

## CONNECTING MEOTA November 29th, 2023

**This newsletter is meant to inspire, engage, and encourage everyone in the Meota Parish to seek God and reach out to one another throughout the week.**

**Our next church service will be  
Sunday December 3rd, 10:30 am  
at St. George's or Christ Church Millarville  
and St. James invites you to join us  
at Christ Church or St George's this Sunday !**

**Please enjoy our autumn weather and attend one of our lovely churches in the Meota parish. The stained-glass windows at each church are beautiful. The services are upbeat and the fellowship is friendly. Please join us.**

**Join Us For Worship  
In Person Services Sunday @ 10:30am  
Christ Church, Millarville & St. George's, Diamond Valley**



## Meota Christmas Services 2023

Join us for the holidays!

Lessons & Carols (Sunday Dec. 17th)

Single Service @ St. George's 10:30am

Christmas Eve (Sunday Dec. 24th)

Single Service @ Christ Church 10:30am

St. George's 4:00pm

St. James 6:30pm

Christ Church 9:00pm

Christmas Day (Monday Dec. 25th)

Single Service @ St. George's 10:30am

New Year's Day (Monday Jan. 1st)

Single Service @ Christ Church 10:30am



### A PRAYER VIGIL



Come join us to pray for peace in  
Ukraine, Russia, Israel & Palestine  
Wednesday December 20th 7-9pm  
St George's, Diamond Valley

Sunday Dec 17 is ONE SERVICE at St George's 10:30 am

## ***SERVICE OF LESSONS AND CAROLS***

WHAT IS YOUR FAVOURITE CHRISTMAS CAROL????

Does your friend or neighbour like Christmas carols?  
This would be a great time to invite them to church!!



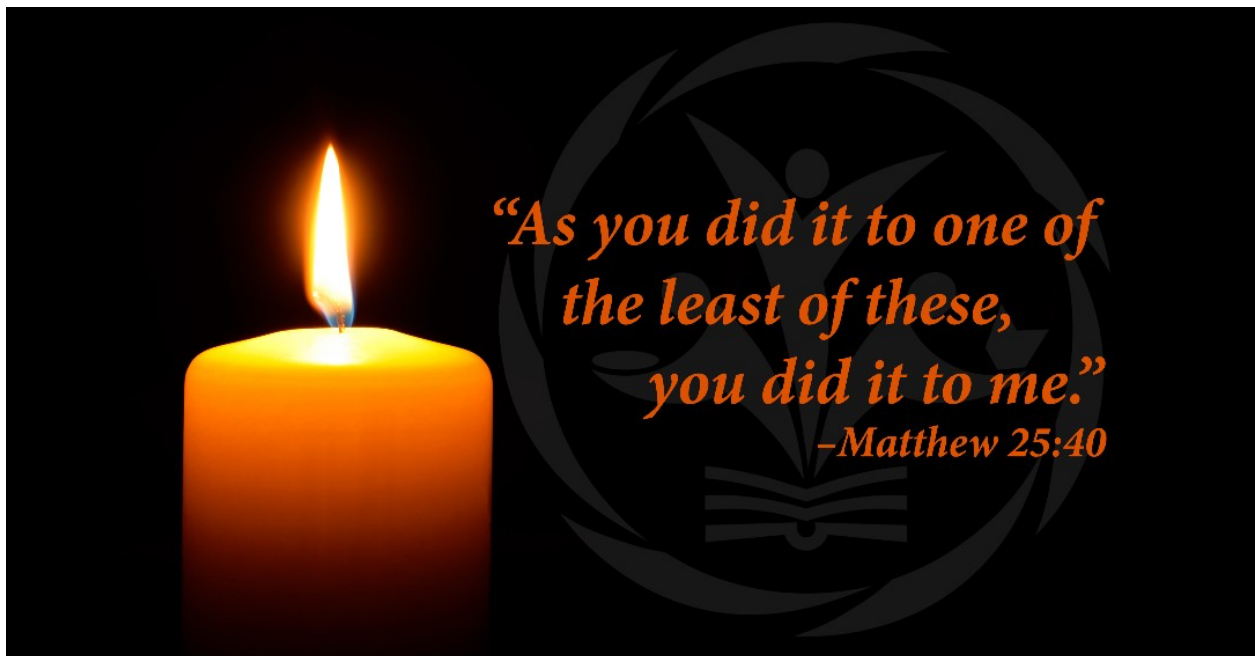


### SHOEBOXES DELIVERED

17 shoeboxes were delivered to Operation Christmas child, plus and bag of leftover items ( that the Depot will use for topping up).

