

## Dismissal Songs

### "Let There Be Love"

*Let there be love shared among us,  
let there be love in our eyes;  
may now your love  
sweep this nation,  
cause us, Oh Lord  
to arise;  
Give us a fresh understanding,  
of Christian love that is real;  
let there be love shared among us,  
let there be love.*

### "Go Now in Peace"

*Go now in peace; never be afraid.  
God will go with you each hour of every day.*

*Go now in faith, steadfast strong and true.  
Know he will guide you in all you do.*

*Go now in love and show you believe.  
Reach out to others so all the world can see.*

*God will be there watching from above.  
Go now in peace, in faith and in love.*

## ANGLICAN CHURCH OF CANADA

Primate: Archbishop Linda Nicholls

Metropolitan: Archbishop David Edwards

## Diocese of Eastern Newfoundland and Labrador

Bishop: The Right Reverend Samuel Rose

### Anglican Church of St. Philip

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Deacon: The Rev. Edgar Bonnell

### Honorary Assistants

The Rev. Canon Shirley Gosse

The Rev. Canon Don Morgan

The Rev. Russell Osmond



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**January 2024 (Year B)**

**A WARM WELCOME IS EXTENDED TO ALL OUR PARISHIONERS AND VISITORS WHO ARE WITH US TODAY. WE HOPE THAT GOD WILL BLESS US AS WE WORSHIP HIM HERE TOGETHER AT ST. PHILIP'S CHURCH.**

*From the Rector's desk:*

As we enter into a new year, 2024, we do so with the experience of the past year behind us, to hopefully keep us from repeating many of the mistakes of 2023. It is a time for new year resolutions, promises we make to ourselves, to others, and perhaps even to God, so that our lives become happier and healthier, and maybe, just maybe we make our world a little bit better. Our intentions are pure, thoughtful, and idyllic, but oftentimes we fall short of the mark, and before we know it, we are back to our old ways and habits. As human beings we are not always good at changing our ways and adapting to new things. Some are well disciplined and will have a measure of success, but most new year resolutions will miss the mark. That's not failure, it's to be human, and perhaps in some cases, our resolutions were not realistic to begin with. Whatever resolutions we make going into 2024, think about them first, and perhaps we could set ones that will make the biggest difference, and motivate us to stay on track. Perhaps in 2023 we found our prayer and worship lives slip because we got so busy doing other things? If so, let us focus on that, and determine that in 2024 we will take time to pray and spend time with our church family. Maybe we missed out on valuable time with our own families, in 2024 we might make a conscious effort to make that a big priority. There can be a thousand things about 2023 that we were disappointed with, let us think about the ones that truly matter going forward and adjust our lives to improve upon them in 2024.

We can't go back in time to relive 2023, what was done is done, what was said was said, no use in beating ourselves up over it. All we can do is to be clearly focused on the future, with a renewed commitment to the process of mending broken relationships, building new relationships of mutual respect and trust, or improving our own lives so that we are happier, healthier and more content. This also includes our relationship with God, for our spirituality and faith is an integral part of our humanity. As we look back on 2023, we recognize that we came through a very chaotic year. We emerged from a global pandemic, into a very dark and dangerous world of war and economic stress. War raging on in Ukraine, the Middle East, tensions on the Korean

peninsula, natural disasters from an ever-warming planet, the high cost of living, homelessness, political warfare in the United States, and, to a lesser degree in Canada. We can keep going on and on about the world we live in, and realize that nearly all of it has been created by human beings. The good news is that much of it can be fixed if humanity can change its attitudes and behaviours that are threatening this planet we share. Some will never change, individuals like Vladimir Putin, Kim Jong- Un, leaders of terrorist group such as Hamas, perhaps their hearts are so poisoned with evil and hatred that Satan has a firm grip on them. Thank God for those who believe in the principles of democracy and freedom, and are willing to rise up and fight against these demonic foes. I hope the biggest resolution we make this year is to pray for peace in our world, to pray for those who lead us in the way of peace, no matter what political colors they might be. I hope 2024 will see peace once more in Ukraine; I hope the war in Gaza will be over, and innocent men, women and children will no longer be killed; I hope people who are hungry will be fed; I hope people without homes will find safe and happy places to live. There is so much we hope for, and all these things can become reality when humanity changes its ways and learns to live together in peace, and the dignity and value of every human being is recognized.

