

**Advent 2**  
**December 5, 2010**



8:00 a.m. Holy Communion (*Book of Common Prayer*)  
Celebrant and Preacher: The Reverend Christine Conkin



**Voice 2:** We long to live in that world, where God's glory is revealed on earth, through justice and peace. Today, on this second Sunday of Advent, we light the candle of peace as a prayer of longing.

*The candle of Peace is lit.*

Let us pray together:

**Living God, help us to recognize your presence wherever people work for peace, and teach us to be peace-makers. Come, Lord Jesus.**

Written by the Rev. Dr. Glynis Williams  
Produced by Presbyterian World Service & Development

## THE PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

**Old Testament Reading:** Isaiah 11:1-10

Don Edy

A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots. The spirit of the Lord shall rest on him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord. His delight shall be in the fear of the Lord. He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide by what his ears hear; but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked. Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist, and faithfulness the belt around his loins. The wolf shall live with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the kid, the calf and the lion and the fatling together, and a little child shall lead them. The cow and the bear shall graze, their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den. They will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain; for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea. On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples; the nations shall inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious.

*Reader:* **Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.**

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

**Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19**

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**New Testament:** Romans 15:4-13

For whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, so that by steadfastness and by the encouragement of the scriptures we might have hope. May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus, so that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. For I tell you that Christ has become a servant of the circumcised on behalf of the truth of God in order that he might confirm the promises given to the patriarchs, and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written, "Therefore I will confess you among the Gentiles, and sing praises to your name"; and again he says, "Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people"; and again, "Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles, and let all the peoples praise him"; and again Isaiah says, "The root of Jesse shall come, the one who rises to rule the Gentiles; in him the Gentiles shall hope." May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

*Reader:* **Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.**

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

### **Gradual Hymn: #111 Herald! Sound the Note of Judgement**

Gospel: Matthew 3:1-12

*Reader:* **The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew**

*People:* **Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ!**

In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near." This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said, The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.'" Now John wore clothing of camel's hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. Then the people of Jerusalem and all Judea were going out to him, and all the region along the Jordan, and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. But when he saw many Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruit worthy of repentance. Do not presume 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. I baptize you with water for repentance, but one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and will gather his wheat into the granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.”

*Reader:* **The Gospel of Christ**

*Response:* **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!**

**Homily:** The Reverend Christine Conkin

Prayers of the People  
Confession and Absolution  
Peace

**Offertory Hymn: #95 O Come, Divine Messiah**

### **THE SACRED MEAL IS SHARED**

Prayer Over the Gifts

God our strength, **we are nothing without you. Receive all we offer you this day as you sustain us with your mercy; in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Eucharistic Prayer #3  
The Lord's Prayer

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Breaking of the Bread

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

*All are welcome to join in the sacred feast of Holy Communion. If you would prefer to come forward for a blessing, please do so. All are invited to draw near the table of the Lord.*

Prayer after Communion

Faithful God, **we thank you for feeding us with this heavenly banquet. Help us always to hear the prophet's call to turn our hearts to you; in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord. Amen.**

The Blessing

**Recessional Hymn: #114 Lo, He Comes with Clouds Descending**

*Dismissal* Let us go forth into the world,  
rejoicing in the Risen Lord. Alleluia  
**Thanks be to God. Alleluia**