### MANY THANKS :

to all who contributed toys, school supplies and cash to this important charity.  
Let's do it again next year!!!



## OUR CHURCHES and HOW TO REACH US

**CLERGY:** The Ven. Alan Getty, Incumbent *Parish Administrator* - Michelle Baer  
The Rev. Martyn Alvey, Honorary Assistant

*The Meota Parish Box 404 Diamond Valley, AB T0L 2A0 Phone#: 403-933-3620*

Email: [meotaparish@gmail.com](mailto:meotaparish@gmail.com) Website [www.meotaparish.com](http://www.meotaparish.com)

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/meotaparish/>

### **Christ Church, Millarville**

Rector's Warden—**Real Durand**

Phone #: 403-540-5639

People's Warden -**Paul White**

Phone#:403-971-3740

### **St. James, Priddis**

Rector's Warden – **Fred Robinson**

Phone#: 403-931-3321

People's Warden - vacant

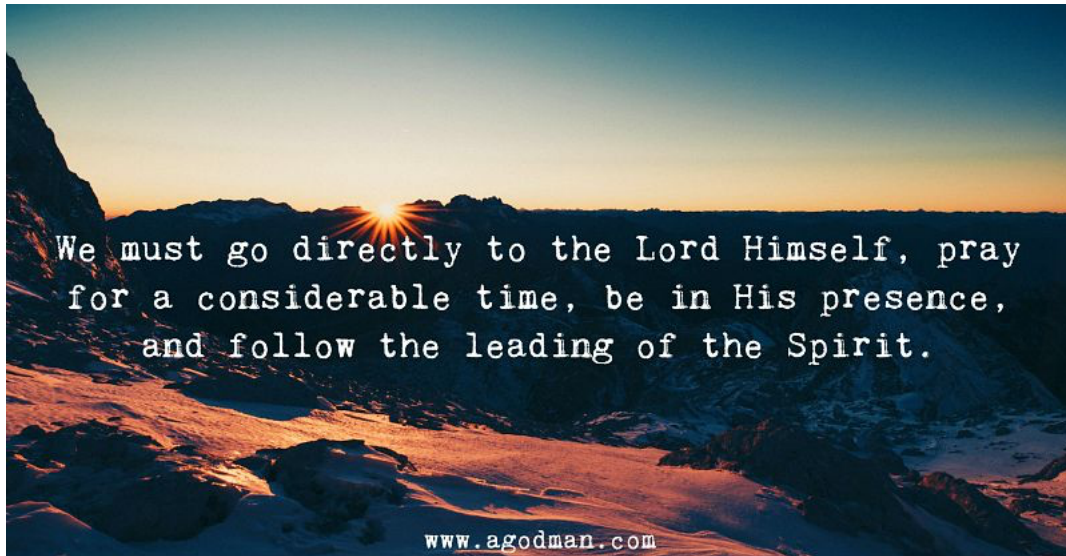
### **St. George's, Diamond Valley.**

Rector's Warden - **Carol Green**

Phone #: 403-933-4771

People's Warden – **Patricia Raines**

Phone #: 587-364-0302



## SUNDAY DECEMBER 3<sup>RD</sup> – FIRST SUNDAY IN ADVENT



The ADVENT WREATH PRAYER for the First Sunday of Advent

**Leader:** We gather around our wreath to begin the celebration of Advent. Let us ask our Father in heaven to fill our hearts with grace.

On the First Sunday of Advent, we light THE CANDLE OF HOPE.  
We have hope because God is ever faithful and will keep the promises made to us. Our HOPE comes from God.

(A reading from the book of Romans) “And again, Isaiah says, ‘The Root of Jesse will spring up, one who will arise to rule over the nations; the Gentiles will hope in him.’ May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.” (Romans 15:12-13)

**ALL:** Heavenly Father, bless this Advent wreath and bless all of us. Fill us with your Spirit and the spirit of Hope so that we may be strengthened in our daily tasks. We ask this through Christ, our Lord. Amen.



