



## ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

460 McBride Street, Prince Rupert, B.C

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Pastor: Diana Edis      Home: 250 622-2725      Cell: 778-884-6864

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3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent      December 12, 2021

Worship 11:00 AM

Minister: Rev. Diana Edis      Musician: Sheila Seidemann

Videographer: Herman Seidemann      Reader

Worship is live streamed on our Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/princerupertlutheran/>. You do not need a Facebook account to access worship.

*Welcome to St. Paul's Lutheran Church. Christ's presence in our midst in the wonder of the holy supper is cause for singing. The nearness of the God in prayer, in every circumstance, is cause for rejoicing. The coming of one "more powerful" than John, even with a winnowing fork in hand, is good news – and cause for exultation – for us who are being saved. Great joy is the tone for the third Sunday of Advent.*

### Weekly Prayer Petitions

**Local:** Native Revival Pentecostal, Pastor Charlie Carlick

**Synod:** Chetwynd Shared Ministry in Chetwynd, Christ Lutheran in Chilliwack – Rev. Dean Andersen

**Anglican/Lutheran Joint Prayers:** ACC: General Secretary and staff, Reconciliation Animator

**ELCIC:** Asst. to the National Bishop, Communications and Resource Generation, and staff, Director of Finance and Administration and staff.

### Discipleship Opportunities

1. We are still in need of people willing to invest in two young families and the Trinity House that we have adopted for Christmas through our Jesse Tree. If you have committed to acquiring gifts for the individual children or families please have them to the church by Sunday afternoon, December 12 so they can get to the families who need them. If you would like to assist but cannot go shopping let us know and provide funds so that we can purchase things on your behalf.

2. The Pastor is Public at Javadotcup Wednesdays from 9:30 - 11:30AM. We will be in-person and on Zoom for those who aren't able to join in person. You can Zoom by clicking the link below or by typing:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87222984486?pwd=OHFicWZySkR1dHNpekIqMzU4RlJWUT09>

Meeting ID: 872 2298 4486

Password: 263906

3. Our final Advent worship takes place this Wednesday at 7:00 PM. We have been traveling around the province virtually, attending different sanctuaries and homes for our worship. This week Pastor Aneeta Saroop, who grew up in Prince Rupert, will lead our worship. Worship is at 7:00 PM by Facebook Live and Zoom. The Zoom link is: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86760996355>. The meeting ID is 86760996355, there is no need for a password. Or you may join online at <http://www.oursaviourslutheran.ca/>.

4. A Congregational Meeting will be held by Zoom December 19<sup>th</sup> after worship. The meeting is to discuss and approve the 2022 budget which will be distributed by mail and email. Members, non-members, and guests may attend. Zoom link is: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88909692977?pwd=aEw2d0YzSIRaT0dnNWJEUzI6K2xSdz09>  
Meeting ID: 889 0969 2977                      Passcode: 170343

6. Our Christmas worship schedule is as follows:

Final Wednesday evening Advent service - December 15, 7:00 PM

4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Advent - December 19, 11:00 AM

Christmas Eve Worship - December 24, 7:00 PM

Quiet Christmas Day Worship - December 25, 12:00 noon

1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Christmas - December 26,

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\* Our Bible readings are taken from the New Revised Standard Version, covered under AF license number SB157842.

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## Announcements

### Prelude

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

**And also with you.**

In the beginning was the Word,

**and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.**

In the Word was life,

**and the life was the light of all people.**

The Word became flesh and lived among us,

**and we have seen his glory, full of grace and truth.**

## Gathering Hymn

### *Surely God is My Salvation*

No. ACS 926



1 Sure - ly God is my sal - va - tion,  
2 Thus with joy you shall draw wa - ter  
3 Tell the na - tions of God's glo - ry,



I will trust and shall not fear. God the Lord is  
from sal - va - tion's wells and springs. Sing your thanks to  
make this known in all the earth. Praise the Lord, the



strong and might - y, my sal - va - tion true.  
God Al - might - y for these won - drous deeds.  
God of Is - rael, call up - on God's name.

\*\*\*Refrain on next page\*\*

*Refrain*

Shout a-loud and sing for joy, O daugh-ter Zi - on!

Sing ho-san - na!

Great in your midst is the Lord, the Ho - ly One!

Shout a-loud and sing for joy, O daugh-ter Zi - on!

Great in your midst is the Lord, the Ho - ly One!

Text: Zebulon M. Highben, b. 1979, based on Isaiah 12:2-6  
 Music: YISREAL V'ORAITA, Hasidic melody  
 Text © 2009 Augsburg Fortress

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L: Let us pray together our Prayer of the Day.