**Raju Paul is warden on duty today.**

**Prayers**

- In our Worldwide Anglican Cycle of Prayer we pray for the Lusitanian Church and their clergy, The Rt. Rev. Fernando Soares.
- In our Diocesan Prayer Cycle we pray for St. Cyprian, Didsbury; St. Johns, Olds and their clergy the Rev. Inez Hannett and St. Mark, Innisfail and their clergy, The Rev. Jeanne Hunter.
- In our Companion Diocese in the Windward Islands we pray for St. Phillip, Mesopotamia with St. Matthias and St. Joseph and their clergy, The Rev. Ashton Francis.
- In our own parish let us ask for God's healing love to uphold and sustain all who are in any kind of need, especially: Bonnie Sinclair, Betty Dawe, Fred Harshman. Pat McNamara, The Reverend Maurice Buck, Dennis Moore, Edith Cowan, Virginia Goodman, Marguerite Dimmer, Peggy Peckover, Paulette Sinkinson, Peggy Brookes, Bunny Hale, Ken Willis, Annis Siddall, Tony Luca, Elma, Blaine Bonner, Mariam Jacobs, Pat Clayton, Emily Sharpe, Win Ferrie, Eileen Williams, Eapen Mathew, Garnet Wallace, Andrew Howe, Elric Hicks. Let us also pray for Yphande Jean, our Church-school sponsored child in Haiti.
- Our prayers are with the family and wife Vina of Mr. Eric Jones, a former parishioner of St. Peter's. For those interested, his memorial service will be held December 10<sup>th</sup> at 2:30 at Fish Creek McGinness and Holloway.

**Flowers** are given this morning to the glory of God by:

- Pauline and John Dawson in memory of loved ones.
- Doreen Thomson and family in loving memory of Bob Thomson.

**The Bishop's Advent pastoral letter** has been posted in the Narthex. Please feel free to take a copy!

**Parish Profile:** The final draft of the parish profile is available for parishioners to review. Please contact any of the Canonical Committee members. The profile is still in draft form and intended to stay within the parish. Members of the Canonical Committee are: *Alan Flanders, Rita Leigh, Clyde Elford, Lynn McKeown, Raju Paul and Carol Kyle.*

### **SPIRIT ZONE** (Children's Programs)

- **The Children's Christmas Pageant, *The Symbols of Christmas* directed by Catherine Hiscocks,** will be held next Sunday, December 12<sup>th</sup> during the 10 am service. Please invite your Grandmas, Grandpas, aunts, uncles, cousins and friends to come and enjoy a very special version of the Christmas Story: The Story of 'Jesus' Birth!
- **Nursery** –The nursery located on the lower level is available during the 10 am service.
- Do you like working with children? Teachers are always needed. Joan can help you to job-shadow for a few weeks with an experienced teacher. Please contact Joan if you would like to participate in this very important ministry.
- We are revamping our Sunday School. Watch for an exciting fresh approach to learning about God's word.

### **Stephen Ministry:** more testimonies from Care Receivers and family members:

1. I was so opposed to having someone come and visit me on a weekly basis. Being a man, I thought, "Who would want to waste their time visiting me?" However, to appease Rev. Helen I said that I would give it a try and now I am hooked. Every week I look forward to chatting to another male person. I apologize that I thought I could handle my crisis on my own. God is good!
2. Our family has a Stephen Minister and it has been an incredible blessing. The Stephen Minister has helped in many ways and to have a listening ear for one of our family members has been a huge benefit and support. We at St. Peter's are truly blessed to have this program and we pray for God's blessing on these people as they do this work and calling.

**A New Course in Stephen Ministry** commences on January 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2010. We will meet in the Lower Hall every Monday evening from 7:15 p.m. to 9: 45 p.m. Please talk to Rev. Helen Belcher or call Wendy Both (403-281-5657) if you have any questions about the program. Application forms are on the counter in the Narthex, at the top of the staircase.

