Lord.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

*Leader* Today is the First Sunday of Advent, in which we recall the hope we have in Christ.

God told Abraham that through him all the nations of the world would be blessed, because he trusted and put his hope in God. The Old Testament spoke of the coming of Christ, of how a Saviour would be born, a king in the line of King David. He would rule the world wisely and bless all the nations. We too believe in God’s promise to send Jesus again to this world to establish his kingdom upon the earth.

*A person lights the First Candle, the Candle of Hope.*

Hope is like a light shining in a dark place. As we look at the light of this candle we celebrate the hope we have in Jesus Christ.

Let us pray.

*People* **God of Abraham and Sarah and all the Patriarchs of old, you are our Father too. Your love is revealed to us in Jesus Christ, Son of God, and Son of David. Help us in preparing to celebrate his birth, to make our hearts ready and to place our hope in you. Help us today and every day to worship you, to hear**

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**your word, and to do your will by sharing your hope with others. We ask it in the name of the one who was born in Bethlehem. Amen.**

## **Collect of the Day**

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

*People* **Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness and put on the armour of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which your Son Jesus Christ came to us in great humility, that on the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge both the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.**

## **The Proclamation of the Word**

First Reading:

Jeremiah 33:14–16

*Reader* A reading from the Book of Jeremiah.

<sup>14</sup>The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will fulfil the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. <sup>15</sup>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. <sup>16</sup>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."

*Reader* The Word of the Lord.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

## **Psalm 25: 1-9**

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| <p>1 To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul;<br/>my God, I put my trust in you;<br/>let me not be humiliated,<br/>nor let my enemies triumph over me.</p> <p>2 <b>Let none who look to you be put to shame;<br/>let the treacherous be disappointed in their schemes.</b></p> <p>3 Show me your ways, O Lord,<br/>and teach me your paths.</p> | <p>4 <b>Lead me in your truth and teach me,<br/>for you are the God of my salvation;<br/>in you have I trusted all the day long.</b></p> <p>5 Remember, O Lord, your compassion and love,<br/>for they are from everlasting.</p> <p>6 <b>Remember not the sins of my youth and my transgressions;<br/>remember me according to your love and for the sake of your goodness, O Lord.</b></p> |
|---|---|

7 Gracious and upright is the Lord;  
therefore he teaches sinners in his  
way.

**8 He guides the humble in doing right  
and teaches his way to the lowly.**

9 All the paths of the Lord are love and  
faithfulness  
to those who keep his covenant and  
his testimonies.

**God of compassion and love, forgive our sins, relieve our misery, satisfy our longing, and fulfil all our hopes for peace; through your Son Jesus Christ our Redeemer. Amen.**

Second Reading:

I Thessalonians 3:9–13

*Reader* A reading from the First Letter of Paul to the Thessalonians.

<sup>9</sup> How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy that we feel before our God because of you? <sup>10</sup> Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you face to face and restore whatever is lacking in your faith.

<sup>11</sup> Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus direct our way to you. <sup>12</sup> 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. <sup>13</sup> 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.

*Reader* The Word of the Lord.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

### **Advent Responsory**

*Cantor* My soul waits for the lord; in his word is my hope.

*All* **My soul waits for the lord; in his word is my hope.**

*Cantor* Out of the depths have I called to you, O Lord; Lord, hear my voice.

*All* **In his word is my hope.**

*Cantor* There is forgiveness with you; therefore you shall be feared.

*All* **In his word is my hope.**

*Cantor* My soul waits for the Lord, More than watchmen for the morning.

*All* **In his word is my hope.**

*Cantor* O Israel, wait for the Lord, for with the Lord there is mercy.

*All* **In his word is my hope.**

*Cantor* Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

*All* **My soul waits for the lord; in his word is my hope.**

Holy Gospel:

Luke 21:25–36

*Subdeacon* The Lord be with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

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

*People* **Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

<sup>25</sup> “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. <sup>26</sup> People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. <sup>27</sup> Then they will see ‘the Son of Man coming in a cloud’ with power and great glory. <sup>28</sup> Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.” <sup>29</sup> Then he told them a parable: “Look at the fig tree and all the trees; <sup>30</sup> as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know that summer is already near. <sup>31</sup> So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. <sup>32</sup> Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all things have taken place. <sup>33</sup> Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away. <sup>34</sup> “Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and that day does not catch you unexpectedly, <sup>35</sup> like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. <sup>36</sup> 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.”

*Subdeacon* The Gospel of Christ.

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

Sermon

*A time for silent reflection is kept.*

### **The Apostles’ Creed**

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*Celebrant* Let us confess the faith of our baptism, as we say,

*People* **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.**

## The Prayers of the People

*Leader* Lord, in your mercy,

*People* **Hear our prayer.**

## Confession and Absolution

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*Celebrant* Dear friends in Christ, God is steadfast in love and infinite in mercy; God welcomes sinners and invites them to the table. Let us confess our sins, confident in God's forgiveness.