**Stir up the wills of your faithful people, Lord God, and open our ears to the preaching of John, that, rejoicing in your salvation, we may bring forth the fruits of repentance; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

*Lighting of the Advent wreath*

Blessed are you, God of might and majesty, for you promise to make the desert rejoice and blossom, to watch over the strangers, and to set the prisoners free. As we light these candles, satisfy our hunger with your good gifts, open our eyes to the great things you have done for us, and fill us with joy until the coming of the Lord Jesus. O ransomed people of the Lord, come,

**let us travel on God's holy way and enter into Zion with singing. Amen.**

*We sing this hymn to the tune of "Infant Holy, Infant Lowly"*

3. Candles glowing, promise showing joy that fills our very soul.  
 Grace abounding, hymns resounding, Christ restores and makes us whole.  
 Mercies gleaming, wonders beaming, justice streaming, Christ redeeming –  
 Christ restores and makes us whole! Christ restores and makes us whole!

(Tune: W Żłobie Leży, a Polish folk melody, Lyrics by Rev. Elana Keppel Levy, 2021, *with permission*)

Our first reading is from Zephaniah beginning at the 3<sup>rd</sup> chapter

3:14-20

Sing aloud, O daughter Zion; shout, O Israel! Rejoice and exult with all your heart, O daughter Jerusalem! The LORD has taken away the judgments against you, he has turned away your enemies. The king of Israel, the LORD, is in your midst; you shall fear disaster no more. On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem: Do not fear, O Zion; do not let your hands grow weak. The LORD, your God, is in your midst, a warrior who gives victory; he will rejoice over you with gladness, he will renew you in his love; he will exult over you with loud singing as on a day of festival. I will remove disaster from you, so that you will not bear reproach for it. I will deal with all your oppressors at that time. And I will save the lame and gather the outcast, and I will change their shame into praise and renown in all the earth. At that time I will bring you home, at the time when I gather you; for I will make you renowned and praised among all the peoples of the earth, when I restore your fortunes before your eyes, says the LORD.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

We read Psalm: Isaiah 12:2-6 responsively: (*leader reads the light print, congregation reads the bold*)

Surely God is my salvation; I will trust, and will not be afraid,  
for the LORD GOD is my strength and my might, and has become my salvation.

**With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation.**

And you will say in that day: Give thanks to the LORD, call on God's name;  
make known the deeds of the LORD among the nations; proclaim that this name is exalted.

**Sing praises to the LORD, for he has done gloriously; let this be known in all the earth.**

Shout aloud and sing for joy, O royal Zion, for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.

Our second reading is from Philippians beginning at the 4<sup>th</sup> chapter

4:4-7

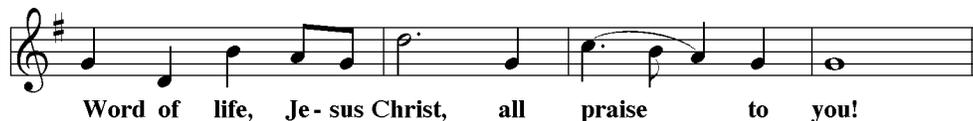
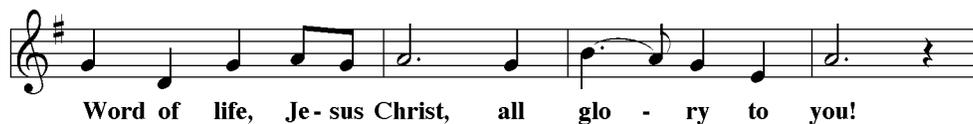
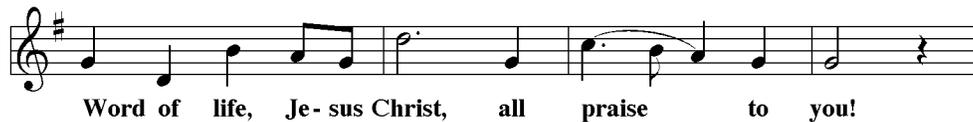
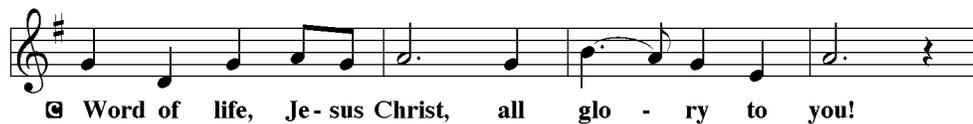
Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Acclamation

WOV 48



The holy gospel according to Luke, beginning at the 3<sup>rd</sup> chapter

3:7-18

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

John said to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruits worthy of repentance. Do not begin 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."

