

Morning Prayer for the 3rd Sunday of Advent
December 13, 2020



The third candle on an advent wreath symbolizes joy. Christmas excitement is building as the holiday quickly approaches. Listen to a reading from Luke.

But the angel reassured them. “Don’t be afraid!” he said. “I bring you good news that will bring great joy to all people. *Luke 2: 10.*”

All: **Three candles, burning bright,
Chasing away the darkness from light.
Three candles, glowing bright,
The blessing of God, giving new sight.**

Dear God, we pray for the joy that is found in Jesus, that those who seek it may truly find it. May we celebrate in the joy found in You.
Amen.

Officiant Lord, open our lips,
People **And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.**

Officiant O God, make speed to save us.
People **O Lord, make haste to help us.**

All **Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.**

On Jordan’s Bank the Baptist’s Cry

On Jordan’s bank, the Baptist’s cry announces that the Lord is nigh; awake and hearken, for he brings glad tidings of the King of kings. Then cleansed be every breast from sin; make straight the way for God within.

Prepare we in our hearts a home, where such a mighty guest may come.

For thou art our salvation, Lord, our refuge, and our great reward; without thy grace we waste away, like flowers that wither and decay. To heal the sick stretch out thine hand, and bid the fallen sinner stand; shine forth, and let thy light restore earth’s own true loveliness once more.

All praise, eternal Son, to thee whose advent doth thy people free, whom with the Father we adore and Holy Ghost for evermore.

Charles Coffin | Gary Miles | John Chandler
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The Invitatory

The Lord is our light and our life: **O come, let us worship**

Jubilate
Psalm 100

Be joyful in the Lord, all you lands; *
serve the Lord with gladness
and come before his presence with a song.

Know this: The Lord himself is God; *
he himself has made us, and we are his;
we are his people and the sheep of his pasture.

Enter his gates with thanksgiving;
go into his courts with praise; *
give thanks to him and call upon his name.

For the Lord is good;
his mercy is everlasting; *
and his faithfulness endures from age to age.

The Lord is our light and our life: **O come, let us worship**

Proclamation of the Word

The Readings

A Reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah

61 The spirit of the Lord God is upon me,
because the Lord has anointed me;
he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed,
to bind up the broken-hearted,
to proclaim liberty to the captives,
and release to the prisoners;
² to proclaim the year of the Lord's favour,
and the day of vengeance of our God;
to comfort all who mourn;
³ to provide for those who mourn in Zion—
to give them a garland instead of ashes,
the oil of gladness instead of mourning,
the mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit.
They will be called oaks of righteousness,
the planting of the Lord, to display his glory.
⁴ They shall build up the ancient ruins,

they shall raise up the former devastations;
they shall repair the ruined cities,
the devastations of many generations.
⁸ For I the Lord love justice,
I hate robbery and wrongdoing;
I will faithfully give them their recompense,
and I will make an everlasting covenant with them.
⁹ Their descendants shall be known among the nations,
and their offspring among the peoples;
all who see them shall acknowledge
that they are a people whom the Lord has blessed.
¹⁰ I will greatly rejoice in the Lord,
my whole being shall exult in my God;
for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation,
he has covered me with the robe of righteousness,
as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland,
and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.
¹¹ For as the earth brings forth its shoots,
and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up,
so the Lord God will cause righteousness and praise
to spring up before all the nations.

Isaiah 61: 1-4, 8-11 (NRSV)

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God**

Canticle 18

18a The Song of Mary

Luke 1.46–55

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,
my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour; *
for he has looked with favour on his lowly servant.

From this day all generations will call me blessed: *
the Almighty has done great things for me,
and holy is his name.

He has mercy on those who fear him *
in every generation.

He has shown the strength of his arm, *
he has scattered the proud in their conceit.

He has cast down the mighty from their thrones, *
and has lifted up the lowly.

He has filled the hungry with good things, *
and the rich he has sent away empty.

He has come to the help of his servant Israel, *
for he has remembered his promise of mercy,
the promise he made to our fathers, *
to Abraham and his children for ever.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: *
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever.
Amen.

