



*This service is Livestreamed via Facebook and the Parish website.*

*We welcome everyone worshipping with us today whether in person or online. [www.sthelensurrey.ca](http://www.sthelensurrey.ca)  
[www.facebook.com/sainthelensurrey](https://www.facebook.com/sainthelensurrey)*

## **The Gathering of the Community**

### **Words of Welcome and Acknowledgment**

We give thanks that we live, work, play, and worship on the traditional and unceded territory of the Coast Salish peoples including the Katzee, Tsawwassen, Semiahmoo and Kwantlen Nations. May our words and our actions reflect our awareness and appreciation of this.

### **Processional Hymn: CP 106 There is a Voice in the Wilderness**

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

### **Lighting of the Advent Wreath & Advent Collect**

For the God who makes our path straight.  
**Prepare the Way of the Lord**

For voices in the wilderness  
**Prepare the Way of the Lord**

For ears to hear and hearts to love  
**Prepare the Way of the Lord**

### **Kyrie Confessions**

Lord Jesus, you came to gather the nations  
into the peace of your kingdom:  
Lord, have mercy.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

You come in word and sacrament  
to strengthen us in holiness:  
Christ, have mercy.  
**Christ, have mercy.**

You will come in glory  
with salvation for your people:  
Lord, have mercy.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

### **Collect**

Almighty God,  
**who sent your servant John the Baptist  
to prepare your people to welcome the Messiah,  
inspire us, the ministers and stewards of your truth,  
to turn our disobedient hearts to you,  
that when the Christ shall come again to be our judge,  
we may stand with confidence before his glory;  
who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever. Amen**

### **The Proclamation of the Word**

#### **First Reading: Isaiah 11: 1-10**

A Reading from the prophet Isaiah,

A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots. The spirit of the Lord shall rest on him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord. His delight shall be in the fear of the Lord. He shall not judge by what his eyes see or decide by what his ears hear; but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; he

shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked. Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist, and faithfulness the belt around his loins. The wolf shall live with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the kid, the calf and the lion and the fatling together, and a little child shall lead them. The cow and the bear shall graze, their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den. They will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain; for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea. On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples; the nations shall inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious.

Listen to what the spirit is saying to the Church

**Thanks be to God**

### **PSALM 72: 1-7, 18-19**

Give the King your justice, O God, and your righteousness to the King's Son; that he may rule your people righteously and the poor with justice.

**That the mountains may bring prosperity to the people,  
and the little hills bring righteousness.**

He shall defend the needy among the people;  
he shall rescue the poor and crush the oppressor.  
He shall live as long as the sun and moon endure,  
from one generation to another.

**He shall come down like rain upon the mown field,  
like showers that water the earth.**

In his time shall the righteous flourish;  
there shall be abundance of peace till the moon shall be no more.

**Blessed be the Lord God, the God of Israel,**

**who alone does wondrous deeds!**

And blessed be his glorious name for ever! and may all the earth be filled with his glory.

Glory to God, Source of all Being, Eternal Word, and Holy Spirit:  
**As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen**

**Second Reading: Romans 15: 4-13**

A reading from Paul's letter to the Romans,  
For whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, so that by steadfastness and by the encouragement of the scriptures we might have hope. May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus, so that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. For I tell you that Christ has become a servant of the circumcised on behalf of the truth of God in order that he might confirm the promises given to the patriarchs, and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written, "Therefore I will confess you among the Gentiles, and sing praises to your name"; and again he says, "Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people"; and again, "Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles, and let all the peoples praise him"; and again Isaiah says, "The root of Jesse shall come, the one who rises to rule the Gentiles; in him the Gentiles shall hope." May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Listen to what the spirit is saying to the Church

**Thanks be to God**

**Hymn: CP 103 On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry**

## **Gospel: Matthew 3: 1-12**

The lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

The holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to Matthew  
**Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ**

In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near." This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said, the voice of one crying out in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.'" Now John wore clothing of camel's hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. Then the people of Jerusalem and all Judea were going out to him, and all the region along the Jordan, and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. But when he saw many Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruit worthy of repentance. Do not presume to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our ancestor'; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the axe is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. I baptize you with water for repentance, but one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and will gather his wheat into the granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire." The Gospel of Christ

**Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ**

**Homily:**

The Rev. Dr. Robin Ruder-Celiz

## **Affirmation of Faith**

We say together in faith:

**Holy, holy, holy**

**Is the Lord God almighty**

**Who was, and is, and is to come.**

We believe in God the Father,

who created all things

**for by his will, they were created**

**and have their being.**

We believe in God the Son,

Who was slain

**For with his blood,**

**He purchased us for God**

**From every tribe and language**

**From every people and nation.**

We believe in God the Holy Spirit:

**The Spirit and the Bride say, “Come”**

**Even so come, Lord Jesus!**

**Amen.**

## **Prayers of the People**

## **Confession & Absolution**

When the Lord comes, he will bring to light the things

now hidden in darkness and will disclose the purposes of the heart.

