



Holy Eucharist
Sunday December 12 at 10:00 am
Advent 3

St. Mary's la Prairie
36 2nd St. S.W. Portage la Prairie
204-857-3931 - stmarys1@shaw.ca
<https://stmaryslaprairie.ca>

We acknowledge that we meet on Treaty 1 Land, the traditional land of the Anishinaabe, Cree and Dakota people and the homeland of the Metis Nation. We are grateful for their stewardship of this land and their hospitality which allows us to live, work and serve God the Creator here

The community is called to attend to the presence of God by a tone from the sounding bowl, followed by the singing of the first hymn.

People, Look East! The Time Is Near 91



1 Peo - ple, look east! The time is near of the
 2 Fur - rows, be glad! Though earth is bare, one more
 3 Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the
 4 Stars, keep the watch: when night is dim one more
 5 An - gels, an - nounce with shouts of mirth Christ who



crown - ing of the year. Make your house fair as you are
 seed is plant - ed there: give up your strength the seed to
 nest that must be filled; e - ven the hour when wings are
 light the bowl shall brim, shin - ing be - yond the frost - y
 brings new life to earth. Set ev - ery peak and val - ley



a - ble, trim the hearth and set the ta - ble. Peo - ple, look
 nour - ish, that in course the flower may flour - ish. Peo - ple, look
 fro - zen God for fledg - ing time has cho - sen. Peo - ple, look
 weath - er, bright as sun and moon to - geth - er. Peo - ple, look
 humm - ing with the word, the Lord is com - ing. Peo - ple, look



east and sing to - day: Love, the guest, is on the way.
 east and sing to - day: Love, the rose, is on the way.
 east and sing to - day: Love, the bird, is on the way.
 east and sing to - day: Love, the star, is on the way.
 east and sing to - day: Love, the Lord, is on the way.



The Gathering of the Community

Presider 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.**

The Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Presider Blessed are you, gracious God
creator of heaven and earth.

People **We praise you for Jesus Christ
who has come among us in the flesh
and opened to us the way of salvation.**

Presider We watch for the day of his coming again.

People **May we rejoice without shame or fear
to behold the day of his appearing**

As the third (rose) candle is lit the following is sung:

Trisagion (Sung)

**Holy God,
Holy and mighty,
Holy immortal one,
have mercy on us.**

The Collect

God who winnows the wheat from the chaff:
let the fire of your Spirit purge us of greed and deceit,
so that, purified, we may find our peace in you
and you may delight in us.

Grant this through him whose coming is certain
and whose day draws near,
Jesus, the Lord of the harvest. Amen.

Reading Zephaniah 3:14-20

Sing aloud, O daughter Zion; shout, O Israel! Rejoice and exult with all your heart, O daughter Jerusalem! The LORD has taken away the judgments against you, he has turned away your enemies. The king of Israel, the LORD, is in your midst; you shall fear disaster no more. On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem: Do not fear, O Zion; do not let your hands grow weak. The LORD, your God, is in your midst, a warrior who gives victory; he will rejoice over you

with gladness, he will renew you in his love; he will exult over you with loud singing as on a day of festival. I will remove disaster from you, so that you will not bear reproach for it. I will deal with all your oppressors at that time. And I will save the lame and gather the outcast, and I will change their shame into praise and renown in all the earth. At that time I will bring you home, at the time when I gather you; for I will make you renowned and praised among all the peoples of the earth, when I restore your fortunes before your eyes, says the LORD.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People. Thanks be to God.

Canticle 3 Isaiah 12:2-6

Surely, it is God who saves me; *

I will trust in him and not be afraid.

For the Lord is my stronghold and my sure defence, *

and he will be my Saviour.

Therefore you shall draw water with rejoicing *

from the springs of salvation.

And on that day you shall say, *

Give thanks to the Lord and call upon his name;

make his deeds known among the peoples; *

see that they remember that his name is exalted.

Sing the praises of the Lord, for he has done great things, *

and this is known in all the world.

Cry aloud, inhabitants of Zion, ring out your joy, *

for the great one in the midst of you is the Holy One of Israel.

Reading Philippians 4:4-7

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People. Thanks be to God.

The Proclamation of the Gospel

Reader The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Come, Emmanuel (Sung)

Come, Emmanuel! Come, do not delay.

Come, Emmanuel! Come, save us Lord God.

Reader The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus
Christ according to Luke

People **Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

Luke 3:7-18

John said to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruits worthy of repentance. Do not begin 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 ax 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." And the crowds asked him, "What then should we do?" In reply he said to them, "Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise." Even tax collectors came to be baptized, and they asked him, "Teacher, what should we do?" He said to them, "Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you." Soldiers also asked him, "And we, what should we do?" He said to them, "Do not extort money from anyone by threats or false accusation, and be satisfied with your wages." As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, John answered all of them by saying, "I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire." So, with many other exhortations, he proclaimed the good news to the people.

Reader: The Gospel of Christ.

People: **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

Come, Emmanuel! (Sung)

Come, Emmanuel! Come, do not delay.

Come, Emmanuel! Come, save us Lord God.

