



The Anglican Parish of
Saint Barnabas

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We warmly welcome all visitors this morning. If you are new to St. Barnabas or would like to participate more fully, please complete the yellow form on the back of the pews and put it on the collection plate.

THE FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS

December 28, 2008

8:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist

Book of Common Prayer p. 67
Collect, Epistle and Gospel *(the readings are printed below)*

Presiding: The Rev. Jagdutt Singh
Lay Assistant: Victor Baird
Sidesman: Joan Kelter

Collect: Almighty God, you have shed upon us the new light of your incarnate Word. May this light, enkindled in our hearts, shine forth in our lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

The altar flowers are given in loving memory of Dianne Jackson.



WE CELEBRATE RENEWED LIFE
10:15 a.m. Holy Eucharist and Holy Baptism

Before the service begins, light all the candles in the Advent wreath, including the Christ candle.

We Gather as a Community of God's People

Prelude Duet: "Masters in this Hall" Arr. Holst
Dianne Quinton, Meghan Hall, Christopher Hall, and Andrew Dickinson

Call to Worship

Leader: Come and celebrate the good news: our hope has been fulfilled!
People: **Christ the Saviour is born! Thanks be to God!**
Leader: God's promise has come true, and our salvation is here!
People: **Christ the Savior is born! Thanks be to God!**

Leader: Let us rejoice and sing praises to God!
People: **Christ the Saviour is born! Thanks be to God!**

Hymn No. 143

“Angels from the Realms of Glory”

(Regent Square)

Prayer of Approach

Gracious God, we thank you that you sent Jesus as one of us, to be our friend and saviour. We thank you for this Christmas season which is just beginning, and pray that you will walk with us through the days and weeks to come, helping us to spread the good news of Christ’s birth with everyone. We pray in Jesus’ name, Amen.

We Listen for God’s Word

A Reading from the Hebrew Scriptures

Reader #1: Many people in the world will try and tell us that the Christmas season is over. The stores are having big “after-Christmas” clearance sales. But the Christmas season is really just beginning! After the waiting and preparing of Advent, now we can truly celebrate the birth of Christ, and God’s presence in our world in a new and exciting way!

Reader #2: Our reading from the prophet Isaiah helps put us in a mood of celebration: it tells of how, when the people have a renewed relationship with God, there is a wonderful joy for all. Hear then, this reading from Isaiah chapter 61, verse 10 through chapter 62 verse 3.

Responsive Reading of Psalm 111 (refrain tune: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”)

Refrain: **Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel,
Has come to thee, O Israel!**

One: Praise the Lord! With all my heart I will thank the Lord in the assembly of the people.

All: **How wonderful are the things God does! All who are delighted with them want to understand them!**

One: All that God does is full of honour and majesty; God’s righteousness is eternal.

All: **God does not let us forget God’s wonderful actions; our God is kind and merciful.** **Refrain**

One: God provides food for those who are faithful, and never forgets the covenant he has made with us.
All: God has shown us great power by giving us the heritage of nations.

One: The works of God's hands are faithful and just and dependable.
All: They last for all time; they were given in truth and righteousness.

One: God has set the people free, and made an eternal covenant with them. Holy and mighty is our God!
All: The way to become wise is to have reverence for God, who gives sound judgment to all who obey God's commands. Refrain

A Reading from the Epistle

Reader #3: Our reading from Paul's letter to the Galatians also celebrates our new life that begins in this Christmas season. Paul tells the people of Galatia (and us!) that we are heirs of God's promise, that through our faith in Jesus we are children of God. So let's hear the message of Galatians chapter 4 verses 4-7.

Hymn No. 123

"Once in Royal David's City"

(Irby)

A Reading from the Gospel

Reader #4: We are familiar with the angels who were the first to tell of the good news of Jesus' birth, and of the shepherds who came and saw the baby and then went out "praising God for all they had seen and heard." In today's gospel lesson we meet two people who had been waiting a long time for the arrival of God's Messiah, and of their joyous reactions. Hear the good news from Luke chapter 2, verses 22 through 38.

Choir Anthem: "Bethlehem Wind" Martin

A Visit from Anna and Simeon

Anna With my own eyes—I have seen Him! I have seen the fulfillment of God's promise today.

