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We acknowledge that we gather with respect on the traditional territories of the Esquimalt, Songhees and WSÁNEĆ people, the traditional custodians of these lands. We are grateful for their hospitality.

Merry Christmas and Welcome to our Christmas Day Service!

*Hymns today are from **Common Praise** (CP, light blue cover).
Items in **bold** invite you to join together in prayer and song.
Please stand as you are able when we sing the hymns or as
indicated.*

***We strongly recommend and encourage the continued practice
of wearing masks during church worship services, especially
while singing.***

Prelude (*please be seated*)

Welcome and Introduction

Gathering Hymn: CP 123 Once in Royal David's City (*tune: Irby*)

Priest: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
and the love of God,
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,
be with you all.

All: And also with you.

Priest: 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.**

Gloria: CP 135 Shepherds in the Fields Abiding (v. 1)

(tune: Iris)

**Shepherds in the field abiding,
Tell us when the seraph bright
Greeted you with wondrous tiding,
What you saw and heard that night.
Gloria in excelsis Deo! Gloria in excelsis Deo!**

Collect for Christmas Day:

Priest: God whose Word became flesh,
breathe a new song of joy and praise into the world,
so that we may bear the good news of your salvation
and proclaim your promise of peace
to the ends of the earth;
through Christ the Word who lives
and reigns with the Father and the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.

All: Amen.

Liturgy of the Word

FIRST READING: ISAIAH 52: 7-10

Reader: A reading from the Book of Isaiah.

How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of the messenger who announces peace, who brings good news, who announces salvation, who says to Zion, "Your God reigns." Listen! Your sentinels lift up their voices, together they sing for joy; for in plain sight they see the return of the Lord to Zion. Break forth together into singing, you ruins of Jerusalem; for the Lord has comforted his people, he has redeemed Jerusalem. The Lord has bared his holy arm before the eyes of all the nations; and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.

At the end of the reading:

Reader: Word of God, Word of Life.

All: Thanks be to God.

Duet: *The Lord of Glory* by Francis Patrick O'Brien

The Rev. Daniel Fournier and The Rev. Joan Scandrett

SECOND READING: HEBREWS 1: 1-4

Reader: A reading from the Book of Hebrews.

Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets, but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, through whom he also created the worlds. He is the reflection of God's glory and the exact imprint of God's very being, and he sustains all things by his powerful word. When he had made purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs.

At the end of the reading:

Reader: Word of God, Word of Life.

All: Thanks be to God.

Gradual Hymn: CP 141 It Came upon the Midnight Clear

(tune: Noel)

THE GOSPEL: JOHN 1: 1-14

Reader: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

Reader: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ
according to John.

All: Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it. There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him.

He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God. And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

At the end of the gospel:

Reader: The Gospel of Christ.

All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Sermon – The Rev. Joan Scandrett (*Please be seated*).

Anthem: *Child in a Manger* by Marty Haugen

Please stand as you are able.

Nicene Creed

Priest: Let us confess our faith, as we say,

**All: We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one being with the Father.
Through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven:
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,
and was made man.
For our sake he was crucified
under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory
to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father.
With the Father and the Son
he is worshipped and glorified.
He has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic
and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism
for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

Prayers of Thanksgiving and Intercession:

Leader: O God in whom we live and move and have our being,
In this season of Christmas,
we give you thanks
that your love took flesh in the Christ child
and that his story still fills us with wonder.
With all the to-ing and fro-ing
between family and friends this season,
we remember Mary and Joseph and their journey
in the midst of another busy time.
Watch over all who travel at this time of year,
for happy reasons or in the face of difficulties.

**All: May they find your peace
in the midst of their journeys.**

As we remember the innkeeper
who found space for Mary and Joseph,
we are grateful for the spaces we call home,
whether simple or sophisticated.
We pray for all those who are homeless,
and those who seek a welcome in strange places.

All: May they find an open door and kindness within.

As we remember the shepherds
watching over their flocks,
we give you thanks for those
who watch over us this night.
We pray for all those who must work on holidays,
tending the well-being of others.

