

GOD'S PEOPLE GATHER

Announcements

**stand if you can

****We Gather Together Singing:** (vu60)

(all) O come let us adore Him (X3) Christ the Lord
(women) We'll praise His name forever (X3) Christ the Lord
(men) For He alone is worthy (X3) Christ the Lord
(all) O come let us adore Him (X3) Christ the Lord!

Welcoming Words

Call to Worship / Prayer ~

Leader: In a season when every heart should be happy and light, many of us are struggling with the heaviness of life—burdens that steal the joy right out of our Christmas stockings.

Crazy weather disasters strike at unsuspecting areas, ravaging peaceful homes and interrupting the lives of unsuspecting residents. Tragedy arrives as innocent victims suffer, and an inner voice whispers, "Be afraid!" We need your peace, Jesus.

Leader: Lord, we still carol the wonderful message, huddled beneath winter caps on snow-covered porches, or from churches, led by enthusiastic musicians or choir members. Yet we confess that our hearts are too often filled with wonder of a different kind: wondering when the bills will be paid, when the terror will stop, when rest will come. Will it ever? Is the message still true?

All: In a world where worry, not peace, prevails, stir up that good news again. This Christmas, make it real in our hearts. Never have we needed Your joy and peace more than now.

Thank You for the gift of Jesus, our Immanuel, the Word made flesh. Forgive us for forgetting—that Your love never changes, never fades, and that You never abandon the purpose for which You came: to give us life eternal, the joy of relationship with a holy God. Your birth—and Your death—sealed Your promise to us forever. Amen.

****Singing: The First Noel (Vu91) vs 1, 2, 4 & 6**

VOICE -- Last Sunday the candle of peace was lit. We light it and the candle of hope again as we remember that Christ will come again and bring to the world everlasting peace.

(a person lights the candles of hope, and peace.)

VOICE -- The third candle of Advent is the Candle of Joy. It reminds of the joy that Mary felt when the angel Gabriel told her that a special child would be born to her - a child who would save and deliver his people.

VOICE -- God wants us all to have joy. The angel who announced to the shepherds that Jesus had been born told them: "Do not be afraid. I am bringing you good news of a great joy for all people - for to you is born this day, in the City of David, a Saviour, who is the Messiah, the Lord."

VOICE -- We light this candle to remember that Christ brings the promise of a new life - a life in which the blind receive sight, the lame walk, and the prisoners are set free. We light it to remember that He is the bringer of true and everlasting joy.

Light the Third Candle

VOICE -- LET US PRAY --- Loving God, we thank you for the joy You bring us. Help us prepare our hearts for this gift. Bless our worship. Help us to hear and to do your word. We ask it in the name of the one born in Bethlehem. Amen.

Singing: A candle is burning, a candle of joy,
A candle to welcome brave Mary's new boy.
Our hearts fill with wonder and eyes light and glow
As joy brightens winter like sunshine on snow.

6 VU vs. 3

Bryson King: March of the Kings, Carol of the Bells

Readings: Craig / Richard

Choir: Who Is This Tiny Baby

Readings: Les / Andy

Choir: Do You Hear What I Hear

****Singing: Once In Royal David's City (Vu62)**

(please hum or sing along with the choir)

1. (Carol) O Come, O Come Emmanuel
2. Prepare The Way Of The Lord
3. (Marianne) Emmanuel God With Us
4. Breath of Heaven (Mary's Song)(Jessie)
5. Mary Did You Know
6. (Dianna) One Small Child
7. (Sophie) O Holy Child Of Bethlehem
8. (Audrey) Welcome the Child of Light

Presentation of Ourselves and Gifts to God

All Women: (vu74)

What Child is this who laid to rest
On Mary's lap is sleeping. Whom angels greet with anthems
sweet while shepherds watch are keeping?
This, this is Christ the King, whom shepherds guard and angels
sing, Haste, haste to bring Him laud the Babe, the Son of Mary!

All Men: (vu58)

Flocks were sleeping, shepherds keeping
Vigil till the morning new Saw the glory heard the story,
Tidings of a gospel true. Thus rejoicing, free from sorrow,
praises voicing greet the morrow, Christ the babe was born for
you. Christ the babe was born for you.

ALL (vu43)

Go tell in on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere
Go tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born! X2

****Doxology:** What can I give him, poor as I am?

If I were a shepherd I would bring a lamb.

