

Seventh Annual Advent Season Vigil with *The Silenced*

Advent prepares us for the birth of Jesus who brings concrete hope and teaches caring. Such caring especially includes those who have been excluded from the riches of society. Is it something about being born in a "cowshed", amid the phenomenally hierarchal Roman Empire, that links these?

Faith traditions call us to stand with the poor and vulnerable. People standing here today have witnessed if not experienced first-hand the suffering resulting from government policies. We witness increasing numbers of homeless people and the working poor. We see seniors and disabled people who cannot get adequate home care and illiterate and disabled people who have been denied welfare benefits.

The plethora of encouragements to donate goods for the homeless or contribute gifts to needy children mask the dark reality of political and economic policies that perpetuate homelessness and poverty.

Thus, Advent is a prophetic time to mark light coming into the world. Thus we stand here today, and through these four Advent Wednesday noon hours, to bear witness to the cries for justice—*a setting right* of that which has caused hurt, exclusion and anguish.

We are here today, as the Spirit summons and enables us, to be a faithful public witness to the current fate of those who, like us, have felt silenced.

We invite you to join us in our witness, and we urge you to express your concerns to the following:

- Mayor Gregor Roberson, City of Vancouver.
Email: mayorandcouncil@vancouver.ca; Tel: 604 873-7011
- Gordon Campbell, Premier of British Columbia.
Email: gordon.campbell.mla.bc.ca; Tel: 604 660-3202
- The Rt. Hon. Stephen Harper, Prime Minister of Canada.
Email: Harper.S@parl.gc.ca; Tel: 403 253-7990

MAGNIFICAT! By Vivaldi **A Festive 40th Anniversary Christmas**

8 pm Friday, December 3 at Orpheum Theatre
(601 Smith St at Seymour St)

Vancouver Chamber Choir
Pacifica Singers
Martha Guth, soprano
Vancouver Chamber Choir Alumni Chorus
Vancouver Chamber Orchestra
John William Trotter, conductor
Jon Washburn, conductor

Meet composer Stephen Chatman
at a pre-concert talk at 7:00 pm

Tickets to MAGNIFICAT!
are \$19.50 - \$47.50,
available at Ticketmaster.
Visit ticketmaster.ca
to purchase online
or phone 604-280-3311.



FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT
NOVEMBER 28, 2010

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Holy Communion, Setting I

Worshippers may wish to light a votive candle in memory of a loved one or for meditation. This may be done at any time before or during the liturgy except during community prayers, readings or homily. Since the number of candles is limited and to avoid mishaps, parents and caregivers are asked to be attentive when allowing children to light one.

INTRODUCTION

The new church year begins with a wake-up call: Christ is coming soon! In today's readings both Paul and Jesus challenge us to wake from sleep, for we know neither the day nor hour of the Lord's coming. Isaiah proclaims the day when God will gather all people on the holy mountain and there will be no more war or suffering. Though we vigilantly watch for the promised day of salvation, we wait for what we already have: Christ comes among us this day as the word and meal that strengthens our faith in the promises of God.

PRELUDE	<i>Saviour of the Nations, Come Watchet Auf</i>	Johann Heinrich Buttstedt Johann Sebastian Bach
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GATHERING

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ADVENT CALL TO WORSHIP *“Creator of the Stars of Night” (Men’s Choir)*

The first candle on the Advent wreath is lit during the singing

ORDER FOR CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS p. 94

GATHERING HYMN *#259 “Fling Wide the Door”, v.2—women; v.3—men*

GREETING AND KYRIE p. 98

SALUTATION AND PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. By your merciful protection save us from the threatening dangers of our sins, and enlighten our walk in the way of your salvation, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**



7th ANNUAL ADVENT VIGIL
For the Silenced

Join us in a Silent Stand for Justice for those who are Silenced – the Homeless or pushed out - the Hungry - the Unemployed – the Forgotten.

Our faith traditions call us to stand with the poor, the vulnerable and the oppressed and bear witness to the hope that is implicit in this Advent season.