A reading from the first letter of Paul to the Thessalonians

¹⁶Rejoice always, ¹⁷pray without ceasing, ¹⁸give thanks in all
circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. ¹⁹Do
not quench the Spirit. ²⁰Do not despise the words of prophets, ²¹but
test everything; hold fast to what is good; ²²abstain from every form of
evil.

²³May the God of peace himself sanctify you entirely; and may your
spirit and soul and body be kept sound and blameless at the coming of
our Lord Jesus Christ. ²⁴The one who calls you is faithful, and he will do
this.

1 Thessalonians 5: 16-24 (NRSV)

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God**

Gospel

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

⁶ There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷ He came as
a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through
him. ⁸ He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light.
¹⁹ This is the testimony given by John when the Jews sent priests and
Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, 'Who are you?' ²⁰ He confessed and
did not deny it, but confessed, 'I am not the Messiah.' ²¹ And they asked
him, 'What then? Are you Elijah?' He said, 'I am not.' 'Are you the
prophet?' He answered, 'No.' ²² Then they said to him, 'Who are you?
Let us have an answer for those who sent us. What do you say about
yourself?' ²³ He said, 'I am the voice of one crying out in the wilderness,
'Make straight the way of the Lord'' ,
as the prophet Isaiah said.

²⁴ Now they had been sent from the Pharisees. ²⁵ They asked him,
'Why then are you baptizing if you are neither the Messiah, nor Elijah,
nor the prophet?' ²⁶ John answered them, 'I baptize with water. Among
you stands one whom you do not know, ²⁷ the one who is coming after
me; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandal.' ²⁸ This took place
in Bethany across the Jordan where John was baptizing.

John 1: 6-8, 19-28 (NRSV)

The Gospel of Christ. **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ**

Sermon

O Come, Divine Messiah

O come, divine Messiah;
the world in silence waits the day when hope shall sing its triumph and
sadness flee away.

Refrain:

Dear Saviour, haste! Come, come to earth. Dispel the night and show
your face, and bid us hail the dawn of grace. O come, Divine Messiah;
the world in silence waits the day when hope shall sing its triumph and
sadness flee away.

O Christ, whom nations sigh for, whom priest and prophet long
foretold, come, break the captives' fetters, redeem the long lost fold.

Refrain:

Dear Saviour, haste! Come, come to earth. Dispel the night and show
your face, and bid us hail the dawn of grace. O come, Divine Messiah;
the world in silence waits the day when hope shall sing its triumph and
sadness flee away.

You come in peace and meekness and lowly will your cradle be;
all clothed in human weakness shall we your Godhead see.

Refrain:

Dear Saviour, haste! Come, come to earth. Dispel the night and show
your face, and bid us hail the dawn of grace. O come, Divine Messiah;
the world in silence waits the day when hope shall sing its triumph and
sadness flee away.

Abbot Simon-Joseph Pellegrin | Jennie Lee Riddle | Robbie Seay
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Affirmation of Faith

The Apostles' Creed

**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.**

Intercessions and Thanksgivings

**As we come before Our Loving God this morning let us respond with
GRACIOUS GOD HEAR OUR PRAYER**

Our Gracious God, as we come to you in prayer this morning we thank you that we know you care deeply for each one of us. It doesn't matter whether we have given our lives over to you or not, we have all been created by You. You care for each one of us and whether we acknowledge it or not you are our Beloved God. During this difficult time many of us have lost family members and friends for various reasons. Therefore we can be assured that you hear our prayers for friends and family who are facing difficult trials at this time. Let us pray to the Lord saying: **GRACIOUS GOD HEAR OUR PRAYER.**

As we are now in Advent our thoughts go to the upcoming Christmas season. It is going to be so different for all of us this year, perhaps limited travel, changes to Christmas Day activities, no big celebrations, limited or no Christmas concerts and so on. But, Lord help us to make the best of it and perhaps spend more time contemplating the true meaning of Christmas and the incredible gift that you gave the world. The gift of your Son who would eventually give up His life on the cross for our redemption. Thank you Lord. Let us pray to the Lord saying: **GRACIOUS GOD, HEAR OUR PRAYER.**

