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Advent 4



Sunday December 23
8:30am
10:30am

Advent 4
Morning Prayer
Morning Prayer, Sunday School, & Coffee;
Isaiah 35; Matthew 25:31-46

“To know Christ and to make Him known”

LIFE BETWEEN SUNDAYS

Monday	December 24	8:00pm	Christmas Eve Service at St. David's
Tuesday	December 25	8:00am – 12:00pm 9:30am	Office – Closed until January 8 th Christmas Day Service at St. Albans
Wednesday	December 26	7:00pm	Choir Practice – Canceled until Jan. 9 th
Thursday	December 27	7:00am 2:00pm	Men's Bible Study – Canceled until Jan. 10 th Parish Coffee Time – Canceled until Jan. 3 rd
Sunday	December 30	8:00am & 10:30am	Holy Communion (BAS) City Wide Diocesan Service, held at St. George's. Breakfast will be served between the services.

WEEKLY CYCLE OF PRAYER

Globally we give thanks for the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Saskatchewan, and Sid, their Bishop; the church of Kubwa (Abuja, Nigeria) and Duke Akamisoko, their bishop. **We pray for:** the safety of all who travel and for those who mourn at this time of year.

Locally we give thanks for the people of Prince Albert, members of the City Council, and Greg, our Mayor. Our brothers and sisters in the Roman Catholic Diocese of Prince Albert and Albert, their bishop; and the Prince Albert Seventh Day Adventist Church and Scott Manly their pastor. The Mission of Shoal Lake and St. Thomas Shoal Lake.

This week we give thanks for Michael and Adam, our Bishops; and these parish members: Larry & Jackie Brewster; Irma Brunsdon; Len & Gwen Button; Nick & Madeleine Camche. **We pray for** our organists Clara Kutnikoff and Jackie Everest.

We pray for those in special need: Ruby Horachek; Andree Martinson; Leah Paluck; and Brent Tysdal.

We pray for those in particular need: Eva Brewster; Lorraine; Muriel Sheldon; John Eagle; Joe; Liam Bain; Carole Keays, Keaton, Kyler and Laryn Constant; Grace Couldwell; Heather Gibson; Ralph Harris; Dorothy Revitt; Phil Sampson, and Silas Tysdal.

The flowers in the sanctuary today are offered to the glory of God by
Mary & Gordon Widger in memory of their brothers John Widger and Hugh Jenkins.

Welcome to Our Worship Gathering

Call To Worship

Lead A virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and his name shall be called Emmanuel: God with us. ~*Matthew 1:23*

Opening Hymn

#344 Angels from the Realms of Glory

1. Angels from the realms of glory,
Wing your flight through all the earth;
Heralds of creation's story
Now proclaim Messiah's birth!
Come and worship,
Worship Christ the new-born king.
2. Shepherds in the fields abiding,
Watching by your flocks at night,
God with us is now residing;
See, there shines the infant light!
Come and worship...
3. Wise men, leave your contemplations!
Brighter visions shine afar;
Seek in him the hope of nations,
You have seen his rising star:
Come and worship...
4. Though an infant now we view him,
He will share his Father's throne,
Gather all the nations to him;
Every knee shall then bow down:
Come and worship...

- Notices of Worship and Ministry Opportunities

Confession and Absolution

Lead Brothers and Sisters, the Holy Scripture calls us, in various places, to acknowledge and confess our many sins and wickedness; and that we should not try to hide them before the face of Almighty God our heavenly Father;

but confess them with a humble, lowly, penitent and obedient heart; so that we may obtain forgiveness of them by his infinite goodness and mercy.

And although we ought, at all times, humbly to acknowledge our sins before God; we ought to do so especially when we assemble and come together to give thanks for the great blessings that we have received at his hands, to offer the praise that is due to him, to hear his most holy Word, and to ask him to supply our needs of body and soul. So I invite you to approach the throne of heavenly grace with me, humbly and with pure intent, saying,

All Almighty and most merciful Father, we have erred and strayed from your ways like lost sheep. We have followed too much the evil intentions and desires of our own hearts. We have broken your holy laws. We have left undone the things that we ought to have done; and we have done the things that we ought not to have done; and there is no spiritual soundness within us. Have mercy on us, pitiful sinners, O Lord. Spare those who confess their sins. Restore those who truly repent, even as you have promised through Jesus Christ our Lord. And grant, merciful Father, for his sake, that we may live from this time forward a godly, righteous and holy life, to the glory of your holy Name. Amen.

