

CALEDONIA CONNECTOR

Serving Anglicans in Northern BC

Upcoming Diocesan Events

Prayers @ Mid-day

Monday - Saturday ~ 12 PT

**St. Andrew's Cathedral
Facebook Page**

Compline

Nightly

**9:00 PT on the Diocesan
Facebook page**

Diocesan Service

Sundays

**10:00 am PT on Facebook,
YouTube, and Vimeo**

ACW Annual

**Mark your calendars for
Saturday, April 29th as the
one day Annual in Terrace.
More details to follow.**

Ombre

by Bishop David Lehmann

"You, LORD, keep my lamp burning; my God turns my darkness into light." *Psalm 18:28*

I was watching a home renovation show and there were some wall tiles that were described as ombre. Their colouring appeared to move from dark to light. It's an optical effect, and an apt way to describe the season of Advent.

As the days shorten and the night grows longer, there is a heaviness to these days. Our Sunday readings bring us back to the calls of the prophets. A call that can feel dark too, but one that is rooted and grounded in love and compassion. A call to turn from darkness to the light.

As I reflect on Scripture and church history, the reality is that God's people often turn to darkness. The power of temptation is ever present. Temptation to do those things we ought not to do and to not do those things we ought to. It is a profound struggle for individuals and communities alike. A struggle that is not done alone.

As the Psalmist wrote, the Lord keeps our lamps burning. The Lord is a lamp and a light. Our paths and ways are lit, when we choose to turn to God and allow His light into our



**ANGLICAN DIOCESE
OF CALEDONIA**



Bishop's Travels

Dec 4 Nass Valley

Dec 11 Hazelton

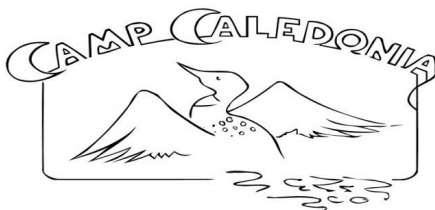
Dec 18 Dawson Creek*

Dec 25 Taylor

* The Bishop will be in residence at St. Mark's, Dawson Creek for 3 months. The Synod Office will be open and he will spend his mornings on Diocesan business and the parish in the afternoons and evenings.

Camp Caledonia

2023 Camps are being planned!



Details at

www.campcaledonia.ca

darkness. For me this is not a cliché or trite saying, but a profound truth.

Advent is a time to lean into the light, while acknowledging the darkness. This can be as simple as going outside during daylight hours to embrace the light, literally. It can also include holy habits of prayer, especially thanksgiving. Quiet times and practices of mindfulness can be restorative in these hectic days too. There are many wonderful Advent devotionals.

Preparing for Christmas is the practical side of Advent. Preparing for Christ's coming in glory is the deeper work of the season. I love the music of Advent for it blends joy with expectation. The Advent Carols stir the deep longings for light, life, and love. All of which we see in the birth of Jesus in Bethlehem.

As we move into these darker days, may the light of Christ brighten your hearts with all holiness.

Let us pray.

ALMIGHTY God, give us grace that we may cast away the works of darkness, and put upon us the armour of light, now in the time of this mortal life, in which thy Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that in the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious Majesty, to judge both the quick and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, now and ever. Amen.

(BCP - Collect for the First Sunday in Advent)

Almighty God, as your kingdom dawns, turn us from the darkness of sin to the light of holiness, so that we may be ready to meet you in our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ.

(Common Worship: Additional Collects (2004) alt.)

Ruby's Thoughts

So you also, when you have done everything you were told to do, should say, 'We are unworthy servants; we have only done our duty.'
(Luke 17:10 NIV)

When I was 13, I joined a pipe band in my home town of Vernon as a snare drummer. Over the years drumming has been a great hobby. As I think back, I realize that it was more than just a hobby. For someone with meager social skills being in a band was a structured setting where I could learn to be part of a team. I could learn to be competent with my drum skills so that I could play in sync with the others – not to mention marching in line and having my uniform impeccable. What mattered was the overall performance of the band and not just my contribution. I think this is an example of what Jesus meant when he told a story about an “unworthy” servant in Luke 17. It was not that the servant was unworthy, but that he was indeed a

Good News in difficult days

some hope

Chili for Charity

by Louise Peters



What marks a life of faith? Where would you go, what would you do, to follow Christ's call? Each of us answers those questions differently, and our answers change as life's circumstances change. For 42 years, Rev. Ray Fletcher has answered Jesus' invitation to serve as a priest at his table, and answered Christ's call to share the gospel of peace. What a blessing!

