

**December 3, 2017**

**First Sunday of Advent**

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

**8:00 AM HOLY COMMUNION Christopher Page**

**9:00 AM FAMILY COMMUNION Christopher Page**

**Praise Music**

**Trisagion**

Collect of the Day p. 268

*Congregation sit; children to the front*

*Silence*

**Advent Candle Lighting & Song** *see blue insert*

First Lesson Isaiah 64:1-9 p. 606 Alice Jourmel

**Gradual Hymn** ***Lo, He Comes with Clouds Descending***

*Children go down to Sunday School during this hymn*

Gospel Mark 13:24-37 p. 826 Heather Page

Sermon Christopher Page

*Silence*

Prayers Chris Harvey

Confession & Absolution, Peace

**Offertory Hymn** ***People Look East***

*Doxology*

Eucharistic Prayer Christopher Page

“Our Father”

THE COMMUNION

*Chalice Bearers Heather Page and Sarah Litzenberger*

*Doxology Prayer*

Announcements, Anniversaries & Birthday Bag

Dismissal

**Closing Song**

**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.

**11:15 AM Morning Prayer Christopher Page**

Announcements, Anniversaries & Birthday Bag

**Processional Hymn 88** ***Come, Thou Long-expected Jesus***

Exhortation – Confession – Absolution

*Venite* Verses 1-7

First Reading: Isaiah 64:1-9 p. 606 Marilyn Berry

*Te Deum*

Second Reading: Mark 13:24-37 p. 826 Bruce Fyfe

*Benedictus*

The Creed, Suffrages, Collects p. 268 (BAS)

Sermon Christopher Page

**Offertory Hymn 474** ***Jesus, Where'er Thy People Meet***

*Doxology*

Prayer & Blessing

**Recessional Hymn 383** ***Jesus Shall Reign Where'er the Sun***

*Blessing of Aaron*

**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 during Communion at the 9:00 am service, at the side of the altar.

Please join us for coffee after the 9am service. Thank you to our coffee hosts this morning: Dayle Barnes, & Ken & Betty Davidson.

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

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

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<https://www.facebook.com/stphilipoakbay/>

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**Envelope Secretary** Alice Jourmel [office@stphilipvictoria.ca](mailto:office@stphilipvictoria.ca)

**11:15 Organist & Choir Director**  
Jill Ann Siemens [jillann@stphilipvictoria.ca](mailto:jillann@stphilipvictoria.ca)

**Service Times**

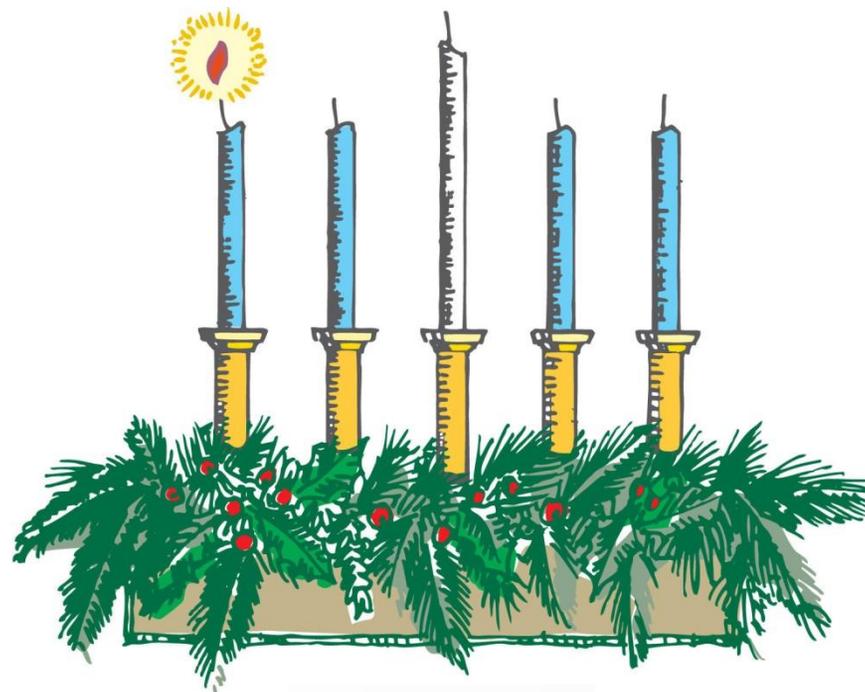
**Sunday morning** (3 services):

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



*hope*

**December 3, 2017**  
**First Sunday of Advent**

## Prayers for the week of December 3, 2017 - ADVENT I

Advent God, we wait for you, and we prepare to journey with you to Bethlehem's stable. May we know your tender mercy as we wait, ears attuned to the song of angels, and eyes alert for Bethlehem's star. Help us to prepare the way for the Light of the World, born anew.

Since 1991, December 6<sup>th</sup> has been set aside as a *National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women*. As we remember the 14 female engineering students who were murdered in an act of gender-based violence, during a class at l'École Polytechnique 28 years ago, we reflect on the violence that continues against women. We ask that you empower us, Lord to speak out against all forms of violence.

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. This week especially we commemorate the missing and murdered Aboriginal women whose lives have been harmed or lost to gender-based violence.

We pray for the people of Yemen facing famine, starvation, shipping blockades and trade embargoes, cholera. We remember to you Lord, all those who seek refuge and ask comfort for those who grieve, peace to those who have been touched by violence. We lift up Bouchra, Abdul, Mohamed, Sihem and Badr.

