

December 24, 2017

Fourth Sunday of Advent

As we gather in worship, we acknowledge that we meet on the ancestral unceded lands of the Songhees and Esquimalt peoples.

10:30 AM JOINT SERVICE **Christopher Page**

Prelude Music – Children’s Praise Anthems with Choir

Announcements & Birthday Bag

Advent Candle Lighting & Song *see peach insert*

Processional Hymn 91 *People Look East! The Time Is Near*

Gathering of the Community p. 230

Kyrie

Collect p. 272

First Reading 2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16 p. 245 Pat Kilner

Gradual Anthem *O Holy Night* **Kyron Basu**

Gospel Luke 1:26-38 p. 831 Heather Page

Sermon Christopher Page

Choir Anthem *Along The Little Road To Bethlehem*

Prayers of the People

Confession, Absolution, Peace

Offertory Hymn 102 *Prepare the Way, O Zion*

Doxology

Eucharistic Prayer “A” p. 241 Christopher Page

Communion Hymn *Hail, Hail to the Newborn King*

(see peach insert for lyrics)

Prayer & Blessing p. 247

Recessional Hymn 138 *Hark! The Herald Angels Sing*

(Kyron Basu will sing verse 1; congregation joins for verses 2 and 3)

Dismissal: Go now in peace / Go now in peace

May the love of Christ surround us

Everywhere everywhere / We may go

Postlude Music

Offering

It is Anglican custom to receive a financial offering in our worship, as an expression of gratitude to God. Please do not feel compelled to participate in this offering. Your presence alone is gift enough.

**Hearing Loop Installed: Switch hearing aid to T-Coil
or ask an usher for a wireless headset.**

Welcome!

We want you to feel welcome at St. Philip. All are encouraged to come forward to receive the bread and wine. If you prefer to receive a blessing, please keep your head and hands down. If you are more comfortable not drinking from the cup, you may keep your head down and let it pass or after receiving the bread return to your pew. You may receive a gluten free wafer if you tell the person distributing the bread. Prayer Ministers are available, at the side of the altar.

New Year’s Eve Taize at St. Philip: Everyone is invited to this simple candle-lit Taizé service with chant, prayer, word and silence, on Sunday, December 31, 2017, 9:00 - 10:00 PM.

Opportunities for Conversation about St. Philip

In preparation for our St. Philip Annual Congregational Meeting to be held on Tuesday 30 January, 2018 at 7:00 p.m., Christopher would like to meet with any persons interested in chatting about our life and ministry together. There are three opportunities to gather at the church for conversation with Christopher in the New Year: Monday 15 January 7:00 p.m. downstairs at the church, or upstairs on Wednesday 17 January at either 10:00 a.m. or 1:30 p.m.

We will discuss any:

- Questions/ comments you may have about our life in ministry together at St. Philip
- Ways St. Philip might strengthen our ability to encourage you in your spiritual life and ministry
- Ways you would like to see our community life and ministry together deepened
- Ways you might feel called to contribute in ministry to our life together

Remember When...January 10th, 1:30pm

January brings a new year, yet old wisdom...Come join us as we gather around a table for refreshments, conversation, and sharing the stories we have to tell. For more information, contact Karen Fenimore, karenf@stphilipvictoria.ca, 250-477-7257.

St. Philip Anglican Church, Oak Bay
2928 Eastdowne Rd. Victoria, BC V8R 5R8

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Office 250-592-6823 / office@stphilipvictoria.ca
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Hey! Like Us! Be part of our Facebook presence at
<https://www.facebook.com/stphilipoakbay/>

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Children's Minister Shannon Carmichael H 250.360.0383
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Youth Worker Caleb Hosie caleb@stphilipvictoria.ca

Community Life Facilitator Karen Fenimore H 250.477.7257
karenf@stphilipvictoria.ca

Wardens

Sharon Richmond sharonrichmond@gmail.com H 250.592.4073
Karen Van Rheenen pkvanrhe@gmail.com H 250.477.9156

Prayer Ministry Bonnie Bailey Pipes H 250.592.9847
bonniecbailey@gmail.com

Envelope Secretary Alice Jourmel office@stphilipvictoria.ca

11:15 Organist & Choir Director

Jill Ann Siemens jillann@stphilipvictoria.ca

Service Times

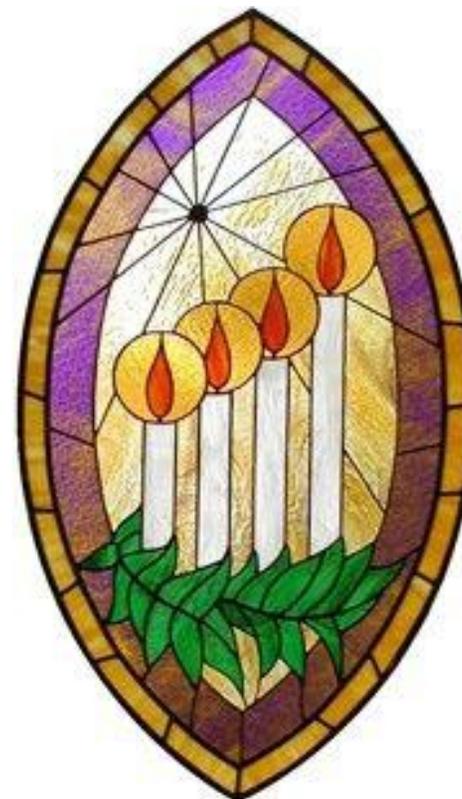
Sunday morning (3 services):