As we are now in another phase of this pandemic with more restrictions help us to be vigilant about keeping to the rules so this will lessen and we can go back to a normal life. Help us to resist the urge to go and do unnecessary shopping, gather in groups, neglect hand washing, forget to wear a mask and so on. Let us pray to the Lord saying: **GRACIOUS GOD, HEAR OUR PRAYER.**

Because of the news focusing on the pandemic around the world we tend to forget that the daily issues people deal with have not gone away. Poverty still devastates lives all over the globe, people still deal with malaria, HIV/AIDS, families are still separated for many reasons, education has slowed down for many children in countries where they don't have access to the internet, Let us pray to the Lord saying: **GRACIOUS GOD, HEAR OUR PRAYER.**

Thank you that the NS government has recently made a step forward toward affordable housing. Also, so many people right around us and

far away are homeless. Help us to remember issues people face every day along with the pandemic, locally, provincially, nationally, and globally. We can't turn our backs on your children close by and far away.

Let us pray to the Lord saying: **GRACIOUS GOD, HEAR OUR PRAYER.**

We ask Gracious God that we might feel your wonderful presence with us every waking moment. Help us to keep safe and respond to needs around us as much as we are able in this difficult time. So many people need to feel your love and care and we pray that many will hear your voice coming to them through the Christmas carols sung, through flakes of snow, through decorations adorning our homes as well as others. Let it not just be a time of celebration but have meaning as we remember why we are celebrating.

Amen

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.

The Lord's Prayer

Officiant And now, as our Saviour Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

All: **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.**

Come as You Are

Come out of sadness from wherever you've been
Come broken-hearted let rescue begin
Come find your mercy O sinner come kneel
Earth has no sorrow that Heaven can't heal
Earth has no sorrow that Heaven can't heal

Chorus

(So) Lay down your burdens lay down your shame
All who are broken lift up your face
O wanderer come home
You're not too far
So lay down your hurt lay down your heart
Come as you are

There's hope for the hopeless
And all those who've strayed
Come sit at the table come taste the grace
There's rest for the weary
Rest that endures
Earth has no sorrow that Heaven can't cure

Bridge

Come as you are
Fall in His arms
Come as you are

There's joy for the morning O sinner be still
Earth has no sorrow that Heaven can't heal
Earth has no sorrow that Heaven can't heal
Come as you are
Come as you are
Come as you are

*Ben Glover | David Crowder | Matt Maher
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Blessing

Dismissal

Officiant Let us bless the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**

Diocesan Cycle of Prayer – South Shore Region

Maitland, Stewiacke and Shubenacadie, Nova Scotia

Readings for next week: 2 Samuel 7: 1-11, 16; Psalm 89: 1-4, 19-26;
Romans 16: 25-27; Luke 1: 26-38

Ease of Access



Notices from within the Parish



PWRDF: Our PWRDF project this year will be to raise money to buy donkeys! In Kenya they are used for carrying waterprecious water from a well, like the one we bought last year!

Some families still have to travel a distance to get to the wells. A donkey can carry four times the weight that a person can, so they are often given to older people to make the journey easier. Your gift will go towards providing a strong-backed donkey to shoulder cans of fresh, clean water from the well to home.

Perhaps you'd like to "pin a tail on a donkey" by making a donation! You can donate by cash or a cheque in an envelope to be mailed to the church or dropped off at the church. Donations can also be made online <http://www.churchofsaintandrew.ca/donations/> where you just click on FUND and scroll to PWRDF. Look for more information as to how donkeys enrich many lives next week!

Church Calendars: Several 2021 church calendars are still available for \$7.00. If you would like a calendar, please call Brenda Tucker at **902-462-7006**. She will ensure that you get it.

Christmas Poinsettia Update: In gratitude for your generosity over the years and in recognition of our "interesting" times, the Altar Guild will not be collecting donations towards flowers for this Christmas. Instead we invite you to consider forwarding your generosity to the PWRDF Campaign for a donkey and to the Christmas Outreach program.