Therefore in the light of Christ let us confess our sins.

Most merciful God,  
**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.**

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. **Amen**

### **The Peace**

*Please rise as you are able*

In the tender mercy of our God, the dayspring from on high shall break upon us to give light to those who dwell in darkness and in the shadow of death and to guide our feet into the way of peace.  
The peace of the Lord be always with you  
**And also with you.**

### **The Celebration of the Eucharist**

**Offertory Hymn: CP 84 Lord Enthroned in Heavenly Splendor**



## **Prayers over the Gifts**

God our strength,

**we are nothing without you.**

**Receive all we offer you this day**

**as you sustain us with your mercy;**

**in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord**

## **The Great Thanksgiving**

The Lord is here.

**His Spirit is with us.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give thanks and praise.**

It is indeed right and good to give you thanks and praise

almighty God and everlasting Father

through Jesus Christ your Son

He is the one foretold by all the prophets

whom the Virgin Mary bore with love beyond all telling.

John the Baptist was his herald

and made him known when at last he came.

In his love Christ fill us with joy

as we prepare to celebrate his birth,

so that when he comes again he may find us watching in prayer,

our hearts filled with wonder and praise.

And so, with angles and archangels

and with all the company of heaven,

we proclaim your glory,  
and join in their unending hymn of praise:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,  
God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

Accept our praises heavenly Father  
through your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ,  
and as we follow his example and obey his command,  
grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit  
these gifts of bread and wine  
may be to us his body and his blood;  
who, in the same night that he was betrayed,  
took bread and gave you thanks;  
he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying:  
Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;  
do this in remembrance of me.

**To you be glory and praise for ever.**

In the same way, after supper  
he took the cup and gave you thanks;  
he gave it to them, saying:  
Drink this, all of you;  
this is my blood of the new covenant,  
which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.

Do this, as often as you drink it,  
in remembrance of me.  
**To you be glory and praise for ever.**

Therefore, heavenly Father,  
we remember his offering of himself  
made once for all upon the cross;  
we proclaim his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension;  
we look for the coming of your kingdom,  
and with this bread and this cup  
we make the memorial of Christ your Son our Lord.  
Christ is the bread of life:

**When we eat this bread and drink this cup,  
we proclaim your death, Lord Jesus,  
until you come in glory.**

Accept through him, our great high priest,  
this our sacrifice of thanks and praise,  
and as we eat and drink these holy gifts  
in the presence of your divine majesty,  
renew us by your Spirit,  
inspire us with your love  
and unite us in the body of your Son,  
Jesus Christ our Lord.

**To you be glory and praise for ever.**

Through him, and with him, and in him,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
with all who stand before you in earth and heaven,

we worship you, Father almighty,  
in songs of everlasting praise:  
**Blessing and honour and glory and power  
be yours for ever and ever.**  
**Amen.**

### **The Lord's Prayer**

As we wait for the coming of the Lord, as our Savior taught, so we pray:  
**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours now and for ever. Amen.**

### **The Communion**

The gifts of God for the people of God.  
**Thanks be to God**

*Please proceed to the altar for communion as directed. Communion is offered in both bread and wine. If you only wish to receive the bread, you may touch the base of the chalice or give a slight bow in reverence to the Sacrament after receiving the bread.*

### **Prayer after Communion**

*Please Stand as you are able*

Faithful God,  
**we thank you for feeding us with this heavenly banquet.  
Help us always to hear the prophet's call**

**to turn our hearts to you;  
in the name of Jesus Christ, the Lord. Amen**

### **The Doxology**

**Glory to God,  
whose power working in us can do infinitely more than we can ask or  
imagine. Glory to God from generation to generation in the church and  
in Christ Jesus for ever and ever. Amen.**

### **Community Announcements**

#### **Birthday & Anniversary Candles**

**May the blessing of God be upon you  
The blessing of the Father and the Son,  
And may the Spirit of God  
the Spirit of Love  
Be with you all your Days.**

**May the blessing of God be upon you  
The blessing of the Father and the Son,  
And may the Spirit of God  
And the Spirit of Peace  
Be with you all your Days.**

### **The Blessing**

**May the blessing of the God of Abraham and Sarah, and of Jesus Christ born  
of our sister Mary, and of the Holy Spirit, who broods over the world as a  
mother over her children, be upon you and remain with you always. Amen.**

## **Sending Hymn CP 108 Hark, A Herald's Voice is Sounding**

### **Dismissal**

With love and compassion

**Come, Lord Jesus**

With judgment and mercy

**Come, Lord Jesus**

In power and glory

**Come Lord Jesus**

In wisdom and truth

**Come Lord Jesus**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## Notices and Prayer List for the week beginning December 7, 2025

To assist the office, please ensure that any items for the Notices are received  
**before Noon on Thursday.**

**The flowers** at the altar this morning are given to the glory of God in the memory of Richard Stinson, a wonderful husband, father and grandfather.

