



THE ANGLICAN PARISH OF RICHMOND

The First Sunday of Advent, Year B
November 29, 2020



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We acknowledge that the land on which we gather is the traditional unceded territory of the Wolastoqiyik (Maliseet) and Mi'kmaq Peoples.

Opening Sentence

Look up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.
Luke 21.28

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.**

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.**

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.**

ADVENT CANDEL LIGHTING PRAYERS*

VOICE Look up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near. *Luke 21.28*

ALL **O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel that mourns in lonely exile here, until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.**

VOICE Today is the first Sunday of Advent, the Sunday in which we recall the hope we have in Christ.

ALL **The prophets of Israel all spoke of the coming of Christ, of how a Saviour would be born, a King in the line of David. They spoke of how he would rule the world wisely and bless all nations.**

VOICE On Christmas day the Christ of our hope was born. On Good Friday the Christ of our hope died. On Easter Day the Christ of our hope rose from the dead. He then ascended into heaven. On the last day, the Christ of our hope will come again to establish his kingdom over all things on earth.

ALL **As the follower of Christ, we await his return. We light this candle to remember that as he humbly came to us in the manger at Bethlehem and gave light to the world, so he is coming again in power to deliver his people.**

VOICE We light this candle to remind us to be alert and to watch for his return.

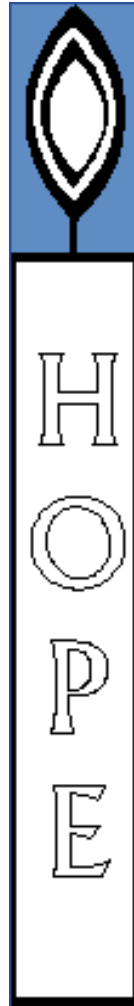
Light the First Candle - "The Candle of Hope"

ADVENT SONG

A Candle is burning, a flame warm and bright,
 A candle of hope in December's dark night.
 While angels sing blessing
 from heaven's starry sky,
 Our hearts we prepare now for Jesus is nigh.

*Words: "A Candle is Burning" is by Sandra Dean, 1986.
 Music: "Away In A Manger" by James Murray 1887.*

VOICE Loving Father, we thank you for the hope you give us. Help us prepare our hearts for the Lord's coming that we may live holy and righteous lives. We ask it in the name of the one born in Bethlehem. **Amen.**



• May **Mothers' Union pray for you?** Each church has an MU-box for prayer requests this is confidential - daily these concerns will be lifted up to God.



• **The Salvation Army, Christmas Kettle** will Kick-Off on...Nov 26 at Atlantic Superstore. The kettles will be located in four locations for your convenience at Atlantic Superstore, Canadian Tire, NBLC, and Wal*Mart. The specific days would be Nov 26-28, 30, Dec 1-5,7-12 from 10 to 6 pm and Dec 14-19,21-24 from 10 am. to 8 pm. If you can lend a hand. Please call the Salvation Army as soon as possible at 328-8276.



• From our landlocked parish to the world! The blue boxes are ready and waiting to be filled with gifts for the **Seafarers' Mission in Saint John** to deliver to the ships at the port over the holidays. Gifts could be hats, gloves, toiletries, game books, Canadian souvenirs, scarves, individually wraps candies, gum, hand lotion, lip balm, dental floss, toothbrush, toothpaste, socks, hats... The blue boxes in the church buildings will be delivered to The Mission in Saint John during the week following services on Sunday, Nov 29, 2020. Worldwide there are over 1.5 million seafarers who are risking their lives every day to support our global economy & prosperity; pray for them. Last year, during the Christmas season, the Seafarers' Mission in Saint John was able to give gifts to 213 seafarers on 10 ships. Support the physical & mental health of Seafarers as they endure danger & isolation each day.



Latest Vestry Meeting Highlights

- The Parish is still seeking a **Treasurer and a Vestry Clerk.**
- **Sunday School** continues and they are enjoying the new Curriculum.
- **PWRDF 'World of Gifts' catalogue** has some items that are matched 6:1 by the Government of Canada. Each gift of \$1.00 turns into \$7.00. Want to watch your money grow? Invest in one of these worthwhile projects.
- The **foundation work on St Mark's** is scheduled to start before the end of November.
- Holy Trinity had some electrical work completed. Now both the East & West window are lighted.
- Next **vestry meeting** is Dec 10 at 7 PM at the Parish Centre.

Melba, Melissa, Nadine, Pauline, Peggy, Peter, Robert, Russel, Steven and I ask you to add aloud or in silence the names of those on your hearts and minds _____ (*allow a few moments silence*). Restore us, O God of hosts...