Storyteller I know you! You are Anna, the Prophetess, daughter of Phanuel, and widow for over sixty years. You are always here, night and day, fasting, and praying for the coming of the Messiah. What is this vision that you

are muttering about? Come now, we want to get on with our worship service.

Anna Thanks be to Almighty God! You who have been expecting a great leader—the Promised One has come. I have touched his tiny hands and feet and heard his infant’s cry. He will save us from all our sins. He will even give up his life for us.

Storyteller But Anna, you are very old. Your eyesight is not what it used to be. You have been punishing your body by fasting, and eroding your mind by praying the same prayer over and over again. We who are gathered here are of a new generation. We live in a whole new era now. What you have seen—this baby—cannot fulfill the needs that we have today, even though we have rejoiced in his birth.

Anna I am old, and I am a woman. It is hard to be old, and it is especially hard to be an old woman. Simeon, the Lord’s servant, is even older, but both of us have been given the gift of living until God’s new kingdom has been established. Hear the words of an old woman. Even though we are old, we are born again. We can now depart from this world trusting as little children, for we have seen God’s glory in a little child.

Storyteller Anna, we already know the story of the angels, the shepherds, and the Magi, but the story of an old woman seems so unbelievable, not worth listening to. God certainly chooses unexpected ways to reveal this glory, if what you say is true.

Simeon She speaks the truth. Listen to her. The birth of this child is the hope of the world. His life shall be a light to all generations, and his death will bring salvation to the whole human race. With God’s blessing I can now depart in peace. Thanks be to God!

Anna Look Simeon, look at all the precious little ones. Ahh... God is good to give us so much joy!

Simeon She speaks the truth. Listen to her. Good-bye.

The Baptism *(Please see booklet)*

Homily The Rev. Jagdutt Singh

We Respond to God's Word

Offertory Hymn No. 153

"Good Christians All, Rejoice"

(In Dulci Jubilo)

Christmas Creed from Latin America

I believe in Jesus Christ and in the power of the gospel, begun in Bethlehem.

I believe in the one whose spirit glorified a small village, of whose coming shepherds saw the sign, and for whom there was no room at the inn.

I believe in the one whose life changed the course of history, over whom the rulers of the earth had no power, and who was not understood by the proud.

I believe in the one to whom the oppressed, the discouraged, the afflicted, the sick, the blind, the injured gave welcome, and accept as Lord and Saviour.

I believe in the one who — with love — changed the heart of the proud and with his life showed that it is better to serve than to be served, and that the greatest joy is giving your life for others.

I believe in peace, which is not the absence of war, but justice among all people and nations and love among all.

I believe in reconciliation, forgiveness, and the transforming power of the gospel.

I believe that Christmas is strength and power, and that this world can change if with humility and faith we kneel before the manger.

I believe that I must be the first one to do so.

The Communion

Hymns:

No. 127 "O Come, Little Children"

(Ihr Kinderlein Kommet)

No. 132 "Of Eternal Love Begotten"

(Divinum Mysterium)

No. 136 "While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks"

(Winchester Old)

We Scatter to Live our Lives in the Light of God's Love

Benediction

Leader: As the shepherds went forth praising God for all they had seen and heard,

People: Let us go forth to spread the good news of Christ's birth.

Leader: As Simeon and Anna rejoiced when they saw the newborn Messiah,

People: Let us go forth to share the joy we know as children of God.

Leader: As saints through the ages like Wenceslas and countless others have shown by their example the love of God alive in the world,

People: Let us go forth to live the Christmas message of love, peace, joy and hope every day!

Leader: And the blessing of God: Creator, Christ, and Holy Spirit, be with you all.

People: Amen.

Recessional Hymn No. 154

"Joy to the World"

(Antioch)

Music Postlude

*Today we welcome to the Christian Community
through the Sacrament of Holy Baptism:*

Cadence Danika Dawydiuk

The altar flowers are given in loving memory of Dianne Jackson.