The Altar Guild is always grateful for your support of our ministry over the years and we choose this year to support your remembrances by purchasing poinsettias on your behalf from the flower fund. As many of your remembrances have remained the same over the years, we will use last year's bulletin. If you wish to make a change/ addition or to be reminded of what was there please email Carole Aylard and she will make those changes for you. caylard@accesscable.net

Bottle Caps: Bottle Caps can be dropped off at Bluenose Recycling on Woodlawn Road as they are still accepting them.

Nature & Nurture: Each day we will be posting a new photo on our Facebook page and asking you to suggest a scripture verse or inspirational quote that speaks to you when you view the image. We will choose one of the inspirations and post the picture and inspiration on our Webpage. The quotes have all been great so far and the choice has been tough. We look forward to more people joining in and making the choice even harder. We love to see different pictures from people! Please send along any picture you have taken that you would love to have posted. Also, if you can't think of a scripture or inspirational quote, even a word about how it makes you feel! We love participation! Use these as a daily prayer, a thought for the day, or a blessing in the moment

The Hate U Give: - Join us on **January 16, 2021** for a movie and discussion afternoon 1pm. We will be watching "The Hate U Give" and will be following with a discussion on the movie and how it relates to the racism we are seeing not only today but building up from the past. We will also discuss how we can make a difference in our community. Due to Covid-19, there will be a limit of 20 people, please contact the office (902-462-1818) to reserve your spot.



A Community of Faith Since 1794
Second Sunday of Advent
December 13, 2020

Protective measures against COVID-19 from the World Health Organization (WHO)

- 1) Wash your hands frequently
 Regularly and thoroughly clean your hands with an alcohol-based hand rub or wash them with soap and water.
- 2) Make wearing a mask a normal part of being around other people
- 3) Maintain social distancing
 Maintain at least 2 metre (6 feet) distance between yourself and anyone who is coughing or sneezing.
- 4) Avoid touching eyes, nose and mouth
- 5) Practice respiratory hygiene
 Make sure you, and the people around you, follow good respiratory hygiene. This means covering your mouth and nose with your bent elbow or tissue when you cough or sneeze. Then dispose of the used tissue immediately.
- 6) If you have fever, cough and difficulty breathing, seek medical care early
- 7) Stay informed and follow advice given by your healthcare provider



<p><u>Rector</u> Archdeacon Katherine Bourbonniere</p> <p><u>Associate Priest</u> The Rev'd Walter Beazley</p> <p><u>Honorary Associate Priests</u> The Rev'd Gary Giles Canon Charlie Black Marian Lucas-Jefferies</p> <p><u>Wardens</u> Don McMahan 902-435-6609 David Rose 902-461-8192 Penny Joudrey 902-860-3501</p> <p><u>Holy Eucharist</u> Bi-Weekly, or as recommended by the province and the Department of Health</p> <p><u>In Case of Emergency</u> 902-240-3940</p> <p><u>Parish Nurse</u> Brenda Tucker Office hours: Mondays 1-4pm 902-462-7006</p>	<p><u>Music Director</u> Bryan Cable 902-999-7808</p> <p><u>Organist Emeritus</u> Cynthia Dickinson</p> <p><u>Prayer Circle</u> Victoria Henrikson 902-462-2575</p> <p><u>Church email address</u> office@churchofsaintandrew.ca</p> <p><u>Church website</u> www.churchofsaintandrew.ca</p> <p><u>Church Office Hours</u> Monday – Friday, 9am – 12noon</p> <p><u>Facebook page</u> Church of St. Andrew, Cole Harbour</p>
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DIOCESAN SEASON OF PRAYER COLLECT - (By The Rev'd. Michelle Bull)

O God our Creator and Redeemer, it pleases you to invite us into the mission of Jesus, establishing the reign of God on earth. You promised through your Son to send the Spirit upon us, to teach us everything. We pray that you will send a fresh outpouring of your Spirit on this Diocese. Grant us clear vision and wisdom to discern what you are now calling us to do and the courage, love and creativity to perform it to your glory. We ask it in the name of your Son our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.