

**St. John's Anglican Church, Ida
First Sunday of Advent
November 29, 2020**

Service of Holy Communion

*Look up and raise your heads, because your redemption
is drawing near. Luke 21: 28*

**Opening: CP114 – Lo, He Comes
Lo, he comes with clouds descending,
once for favoured sinners slain;
thousand thousand saints attending
swell the triumph of his train:
hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah!
God appears on earth to reign.**

**Every eye shall now behold him,
robed in dreadful majesty;
all who set at nought and sold him,
pierced, and nailed him to the tree,
deeply grieving, deeply grieving, deeply grieving,
shall the true Messiah see.**

**Now redemption, long expected,
see in solemn pomp appear;
all his saints, on earth rejected,
thrill the trumpet sound to hear:
hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah!!
See the day of God appear!**

**Yea, amen, let all adore thee,
high on thine eternal throne;
Saviour, take the power and glory;
claim the kingdom for thine own:
O come quickly! O come quickly! O come quickly! Hallelujah!
Come, Lord, come!**

**The Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God,
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with you all.
And also with you.**

**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.**

**Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to his people on earth.**

**Lord God, heavenly king, almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.**

**Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:
receive our prayer.**

**For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

**Lord, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.**

The Collect of 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 for ever. Amen.**

The Word

The First Reading: Isaiah 64: 1-9

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 80: 1-7, 16-18

Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph like a flock; shine forth, you that are enthroned upon the cherubim.

In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin, and Manesseh, stir up your strength and come to help us.

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

O Lord God of hosts, how long will you be angered despite the prayers of your people?

**You have fed them with the bread of tears;
you have given them bowls of tears to drink.**

**You have made us the derision of our neighbours,
and our enemies laugh us to scorn.**

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

**Let your hand be upon the man of your right hand,
the son of man you have made so strong for yourself.**

**And so will we never turn away from you;
give us life, that we may call upon your name.**

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

Psalm Prayer

Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ, our good shepherd; you have led us to the kingdom of your Father's love. Forgive our careless indifference to your loving care for all your creatures, and remake us in the likeness of your new and risen life. We ask this in your name. Amen.

The Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 1: 3-9

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.

Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Mark 13: 24-37

The Gospel of Christ.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Children's Focus – Ted

Today is the First Sunday of Advent.

Today is the Sunday of Hope.

Isaiah 9: 2 and 7: 14

The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of deep darkness a light has dawned.

Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign: the virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and will call him Immanuel.

Reader: Our hope is in God, and in his Son Jesus Christ. Jesus is the one appointed by God to be judge over all things. He is the

one through whom God has promised to save and redeem his people.

Reader: We light this candle today to remind us that Jesus is our hope – and the hope of the world. We thank God for the promises he has made to us and for the light he has brought into the world.

Light the First Candle

Let us pray.

O God of Hope, Emmanuel, we pray that you will send your light into our hearts during this season of Advent. Help us to be ready for the day and the hour of Christ's final appearing. Live in us and help us to live in you. By the power of the Holy Spirit, transform us so that our worship, our celebration, and our time of preparation may be pleasing unto you – both now and forevermore. Amen.

Light One Candle

Light one candle for hope, one bright candle for hope.

He brings hope to ev'ry heart,

He comes! He comes!

He brings hope to ev'ry heart,

He comes! He comes!

Hymn: In Christ Alone

In Christ alone my hope is found.

He is my light, my strength, my song.

This Cornerstone, this solid Ground,
firm through the fiercest drought and storm.

What heights of love, what depths of peace,
when fears are stilled when strivings cease.

My Comforter, my All in All,
here in the love of Christ I stand.

In Christ alone, who took on flesh,
fullness of God in helpless babe!

This gift of love and righteousness,
scorned by the ones He came to save.

Till on that cross as Jesus died,

the wrath of God was satisfied.
For ev'ry sin on Him was laid.
Here in the death of Christ I live.
There in the ground His body lay,
Light of the world by darkness slain.
Then, bursting forth in glorious Day,
up from the grave He rose again!
And as He stands in victory,
sin's curse has lost its grip on me.
For I am His and He is mine,
bought with the precious Blood of Christ.

No guilt in life, no fear in death,
this is the pow'r of Christ in me.
From life's first cry to final breath,
Jesus commands my destiny.
No pow'r of hell, no scheme of man,
can ever pluck me from His hand.
Till He returns or calls me home,
here in the pow'r of Christ I'll stand!

The Sermon: – Rev. Peter

The Apostles' Creed

Let us confess the faith of our baptism, as we say:
**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.
The Prayers of the People**

We pray for the World, the Church and Ourselves.

The response to the Intercessions will be:

Lord in your mercy.

Hear our prayer.

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.

The offering plate will not be passed during the service but will be available on the table at the back of the church for those who wish to give their offering in this way. We are grateful for the number of people who, in these past months, have used electronic means of contributing (PAG, the website, electronic transfers) to the ministry of St. John's, Ida.

Offertory Prayer

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.

All who are baptized in any Christian Church are welcome to receive the bread. If you prefer to receive a blessing, please indicate this by crossing your arms over your chest.

