

Second Sunday of Advent
Commemoration of Nicholas, Bishop of Myra
8 December 2024

HIGHWOOD LUTHERAN CHURCH
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Meeting ID: 411 134 0591 # Passcode: 592794 #



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+ **HOLY COMMUNION – SETTING FIVE** +

**ORGAN PRELUDE** "Comfort, Comfort Ye My People " arr. G. Boehm

**LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE**

The word of God came to John, son of Zechariah, in the wilderness. He went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah, The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight. Every valley shall be filled, and every mountain and hill shall be made low, and the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough ways made smooth; and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.' (Luke 3:2b-6)

**HYMN** Saviour of the Nations Come (verse 1 - 3) **No. 263**

**ADVENT CONFESSON AND FORGIVENESS**

P In the name of the Father, the + Son, and the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

P The Lord of Advent tells us to be watchful for his coming, keeping our lamps lighted and our hearts clean. Therefore, let us confess to the Lord.

*Silence for reflection.*

P God and Father of all:

**C We prepare our hearts for the coming of your Son, confessing our sins, confessing our attraction to a godless world that does not know Christ. Forgive our sins, cleanse our hearts, and keep us faithful for the promised coming of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

P God sent his Son, the Babe of Bethlehem, to show his infinite love and forgiveness for all. Your sins are forgiven in the holy name of + Christ, who came and will come again.

**C Amen.**

**GATHERING HYMN** Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus **No. 254**

**APOSTOLIC GREETING**

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**ADVENT KYRIE**

A O Lord, have mercy and come to us.

**C Come, Lord Jesus.**

A O Wisdom, proceeding from the mouth of the Most High, pervading and permeating all creation:

**C Come and teach us the way of prudence.**

A O Adonai and Ruler of the house of Israel, who appeared to Moses in the burning bush and gave him the Law on Sinai:

**C Come with an outstretched arm and redeem us.**

A O Root of Jesse, standing as a sign before the peoples, before whom all kings are mute, to whom the nations will do homage:

**C Come quickly to deliver us.**

A O Emmanuel, our King and our Lawgiver, the anointed of the nations and their Saviour:

**C Come and save us, O Lord our God.**

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Pg. 159

P We pray. Stir up your power, Lord Christ, Lord God, to prepare the way of your only Son. By his coming give to all the people of the world knowledge of your salvation; through Jesus Christ,

our Saviour and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C Amen.**

*Please be seated.*

## THE PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

### FIRST LESSON **Malachi 3:1-4**

See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple. The messenger of the covenant in whom you delight—indeed, he is coming, says the Lord of hosts. But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears?

For he is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap; he will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the descendants of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, until they present offerings to the Lord in righteousness. Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the Lord as in the days of old and as in former years.

A The word of the Lord.

**C Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM** Blessed Be the God of Israel (Song of Zechariah) **No. 250**

### SECOND LESSON **Philippians 1:3-11**

I thank my God every time I remember you, constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now. I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ.

It is right for me to think this way about all of you, because you hold me in your heart, for all of you share in God's grace with me, both in my imprisonment and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel. For God is my witness, how I long for all of you with the compassion of Christ Jesus.

And this is my prayer, that your love may overflow more and more with knowledge and full insight to help you to determine what is best, so that in the day of Christ you may be pure and blameless, 11 having produced the harvest of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ for the glory and praise of God.

A The word of the Lord.

**C Thanks be to God.**

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

Pg. 160

*Please stand as you are able.*

**THE HOLY GOSPEL Luke 3:1-6**

**C Glory to you, O Lord**

In the fifteenth year of the reign of Emperor Tiberius, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was ruler of Galilee, and his brother Philip ruler of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias ruler of Abilene, during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. He went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah, "The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: "Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight. Every valley shall be filled, and every mountain and hill shall be made low, and the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough ways made smooth; and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.'"

P The gospel of the Lord.