**All: May they know a blessing
in the services they provide
and our gratitude for their efforts.**

As we remember the angels
and their message of peace and goodwill,
we are grateful
for peace and order in our communities.

We pray for all those
who work to establish and maintain peace
in troubled places and troubled lives,
knowing trouble rarely takes a vacation.

**All: May they be witnesses of God's greatest hope,
that all may know God's reconciling love and
compassion for all people.**

As we remember the Magi
and the gifts they brought to honour the Christ Child,
we thank you for the generosity
that overflows at this time of year.
May it touch the lives that need it most.

**All: May each of us find ways
to offer you what we value most in the year ahead.**

Hear these prayers
and all the silent prayers of our hearts, O God,
and cradle them and us in your holy wisdom.

All: Amen.

Confession and Absolution:

Priest: Dear friends in Christ,
God is steadfast in love and infinite in mercy;
welcoming sinners
and inviting them to this table.
Let us confess our sins,
confident in God's forgiveness.

Priest: Most merciful God,

**All: 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.**

Priest: 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.

All: Amen.

The Peace: *(Please stand as you are able.)*

*For the peace, please acknowledge your greeting of peace
by a simple bow – with no physical contact.*

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

All: And also with you.

Offertory Hymn: CP 122 In the Bleak Midwinter

(tune: Cranham)

The Liturgy of the Eucharist

Prayer over the Gifts:

Priest: Good and loving God, we rejoice in the birth of Jesus,
who came among the poor
to bring the riches of your grace.
As you have blessed us with your gifts,
let them be a blessing for others.
With the trees of the field, with all earth and heaven,
we shout for joy at the coming
of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

Eucharistic Prayer *(from Enriching Our Worship)*

Priest: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

Priest: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them to the Lord.

Priest: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Priest: It is truly right, and good and joyful,
to give you thanks, all-holy God,
source of life and fountain of mercy.
You have filled us and all creation with your blessing
and fed us with your constant love;
you have redeemed us in Jesus Christ
and knit us into one body.
Through your Spirit you replenish us
and call us to fullness of life.

Therefore, joining with Angels and Archangels
and with the faithful of every generation,
we lift our voices with all creation as we sing:

(From Common Praise # 735):

**All: Holy, Holy, Holy Lord,
God of power and might.
Holy, Holy, Holy Lord,
God of power and might,
Heaven and earth are full,
full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is He who comes
in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.
Hosanna in the highest.**

Priest: Blessed are you, gracious God,
creator of the universe and giver of life.
You formed us in your own image
and called us to dwell in your infinite love.

You gave the world into our care
that we might be your faithful stewards
and show forth your bountiful grace.

But we failed to honour your image
in one another and in ourselves;
we would not see your goodness
in the world around us;
and so we violated your creation,
abused one another, and rejected your love.
Yet you never ceased to care for us,
and prepared the way of salvation for all people.

Through Abraham and Sarah
you called us into covenant with you.
You delivered us from slavery,
sustained us in the wilderness,
and raised up prophets
to renew your promise of salvation.
Then, in the fullness of time,
you sent your eternal Word,
made mortal flesh in Jesus.
Born into the human family, and dwelling among us,
he revealed your glory.

Giving himself freely to death on the cross,
he triumphed over evil,
opening the way of freedom and life.
On the night before he died for us,
our Saviour Jesus Christ took bread,
and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it,
and gave it to his friends, and said:
"Take, eat: This is my Body which is given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me."

As supper was ending, Jesus 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 poured out for you
and for all for the forgiveness of sins.
Whenever you drink it,
do this for the remembrance of me.”

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

**All: Christ has died.
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.**

Priest: Remembering his death and resurrection,
we now present to you from your creation
this bread and this wine.
By your Holy Spirit may they be for us
the Body and Blood of our Saviour Jesus Christ.
Grant that we who share these gifts
may be filled with the Holy Spirit and live
as Christ's Body in the world.
Bring us into the everlasting heritage
of your daughters and sons, that with all your saints,
past, present, and yet to come,
we may praise your Name for ever.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
to you be honour, glory, and praise, for ever and ever.