- 8:00 AM Holy Communion
- 9:00 AM Family Eucharist & Sunday School
- 11:15 AM Choral Eucharist 2nd, 4th & 5th Sundays
Morning Prayer 1st & 3rd Sundays

Midweek:

- Silent Prayer 20 min 'sit' 8:30 AM Monday thru Thursdays
- Tuesday: Contemplative Prayer – 2 sittings of 20 min at 7:00 PM
- Thursday: Eucharist at 10:00 AM; Bible Study at 10:30 AM

Welcome to
St. Philip Anglican Church
'a spacious welcoming place'



December 24, 2017
Fourth Sunday of Advent

Prayers for the week of December 24, 2017 ADVENT IV

We light our 4th Advent candle for Love. Loving God, Light of the World, come, be born anew in us. You alone are the source of our Love, our Light, our peace and our salvation.

We pray for peace in our hearts, in our community, in the world.
We pray for the peace of Jerusalem.

We remember to you the people of North Korea, and all those working to negotiate peace.

We pray for the just and proper use of your creation. We lift up to you all those touched in recent months by fires, hurricanes, tornados, floods and earthquakes. Lord, renew in us a sense of reverence for this earth and our connectedness to the web of life.

We remember to you all in harm's way from the fires in southern California and the fire fighters as they battle exhaustion as well as the enormous blazes.

God of compassion, we remember to you all those who seek refuge and ask comfort for those who grieve, peace to those who have been touched by violence.

We pray for those who have died in the bus and train accidents this week, for their families and for all those injured in the Amtrack Cascade train derailment and in the Mexican Tour bus crash.

We remember too, the people of Yemen, of Libya, South Sudan
We lift up Bouchra, Abdul, Mohamed, Sihem and Badr.

We lift up our relationship with the First Nations Peoples of this land and pray for the continuing work of reconciliation and healing between the people of our cultures. We commemorate the missing and murdered Aboriginal women whose lives have been harmed or lost to gender-based violence.

For the church: In our diocese, we pray for Bishop Logan.
In the cycle of prayer for the parishes, we lift up the people of St. Mary the Virgin, Oak Bay and their rector, Craig Hiebert.

For all who are in sickness, sorrow, or any kind of danger:
May your Spirit touch these loved ones with an awareness of your presence and your peace: Lou-Ann Edgar David Geddes
Paul Beardmore Heather Mayne

**HAVE YOU JOINED US RECENTLY –
OR CHANGED YOUR ADDRESS OR TELEPHONE ?**

Please help us keep our directory up to date

Name(s): _____ Date: _____

Children: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ Postal Code _____

E-Mail(s): _____

Telephone(s): _____

Please check all that apply:

- I am a newcomer & would like to be on the parish list (and receive parish emails)
- I would like to change my address
- I would like to have a conversation about St. Philip Church
- I would like to have **Offering envelopes** (*tax receipts are issued at year end*)
- I would like financial information about Direct Deposit giving, planned giving, or leaving a bequest in my will

Deadline for Annual Reports: In preparation for our Annual Meeting we publish a record of our year together. All staff, volunteer and ministry coordinators and mission representatives should write a report and give it to Alice Jourmel in the church office (emails especially welcome) by **January 8, 2018.**

Thursday Communion and Book Study will resume on January 11, 2018.

Dear St. Philip Family,

December 15, 2017

I know Christopher has already sent a note of gratitude to you all but I wanted to add my own note of deep gratefulness for our wonderful celebration of thirty years in ministry together at St. Philip.

I am sitting here in our cozy cabin at Point-No-Point enjoying the amazing view, drinking my afternoon tea, reading a wonderful book, and feeling the warmth of the wood burning fireplace. Christopher is sitting beside me doing much the same. We both are feeling exceedingly blessed by this amazing gift of time away in the midst of the busyness we typically find at this time of year. It did not take long for us to fully adapt to the stillness and beauty of this place. We have enjoyed both stunning sunsets and stormy seas, walked to the north and walked to the south and have not been in the car since we arrived 2 days ago. And today we savoured a most delicious meal in the little dining room on the property.

I continue to hold the wonderful memories of the celebration of our 30 years together as a church family. What a rich and amazing legacy we share and I am grateful for all of you, those I have known for years and others who are newer to me. Being able to share in the lives of so many other spiritual seekers is a gift for which I am deeply grateful.

Our celebration together on Oct 29 sensitively and wonderfully reflected our deep and meaningful ties as a community; the many written good wishes, the very generous gift including our stay at Point-No-Point, the music written and sung, the flowers, the shared worship and meal with the combined congregations, the compilation of Christopher's blog, and most recently the lovely photo collection of the celebration itself. I am especially thankful to all who helped organize the event as well to each person who is a part of this amazing spiritual family we call St. Philip.