**C Praise to you, O Christ.**

*Please be seated.*

**SERMON**

**HYMN OF THE DAY** On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry **No. 249**

**THE APOSTLES CREED** Inside Front Cover and Pg 105

**THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE** *Please stand as you are able.*

The response to "Hear us, O God." is "**Your mercy is great.**"

A As we await the coming of Christ, we pray in hope for the church, the world, and all of creation.

*A brief silence.*

A Prepare your church to share the good news, life-giving God. Put your word within us and dwell among us. Send us out to proclaim the mercy and salvation that abides in richness. Hear us, O God.

**C Your mercy is great.**

A Protect the creation, life-giving God. Sustain the mountains and hills. Restore the rivers. Give us wisdom and compassion to care for wilderness areas and urban ecosystems. Move us to care for your creation in all its forms and richness. Hear us, O God.

**C Your mercy is great.**

A Purify the hearts of all people, life-giving God. Remove the hate that lives within us and among us. Mold us into peacemakers. Bring an end to war in Ukraine, and all countries experiencing the terror of war. Raise up leaders rooted in your love and fed by your richness. Hear us, O God.

**C Your mercy is great.**

A Comfort all who hurt, life-giving God. Wrap them in your tender care. Remember the forgotten and send us out to share your love with them. Be with the wandering, the worried, and the woeful especially Anna Berwanger, Simret Bogale, Chrystine Cuch, Mariette Erasmus, Adeline Erick, Ruth Gummo, Dolores Hollowell, Donna Harbor, Genevieve Janssen, Julie Janssen Downe, Eleanora Lahoda, Fay Larsen, Amy Lynch, Jean McCowan, Mark Mutschlechner, Bruce and Judith Nagel, Jerry Rasmuson and family, Jim and Joyce Rasmussen, David Sr. and Joan Richardson, Vern Schnell, Rose Sinclair, Sam Skogen, those we name aloud ... and those we carry in our hearts. Hear us, O God.

**C Your mercy is great.**

A For those who serve in the holy catholic Church:

- for the BC Synod, the synod staff, pastors, people, and Bishop Kathy Martin
- for our Synod Campus Ministries and especially for Rev. Dr. Andrea Wilhelm, Chaplain for the University of Alberta, Augustana Campus, Camrose
- for our Pastor, Rev. Michael Wellman
- for Amisk Park Lutheran, Amisk, and Scandia Lutheran, Armena
- for Good Shepherd Community Facility and Programs, Bogota, Colombia, its leaders and staff
- for the students, faculty, and staff of the University of Alberta – Augustana Campus, Camrose

- for the bishop, pastors, and people of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of El Salvador
- for the pastors and people of the Reformed Church of Canada
- for the pastors and people of the Anglican, Mennonite, and Moravian Churches

For all these, hear us, O God.

**C Your mercy is great.**

A Bless this congregation. Give strength and joy to worship leaders, musicians, and our altar guild as they prepare the way for the celebration of the Christ child's coming among us. Hear us, O God.

**C Your mercy is great.**

A We remember the generations who have shown us your faithfulness, life-giving God. Shine your light on those who mourn and prepare us for that day when we will see you face-to-face. Hear us, O God.

**C Your mercy is great.**

A For all virtually gathered for this service, and those attending to the care of others and to beneficial endeavours that keep them away from worshipping. Hear us, O God.

**C Your mercy is great.**

P Confident that the Holy Spirit intercedes for us, we bring to you those prayers and those unspoken, in the name of Christ, our Saviour and Lord.

**C Amen.**

**THE PEACE**

Pg. 106

P May the peace of the Lord be always with you.

**C And also with you.**

**OFFERING**

**OFFERTORY** "Advent Introit" by David W Music

*Setting of the altar and reception of the Offerings.*

*Please be seated.*

**OFFERING PRAYER FOR ADVENT**

Pg. 64

A God of abundance, we bring before you the precious fruits of your creation, and with them our very lives. Teach us patience

and hope as we care for all those in need until the coming of your Son, our Saviour and Lord.

**C Amen.**

**THE GREAT THANKSGIVING** Pg. 161

**EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER (III)**

**THE LORD'S PRAYER (Version II)** Pg. 163

**THE FRACTION**

**P** This is the body of the One foretold by the prophets. This is the blood of Him who will return for you at the end of time.