All: Amen. (*Sung 5 times. From Common Praise: #737*)

The Lord's Prayer:

Priest: As our Saviour taught us, let us pray,

**All: Our Father who art in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.**

**Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power
and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.**

Breaking of the Bread: *(From Common Praise # 747)*

**All: Jesus, Lamb of God, have mercy on us.
Jesus, bearer of our sins, have mercy on us.
Jesus, redeemer, redeemer of the world,
give us your peace, give us your peace.**

The Giving of Communion:

Priest: The table of bread and wine is now ready.
It is the table of company with Jesus,
and all who love him.
It is the table of sharing with the poor of the world,
with whom Jesus identified himself.
It is the table of communion with the earth,
in which Christ became incarnate.
So come to this table,
you who have much faith
and you who would like to have more;
you who have been here often
and you who have not been for a while;
you who have tried to follow Jesus,
and you who have failed;
Come.
It is Christ who invites us to meet him here.

Priest: God's holy gifts for God's holy people.

All: Thanks be to God.

At this time, we are only sharing bread for communion. Please follow the directions of the sidespeople as each section is invited to come forward to the Altar Rail. Please exit to the chapel side and return to your seat.

If you would prefer not to receive communion, please come forward for a blessing. Crossing your hands over your chest will signal the priest to give you a blessing instead.

NOTE: *Gluten free wafers are available on request.*

Please remain seated as we sing the hymn during communion.

Hymn: CP 125 Infant Holy, Infant Lowly
(tune: Polish Carol)

Prayer after Communion:

Priest: Radiant God, with our eyes
we have seen your salvation,
and in this meal we have feasted on your grace.
May your Word take flesh in us,
so that we may be your holy people,
revealing your glory made known to us
in Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Lord.

All: Amen.

Priest: Glory to God

**All: 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.**

Benediction:

Priest: Christ, who by his incarnation
gathered into one things earthly and heavenly,
fill you with peace and goodwill
and make you partakers of the divine nature;
and the blessing of God Almighty,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit,
be with you and those you love
this Christmas Day.

All: Amen.

Sending Hymn: CP 154 Joy to the World

(tune: Antioch)

Dismissal:

Priest: Go in peace, proclaim and serve the Lord.

All: Glory, thanks and praise be to God. Amen.

Postlude

Thank you to all who assisted with today's service.

Merry Christmas to you and your loved ones!
May the Peace of the Christ Child
be with you to guide your steps,
strengthen your resolve,
warm your heart,
and fill you with Love.



May each and everyone of you experience
God's most wonderful surprise
as God's blessings surround you
in this Holy Season of Christmas and
in a grace-filled New Year.

IN THE WORLDWIDE ANGLICAN PRAYER CYCLE, we pray for The Anglican Church of Melanesia - The Most Revd Leonard Dawea, Primate. **In the Canadian ACC/ELCIC Cycle of Prayer,** we pray for Director Joe Vecsi and the staff of Communications and Information Resources; Treasurer and Chief Financial Officer Amal Attia and the staff of Financial Management and Administration (Anglican) and Carmen Ramirez, Assistant to the National Bishop, Equity, Diversity and Inclusion; Assistant to the National Bishop for Worship (Lutheran). **In our Diocesan Prayer Cycle, we pray for** Anna, our Bishop, and for the congregation of Christ Church Cathedral, Victoria and their priests, Jeannine Friesen, Ross Bliss & Ian Powell. **We also pray for** Lutheran Church of the Cross and Pastor Lyle and Pastor Lyndon and for the Diocese of Caledonia and Bishop David Lehmann.

THIS WEEK'S PARISH NEWS

December 25th – January 1st

(New Items, *Revised Items)**

***The Parish Office is closed next week** and will reopen in the New Year on January 3rd.

There will not be a Thursday morning 10:30 am Communion Service on December 29th.

We will celebrate the Feast of Epiphany on January 1st at 10 am. There will be one service that Sunday, which will be a sung Morning Prayer service from the Book of Common Prayer.

On January 1st, we will hold a Zoom Coffee Time after the 10 am service. The link will be sent out closer to that date.

January 8th will be our next regular Coffee Time after the 10 am service.

****The Next Fantastic Friday will be on January 6th** – We will have an Epiphany Party in the Hall at Fantastic Friday starting at 4:30 pm. The evening will include Fantastic Friday crafts and the Epiphany tradition of chalking the church door. Come and celebrate Epiphany at this month's Fantastic Friday from 4:30 to 6:30 pm. Everyone welcome!

****St. Luke's Christmas 2022 Prescription** is now available and the link to the online version was sent out by e-mail. Copies are available at the back of the church and from the parish office.

Housing First – Please take a moment this Advent season to watch Bishop Anna's 2-minute sermon that discusses warming centres and homelessness here in BC. The video is available at the **News page of St. Luke's website**.

AEDs at St. Luke's – St. Luke's now has two AEDs (Automated External Defibrillators). The Philips AED is in the narthex of the church above the First Aid Kit. The Zoll AED is in the hall beside the church office. Several short training videos are available at the **News page of St. Luke's website**.

Contributor Boxes – Please **pick up your box of envelopes at the back of the church**. Even if you contribute by ECP (Electronic Collection Plate) please take your box. If at some point during the year you wish to make a donation for a special event or cause, such as for flowers, outreach, or a seasonal donation at Christmas or Easter, please use one of your envelopes for that additional donation.

Christmas Stocking Project – As we have done in previous years, we have chosen a World of Gifts Project through the Primate's World Relief and Development Fund as our Christmas Stocking Project. We started our Christmas Stocking

Project on the first Sunday in Advent and it will continue to Christmas Day. Our project will be buying goats for families in Africa. You are invited to drop your gold coins (Loonies or Toonies) into the Christmas stocking at the back of the church or to put a special donation into the collection plate labelled "Goats Project". **Money designated in the collection or collected in the stocking from now to Christmas Day will be sent to the PWRDF to buy goats for families in Africa.**

Electronic Collection Plate (ECP) – Thank you to everyone who indicated on their givings card that they would like to start or increase their givings through ECP. The Envelope Secretaries will follow up with everyone who indicated that they would like to change their ECP amount or start ECP. We will make these changes early in the new year.

Changes to the Refugee Sponsorship Program – Due to new administrative requirements by Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada that will cost tens of thousands of dollars per year on top of the already significant costs for this work, the Diocese has decided that it will no longer continue to act as a Sponsorship Agreement Holder. A letter from Bishop Anna explaining the changes is available at the back of the church and at the **News page of St. Luke's website**.

Looking for a Place to Rent – My name is Elodia Díaz. I am here in Victoria studying English at Camosun College, and I am about to finish this term. In January, I will start studying for a PDD in Business Administration and Human Resources at Camosun College and by then my family will be able to join me. My husband, myself, and our two daughters, 14 and 18 years, are looking forward to starting a new life here in Victoria. My husband and I have all the required documents to stay and work here. I want to find a place for us to live in and call home. So, if you have or know of a place to rent, I'd really appreciate getting in touch. My email is elodiazherr@gmail.com.

An Update from ABCs and Rice – Tammy Durand writes: *"It has been a while since we provided an update and for that we are sorry. Without our volunteers and interns, ABCs has been left entirely without admin assistance since the onset of COVID. We are still here, and, simply put, we wouldn't be without your support."* The best way to help now is to make a donation to ABCs and Rice through Canada Helps. See more information on the **News page of St. Luke's website**.

***St. Luke's Players Panto Tickets** – Tickets for St. Luke's Panto, Robin Hood, are available through EventBrite. Dates are: evenings at 7:00 pm on December 28, and 30; matinees at 2:00 pm on December 26, 27, 31 and January 1. **Some shows are sold out!** See more information at the **Events page of St. Luke's website**.

Country Grocer Save A Tape Program Update – Please continue to collect your Country Grocer receipts and turn them in to the Church Office. We now finished collecting for our 5th \$50 gift certificate and have started collecting for our 6th one! **As of December 5th, our total to date for this next gift certificate is \$3,641.24.** Please keep dropping off your receipts so we can reach another \$5,000. See more information at the **News page of St. Luke's website**.

Fairway Market Community Shopping Cards – Thank you for using your Fairway Market Community Shopping Cards. **We have now received our fifth payment of \$244.98, bringing our total to date to \$1,315.56 from this program.** Please continue to use your reloadable Fairway Market Community Shopping Card so that **St. Luke's can receive 5% from Fairway Market for every dollar loaded on the card.** To join in this program, please pick up your reloadable card from St. Luke's Office. For more information, please contact St. Luke's office, talk to Brenda Morgan, or visit the **Fundraising page of St. Luke's website**.

Level Ground Fundraiser Update – We have received our fourth payment through this program. **\$13.00 was deposited into our account this month for the orders received in last three months, which brings our total to date to \$103.53 since we started this fundraiser.** Please continue (or start) to take part in this fundraising program to benefit St. Luke's when you buy coffee, tea, and dried fruit through Level Ground Trading. **When you order online at Level Ground Trading, St. Luke's will receive 15%.** ONLINE ORDERING IS EASY! Visit **Shop at Level Ground** (<https://levelground.com/collections>). At checkout, use the code **StLuke** to ensure the 15% comes to St. Luke's. The minimum order is \$40 for the 15% return to St. Luke's and this includes free shipping. For more information, visit the **Fundraising page of St. Luke's website** or talk to Barb Prescott.



Donations

If you wish a receipt for your donation to use for a tax deduction, please fill out one of the Welcome Envelopes in the pews, or one of the Christmas Offering Envelopes at the back of the church. Put your donation into the envelope and put the envelope into the collection plate. Please include your name and address, with your postal code. Charitable donation receipts will be issued for amounts of \$10 or more.

To make a donation later or by credit card or debit card, visit our website (www.stlukesvictoria.ca). The Donate Now button at the top of the home page takes you to Canada Helps where you can make a donation to St. Luke's.

FLOWERS

The flowers for the services
on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day
are given to the Glory of God

and in memory of past loved ones
from the Richards and Farquhar families;

and in loving memory of husband and father Ernest,
and sons and brothers, William and Ronald,
from Laura Stoyles and family.

Flowers at St. Luke's are coordinated by Ann Séguin.



A Christmas Dinner Grace

God of all gifts, we thank you for the many ways you have blessed us this day. We are grateful for each of those who are gathered around this table. We ask you to bless us and our food and to bless those we love who are not with us today.

In our gratitude and love, we remember your humble birth into our lives and pray for those who are without enough to eat. We remember the stable in which you were born and pray for those who have no place to live. We remember your challenging message of caring and giving and we pray for peace in families and nations throughout the world. We bless you and give you thanks in your Spirit who brings our hearts to life this Christmas Day and forever. Amen.



Our Christmas Stocking Project

This year our project is buying goats for families in Africa. Please drop your gold coins (Loonies or Toonies) or bills into the Christmas stocking at the back of the church or to put a special donation into the collection plate labelled "Goats Project". Money designated in the collection or collected in the stocking from now to Christmas Day will be sent to the Primate's World Relief and Development Fund to buy goats for families in Africa.

Welcome To St. Luke Cedar Hill



Thank you for visiting today.
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<https://www.stlukesvictoria.ca>,
send an e-mail: admin@stlukecedarhill.ca,
or phone: 250-477-6741.

We hope you will visit again!

Rector: **The Reverend Daniel Fournier**
E-mail: incumbent@stlukecedarhill.ca

For Pastoral Care Needs, please contact the office

Office Phone: 250-477-6741
Office E-mail: admin@stlukecedarhill.ca
Parish Administrator: Andrew Lloyd

Rector's Warden: Heather Simpson
People's Warden: Brenda Morgan

READINGS FOR JANUARY 1ST, 2023 – FEAST OF EPIPHANY

Isaiah 60: 1-6
Psalm 72: 1-7, 10-14
Ephesians 3: 1-12
Matthew 2: 1-12