### **Upcoming Events:**

- **"Food For Thought"** Following the 9:30am mid-week Eucharist beginning on November 18, we will be looking at the 'Promises of God'. Coffee and snacks will be served.
- **X-tra!** A small group of adults 30-45 years old, looking "beyond or for more than what is expected". We meet Monday nights and this fall our programming includes Bible study, service to those in need and social nights with dinner and a movie where we discuss God in our midst. Come and join us for one or all of our meetings! We are currently meeting at 364 Ashley Crescent SE. Please contact Jenn at [jenn@flandersfamily.net](mailto:jenn@flandersfamily.net) or 403-305-4366 if you are interested in being a part of X-tra so we can make sure you get our e-mails.
- **CHRISTMAS BAKING** – If you can contribute some of your Christmas baking to our seniors and shut-ins, please call Pam Hodgson at 720-2145. You can drop off baking on Sunday, December 12<sup>th</sup>. We will be packing tins and delivering them on Monday, December 13. Any help with packing and delivering would be appreciated. ***Thank you!***

- **The First Friday Club Christmas Sing Along** will be held at the Armstrong's tonight, December 5<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm. Please dress for the weather and bring along; your favorite Christmas sweet or savory. Call Maryanne at 403-271-2285.
- **Joy To The World:** This is a reminder to bring your grapes, cheese and/or baking (preferably on non-returnable plates) to Cormack Hall on the **morning** of Sunday, December 12 (next Sunday). Note: if you are bringing squares, please bring them "cut" (not "uncut" as indicated on some cards). Thank you all for helping to host this year's "Joy To The World" reception. Deena Janzen.
- **Heritage Park Evensong** – December 11<sup>th</sup> and December 18<sup>th</sup> from 3:00-4:00 pm.
- **Christian Meditation.** We will be taking a break over the Christmas season. Our last sessions for 2010 will be Monday, December 6<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday, December 8<sup>th</sup>. We will meet again on Monday, January 10<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday, January 12<sup>th</sup>. If anyone would like to borrow CD's to use over the Christmas holidays, please let me know. Rosemary Bishop 403-254-9606.

**CHRISTMAS HAMPERS** - On November 21<sup>st</sup>, we start collecting for Christmas hampers for those needing help in our parish and beyond. To avoid last minute panic and shortages, we ask that all donations be in by December 12<sup>th</sup>, which will give us time to buy any needed items. Once again, we are not asking for perishables, as we will buy them the day before delivery to ensure maximum freshness and provide savings through bulk buying. Monetary donations to buy perishables and other needed items are welcome and charitable receipts will be provided. On December 19<sup>th</sup> we need about 10 to 12 drivers to deliver the hampers - signup sheets will be posted on November 21<sup>st</sup>, November 28<sup>th</sup>, and December 5<sup>th</sup> or contact Claire White, Barb Leinweber or Angela Bane.

**North to the Bay** – Bishop Gary and Marie Woolsey will be leading a tour to Churchill, Manitoba November 1-7, 2011. Experience the north during polar bear season. An information evening will be held at Knox Presbyterian Church, 3704-37<sup>th</sup> Street S.W. at 7:30 pm. For more information, contact Bishop Gary at 403-251-9569.

**To the Clergy, ACW's and Congregations of the Diocese.** You may have read in the October Sower of our planned trip to the companion diocese of the Windward Islands to facilitate a Leaders' Training Conference this January 27-29. This is being given in response to the request of the St. Vincent ACWA's. (ACW). We will be providing general sessions on a Friday for men, women and youth leaders and Saturday sessions for the ACWA's only. We have now been asked to also provide the workshop to the neighboring diocese of the North Eastern Caribbean, in St. Kitts the following weekend. I will be taking 5-7 lay women with me to present and help at this conference. At this time of giving, we are asking you to consider this mission in your Christmas giving plans. We will be needing funding for help with some of the airfares, food and materials and some accommodation.

Donations may be made to your parish and then forwarded to the diocese for deposit in the companion diocese account. Taxable receipts are available and can be provided from your parish. Mark your contribution clearly for the companion diocese fund. Your Sister In Christ. Rev. Betty Piwowar - 403 678 5191 (O) 403 678 4502 (H) [Bpiwowar@telusplanet.net](mailto:Bpiwowar@telusplanet.net)

**It's Hard To Be Merry... at Christmas** if there is so much sadness in your heart. So St. Stephen's and St. Laurence Anglican Churches will offer a special service on **Wednesday, December 15 at 6 p.m.** at [St. Laurence Anglican Church](#), 5940 Lakeview Drive SW. This quiet, reflective service with carols and hymns, Scripture readings, and a meditation will focus on personal loss. Following that, you are invited to stay for dinner, the meal provided by the people of St. Laurence and St. Stephen's. There's no need to sign up... just come.

