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*St. Paul’s Presbyterian Church*

<https://pccweb.ca/stpauls>



Interim Moderator: Rev. Robert Lyle

Clerk of Session: Jan Alchorn

Music Director: Linda Giddens

 Today’s speaker Rev. Dr. Brad Little

**Dec 8,2024 2nd Sunday of Advent**

THE ORDER OF WORSHIP

 OUR APPROACH TO GOD

Prelude and Greeting

Worship in Music/Choral Call to Worship:  BP 120  (vv 1,2) - O Come, All Ye Faithful

Responsive Call to Worship:

The Lighting of the Second Advent Candle (See Bulletin Insert)

A Candle is Burning (Verse 2)

Words:  Sandra Dean  Music James R. Murray  Sung to tune 'Away in a Manger'

A candle is burning, a candle of peace,

a candle to signal that conflict must cease:

for Jesus is coming to show us the way,

a message of peace humbly laid in the hay.

Prayers of Approach and Confession:

Gracious Lord of peace and promise, You are the giver of life, living in us through the power of Your Holy Spirit. You are the voice that calls us from our wandering, setting us on a new path. You are the living water that purifies us, equipping us for service in the world that so badly needs Your love. You are the Way that we are called to walk and You are the One who supplies all things for the journey. Refresh us in this time of worship, and reignite our desire to serve You each and every day. Glory, honour and praise be Yours now and always, one God - Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Merciful God, in Your gracious presence we confess our sins and the sins of this world. Merciful God, salvation promises the washing away of our sin and the start of our new life in Christ. But we confess that we are still in love with our old ways. We sin against You and one another, in what we do and in what we fail to do. We excuse ourselves, and take comfort in what is familiar and pleases us rather than what serves You. Forgive us when we mistake such comfort for the peace you offer us in Christ Jesus. Instead, prepare our hearts to embrace new ways of following Him. In His name we pray. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon:

Zechariah, father of John the Baptist, proclaimed this hope: “By the tender mercy of our God, the dawn from on high will break upon us, giving light to those in darkness, guiding our feet in the way of peace.” Receive God’s tender mercy today. Trust that God’s peace will prevail for all those who seek forgiveness in Jesus’ name.

Worship in Music:  BP 114  - Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus

GOD’S WORD FOR HIS PEOPLE

First Reading: Philippians 1: 3-11 Pg.830

Responsive Reading:  Malachi 3: 1-4 Pg.676

1 “I will send my messenger, who will prepare the way before me. Then suddenly the Lord you are seeking will come to his temple; the messenger of the covenant, whom you desire, will come,” says the Lord Almighty.

2 But who can endure the day of his coming? Who can stand when he appears? For he will be like a refiner’s fire or a launderer’s soap.

3 He will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver; he will purify the Levites and refine them like gold and silver. Then the Lord will have men who will bring offerings in righteousness,

4 and the offerings of Judah and Jerusalem will be acceptable to the Lord, as in days gone by, as in former years.

Third Reading: Luke 3: 1-6 Pg.726

Sermon:  “The ’Peaces’ of Christmas”

OUR RESPONSE TO THE WORD

Worship in Music:    BP 132  - Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

Offering and Offertory

The Doxology and Offertory Prayer

Prayers of God’s People and The Lord’s Prayer

Confession of Faith: BP 616 - The Apostles Creed

Worship in Music:    BP 143 - Angels from the Realms of Glory

Benediction and Choral Amen

Upcoming Services

Dec 15 – Maryann Skinner- Communion / Fellowship

Dec 22 – Susan Mattinson

Dec 24 – Bob Lyle – Christmas Eve service at 4:00 pm

Dec 29 – Bob Lyle

Just a reminder our Christmas Eve service will be at 4:00pm on Tuesday, Dec 24th. All are welcome!

Mission Moments:

In Ghana, 12-year-old Abigail Awini became physically challenged shortly after birth, which left her unable to walk. Abigail’s father died when she was just four years old, and shortly thereafter, her mother left. Abigail’s grandmother, a poor farmer, became her caregiver. During a community survey, Abigail was registered for support from PWS&D’s partner, the Garu Centre. With their advice, her grandmother enrolled her in school. Unable to move independently, Abigail’s grandmother carried her on her back daily until Abigail got too big and had to drop out of school. However, the project supported Abigail with a tricycle to enhance her mobility. “The life of my granddaughter has changed,” shares her grandmother. Abigail found independence and was able to resume her schooling.