**We pray for the Anglican Communion** – we pray especially for our primate, Archbishop Shane Parker.

**We pray for the whole Anglican** – we pray for the church of Bangladesh

**In our Diocesan Cycle:** We pray for Rt. Rev'd. John Stephens, Bishop, Robin our Rector, and Stephen our Deacon. We pray for Archdeacon Adam Yates (Granville); Christ Church, Hope ; St. Laurence, Coquitlam - The Revd Philip Cochrane, The Revd Patricia Ratcliffe .

We pray for our companion diocese of Northern Philippines. We pray for our own twinned parish of Holy Apostles, Abatan, and their priest, Father Joey Napat-a.

In all these prayers for the church near and far, we pray for the people and clergy and for the ministries flowing from these places into the communities.

**In our Parish Cycle** we pray for Eduardo and Vee Villar and Pat & Mike Wilkinson. We pray for their work, ministry, and families here and away.

## Notices

### **DECEMBER SERVICES:**

- 3rd Sunday in Advent, December 14: 10:00 a.m.
  - 7:00 p.m. Multicultural, 9 Lessons & Carols
- 4th Sunday in Advent, December 21 10:00 a.m. Service
- Christmas Eve Services, December 24 th:
- 7:00 p.m. Family Services under Candlelight
- 11:00 p.m. Candlelight Midnight Mass
- Christmas Day, December 25: Recorded Rector message on-line

**Christmas Market** - a huge thank you to everyone who participated in the market. In addition to raising badly needed funds for the parish it was a wonderful all-encompassing event for everyone.

**Mission to Seafarers – Christmas Appeal:** A huge thank you to all who donated items, such as wool socks, toques, chocolate, cowls, toiletries and Canadian souvenirs, for this annual appeal. Also, to those who signed Christmas cards to be placed in the goodie bags for seafarers who are far home and loved ones when they arrive on freighters in the ports of Vancouver and Roberts Bank during this festive season. Revd. Peter Smyth, Senior Port Chaplain (Anglican), attended the Diocesan ACW Christmas Social on December 2 and extended his gratitude to all who helped bring a smile to the face of a seafarer this Christmas. Also, for letting them know we appreciate the service they give us in transporting the goods we need and sustaining jobs on shore while facing many challenges. He headed home with his car full of donations. He and others will deliver the gift bags personally. Please pray for the work of this worldwide organization present in over 200 ports as they care for the spiritual, physical and emotional needs of all seafarers and their families.

**Decoration of the Church for Christmas.** We will be decorating the church for Christmas on Saturday December 13 , at 10 AM. Anticipating that all the Altar Guild members will attend.



### **This Week's Ministry Team**

Officiant/Preacher ..... The Rev'd Dr. Robin Ruder Celiz  
Deacon ..... The Rev'd Stephen Thompson  
Music..... Joel Adimarthra  
Crucifer/Servers/Psalmist..... Darrel & Jayden Shaw  
Prayers of the Community ..... John Palmer  
Readers..... Catherine Hall & Jane Denton  
Lay Administration ..... Kelly Foulds & Cathy Anderson  
Greeters ..... Vinu Jacob & Judy Nicholson  
Livestream Tech... Z. Barabas, Beneteau, S. Lee, L. Ronit , I. Nwaogu, A Sillah  
Altar Guild ..... J. Denton, P. Beneteau & M. Thompson  
Fellowship Servers.....Sarah Vinu and Vinu Jacob

### **Next Week's Ministry Team**

Officiant/Preacher ..... The Rev'd Dr. Robin Ruder Celiz  
Deacon ..... The Rev'd. Stephen Thompson  
Music..... Joel Adimarthra  
Crucifer/Server and Psalmist .. Maureen Thompson  
Prayers of the Community ..... Cathy Anderson  
Readers..... Abdul Sillah & John Palmer  
Lay Administration ..... Ian Mulcaster & Lynn Turner  
Greeters ..... Heather Herd & Wayne Herd  
Livestream Tech Z.Barabas, Tom B. S. Lee, L.Ronit, I. Nwaogu, A Sillah  
Altar Guild ..... Sarah Vinu & Carol Young  
Fellowship Servers Cynthia & Anil Richards, C. Hall and Diane Drumsfield

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- *Lord's prayer SFAGP1987 International Committee on English on the Liturgy*
- *Common Worship: Common Worship Communion The Archbishops' Council 2006 and published by Church House Publishing*
- *Common Worship: Times and Seasons The Archbishops' Council 2006 and published by Church House Publishing CCLI Licence 20316737 License number 73485-A*

**Giving to St. Helen's**

There are several ways to make a financial contribution to St. Helen's. Here are two popular ways:

E-Transfer: [giving2sthelen@gmail.com](mailto:giving2sthelen@gmail.com)

Pre-Authorised Debit (PAD): Contact the Parish Office for details.

Thank you for your generosity.

**Parish Ministry**

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Parish Clergy:

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