Everyone is invited to join us
These Wednesday noon hours in Advent - All Gather at:

- 12/1 @ St. Andrews-Wesley United Church - N.W. corner Burrard & Nelson
- 12/8 @ Corner 1st Ave & Commercial Drive
- 12/17 @ Downtown Main Library Branch - Robson Street Entrance
- 12/24 @ Cathedral Square, N. E. corner Richards & Dunsmuir
(Opposite Holy Rosary Cathedral)

For further information call:

Anglican	Pat Mc Sherry	604- 687 - 6844
Baptist	Rev. R. (Bob) G. Doll	604- 420 - 4950
Catholic	Sr. Elizabeth Kelliher	604 - 685 - 9987
Lutheran	Lori-Anne Boutin	604 - 682 - 2362
Rainbow Community Church	Bert Clever	604 - 723 – 1941
United Church	Rev. Barry K. Morris	604 –254 – 4531

Ingrid Anderson is moving to her new place soon. She is giving away a full size bed frame, box spring and a 2-year-old mattress plus a night stand. If you are interested, please call Ingrid at 604-434-6333 and arrange pick up between December 4th and 7th at 3949 Hertford St, Burnaby. If you are available and willing, please help Ingrid and her nephew on December 4. They need help load the dining room suite and a dresser into a U-Haul on that day. Please contact Ingrid for more details.

Leocadie Sinigirira, an ELSA student from Burundi, is looking for a place to rent for her and her 7 children, ranging from 18 to 7 years of age (6 girls and 1 boy). They have to vacate the current residence by December 15th. BC Housing and welfare subsidies are covering the monthly rent. If you know of a place to rent large enough for Leocadie and her family, please call church office at 604-435-6020 or email info@firstlutheranvancouver.com.


Announcements

	<u>This Week</u>
Thursday Choir, 7:30 pm followed by Christmas Party	Next Sunday Sunday School, 9:15 am Advent II Worship , 10:30 am

LUMS Concert 2010

Craft Fairs

Date:	Tuesday, December 14, 2010
Time:	7:30 P.M.
Conductor:	Tak Maeda
Featuring:	SEA TO SKY WIND ENSEMBLE
Place:	Mt. Olivet Lutheran Church 1700 Mountain Highway North Vancouver
Admission:	By Donation
Proceeds:	To The Lutheran Urban Mission Society



Two Christmas/Winter Craft Fairs to attend on December 4:

1. St. Thomas Anglican, 10 am-2 pm
2. Collingwood Neighbourhood House, 11 am—5 pm. (Special appearance at CNH by Santa. Please see poster on bulletin board for more information.)

Caroling Volunteers Needed!

The ELSA classes on the lower level will be preparing carols for a carolling competition at the Christmas party on Friday, December 17th. Students and teachers would love it if congregation members could help ESLA students prepare their songs. There will be 2 practices: Thursday, December 2nd and Friday, December 10th from 11:45 am to 12: 15 pm, and the competition will be on Friday, December 17th. If you would like to volunteer, please email Carla Mountali at cmountali@cnh.bc.ca or call 604-451-8321.

CHILDREN'S TIME *(Part of this will be the singing of this song)* *(Cantor sings v.1; all sing v.2)*

Jesus, our brother, kind and good,
 was humbly born in a stable rude;
 and the friendly beasts around Him stood.
 Jesus, our brother, kind and good.

"I", said the Donkey, shaggy and brown,
 "I carried His mother up hill and down;
 I carried His mother to Bethlehem town."
 "I", said the Donkey, shaggy and brown.

WORD

FIRST READING: Isaiah 2:1-5

The visionary message presented in this reading focuses on a future day when God establishes a universal reign of peace. Divine decisions will make war obsolete, and the worshiping community responds: "Let us walk in that light of that Lord now!"

The word that Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem.

²In days to come
 the mountain of the LORD's house
 shall be established as the highest of the mountains,
 and shall be raised above the hills;
 all the nations shall stream to it.

³Many peoples shall come and say,
 "Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD,
 to the house of the God of Jacob;
 that he may teach us his ways
 and that we may walk in his paths."
 For out of Zion shall go forth instruction,
 and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.

⁴He shall judge between the nations,
 and shall arbitrate for many peoples;
 they shall beat their swords into plowshares,
 and their spears into pruning hooks;
 nation shall not lift up sword against nation,
 neither shall they learn war any more.

⁵O house of Jacob,
 come, let us walk
 in the light of the LORD!

