

## Order of Service – 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday in Advent – December 3, 2023 10 AM Sanctuary Service

**Presiding:** Pastor Bart

**Preaching:** Pastor Rick

**Music Team:** Choir

**Welcome to worship!**

If you are a visitor today, please pick up a gift bag and learn more about our programs at the Welcome Table at the back of the narthex. Grab a coffee and mingle or sit for a conversation in the “Gateway.” If your children require a quiet place during the service, feel free to take them to the narthex near the fireplace area.

If you are a visitor, we welcome you to come forward for communion. If your children have gone through communion instruction, they are welcome as well. If they are not taking communion, please bring them forward for a blessing. If you would like personal prayer this morning, you are invited to meet with our prayer team in the narthex either before or after you have taken communion. Individual prayer is also available following the service.

**OPENING HYMN: Come Thou Long-Expected Jesus LBW 30**

Come, thou long-expected Jesus  
Born to set thy people free  
From our fears and sins release us  
Let us find our rest in Thee  
Israel's strength and consolation  
Hope of all the earth Thou art  
Dear desire of every nation  
Joy of every longing heart

Born Thy people to deliver  
Born a child and yet a king  
Born to reign in us forever  
Now Thy gracious kingdom bring  
By Thine own eternal Spirit  
Rule in all our hearts alone  
By Thine all-sufficient merit  
Raise us to Thy glorious throne

CCLI Song # 31999  
Charles Wesley | Rowland Hugh Prichard  
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**LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES**

**WELCOMING**

**ADVENT VIDEO – Skit Guy's**

**LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE - The Candle of Hope**

## ADVENT PRAYER

Dear Lord, we wait for Your coming as our Good Shepherd. Please gather us in your arms, feed us with spiritual food, and wipe away every tear from our eyes. Let your face shine on us, that we may be saved! Amen

## ADVENT SONG - In the Bleak Midwinter SBH 36

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan,  
Earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone;  
Snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow,  
In the bleak midwinter, long ago.

As we light this candle darkness disappears  
Blue or Purple, pink or white, comfort through the years.  
Hope and peace, rejoicing, we celebrate God's love  
Jesus came to save us, live with him above

Heaven cannot hold him, Nor the earth sustain;  
Heaven and earth shall flee away When he comes to reign;  
In the bleak midwinter A stable place sufficed  
The Lord God Almighty, Jesus Christ.

What can I give him, poor as I am?  
If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb;  
If I were a Wise Man, I would do my part;  
Yet what I can I give him: give my heart.

CCLI Song # 294736  
Christina Rossetti Gustav Theodore Holst  
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## CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

P: In the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins to God our Father, beseeching Him, in the name of our Lord Jesus, to forgive the iniquity of our sin.

P: If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. Most merciful God.

**C: We confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. 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 neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.**

P: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for you, and for his sake God forgives you all your sins. To those who believe in Jesus Christ he gives the power to become the children of God and bestows on them the Holy Spirit. Amen

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY – 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent**

Stir up your power, O Lord, and come. Protect us by your strength and save us from the threatening dangers of our sins, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

## **CHILDREN'S MESSAGE: Pastor Rick**

## **CHILDREN'S SONG: JESUS LOVES ME**

Jesus loves me this I know for the Bible tells me so.  
Little ones to Him belong; they are weak but He is strong.

### **Chorus**

Yes Jesus loves me. Yes Jesus loves me.  
Yes Jesus loves me; The Bible tells me so

Jesus loves me, He who died  
Heaven's gate to open wide  
He will wash away my sin  
Let His little child come in

### **Chorus**

Jesus loves me He will stay  
Close beside me all the way  
On the cross You died for me  
I will ever live for Thee

### **Chorus**

CCLI Song # 4881998  
Anna Warner, Philip Percival, Wm Bradbury  
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## **SERVICE OF HOLY BAPTISM - Amelia Drahotsky**

### **FIRST READING: Isaiah 64:1-9 (NIV)**

**64** Oh, that you would rend the heavens and come down, that the mountains would tremble before you! <sup>2</sup> As when fire sets twigs ablaze and causes water to boil, come down to make your name known to your enemies and cause the nations to quake before you! <sup>3</sup> For when you did awesome things that we did not expect, you came down, and the mountains trembled before you. <sup>4</sup> Since ancient times no one has heard, no ear has perceived, no eye has seen any God besides you, who acts on behalf of those who wait for him. <sup>5</sup> You come to the help of those who gladly do right, who remember your ways. But when we continued to sin against them, you were angry. How then can we be saved? <sup>6</sup> All of us have become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous acts are like filthy rags; we all shrivel up like a leaf, and like the wind our sins sweep us away. <sup>7</sup> No one calls on your name or strives to lay hold of you; for you have hidden your face from us and have given us over to our sins. <sup>8</sup> Yet you, LORD, are our Father. We are the clay, you are the potter; we are all the

work of your hand. <sup>9</sup> Do not be angry beyond measure, LORD; do not remember our sins forever. Oh, look on us, we pray, for we are all your people.

### **PSALM 80:1-7 (NIV)**

<sup>1</sup> Hear us, Shepherd of Israel, you who lead Joseph like a flock. You who sit enthroned between the cherubim, shine forth  
<sup>2</sup> before Ephraim, Benjamin and Manasseh. Awaken your might; come and save us.  
<sup>3</sup> Restore us, O God; make your face shine on us, that we may be saved.  
<sup>4</sup> How long, LORD God Almighty, will your anger smolder against the prayers of your people?  
<sup>5</sup> You have fed them with the bread of tears; you have made them drink tears by the bowlful.  
<sup>6</sup> You have made us an object of derision to our neighbors, and our enemies mock us.  
<sup>7</sup> Restore us, God Almighty; make your face shine on us, that we may be saved.

### **SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 1:3-9 NIV**

<sup>3</sup> Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>4</sup> I always thank my God for you because of his grace given you in Christ Jesus. <sup>5</sup> For in him you have been enriched in every way—with all kinds of speech and with all knowledge— <sup>6</sup> God thus confirming our testimony about Christ among you. <sup>7</sup> Therefore you do not lack any spiritual gift as you eagerly wait for our Lord Jesus Christ to be revealed. <sup>8</sup> He will also keep you firm to the end, so that you will be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>9</sup> God is faithful, who has called you into fellowship with his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

**CHOIR ANTHEM:** *Welcome to This World* - By Chris Rice, arranged by Jack Schrader

### **GOSPEL LESSON – Mark 10:46-52 NIV**

<sup>11</sup> Now on his way to Jerusalem, Jesus traveled along the border between Samaria and Galilee. <sup>12</sup> As he was going into a village, ten men who had leprosy met him. They stood at a distance <sup>13</sup> and called out in a loud voice, “Jesus, Master, have pity on us!” <sup>14</sup> When he saw them, he said, “Go, show yourselves to the priests.” And as they went, they were cleansed. <sup>15</sup> One of them, when he saw he was healed, came back, praising God in a loud voice. <sup>16</sup> He threw himself at Jesus’ feet and thanked him—and he was a Samaritan. <sup>17</sup> Jesus asked, “Were not all ten cleansed? Where are the other nine? <sup>18</sup> Has no one returned to give praise to God except this foreigner?” <sup>19</sup> Then he said to him, “Rise and go; your faith has made you well.”

**SERMON: What do you want me to do for you? (Pastor Rick)**

### **OFFERTORY HYMN: Lo, How a Rose is Growing. LBW 58**

Lo, how a rose is growing, A bloom of finest grace;  
The prophets had foretold it; A branch of Jesse’s race  
Would bear one perfect flow’r Here in the cold of winter  
And darkest midnight hour.

This flow’r, so small and tender, With fragrance fills the air;  
His brightness ends the darkness That kept the earth in fear.  
True God and yet true man, He came to save his people  
From earth’s dark night of sin.

O Savior, child of Mary, Who felt all human woe;  
O Savior, king of glory, Who triumphed o'er our foe:  
Bring us at length, we pray, To the bright courts of heaven  
And into endless day.

Text: Germain, 15<sup>th</sup> Century, Gracia Grindal, b. 1943  
Tune: Alte Catholische Geistliche Kirchengesang, Koln, 1599

## **OFFERTORY PRAYER (LBW, p. 68)**

P: Blessed are you.

**C: O Lord our God, maker of all things. Through your Goodness you have blessed us with these gifts. With them we offer ourselves to your service and dedicate our lives to the care and redemption of all that you have made, for the sake of Him who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

## **SHARING OF GOD'S PEACE**

L: The Peace of the Lord be with you always

**C: And also with you**

## **PRAYERS FOR THE FAMILY OF GOD**

### **THE GREAT THANKSGIVING**

P: The Lord be with you

C: And also with you

P: Lift up your hearts

C: We lift them to the Lord

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God

C: It is right to give him thanks and praise

## **WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

**LORD'S PRAYER:** Our Father, who art in Heaven...

## **COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION**

**COMMUNION HYMNS: Lamb of God, You Take Away the Sin of the World. LBW p. 72**

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.

## **One There is, Above All Others. LBW #298**

One there is, above all others, Well deserves the name of friend;  
His is love beyond a brother's, Costly, free, and knows no end;  
They who once his kindness prove Find it everlasting love.

Which of all our friends, to save us, Could or would have shed his blood?  
But this Savior died to have us Reconciled in him to God;  
This was boundless love indeed; Jesus is the friend we need.

When he lived on earth, they scorned him; "Friend of sinners" was his name.  
Though the angels have adored him, Still he answers to that claim;  
Still he calls them dearest friends And to all their needs attends.

CCLI Song # 2787220  
John Newton  
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### **As the Deer Pants for Water**

As the deer pants for the water, So my soul longeth after Thee.  
You alone are my heart's desire and I long to worship Thee

#### **Chorus**

You alone are my strength my shield; To You alone may my spirit yield.  
You alone are my heart's desire and I long to worship Thee

You're my friend and You are my brother even though You are a King.  
I love You more than any other, So much more than anything.

#### **Chorus**

I want You more than gold or silver, only You can satisfy  
You alone are the real joygiver and the apple of my eye

#### **Chorus**

CCLI Song # 1431  
Martin Nystrom  
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### **COMMUNION BLESSING**

### **COMMUNION PRAYER**

### **BENEDICTION**

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS – Please see sheet attached**

### **CLOSING HYMN Hark the Glad Sound! LBW 35**

Hark, the glad sound! The Savior comes,  
The Savior promised long; Let every heart prepare a throne  
And every voice a song.

He comes the pris'ners to release, In Satan's bondage held.  
The gates of brass before him burst, The iron fetters yield,

He comes the broken heart to bind, The bleeding soul to cure,  
And with the treasures of his grace To enrich the humble poor.

Our glad hosannas, Prince of Peace,  
Your welcome shall proclaim, And heav'n's eternal arches ring  
With your beloved name.

CCLI Song # 1748391  
Philip Doddridge  
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P: Go in Peace. Serve the Lord.

**ALL: Thanks be to God!**

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **Week at a Glance:**

Sunday Dec 3 - Advent by Candlelight 7:30 PM

Wednesday – 10:00 AM Prayer time in sanctuary

Small Group Ministries – Various times during the week. Please contact Florence or the church office for details.

### **Month in Advance:**

December 3 – 7:30 PM – Advent by Candlelight

December 10 – 10:00 AM – Sunday School Christmas Pageant

December 13 – 10:00 AM – Grandparenting and the Faith

December 17 – 6:00 PM – Christmas Blues Dinner

December 23 – 8:00 AM – Men's Breakfast

December 24 – 4:00 PM, 7:00 PM and 10:00 PM Christmas Eve Services

December 25 – 10:00 AM – Christmas Day Service

### **The Season of Advent**

The Advent season is a four-week period before Christmas in which we celebrate with anticipation the coming of Jesus Christ, the Messiah. The origin of "advent" is from the Latin word *adventus*, which simply translates as "coming" or "arrival." May you find time to slow down this season – say "no" to the things that distract you from Jesus and say "yes" to the gift that God wants you to experience.

### **Journey to Bethlehem**

As part of the daily devotional advent series, our children have drawn pictures and written poems to the Christ child. Make sure to stop by our mural downstairs each week to see their pictures on the surrounding doors. Watch the mural come to life as we approach Christmas. This goes with the daily advent devotional that comes to your e-mail each weekday. You can also access the videos directly at <https://saintpeters.ca> Thanks to Diana and Art for creating this painting.

### **Holy Baptism**

We welcome into the Lord's family through the sacrament of Holy Baptism Ameila Ruth , daughter of Kazimir and Danielle. Ameilas sponsors are Michael and Haley. God Bless you!

### **Pray for St. Peter's**

Please remember to keep praying for the church, our pastors, leaders, members and their families.

## **Advent by Candlelight**

Join us tonight for our Advent by Candlelight: Evening of Lessons and Carols beginning at **7:30 PM**, featuring the St. Peter's Pop-Up Choir. It will be a meaningful and reflective start to the Advent season as we prepare our hearts and minds for the coming of God into the world through His Son, Jesus. This is a wonderful opportunity to invite family, friends and neighbor's.

**Sunday School Christmas Program - *Behold Your King!*** Sunday, December 10<sup>th</sup> at the 10 am.  
*Let the children come to me, and do not hinder them, for to such belongs the kingdom of God. - Luke 18:16*

Once again, meet **your King** in the age-old story, as a grandfather's gift brings the nativity characters to life before your eyes! Join the children of our congregation in an interactive time of song, signing and bells. Is someone on your heart? Bring them, and your best singing voice!

## **"Surprising Questions That Jesus Asked" – Preaching Series (Pastor Rick)**

"I've always been curious about the questions Jesus asked – sometimes answered, and sometimes not. For a few months, I am going to dig more deeply into these questions. Check on the big bulletin board in the narthex to see what question is coming up next. Read the gospel that I will be exploring as I prepare to preach. **Sunday, December 17: "What do you say about yourself?"** (John 1:6-8, 19-22)

## **Christmas Eve Candle Light Services – December 24**

We are blessed to have three pastors to lead our Christmas Eve services: Pastor Bart at 4 PM, Pastor Paul at 7 PM, and Pastor Rick at 10 PM (Holy Communion). Because the 4 PM service is usually very full (to overflowing) with visitors and young families, we encourage people to come to either to the 7 PM or 10 PM if it is convenient.

## **Christmas Day – December 25**

Enjoy the quietness of Christmas Day as we celebrate the incarnation. Pastor Rick will be reflecting upon the question *Is Less More?* as he digs deeper into John 1:1-3. We will also celebrate Holy Communion.

## **Holiday Grief**

Pastor Rick will be sharing some thoughts at the upcoming Cochrane Christmas Candlelight Service to be held this Wednesday, December 4 starting at 6pm at the Cochrane Funeral Home.

Come and light a candle in remembrance of the special person you are missing, and come together as a community supporting one another during this time when grief is part of the holiday season.

RSVP your attendance by calling 403-932-1039 or emailing [Cochrane@piersons.ca](mailto:Cochrane@piersons.ca)