

Second Sunday of Advent
December 9, 2018



St. Philip's Lutheran Church

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ST. PHILIP'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

December 9, 2018

Gathering

Prelude “ You Raise Me Up”

Brendan Graham and Rolf Lovland

Welcome

**Confession
and
Forgiveness** Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
who comes to wake us from sleep,
who leads us into the light of grace.

Amen.

Let us prepare the way of the Lord
by confessing our sin against God and neighbor.

God of all time,
*we confess that we have not prepared
for your merciful reign among us.
We ignore our neighbors in need
and fail in the labor of justice and peace.
In your mercy forgive us.
Grant us wisdom to welcome your light
and to seek the things that will endure
until Christ comes again in glory. Amen.*

Comfort, O comfort my people,
says your God.
In † Jesus Christ your sins are forgiven
and all things are made new.
Rejoice in this good news!
Amen.

**Sharing of
Advent Peace**

Greeting ...be with you all.
And also with you.

Prayer of the Day Stir up our hearts, 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 Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. *Amen.*

Word

First Reading Malachi 3: 1 - 4

The Lord announces a covenant with Israel. A messenger like Malachi (his name means “my messenger”) shall prepare the way for the coming of the Lord by purifying and refining God’s people, as silver and gold are refined.

¹See, 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. ²But 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; ³he 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. ⁴Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the LORD as in the days of old and as in former years.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: *Thanks be to God.*

Refrain

In the ten - der com - pas - sion of our God
the dawn from on high will break up - on us.

Tone

⁶⁸Blessed are you, Lord, the | God of Israel,
you have come to your people and | set them free.

⁶⁹**You have raised up for us a | mighty Savior,
born of the house of your | servant David. R**

⁷⁰Through your holy prophets, you promised of old to save
us | from our enemies,
⁷¹from the hands of | all who hate us,
⁷²**to show mercy | to our forebears,
and to remember your | holy covenant.**

⁷³This was the oath you swore to our | father Abraham:
⁷⁴to set us free from the hands of our | enemies,
free to worship you | without fear,
⁷⁵**holy and righteous before you, all the days | of our
life. R**

⁷⁶And you, child, shall be called the prophet of | the Most
High,
for you will go before the Lord to pre- | pare the way,
⁷⁷**to give God's people knowledge | of salvation
by the forgiveness | of their sins.**

⁷⁸In the tender compassion | of our God
the dawn from on high shall | break upon us,
⁷⁹**to shine on those who dwell in darkness and in the shad-
| ow of death,
and to guide our feet into the | way of peace. R**

Second Philippians 1: 3 - 11

Reading *The apostle Paul was the pastor of many new churches. He writes in this letter about his joy to be in partnership with the Christians of Philippi. Listen to how tender-hearted Paul, sometimes a stern preacher, is with his friends as he encourages them to grow in love and knowledge.*

³I thank my God every time I remember you, ⁴constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, ⁵because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now. ⁶I 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. ⁷It 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. ⁸For God is my witness, how I long for all of you with the compassion of Christ Jesus. ⁹And this is my prayer, that your love may overflow more and more with knowledge and full insight ¹⁰to help you to determine what is best, so that in the day of Christ you may be pure and blameless, ¹¹having produced the harvest of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ for the glory and praise of God.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: *Thanks be to God.*

Hymn "Light One Candle" (vs. 2)

ELW 240

Hart family: Tom, Catherine Migliore, Joseph, James

Lighting of the Advent Wreath



In a world filled with broken relationships, broken hearts, and broken spirits, we are called to build God's dream of peace. A peace that is not the absence of chaos, noise, or war. God's peace is the presence of justice, hope, and love. Grant us the courage to be peacekeepers and kingdom builders, as we prepare the way for the Prince of Peace, God-with-us, Emmanuel. May this gift of a candle's defiant flame remind us of God's gift of peace. **Amen.**

**Choir
Anthem**

“ I Want to Walk As A Child of the Light” *Kathleen Thomerson*

**Gospel
Acclamation**

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?
You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

**Luke 3:
1 - 6**

P: The holy gospel according to St. Luke, the 3rd chapter.