Lead Merciful God, grant to your faithful people pardon and peace; that they may be cleansed from all their sins, and serve you with a quiet mind; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Lead Advent is a time for God's people to reawaken their longings.

All God so loved the world that he gave his one and only son.

Lead When we longed for the silence to be broken,

All God so loved the world that he gave his one and only son.

Lead When we longed for the light that shines in the darkness,

All God so loved the world that he gave his one and only son.

Lead When we longed for the peace that surpasses understanding,

All God so loved the world that he gave his one and only son.

Lighting of the forth Advent candle

Lead Today we light four candles. The first candle is the light of hope granting strength to the weary. The second candle is the light of peace that surpasses our understanding. The third candle is the light of joy that touches the depths of our soul. The fourth candle reminds us of the light of God's love poured out in the person and work of Jesus Christ.

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

All Our Father who is in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us all our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from all that is evil. For yours is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, for ever and for ever. Amen.

Advent Hymn

You Are The Light We See

- 1. You are the Light we see,
You are the Truth – we know,
You are the Life – we live.
You are the Hope,
You are the Joy,
You are the Song we sing.**
- 2. Within our hearts – your Light,
Within our minds – your Truth,
Within our lives – your Love,
Living your Hope,
Spreading your Joy,
Singing your beautiful Song.
(Repeat verse 1)**

Lead Open our lips, O Lord.

Ppl. And we shall declare your praise.

Lead O God, make speed to save us.

Ppl. O Lord, make haste to help us.

Lead Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit

Ppl. As it was in the beginning, is now, and shall be forever; world without end. Amen.

Lead Let us praise the Lord.

Ppl. The Lord's Name be praised.

Venite:

Psalm 95:1-7

O COME, let us sing unto the LORD: let us heartily rejoice in the strength of our salvation. Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving, and show ourselves glad in him with psalms. For the LORD is a great God, and a great King above all gods. In his hand are all the corners of the earth: and the strength of the hills is his also. The sea is his, and he made it: and his hands prepared the dry land.

O COME, let us worship, and fall down, and kneel before the LORD our Maker. For he is the Lord our God; and we are the people of his pasture, and the sheep of his hand.

TODAY, O that ye would hear his voice: 'Harden not your hearts as in the Provocation, and as in the day of Temptation in the wilderness; When your fathers tempted me, proved me, and saw my works. Forty years long was I grieved with that generation, and said, "It is a people that do err in their hearts, for they have not known my ways"; Unto whom I swear in my wrath, that they should not enter into my rest. 'GLORY be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. (BCP)

THE PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

The Psalm: *Psalm 33*

Lead Shout for joy in the Lord, O you righteous!
Praise befits the upright.

All **Give thanks to the Lord with the lyre;
make melody to him with the harp of ten
strings!**

Lead Sing to him a new song; play skillfully on the
strings, with loud shouts.

All **For the word of the Lord is upright, and
all his work is done in faithfulness.**

Lead He loves righteousness and justice; the
earth is full of the steadfast love of the Lord.

All **By the word of the Lord the heavens
were made, and by the breath of his
mouth all their host.**

Lead He gathers the waters of the sea as a heap;
he puts the deeps in storehouses.

All **Let all the earth fear the Lord; let all the
inhabitants of the world stand in awe of
him!**

Lead For he spoke, and it came to be; he
commanded, and it stood firm.

All **The Lord brings the counsel of the
nations to nothing; he frustrates the
plans of the peoples.**

Lead The counsel of the Lord stands forever, the
plans of his heart to all generations.

All **Blessed is the nation whose God is the
Lord, the people whom he has chosen as
his heritage!**

Lead The Lord looks down from heaven; he sees
all the children of man;

All **from where he sits enthroned he looks
out on all the inhabitants of the earth,**

Lead he who fashions the hearts of them all and
observes all their deeds.

All **The king is not saved by his great army;
a warrior is not delivered by his great
strength.**

Lead The war horse is a false hope for salvation,
and by its great might it cannot rescue.

All **Behold, the eye of the Lord is on those
who fear him, on those who hope in his
steadfast love,**

Lead that he may deliver their soul from death and
keep them alive in famine.

All **Our soul waits for the Lord; he is our
help and our shield.**

Lead For our heart is glad in him, because we
trust in his holy name.

All **Let your steadfast love, O Lord, be upon
us, even as we hope in you.
World without end. Amen (ESV)**

The 1st Reading: *Isaiah 35*

The first reading from the thirty fifth chapter of the
book of Isaiah, beginning at the first verse.

