

# ANGLICAN PARISH OF NEW LONDON

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## **December 3, 2023**

### **First Sunday of Advent - HOPE**

*Welcome to everyone gathered here today.  
Please make yourself known to the greeters.*

#### **Today's Readings**

Isaiah 64:1-9; Psalm 80:1-7, 16-18;  
1 Corinthians 1:3-9; Mark 13:24-37

#### **Diocesan Cycle of Prayer**

Chignecto Region, Nova Scotia:

- ~ Christ Church, Amherst
- ~ Church of the Good Shepherd, Tignish
- ~ Parrsboro Shore

#### **Provincial Prayer Care**

Ecclesiastical Province of Rupert's Land

- ~ Archbishop Gregory Kerr-Wilson and the Provincial Council

#### **Council of the North**

Diocese of Athabasca – Bishop David Greenwood

**DCS Cycle of Prayer** – St. James, Port Hill

**Prayer Partner** - Parish of Timberlea-Lakeside



## **December 10 – Second Sunday of Advent (blue/violet)**

**Readings:** Isaiah 40:1-11; Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13;

2 Peter 3:8-15a; Mark 1:1-8

**Readers:** Jim E, Sandra H; Doreen Cole, Darlene L;

Doris M, Norma T

**Prayers of the People:** Sandra H, Doreen Cole, Bronwyn C

**Worship Times:** 9 am – St. Thomas' HC

11 am – St. Stephen's MP

11 am – St. Mark's HC

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**FundScrip** order will be placed on December 4. Please contact Doris  
**NO LATER THAN DECEMBER 3** to place your order.

**Ecumenical Christmas Choir Service** – Monday, December 4,  
7:30 p.m. at Kensington United Church. All are welcome!  
(Storm date: December 11). Non-perishable food items will be  
accepted for the Food Bank.

**St. Elizabeth's Church Council** – Wed., Dec. 6, 7 pm at the church.

**St. Thomas' ACW** will hold a meeting on Thursday, December 7,  
at St. Thomas' Hall beginning at 10:30 a.m. with lunch afterwards.  
Please call Doreen if you are able to attend. Hope to see you there!  
**Gathering at Clinton View Lodge** at 2:15 p.m. for a time of singing  
and fellowship with the residents. All are welcome!

Do you know of someone we could hire to **shovel walkways** at the  
Rectory this winter? Speak to Rev. Shirley, leave a message at the  
church office, or talk with any of the Church/Parish Wardens.

**"The Sounds of Christmas"** concert will be held tonight, December 3,  
7:00 p.m. at Central Queens United Church, Hunter River. Admission  
\$12.00 at the door. Featuring Kirk Neville, Bonnie LaFrance, and  
Friends from Central Queens Church. All are welcome!



## IN MEMORIAM

The Bulletins used within the Parish  
are given to the Glory of God  
and In Loving Memory of

**ORVILLE LEIGH ADAMS**

*+July 26, 1993*

**HILDA IRENE ADAMS**

*+December 2, 1989*

**INFANT DAUGHTER**

*+May 9, 1968*

**INFANT GRANDCHILD**

*+July 25, 1982*

**GEORGE ROGER ADAMS**

*+February 1, 2015*

Always loved and remembered  
by the Family

## DECEMBER WORSHIP SERVICES

### December 10 (Advent 2)

9 am – St. Thomas' HC

11 am – St. Stephen's MP

11 am – St. Mark's HC

### December 17 (Advent 3)

9 am – St. Thomas' MP

11 am – St. Stephen's HC

11 am – St. Mark's MP

### December 24 (Advent 4 & Christmas Eve)

5 pm – St. Thomas' HC (*with treats provided to all in attendance*)

7 pm – St. Mark's HC

9 pm – St. Stephen's HC (*with choir music before the service*)

December 25 – No worship services

December 31 – 11 am – Parish Worship at St. Thomas'

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### COLLECT (p 268)

Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness  
and put on the armour of light, now in the time of this mortal life  
in which your Son Jesus Christ came to us in great humility,  
that on the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty  
to judge both the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal;  
through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and forever.

### PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS (p 269)

God of love and power,  
your word stirs within us the expectation of the coming of your Son.  
Accept all we offer you this day, and sustain us with your promise  
of eternal life. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.

### PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION (p 269)

God for whom we wait,  
you have fed us with the bread of eternal life.  
Keep us ever watchful, that we may be ready  
to stand before the Son of man.  
We ask this in the name of Christ the Lord.



### **A READING FROM ISAIAH 64:1-9**

Oh, that you would rend the heavens and come down,  
that the mountains would tremble before you!  
As when fire sets twigs ablaze  
and causes water to boil,  
come down to make your name known to your enemies  
and cause the nations to quake before you!  
For when you did awesome things that we did not expect,  
you came down, and the mountains trembled before you.  
Since ancient times no one has heard,  
no ear has perceived,  
no eye has seen any God besides you,  
who acts on behalf of those who wait for him.  
You come to the help of those who gladly do right,  
who remember your ways.  
But when we continued to sin against them,  
you were angry.  
How then can we be saved?  
All of us have become like one who is unclean,  
and all our righteous acts are like filthy rags;  
we all shrivel up like a leaf,  
and like the wind our sins sweep us away.  
No one calls on your name  
or strives to lay hold of you;  
for you have hidden your face from us  
and have given us over to our sins.  
Yet you, LORD, are our Father.  
We are the clay, you are the potter;  
we are all the work of your hand.  
Do not be angry beyond measure, LORD;  
do not remember our sins forever.  
Oh, look on us, we pray,  
for we are all your people.

### **A READING FROM 1 CORINTHIANS 1:3-9**

Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.  
I always thank my God for you because of his grace given you in Christ Jesus. For in him you have been enriched in every way—with all kinds of speech and with all knowledge— God thus confirming our testimony about Christ among you. Therefore you do not lack any spiritual gift as you eagerly wait for our Lord Jesus Christ to be revealed. He will also keep you firm to the end, so that you will be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is faithful, who has called you into fellowship with his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

### **THE HOLY GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MARK 13:24-37**

“But in those days, following that distress,  
“the sun will be darkened,  
and the moon will not give its light;  
the stars will fall from the sky,  
and the heavenly bodies will be shaken.’  
“At that time people will see the Son of Man coming in clouds with great power and glory. And he will send his angels and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of the heavens.  
“Now learn this lesson from the fig tree: As soon as its twigs get tender and its leaves come out, you know that summer is near. Even so, when you see these things happening, you know that it[b] is near, right at the door. Truly I tell you, this generation will certainly not pass away until all these things have happened. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will never pass away.  
“But about that day or hour no one knows, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. Be on guard! Be alert[c]! You do not know when that time will come. It’s like a man going away: He leaves his house and puts his servants in charge, each with their assigned task, and tells the one at the door to keep watch.  
“Therefore keep watch because you do not know when the owner of the house will come back—whether in the evening, or at midnight, or when the rooster crows, or at dawn. If he comes suddenly, do not let him find you sleeping. What I say to you, I say to everyone: ‘Watch!’”

## **The First Sunday of Advent**

### **WAITING IN HOPE**



**Reader 1:** This is the first Sunday of Advent when we read again of God's people waiting for the coming of the Messiah. Advent is the season of waiting and preparation to celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ.

**Reader 2:** This time of waiting is also a time for us to be working for peace among the nations, and peace with each other. It is a time for us to change our priorities as we walk in the light that God gives us.

**Reader 1:** As part of our Advent waiting, we celebrate Christ's coming by making an Advent wreath and lighting its candles to remind us of the hope Christ brings to the world. The round shape of the wreath reminds us of the unbroken love of God. The green branches speak of new life, and the candles proclaim the light that came into the world with Jesus Christ.

**Reader 2:** Today we light the first candle. The flickering of the flame reminds us that our waiting is a time of both contemplation and action. ***(The candle is lit)***

#### ***(unison prayer)***

Dear God, through your Spirit you spoke to prophets, and the people prayed and waited for a Messiah to come. Through your Spirit you spoke to Mary and Joseph, and they responded and waited for their child to be born. Through your Spirit, speak to each of us that we may feel your presence and know your will in our Advent waiting this year. Amen.