**Soul Food:** Music and storytelling for a new age. Join us for inspired gatherings that lift the heavy heart, enlighten the mind and revive the spirit. **Soul Food for the Winter Solstice: A Story of Light and Love.** Presented in partnership with [The Centre for Inspired Living](#). Sunday, December 19, 2010 at 7:30 p.m. at St. Stephen's Anglican Church 1121 14 Ave. SW Calgary.

**Are you grieving a loss?** St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, 703 Heritage Drive SW. Calgary invites you to attend a special "Celebration of Life" candlelight service on Monday, December 6 at 7:30pm. Tea/Coffee will be provided following the service.

**Did you enjoy the cheese at the Fall Fair?** We would like to order some cheese again in time for Christmas so we do need an idea of which cheeses you would like to purchase. Choices are White or yellow Aged Cheddar, medium Cheddar, Aged or Medium Gouda. Please call Sheila Leigh 403-281-1376 if you have preferences or large orders.

**People with Sergers Wanted** – Diane Mockridge (403-257-3543) is looking for people who could take fabric and do a rolled hem to make new napkins for the upcoming St. Peter's Player's Dinner Theatre. If you can help, please call Diane. Thank you.

### **Fall Christian Education at St. Peters**

**Wednesday Dec 8, 7:30 – 9:30**

**In Advent "The World Waits"** – sometimes holding its breath in fear of what tomorrow may bring, sometimes in a haze of business, or boredom, in which we hardly know what we are waiting for. Yet we still wait in hopefulness. The birth of a baby invariably stirs deep wells of hope in the human heart. Perhaps this child will make a difference. As we approach the Christmas season we prepare to celebrate the coming to earth of someone who really does make a difference. Rev. Julianne Hendrickson will lead us in discussions on selections from the works of Margaret Silf.

**The Change Fund** - *Please bring your loose change to the Church rolled or unrolled. It will be used for the Chancel Renewal Project. The Sunday School put in the first .35 cents. Let's watch this penny fund grow.*

**To check out St. Peter's Website – [www.stpeterscalgary.ca](http://www.stpeterscalgary.ca)  
 We now have wireless access in the Church – [stpeterswireless](http://stpeterswireless) – password  
**peterswireless**  
 Phone 403-252-0393**

**THIS WEEK AT ST. PETER'S**

Monday	7:00 pm	X-tra! Call Jenn 403-305-4366
	7:00 pm	Christian Meditation
Wednesday	11:00 pm	Chinook Care Centre
	11:30 am	Hunger For Healing
	3:00 pm	Christian Meditation
Thursday	9:30 am	Chapel Service @ Food For Thought to follow
	7:00 pm	EFM
	7:30 pm	Choir Practice
Friday	9:30 am	Yoga
	7:00 pm	Youth Group
Saturday	9:30 am	Early Risers



***Special Christmas Services***



***Sunday, December 12***

- 10:00 am Children's Christmas Pageant and Carols  
 7:30 pm "Joy to the World" Ecumenical Community Service at St. Gerard's

***Sunday, December 19***

*(usual morning services)*

- 7:00 pm Choral Festival of Lessons and Carols

***CHRISTMAS EVE***

- 4:30 pm Family Christmas Carols & Children's Talk  
 7:30 pm Festive Christmas Eve Liturgy & homily  
 10:30 pm Festive Christmas Eve Liturgy & homily with Brass Quintet

***CHRISTMAS DAY***

- 10:00 am Christmas Eucharist

***"O Come Let us Adore, Christ the Lord"***