If I were a wise man, I would do my part,

Yet what I can I give Him.....give my heart. (VU55)

Offertory Prayer: Jesus, the Light of the World, as we celebrate your birth, may we begin to see the world in the light of the understanding you give us. As you chose the lowly, the outcasts, and the poor to receive the greatest news the world had ever known, so may we worship you in meekness of heart. May we also remember our brothers and sisters less fortunate than ourselves in this season of giving. Amen.

Advent Candle Lighting Ceremony

EMMANUEL....GOD WITH US!

Readings: (Marg /Vera)
Singing together (remain seated)
All Poor Ones and Humble (vu68)

Choir reading:
Choir: HALLELUIA! A BABY IS BORN

Benediction: All Together

Gracious, loving and merciful God, on this morning when we have celebrated the approach of Christmas, as the light of your Word penetrates our hearts, as we are reminded of the gift of life and faith, as the glories of the heavenly hosts are echoed in our church, Let us open ourselves up to your Spirit and give you thanks. We are grateful, Lord Jesus, that your story has become our story, and we celebrate your birth. to take to heart the wonder of your love, that we may walk in your ways and delight in your will. Help us, Lord God, to be the faithful, gracious, loving, giving and forgiving people you would have us be to be going into Your world. Amen! (remain standing)

Choir CHRISTMASTIME
All together: MERRY CHRISTMAS!!!!!!!

We extend the hand of Christian Fellowship to our visitors & ask you to sign the visitors' book. We hope you'll return next Sunday. You are invited to Memorial Hall for coffee, tea & conversation. Serving you this morning are members of the Choir.

Please Pray For: The family of Neebin Armstrong, Arthur Allan, Antoine, Pat Ashworth, Heinz Bauer, Shelley Baumann, Barbara Batten, Jean-Marc Bergeron, Bernice, Brigitta Blersch, Robin Blersch, Bonnie, Esther Bohlein, Catherine Brophy, Leah & Chris, Liam, Carol, Caroline, Caroly, Rick Cessford, Shirley Christie, Laura Cuthbertson, Dianah, Milt Dodds, Dominica, Norm Elkin, Mary-Alice Epps, Gail, Linda Gallant, Dan Gingras, Alison and Lee Gilbert, Gladys, Myrna Hall, Ruby Horan, Jennifer, Fern Lafontaine, Lance & family, Roger Laplante, Laura & family, Jemma Mahabir, Clarence Mahaney, Carrie Marchand, Marcelle, Marisa, Laura McLean, Dan McVeigh, Mile, Michael, Cheryl Miller, Sandra Murphy, Don Nielsen, Ib Nielsen, Paige, Patrick, Julie Patterson, Willa Pender, Sarah Puskas, Ella-Mae Ramsey, Bruce Rathwell

Daniel Raigneau, Norma Raigneau, Rupert Richardson, Eric Robinson, Cheryl Rogers, Bruce Ryan, Eileen & Donald Sim, Heather Sim, Reynold Skeete, Shirley Smith, Dylan Stanamir, Madeline Stevens, John Taylor, Peter Tucker, Brian Verschoote Jan Verschoote, Margaret Whittal, Joanne Wilken, John Wiwcharyk, Wolfgang, Shirley Yarnell.

Announcements:

- Our deepest sympathies go to Elsie Salter and her family on the death of her husband, Ben Doiron, on Dec. 6. There will be no funeral service at this time, at Ben's request.
- Please help support the UCW ~ we have 3 calendars left -- \$9. Thank you! Please inquire at the office.
- Happy 85th Birthday to Jim Meldrum & 70th Birthday to Bob Robertson on December 16.

Reminders:

- * Food Pantry ~ Thank you for your generosity.

THE WEEK AHEAD

Tuesday & Thursday	9:00 am	Badminton
Thursday	7:00 pm	Choir Practice



Thank you Choir!

St. Andrew's United Church
46 Dupont St. West
Chateaugay QC J6J 1G3
Tel: 450-698-1050

e-mail: office@saintandrewsunitedchurch.org
Website: saintandrewsunitedchurch.org
<https://www.facebook.com/andrew.unitedchateaugay/>

ST. ANDREW'S UNITED CHURCH

186th Anniversary Year ~ 1833-2019

December 15, 2019 ~ 10:30 am

Advent III – Choral Service



Minister: Rev. K. Alice McAlpine

Director of Music: Doreen Gilbert Bangs

To greet you ~

Elder: Anna Snair

Stewards: Cliff Henderson & Eric Robinson