



Parish of the Ascension Chimes



**Sunday, December 9, 2018
Second Sunday of Advent**

- Lectios:** **Advent 2: 11 a.m & 6:30 p.m. BAS, p. 269**
Malachi 3:1-4; Canticle 19, BAS (Luke 1:68-79);
Philippians 1:3-22; Luke 3:1-6
- 8:30 a.m. Holy Communion (BCP)**
Presider: Rev'd Lynn Courage
- 9:15 a.m. Ascension Café**
- 11:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist (BAS)**
Lectios: Isaiah 40:1-11; John 10:11-18
Presider: Rev'd. David Burrows
Homilist: Rev'd Lynn Courage
Readers: Emily Squires, Maria Squires,
Lillian Luff, Ed Somerton
Gift Bearers: Margaret and Eric Yetman
Hymns: (CP), 108, 520, 101, 85, 105, 95, 97
- 6:30 p.m. IONA QUIET SERVICE**
Presider/Homilist: Rev'd David Burrows
Hymns: (CP) 102, 105, 116

Ascension Café: The Café will finish for the year on December 16 and begin again in the new year on January 13. Thank you to everyone who has volunteered these past few months and for those who enjoy the fellowship this ministry brings

“Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight. All flesh shall see the salvation of God.” Luke 3.4,6

Weekly Word

Growing up in the Eastern Arctic on Baffin Island, I was always enthralled with the stories of survival and of adventure that I heard told. Gathered safely in our home, whether snug in the bed before sleep, around the dinner table, or hearing stories of visitors and friends that dropped by, at times I closed my eyes to imagine images of treks and adventures. I heard of people relying on their knowledge of land and weather, people using circumstance, skill, and faith to get through tough scrapes. People returning home hungry, cold and frostbitten, and the sacrifices that were made.

These stories I would relive in my imagination each Sunday afternoon, as together with our huskies we would trek out beyond the fire station in Iqaluit, and hike across the tundra to the old D.E.W. line station. In my dreaming and imaginings, I would consider what it would feel like to be lost, all alone, or even to be moving forward on a path where no one else had trodden before.

This second week of Advent, which is upon us, reminds me of those days. At this time we recall John Baptizer, and the prophets, who trekked on ahead to prepare the way for God who was to come in the form of Jesus. Perhaps they didn't face storm or tundra, yet I'm sure they faced barrenness and isolation. In many passages it seems as if the challenge of proclaiming God's realm to a society that questioned covenant, discarded justice and mercy, and sought solace in self-centredness was quite similar to Arctic explorers alone in barren and unforgiving lands.

The barrenness of the tundra and the time for my childhood daydreaming for me was not about being alone and lost. This time was a time of mirth, wonder and playfulness. My sisters and I would play, explore and imagine. I would try to lose my dogs, and at one point or another I would lay flat on the tundra and count silently to ten, as the huskies, always within scent and eyeshot, would find my hiding place and bound back to me, concerned for my safety.

My exploration of the barrenness of the arctic was always in the safety and community of family and close friends. This Advent, as you may be journeying, you may feel perhaps, that at times you journey alone. Perhaps you feel you are striking a path, preparing

and will never abandon you. Let God be like my keen sensed huskies: faithful, attentive, and ever there to protect and to guide. You may travel far this advent. Let your journey bring you home. Peace, *David*

Food Bank: When you are picking up your groceries, please add an item or two and drop it in the food bank box. Items needed this week are **meatballs and gravy/Irish stew, tetra boxes orange juice (1 litre), tinned fruit.** If you wish, you may also make a monetary donation to the food hamper fund. It is much appreciated!

Duty teams for next Sunday, December 16, 2018: Sidespersons' Team #3, Counting Team # 3.