The desert and the parched land will be glad; the
wilderness will rejoice and blossom. Like the
crocus, it will burst into bloom; it will rejoice greatly

and shout for joy. The glory of Lebanon will be given to it, the splendor of Carmel and Sharon; they will see the glory of the Lord, the splendor of our God. Strengthen the feeble hands, steady the knees that give way; say to those with fearful hearts, "Be strong, do not fear; your God will come, he will come with vengeance; with divine retribution he will come to save you."

Then will the eyes of the blind be opened and the ears of the deaf unstopped. Then will the lame leap like a deer, and the mute tongue shout for joy. Water will gush forth in the wilderness and streams in the desert. The burning sand will become a pool, the thirsty ground bubbling springs. In the haunts where jackals once lay, grass and reeds and papyrus will grow.

And a highway will be there; it will be called the Way of Holiness; it will be for those who walk on that Way. The unclean will not journey on it; wicked fools will not go about on it. No lion will be there, nor any ravenous beast; they will not be found there. But only the redeemed will walk there, and those the Lord has rescued will return. They will enter Zion with singing; everlasting joy will crown their heads. Gladness and joy will overtake them, and sorrow and sighing will flee away. (NIV)
The word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Jubilate Deo (Psalm 100)

O be joyful in the Lord, all you lands: serve the Lord with gladness, and come before his presence with a song.

Be you sure that the Lord he is God; it is he that has made us, and not we ourselves; we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.

O go your way into his gates with thanksgiving, and into his courts with praise; be thankful unto him, and speak good of his Name.

For the Lord is gracious, his mercy is everlasting; and his truth endures from generation to generation.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: As it was in the beginning, is now, and shall be forever; world without end. Amen.

The 2nd Reading: Matthew 25:31-46

The second reading from the twenty fifth chapter of the book of Matthew, beginning at the thirty first verse.

"When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, he will sit on his glorious throne. All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate the people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. He will put the sheep on his right and the goats on his left.

"Then the King will say to those on his right, 'Come, you who are blessed by my Father; take your inheritance, the kingdom prepared for you since the creation of the world. For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me.'

"Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you something to drink? When did we see you a stranger and invite you in, or needing clothes and clothe you? When did we see you sick or in prison and go to visit you?'

"The King will reply, 'Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.' "Then he will say to those on his left, 'Depart from me, you who are

cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels. For I was hungry and you gave me nothing to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, I was a stranger and you did not invite me in, I needed clothes and you did not clothe me, I was sick and in prison and you did not look after me.'

"They also will answer, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or needing clothes or sick or in prison, and did not help you?' "He will reply, 'Truly I tell you, whatever you did not do for one of the least of these, you did not do for me.' "Then they will go away to eternal punishment, but the righteous to eternal life." (NIV) The word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Benedictus: *Luke 1:68-79*

Blessed be the Lord God of Israel, for he has visited and redeemed his people; And has raised up a horn of salvation for us, in the house of his servant David; As he spoke by the mouth of his holy prophets, from of old; That we should be saved from our enemies, and from the hand of all who hate us; To show the mercy promised to our forebears, and to remember his holy covenant; The oath that he swore to our father Abraham, to grant us; That we, being delivered from the hand of our enemies, might serve him without fear; In holiness and righteousness before him, all our days.

And you, child, will be called the prophet of the Most High, for you will go before the Lord to prepare his ways; To give knowledge of salvation to his people, in the forgiveness of their sins; Because of the tender mercy of our God, whereby the sunrise shall visit us from on high; To give light to those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the way of peace.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: As it was in the beginning, is now, and shall be forever; world without end. Amen. (BCP)

The Apostles' Creed

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 life everlasting. Amen. (BAS)

Lead The Lord be with you.

All And with your spirit.

Lead Let us pray. O Lord, show us your mercy.

All And grant us your salvation.

Lead Endue your Ministers with righteousness.

All And make your chosen people joyful.

Lead O Lord, save your people.

All And bless your inheritance.

Lead Give peace in our time, Lord.

All For you alone rule the world.

Lead Cleanse our hearts, O Lord.

All And revive us by your Holy Spirit.