C: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

John the Baptist is a herald of the saving Lord, whose way is prepared by “repentance for the forgiveness of sins.” As we hear the careful record of human leaders, we sense the spectrum of political and religious authority that will be challenged by this coming Lord.

¹In 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, ²during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. ³He went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, ⁴as 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. ⁵Every 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; ⁶and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.’”

P: The gospel of the Lord.

C: *Praise to you, O Christ.*

Sermon

Pastor Tuula Van Gaasbeek

Hymn of the Day “Comfort, Comfort Now My People”

ELW 256

Prayers of Intercession **P:** Lord, in your mercy,
C: *hear our prayer.*

Meal

Offering

Hymn “As the Dark Awaits the Dawn” (vs. 4)

ELW 261

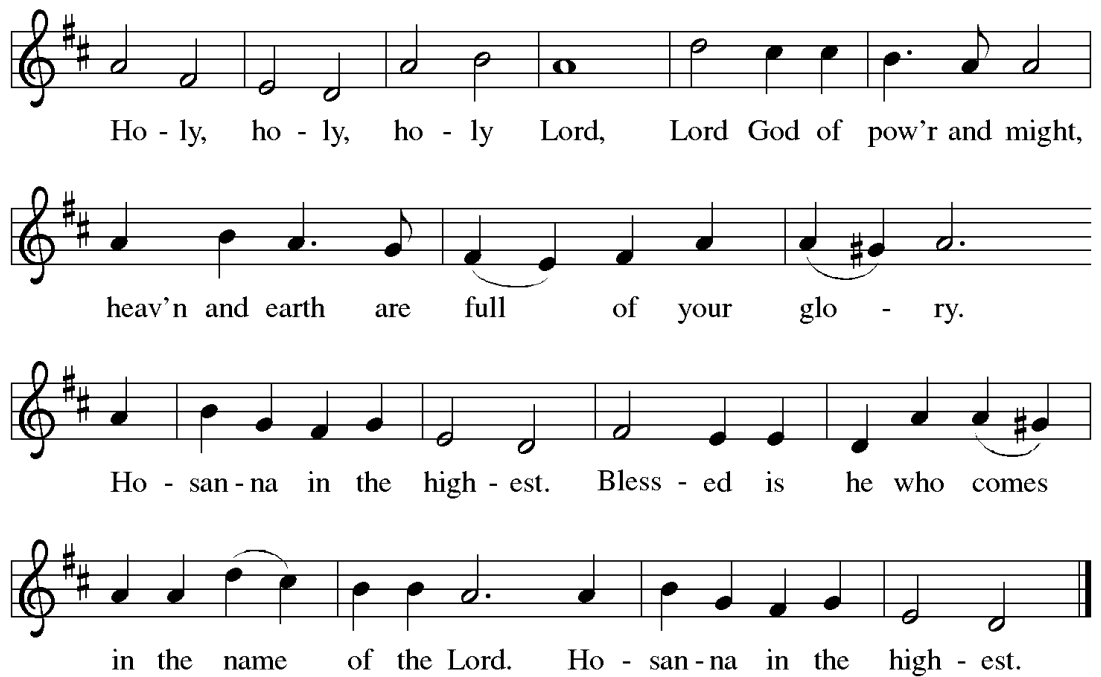
Offering Prayer God of abundance, we bring before you the precious fruits of your creation, and with them our very lives. Teach us patience and hope as we care for all those in need until the coming of your Son, our Savior and Lord. *Amen.*

The Great Thanksgiving **P:** The Lord be with you.
C: *And also with you.*

P: Lift up your hearts.
C: *We lift them up to the Lord.*

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
C: *It is right to give our thanks and praise.*