**C Come to us now, O Lord, in the breaking of bread. As once you were born in a manger in Bethlehem, come to us again in the manger of our hands and hearts. Amen.**

**LAMB OF GOD** Pg. 164

### **THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE SACRAMENT**

*Please be seated. Assistants and those in need commune first.*

**COMMUNION HYMNS**

Comfort, Comfort Now My People **No. 256**

What Child is This? **No. 296**

**TABLE BLESSING** *Please stand as you are able.*

**POST COMMUNION PRAYER**

**A** We pray. God for whom we wait, in this meal you give us a foretaste of that day when the hungry will be fed with good things. Send us forth to make known your deeds and to proclaim the greatness of your name, through Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Lord.

**C Amen.**

*Please be seated.*

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **THE SENDING FORTH OF THE COMMUNITY**

**BENEDICTION** Pg. 114

**P** The Lord...

**C Amen.**

**SENDING HYMN** Prepare the Royal Highway **No. 264**

**DISMISSAL** Pg. 115

**P** Go in peace...

## C Thanks be to God!

**ORGAN POSTLUDE** “Comfort, Comfort Ye My People”  
arranged by D. Bédard

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WELCOME to all gathered here today. Join us for refreshments and conversation downstairs after worship, Questions? Ask one of today’s servants or speak with the pastor.

WE THANK TODAY’S SERVANTS

Usher: David Richardson
Lector: Audrey Sribney
Assistant: Pat Fedkenheuer
Altar Guild: Clarice Rasmuson, Jennifer Hanson
Refreshments: Clarice Rasmuson, Shannon Friesen
Zoom Host: Phil Tang, Ahmed Conteh

OFFERING AND ATTENDANCE

Last week	1 December	Budget 2024
Current	\$ 5,905.25	\$2,911
Benevolence	\$ 0	
Building Fund	\$ 10	
Other	\$ 2,125	
Attendance	51	

ACTIVITIES THIS WEEK

Today	8 Dec	11:45 PM	Fellowship and Refreshments
		2:00 PM	CFMA Worship
Monday	9 Dec	7:00 PM	12 Step Program
Tuesday	10 Dec	6:30 PM	Never Alone Peer Support
Wednesday	11 Dec	9:30 AM	12 Step Program
		7:00 PM	12 Step Program
Friday	13 Dec	7:00 PM	12 Step Program
Saturday	14 Dec	9:00 AM	House of Hope Worship
Sunday	15 Dec	10:30 AM	Third Sunday of Advent
			Holy Communion Service
			Birthday Sunday

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE – for the December 2024 issue is Tuesday 10 December 2024. Items can be sent to secretaryhlc@outlook.com

SCARVES, MITTENS, HATS, AND SOCKS – “Thank You” to all who have helped fill the boxes and the Mitten Tree. There’s still room for more items. The last day for donations is Sunday, 15 December.

ADOPT A FAMILY FOR CHRISTMAS – is sponsored by the Elders. See posters and handouts.

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS – Donations are gratefully accepted and can be added to your offering envelope.

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE – join us at 6:00 PM on 24 December as we celebrate the Nativity of Our Lord in a joint worship service with the Calgary Filipino Methodist Church. Pr. Mike is presiding.

CHRISTMAS DAY – our service begins at 10:30 AM on 25 December 2024.

END OF YEAR DONATIONS – 2024 is quickly coming to an end. It’s time to consider those year-end donations, which in turn benefit you on your taxes. Thank you for your generosity is supporting our church throughout the year.

TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE - If you need a ride to church, contact Elizabeth Anderson 587 897 0548 or Bill Strand 403 239 9894

NEXT WEEK’S READINGS	Third Sunday of Advent Year C
Zephaniah 3:14-20	Isaiah 12:2-6
Philippians 4:4-7	Luke 3:7-18

Please Note

Angle parking along Northmount Drive across from the church is no longer allowed due to a recent complaint and subsequent enforcement by the City of Calgary.