The Collect for Advent 4

Lord, come among us, we pray, with your power and help us with your great might so that, although we are hindered by our sins and wickedness from running the race set before us, your bountiful grace

and mercy may speedily help and deliver us through the work of your Son our Lord to whom with you and the Holy Spirit be honour and glory now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Collect for Peace

Lord God, the author of peace and lover of harmony, whom to know is eternal life and to serve is perfect freedom: Defend us your humble servants against all assaults of our enemies, that trusting in your defense, we may not fear the power of any adversaries; through the might of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Collect for Grace

Heavenly Father, Almighty and Everlasting God, we thank you that you have brought us safely to the beginning of this day; defend us, your humble servants, with your mighty power, and grant that we neither fall into sin, nor run into any kind of danger; also grant that, being guided and governed by you, we may do what is right in your sight; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

- Sermon by Julie

Offertory Salutation

Not every one who says unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter the kingdom of heaven; but he that does the will of my Father which is in heaven.

Offertory Hymn

#360 See Amid the Winter Snow

1. See amid the winter snow,
Born for us on earth below;
See, the gentle Lamb appears,
Promised from eternal years:
Hail, O ever-blessed morn;
Hail, redemption's happy dawn
Sing through all Jerusalem:
'Christ is born in Bethlehem!'

2. Low within a manger lies
He who built the starry skies;
He who, throned in height sublime,
Reigns above the cherubim:
Hail, O ever-blessed morn...
3. Say, you humble shepherds, say
What's your joyful news today?
Tell us why you left your sheep
On the lonely mountain steep:
Hail, O ever-blessed morn...
4. 'As we watched at dead of night,
All around us shone a light;
Angels singing Peace on earth
Told us of a Savior's birth.'
Hail, O ever-blessed morn...
5. Sacred infant, king most dear,
What a tender love was here,
Thus to come from highest bliss
Down to such a world as this!
Hail, O ever-blessed morn...
6. Holy Savior, born on earth,
Teach us by your lowly birth;
Grant that we may ever be
Taught by such humility.
Hail, O ever-blessed morn;
Hail, redemption's happy dawn
Sing through all Jerusalem:
'Christ is born in Bethlehem!'

Prayer Over The Gifts

Lead Blessed be thou, Lord God of Israel, for ever and ever. All that is in the heaven and in the earth is thine.

- All All things come of thee, and of thine own have we given thee. Amen.**

A Prayer For All In Civil Authority

Lord God, our Governor, whose glory is in all the world; we commend this nation to your merciful care, that being guided by your providence, we may dwell secure in your peace. Grant *the members of*

the City Council, Greg and all others in authority, the wisdom and strength to know and to do your will. Fill them with the love of truth and righteousness; and make them always mindful of their calling to serve this nation and people in reverence before you; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

A Prayer For The Clergy and People

Almighty and everlasting God, from whom comes every good and perfect gift: Send down upon Michael and Adam, our Bishops, and *Duck, Sid, Scoot*, and on the congregations which they serve, your life-giving Spirit of grace; and, that they may truly please you, pour upon them the continuing refreshment of your blessing. Grant this, we pray, for the honor of our Advocate and Mediator, Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

Prayers of the People

O God, the Creator and Preserver of all the world, we humbly pray that you will reveal your ways to people of every kind and type, and your saving power to all nations.

We pray for your holy, catholic Church that it may be guided and governed by your good Spirit, that all who profess and call themselves Christians may be led into the way of truth and hold the faith in unity of spirit, in the bond of peace, and in righteousness of life, especially *Larry, Jackie, Irma, Len, Gwen, Nick, Madeleine, Clara, and Jackie.*

Finally, we commend to your fatherly goodness all those who are in any way afflicted, or distressed, in mind, body, personal welfare or material circumstances especially *Ruby, Andree, Leah, Brent, Eva, Lorraine, Muriel, John, Joe, Liam, Carole, Keaton, Kyler, Laryn, Grace, Heather, Ralph, Dorothy, Phil, Silas.* Be pleased, Holy Father, to comfort and relieve them according to

their various needs; give them patience under their suffering, and a happy deliverance out of their afflictions; for Jesus Christ's sake. **Amen.**

A General Thanksgiving

Accept, O Lord, our thanks and praise for all you have done for us. We thank you for the splendour of the whole creation, for the beauty of this world, for the wonder of life, and for the mystery of love.

We thank you for the blessing of family and friends, and for the loving care which surrounds us on every side. We thank you for setting us tasks which demand our best efforts, and for leading us to accomplishments which satisfy and delight us. We thank you also for those disappointments and failures that lead us to acknowledge our dependence on you alone. Above all, we thank you for your Son Jesus Christ; for the truth of his word and the example of his life; for his steadfast obedience, by which he overcame temptation; for his dying, through which he overcame death, for his rising to life again, in which we are raised to the life of your kingdom.