Although we have travelled a long way, there is still some distance to go in our journey to peace and much work remains to be done, and it can be achieved if we keep working toward it in a spirit of prayer and hope. When we lose hope the battle is lost; but let us not do that, for we are Christians, hope, peace, joy and love (Advent themes) are in the very DNA we share as brothers and sisters in Christ. The Church (universal) is absolutely essential to saving the world God has given to us.

As Christian churches we have often been captive churches; not captive to the Word of God, but to the idols of state and nation. The shackles of our troubled and difficult past have restrained and hindered us. Relationships have been damaged. Yet we also need to appreciate that healing takes time. Nelson Mandela was right in his observation that people are not born hating others, it is something which they learn. We need therefore to ensure that we teach our children to love, respect and care for one another so that they learn that love is stronger than hate, good overcomes evil and light scatters the darkness.

**Thank you to Canon Don and Florence Morgan** for the donation of two new adding machines for use by our counters.

**Thank you to those who contributed to the rector's request for needy families during Christmas.** Your contributions made Christmas a lot more joyful for three families. Fortunately, we don't often get requests, hopefully because there is not a need, however, around Christmas we do receive a small number of them. The use of food banks, and requests from churches and other charities for assistance, was up in 2023, due mainly to the high cost of living. We hope 2024 will be a brighter year for families that are struggling to provide food for their families, and that everyone will be taken care of.

**Thank you to our ACW and our ACM groups** for all the hard work they did in 2023 to raise funds for the parish budget. In December they combined their funds to donate a total of \$21,000 to our budget. They had an exceptional year, worked hard, and, thanks to the support of our parishioners and the public they made a big difference. How did they raise these funds? It was from a variety of things – weekly recycling efforts all year, dinners, card games, sub sandwich sales, tickets and more. We ask that you continue to support both groups in 2024 in whatever they do, because what they do is not only raise funds but provide opportunities for us to come together in fellowship. We are also very fortunate in our parish to have both a men's group and a women's group, because many parishes in our diocese have neither. We are also very fortunate in having two groups that work together and help each other all through the year.

**There are still Columbarium niches for sale.** Of the 48 niches available 41 have been sold up to the present time. There are future plans to add more, and the cost of those will depend on whether or not the price of purchase and installation increases. The price of the remaining 7 is still \$3000 each (no tax) and each one can hold up to 3 urns. Anyone interested in purchasing a columbaria niche should contact the parish office and speak to Rev. Randy.

**Envelope drop-off box is located in the foyer.** Anyone coming by the office to drop off weekly envelopes, and the office is not open, please use the box on the wall next to the nursery room in the foyer. Normally, Monday to Friday the main church door is open because the after-school group is using the parish centre. This box is checked daily and any envelopes in there are safely locked away until Sunday's count. You may also call the office to arrange a time to drop your envelopes in.

## **THE BULLETIN FOR THE Weeks of Jan. 7<sup>th</sup> & Jan. 14<sup>th</sup>**

**IS GIVEN TO THE GLORY OF GOD**

**IN LOVING MEMORY OF:  
My Husband – Edgar Clark  
(January 16, 2018)**

**and**

**My Dad – Isaac Hussey  
(January 3, 2008)**

**Given By:**

**Joyce Clark and Family**



**IN LOVING MEMORY OF:  
A Dear Mother and Grandmother  
Phyllis Naomi Squires  
(July 22, 1923 – January 17, 2009)**

**Given By:**

**Canon Shirley, Charlie & Family**



**IN LOVING MEMORY OF:  
Thomas Skinner Jr.  
(June 1949 – January 1984)  
"Forever in our Hearts"**

**Given By:**

**Lorraine Whelan & Family**

**To those who hold keys to the building** we want to stress the importance of ensuring the building is securely locked after every usage. As a rule, if you unlock a door please lock it after, even if someone else is in the building. Ensure all windows are closed and locked, all lights are out and the door locked. Not often, but occasionally a door gets left unlocked all through the night, so please be extra vigilant in securing the building.

