

St. Hilda's Anglican Church, Fairbank

***The First Sunday of Advent
November 29, 2020 - 10:30 AM***

The Order of Service

Organ Prelude: God of Mercy, God of Grace

Opening Prayer:

Faithful God,
we draw near to you because you have first drawn near to us.
You create the longing in our souls, the love in our hearts,
and the faith which delivers our whole being from frustration.
May our actions honour you, our words praise you,
our thoughts marvel in you, and our spirits utterly adore you.
Through Christ Jesus, who comes again in glory to judge the living
and the dead.
Amen!

Processional: O Come, O Come Emmanuel

The Lighting of the Advent Candle

***The Advent Theme: "Lord we need you."
Advent 1 Sub-theme: "Come, Lord Jesus."***

Reader: 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.**

Reader: The Circle of the Advent Wreath symbolizes God's unending love for us. The evergreen represents growth and hope of life eternal. The four candles, one for each Sunday of Advent, represent the years people waited for the Messiah to come. And so now we cry,

All: **O Come, O Come Emmanuel.**

Reader: This year 2020 has been an unprecedented one as our entire world is held captive by the COVID-19 pandemic and seeks to find answers to a lot of uncertainties. So much is wrong and so this Advent we cry more than ever.

Reader: The prophet Isaiah cried out for us, "*O that you would tear open the heavens and come down ... To make your name known ... so that nations might tremble at your presence.*" So tear through the mess, and make yourself known to us, and so we cry,

All: O Come, O Come Emmanuel.

Reader: We light this first candle as a sign of our hope.

(the first candle is lit)

Hope that God meets us, even in the mess of our world.

Hope that God still sees us, though we feel we are lost in the rubble.

Hope that healing is God's eternal plan.

Hope that God is the answer to all we need.

Let this light guide us to Emmanuel – God with us, as we cry,

All: O Come, O Come Emmanuel.

The Collect for Purity

Almighty God,

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 Collect for the Day

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 forever. Amen.

THE PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

The First Reading: Isaiah 64:1-9 (*Edith Kwamie*)

A Reading from the Book of Isaiah

O that you would tear open the heavens and come down, so that the mountains would quake at your presence - as when fire kindles brushwood and the fire causes water to boil - to make your name known to your adversaries, so that the nations might tremble at your presence! When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect, you came down, the mountains quaked at your presence. From ages past no one has heard, no ear has perceived, no eye has seen any God besides you, who works for those who wait for him. You meet those who gladly do right, those who remember you in your ways. But you were angry, and we sinned; because you hid yourself we transgressed. We have all become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous deeds are like a filthy cloth. We all fade like a leaf, and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away. There is no one who calls on your name, or attempts to take hold of you; for you have hidden your face from us, and have delivered us into the hand of our iniquity. Yet, O Lord, you are our Father; we are the clay, and you are our potter; we are all the work of your hand. Do not be exceedingly angry, O Lord, and do not remember iniquity forever. Now consider, we are all your people.

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Responsive Reading: Psalm 80:1-7, 16-18 (*Edith Kwamie*)

1. Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph like a flock; shine forth, you that are enthroned upon the cherubim.
2. **In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin, and Manasseh, stir up your strength and come to help us.**
3. Restore us, O God of hosts; show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.
4. **O Lord God of hosts, how long will you be angered despite the prayers of your people?**
5. You have fed them with the bread of tears; you have given them bowls of tears to drink.
6. **You have made us the derision of our neighbours, and our enemies laugh us to scorn.**
7. Restore us, O God of hosts; show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.
16. **Let your hand be upon the man of your right hand, the son of man you have made so strong for yourself.**
- 17 And so will we never turn away from you; give us life, that we may call upon your name.

18. Restore us, O Lord God of hosts; show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.

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.

The Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 1:3-9 (*David Elcock*)

A Reading from the First Letter of Paul to the Corinthians

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind - just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you - so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

The word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

Gradual Musical: Jesus Where'er Thy People Meet

The Holy Gospel: Mark 13:24-37 *Fr. Kenute*

The Lord be with you
And also with you

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark

Jesus said, "In those days, after that suffering, the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, and the stars will be falling from heaven, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken. Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in clouds' with great power and glory. Then he will send out the angels, and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven. From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away. But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the

Son, but only the Father. Beware, keep alert; for you do not know when the time will come. It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch. Therefore, keep awake - for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or at dawn, or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake."

The Gospel of Christ
Praise to you Lord, Jesus Christ

The Sermon: *Ianthe Alleyne*

The Nicene Creed

Let us confess our faith, as we say,

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 *(David Elcock)*

Come, Lord, come down, come in, come among us.
Enter into our darkness with your light.
Come fill our emptiness with your presence.
Dispel the clouds and reveal your glory
Come refresh, renew, restore us.
Come Lord, come down, come in, come among us. **Amen.**

Come, Lord, be known in your church,
for without you we have no message, we have no power.
Come fill us with your presence,
that we may proclaim your peace.
Lord, make us aware, alert to your coming,
that we may reveal your glory in all the world.
We pray for those that walk in darkness,
that they may see your light.
We remember those whose lives are clouded with troubles
and pray that they may behold your glory.
Lord, stir up your strength
and come among us.