With affection and a grateful heart,
Heather

Upcoming Services & Events at St. Philip Church!

Family Christmas Eve Communion Service

Sunday 24 December 5:00 pm

Traditional Christmas Eve Service with Candlelight

Sunday 24 December 8:00 pm

Christmas Day Service – Monday 25 December 10:30 am

1st Sunday after Christmas Services

Sunday 31 December 8:00 am / 9:00 am / 11:15 am

New Year's Eve Taizé Service – Sunday 31 December 9:00 pm

Remember When... – Tuesday 10 January 1:30 pm

Annual Reports Due to Church Office – Monday 8 January 2018

Annual Parish Meeting – Tuesday 30 January 7:00 pm

PARISH COUNCIL 2018 NOMINATIONS

WARDEN Two-Year Terms (Elected); 2 positions

Karen Van Rheenen 1 year remaining as of 2018 Annual Meeting
Sharon Richmond nominated 2 year term

SYNOD DELEGATE Three-Year Terms (Elected); 4 positions (April 20-22, 2018)

Lillian Konkin 1 year remaining as of 2018 Annual Meeting
Karen Van Rheenen nominated
Gillian Rhodes nominated
Dave Conway nominated

TREASURER Five-Year Terms (Appointed); 1 position

Ged McLean to be appointed at 2018 Annual Meeting

PARISH COUNCIL MEMBER-AT-LARGE

Two-Year Terms (Elected); 5-6 positions

Larry Anthony 1 year remaining as of 2018 Annual Meeting
Raymond Fieltsch 1 year remaining as of 2018 Annual Meeting
Katherine Haupt 1 year remaining as of 2018 Annual Meeting
Ceal McLean 1 year remaining as of 2018 Annual Meeting
Sarah Litzenberger nominated for 2 year term
Ken Davidson nominated for 2 year term

The season of Advent includes the four weeks leading up to Christmas and began three Sundays ago, December 3. Instead of the **Gloria** we will be singing a **Kyrie** at the start of our Advent Eucharist services, and we light the candles on our **Advent Wreath**.

Like the changes we make during Lent (the period before Easter), these changes emphasize the reflective nature of this period. As the *Light of the World* is born anew, our joy resounds and we take up our 'Gloria' refrain again at Christmas.

Advent IV ~ Love

Reader 1: Long ago, God spoke to the people of Israel and promised a Messiah who would bring love to all people. Jesus, who was born in Bethlehem so many years ago, is the Messiah promised by God.

Reader 2: Jesus said: "As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love."

Reader 3: Today we light four candles, as we remember the hope, peace, joy and love that Jesus brings into our hearts.

Candle lighters light the first, second, third, and fourth candles.

All Sing Our Wreath Lighting Song:

Light one candle for hope, one bright candle for hope.
He brings hope to every heart, he comes, he comes.

Light one candle for peace, one bright candle for peace.
He brings peace to every heart, he comes, he comes.

Light one candle for joy, one bright candle for joy.
Every nation shall find salvation in Bethlehem's baby boy.

Light one candle for love, one bright candle for love.
He brings love to every heart, he comes, he comes.

We are planning a new ST. PHILIP PARISH PHOTO DIRECTORY for next spring, May 2018. We want to include you! Mark the dates when photos will be taken: Monday, May 7 through Sunday, May 13 - Appointment slots will be available: 1:30 to 8:30 PM Mon - to Friday, 10 AM to 5:00 PM on Saturday, Sunday 2:00 pm to 8:00 PM. **In preparation please make sure we have you on our contact list and that the information we have is correct.**

In the venerable tradition of "Why should the devil get all the good tunes" from the song writing collaboration of Conway and Page, and with apologies to Coots and Gillespie (1934) we sing again this morning: "Jesus' Love Is Always The Way". Reminder that, when we sing "Jesus' Love Is Always The Way", we are affirming that Jesus is the embodiment of love, light, truth, and goodness. These qualities are always the way to embody God's presence and to live in tune with our true nature:

Jesus' Love is Always The Way

It's time to love God, it's time to be kind
It's time to shine light; I'm hoping you'll find
Jesus' love is always the way.

He's opening hearts, and making them true
Gonna seek out the pure child in you
Jesus' love is always the way.

He sees what's good and true in us and seeks to find the love
He sends into the world below the gift from up above – so.

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It's time to shine light; I'm hoping you'll find
Jesus' love is always the way. Jesus' love is always the way.

Anthony, Conway & Page, December 2017

Communion Hymn *Hail, Hail to the Newborn King*

*Michael Ambery will lead us in this song
and the congregation is invited to join in*

Hail, hail to the newborn king; let our voices sing him our praises
Hail, hail to the guiding light that brought us tonight to our saviour

Ale, alleluia, alle, alleluia; Ale, alleluia, alle, alleluia

Come now, there it shines so bright

To the knowing light of the stable
Lean close to the child so dear cast aside your fear and be thankful

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