**Our choir and organists have resumed their weekly practices.** If you have an interest in joining the choir we would love to have you. What a joy it would be to have enough in the choir to need to use the seats on the other side of the chancel. We welcome people of all ages.

**Canon Shirley continues to look after our Sunday readings and reader lists.** In the past year we added a couple of new readers to the list, but would love to have even more. If you would like to be one of our readers on a Sunday morning please speak to Canon Shirley.

**Altar Servers are needed.** We welcome any young people in our congregation that would like to serve at the altar to please speak to Rev. Randy. Duties include things such as lighting and putting out the candles, carrying the cross, helping with Communion, etc. Canon Morgan did some extensive training with a group of adults as well in the past year, so we would like to get them involved in this ministry as well this year.

**Do you know that parishioners can sign-up for E-Giving?** This helps ensure that your parish receives your regular offerings on a biweekly or monthly basis through regular deductions from your bank account. This is especially helpful to the parish during the summer months when many of our parishioners are away for long periods of time. Further information about this is available from the parish office as well as the proper forms to set it up.

**There is still a small number of 2024 Church Calendars for sale.** They cost \$5 each and can be picked up from the parish office.

**Ballicatter** - We are pleased to report that they have a full program, with an extensive waiting list of children wanting to attend. This is great news for them and great news for our parish, as they are the main renter of the parish hall. This year, because of increased operating expenses, we had to increase their rent by \$250 making it \$2250 per month from September to June. They are very understanding of this and it is the first increase since they began using our space. As a reminder, because of government regulations under which they operate, we must ensure that when they are using the space, which includes the parish centre and washrooms, no other persons are allowed access. Their usual hours of operation are from 2:00 pm until 6:00 pm Monday to Friday.

**Help needed in our Sound Room on Sunday mornings?** There is a real need for volunteers to control the microphones, etc. during our morning services so that we have the right volume and everyone can hear what is being said. This would be a great thing for some of our young people to get involved with, they have lots of technical ability for sure. We would also like to get back to using our screens on a more regular basis as well. Speak to Rev. Randy about it.

**Our Food Bank collection bins** are permanently placed in the foyer, and we welcome donations of non-perishable food items. Once the bins are full, they are transferred to the food bank at St. Lawrence's church in Portugal Cove, where the food hampers are prepared on a regular basis for distribution to those in need in our town. Some of our parishioners are regular contributors to our food bins on a weekly or bi-weekly basis, we encourage even more to consider donating.

We enter a new year in which war, violence and conflict now overshadow so many parts of our world. May we encourage and support others to take those first steps down the road to peace, to walk in the way of reconciliation, to seek to heal and not hurt. That need not only be among nations, for it is often necessary in our own communities, our families and churches.

Our Lord Jesus Christ's life and ministry were based on faith, hope and love. As we try to faithfully follow in the steps of the Master, seeking to love God and our neighbour, may the words of Saint Paul encourage us to work more closely together for a better future: *So then let us pursue the things that make for peace and the building up of one another* (Romans 14:19).

Let us, therefore, continue to build relationships, break down barriers, and work for a sustainable and lasting peace and as ambassadors of Christ's message of reconciliation may we model a better way of living and loving now and in the years to come.

May 2024 be a year filled with the blessings of health, happiness and peace in all your lives, and may we do our part, even if it is the size of a mustard seed, to make our world a better place.

