

# THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

December 17, 2017

If you are joining us in worship for the first time or returning to visit family and friends, we warmly welcome you as our guest. It is our goal and prayer that you would be blessed and encouraged to start a new week renewed in spirit. Thank you for joining us in worship this morning.

There is holy anticipation as we gather to celebrate the love of God through our worship. Let us prepare our hearts prayerfully this morning as we eagerly seek for the ministry of the Spirit of God to be a blessing in our worship.

This morning your greeter is **Joan Turner**, the Announcements will be reviewed by **Barbara Ward**, the Scripture lessons will be read by **Lorraine McNeilly**, and the Advent Candle Liturgy will be led by **Lynda & John LeGros**. Following worship, everyone is invited to stay for coffee, tea, and birthday cake to celebrate Sue Bitton's 90th Birthday.

Today's Hosts are **Beryl & Harvey Walker**.

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- **Large Print** editions of the Bulletin, the Book of Praise, Living Faith and the Bible are available in the Vestibule.
- Our Sanctuary has a **Hearing Loop**, use the T switch on your hearing aid;
- Our facility is a **Fragrance Free** building. We have an **automatic door opener** on the front door of the building which has disabled access;
- Recordings of the service are now available on CD by request. Please contact the **Church Office**.
- The sermon is available to listen to on the church website.
- We offer a sponsored **Taxi service** for those who need a ride to Worship, and other Congregational events. The details are available at the Message Centre or speak to **Catherine Held**.



**JOY**

Minister.....**Rev. John Paeng**  
Clerk of Session.....**Mrs. Margaret Clow**  
Organist.....**Mrs. Edith Tutiah**  
Choir Director.....**Mrs. Helen Hill-Tout**  
Chairman - Board of Managers.....**Mr. Rae Bailey**  
Church Secretary.....**Mrs. Charlene King**

## ORDER OF WORSHIP

### “WE APPROACH GOD...”

Entry of the Bible

Call to Worship

**\*HYMN #113 “HAIL TO THE LORD’S ANOINTED”**

Welcome & Announcements

**\*HYMN #106 (Sing!) “SOON AND VERY SOON”**

Prayer for Confession & Lord’s Prayer

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE (see insert)

**\*HYMN #121 “IN THE BLEAK MID-WINTER”**

Anthem: “Gently Mary Laid Her Child”

### TO LISTEN TO AND REFLECT ON HIS WORD...

Responsive Reading: Book of Praise #662 (Psalm 126)

Scripture Readings John 1: 6—8, 19—28 (p. 750/81195)  
1 Thessalonians 5: 16-24 (p. 837/1333)

Scripture Response: Lord, Thy word abideth  
And our footsteps guideth  
Who its truth believeth.  
Light and joy receiveth. Amen

Preaching of the Word: **“THE DESIRE OF GOD!”**

Prayers of Thanks and for Others

### AND TO RESPOND IN FAITH AND SERVICE.”

Worship with Tithes & Offerings: “Jesu Bambino”

\*Doxology

\*Prayer of Dedication

**\*HYMN #134 “JOY TO THE WORLD! THE LORD IS COME”**

\*Benediction and Threefold Amen

Organ Postlude

**\*ALL WHO ARE ABLE, PLEASE STAND**

## Unison Prayer of Confession

We confess the smallness of our love, the narrowness of our concern, and the denial of your truth. Through our hands have slipped opportunities missed, people not cared for, moments and days not celebrated. Some of our sins are plain for us to see; and to others we are blind; some we cannot face and others we cannot forget. We are sorry for our failings, and ask for reassurance and forgiveness. Our Father, who art in heaven...

## Christmas Appeal

### Rescue BC through PWS&D

This year St. Columba is supporting the initiative “Rescue BC”. Proceeds will be forwarded to Presbyterian World Service and Development (PWS&D). The recent forest fires that have swept through our Province this year have distorted many peoples life’s in losing homes and business. Let’s support in making these life less worrisome for people affected. Good work is happening through PWS&D in the Caribou Ministries, and Kamloops Ministries. Pray upon it and donate if you can, to say we care and want to help as Christians.

Please place your donation in an offering envelope and mark it “**Christmas Appeal.**” To date we have raised \$1,345.00.

**CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT SERVICE:** Our candlelight service will be on Dec 24th at 7pm. Bring your family and friends to share in carol singing and reflections on the Christmas Story.

On **Monday, January 1<sup>st</sup>, at 11:30**, we are invited join our friends at the **Church of Ascension to Ring the Bells for New Year’s Day.** Please plan to be with our neighbours for this celebration.

## PRAYER LIST

Iris Ford: Iris is slowly recovering from surgery at home and awaiting an opening at Copley Place. Visitors are welcome but please call first.

Dorris Mulder: Dorris is in hospital in Comox.