**We take a look at some of the best music to mark the start of the countdown to Christmas...**

Advent is a time of celebration in the Christian religion, as believers prepare for the birth of Jesus Christ.

The four weeks that lead up **Christmas** are marked with beautiful and poignant music in anticipation and preparation of the son of God's birth.

From rousing carols to heartening hymns, the following pieces of music are among the greatest melodies to listen to, and sing, during the festive season.

**O Come, O Come, Emmanuel** *O come, O come, Emmanuel* is a Christian hymn for Advent and Christmas. Originally written in Latin (*Veni, veni, Emmanuel*), its haunting melody goes back as far as 15th-century France.

**Of the Father's Heart Begotten** *Of the Father's heart begotten* is a doctrinal hymn based on a Latin poem, *Corde natus*. It is thought to be one of the oldest hymns that many congregations sing. While mainly associated with Christmas, some musicians conclude that the piece is an appropriate Advent hymn.

**Lo, He Comes With Clouds Descending** The popular English hymn appeared on John Rutter's 1993 album *Christmas Day in the Morning*, and quickly became a Christmas favourite. However, the piece is also a welcome favourite during Advent.

Click on this link to see full article with links to the music-

<https://www.classicfm.com/discover-music/occasions/christmas/advent-carols-hymns/>

**Read more: [The 30 greatest Christmas carols of all time](#)**

# First Sunday of Advent

Sunday, December 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2023. Readings

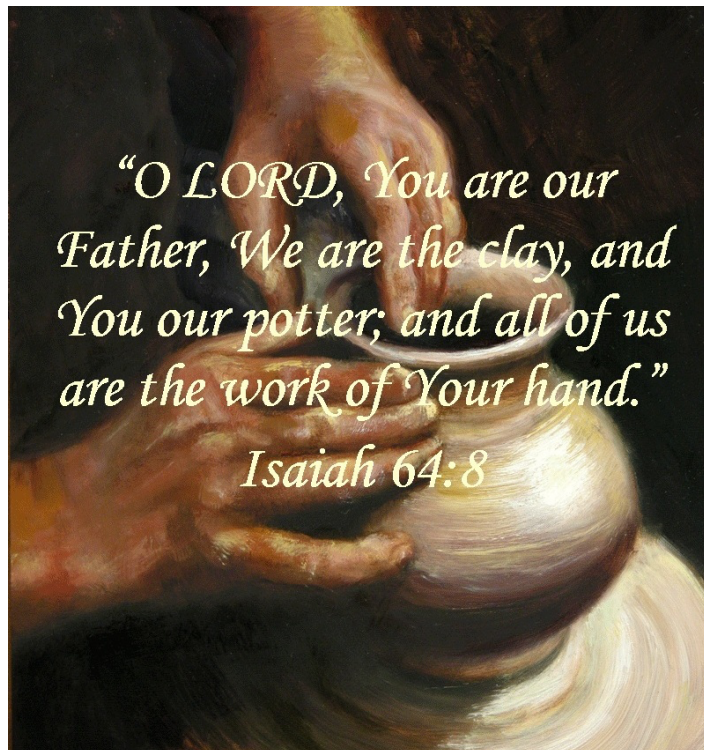
ISAIAH 64:1-9; PSALM 80:1-7, 16-18; 1 CORINTHIANS 1:3-9; MARK 13:24-37

## First Reading

A READING FROM THE BOOK OF ISAIAH

O that you would tear open the heavens and come down, so that the mountains would quake at your presence - as when fire kindles brushwood and the fire causes water to boil - to make your name known to your adversaries, so that the nations might tremble at your presence! When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect, you came down, the mountains quaked at your presence. From ages past no one has heard, no ear has perceived, no eye has seen any God besides you, who works for those who wait for him. You meet those who gladly do right, those who remember you in your ways. But you were angry, and we sinned; because you hid yourself we transgressed. We have all become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous deeds are like a filthy cloth. We all fade like a leaf, and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away. There is no one who calls on your name, or attempts to take hold of you; for you have hidden your face from us, and have delivered us into the hand of our iniquity. **Yet, O Lord, you are our Father; we are the clay, and you are our potter; we are all the work of your hand.** Do not be exceedingly angry, O Lord, and do not remember iniquity forever. Now consider, we are all your people.

