

**Welcome to
St. Luke Cedar Hill**

Advent 3

December 15, 2024 – 9:30 am

Holy Eucharist



3821 Cedar Hill Cross Rd., Victoria, BC V8P 2M6

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We acknowledge that we gather with respect on the traditional territories of the ləkʷəŋən peoples, known in our day as the Esquimalt and Songhees Nations, the traditional custodians of these lands. We are grateful for their hospitality.

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Prelude (*please be seated*)

Welcome and Introduction (*The Rev. Daniel Fournier*)

Please stand as you are able.

Lighting of the Third Candle of the Advent Wreath

Please stand as you are able.

Priest: People of God: return!
You are called to be God's own.
From the mountains announce the good news.
God comes in justice and peace,
to all who follow his ways.
You are God's children.

**All: Lord, make us one in the peace of Christ
today and for ever. Amen.**

The third candle is lit.

Opening Hymn: CP 89 O Come, O Come Emmanuel

(tune: Veni Emmanuel)

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

All: And also with you.

Invitation to Confession

Bishop: A voice cries out in the wilderness,
'Make straight the way of the Lord.'
So let us listen,
and turn to the Lord in penitence and faith.

Silence is kept.

Confession

**All: Merciful God,
we have sinned against you;**

**we have done evil in your sight.
We are sorry and repent.
Have mercy on us according to your love.
Wash away our wrongdoing
and cleanse us from our sin.
Renew a right spirit within us
and restore us to the joy of your salvation,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.**

Absolution

All: Amen.

The Collect of the Day

Bishop: God be with you.

All: And also with you.

Bishop: Let us pray.

God who winnows the wheat from the chaff:
let the fire of your Spirit purge us of greed and deceit,
so that, purified, we may find our peace in you
and you may delight in us.
Grant this through him whose coming is certain
and whose day draws near,
Jesus, the Lord of the harvest.

All: Amen.

Please be seated.

*Solo: "Rejoice, Rejoice!" from Messiah by G.F. Handel;
Mary Byrne (flute)*

The Liturgy of the Word

FIRST READING: ZEPHANIAH 3: 14-20

Reader: A Reading from the Book of Zephaniah.

At the end of the reading:

Reader: Word of God, Word of Life.

All: Thanks be to God.

CANTICLE 3, BAS (ISAIAH 12: 2-6)

**Response: *Ring out your joy,
for the Holy One of Israel is in your midst.***

Surely, it is God who saves me;
I will trust in him and not be afraid.
For the Lord is my stronghold and my sure defence,
and he will be my Saviour. **(Response)**

Therefore you shall draw water with rejoicing
from the springs of salvation.
And on that day you shall say,
Give thanks to the Lord and call upon his name;
make his deeds known among the peoples;
see that they remember that his name is exalted. **(Response)**

Sing the praises of the Lord, for he has done great things,
and this is known in all the world.
Cry aloud, inhabitants of Zion, ring out your joy,
for the great one in the midst of you
is the Holy One of Israel. **(Response)**

SECOND READING: PHILIPPIANS 4: 4-7

Reader: A Reading from the Letter of Paul to the Philippians.

At the end of the reading:

Reader: Word of God, Word of Life.

All: Thanks be to God.

Please stand as you are able.

Gradual Hymn:
CP 111 Herald! Sound the Note of Judgement
(tune: Neander)

THE GOSPEL: LUKE 3: 7-18

Priest: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

Priest: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ
according to Luke.

All: Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

At the end of the gospel:

Priest: The Gospel of Christ.

All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Homily: Bishop Anna Greenwood-Lee

Anthem: *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel* by K.H. Goodyear;
Flute: Mary Byrne

Please stand as you are able.

