

## GOD'S PEOPLE GATHER

### Call to Worship ~

Leader: The angel's song rings loud and clear:

**All: Glory to God in the highest!**

Leader: For into our shadowed world,

**All: a holy light is shining.**

Leader: In a stable in Bethlehem,

**All: a Child is born to us.**

Leader: He brings us the light of hope for our future,

**All: and He shall be called Emmanuel, meaning God is with us.**

Leader: Let us worship God Who comes among us this night.

**Singing: O Come All Ye Faithful** VU#60

**Prayer:** O Holy God, tonight we hear the story of shepherds and magi, of maiden and carpenter, of prophets and angels, and we too come to Bethlehem for a blessing. May You be born in our hearts because You have chosen the weakness of our bodies for Your birth. May we be filled with love because You have taken upon Yourself our humanity; may we be filled with hope because You have offered us Your Spirit, Your life and Your light; may we be filled with faith because all that is meek and lowly and humble in us and in creation becomes holy this night. Our salvation has come into this holy time and we say together, "Glory to God in the highest and on earth, peace and goodwill to all." Amen.

### Christ Candle Lighting Ceremony

Leader: The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light;

*People: those who lived in a land of deep darkness on them light has shined.*

Leader: Our Advent journey is now complete. The darkness is gone. The Light of the World is here!

*People: Our hope has been met. Our preparations are done. Our joy has been made perfect. The love of God as come to live among us. And so, tonight, we light the candle of Christ.*

Leader: The grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all. The long-awaited Christ has come!

*People: Celebrating the birth of our Savior, we light this candle. Together, may we shine with the radiant light of Christ!*

**Singing: Hark the Herald Angels Sing** VU#48

**Scripture Readings: Micah 5: 2-4 p. 756**  
**Luke 2:1-14 p. 832**

**Anthem: O Holy Child of Bethlehem**

**Reflections: Christmas All Year?**

**Singing: O Little Town of Bethlehem** VU#64

**Presentation of Ourselves and Gifts to God**

**Singing: Still, Still, Still** VU#47

**Doxology:** All glory be to God on high,  
And to the earth be peace,  
Good will to all from highest heaven  
Begin, and never cease." VU#75

**Offertory Prayer:** Grant us O God, such wonder and love, that with humble shepherds and with angels from on high, we may truly adore the Holy Child. With these our gifts and this our worship, may we also offer our lives and selves in Jesus' name. Amen.

**Anthem: Emmanuel, God with Us**

**Invitation to Holy Communion**

**Hymn:** Angels, from the realms of glory,  
Wing your flight o'er all the earth;  
Ye who sang creation's story,  
Now proclaim Messiah's birth:

**Come and worship, come and worship,  
Worship Christ, the newborn king.**

All who come with hearts confessing  
Thus approach His table now  
Let us, with the Saviour's blessing,  
In His presence humbly bow. **R**

May the bread of life enfold us,  
May the wine instill the love  
Of the Christ child, long foretold us,  
Now proclaimed from heaven above. **R**

VU#36

**Sacrament of Holy Communion**

**Singing: Silent Night** VU#67

**Benediction ~**

## Announcements

**Announcement:** *The St. A's staff extends to you Christmas blessings and a desire that the New Year might also be one of deep blessings for you.*

- Please note that while there is no service here tomorrow, Christmas morning, there will be a New Year's service, with the baptism of Jason and Zoey Blum (grandchildren of Sharon Smith) as part of the service.

**Please Pray For:** Baby David & his family, Marsk, Rennie & Keifer, Antoine, Pat Ashworth, Shelley Baumann, Bernice, Bonnie, Brigida, Muriel Brophy, Carol, Caroly, Laura Cuthbertson, Dianah, Raphael Daros, Heather Downs, Eric Drakeford, Sylvan Duguay Andrew Eccles, Mary-Alice Epps, Ron Epps, Gail, Linda Gallant, Jo Gaston, George, Gladys, Myrna Hall, Jennifer, Justin, Tea Kinsella-Borden, Fern Lafontaine, Lance & family, Roger Laplante, Marilyn Little, Jan, Jemma Mahabir, Marcelle, Laura McLean, Kathy Meney, Mile, Michael, Cheryl Miller, Sharon Miller, Sandra Murphy, Bob Owens, Paige, Patrick, Julie Patterson, Anne & Ernie Presseau, Sarah Puskas, Margaret Reany & family, Bruce Ryan, Lou & Joan Sarka, Eileen & Donald Sim, Reynold Skeete, Dylan Stanamir, Madeline Stevens, Christina & Cameron Vincent, Margaret Whittal, Fred Wicks, Joanne Wilken, John Wiwcharyk, Shirley Yarnell



# ST. ANDREW'S UNITED CHURCH

*183<sup>rd</sup> Anniversary Year ~ 1833-2016*

*~WORSHIP~*

**December 24, 2016 ~ 10:00 pm  
Christmas Eve Communion Service**



**Minister: Rev. K. Alice McAlpine  
Director of Music Ministry: Doreen Gilbert Bangs**

*To greet you ~*

**Elder: Erich Bauer  
Stewards: Cliff Henderson**

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