Donation to the Giving Thanks Fund in memory of Jessie Myles from Phyllis Cooper, Ed and Ruby Hunt

Donation to the Giving Thanks Fund in memory of Simeon Wentzell from Leeming Lodge No. 1282 LOA, Pauline Corbett, William and Hughena Luther, Sylvia and Tasker King, David and Shirley Porter

Donation to the Giving Thanks Fund in memory of Hilda Welcher from Eric and Margaret Yetman.

| Services During the Week: | Morning Prayer daily at 9:30 a.m. (Except Wednesday & Saturday) | |
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| Wednesday, Dec. 12 | 9:30 a.m. | Holy Eucharist (BAS) |
| Sunday, Dec. 16 Advent 3 | 8:30 a.m. | Holy Communion (BCP) |
| | 11:00 a.m. | BAS/HE |
| | 6:30 p.m. | IONA QUIET |

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Rector:
Rev.'d David Burrows

Associate Priest:
Rev.'d Lynn Courage

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Godly Play: This year's Christmas Pageant will take place on Sunday, December 23, at the 11 a.m. service. All children are welcome to participate. Practice and role assignments will continue. It is important that your children attend Godly Play for pageant preparation. There will be practice for the pageant following the 11 a.m. service on Sunday, December 16. For further information or questions, please call Doreen at 364-1454.

Special Advent Project – St. Margaret's Boat: We remind you that you can place items for men in the 'St. Margaret's Boat', located in the side foyer of the Church. These items will be presented to the John Howard Society at a later date. The items you can donate are: men's socks, hats, mitts, deodorant, razors, shampoo & conditioner, toothbrush & toothpaste, shaving gel, soap, shower gel. Thank you in advance for your generosity.

Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony: Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony & Carol Sing, Sunday, **DECEMBER 23, 2018** at 6:30 p.m. Light a bulb in memory of a loved one or in honour of a special occasion for a minimum donation of \$5.00 per bulb per person or occasion. Please bring your family and friends and join us for an evening of carol singing and hot chocolate. You are reminded to submit names, along with your donation, on or before December 18.

Christmas Hamper Program: This year we have our Advent Tree decorated with tree ornaments/tags that list 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 from Friday, December 14 to Sunday, December 16. **Please note:** Food items **cannot** be accepted after Sunday, December 16. 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 or 682-7928.

Hamper Fund: The Hamper Fund has been used regularly over this past year as more and more persons have come to us in need. At the Ascension, we continue to be reminded of the words of Jesus in Matthew 25: "For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink. I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me." Matthew 25:35. Cash donations to the Hamper Fund are gratefully accepted at any time

Evening Liturgies in the New Year: It has been mentioned by some in the parish that there are very few persons attending the 6:30 evening liturgies on a regular basis. If you attend the evening worship services and would like to continue having these services, I invite you to contact Rev'd David Burrows to have a conversation. In addition, if you have any strong feelings or suggestions for the pattern of Evening Services on Sundays, please contact Rev'd Burrows. The vestry will be discussing this at their next meeting.

ACW: Members are reminded of their Christmas pot luck tomorrow. Monday, December 10, at 6 p.m.

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 17.**

Thank You: A sincere thank you to all those who helped make this year's Seniors' Christmas Eucharist, supper and fellowship a wonderful success. We give thanks to the following groups and persons offering their gifts, talents and service. You all helped make the seniors of the parish have an enjoyable evening of good food, fun, and fellowship. Thank you to: the 2019 Confirmation Class and parents; the Junior Choir and parents; the Godly Play children, leaders and parents; Denise Gill for decorating the auditorium; CLB members, leaders and parents; Baptism Preparation team; the Servers' Guild; ACW & MSC; people who donated soups, desserts and rolls; people who donated gifts and wrapping; the Christmas mummers and Santa & Mrs. Claus; Roger Learning, Florence Simms & Nadine Vey for assisting in the kitchen; the parents and leaders who guided our youth with serving the meal; Wayne Courage for helping with serving the food and manning the sound system; and all others who helped make this event such a lovely evening.

Donation to Community Foodsharing: This **Wednesday, December 12, 2018** at the 9:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist we will be welcoming Egbert Walters of Community Foodsharing. We will be donating \$1500 from the Hamper Fund for the annual turkey drive, so that persons throughout the province will be able to share in a blessed Christmas. Come and attend the liturgy and give thanks for the work of Community Foodsharing.

CLOSING RESPONSES

In our watching, in our waiting;
God is alive in us.
And we are glad.

In our questioning, in our hoping;
God is alive in us.
And we are glad.

In our dreaming, in our dancing;
God is alive in us.
And we are glad.

In our traveling, in our homecoming;
God is alive in us.
And we are glad.

BLESSING

God have mercy on your people,
Baptise us in wisdom

And clothe us in integrity;
Wrap us in the beauty of your love.