P: It is indeed right...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



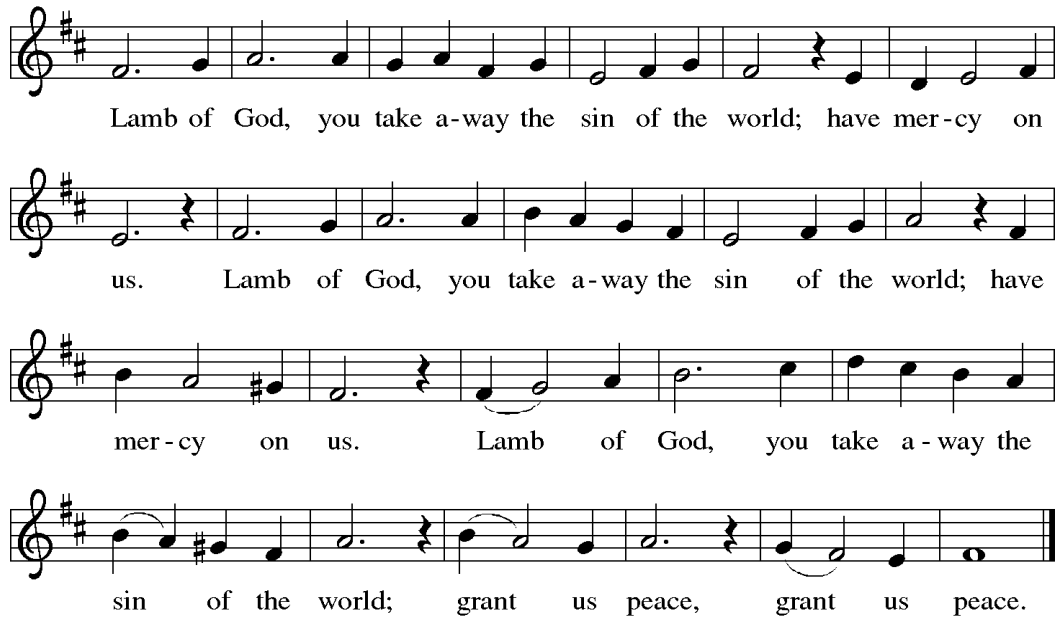
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,
 heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.
 Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes
 in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Thanksgiving
at the Table P: In the night...Amen.

Lord's

Prayer C: *Our Father in heaven,
 hallowed be your name,
 your kingdom come,
 your will be done,
 on earth as in heaven.
 Give us today our daily bread.
 Forgive us our sins
 as we forgive those
 who sin against us.
 Save us from the time of trial
 and deliver us from evil.
 For the kingdom, the power,
 and the glory are yours,
 now and forever. Amen.*

Communion



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on
us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the
sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

Communion “Drawn to the Light”

ELW 593

Hymns “Wait for the Lord”

ELW 262

Prayer After Communion Holy One, we give you thanks that in this bread and cup we have feasted again on your endless love. Let that love overflow more and more in our lives, that we may be messengers to prepare your way, harvesters of justice and righteousness, and bearers of your eternal Word, our Savior Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

Sending

Blessing May God direct your ways in peace, make you abound in love for one another and for all, and strengthen your hearts until the coming of our Lord Jesus. Almighty God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever. *Amen.*

Sending Song “Hark, the Glad Sound!”

ELW 239

Dismissal **P:** Go in peace. Christ is with you.
C: *Thanks be to God.*

Postlude “On Jordan’s Banks”

Malcolm Archer
(please remain seated or leave quietly.)