And the crowds asked him, "What then should we do?" In reply he said to them, "Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise." Even tax collectors came to be baptized, and they asked him, "Teacher, what should we do?" He said to them, "Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you." Soldiers also asked him, "And we, what should we do?" He said to them, "Do not

extort money from anyone by threats or false accusation, and be satisfied with your wages.”

As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, John answered all of them by saying, “I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.” So, with many other exhortations, he proclaimed the good news to the people.

The gospel of the Lord

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon

Rev. Diana Edis

Hymn of the Day

*Awake! Awake, and Greet the New Morn*

No. 242



1 A - wake! A - wake, and greet the new morn, for  
2 To us, to all in sor - row and fear, Em -  
3 In dark - est night his com - ing shall be, when  
4 Re - joice, re - joice, take heart in the night, though



an - gels her - ald its dawn - ing, Sing out your joy, for  
man - u - el comes a - sing - ing, his hum - ble song is  
all the world is de - spair - ing, as morn - ing light so  
dark the win - ter and cheer - less, the ris - ing sun shall



soon he is born, be - hold! the Child of our long - ing.  
qui - et and near, yet fills the earth with its ring - ing;  
qui - et and free, so warm and gen - tle and car - ing.  
crown you with light, be strong and lov - ing and fear - less.



Come as a ba - by weak and poor, to bring all hearts to -  
mu - sic to heal the bro - ken soul and hymns of lov - ing -  
Then shall the mute break forth in song, the lame shall leap in  
Love be our song and love our prayer and love our end - less



geth - er, he o - pens wide the heav'n - ly door and  
kind - ness, the thun - der of his an - thems roll to  
won - der, the weak be raised a - bove the strong, and  
sto - ry; may God fill ev - 'ry day we share and



lives now in - side us for - ev - er.  
shat - ter all ha - tred and blind - ness.  
weap - ons be bro - ken a - sun - der.  
bring us at last in - to glo - ry.

Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950  
Music: REJOICE, REJOICE, Marty Haugen  
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In Christ, you have heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation.

**We believe in him and are marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit.**

Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, 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, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come 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**

Build yourselves up on your most holy faith;

**pray in the Holy Spirit.**

Keep yourselves in the love of God;

**look forward to the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ.**

If anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation:

**Everything old has passed away; behold, everything has become new!**

God has given us the ministry of reconciliation.

Therefore, let us be reconciled to God and to one another.

*Silence for reflection and self examination.*

Gracious God,

**have mercy on us. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone. Uphold us by your Spirit so that we may live and serve you in newness of life, to the honor and glory of your holy name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life.

**Amen**

Sisters and brothers, rejoice. Mend your ways, encourage one another, agree with one another, live in peace.

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**And also with you.**

*Offerings may be mailed to the church or placed in our locked mailbox.*

*In Canada you may send e-transfers to [offering2stpauls@citywest.ca](mailto:offering2stpauls@citywest.ca).*

*You may also give electronically through CanadaHelps at St. Paul's Lutheran, Prince Rupert or by using the "Donate" button on our church website.*

Let us pray,

God of our waiting and watching, we offer the gifts of our hearts and our lives to the service of all your people. Prepare the way before us as we meet you in this simple meal, through Christ Jesus, our pathway and our peace. **Amen.**

*Prayers of Intercession: (petition response: L: Hear us, O God,*

**C: Your mercy is great.)**

L: Gathered into one across time and space by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us, using whatever version of that prayer comforts you. We 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 forever. Amen.

The God of hope fill us with all joy and peace in believing, so that we may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit, through Christ Jesus for whom we wait.  
 Amen.

Sending Hymn

*People, Look East*

No. 248

1 Peo - ple, look east. The time is near of the crown - ing  
 2 Fur - rows, be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is  
 3 Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim, one more light the  
 4 An - gels an - nounce with shouts of mirth him who brings new

of the year. Make your house fair as you are a - ble,  
 plant - ed there. Give up your strength the seed to nour - ish,  
 bowl shall brim, shin - ing be - yond the frost - y weath - er,  
 life to earth. Set ev - 'ry peak and val - ley hum - ming

trim the hearth and set the ta - ble. Peo - ple, look  
 that in course the flow'r may flour - ish. Peo - ple, look  
 bright as sun and moon to - geth - er. Peo - ple, look  
 with the word, the Lord is com - ing. Peo - ple, look

east, and sing to - day— Love, the Guest, is on the way.  
 east, and sing to - day— Love, the Rose, is on the way.  
 east, and sing to - day— Love, the Star, is on the way.  
 east, and sing to - day— Love, the Lord, is on the way.

Text: Eleanor Farjeon, 1881–1965  
Music: BESANÇON, French carol; arr. Barry Rose, b. 1934  
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Go in peace. Christ is near.  
**Thanks be to God.**