Liturgical Ministers

Presiding:	The Rev. Jagdutt Singh
Organist:	Margaret Kosa St. Barnabas Choir
Sunday School Coord.:	Alethea Power
Lay Assistant:	Christine Banage
Readers:	Andrew and Dianne Dickinson
Server:	Ben Marasco
Sidespeople:	Mike McCracken's Team
Altar Guild:	Isobel Attrell, Gerry Morris, and Joyce Freckelton



Following the service please join Marian Standing for a piece of birthday cake as she celebrates her 70th year of life.

Intercessions

LET US PRAY FOR CHRIST'S HOLY CATHOLIC CHURCH:

We pray for the Diocese of Lebombo in South Africa. In our Diocesan prayer calendar we pray for the parishes of St. Cuthbert and St. George, Sundre.

We pray for our companion Diocese, the Windward Isles.

WE PRAY FOR THOSE IN NEED OF GOD'S HEALING GIFTS:

Eva David, Doris Ford, The Rev. Mervin Wolfleg, The Rev. Canon John Flagler, Chyrine (COR-REEN) Thompson, Donald Sawatzky, Taylor James, Elizabeth Hardcastle, Elizabeth Finlayson, Robert Darwent, Margaret Baird, Willy, Doris Piper, Darrell, Jim Watts, Mark, Linda, Matthew and Laura Curran, Eddie and Joan Norris, John Mallinson, Coralie Arthur, Larry Hewitt, Veronica White, Russell des Cognets, Parvati Narain, Jean Spencer, Cathy King, Mandy Leet, Paul and Daphne Bennett, Kiera Peters, Suzanne Roberts, Grace Hart, Bernie Baird, Hari and Kamla Singh, Sharon Crockett, Reta Lee, Cam Fahrner, Benjamin, Claire Flynn, Ed Yates, Neil McKenzie, Fran Wilshaw, Greg Johnston, Beverly Roberts, Terry and Edith Penelhum, Gwen Coupland, Don Alexander, Karen K, Win Saunders, Cathie Morris, Linda Stevenson, Iris and Torston Merker, and Mary Kraft.

UPCOMING AT ST. BARNABAS

Sunday, January 4, 2009

Eucharist: 8:30 am – The Epiphany-Eucharist at 10:15 am

Readings: Isaiah 60:1-6, Ephesians 3:1-12,
Matthew 2:1-12.

Readers: David Dickinson and Mary Douglas



Please mark your calendars for **“Robbie Burns Night”** on **Sunday, January 18**. The social time begins at 5 pm with dinner at 5:30 pm. Tickets are available in the narthex after the services; the cost is \$16 for adults and \$6 for children (12 and under). There is also a sign up sheet in the narthex if you want to attend but are unable to purchase tickets today.

Choir practice and “Theology for all of us” resume on January 15th.

The dinner and silent auction has been postponed. For further details please contact Joe or Rebecca Jacobs at 403 234 0262 or 403 617 9123.

An Undercroft Outreach Update Three campaigns are planned for 2009. The winter campaign will benefit **Inn From the Cold**; items will be collected in January. The spring initiative is for **The Women’s Shelter**; items will be collected in May. Fall will see us collecting for the **St. Barnabas Food Bank** and **Rector’s resources**; the collection will be in September. For the **Women’s Shelter** we will be collecting toiletries. We request that if you are traveling between now and May, please remember to bring home the hotel provided toiletries (unopened). Thank you.

St. Stephen's Church in Calgary is pleased to present: **The Jubilee Circle: a model for Small Group leadership with Donald Grayston, founder of the Jubilee Program in Spiritual Formation and Direction, January 16-17, 2009.**

As more and more churches realize the value of small groups for spiritual formation, they also struggle to find a model that is structured, engaging, yet also adaptable to local settings. The Jubilee Circle is such a model. The weekend workshop consists of a Friday evening session from 7 to 9 and a Saturday session from 9 to 3. The cost for each participant is only \$20 (for food and refreshments). For more information about the Jubilee Program please consult their website at: <http://www.jubileeassociates.ca/>. For more information about the Jubilee Circle workshop at St. Stephen’s, or to register, please contact St. Stephen’s Church at: st.stephens.anglican@shaw.ca or call the office at: 403/244-4879.