HAPPY NEW YEAR TO YOU ALL!!

*Rev. Randy*

**Parish Recycling program** is something we are very proud of in our parish. This is a project taken on by our men's group (ACM) many years ago and still going strong. Residents of the town drop off their bottles and cans at several designated sites, our men pick it up and take it to the recycling trailer, where it gets sorted, counted and bagged every Monday night. Once we have enough its placed on a trailer and taken to the recycling depot in St. John's. In addition to keeping a lot of stuff out of the landfill, it brings much needed money into our parish budget. There is a need for extra volunteers that can spare about two hours on a Monday night (7-9 pm) to come along and help out. If you can do this, please speak to our ACM president, Gary King at 709-895-6239.

**Maintenance Fund.** We are so grateful to our parishioners who regularly give to the parish maintenance fund. Much of the work we completed on the building in 2023 (roof, lights, etc) was able to be done without incurring debt because we had a very healthy balance in our maintenance fund. We were also able in December to finish paying off the outstanding loan on our Geo-Thermal heating system because of your regular offerings to this fund. For the past 7 or 8 years each month we paid this loan from the maintenance fund, and now the loan is retired. We ask our parishioners to please keep on giving for the Maintenance Fund so that we build it up again, when a need or an emergency arises then we have funds available to pay for it without adding debt. This is very important because with a building this size you never know when something will need to be done.

**If you would like to receive the rector's messages, bulletins and other parish information** from time-to-time please provide him with your email address by contacting him at the following address: [lckverryandy@gmail.com](mailto:lckverryandy@gmail.com)

**Please check our parish Facebook page as well as our website** for weekly updates. Any information we want to get out to our parishioners will be shared and please pass it along to others that may not be using this technology.

### **NOTICES /MEMORABLE DATES**

**January 7<sup>th</sup> - Our Sunday Morning Coffee Hour** will be held Sunday, January 7<sup>th</sup>. You are invited to come a little bit earlier for the 10:30 am worship and fellowship together in the foyer over coffee/tea/juice and some refreshments. This one is sponsored by Gloria and Dave Earle. All are welcome. Following this our next one will take place on Sunday, February 4<sup>th</sup>.

**January 9<sup>th</sup> - Vestry meeting** will be held on Tuesday, Jan. 9<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm in the boardroom.

**January 10<sup>th</sup>** – ACW meeting will be held on Wednesday, Jan. 10<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 pm in the boardroom.

**January 16<sup>th</sup>** – ACM meeting will be held on Tuesday, Jan. 16<sup>th</sup>.

**January 28<sup>th</sup>** – There will be a service and dinner meeting of DAMA at St. Philip's Anglican Church on Sunday, Jan. 28<sup>th</sup>, 2024. Dinner is at 5:00 pm. The meeting will begin at 6:00 pm and will be followed by a service at 7:00 pm. Bishop Sam Rose will be the guest speaker. This is open to all men of the diocese. If you are interested in attending, please RSVP by Jan. 25<sup>th</sup> to Gary King (709-691-3902) or Harve Hiscock (709-697-5280).

**February 7<sup>th</sup>** – ACW Annual General Meeting will be held on Wed., Feb. 7<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 pm in the Boardroom.

**February 25<sup>th</sup> - The annual meeting of the congregation** will take place on Sunday, February 25<sup>th</sup>, following the 10:30 morning worship. We will have a pot-luck lunch and go right into our meeting. All those who are responsible for year-end reports should have them submitted to the rector by February 15<sup>th</sup>.

**March 17<sup>th</sup> - Confirmation in 2024** will take place on Sunday, March 17<sup>th</sup> at the 10:30 am worship. Confirmation classes will resume following the 10:30 am worship on Sunday, January 14<sup>th</sup>. Those getting Confirmed are expected to be regular in church attendance.