An Affirmation of Faith *(Based on "A Liturgical Affirmation",
from A New Zealand Prayer Book)*

Leader: We declare our faith as we say:

**All: You, O God, are supreme and holy.
You create our world and give us life.
Your purpose overarches everything we do.
You have always been with us.
You are God.**

**You, O God, are infinitely generous,
good beyond all measure.
You came to us before we came to you.
You have revealed and proved
your love for us in Jesus Christ,
who lived and died and rose again.**

**You are with us now.
You are God.**

**You, O God, are Holy Spirit.
You empower us to be your gospel in the world.
You reconcile and heal; you overcome death.**

**You are our God. We worship you.
Amen.**

Prayers of Thanksgiving and Intercession

Sitting, standing or kneeling, as is your custom.

Leader: Let us pray with confidence as God's holy people for the needs of the Church, all families, and for our world...

IN THE WORLDWIDE ANGLICAN PRAYER CYCLE, we pray for The Anglican Church of Tanzania and the Most Revd Maimbo Mndolwa - Primate. **In the Anglican-Lutheran-Moravian Cycle of Prayer**, we pray for The Venerable Alan Perry, General Secretary, and the staff of the General Secretary's Office (Anglican); Peace Anthony-Idoko, Director of Finance and Administration, and the staff of Finance and Administration (Lutheran); Mr. David Jones, District President, and the members of Board of Elders of the Canadian District of the Moravian Church Northern Province (Moravian). **In our Diocesan Prayer Cycle**, we pray for Anna, our Bishop, and for the Abbey Church, Emmaus Community, and their priest, Matt Humphrey. We also pray for Lutheran Church of the Cross and Pastor Lyndon, and for the Diocese of Caledonia and Bishop David Lehmann.

O God, our Strength and Salvation,
we come to you with joy and thanksgiving
as the beauty of this season unfolds.

With the kindness of your Spirit,
awaken opportunities for understanding
to emerge among those who have differed,
and refresh our community and congregation
with joyful anticipation that your gift to us in Christ
can change everything.

All: Generous God,
Hear our prayer.

Tender God, we delight in the joy
you bring into our lives and neighbourhoods
through our life together in Christ,
and through the love of family and friends.
These gifts have sustained us through stressful times
and we thank you.

Today we pray for those facing illness
in spirit, mind, or body,
and those waiting for diagnosis or treatment,
as anxiety grows.

(Keep a brief time of silence)

All: Generous God,
Hear our prayer.

We pray for those who are lonely or in mourning,
and all who have been touched
by tragedy and violence.

(Keep a brief time of silence)

All: Generous God,
Hear our prayer.

We pray for those searching for work,
struggling with rising costs,
worried deeply about their security.

(Keep a brief time of silence)

Generous God,
All: Hear our prayer.

And we pray for those working to bring justice
to the discouraged and defeated,
and those doing their best
to care for the earth you love, despite the challenges.

(Keep a brief time of silence)

We pray also for those
who have asked us to pray for them... *(names)*.

Generous God,
All: Hear our prayer.

As we offer our prayers,
help us also transform our prayer to action.
Use us to bring to joy to others through our friendship,
generosity and understanding.

Generous God,
All: Hear our prayer.

We offer our prayers in the name of your Son,
Jesus Christ, our hope, our peace, and our joy.

All: Amen.

Invitation and Peace *(Please stand as you are able.)*

Bishop: The table of bread and wine is now to be made ready.
It is the table of company with Jesus
and with all those who love him.
It is the table of sharing with the poor of the world,
with whom Jesus identified himself.
It is the table of communion with the earth
in which Christ became incarnate.
So, come to this table, you who have faith
and you who would like to have more.
You who have been to this sacrament often,
and you who have not been for a long time.

You who have tried to follow Jesus,
and you who have failed.
Come. It is Christ to invites us to meet him here.
As we prepare to come to the table
let us exchange a sign of peace with one another.

Bishop: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

All: And also with you.

The Liturgy of the Eucharist

Offertory Hymn:

CP 108 Hark, a Herald Voice Is Sounding

(tune: Merton)

The Preparation of the Table

Prayer over the Gifts

Bishop: God of hope,
renew in us the joy of your salvation
and make us a living sacrifice to you,
for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

Eucharistic Prayer

[Source: Evangelical Lutheran Worship (2006) – The Evangelical Lutheran Church in America]

Bishop: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

Bishop: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them to the Lord.

Bishop: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Bishop: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
that we should at all times and in all places
give thanks and praise to you,
almighty and merciful God,
through our Saviour Jesus Christ.

You comforted your people
with the promise of the Redeemer,
through whom you will also make all things new
in the day when he comes
to judge the world in righteousness.
And so, with all the choirs of angels,
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

(From Common Praise # 719):

**All: Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest,
Blessed is he who comes
in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest,
hosanna in the highest.**

Congregation may sit or kneel at this time.

Bishop: Holy One, the beginning and the end, the giver of life:
Blessed are you for the birth of creation.
Blessed are you in the darkness and in the light.
Blessed are you for your promise to your people.
Blessed are you for the prophets' hopes and dreams.
Blessed are you for Mary's openness to your will.
Blessed are you for your Son,
Jesus, the Word made flesh.

In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people
for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

**All: Christ has died,
Christ is risen,
Christ will come again.**

Bishop: With this bread and cup
we remember your Word dwelling among us,
full of grace and truth.
We remember our new birth
in his death and resurrection.
We look with hope for his coming.

All: Come, Lord Jesus.

Bishop: Holy God, we long for your Spirit.
Come among us.
Bless this meal.
May your Word take flesh in us.
Awaken your people.
Fill us with your light.
Bring the gift of peace on earth.

All: Come, Lord Jesus.

Bishop: All praise and glory are yours,
Holy One of Israel,
Word of God incarnate,
Power of the Most High,
one God, now and for ever.

All: Amen. (*Sung 3 times - From Common Praise # 721*)

The Lord's Prayer (*Please stand as you are able.*)

Bishop: In the words that our Saviour taught us, we 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.**

Breaking of the Bread (*Setting: Land of Rest*)

**All: O Lamb of God, you take away
the sins of the world;
Have mercy on us, Lamb of God,
and grant us your peace.**

The Giving of Communion

Bishop: God's holy gifts for God's holy people.

All: Thanks be to God.

Please follow the directions of the sidespeople as the congregation is invited to come forward to receive the bread and wine.

If you would prefer not to receive communion, please come forward for a blessing. Crossing your hands over your chest will signal the priest to give you a blessing instead.

NOTE: *Gluten free wafers are available on request.*

Please remain seated as we sing the hymns during communion.

Hymns during Communion:

CP 100 Comfort, Comfort Ye My People

(tune: Psalm 42)

CP 102 Prepare the Way, O Zion

(tune: Bereden väg för Herran)

CP 107 Prepare the Way

(tune: Prepare the Way)

Prayer after Communion *(Please stand as you are able.)*

Bishop: Merciful God,
may this eucharist free us from our sins,
fill us with unending joy,
and prepare us for the birthday of our Saviour.
We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ,
who is Lord now and for ever.

All: Amen.

Bishop: 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.**

Announcements *(Please be seated.)*

Blessing *(Please stand as you are able.)*

All: Amen.

Recessional Hymn: CP 101 Hail to the Lord's Anointed

(tune: Crüger)

Dismissal

Priest: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Thank you to all who assisted with today's service.

THIS WEEK'S PARISH NEWS
December 15th – December 22nd
(New Items, *Revised Items)**

****We welcome Bishop Anna to our service this morning.**

***Please stay for Coffee Time this Sunday after the 9:30 am service** – Park on Synod Road for easy access via the side door of the hall. The Bishop will **share a short presentation with us** during coffee time in the hall.

****Thank you to everyone who took part in last Sunday's Pageant and helped with the lunch.** A special thank you to the pageant "organizers and directors": Claire White, Sharon Hallsor, Merry Hallsor, Sharon McMillan, and Susanne Reul-Zastre. Thanks as well to the Kitchen Crew for all their work on the lunch after the pageant.

