

Advent 1
November 28, 2010



Voice 1: God will settle disputes among great nations. Weapons of war will be sculpted into agricultural tools. The nations will live in peace – no more will they prepare for war.

Voice 2: On this first Sunday in Advent, we long to believe these promises of God. We light this candle of hope, inspired by a vision of the world where children grow into adulthood, and parents will live to old age.

The candle of Hope is lit.

Let us pray together:

Living God, come to our world and show your face to us.

We trust your promises and we wait in hope. 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 2:1–5

This is what Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem: In the last days the mountain of the LORD’s temple will be established as the highest of the mountains; it will be exalted above the hills, and all nations will stream to it. Many peoples will come and say, “Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the temple of the God of Jacob. He will teach us his ways, so that we may walk in his paths.” The law will go out from Zion, the word of the LORD from Jerusalem. He will judge between the nations and will settle disputes for many peoples. They will beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks. Nation will not take up sword against nation, nor will they train for war anymore. Come, descendants of Jacob, let us walk in the light of the LORD.

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

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 122

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New Testament: Romans 13:11–14

And do this, understanding the present time: The hour has already come for you to wake up from your slumber, because our salvation is nearer now than when we first believed. The night is nearly over; the day is almost here. So let us put aside the deeds of darkness and put on the armor of light. Let us behave decently, as in the daytime, not in carousing and drunkenness, not in sexual immorality and debauchery, not in

dissension and jealousy. Rather, clothe yourselves with the Lord Jesus Christ, and do not think about how to gratify the desires of the flesh.

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

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Gradual Hymn: #101 Hail to the Lord's Anointed

Gospel: Matthew 24:36–44

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

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

“But about that day or hour no one knows, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son,¹ but only the Father. As it was in the days of Noah, so it will be at the coming of the Son of Man. For in the days before the flood, people were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, up to the day Noah entered the ark; and they knew nothing about what would happen until the flood came and took them all away. That is how it will be at the coming of the Son of Man. Two men will be in the field; one will be taken and the other left. Two women will be grinding with a hand mill; one will be taken and the other left. “Therefore keep watch, because you do not know on what day your Lord will come. But understand this: If the owner of the house had known at what time of night the thief was coming, he would have kept watch and would not have let his house be broken into. So you also must be ready, because the Son of Man will come at an hour when you do not expect him.

Reader: **The Gospel of Christ**

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

Homily: The Reverend Christine Conkin

Peace

Prayers of the People

Confession and Absolution

Offertory Hymn: **#106 There's a Voice in the Wilderness**

THE SACRED MEAL IS SHARED

Prayer Over the Gifts

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 #3

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The Lord's Prayer

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

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.**

Anthem after Communion: "Emmanuel" by Michael Smith, Arranged by Don Hart

The Blessing

Recessional Hymn: #103 On Jordan's Bank, the Baptist's Cry

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

Richard Bird is warden on duty today.

Prayers

- In our Worldwide Anglican Cycle of Prayer we pray for the church of South Africa and their clergy The Rt. Rev. Oswald Peter Patrick Swartz.
- In our Diocesan Prayer Cycle we pray for St. John the Divine, Siksika and their clergy The Rev. Margaret Waterchief and Larry Waterchief, Lay Pastor and for St. Barnabus, Tsuu T'ina and their clergy The Rev. Roy Darcus.
- In our Companion Diocese in the Windward Islands we pray for St. Paul, Calliaqua with St. John, Belair
- 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: 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, Teresa & Geoff Dawe, 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.

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

- Bill and Jean Slemko in memory of loved ones.
- Joan and Doug Dunn in loving memory of family and friends.
- Joyce and Ken Willis in memory of loved ones.

SPIRIT ZONE (Children's Programs)

- **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.
- Catherine Hiscocks will be directing the Christmas Pageant ***The Symbols of Christmas*** which will take place during the 10 am service on Sunday, December 12. Everyone, tell all your Grandmas and Grandpas, aunts, uncles, cousins and friends to come and enjoy a very special version of the Christmas Story: The Story of 'Jesus' Birth!
- We are revamping our Sunday School. Watch for an exciting fresh approach to learning about God's word.

Stephen Ministry:

Growing as a Christian. Want more freedom and joy? Did you know that there is joy and freedom when we put the needs of others ahead of our own? Stephen Ministry provides this kind of care, freedom and joy. If you've ever thought about finding ways to bring Christ's love to those who are hurting, you need to learn more about Stephen Ministry. Pray intentionally to discover if God is calling you to commit yourself to this rewarding ministry. To find out more about Stephen Ministry, please contact Rev. Helen Belcher at the church or Wendy Both at 403-281-5657. You will also find leaflets on display on the counter near the top of the stairs in the Narthex. If you have further questions do not hesitate to contact Rev. Helen Belcher or Wendy Both.

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 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 12th. 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 on December 5th 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, December 12, 7:30 pm at St. Gerard's, Elbow Drive.** As "host" to this year's Joy To The World, St. Peter's is organizing the reception for 500 following the service. A display in the Narthex contains cards for Baking (2 dozen cookies, squares [cut] or mini-tarts), Cheese or Grapes. Please take a card or cards for whatever you are able to contribute. Bring all items (preferably on non-returnable plates) to Cormack Hall on the **morning** of Sunday, December 12. Thank you for your help! Direct questions/comments to Deena Janzen, 271-0278.
- **Heritage Park Evensong** – December 11th and December 18th 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 6th and Wednesday, December 8th. We will meet again on Monday, January 10th and Wednesday, January 12th. 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 21st, 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 12th, 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 19th we need about 10 to 12 drivers to deliver the hampers - signup sheets will be posted on November 21st, November 28th, and December 5th or contact Claire White, Barb Leinweber or Angela Bane.

The Great Christmas Give-away! Many thanks for your contribution to our "Give it up and put it in our Cup" campaign for The Stephen Lewis Foundation. We are so grateful that St. Peter's has contributed to our school initiative. This is an excellent example of how we can work together as a community to make the world a better place. I will make the deposit today (\$139.00 plus) and have an official thank you posted on our website within the week ahead. On our donation page for the Foundation (that can be accessed through Agents 4 Africa – www.henrywisewood.com) I will have them acknowledge St. Peter's contribution on their next update. Once again, we are pleased and grateful that you are part of our Henry Wise Wood community. Sincerely, on behalf of the Agents 4 Africa Committee,

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

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.

Sewers 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.

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.*

Bulletin – Please have all announcements to the church by Thursday at 2:00 pm. The bulletin is printed at 8:30 am Friday morning. Please submit electronically to avril@stpeterscalgary.ca

Food Bank – To date in 2010, St. Peter's has collected 590 pounds of food for the Food Bank. Thank you for your continued support! Members of our Friday morning Yoga class generously donate each Friday morning .

Please Note that The Reverend Helen Belcher will be away until December 5th, 2010. The Reverend Christine Conkin will be in charge. Please direct any emergencies to her cell phone 403-618-0316.

**To check out St. Peter's Website – www.stpeterscalgary.ca
We now have wireless access in the Church – 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	10:00 pm	Mayfair 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	8:00 am	Starfish Cafe
	9:30 am	Early Risers

Fall Christian Education at St. Peters

Two Wednesdays, Dec 1 and 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.



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

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”