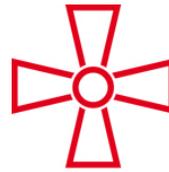


# St Columba Church

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## Advent 1

**November 27, 2022**

10:15 am  
Holy Eucharist  
*The Book of Alternative Services*

**HYMN #88** Come, Thou Long-expected Jesus

*(standing as you are able)*

### THE GATHERING OF THE COMMUNITY

**Officiant** 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.**

**Officiant** Almighty God,  
**All** **to you all hearts are open,**  
**all desires known,**  
**and from you no secrets are hidden.**  
**Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts**  
**by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,**  
**that we may perfectly love you,**  
**and worthily magnify your holy name;**  
**through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

### THE LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

**Officiant** The Advent wreath is a symbol of God's holy love shining like light on the earth.  
It is round because love never ends.  
It is green because love always grows.

*As you light the first candle, read the following:*

**Officiant** We light the candle of HOPE.

**Officiant** HOPE is like a candle in the night. As we light this first candle, we celebrate the HOPE that we have in Jesus Christ, who came to bring HOPE to the world. We pray for the day when God's HOPE is fulfilled for all creation.

**All:** **Come, Jesus, come.**

**All:** Holy Presence, you ask us to open our hearts to the Christ child. In this season of waiting, we make our hearts ready by thanking you for what gives us HOPE.

*Pause briefly to remember something HOPEFUL.*

**All:** Blessed Creator, as you share your gifts with us may we delight in this time, and be strengthened to share your gifts with others. Amen.

**ADVENT HYMN** Light One Candle

Light one candle for hope,  
one bright candle for hope,  
He brings hope to every heart,  
He comes! He comes!

**THE COLLECT OF THE DAY**

**Officiant** Let us pray

**All** 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**

*(please be seated)*

**Reader** A Reading from Book of Isaiah (2:1-5)

The word that Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem.

<sup>2</sup> In days to come  
the mountain of the Lord's house  
shall be established as the highest of the mountains,  
and shall be raised above the hills;  
all the nations shall stream to it.

<sup>3</sup> Many peoples shall come and say,  
'Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord,  
to the house of the God of Jacob;  
that he may teach us his ways  
and that we may walk in his paths.'  
For out of Zion shall go forth instruction,  
and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem.

<sup>4</sup> He shall judge between the nations,  
and shall arbitrate for many peoples;

they shall beat their swords into ploughshares,  
and their spears into pruning-hooks;  
nation shall not lift up sword against nation,  
neither shall they learn war any more.

<sup>5</sup> O house of Jacob,  
come, let us walk  
in the light of the Lord!

The word of the Lord.

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

**Reader**           Psalm 122

<sup>1</sup> I was glad when they said to me, \*  
"Let us go to the house of the Lord."

<sup>2</sup> Now our feet are standing \*  
within your gates, O Jerusalem.

<sup>3</sup> Jerusalem is built as a city \*  
that is at unity with itself.

<sup>4</sup> To which the tribes go up, the tribes of the Lord, \*  
the assembly of Israel, to praise the name of the Lord.

<sup>5</sup> For there are the thrones of judgement, \*  
the thrones of the house of David.

<sup>6</sup> Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: \*  
"May they prosper who love you.

<sup>7</sup> Peace be within your walls \*  
and quietness within your towers.

<sup>8</sup> For my brethren and companions' sake, \*  
I pray for your prosperity.

<sup>9</sup> Because of the house of the Lord our God, \*  
I will seek to do you good."

Lord Jesus, give us the peace of the new Jerusalem. Bring all nations into your kingdom to share your gifts, that they may render thanks to you without end and may come to your eternal city, where you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, now and for ever.

**Reader**           A Reading from Paul's Letter to the Romans (13:11–14)

<sup>11</sup> Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; <sup>12</sup> the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armour of light; <sup>13</sup> let us live honourably as in the day, not in revelling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarrelling and jealousy. <sup>14</sup> Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

The word of the Lord.

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

**GOSPEL**

*(standing as you are able)*

**HYMN #456** *He Comes to Us As One Unknown (v1 - 3)*

**Reader** The Lord be with you.

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

**Reader** The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew (24:36-44)

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

<sup>36</sup> 'But about that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. <sup>37</sup> For as the days of Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. <sup>38</sup> For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, <sup>39</sup> and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away, so too will be the coming of the Son of Man. <sup>40</sup> Then two will be in the field; one will be taken and one will be left. <sup>41</sup> Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken and one will be left. <sup>42</sup> Keep awake therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. <sup>43</sup> But understand this: if the owner of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. <sup>44</sup> Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour.

The Gospel of the Christ.