SERVING US TODAY

Assisting Minister	E. Wuschnakowski
Audio	D.Pascoe
Lectors	V. Suknundun, C. Fergin
Communion Server	A. Luciani
Ushers	B. O'Reilly, P. O'Reilly, Team # 4
Greeter	A. Kouhi-Klemencic
Altar	M. Lochert
Counter	D. Brown
Coffee Set-up	C. Stewart
Coffee Clean-up	J. & J. Rouse
Baked Goods	C. Stewart

ST. PHILIP'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

Pastor: Tuula Van Gaasbeek	stphilippastor@bellnet.ca	416.859.5588
Music Director: Boris Treivus	conductor@rogers.com	416.879.8126
Office Administrator: Margaret Isaacs	stphilip@bellnet.ca	416.622.5577

Contextual Placement Students:

Victoria Mlynko	victoria@blossomtherapy.ca	416.312.1143
Jordan Smith	smit3090@mylaurier.ca	416.356.3505

THIS WEEK AT ST. PHILIP'S

DAY	TIME	PROGRAM
Monday	11:00 am - 1:00 pm	Euchre
	1:00 - 2:00 pm	Gentle Fitness for Seniors
	2:30 and 7:30 pm	Advent Bible Study
	7:15 pm	Joyful Noise Bell Choir
Tuesday	5:00 - 6:30 pm	Homework Club
Wednesday	10:00 am	Cover Girls Sewing Group
	7:30 pm	Choir
Friday	6:30 pm	Yoga

VISION STATEMENT

*We are a diverse and inclusive Lutheran faith community freed by the grace of Christ to find God and self as we connect with our neighbours. We **practise** hospitality of open hearts and open arms. We **unite** with partners to make a difference in our neighbourhood. We **nurture** community of Christ.*

REMINDERS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

In our prayers....

Janet Biernacki, Beverly Binhammer, Rodney Erlandson, Gudrun George, Sabine George, Mark Kieswetter, Fran Moore, Marion Morningstar, Pat Penney, Julie Potocny, Eleonore Ritthaler, Elga Smidt, George Willis, Judith Wilson, Hugh Wood.

Sunday, December 9th @ 7:00 pm: Carols and Lessons @ Graceview Presbyterian Church, 588 Renforth Drive.

Thursday, December 13th @ 12:00 pm: 50+ Christmas Luncheon followed by Christmas Concert @ **2:00 pm**. Lunch tickets: \$25; Concert: Freewill offering. **Final day** to purchase tickets is today, **Sunday, December 9th**.



Sunday, December 16th: Christmas Pageant with Joyful Noise Bell Choir followed by Potluck Luncheon. Please see bulletin board to sign up for help and items for the lunch.

Sunday, December 16th: Delivery date of poinsettia flowers for those who ordered.

Tuesday, December 18th @ 12:30 pm: SPLC Book Club will meet to discuss the latest book. New members are welcome at any time.

Friday, December 21st @ 7:30 pm: Blue Christmas/Longest Night. A special service for those who are experiencing stress, grief, or loneliness this Christmas season. Refreshments with the pastoral care team will follow.

REQUEST FOR HAND-ME-DOWNS: We are in need of women's winter boots and winter coats for 3 people. Shoe size: 6, 7; Coat sizes: Youth: 10/12 and 14/16, and Women's XS. Please speak with Pastor Tuula if you can be of help. Thank you.

Interfaith Lecture Series: Join with Islington United Church's Interfaith Circle in January to learn more about *Eastern Traditions: Pathways to Spirituality*, at a lecture series on Wednesday evenings at the church, 25 Burnhamthorpe Road, from **7:30 - 9:30 pm** - **January 9** Hinduism with Swamini Shivapriyananda, Chinmaya Heritage Centre, Brampton; **January 16** Buddhism with Rev. Dr. Bhante Saranapala, the Urban Monk, from West End Buddhist Temple; and **January 23** with Michelle Voss Roberts, Principal, Emmanuel College, University of Toronto, where the panel will explore how Christianity engages with Eastern Traditions. Sign-up for the series by contacting b.sheffield@rogers.com

CHRISTMAS JAZZ

*Sunday, December
23 @ 10:00 am*

***MUSIC BY
KENNETH CARTWRIGHT***