*Silence is kept.*

*Celebrant* Most merciful God,

*People* **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.**

*Celebrant* 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. **Amen.**

## The Peace

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*Celebrant* The peace of the Lord be always with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

## The Celebration of the Eucharist

### Offertory Hymn #645 "Come Down, O Love Divine"

Text by Bianco da Siena; translation by Richard Frederick Littledale

1 Come down, O Love divine,  
seek thou this soul of mine,  
and visit it with thine own ardour  
glowing.

O Comforter, draw near,  
within my heart appear,  
and kindle it, thy holy flame  
bestowing.

2 O let it freely burn,  
till earthly passions turn  
to dust and ashes in its heat  
consuming;  
and let thy glorious light  
shine ever on my sight,  
and clothe me round, the while my  
path illuming.

3 Let holy charity  
mine outward vesture be,  
and lowliness become mine inner  
clothing;  
true lowliness of heart,  
which takes the humbler part,  
and o'er its own shortcomings  
weeps with loathing.

4 And so the yearning strong,  
with which the soul will long,  
shall far outpass the power of  
human telling;  
for none can guess its grace,  
till they become the place  
wherein the Holy Spirit makes a  
dwelling.

### The Prayer over the Gifts

*Celebrant* We give in grateful thanksgiving for all that God has given us.

*People* **In the upside down world of the gospel, we measure our wealth not by what we have, but by what we can give away. Let us give away generously, in this offering, to bless God's church, God's people, and God's creation. Amen.**

### Eucharistic Prayer 2

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*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

*Celebrant* Lift up your hearts.

*People* **We lift them to the Lord.**

*Celebrant* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

*People* **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

*Celebrant* We give you thanks and praise, almighty God, through your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Redeemer. He is your living Word, through whom you have created all things.

By the power of the Holy Spirit he took flesh of the Virgin Mary and shared our human nature. He lived and died as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

In fulfilment of your will he stretched out his hands in suffering, to bring release to those who place their hope in you; and so he won for you a holy people.

He chose to bear our griefs and sorrows, and to give up his life on the cross, that he might shatter the chains of evil and death, and banish the darkness of sin and despair. By his resurrection he brings us into the light of your presence.

Now with all creation we raise our voices to proclaim the glory of your name.

*People* **Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.**

Hymn#689

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

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*Celebrant* Holy and gracious God, accept our praise, through your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ; who on the night he was handed over to suffering and death, took bread and gave you thanks, saying, "Take, and eat: this is my body which is broken for you." In the same way he took the cup, saying, "This is my blood which is shed for you. When you do this, you do it in memory of me."  
Remembering, therefore, his death and resurrection, we offer you this bread and this cup, giving thanks that you have made us worthy to stand in your presence and serve you.  
We ask you to send your Holy Spirit upon the offering of your holy Church. Gather into one all who share in these sacred mysteries, filling them with the Holy Spirit and confirming their faith in the truth, that together we may praise you and give you glory through your Servant, Jesus Christ.  
All glory and honour are yours, Father and Son, with the Holy Spirit in the holy Church, now and for ever. **Amen.**

### **The Lord's Prayer** [Michael Leach]

*Celebrant* As our Saviour taught us, let us pray,

*People* **Our Father in heav'n, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. And 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.**

### **The Breaking of the Bread #5**

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*Celebrant* God of promise, you prepare a banquet for us in your kingdom.

*People* **Happy are those who are called to the supper of the Lamb.**

### **The Communion**

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*Celebrant* The gifts of God for the People of God.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

### **Lamb of God** [Hymn 690]

*People* **Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:  
have mercy on us.  
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:  
Have mercy on us.  
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:  
grant us peace.**



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**All are welcome to receive communion with us**

*As the ushers pass your pew, please line up in the centre aisle.*

- **To receive a blessing**, as you reach the priest with the bread, cross your arms over your chest. Return to your seat after receiving the blessing.
  - **To receive the bread**, hold your hands in front of you, palms up.
  - **To receive the wine from the cup**, take the bottom of the cup and the base and guide it to your mouth.
  - **If you prefer to take only the bread**, you may indicate this to the cup bearer by crossing your arms over your chest, or simply walking past them.
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**Communion Hymn #96 “Creator of the Stars of Night”** Translation from Latin by John Mason Neale