Show us the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.

Reader: Benevolent God, we give thanks for the grace and peace that come from you, and we offering our special gratitude for volunteers... everywhere, especial the United Nations Volunteers programme which contributes to peace and development through volunteerism worldwide. Restore us, O God of hosts...

Show us the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.

Reader: Eternal God, may your angels gather your beloved into the day of your triumph as we remember those who have died, especially... those who have died from Covid 19 and _____ (*add the name of any who have died in the past week, if any.*) Restore us, O God of hosts...

Show us the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.

Layreader: *Holy God, no one has heard, no ear has perceived, no eye has seen any God besides you, you are the potter and we are the clay, the work of your hand: Shine forth upon your creation, stir up your strength, and come to help us, as we put our trust in you, through our Saviour Jesus Christ, in the power of your Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.*

Prayers of the people adapted from those written by the Rev. Lowell Grisham, rector of St. Paul's Episcopal Church Fayetteville, AR

BULLETIN BOARD

- **Bulletin.** If you wish to add or change things in the bulletin, please email the Rector, prior to end of day, Wednesday at frrodblack@gmail.com
- **Food Bank** deliveries: (23 Nov) St John's; (30 Nov) St Mark's; (14 Dec) Holy Trinity
- Find this week's **Diocesan e-News** at <http://anglican.nb.ca/wp/enews/>. Find **Diocesan forth coming events** at <http://anglican.nb.ca/wp/enews/upcoming-events/>



•Who may receive Communion? All baptized followers of Jesus, who receive communion in their own tradition are most welcomed to come forward and share with us in the body and blood of Christ through the elements of bread and wine.

READINGS

Old Testament Reading: *Isaiah 64:1-9*

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.

Psalm 80:1-7,17-19 *Qui regis Israel*

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 Manasseh, *

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 one at your side in honour, *

the one 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.**

Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ, our good shepherd; you have led us to the kingdom of your Father's love. Forgive our carelessness... 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.

Epistle: *1 Corinthians 1:3-9*

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 Gospel: *Mark 13:24-37*

"But 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."

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

The First Sunday of Advent, Year 'B'

Layreader: *Faithful God, stir up your strength and come to help us as we look for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ; hear our prayers and strengthen us to the end as we pray, our response will be: Restore us, O God of hosts...*

Show us the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.

Reader: Loving God, we give thanks to you, for the grace you have given to us in Christ Jesus: Enrich your Church in speech and knowledge of every kind that she may not be lacking in any spiritual gift and may be awake, alert and blameless. In the Church, we pray for: Jorge & the Lusitanian Church (Extra-Provincial to the Archbishop of Canterbury); Linda & the Anglican Church of Canada; Melissa & the Ecclesiastical Province of British Columbia and Yukon; Matthias & our Companion Diocese of Ho; Lesley & our Link Diocese of Yukon; David, our archbishop, Claude, William and George, retired bishops & the Diocese of Fredericton; the Parish of Richmond & all who minister here; Julian, Wendy, Karman, Valerie, Rufus & the Parish of Riverview; and Natalie Noseworthy. Restore us, O God of hosts...

Show us the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.

Reader: Almighty God, may your name be known, that the nations might tremble at your presence: Gather the elect from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven, that all humanity may know that we are the work of your hand and the sheep of your flock. In the World, we pray for: Canada and Syria, Afghanistan, Central African Republic, Democratic Republic of Congo, China, Hong Kong, Lebanon, Myanmar, South Sudan, Mexico, Somalia, Turkey, United States and wherever there is war and unrest, and the spreading of the Covid-19 Virus. Restore us, O God of hosts...

Show us the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.

Reader: Shepherd of your people, come among us with great power and glory, shine forth and give to all the earth the light of your presence. Restore us, O God of hosts...

Show us the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.

Reader: Father God, be near to this community, at our very gates and within our hearts, and do not hide your face from us, that we may know your glory in the evening and at midnight and at cockcrow and at dawn, and not be found asleep at the day of your coming. In our Faith Community, we pray for all those celebrating birthdays and anniversaries this week: Birthdays: Gail Lewis, Lewis. Restore us, O God of hosts...

Show us the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.

Reader: Compassionate God, open the heavens and come down with your healing grace for those for whom we pray, especially those infected with the Covid-19 virus, and for Barbara, Billie, Carolyn, Cathy, Cole, Connie, Danielle, Doreen, Frankie, Freda, Gary, Glenn, Graeme, Helen, Jack, James, Jean, Jason, Jeremy, Joanne, John, Katherine, Kevin, Lawrence, Linda, Marg, May Izabella, Meghan...