Message

Prayers of the People

*Rejoice in the Lord; I will say, rejoice. Surely, it is God who saves us; therefore, we joyfully pray to the Lord, "God of our salvation: **Thank you.**"*

Though hindered by our sins and in need of your bountiful grace and mercy, you never leave us. You are ever in our midst. Renew your Church in love. God of our salvation.

Thank you.

Make your deeds known among the people, O God. Save the lame, gather the outcast. May the exiles know home and all people know your peace. God of our salvation.

Thank you.

May your springs of salvation renew the earth. Heal our planet and restore in us a sense of responsibility and gratitude. God of our salvation.

Thank you.

Merciful God, in this month of excess and consumerism, call all of us to act justly and generously. Grant that those without coats be clothed and those without food be fed. God of our salvation.

Thank you.

O God, you have done great things. With thankful hearts we pray for all those in need especially the following from our prayer list: Julia, Kelsey, Myrtle Kenny, Anne Clairmont, and Mason Clairmont. Be for them a stronghold and a sure defense. God of our salvation.

Thank you.

God of our salvation, gather us, with all those who have died, into your sacred heart. Grant us to sing your praises for all eternity. God of our salvation.

Thank you.

On Jordan's Bank, the Baptist's Cry 103

1 On Jor - dan's bank, the Bap - tist's cry an - noun - ces
 2 Then cleansed be ev - ery breast from sin; make straight the
 3 For thou art our sal - va - tion, Lord, our ref - uge,
 4 To heal the sick stretch out thine hand, and bid the
 5 All praise, e - ter - nal Son, to thee whose ad - vent

that the Lord is nigh; a - wake and hear - ken,
 way for God with - in. Pre - pare we in our
 and our great re - ward; with - out thy grace we
 fal - len sin - ner stand; shine forth, and let thy
 doth thy peo - ple free, whom with the Fa - ther

for he brings glad tid - ings of the King of kings.
 hearts a home, where such a might - y guest may come.
 waste a - way, like flowers that wi - ther and de - cay.
 light re - store earth's own true love - li - ness once more.
 we a - dore and Ho - ly Ghost for ev - er - more.

Text: Charles Coffin (1676–1749); tr. John Chandler (1806–1876), alt.
 Music: Melody *Musicalisches Hand-Buch*, Hamburg, 1690;
 harm. William Henry Monk (1823–1889), alt.

LM
 WINCHESTER NEW

The offerings of the congregation may be placed in the alms basin as they enter the Church. At the conclusion of the offertory the sidespeople place the alms basin on the stand at the front of the church.

The celebrant will pray the prayer over the gifts appointed for the day.

Prayer over the Gifts

Celebrant Let us pray:
God of abundance,
we bring before you
the precious fruits of your creation,
and with them our very lives.
Teach us patience and hope
as we care for all those in need
until the coming of your Son,
our Saviour and Lord. Amen.

Eucharistic Prayer

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them to the Lord.**

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

Celebrant We give you thanks and praise,
almighty God.

through your beloved Son, Jesus Christ,
our Saviour and Redeemer.
He is your living Word, through whom
you have created all things.

By the power of the Holy Spirit
he took flesh of the Virgin Mary
and shared our human nature.
He lived and died as one of us,
to reconcile us to you,
the God of all.

In fulfillment of your will
he stretched out his hands in suffering,
to bring release to those who place their
hope in you;
and so he won for you a holy people.

He chose to bear our griefs and sorrows,
and to give up his life on the cross,
that he might shatter the chains of evil
and death, and banish the darkness
of sin and despair.
By his resurrection he brings us into
the light of your presence.

Now with all creation we raise our voices
to proclaim the glory of your name.

(Sung)
All

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,
Lord God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full,
full of your glory.
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna,
hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes,
who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna,
hosanna in the highest.**

Celebrant

Holy and gracious God,
accept our praise,
through your Son
our Saviour Jesus Christ;
who on the night he was handed over
to suffering and death,
took bread and gave you thanks,
saying, "Take, and eat:
this is my body which is broken for you."

In the same way he took the cup,
saying, "This is my blood
which is shed for you.
When you do this,
you do it in memory of me."

Remembering, therefore,
his death and resurrection,
we offer you this bread and this cup,
giving thanks that you have made us
worthy to stand in your presence
and serve you.

We ask you to send your Holy Spirit
upon the offering of your holy Church.
Gather into one
all who share in these sacred mysteries,
filling them with the Holy Spirit
and confirming their faith in the truth,
that together we may praise you
and give you glory
through your Servant, Jesus Christ.

All glory and honour are yours,
Creator and Redeemer,
with the Holy Spirit
in the holy Church,
now and for ever.

Amen.

People

The Lord's Prayer

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.**

The Breaking of the Bread

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.**

The congregation comes forward to retrieve a host, when all who wish have a host, masks are removed

The Celebrant says:

The Body of Christ, the bread of heaven.

All **Thanks be to God**

Then all consume their host. Once you have consumed the host please replace your mask.

The teaching of the Church is that the fullness of Christ is present in only one of the elements.

