# ST. MARGARET OF SCOTLAND ANGLICAN CHURCH

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ADVENT 3 Sunday, December 12, 2021

# Third Sunday of Advent

December 12, 2021 10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist

## THE GATHERING OF THE COMMUNITY

Processional: People Look East #91 HB

**THE GREETING:** Rev. Alex Hewitt

Celebrant: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy

Spirit, be with you all.

**People:** And also with you.

Celebrant: Almighty God,

All: to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hidden.

Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy name; through Christ our

Lord. Amen.

#### LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

## Third Sunday of Advent Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Celebrant: Today we light the candles of Peace and Hope again as we remember that Christ will

come again and bring everlasting peace to the world.

Light the candles of Hope and Peace

Celebrant: Today is the third Sunday of Advent, the Sunday of Joy and we light the pink candle to

remind us of the joy that Mary felt when the angel Gabriel told her that a special child

would be born to her - a child who would save and deliver his people.

People: We know that God wants us all to have his joy in our lives for the angel gave that

message to the shepherds: "I am bringing you good news of a great joy for all people: to you is born this day, in the City of David, a Saviour, who is the Messiah,

the Lord."

Celebrant: We light this candle to remember that Christ brings the promise of a new life – a life in

which the blind receive sight, the lame walk, and the prisoners are set free. We light it to

remember that he alone brings true and everlasting joy.

Light the pink candle – the candle of JOY

Celebrant: Let us pray,

People:

Loving God, we thank you for the joy you bring us. Help us prepare our hearts for this gift. Bless our worship. Help us to hear and to do your word. We ask it in the name of the one born in Bethlehem. Amen.

### **THE COLLECT OF THE DAY** (Prayer of the Day)

All:

God of power and mercy, you call us once again to celebrate the coming of your Son. Remove those things which hinder love of you, that when he comes, he may find us waiting in awe and wonder for him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen

### THE PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

FIRST READING: Zephaniah 3:14-20

#### A READING FROM THE BOOK OF ZEPHANIAH

Sing aloud, O daughter Zion; shout, O Israel! Rejoice and exult with all your heart, O daughter Jerusalem!

The LORD has taken away the judgments against you, he has turned away your enemies. The king of Israel, the LORD, is in your midst; you shall fear disaster no more. On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem: Do not fear, O Zion; do not let your hands grow weak.

The LORD, your God, is in your midst, a warrior who gives victory; he will rejoice over you with gladness, he will renew you in his love; he will exult over you with loud singing as on a day of festival. I will remove disaster from you, so that you will not bear reproach for it.

I will deal with all your oppressors at that time. And I will save the lame and gather the outcast, and I will change their shame into praise and renown in all the earth. At that time, I will bring you home, at the time when I gather you; for I will make you renowned and praised among all the peoples of the earth, when I restore your fortunes before your eyes, says the LORD.

The Word of the Lord.

**People:** Thanks be to God

**CANTICLE:** Isaiah 12:2-6

REFRAIN: Ring out your joy, for the Holy One of Israel is in your midst.

Surely God is my salvation; I will trust, and will not be afraid, for the LORD GOD is my strength and my might; he has become my salvation.  $\bf R$ 

With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation. **R** 

And you will say in that day: Give thanks to the LORD, call on his name; make known his deeds among the nations; proclaim that his name is exalted. **R** 

Sing praises to the LORD, for he has done gloriously; let this be known in all the earth. R

Shout aloud and sing for joy, O royal Zion, for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel. R

## **SECOND READING:** Philippians 4:4-7

#### A READING FROM THE FIRST LETTER OF PAUL TO THE PHILIPPIANS

Rejoice in the Lord always; again, I will say Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.

And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

The Word of the Lord.

**People:** Thanks be to God

THE HOLY GOSPEL: Luke 3:7-18

THE HOLY GOSPEL OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST ACCORDING TO LUKE

#### **People:** Glory to You Lord Jesus Christ

John said to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruits worthy of repentance. Do not begin to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our ancestor'; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham.

Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire." And the crowds asked him, "What then should we do?" In reply he said to them, "Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise."

Even tax collectors came to be baptized, and they asked him, "Teacher, what should we do?" He said to them, "Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you."

Soldiers also asked him, "And we, what should we do?" He said to them, "Do not extort money from anyone by threats or false accusation, and be satisfied with your wages."

As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, John answered all of them by saying, "I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire.

His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire." So, with many other exhortations, he proclaimed the good news to the people.

#### The Gospel of Christ

People: Praise to You Lord Jesus Christ

**SERMON:** Fr. Alex

(Time allowed for Silent Reflection.)

#### THE APOSTLE'S CREED

Celebrant: Let us confess the faith of our baptism, as we say,

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

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He 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 and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I 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.

#### PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE (#12)

(In joyful expectation let us pray to our Saviour and Redeemer, saying, "Lord Jesus, come soon!")

Celebrant: O Wisdom, from the mouth of the Most High, you reign over all things to the ends of the

earth: come and teach us how to live.

People: Lord Jesus, come soon!

Celebrant: O Lord, and head of the house of Israel, you appeared to Moses in the fire of the burning

bush and you gave the law on Sinai: come with outstretched arm and ransom us.

**People:** Lord Jesus, come soon!

Celebrant: O Branch of Jesse, standing as a sign among the nations, all kings will keep silence

before you and all peoples will summon you to their aid: come, set us free and delay no

more.

People: Lord Jesus, come soon!

Celebrant: O Key of David and sceptre of the house of Israel, you open and none can shut; you shut

and none can open: come and free the captives from prison.

People: Lord Jesus, come soon!

Celebrant: O Morning Star, splendour of the light eternal and bright Sun of righteousness; come and

enlighten all who dwell in darkness and in the shadow of death.

People: Lord Jesus, come soon!

Celebrant: O King of the nations, you alone can fulfil their desires: Cornerstone, you make

opposing nations one: come and save the creature you fashioned from clay.

People: Lord Jesus, come soon!

Celebrant: O Emmanuel, hope of the nations and their Saviour: come and save us, Lord our God.

People: Lord Jesus, come soon!

#### **CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION**

Celebrant: Dear friends in Christ, God is steadfast in love and infinite in mercy; he welcomes

sinners and invites them to his table. Let us confess our sins, confident in God's

forgiveness.

(Silence is kept.)

Celebrant: Most merciful God,

People: we confess that 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 neighbours as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us, that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the

glory of your name. Amen.

Celebrant: Almighty God have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins,

confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and keep you in eternal life; through Jesus

Christ our Lord.

People: Amen.

#### THE PEACE

Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

**People:** And also with you.

#### THE CELEBRATION OF THE EUCHARIST

**Offertory** 

Hymn: Lo He Comes #114 HB

#### PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS:

All: God of hope, renew in us the joy of your salvation and make us a living sacrifice to

you, for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

#### **EUCHARISTIC PRAYER #3:**

Celebrant: The Lord be with you. **People:** And also with you.

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

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

Celebrant: 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 this world, that we, without shame or fear, may rejoice to behold his appearing. Therefore, we raise 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.

People: 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.

Celebrant: We give thanks to you, Lord our God, for the goodness and love you have made known to us in creation; in calling Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the

prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus your Son.

For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Saviour and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of

sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, a death he freely accepted, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: this is my body which is given for you. Do this in

remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them and said, "Drink this, all of you: this is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the

remembrance of me."

Celebrant: Therefore, Father, according to his command,

People: we remember his death, we proclaim his resurrection, we await his coming in glory;

Celebrant: and we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, Lord of all; presenting to

you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts, that they may be the sacrament of the body of Christ and his blood of the new covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we, made acceptable to him, may be sanctified by the Holy Spirit.

In the fullness of time, reconcile all things in Christ, and made them new, and bring us to that city of light where you dwell with all your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation; by whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory are yours, almighty Father, now and for ever.