Response after the reading: **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 122

I was glad when they said to me, "Let us go to the house of the LORD." (Ps. 122:1)

Refrain



Tone



I was glad when they¹ said to me,
 "Let us go to the house¹ of the LORD."
²Now our¹ feet are standing
 within your gates,¹ O Jerusalem.
³Jerusalem is built¹ as a city
 that is at unity¹ with itself;
⁴to which the tribes go up, the tribes¹ of the LORD,
 the assembly of Israel, to praise the name¹ of the LORD. R
⁵For there are the¹ thrones of judgment,
 the thrones of the¹ house of David.
⁶Pray for the peace¹ of Jerusalem:
 "May they pros-¹per who love you.
⁷Peace be with-¹ in your walls
 and quietness with-¹ in your towers.
⁸For the sake of my kindred¹ and companions,
 I pray for¹ your prosperity.
⁹Because of the house of the¹ LORD our God,
 I will seek to¹ do you good." R

FRACTION The gifts of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God.**



It is Christ himself who invites all the baptized members of God's family — and all our guests — to come to his table where he gives his body and blood, along with the gifts of forgiveness, life and salvation under the forms of bread and wine. During Advent, the wafer is received in the open palm. All may drink from the first (common) cup or, instinct (dip) the wafer into the second (pouring) cup. Those who desire prayer and anointing for the healing of any illness or brokenness in mind, body or spirit are invited to receive these blessings after communion.

MUSIC DURING COMMUNION

#253 "He Came Down"

He Shall Feed His Flock (Messiah)

George Frederic Handel

"NOW, LORD, LET YOUR SERVANT"

p. 113

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION *(All rise)*

SENDING

BLESSING *(Threefold Blessing)*

p. 115

SENDING HYMN

#263 "Saviour of the Nations, Come"

(v.3 women; v.4 Men; v.5 Organ)

DISMISSAL

POSTLUDE

Once He Came in Blessing

Johann Sebastian Bach

ADVENT/CHRISTMAS WORSHIP SCHEDULE

November 28 First Advent Worship, 10:30 am
December 5 Second Advent Worship, 10:30 am
December 12 Third Advent Worship, 10:30 am
December 19 Fourth Advent, 10:30 am, Children's Presentation, Dessert Pot Lunch

December 24 Carol and Candlelight, 7:30 pm
December 25 Eucharist, 10:30 am
December 26 Sunday after Christmas, 10:30 am

January 2 Epiphany Worship at St. Thomas Anglican , 10 am
 (address at: 2444 41st Ave E Vancouver, V5R 2W4 Tel: 604-434-6111)

APOSTLES' CREED

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and dead.**

**In believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church, the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

THE PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

Waiting for the fulfillment of our hope in Christ's promised coming, we pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation. *A brief silence.*

(The prayers are sung using the song "Wait for the Lord" on the insert. Following the last verse and refrain, the cantor will chant the names of those in need, closing with the words: "Wait for the Lord." All then sing the refrain for the last time.)

SHARING OF THE PEACE

OFFERING/OFFERTORY *All Earth is Hopeful* arr. David Cherwien

OFFERTORY PRAYER *(All rise)* p. 107

MEAL

GREAT THANKSGIVING *(The three-fold exchange is sung unaccompanied)*

"HOLY, HOLY, HOLY"

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING *(Prayer over the gifts)* p. 110

LORD'S PRAYER

"LAMB OF GOD"

SECOND READING: Romans 13:11–14

Paul compares the advent of Christ to the coming of dawn. We live our lives today in light of Christ's coming in the future.

¹¹Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; ¹²the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armour of light; ¹³let us live honourably as in the day, not in revelling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarrelling and jealousy. ¹⁴Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

Response after the reading: **Thanks be to God.**

CHOIR ANTHEM *"Bethlehem Wind"*

Joseph Martin

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION *"Let Your Steadfast Love"*
(Sing before and after reading)

p. 103

GOSPEL: Matthew 24:36–44

Jesus describes his second coming as a sudden, unexpected event that will bring salvation or judgment upon people caught up in the usual affairs of daily life. He urges people to be alert and expectant.

Response after announcement: **Glory to you, O God**

³⁶But about that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. ³⁷For as the days of Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. ³⁸For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, ³⁹and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away, so too will be the coming of the Son of Man. ⁴⁰Then two will be in the field; one will be taken and one will be left. ⁴¹Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken and one will be left. ⁴²Keep awake therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. ⁴³But understand this: if the owner of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. ⁴⁴Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour.

Response to conclusion of reading: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

HOMILY *(Silence for reflection to follow)*

HYMN OF THE DAY

247 "Come Now, O Prince of Peace"