And may the God of mercy bless us,
Deliver, Lover and Breath of life. **AMEN**

OPENING RESPONSES

Sowing and reaping, coming and going.

God is working in us.

Weeping and singing, hoping and praying.

God is working in us.

Traveling and resting, learning and loving.

God is working in us.

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.**

The second for the prophets,
who said that Christ would come
with good news for many
and angry words for some.

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

ADVENT PRAYER

Blessed are you, sovereign Lord, just and true:
to you be praise and glory forever.

Of old you spoke by the mouth of your prophets,
but in our days you speak through your Son,
whom you have appointed the heir of all things.

Blessed be God forever.

Grant us, your people, to walk in his life,

So that we may be found ready and watching
When he comes again in glory and judgement;
For you are our light and our salvation.

Blessed be God forever.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Blessed are you, gracious God, creator of heaven and earth;
we give you thanks and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who in the fullness of time came among us in our flesh,
and opened to us the way of salvation.

Now we watch for the day when he will come again
in power and great triumph to judge the world,
so that we, without shame or fear,
may rejoice to behold his appearing.

Therefore we praise you,
joining our voices with angels and archangels
and with all the company of heaven,
who for ever sing this hymn
to proclaim the glory of your name.

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

Holy God, the beginning and the end, the giver of life:

Blessed are you for the birth of creation.

Blessed are you in the darkness and in the light.

Blessed are you for your promise to your people.

Blessed are you for the prophets' hopes and dreams.

Blessed are you for Mary's openness to your will.
Blessed are you for your Son, Jesus, the Word made flesh.

In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body given for you.
Do this in remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this in remembrance of me.

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:
Christ has died.
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.

With this bread and cup we remember
your Word dwelling among us, full of grace and truth.
We remember our new birth in his death and resurrection.
We look with hope for his coming.
Come, Lord Jesus.

Holy God, we long for your Spirit.
Come among us. Bless this meal.
May your Word take flesh in us.
Awaken your people. Fill us with light.
Bring the gift of peace on earth.
Come, Holy Spirit.

All praise and glory are yours, Holy God of Israel,
Word of God incarnate, Power of the Most High,
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS

God our strength,
we are nothing without you.
Receive all we offer you this day
as you sustain us with your mercy;
in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. **AMEN**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Faithful God,

we thank you for feeding us with this heavenly banquet.

Help us always to hear the prophet's call

to turn our hearts to you;

in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord. AMEN

Parish of the Ascension

Advent II

December 9, 2018

8:30 a.m. & 6:30 p.m.

COLLECT

Almighty God, who sent your servant John the Baptist to prepare your people to welcome the Messiah, inspire us, the ministers and stewards of your truth, to turn our disobedient hearts to you, that when the Christ shall come again to be our judge, we may stand with confidence before his glory; who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **AMEN**

A READING FROM THE BOOK OF MALACHI

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. MALACHI 3:1-4

Reader: The Word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God

CANTICLE

REFRAIN: The dawn from on high shall break upon us.

Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel; he has come to his people and set them free. He has raised up for us a mighty Saviour, born of the house of his servant David. Through his holy prophets he promised of old, that he would save us from our enemies, from the hands of all who hate us. He promised to show mercy to our fathers and to remember his holy covenant. **R**

This was the oath he swore to our father Abraham, to set us free from the hands of our enemies, free to worship him without fear, holy and righteous in his sight all the days of our life. **R**

You, my child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High, for you will go before the Lord to prepare his way, to give his people knowledge of salvation by the forgiveness of their sins. **R**

In the tender compassion of our God the dawn from on high shall break upon us, to shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death, and to guide our feet into the way of peace. Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen. **R CANTICLE 19, BAS (LUKE 1:68-79)**

A READING FROM THE LETTER OF PAUL TO THE PHILIPPIANS

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 defence 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, -having produced the harvest of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ for the glory and praise of God. **PHILIPPIANS 1:3-11**

Reader: The Word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God

Reader: The Lord be with you

People: And also with you

THE HOLY GOSPEL OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST

ACCORDING TO LUKE

People: Glory to, you Lord Jesus Christ

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.'" LUKE 3:1-6

Reader: The Gospel of Christ

People: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