Come, Lord, and give peace to your world.
Disperse the clouds of war and violence, of calamity and disaster.
Let your power and your glory be revealed to the nations.
We pray for all who watch and wait while we sleep:
for the police, hospital workers and ambulance workers,
for fire fighters, and for all who work in the dark hours of the night.
Lord, stir up your strength
and come among us.

Come, Lord, be known in our homes,
that our homes may reflect your love.
Come in our work places that they may reflect your glory;
that we may rejoice in each other's presence,
that we may be fully aware of others and sensitive to their needs.
Lord, stir up your strength
and come among us.

Come, Lord, to all who are unable to cope at this time;
to all who are weighed down with troubles.
We pray for the ill, especially the ill in our parish: Joyce Myers, Petrona Levy, Elmira Williams, Gilda Davis, Ruth Andrews, Don Krasnovich, Lucille Calder, Doraline Alexander, Helen and Mark Hancock, Gloria and Ancille Parsons, Pablo Velasquez, Barbara Gordon, Hyacinth Brooks, Mary Engels, Hermon Lobban, Wilton Holas, Len Green, Marcia Sealy, Gene and Sophia Goodman, and Jeffrey Legair. We pray for those who have the care for them.

We remember those whose lives are clouded with despair.
We pray for the depressed and the suicidal.
We remember friends and loved ones in their troubles.
Lord, stir up your strength
and come among us.

Come, Lord of our salvation, save us and we shall be saved.
We pray for friends and loved ones departed. May they now rejoice in the
fullness of your presence and your glory.
Lord, stir up your strength
and come among us.

The Confession and Absolution

Dear friends in Christ, God is steadfast in love and infinite in mercy; he welcomes sinners
and invites them to his table. Let us confess our sins, confident in God's forgiveness.

Most merciful God,
**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.**

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

The peace of the Lord be always with you.
And also with you.

Offertory Instrumental: Hail to the Lord's Anointed

The 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.**

The Lord's Prayer

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

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, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

The Doxology

Glory to God,

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.

The Blessing

Watch out! Be alert! Christ comes when you least expect it.

In the beggar on the street,

In the loved one at our table,

In the stranger in our pew,

In the refugee on our shores,

In the hour of birth.

In the hour of death.

With judgement and mercy, Christ comes.

Watch out! Be alert!

May the blessing of God almighty

Father, Son and Holy Spirit, be with you now and always.

Amen.

Announcements

The Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Recessional Instrumental: Lo He Comes with Cloud Descending

Postlude: Shine Jesus Shine

New Regulations for Places of Worship

Due to the spike in COVID-19 cases we will not be offering in-person worship until the province lifts the restrictions that came into effect on Monday November 23 at 12:01 am. While all in-person services are currently suspended please join us for worship online every Sunday at 10:30 am.

ACTIVITIES THIS WEEK

Sunday (Nov 29th) - 12 noon

*Kids for Jesus (K4J) online Sunday
School on You Tube, Facebook and the website*

Tues. & Thurs. (Dec 1st & 3rd)

Noon Day "Bite & Sip" on Facebook

Advent /Christmas Schedule

Dec. 20, 8:30am & 10:30am - *Christmas Lessons & Carols*

Dec. 24, 4:30pm - *Kids for Jesus (K4J) online Sunday school (you tube/facebook page/website)*

Dec. 24, 7:30pm & 10pm - *Christmas Services*

Dec. 25, 10:30am - *Christmas Day Service.*

NOTICES

*During the four Sundays of Advent we are asking for donations of **scarfs, hats, socks, mittens, gloves and masks of different sizes.** These are for the less fortunate etc. There will be boxes on the sanctuary steps marked for these items. Thanks for your consideration and support.*

• **2021 Church Calendars** Ask Oscar Lewis and Sonia Wickham. Price - \$5.00.

• **Stewardship**

We are grateful for the support the church receives from all of you through your weekly giving of your time, talent and treasure. We celebrate your faithfulness.

*The church has set up **Pre-Authorized Remittance (PAR)** as a way for parishioners to continue to give. An amount that is decided by you will be taken from your Bank account monthly and will be remitted to the church. It works the same as your envelopes. Tax receipts will be given as usual. Please contact Richard Morris for forms.*

Readings for Next Sunday, December 6 – The Second Sunday of Advent

Isaiah 40:1-11

Psalms 85:1-2, 8-13

2 Peter 3:8-15A

Mark 1:1-8

MISSION STATEMENT

The purpose of St. Hilda's Church is to be Christ-centered in our life and worship, to serve lovingly those within our family and others within our reach that the spirit of God might empower us for worship, service, education, stewardship, evangelism, and pastoral care.