

**St. Paul's, Brunswick
Family Picnic Eucharist
November 28, 2021
The First Sunday in Advent**

We acknowledge that we stand on territory that was taken from the people of the Wabanaki Confederacy. May we always remember that the Earth does not belong to us, that we belong to the Earth, and that we are all relatives in life. May we learn from our past sins and be instruments of justice and peace for all people in today's world.



Opening Song: Light One Candle, *Music and words by Natalie Sleeth*

Light one candle for Hope
One bright candle for Hope
Christ brings Hope to every heart
He comes, He comes

Light one candle for Peace
One bright candle for Peace
Christ brings Peace to every heart
He comes, He comes

Light one candle for Love
One bright candle for Love
Christ brings Love to every heart
He comes, He comes

Light one candle for Joy
One bright candle for Joy
Christ brings Joy to every heart
He comes, He comes



Celebrant: God is here!

Response: God is here!

Celebrant: Let us bless God!

Response: Let us bless God!

Celebrant: Glory to you, God, for ever!

Response: Glory to you, God, for ever!

Celebrant: God be with you.

Response: And also with you

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Collect *from Enriching Our Worship 1*

Holy Wisdom, in your loving kindness you created and restored us when we were lost: inspire us with your truth, that we may love you with our whole minds and run to you with open hearts, through Christ our Savior. Amen.

First Reading, 1 Thessalonians 3:9-13 *adapted from Whirl Story Bible*

Timothy knocked on Paul's door after returning from visiting new churches. He told Paul all about the church in Thessalonica and how they were growing. Timothy said, "Everyday the Thessalonians tell more and more people about Jesus." Paul smiled and clapped his hands. "That's good news!" he said. "They still have lots of questions and wonder when they'll see you again. Maybe you could write a letter," Timothy suggested. Paul grabbed his stylus. "That sounds like a great idea!"

Dear Thessalonians, How can we thank God enough for you? You bring Timothy and me such joy! We pray every night and day that we will see you again! It's a long trip to Thessalonica, but we hope to travel there again someday. Then we can answer your questions in person and restore your faith. Timothy tells me the church is doing well- I am so pleased! Keep telling people about Jesus. Your church will continue to grow! May God help you to love one another and all people. May your faith be strong until we meet again! Grace and peace to you! Amen!

**Song: This Little Light of Mine**

1. This little light of mine,
I'm gonna let it shine.
This little light of mine,
I'm gonna let it shine.
This little light of mine,
I'm gonna let it shine,
let it shine, let it shine, oh let
it shine.

2. Ev'rywhere I go,
I'm gonna let it shine.
Ev'rywhere I go,
I'm gonna let it shine.
Ev'rywhere I go,
I'm gonna let it shine,
let it shine, let it shine, oh let
it shine.

3. Jesus gave it to me,
I'm gonna let it shine.
Jesus gave it to me,
I'm gonna let it shine.
Jesus gave it to me,
I'm gonna let it shine,
let it shine, let it shine, oh let
it shine

Gospel Reading, Luke 21:29-36 *from the Common English Bible*

Deacon: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus told them a parable: "Look at the fig tree and all the trees. When they sprout leaves, you can see for yourselves and know that summer is near. In the same way, when you see these things

happening, you know that God's kingdom is near. I assure you that this generation won't pass away until everything has happened. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will certainly not pass away. "Take care that your hearts aren't dulled by drinking parties, drunkenness, and the anxieties of day-to-day life. Don't let that day fall upon you unexpectedly, like a trap. It will come upon everyone who lives on the face of the whole earth. Stay alert at all times, praying that you are strong enough to escape everything that is about to happen and to stand before the Human One."



Deacon: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Homily/ Sharing Time

Prayers Let us pray for the life of the world...

On this stewardship end gathering Sunday we give thanks for the ways our church family members share their time, talents, and resources.

For our loved ones ...

For those who teach us...

For those who lead us...

For the sick and poor...

For ourselves...

Peace (*wave, dance, say hello*)

Leader: The Peace of Christ be always with you!

People: And also with you!



Announcements

- Advent Wreaths today!
- Life Together 12/5, 10:30 worship with Vestibule and Hall seating available.
 - Bonfires (in Solo Stoves) with S'more after worship!

Everyone is now invited to prepare their bread for our picnic with Jesus.

Great Thanksgiving

God be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give God thanks and praise.

Celebrant: God, you are the Creator of the heavens and the earth. You have filled the world with the beauty of oceans and rivers; mountains, granite, apple trees and lupine; moose, deer, chickadees, cats, dogs and lobsters. Thank you for this earth “our island home.” You sent Jesus your Son to be one of us. He died to redeem us and all Creation. Jesus rose from the dead to give us new life and make the world new. That’s why we shout out our praise! We shout with the throngs of angels, archangels and with all the heavenly host. We shout our praise together:

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

We bring you bread and wine as our offering. Bless them with your Spirit to be the Body and Blood of Jesus. On the night of his last supper with his friends, Jesus took bread, gave thanks to God for it, broke it apart, shared it with his friends, and said, "Take, eat. This bread is my Body which is given for you. Do this to remember me."

After they finished supper, he took the cup of wine. Jesus gave thanks to God and said to his friends, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood which is poured out for you. It is poured out for all to save us from our sins. Drink this to remember me."

Therefore, we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died! Christ is risen! Christ will come again!

Gather us up by this bread and wine and make us the Body of Christ in God’s church. Make us new people in Christ’s Spirit. By Jesus, and with Jesus, and in Jesus, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, now and for ever. **AMEN!**

The Lord’s Prayer

Our God 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.

Fraction (*break bread*) Be known to us Jesus in the breaking of the bread. We are the communion of Christ’s Body. We share one bread together.

Invitation Holy Food for Holy People.

Welcome to our digital congregation. We invite you to connect with Christ’s communion by saying the following prayer.

A Prayer for Spiritual Communion

O Lord, with your faithful people at every altar of your Church, where the Holy Eucharist is now being celebrated, we desire to offer to you praise and thanksgiving. We remember your death,

Lord Christ; we proclaim your resurrection; we await your coming in glory. Since we cannot receive you today in the Sacrament of your Body and Blood, we beseech you to come spiritually into our hearts. Cleanse and strengthen us with your grace, Lord Jesus, and let us never be separated from you. May we live in you, and you in us, in this life and in the life to come. Amen.

Thanksgiving – Loving God, we are grateful for the love that we share in this circle and in Your Holy Food. Send us into the world to listen to our neighbors with hearts of love, and to share the Good News of Jesus. Amen.

Blessing

Song: Go Now In Peace

Go now in peace
 Go now in peace
 May the love of God surround you
 Everywhere, Everywhere
 You may go!



Dismissal Leader: Let us go forth in peace in love of Jesus! Alleluia! Alleluia!

People: Thanks be to God! Alleluia! Alleluia!

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