

In our prayers...

**In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer**, we pray for the Falkland Islands (Extra-Provincial to Canterbury) The Rt Revd Timothy Thornton - Bishop to the Forces and Bishop to the Falkland Islands

**In the Anglican Church of Canada**, we pray our Primate, Archbishop Linda Nichols, for our Metropolitan and Diocesan, Archbishop Anne Germond; for our Archdeacon, Glen, and for our parish clergy Fr. Aidan, Fr. Jeff and Bishop Andrews.

**In the Diocese of Algoma we pray** for St. James', Goulais River - The Ven. Dr. Jay Koyle, The Rev. Dr. Bill Steadman (Hon.)

**We pray for reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples** Merciful God, you call us to loving relationship with one another. Be with us now as we seek to heal old wounds and find joy again in this relationship. Replace our hearts of stone with hearts of flesh. Give us the gifts of honesty and openness, and fill us with your healing power and grace. We ask this in Jesus's name.

**We pray for** the the following people for God's continued healing and strength during the coming week, especially – Muriel, Tamara, Nancy, Marshall, Kay, Dave Fowler, Annette, Barbara, Claudette, Gerry, Jim, Mary Rose, Sarah, Jaqueline, Colin, Catherine, George, David, Dan & Marc, Gary Bate, Lucette, Estelle, Richard, Maggie, Carol , Michelle Caswell, Marjorie Morton and Michael Shepherd

**We pray for those** who are living in retirement residences or nursing homes, or who find it difficult to join us for church on Sundays; Milt Fleming, Karin Hoffman, Laurent Constantineau, Bessie Morgan, Sybil Crawford & Marlene Moulton. May they always feel God's presence in their lives.



## ANGLICAN CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

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Rector: Rev. Aidan Armstrong | armstrong.aidan@gmail.com

**December 12<sup>th</sup> & December 13<sup>th</sup>, 2020**  
**3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent**

*"In the same way, let your light so shine before others that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven."  
(Matthew 5.16) - Archbishop Anne's Motto for 2020*

<b>Holy Eucharist:</b>	Sunday 9:00 am & 11:00 am Wednesday 9:30 am
<b>Morning Prayer:</b>	Monday, Wednesday, Friday 9:00 am
<b>Evening Prayer:</b>	Monday, Wednesday, Sunday 8:00 pm
<b>Messy Church:</b>	1st Wednesday of the month at 4:30 pm

### Welcome to our worship!

It is good to have you here with us today. If you are visiting the Church of the Ascension for the first time, please know that the Anglican Church teaches that all who are baptized with water in the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit are welcome to receive the sacrament at the time of communion.

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

**People** And also with you.

**Celebrant** 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.**

*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.

*1<sup>st</sup> Reading Isaiah 61:1-4,8-11*

**Psalm 126 Refrain** The Lord has done great things for us.

When the Lord restored the fortunes of Zion, then were we like those who dream. Then was our mouth filled with laughter, and our tongue with shouts of joy. **R**

Then they said among the nations, "The Lord has done great things for them." The Lord has done great things for us, and we are glad indeed. **R**

Restore our fortunes, O Lord, like the watercourses of the Negev. **R**

Those who sowed with tears will reap with songs of joy. Those who go out weeping, carrying the seed, will come again with joy, shouldering their sheaves. **R**

*2<sup>nd</sup> Reading 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24*

*Gospel John 1:6-8, 19-28*

*Celebrant* 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.**

*Celebrant* Dear friends in Christ, God is steadfast in love and infinite in mercy; he welcomes sinners and invites them to his table. Let us confess our sins, confident in God's forgiveness. Silence is kept.

*Celebrant* 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.**

*Celebrant* 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. People Amen.

*Celebrant* The peace of the Lord be always with you.

*People* And also with you.

*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.

*Celebrant* And now, as our Saviour Christ has taught us, we are bold to say, **All Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.**

*Celebrant* God of promise, you prepare a banquet for us in your kingdom

**All Happy are those who are called to the supper of the Lamb.**

*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.