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

**HYMN #456** *He Comes to Us As One Unknown (v4, 5)*

**SERMON**

*(please be seated)*

**THE NICENE CREED**

*(standing as you are able)*

**Celebrant** Let us confess our faith, as we say,

**All** **We believe in one God,  
the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made,  
of one being with the Father.**

**Through him all things were made.  
For us and for our salvation  
he came down from heaven:  
by the power of the Holy Spirit  
he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,  
and was made man.**

**For our sake he was crucified  
under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried.  
On the third day he rose again**

**in accordance with the scriptures;  
he ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again in glory  
to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father.  
With the Father and the Son  
he is worshipped and glorified.  
He has spoken through the prophets.**

**We believe in one holy catholic  
and apostolic Church.  
We acknowledge one baptism  
for the forgiveness of sins.  
We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

#### **THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

*(sitting or standing)*

Sisters and brothers in Christ, for the sake of the world that God so loves, let us pray.

**Pray for the peace of Jerusalem.**

We pray for Todd, our Bishop; Marinez, Bishop of our companion Diocese of Amazonia; Michael and Susan, Bishops of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada; Sidney, interim National Indigenous Archbishop; Anne, our Metropolitan; Linda, our Primate; Megan, our Archdeacon, Margaret, our priest; and for all clergy and lay leaders. Strengthen them to lead by your word.

**Pray for the peace of the church.**

We pray for Charles, our King; Mary, our Governor General; Justin, our Prime Minister; Doug, our Premier; Karen, our Regional Chair, Dorothy and Natasha, our Mayors; may they be guided by wisdom for the good of all people.

**Pray for the peace of this community.**

We pray for peace in every nation — that people will turn their swords into ploughshares and their spears into pruning hooks and study war no more.

**Pray for the peace of the church.**

We pray for peace in Christ's body — put an end to fear and fighting, and help us to proclaim in word and action the good news of salvation to all.

**Pray for the peace of this community.**

We pray for peace in this place — for safety in our homes and streets, for the prosperity of our neighbours, and for the health of family and friends. We pray for healing, in body in mind and in spirit (*especially for ...*), and for those who are known to you alone.

**Pray for the peace of individuals, family and friends.**

**God of the future, make us ready for the coming of your reign, when you will bring everlasting peace and renew the face of the earth; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

## CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

**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,  
**All** **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** *(nod or bow to those around you, please do not leave your seat)*

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

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

## THE CELEBRATION OF THE EUCHARIST

**HYMN #93** You Servants of the Lord

*(standing as you are able)*

## OFFERTORY

**All** **God of love and power,  
your word stirs within us  
the expectation of the coming of your Son.  
Accept all we offer you this day,  
and sustain us with your promise of eternal life.  
We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

## EUCHARISTIC PRAYER 2

*(standing as you are able)*

**Celebrant** The Lord be with you.

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

**Celebrant** Lift up your hearts.

**People** **We lift them up 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.

**All** **Holy, holy, holy Lord,  
God of power and might,  
heav'n and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest,  
hosanna in the highest.**

*(Hymn #732)*

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

**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."

*(people may be seated)*

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.

*People*           **Amen.**

#### **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

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

#### **THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD**

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

#### **THE COMMUNION**

*Celebrant*       The gifts of God for the People of God.  
*People*           **Thanks be to God.**

**AGNUS DEI**

*Hymn #745, singing*

Beckett Gerald Senchur



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sins of the world: have mer - cy on us. *(Repeat)*



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sins of the world: grant us peace, grant us peace.

**HYMN DURING COMMUNION #97** Jesus Came, the Heavens Adoring

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

*(standing as you are able)*

***Celebrant*** Let us pray.

***All*** **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.**

**THE DOXOLOGY**

***Celebrant*** Glory to God,  
***All*** **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.**

**BLESSING**

**HYMN #111** Herald! Sound the Notes of Judgement

*(standing as you are able)*

**DISMISSAL**

***Leader*** Go forth in peace to prepare the way of the Lord.  
***All*** **Thanks be to God**

***Questions for Reflection***

What does it mean to “get your house in order” for the coming of the Lord? Can we ever be perfectly ready for Christ’s return? Why is the coming of the Lord compared to a thief in the night? Is there grace in God’s surprising advent, God’s unexpected arrival?

***Household Prayer: Morning***

Lord God, you have woken me from sleep; the night is gone, the day is here. Enable me to put on the Lord Jesus Christ and help me to live honourably this day, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

***Household Prayer: Evening***

God, my Saviour, you are even nearer now than when I first learned to trust in you. Help me to lay aside the burdens of the day and rest in the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, my strength and my salvation. Amen.