For the past year St. James Church in Smithers has been having a monthly Chili for Charity fundraiser. We chose the last Friday of the month to make take home dinners consisting of chili, corn or Irish bread and coleslaw. All proceeds are given to charity. We have been alternating between a local charity and international charities. The event requires 3-4 people. The chili and bread is cooked ahead and packaged cold. We ask people to pre-order and pick-up their meals between 3 and 4:30 pm. We meet at 2 pm to prepare the take home packages. Cost is by donation (we suggest a minimum of \$12 per meal). We have been averaging 30-35 orders and raise approximately \$500-\$600. If you are interested in trying this event please contact Louise Peters at 250-877-9107 or peters57@telus.net we will be happy to share the recipes.

servant. Just as my playing would have had no meaning apart from the pipers and other drummers in the band, so also the servant had his specific jobs that were his duty. Perhaps in Advent as we take time to slow down and consider God's will for us, we can remember that God sees us not only as individuals but also as potential team players. Are there changes we can make in our behaviour that will free others to play their part? Think about it.

Ruby McBeth is a retired Lay Reader in the North Peace Parish

Social Media

Please look for the Diocese on Facebook @dioCaledonia

Vimeo by searching for the Diocese of Caledonia or vimeo.com/user110118524

YouTube Channel - *Diocese of Caledonia*

Christmas Online Services



One of the blessings of CoVid has been the push to an online presence, especially for worship. While Christian community is best lived out in person, there are reasons to turn to online participation too. On the First Sunday of Advent our online worship format changed. There are 3 hymns/carols, one Scripture text, a reflection, and prayers.

This is another approach to our online worship and it will continue to evolve. Thank you to all who participate!

Tithing Options

One of the concerns expressed is how we can continue to support the mission and ministry of the local congregations. Easy! Either arrange to mail in or drop off post-dated cheques, complete the forms on the Diocesan website for direct debit, or go to CanadaHelps.org or PayPal Charities and donate to your parish or the Diocese. For more information, please contact your parish treasurer.

Gospel Based Discipleship

Attached are the Gospel readings for December. Read the Gospel three times asking 1. what words jump out, 2. what is Jesus saying to me, and 3. what is Jesus calling me to do? The Gospel Based Discipleship book may be found at www.anglican.ca



Gospel Based Discipleship—December 2022

Date	Day	Gospel	Colour
1	Thursday	Mt 7:21-27	Violet
2	Friday	Mt 9:27-31	Violet
3	Francis Xavier, Missionary to the Far East	Mt 9:35—10:1, 5-8	Violet
4	Second Sunday of Advent	Mt 3:1-12	Violet
5	Clement of Alexandria, Priest	Lk 5:17-26	Violet
6	Nicholas, Bishop of Myra	Mt 18:12-14	Violet
7	Ambrose, Bishop of Milan	Mt 11:28-30	Violet
8	The Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary	Mt 11:7-15	Violet
9	Prophets of the Old Testament	Mt 11:16-19	Violet
10	Saturday	Mt 17:9-13	Violet
11	Third Sunday of Advent	Mt 11:2-11	Violet
12	Monday	Mt 21:23-27	Violet
13	Tuesday	Mt 21:28-32	Violet
14	Wednesday	Lk 7:19-23	Violet
15	Simon Gibbons, First Priest from the Inuit	Lk 7:24-30	Violet
16	Friday	Jn 5:33-36	Violet
17	Saturday	Mt 1:1-7,17	Violet
18	The Fourth Sunday of Advent	Mt 1:18-25	Violet
19	Monday	Lk 1:5-25	Violet
20	Tuesday	Lk 1:26-38	Violet
21	Wednesday	Lk 1:39-45	Violet
22	Thursday	Lk 1:46-56	Violet
23	Friday	Lk 1:57-66	Violet
24	Eve of Christmas (Day) Eve of Christmas (Night)	Lk 1:67-79 Lk 2:1-14, (15-20)	Violet White
25	The Birth of the Lord: Christmas Day	Lk 2:1-14, (15-20)	White
26	Saint Stephen, Deacon & Martyr	Mt 23:34-39	Red
27	Saint John, Apostle and Evangelist	Jn 20:1-8	White
28	The Holy Innocents	Mt 2:13-18	Red
29	Thomas Becket, Archbishop of Canterbury	Mt 20:34-39	White
30	Friday	Lk 2:36-40	White
31	John West, Missionary in the Red River District	Jn 1:1-18	White