

*St. Paul’s Presbyterian Church*

<https://pccweb.ca/stpauls>

First Sunday after Christmas

Interim Moderator: Rev. Robert Lyle

Clerk of Session: Jan Alchorn

Music Director: Linda Giddens

THE ORDER OF WORSHIP

OUR APPROACH TO GOD

Prelude and Greeting

Call to Worship

One: Arise, shine, for your light has come

All: And the glory of the Lord has risen upon you.

Prayer of Adoration and Confession

God of power and might, God of grace and mercy, heaven and earth are full of your glory. You chose to become one of us in Jesus Christ, sharing our joys and sorrows, displaying your greatness in the child of the manger. We praise you for your amazing love, great enough to embrace the expanding universe, yet close enough to enter our humble hearts. During this time worship, surprise us with your grace once again, that we, with the whole Church and your precious creation, may praise and honour your holy name, O God, our Creator, Redeemer and Sustainer.

God of goodness and guidance, In Christ you sent us light to live by, yet we seek shadows in which to hide.  In him, you promise new life, but we prefer old habits, nursing grievances and clinging to familiar opinions. You are generous with your love, but we reject neighbors and fear strangers who differ from us.  Remake us in the image of your Son with your mercy and teach us how to follow him in the year ahead. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

Here is the good news of the Gospel! Jesus Christ is God’s elect, chosen for our salvation. In him we find God’s acceptance. Let us give thanks to God for this gift and be at peace with ourselves and with one another.

Hymn # 131 The first nowell

Prayer for Understanding

O God, through your Word all things came into being. In the fullness of time, your Word became flesh in Christ Jesus and lived among us. As we hear your written Word, help us to see your truth and to testify to it, that all might believe in your Living Word, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

O.T. Lesson Isaiah 60:1-6 p. 528

Responsive Psalm 72:1-7. 10-14

1Endow the king with your justice, O God, the royal son with your righteousness.

2May he judge your people in righteousness, your afflicted ones with justice.

3May the mountains bring prosperity to the people, the hills the fruit of righteousness.

4May he defend the afflicted among the people and save the children of the needy; may he crush the oppressor.
5May he endure as long as the sun, as long as the moon, through all generations.

6May he be like rain falling on a mown field, like showers watering the earth.

7In his days may the righteous flourish and prosperity abound till the moon is no more.

10May the kings of Tarshish and of distant shores bring tribute to him. May the kings of Sheba and Seba present him gifts.

11May all kings bow down to him and all nations serve him.

12For he will deliver the needy who cry out, the afflicted who have no one to help.

13He will take pity on the weak and the needy and save the needy from death.

14He will rescue them from oppression and violence, for precious is their blood in his sight.

N.T. Epistle Lesson Ephesians 3:1-12 p. 828

N.T. Gospel Lesson Matthew 2:1-12 p. 681

Hymn # 153 As with gladness men of old

Sermon Searching and finding

Hymn # 155 From the eastern mountains

Offering and Offertory

Carol # 121 vs. 4

What can I bring him, poor as I am?

If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb,

If I were a wise man, I would do my part

Yet, what I can I give him, give my heart.

Offertory Prayer

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

Hymn # 173 (NBP) We three kings

Benediction and Choral Amen

**MISSION MOMENT: Sunday, January 5**

In Nepal, 60-year-old Sakkal Bahadur Shahi had a keen interest in agriculture. However, a lack of training, resources and community support hindered his efforts. In addition, due to his poor economic condition, he lacked the means to transform his farm into a sustainable, income-generating operation. Sakkal’s situation changed when he joined a PWS&D-supported project. The project formed the Phulbari Swabalamban self-help group, which includes 25 members working to improve the living standards of poor members of their community. Through training from the project, Sakkal transformed his farm into a model farm, where he adopted climate-resilient farming practices and started growing various vegetables. Sakkal is now better able to support his family through his farm.

Upcoming Services

Jan 12 – Brad Little

Jan 19 – Maryann Skinner

Jan 26 – Bob Lyle (Fellowship Sunday)

Feb 2 - Brad Little