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| <p>1 Creator of the stars of night,<br/>thy people’s everlasting light,<br/>Jesus, redeemer of us all,<br/>hear thou thy servants when they call.</p> <p>2 Thou, sorrowing at the helpless cry<br/>of all creation doomed to die,<br/>didst save our lost and guilty race<br/>by healing gifts of heavenly grace.</p> <p>3 When earth was near its evening hour,<br/>thou didst in love’s redeeming power,<br/>like bridegroom from his chamber, come<br/>forth from a maiden mother’s womb.</p> | <p>4 At thy great name, exalted now,<br/>all knees in lowly homage bow;<br/>and things in heaven and earth<br/>adore,<br/>and own thee King for evermore.</p> <p>5 To God the Father, God the Son,<br/>and God the Spirit, Three-in-One,<br/>praise, honour, might, and glory be<br/>from age to age eternally.</p> |
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**Prayer after Communion**

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

*People* **God for whom we wait, you have fed us with the bread of eternal life. Keep us ever watchful, that we may be ready to stand before the Son of man. We ask this in the name of Christ the Lord. Amen.**

*Celebrant* All your works praise you, O Lord.

*People* **And your faithful servants bless you.**

**Gracious god we thank you for feeding us with the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ.**

**May we, who share his body, live his risen life; we, who drink his cup, bring life to others; we, whom the Spirit lights, give light to the world. Keep us firm in the hope you have set before us, so that we and all your children shall be free, and the whole earth live to praise your name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

## Announcements

### Blessing

*Celebrant* May the star guide your steps towards the 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 the blessing of God, the Creator, Son, and Holy Spirit, clothe you in light,  
teach you their ways, and keep you alert and prepared for the coming of Christ.

*All*        **Amen.**

### Recessional Hymn #114 “Lo, He Comes with Clouds Descending”

Text by John Cennick, Charles Wesley, Martin Madan

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| <p>1    Lo, he comes with clouds descending,<br/>      once for favoured sinners slain;<br/>thousand thousand saints attending<br/>      swell the triumph of his train:<br/>hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah!<br/>      God appears on earth to reign.</p> <p>2    Every eye shall now behold him,<br/>      robed in dreadful majesty;<br/>all who set at nought and sold him,<br/>      pierced, and nailed him to the tree,<br/>deeply grieving, deeply grieving, deeply<br/>grieving,<br/>      shall the true Messiah see.</p> | <p>3    Now redemption, long expected,<br/>      see in solemn pomp appear;<br/>all his saints, on earth rejected,<br/>      thrill the trumpet sound to hear:<br/>hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah!<br/>      See the day of God appear!</p> <p>4    Yea, amen, let all adore thee,<br/>      high on thine eternal throne;<br/>Saviour, take the power and glory;<br/>      claim the kingdom for thine own:<br/>O come quickly! O come quickly! O<br/>come quickly!<br/>      Hallelujah! Come, Lord, come!</p> |
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### Dismissal

*Subdeacon* Followers of Jesus, Inspired by the Holy Spirit, Serve the World God Loves!

*All*        **Thanks be to God!**

***Please join us for coffee hour in the parish hall following the service.***

## Today's Scripture Readings

### First Sunday of Advent

Jeremiah 33:14-16

Psalm 25:1-9

1 Thessalonians 3:9-13

Luke 21:25-36

## Next Sunday's Scripture Readings

### Second Sunday of Advent

Malachi 3:1-4

Canticle 19 (Luke 1:68-79)

Philippians 1:3-11

Luke 3:1-6

## We Remember in Prayer Today and This Week . . .

### Congregation Cycle

Sue X / Cai X / Jack and Sylvia Y / Kay Y & Kira L / Peyman Z

Celebrant	Rev. Ali McIntosh	Videographer	Egan Done
Preacher	Helen Choi	Ushers	Ann-Marie Waithe Powell, Hazel Perkin
Chalice Bearers	Geraldine Sperling Christian Crawford	Altar Guild	Nancy Dodsworth
Intercessor	Ravi Andrews	Duty Warden & Welcome Desk	Craig Robertson
Crucifer	Philip Tindan	Coffee Hour Hosts	Nancy and Michael Dodsworth
Readers	Hazel Perkin Favour		
Music	Michael Leach		

All music and texts for hymns and songs is covered under OneLicense A-718829

## **Territorial Acknowledgement**

The land on which we gather is the traditional territory of the Huron-Wendat, Haudenosaunee (ho-den-oh-show-nee) and Anishinabek (ah-nish-nah-bek) Nations, and the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation. This territory was the subject of the Dish With One Spoon Wampum Belt Covenant, an agreement between the Iroquois Confederacy and the Ojibwe and allied nations to peaceably share and care for the resources around the Great Lakes. This territory is also covered by the Toronto Purchase. Today, Toronto is home to many Indigenous people from across Turtle Island.

We recognize the enduring presence of Indigenous peoples connected to and on this land. We are grateful for the opportunity to gather on this territory and work in this community, and we commit ourselves to the work of reconciliation with Indigenous peoples.