We stand throughout the Eucharistic prayer as a joyful sign that we have been raised to the new life in Christ.

The Celebration of the Eucharist (3)

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Blessed are you, gracious God, creator of heaven and earth; we give you thanks and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord, who in the fullness of time came among us in our flesh, and opened to us the way of salvation.

Now we watch for the day when he will come again in power and great triumph to judge this world,

that we, without shame or fear,
may rejoice to behold his appearing.
Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with angels and
archangels and with all the company of heaven,
who for ever sing this hymn
to proclaim the glory of your name.

**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.**

We give thanks to you, Lord our God,
for the goodness and love you have made known to us
in creation; in calling Israel to be your people;
in your Word spoken through the prophets;
and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus your Son.
For in these last days you sent him
to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary,
to be the Saviour and Redeemer of the world.
In him, you have delivered us from evil,
and made us worthy to stand before you.
In him, you have brought us out of error into truth,
out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death,
a death he freely accepted, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread;
and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it,
and gave it to his disciples, and said, " Take, eat:
this is my body which is given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me."
After supper he took the cup of wine;
and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them,
and said, "Drink this, all of you: this is my blood
of the new covenant, which is shed for you
and for many for the forgiveness of sins.
Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, Father, according to his command,

**we remember his death,
we proclaim his resurrection,
we await his coming in glory;**

and we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving
to you, Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation,
this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these
gifts, that they may be the sacrament

of the body of Christ and his blood of the new covenant.

Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we,

made acceptable in him, may be sanctified by the Holy Spirit.

In the fullness of time, reconcile all things in Christ,
and make them new, and bring us to that city of light
where you dwell with all your sons and daughters;
through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation,
the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation;
by whom, and with whom, and in whom,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory are yours,
almighty Father, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer: *As our Saviour taught us, let us pray:*

**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.**

The 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 gifts of God for the People of God.
Thanks be to God.

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world,
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world,
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world,
grant us peace.**

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.

Please stand.

**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 Christ Jesus, for ever and ever. Amen.**

The Blessing

Christ the Sun of Righteousness shine upon you, scatter the
darkness from before your path, and make you ready to meet him
when he comes in glory; and the blessing of God almighty, the
Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you
and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Closing: Days of Elijah

These are the days of Elijah,
declaring the Word of the Lord;
and these are the days of Your servant, Moses,
righteousness being restored;
and though these are days of great trials,
of famine and darkness and sword;
still we are the voice in the desert crying,

“Prepare ye the way of the Lord.”

*Behold he comes, riding on the clouds,
shining like the sun at the trumpet call;
lift your voice, it's the year of Jubilee
and out of Zion's hill salvation comes.*

And these are the days of Ezekiel,
the dry bones becoming as flesh,
and these are the days of Your servant, David,
rebuilding a temple of praise;
and these are the days of the harvest,
the fields are as white in the world;
and we are the labourers in Your vineyard,
declaring the Word of the Lord.

*Behold he comes, riding on the clouds,
shining like the sun at the trumpet call;
lift your voice, it's the year of Jubilee
and out of Zion's hill salvation comes.*

There is no god like Jehovah, there is no god like Jehovah,
there is no god like Jehovah, there is no god like Jehovah.

There is no god like Jehovah, there is no god like Jehovah,
there is no god like Jehovah, there is no god like Jehovah.

*Behold he comes, riding on the clouds,
shining like the sun at the trumpet call;
lift your voice, it's the year of Jubilee
and out of Zion's hill salvation comes.*

*Behold he comes, riding on the clouds,
shining like the sun at the trumpet call;
lift your voice, it's the year of Jubilee
and out of Zion's hill salvation comes.*

*Lift your voice, it's the year of Jubilee
and out of Zion's hill salvation comes.*

Go forth into the world,

rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.

Thanks be to God.

Organ: Sylvia

Piano: Linda

Reader: Sharon

Prayers: Don

Vocals: Marcia, Cathy, Kelly, Danielle

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Haiti (A project of PWRDF)

Voices of Hope

Haitian people tend to associate the COVID-19 pandemic with politics due to mistrust of their government. As a result, people hide their illnesses and don't seek treatment in hospitals.

Organized crime has left people in poorer neighbourhoods living in a state of fear, particularly those most vulnerable, pregnant women, children, disabled people, the elderly and the ailing. These conditions are compounded by the lack of adequate supplies to treat COVID-19 and most hospitals have closed.

Bénicie Pierre, CEO of the Saint-Laurent Healthcare Centre of Barbe, planned to close the Centre because of insufficient rooms and the lack of masks and medication but recognized that this would put pregnant women and sick babies at risk. When local NGO Rayjon Share Care Haiti (with Canadian office in Sarnia, Ont.), learned of the centre's plight, it started looking for funding partners to help it stay open. PWRDF supported Rayjon Share Care Haiti (RSCH) with a grant of \$10,000 to educate people about COVID-19, encourage them to wear masks to protect them from being infected, and to find more rooms to receive the patients and appropriate medication.