

## The Parish of St. Peter (Upper Gullies)

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“You are Peter, and on this rock I will build my Church.” Matthew 16-18

Sunday, December 17, 2017

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT



Diocesan Bishop:

The Right Reverend Dr. Geoffrey Peddle

Rector:

The Reverend Jean Smith (On Leave)

Interim Administrator

The Reverend Irving Letto

Parish Deacon:

The Reverend Dr. Bonnie Morgan (On Leave)

Organist/Choir Director (Interim)

Andrea Powell

Parish Wardens

Ralph Drover

Robert Hilliard

Office Administrator:

Jack Morgan

**8:30am Book of Common Prayer: 10:30am Book of Alternative Services**

LECTIONARY: **8AM** Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11; Psalm 126 (BCP p500; BAS p885);  
1 Thessalonians 5:16-24; John 1:6-8, 19-28;

**10:30AM** Selected Verses from the Old Testament: Luke 1:26-38

**COLLECT** God of power and mercy, you call us once again to celebrate the coming of your Son. Remove those things which hinder love of you, that when he comes, he may find us waiting in awe and wonder for him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

**PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS** God of hope, renew in us the joy of your salvation and make us a living sacrifice to you, for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION** Merciful God, may this eucharist free us from our sins, fill us with unending joy, and prepare us for the birthday of our Saviour. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ, who is Lord now and for ever. Amen.

**10:30 Service Outline**

<b>Opening Hymn</b>	<b>#98 Hark the Glad Sound! The Saviour Comes</b>
The Gathering of the Community	p. 151
Advent Candle Lighting:	<b>A Candle is Burning</b> (1 <sup>st</sup> , 2 <sup>nd</sup> & 3 <sup>rd</sup> verses)
The Proclamation of the Word –	<b>Selected Bible Verses for Advent</b>
<b>Gradual Anthem</b> (Youth Choir)	<b>Soon and Very Soon</b>
The Gospel	
Sermon	
<b>Hymn</b>	<b>Jesus Bid Us Shine</b> (See next page)
Presentation and Examination of Candidates	p. 153
The Prayers of the People	
The Baptismal Covenant	p. 158
<b><u>Procession to Font</u></b>	
Thanksgiving over the Water	p. 156
The Baptism	p. 160
The Giving of the Light	p. 160
The Peace	
<b>Offering Hymn:</b>	<b>#109 When the King Shall Come Again</b>
<b><u>The Celebration of the Eucharist</u></b>	p. 196
Prayer after Communion and Blessing	
<b>Communion Hymn</b>	<b>#85 Shepherd of Souls, Refresh and Bless</b>
Prayers after Communion	
Recessional Hymn:	<b>#123 Once In Royal David's City</b>
Choral Benediction	<b>I Am Walking a Path of Joy</b>

Jesus bids us shine with a pure, clear light,  
Like a little candle burning in the night;  
In this world there's darkness, so we must shine,  
You in your small corner and I in mine.

Jesus bids us shine for a world of peace,  
So that all the fighting and the wars shall cease;  
All the world needs Jesus, so we must shine,  
You in your small corner and I in mine.

Jesus bids us shine for a world of joy,  
And he needs as helpers every girl and boy;  
All the world needs Jesus, so we must shine,  
You in your small corner and I in mine.

Jesus bids us shine for the world to see,  
Like a Christmas candle on a Christmas tree;  
All the world needs Jesus, so we must shine,  
You in your small corner and I in mine.

### **Pastoral Message**

The **JOY** of Advent is a by-product of living with hope. No matter how dark today, we are not in complete darkness. This is the core meaning of our faith in God for whom "**darkness is not dark**" (Psalm 139:12).

Scrooge did not like to hear people laugh or sing. He was so unhappy that any sign of joy made him feel even more despondent. He loved his money, but the more he had the worse he felt.

We all have a little Scrooge inside us. I sometimes refer to my Scrooge as an "imp on my shoulder." He says "Humbug" in many different ways. He hangs around like a wet mitt casting doubt my best intentions.

The Spirit of Christmas is a miracle. Scrooge, however, could not resist the Spirit of Christmas. People who resent doing things for others the rest of the year are suddenly acting "out of character." Penny pinchers spend more than they intended. People who complain about wasting electricity put up extra lights. Even people who hate winter want a little snow.

As we light the Candle of Joy today let us pray that the Spirit of Christmas will work many miracles this year. We pray for miracles in the hearts of terrorists, in the souls of teenagers who feel so bad they want to commit suicide, and in people who use drugs or alcohol in an attempt to ward off the Scrooge making them feel hopeless. We pray that the cold mangers of depressed souls will be warmed with the Body of Christ. We pray for hope, peace, joy and love.

### **This week we are praying for:**

All Church Leaders, especially +Justin, Archbishop of Canterbury; +Fred, Primate of the Anglican Church of Canada; +Ronald, Metropolitan of the Ecclesiastical Province of Canada, +Geoffrey, our Bishop; Jean+, our Rector; Bonnie+, our Deacon, and Irving+, our interim administrator.

In the Anglican/Lutheran Cycle of Prayer, ACC General Secretary Archdeacon Michael Thompson, and national staff of the Anglican Church of Canada ELCIC Director Trina Gallop, and staff of Communications and Stewardship of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada and Director Kyle Giesbrecht, and staff of Finance and Administration

In the Tri-Diocesan Cycle of Prayer, the clergy and staff of the Diocese of Eastern Newfoundland and Labrador: the Rt. Reverend Dr. Geoffrey Peddle, the Ven. Sam Rose, the Rev. Chris Fowler, Mrs. Gail Brittain, Ms. Elizabeth Crisby, Mr. Fred Dinham and Mr. Darrin Gosse.

In the CBS Ministerial Cycle of Prayer we pray for the unity of all Christians; and for all clergy and members of the church communities of Conception Bay South.

We pray for our Alongsiders, Eva Adams and Evelyn Morgan.

**We pray for those who are sick or otherwise in need, especially:** Rodney Andrews, Payton Best, John Bradbury, Janet Butler, Mary Dawe, Muriel Fowler, Brian Gosse, Deneal Haines, Mackenzie Jones, Marion Morgan, Glenys O'Brien, Pat Reid, Lucy Thistle, Chris Gillingham, Mary Bussey, Eileen Shaw (N.B.), Violet Batten, Les McDonald, Fred Kelly, Rev. Jean and Jeanette Rogers..