We pray for the Supreme Court of Canada as it deliberates on the cases of *Trinity Western University v. Law Society of Upper Canada* and *Law Society of British Columbia v. Trinity Western University*.

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

**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. John the Divine, Victoria and their clergy, Alastair McCollum, Kevin Arndt, Gillian Hoyer & Patrick Sibley.

**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

## Soil Needed

The container garden by the church door has settled and needs more soil. If you have any soil to share this winter or spring it would be appreciated. Soil can be added to the area near the church wall and smoothed over when annuals changed in May. Thank you.

**Socks, Socks, Socks:** Cathy is grateful for the gift of socks collected at St. Philip to be used in foot care for people on the streets through Our Place. They have all been put to good use and she could use many more. So please, if you are able, keep the socks coming!

## 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.**

## CHRISTMAS LUNCH: Tuesday, December 12, 2017 at 12pm!

Come join us for lunch and help us to celebrate this Christmas season. We'll decorate with holly and have lots of good things to eat. Jill Ann will play the piano for our carol sing-along. Sign-up sheets are out, do let us know if you are coming! Any questions? Contact Bonnie Bailey ([bonniecbailey@gmail.com](mailto:bonniecbailey@gmail.com)) or Sharon Richmond ([sharonrichmond@gmail.com](mailto:sharonrichmond@gmail.com)).

**Altar Guild Meeting:** The next meeting of the Altar Guild is Tuesday, December 5<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 am at the Church. We are always open to new members and would welcome anyone who is interested.

**Advent Reflections:** For the 23 days of Advent including Christmas day, Christopher will reflect on one of the first 23 sayings from the document known as "The Gospel of Thomas." These short reflections can be viewed at: <https://inaspaciousplace.wordpress.com>. A booklet containing each saying with an introduction is available on the table in the entranceway this morning.

**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.

**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

**Handel's Messiah:** Two upcoming concerts at UVic Centre Farquhar Auditorium by the Victoria Symphony and the Victoria Choral Society, on Friday, December 15<sup>th</sup> 8:00-10:00 pm and Sunday, December 17<sup>th</sup> 2:30-4:30 pm. For tickets see <https://victoria-symphony.ca/concerts/handels-messiah-12/2017-12-17/>

**Last Thursday Communion and Book Study** – 7 November. No 8:30 am sit Wednesday 13 Dec or Thursday 14 Dec.

**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.

**Shrove Tuesday Pancake Lunch and Supper**

Not long after Christmas we head into Lent. The Tuesday before Lent is Shrove Tuesday, this year February 13. Traditionally, we have served pancake lunch and supper on Shrove Tuesday at the church. This year, two of the main power houses behind this undertaking will be away. So, if we are going to have pancakes on Shrove Tuesday at St. Philip we need someone willing to co-ordinate. Please speak to Christopher if this seems to call your name.

**SILENT CHRISTMAS PRAYER LABYRINTH**

You are welcome to journey on our self-guided Christmas Prayer Labyrinth and prepare your heart in advance of Christmas. Make space in your days, your heart, and your steps to encounter the God who is Emmanuel. Drop-in to walk and pray at Victoria Alliance Church (1792 Townley Street) on:  
Mon, December 18, 6-8pm || Tue, December 19, 11am -1pm  
Wed, December 20, 11am-1pm || Thurs, December 21, 6-8pm  
Or for more information visit [www.victoriaalliance.ca](http://www.victoriaalliance.ca).

**Longest Night Service at St. Luke Cedar Hill  
Sunday, December 17, 2017 || 7:00PM - 8:00PM**

Do you find the lead up to Christmas difficult? This time of year can be hard for many of us because of loss or changes in our lives. Come and enter gently into a quiet holy time.

This Longest Night Service, a service of Light in the Midst of Darkness, is open to everyone. You are invited to share in this time of remembrance and hope. **Karen Fenimore will be attending...**if you would like to go and would like a ride, please contact her at [karenf@stphilipvictoria.ca](mailto:karenf@stphilipvictoria.ca) or 250-477-7257.

**Love With Us Stairwell Gallery Installation:** The Christmas story is one of love coming to us in everyday circumstances, in a form we might not expect or one we take for granted.

The idea for this community art project is for us to share an object that represents our experience of God's love in our everyday lives, perhaps something that we have treasured, or something we may have thought ordinary.

One of the ways to think about it is like offering back to God a little gift in time for Christmas. Jaqueline will be sharing ideas to inspire us on our St. Philip Group page.

By the act of curation (gathering objects with intent, design and narrative) we will install a display that turns those everyday objects into an art display about love being with us.

Over the next few weeks, look around your homes, through your journals, photo albums and gardens, on your walks, or shopping trips and listen to what might be "speaking" to you. You might already have an idea, or an idea might emerge about an object that you had never even considered being precious, or you might even want to make something.

**Size is limited to 15" by 15"**, but if you have a large thing in mind considering sharing a representation of it such as a photo or drawing. Have them ready and **bring them by December 17** so we can install in time for Christmas Eve!

In the venerable tradition of "Why should Satan get all the good tunes" from the song writing collaboration of Conway and Page, and with apologies to Coots and Gillespie (1934):

### **Jesus Christ is Always The Way**

It's time to love God,  
It's time to be kind  
It's time to shine light  
I'm telling you why  
Jesus Christ is always the way.

He's opening hearts  
And making them true  
Gonna seek out the pure child in you  
Jesus Christ 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.

It's time to love God,  
It's time to be kind  
It's time to shine light  
I'm telling you why  
Jesus Christ is always the way.  
Jesus Christ is always the way.

Conway & Page  
December 2017