### **OTHER NOTES**

**Thank you for your support of St. Philip's Parish in 2023.** The financial books of our parish have closed now for the past year, and soon we will have year-end statements to show our income and expenditures. We are confident that the year ended on a strong financial note, thanks to everyone who contributed and supported the parish. In 2023 we undertook two significant projects, the replacing of the roof, and the lighting in the main part of the church, at an expenditure of nearly \$150,000, which we were happy to do without a need to borrow. We received a federal grant of \$30,000 toward the cost of the lights, and the rest we paid for from our funds on hand. When it comes to operating our parish, we are much the same as any business, we have operational expenses, heat and light, insurance, regular maintenance, snow-clearing, stipend, and so much more. All these expenses can only be met when we have generous parishioners that give to keep our parish alive and well. At a time when many churches are closing, downsizing, or combining resources and personnel (especially sharing clergy), we are thankful that we have no need to do this in our parish. This can only continue with your steadfast support and participation in the life and ministry of our parish. **We ask for your generous support again for 2024.**

**The Christmas Eve services were well attended.** Worship was held at 4:00 pm, which included a children's pageant, and an abbreviated form of Holy Eucharist. Holy Eucharist at 7:00 pm and 11:00 pm. We also held a shorter service on Christmas morning for any that were unable to be there on Christmas Eve. Thank you to all those who attended. Thank you to the children and parents for the pageant. Thank you to Brett Crane, Roghan Penney and his mom Lisa Pelley, for the beautiful musical selections they did. Thank you to our organist, Wendy, and the choir, for being there at 4:00 pm and 7:00 pm. Thank you to our Sidespersons, readers, altar guild, and others that put in extra work to ensure our services went smoothly. We are very pleased with how well it all went.

**Please note Church Bulletins will now be printed on a bi-weekly basis until further notice.**

### **January 7<sup>th</sup>**

*The Baptism of the Lord*  
**Scriptural Sentence**

*"A voice came from heaven, saying, "This is my beloved Son with whom I am well pleased."*

#### **1st Reading**

Genesis 1: 1-5

*Psalm 29*

*Page: 738*

**(Debbie Collis)**

#### **2nd Reading**

Acts 19: 1-7

**(Gary King)**

#### **Gospel**

Mark 1: 4-11

**(Deacon Ed Bonnell)**

#### **Collects & Prayers**

**Collect** – Eternal Father, who at the baptism of Jesus revealed him to be your Son, anointing him with the Holy Spirit, keep your children, born of water and the Spirit, faithful to their calling; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

**Prayer over the Gifts** – God of life and freedom, we celebrate the revelation of Jesus as the Christ who makes all creation new. Accept all we offer you this day and make us new in him, who is Lord for ever and ever. Amen

**Prayer after Communion** – Gracious God, lover of all, by this sacrament you make us one family in Christ your Son, one in the sharing of his body and blood, one in the communion of his Spirit. Help us to grow in love for one another and come to the full maturity of the Body of Christ. We ask this in his name. Amen

### **January 14<sup>th</sup>**

*Second Sunday after Epiphany*  
**Scriptural Sentence**

*"We have found the Messiah: Jesus Christ, who brings us truth and grace."*

#### **1st Reading**

1 Samuel 3: 1-10

*Psalm 139: 1-6 and 13-18*

*Pages: 896-898*

**(Gloria Earle)**

#### **2nd Reading**

1 Corinthians 6: 12-20

**(Dave Earle)**

#### **Gospel**

John 1: 43-51

**(Deacon Ed Bonnell)**

#### **Collects & Prayers**

**Collect** – Almighty God, your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ is the light of the world. May your people, illumined by your word and sacraments, shine with the radiance of his glory, that he may be known, worshipped and obeyed to the ends of the earth; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

**Prayer over the Gifts** – Living God, you have revealed your Son as the Messiah. May we hear his word and follow it, and live as children of light. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord. Amen

**Prayer after Communion** – God of glory, you nourish us with bread from heaven. Fill us with your Holy Spirit, that through us your light may shine in all the world. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen