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*Parish of the Ascension Chimes*



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**Sunday, December 3, 2017**  
**First Sunday of Advent**

**Lections:** Isaiah 64:1-9; 1 Corinthians 1:3-9; Mark 13:24-37;  
Psalm 80:1-7, 16-18 (**Refrain: Show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.**)

**8:30 a.m. Holy Communion (BCP)**  
Presider/Homilist: Rev'd Canon David Burrows

**9:15 a.m. Ascension Café**

**11:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist**  
Celebrant: Rev'd Lynn Courage  
Homilist: Rev'd Canon David Burrows  
Readers: Peter Barnes; Abigail Bellamy  
Gift Bearers: Derrice & Dean Bellamy  
Hymns (CP): 97, 102, 89, 474 & 65, 393

**6:30 p.m. IONA Quiet Service**  
Presider/Homilist: Rev'd Lynn Courage  
Hymns(CP): 88, 93, 102

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

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### Ascension Prayer Circle:

Please pray for these individuals this week: Ann, Barbara, Bill, Brenda, Brian, Clarence, Claude, Daphne, Darryl, Dennis, Diane, Dot, Dulcie, Fred, Gwen, Harold, Herb, Hilda, Ina, Ivy, Jack, Jeff, Jennifer, Jerome, Jessie, Jill, Josephine, Junior, Karl, Lester, Lori, Mabel, Marguerite, Marina, Mark, Mary, Maxwell, Melissa, Melvin, Mona, Mya, Myra, Nancy, Pam, Roland, Ron, Roy, Ruth, Sean, Shirley, Stan, Stephen, Todd, Terry and Violet.

Remember the families of those who have died especially Bishop Elect John Meade and Mildred Newhook. Rest eternal grant to them, and let light perpetual shine upon them.

*Loving God, you gather us as your people, where many come seeking your healing, strength, and love. You know us God: You understand who we are; you know what troubles and puzzles us, what makes you smile and what makes us sad. You listen to our questions and our prayers. We bring you these names, asking for your healing. Be with these named, with their families, and all whom they encounter.*  
Amen.

Services During the Week:	Morning Prayer daily at 9:30 a.m. (Except Wednesday & Saturday)	
<b>Wednesday December 6, 2017</b>	9:30 a.m.	Holy Eucharist (BAS)
	10 a.m. – Noon	Bible Study
	Noon – 12:30 p.m.	Stations of the Crib
<b>Sunday Dec. 10, 2017 Advent II</b>	8:30 a.m.	Holy Communion (BCP)
	11:00 a.m.	Welsh Eucharist
	6:30 p.m.	IONA Quiet Service

**The Parish of the Ascension  
Anglican Church of Canada  
58 Smallwood Drive  
Mount Pearl, NL, A1N 1B1  
Tel: 368-5693**

**Rector:**  
Rev'd Canon David Burrows

**Associate Priest:**  
Rev'd Lynn Courage

[www.parishoftheascension.ca](http://www.parishoftheascension.ca)  
[www.facebook.com/parishoftheascension](https://www.facebook.com/parishoftheascension)

### Weekly Word

*'Dust off the decorations!'*

*'Get out the boxes!'*

*'Make those lists!'*

Hold on to your hats, because Advent is beginning once again! In the flurry and fury of the spinning of this watery globe, as all creation moves and strains, the church is entering into Holy Time. We are actively setting aside our 'normal' to settle into a new normal, a path that involves directed prayer and worship, acts of service and compassion, as we prepare our hearts, our lives, ourselves for an encounter with the Holy One in the person of the Incarnation.

This year may be no different for you than from others, I cannot gauge. For me however, each advent is for me an adventure – a striving and wrestling with myself as I come face to face with all my faults, warts, all my gifts, all joys, and come face to face with God.

I am reminded of the imagery that Edward Hays offers, of pick and shovel, and of the whistling of "Hi Ho, Hi Ho, it's off to work we go!" from Disney's *Snow White*. There is no doubt, that for me to come face to face with God, I must struggle and strive through Advent, to arrive exhausted at the manger.

*O God,  
Grant me your grace as I take up my Advent shovel  
To fill in the valleys of neglect in my prayer and daily life.  
May I be zealous in my labours of straightening out the crooked ways  
and leveling the mountains and hills of sin and false contentment  
that block the coming of Christ. Amen.*

(Edward Hays – *Make Straight the Crooked Ways: Daily Reflections for Advent* © 2005)

Peace,  
David

**A Christmas Dinner and Dance hosted by the Ascension Men's Club** will be held on Thursday, December 14, in the Canon Mercer Auditorium. **Non club members who are interested in attending are more than welcome.** There will be a catered three course roast beef dinner and live music. Tickets are \$30.00 Single, and can be booked by contacting Ray Hewitt (368-6536; [rayhewitt@nl.rogers.com](mailto:rayhewitt@nl.rogers.com)) **no later than Tuesday, Dec. 5.** This is not a fundraiser, just an excellent opportunity to enjoy the Christmas season.

**The Music Ministry Board** is the process of having the name plaques put in place. We hope to have this project completed for dedication on Sunday December 17, 2017. Thank you for your patience and cooperation.

**Advent Packages:** Please pick up your Advent packages that have been organized alphabetically (at the back of the church and in the porch) to avoid having others brave the cold weather to deliver them to your door. Thank you!

**Christmas Hamper Program:** Please visit our Advent Tree located in the Church. Again, this year we have our Advent Tree decorated with tree ornament tags. Each tag holds the name of a food item needed for our Christmas Hamper Program. If you would like to participate by providing a food item for a Christmas dinner, please take a tag and return your donation to the Church Office. We will gladly accept these donations from Thursday, December 14 to Sunday, December 17 between the hours of 9:00 a.m. to noon. Please note: Food items cannot be accepted after Sunday, December 17. If you or someone you know, would like to be a mentor (to assist in the coordination) with the Christmas Hamper Program, please let us know. For more information please contact Georgina Short at email: [ggshort@yahoo.ca](mailto:ggshort@yahoo.ca) or 682-7928.

**St. Margaret's Advent Outreach:** This year our outreach is in aid of Brighter Futures Healthy Baby Club who meet in our parish hall on Thursday mornings. They provide pre and post-natal guidance and support to pregnant mothers. We invite you to pick a tag or two from our Advent tree, purchase the item, and return it to the church placing it in our play yard located in the side vestibule. Thank you for your support.

**Flowers/Memorials at Christmas:** Anyone wishing to give a Christmas Memorial is asked to call the Church Office at 368-5693 or place a plain envelope with the appropriate information and contribution in the collection plate the next two Sundays. **The deadline to submit names for inclusion in our Christmas bulletin insert will be Monday, December 11.**

**Christmas Tree Lighting:** Following our Lessons and Carol Service on Sunday, December 17, at 6:30 p.m. there is going to be a Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony and Carol Sing. The Event will include the lighting of a bulb in memory of a loved one or in honour of a special occasion (minimum donation \$5). Please submit names and donations by December 7.

**Christmas Puddings - Order Now!** Our Youth are once again making Christmas puddings in support of their trip to attend the 2018 Canadian Lutheran Anglican Youth (CLAY) gathering in Thunder Bay, ON. Puddings are \$15.00 and will be available for pick up December 9th at the Church of the Good Shepherd. See Rev. Lynn to place an order.

**Seniors' Christmas Supper:** This event will take place tomorrow, Monday, December 4, 2017. There will be a service of Holy Eucharist at 6 p.m. followed by a soup and dessert supper in the auditorium. This evening will be organized by all of the Youth Organizations of the Parish. All seniors are welcome to attend.

**Godly Play: upcoming events:**

**Dec 4:** The Godly Play children have been asked to do a short performance at the Seniors' Christmas Event. The parents will need to bring children by **6:45 p.m.** and stay with them until after the performance.

**Dec. 9:** Breakfast with Santa. See insert for details.

**December 17:** This year's Christmas pageant will be taking place at the **11 a.m.** service. All children are welcome to participate. Practice and role assignments will begin on December 3. For further information or questions please call **Doreen at 364-1454.**

**Duty Teams next week:** Sidespersons # 4; Counting # 6

<u>OPENING RESPONSES</u>	<u>CLOSING RESPONSES</u>
As stars to the maker <b>We are the work of God's hands</b>	Be brave Be honest <b>Be awake to integrity</b>
As plants to the gardener <b>We are the work of God's hands</b>	Be strong Be gentle <b>Be awake to justice</b>
As clay to the potter <b>We are the work of God's hands</b>	Be joyful Be humble <b>Be awake to love</b>

**Blessing**  
 We are looking for God in our world.  
 May we see what God wants us to see.

We are looking for God in our lives.  
 May we be who God wants to us be.

And may God our Shepherd, Protector, Awakener, and Holy Spirit,  
 bless us through these Advent days. AMEN

**LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE**

A candle burns, the sign of our hope.  
 God of hope, come to us again this Advent.  
 May your hope live within us, burning as a light in our lives.

**ADVENT SONG - *Christmas is Coming***

**Christmas is coming, the Church is glad to sing,  
 and let the Advent candles brightly burn in a ring.**

The first is for God's promise  
 to put the wrong things right,  
 and bring to earth's darkness  
 the hope of love and light.

**Christmas is coming, the Church is glad to sing,  
 and let the Advent candles brightly burn in a ring.**