ISAIAH 64:1-9

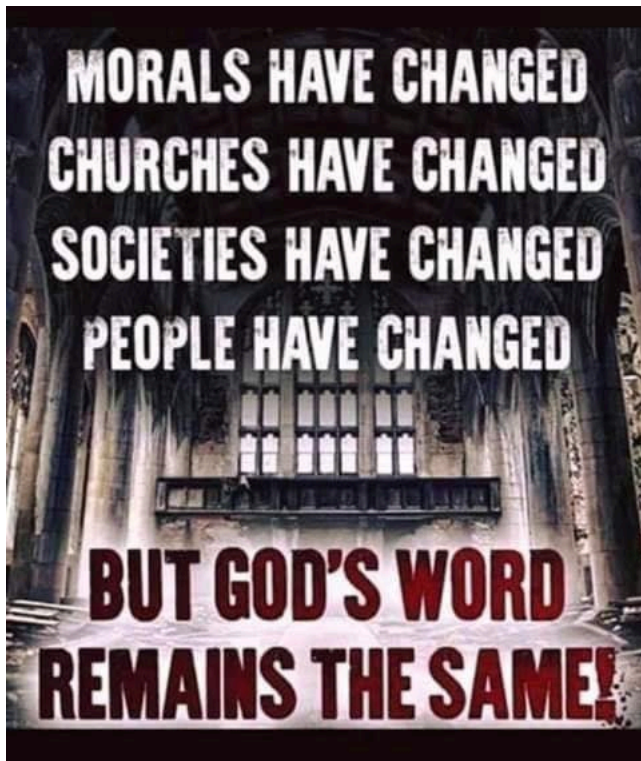




## **Gospel**

### **THE HOLY GOSPEL OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST ACCORDING TO MARK**

Jesus said, "In those days, after that suffering, the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, and the stars will be falling from heaven, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken. Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in clouds' with great power and glory. Then he will send out the angels, and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven. From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. **Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.** But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. Beware, keep alert; for you do not know when the time will come. It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch. Therefore, keep awake - for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or at dawn, or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake."  
MARK 13:24-37



Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# THE POTTER AND THE CLAY

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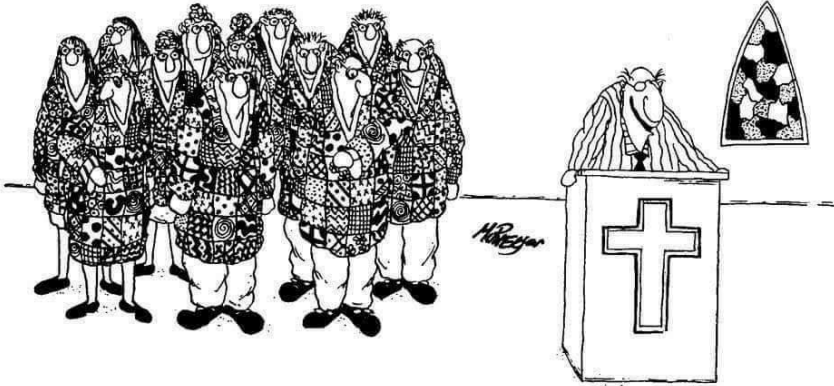
evil  
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jeremiah

FUNNY BONES



"You're fired."



"Many thanks to the Ladies' Quilting Club for the new choir robes."

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*GO IN PEACE TO LOVE AND SERVE THE LORD!*

# *A Prayer of Hope*

for the First Week of Advent

O Lord, as we enter this season of Advent, this time of waiting and anticipation, fill me with the hope of Christ. Help me to wait in great expectation for your great light to shine in this world, for all who are living in darkness to see the dawning of your light. This world can be so dark, so troubling, so full of despair, yet you are light and love. May your light fill all the darkest corners of this world. and all the darkest corners of my own heart. May your love conquer all despair and hate, leading us all to a better life in you. This is the hope of Christmas, that the birth of a baby - Jesus Christ, your Son - will change the world, and will work a change in my own life. Lord, I pray to be filled with this hope that light will triumph over darkness, love will conquer evil, and Jesus will save us all. This I pray through your Son Jesus Christ, Amen.



*ALLELUIA!!!*