Grant us the gift of your Spirit, that we may know Christ and make him known; and through him, at all times and in all places, may give thanks to you in all things. Amen.

A Prayer Of Saint Chrysostom

Almighty God, you who have given us grace at this time to bring before you with one mind our common petitions, and have promised that when two or three are gathered together in your Name you will grant their requests: We humbly ask you to fulfill now the desires and petitions of your servants, in ways that are most suitable for them, granting us in this world knowledge of your truth, and in the world to come everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Grace: 2 Corinthians 13:14

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all evermore. Amen.

Closing Hymn

#340 Joy To The World

1. Joy to the world – the Lord has come!
Let earth receive her king.
Let every heart prepare him room
And heaven and nature sing,
And heaven and nature sing,
And heaven, and heaven and nature sing!
2. Joy to the earth – the saviour reigns!
Let songs be heard on high,
While fields and streams and hills and plains
Repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

3. He rules the world with truth and grace,
And makes the nations prove
The glories of his righteousness,
The wonders of his love,
The wonders of his love,
The wonders, wonders of his love.

Dismissal

Lead Almighty God, grant, we pray, that the words, which we have heard with our ears, may through your grace be so grafted inwardly in our hearts, that they may cause to grow within us the fruit of good works, to the honor and praise of your name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Lead Let us go forth in peace to love and serve the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.



Thank you to everyone who volunteered their time and resources to help put together the food baskets. We were able to bless both families, and make their Christmas season a little more special.

A note from the office:

- If you would like information in the booklet, please let the office know by Thursday at 9:00am at the latest to ensure there is time to add it to the booklet.
- If you are still using old address labels, please contact the office for an updated list to limit the amount of returned mail.
- When handing in receipts, please remember to write your name and what it is for.
- The office will be closed for the Christmas season starting on December 24th and will open again January 8th. Sorry for any inconvenience.

WORSHIP / MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES

- A letter/update from Donna and Mont St. Joseph's Home has been posted on the bulletin board.
- A new letter and update has been received from our sponsor children. Check them out!
- Window Replacement Fundraiser. Consider making a donation for the full amount of \$200 or pitching in a smaller amount to help reach our goal.
- Donations of non-perishable food items for the Prince Albert Food Bank may be left in the drop off box at the church.
- We encourage you to remember St. David's in your Will.

UPCOMING EVENTS * See the bulletin board for more details regarding events.

- **December 24th** – Christmas Eve Service, at 8:00pm
- **December 25th** – Christmas Day Service, held at St. Albans, 9:30am
- **December 30th** – HC (BAS) City Wide Diocesan Service, held at St. George's at 8:00 & 10:30am. Breakfast will be served between the services. *There will be no services at St. David's this Sunday. Regular services will resume at St. David's on January 6th 2019 at 8:30am & 10:30am.

A MATTER OF STEWARDSHIP

The true light that gives light to everyone was coming into the world. He was in the world, and though the world was made through him, the world did not recognize him. ~John 1:9-10

BY THE NUMBERS *Info for the week of December 16th

Budgeted Offering: Weekly	\$ 2,950.00	Budgeted Offering: January – date	\$ 138,655.00
Offering Received: Today	\$ 3,557.00	Offering Received: January – date	\$ 114,540.55
Attendance at Worship Gatherings	86		(shortfall of \$ 24,114.45)

Scripture Readings for December 23th – 29th, 2018

	Morning Prayer		Evening Prayer	
Sunday	Isa. 25:1-9	Mt. 25:1-30	Isa. 26:1-13	1 Tim. 1:12-2:8
Monday	Isa. 42:1-17	Mk. 7:1-23	Isa. 42:18-43:13	Rev 18
Tuesday	Isa. 43:14-44:5	Mk. 7:24-8:10	Isa. 44:6-23	Rev. 19
Wednesday	Isa. 44:24-45:13	Mk. 8:11-9:1	Isa. 45:14-25	Rev. 20
Thursday	Isa. 46	Mk. 9:2-32	Isa. 47	Rev. 21:1-14
Friday	Isa. 48	Mk. 9:33-50	Isa. 49:1-13	Rev. 21:15-22:5
Saturday	Isa. 49:14-26	Mk. 10:1-31	Isa. 50:4-10	Rev. 22:6-21