****The Church Office will be closed on Friday, December 20th** when Neil takes one of his vacation days and will reopen on Monday, December 23rd at 9 am. The Office will also be closed December 27th, and December 31st.

"Help Wanted" for Sunday Morning Coffee Times including baking, set up, and clean up. Volunteers have a choice to just set up or clean up or both. Baking is always welcome and thoroughly enjoyed at Coffee Time. Our Coffee Times after the 10 am services have become very popular and we can only continue if we have enough volunteers. **If you can help, please email Heather Simpson, Rector's Warden**

(hsimpson@stlukecedarhill.ca) or chat with her on Sunday. Dates needed now are the **Sundays in January**.

Planning Christmas activities with visiting family and friends? Keep in mind our **special Christmas services at St. Luke's** – Christmas Eve: **Child-friendly service at 4 pm** with Christingle oranges for the children; **7 pm Family Communion service** with candles, carols, soloists, instrumentalists, and a choir. **Christmas Day: 10:00 am Family Communion Service**. All are welcome at all of these services. **Please note that there will not be a 10 pm service on Christmas Eve this year.**

***Invitation Cards are Available at the Back of the Church** – Please use the invitation card to **invite a friend or neighbour to the special services through Advent and over Christmas**. Or post the card on your fridge to remind you of the services over Christmas. Invitation cards for the Christingle service and Longest Night Service are also on the back table.

****Services Next Sunday, December 22nd, will be at 8 am, 10 am, and 7 pm.** On Sunday, December 29th there will be one service at 10 am. There will not be an 8 am service that Sunday.

***Longest Night Service – Next Sunday, December 22nd, 7 pm** – This time of year can be **difficult** for many people because of loss or changes in our lives. **This service of light in the midst of darkness is an opportunity to come and enter gently into a quiet holy time, and is open to everyone.** You are welcome to invite a friend to come and share with you in this service of remembrance and hope.

***2025 Contributor Boxes** – If you didn't pick up your box of envelopes last week, please pick up your box at the back of the church this week. If you donate only via the PAR or by e-transfer, or just a couple of times a year, we didn't order a box for you this year.

****On January 5th, we will celebrate the Feast of Epiphany.** The 10 am service will be an Epiphany Lessons and Carols Service.

***Pre-Authorized Remittance Program (PAR) –** A number of people noted on their givings cards that they would like to increase their PAR or start using PAR. To make a change or start using PAR, please send an e-mail to St. Luke's Givings e-mail (**givings@stlukecedarhill.ca**) and include the following information as noted. **To make a change to PAR**, include your envelope #, the date you would like the change to happen (eg January 1, 2025 or February 1, 2025, etc.), and the amount of the change. The PAR comes out of one's account on the 20th of the month but changes have to be sent in prior to the 10th of the month. **To start using PAR**, send an e-mail to St. Luke's Givings e-mail (**givings@stlukecedarhill.ca**) and a form to enrol will be sent to you. The Treasurer will follow up with everyone who indicated that they would like to change their PAR amount or start PAR in case they have any questions.

***Christmas Stocking Project –** As we have done in previous years, we have chosen a World of Gifts Project through the Primate's World Relief and Development Fund as our Christmas Stocking Project. **We started our Christmas Stocking Project on the first Sunday of Advent, and it will continue to Christmas Day.** Our project will be buying goats for families in Kenya who are food insecure and have little or no income. You are invited **to drop your gold coins (Loonies or Toonies) into the Christmas stocking at the back of the church or to put a special donation into the collection plate labelled "Goats Project"**. Money designated in the collection or collected in the stocking from now to Christmas Day will be sent to the PWRDF to buy goats for families in Kenya.

Donations for Flowers for Christmas – The Altar Guild invites your **donations for flowers for the Christmas services.** Donations can be made in memory of a loved one, in celebration of a special event, or simply as a thanks offering. **Donations can be handed in to the office, or added to the**

collection plate. If you would like a tax donation receipt for your donation, please use one of your donation envelopes, and mark "flowers " or Altar Guild on it. Please make cheques payable to St. Luke's. For more information, please call Ann Seguin.

***Thank you for your Continued Donations in your Special Purpose Envelopes towards Buildings Expenses – Donations to date since September 1st now total \$6,485.75.**

This year, we have spent around \$20,000 more on our buildings than we had budgeted. Please the list at the **News page of St. Luke's website**. If you are able to make an additional donation in your Special Purpose Envelope (above your regular donations) to help cover these unexpected expenses, your donation would be greatly appreciated. You can also make a donation in regular envelope, via e-transfer, or through Canada Helps, noting that this donation is towards building expenses.

The December Faith Tides is now available online at the **News page of St. Luke's website**. Print copies are available in the church or from the parish office. Or please call the office (250-477-6741) to ask to have a copy delivered. **This issue includes Brenda's article, "What price, a blanket?" which was originally published in the Fall issue of St. Luke's Prescription.** See more information on the **News page of St. Luke's website**.

The Shelbourne Community Kitchen invites you to join their Donate & Double Your Impact Campaign! From December 1st to 31st, every dollar donated will be matched up to \$15,000. With inflation and rising food costs, the need for food security has never been greater and so far this year The Kitchen has registered more than 300 new participants, including seniors, families, and newcomers for support. This is our community's chance to make twice the difference. Every donation—big or small—will be doubled, amplifying the impact and helping The Kitchen meet the growing demand for support.

See more information and a link to make a donation at the **News page of St. Luke's website.**

***St. Luke's Players Panto Tickets** – Tickets for St. Luke's Panto, Camelot, are available now through EventBrite. With plenty of traditional pantomime audience participation and huge helpings of laughter, this is a family show not to miss! Dates are: evenings at 7:00 pm on December 18, 19, and 20; matinees at 2:00 pm on December 15, 21, 26, 27, 28, 29, and 30. See more information at the **Events page of St. Luke's website.** **Note that some performances are now sold out.**

St. Luke's Vision, Mission, and Actions



St. Luke's Vision

St. Luke's is a beacon in the community, illuminating many ways to encounter God.

St. Luke's Mission

We are supportive people of faith who welcome all with compassion and embrace a culture of community, with outreach as our cornerstone.



St. Luke's Actions: To achieve our Mission, we

- Engage in a vibrant practice of praise but also seek God's peace through prayer and contemplation
- Respect and appreciate the heritage of the first peoples on whose lands we gather and worship
- Nurture a sense of community and promote a culture of inclusion and belonging
- Honour the history of our sacred spaces
- Pursue social and spiritual understanding
- Embrace the values of kindness, openness and hospitality
- Offer compassionate pastoral care
- Base outreach on an attitude of caring and acceptance



Welcome To St. Luke Cedar Hill



Thank you for visiting today.
For more information about St. Luke's,
visit St. Luke's website:
<https://www.stlukesvictoria.ca>,
send an e-mail: admin@stlukecedarhill.ca,
or phone: 250-477-6741.

We hope you will visit again!

Rector: **The Reverend Daniel Fournier**
E-mail: incumbent@stlukecedarhill.ca

For Pastoral Care Needs, please contact the office

Office Phone: 250-477-6741
Office E-mail: admin@stlukecedarhill.ca
Parish Administrator: Neil Patterson
Music Director: Susanne Reul-Zastre
Rector's Warden: Heather Simpson
E-mail: hsimpson@stlukecedarhill.ca
People's Warden: Brenda Morgan
E-mail: bmorgan@stlukecedarhill.ca

READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY December 22nd, 2024

Micah 5: 2-5a
Psalm 80: 1-7
Hebrews 10: 5-10
Luke 1: 39-45, (46-55)

FLOWERS

*Flowers at St. Luke's are coordinated by Ann Séguin.
Please contact Ann if you would like to make
a donation towards flowers at the Christmas services.*

There are no flowers during Advent.