People: Amen.

Celebrant: Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

All: Christ has died,

Christ is risen,

Christ will come again.

Celebrant: Merciful Father, pour out your Holy Spirit on us and on these gifts of bread and wine. In

eating and drinking together may we be made one with Christ and with one another.

People: Amen.

#### THE LORD'S PRAYER

Celebrant: And now, as our Saviour Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

People: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will

be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive

us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us.

And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom,

the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

#### **BREAKING OF BREAD #5**

Celebrant: God of promise, you prepare a banquet for us in your kingdom. **People:** Happy are those who are called to the supper of the lamb.

### THE COMMUNION

### **Communion Hymns:**

Lord Enthroned in Heavenly #84 HB Let All Mortal Flesh #48 HB

#### PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION:

All: Merciful God, may this eucharist free us from our sins, fill us with unending joy,

and prepare us for the birthday of our Saviour. We ask this in the name of Jesus

Christ, who is Lord now and for ever. Amen.

#### THE DOXOLOGY:

All: Glory to God, whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask

or imagine. Glory to God from generation to generation, in the Church and in

Christ Jesus, for ever and ever. Amen.

#### THE BLESSING:

Celebrant: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy

Spirit, be with us all evermore.

People: Amen.

**NOTICES:** Movie Night, Thurs. Dec. 16<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 p.m. (Movie is the classic "A Christmas Story".

Movie is free but we do appreciate a donation to the foodbank.

Birthdays/Anniversaries/Announcements

Recessional: When the King Shall Come Again #109 HB

#### THE DISMISSAL:

Leader: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

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### **Assisting Rev. Alex today:**

Celebrant/Preacher: The Rev. Alex Hewitt

Bread: Fr. Alex First Reading: Pauline Cook Second Reading: Lorraine Chew Prayers: **Doug Court** Gospel: Peter Beckett Audio/Visual: **David Paradis** Server: Beth Steffler Music: Craig Snider

Sidespersons: Grant Robinson, Kevin Lemoine Chancel: Margaret Paradis, Michelle Sinclair

This morning in our worship we remember in our prayers those of our family and friends who have immediate needs and concerns:

Rose McIntyre; Dave & Winnie Fulcher; Laura Johnston; Phil & Kathy C.; Cecil Nelson & Family; Cole; Stephen Bertelsen; Martin Bertelsen; Lorraine W.; Sharron Snider; Peter Hubbard; Mark Ralston; Kim Middaugh; Jackson; Sally Smith; Marilyn Lloyd; Theresa & Pete; Valerie; Darlene Jessem; Doreen; Brenda Jessem; Brenda & Brian; Derek; Jaxon Croft; Sean.

The names below are people in need of ongoing prayers for various reasons so we ask you to please continue to pray for them and their continuing need of God's healing touch and grace:

Adesh; Lisa Marie; Sophia L.; Joyce Antony; Pam Rees; Alvin Maynard; Dave Lawrence; Livia & Neil Purcell; Jim Tomkins; Sheila Green; Carrie Snow; Sheri Scott; Carl; Mark & Erin; Wally Raymond; Christine; Audrey Moody; Lynda Raye; Garn Mennell; Lee & Jeannie Martin; Michelle Sinclair and mom; Jane & Ron Lewis; Cecilia Mowat; Marilyn Foley; Bill Snow; Deborah Hall; Owen; Jen Galicinski; Arlene; Joan Gough; Lorraine W; Fr. Murray; Margie Mills; Eunice Merrett; Jean Wallace; Nancy Dodds; Bill & Cathy Gray; Wendy Goodyer; Donna Wilson; Gordon Kennedy; Do Saunders; Jefferson Jr.; June Osolin; Tanya Wade-Vargas.

## In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer we pray for:

The Anglican Church of Canada

## In the Toronto Diocesan Cycle of Prayer we pray for:

The Peterborough Deanery