Prayer after Communion

Celebrant. God for whom we wait,
in this meal you give us a foretaste of that day
when the hungry will be fed with good things.
Send us forth to make known your deeds
and to proclaim the greatness of your name,
through Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Lord. Amen.

Celebrant Glory to God,
All **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.**

Blessing

Celebrant May the love of Jesus
draw us to himself;
May the power of Jesus
strengthen us in his service;
May the joy of Jesus
fill our souls.
May the blessing of God,
Source of all being,
eternal Word and Holy Spirit
be amongst you and
remain with you and those you love
now and always. Amen

106 There's a Voice in the Wilderness ✓

Unison

1 There's a voice in the wil - der - ness cry - ing, a
 2 O Zi - on, give voice to good tid - ings, as -
 3 But your word, O God, is faith - ful, your
 4 There's a voice in the wil - der - ness cry - ing, a

call from the ways un - trod: pre - pare in the des-ert a
 cend to the heights and sing! Pro - claim to a des-o - late
 arm, O Lord, is strong; you stand in the midst of
 call from the ways un - trod: pre - pare in the des-ert a

high - way, a high - way for our God! The
 peo - ple the com - ing of their King. The
 na - tions, and you will right the wrong. You will
 high - way, a high - way for our God! The

val - leys shall be ex - alt - ed, the lof - ty hills brought
 works of pride all per - ish, like flowers they shall de -
 feed your flock like a shep - herd, and fold the lambs to your
 val - leys shall be ex - alt - ed, the lof - ty hills brought

Text: Is. 40.3-11; para. James Lewis Milligan (1876-1961), alt.
 Music: Henry Hugh Bancroft (1904-1988).

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Irregular
 ASCENSION

Dismissal

Celebrant Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

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Announcements

A note on the prayer list

We will once more be including our prayer list. If there is someone on the list who should be removed please let me know. Likewise if you would like to add a name to the list please let me know. We will include five names from the list in our intercession each Sunday.

Prayer List

Bev Braden, Brad, Bob Calder, Erik, Jan and family, Jason, Jane, Jocelyn, Julia, Kelsey, Myrtle Kenny, Anne Clairmont, Mason Clairmont, Vickie Donald, Linda Downing, Elaine, Gerald, Glenn, George, Bill Human, Jane Human, Jackson, Jason, Jane, Jess, Jocelyn, Julia, and Kelsey, Kirby, Lynne, Fran Laakso, Malcolm, Maureen, Mavis, Michael Logan, Misty Potts, Phyllis Moar, Clive Morgan, Nori, Donna Pacholuk, Colten Pratt, Don Reid, Marcel Ricard, Rick, Marilyn Roteliuk, Jamie and Tryli Shorting, Scott, Eva Shewchuk, Sharon Skoropata, John Stairs, Bev Towle, Tammy and David and family, Mary Wildfang, Vicki

The Thrift Shop will be open this week Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday 10:30 am-4pm.

Time of Gratitude

December 22; Wednesday – 10am – 2pm

Come for a time of personal prayer in a spirit of gratitude.

Stay for 10 minutes or for as long as you wish.

Music will be playing in the background.

The Sounding Bowl will be rung every ½ hour. Candles will be available to light.

There will be an opportunity to give a Christmas offering should you wish to do so.

Use this time to center yourself in Christ before the celebration of Christmas begins.

“How can two walk together unless they are agreed?” Amos3:3

In their update in the Fall Newsletter Mary Marsh told us of her and Alan’s walking endeavours over 2000 miles between the two of them. In 2021 they are aiming to do the

same and inviting us to sponsor them with pledges being donated to St. Mary's. Please see the newsletter for further details.

Christian Meditation Wednesday at 7 pm either by Zoom watch your in box or in person in the Church.

Bible Study Friday at 3pm via Zoom watch your inbox for the invitation.

Church calendars there are 4 left! available for a minimum donation of \$6.

Advent Christmas Newsletter -Available for pick up at back of the Church.

Service of Remembrance and Hope This service including contributions from St. Mary's, 1st Presbyterian, McKenzie United Church and Trinity United Church will premiere on the YouTube channels of each Church on **December 15, 2021**

Sidespeople The new schedule is available for pick up at the back of the Church.

Portage Service for Seniors is running a program entitled "Stocking Stuffers for Seniors" the program packs stockings for seniors in the community, who maybe alone/ isolated in the Christmas Season.

A few examples of items for the stockings are:

- Socks, face masks, slippers, prepackaged pocket Kleenex, mitts, toques, scarves, earmuffs
- Soap, Toothpaste, Toothbrushes, Loofa/facecloths, Hairbrush/combs, deodorant, razors, floss, shampoo/conditioner, lotion, mouthwash, hand sanitizer, lip balms, denture supplies
- Pens/pencils, crosswords, word searches, sudoku puzzles, books, deck of cards, puzzles, colouring books, journals, calendars, activity books, markers, colouring pencils
- Christmas Ornaments, Christmas Cards
- Candy, chocolate, tea, hot chocolate, Jell-O/pudding cups, cup of soup packets

Donations can be dropped off at Services for Seniors office, (located inside the Herman Prior Centre), They will be accepting donations until December 17th 2021.