

GOD'S PEOPLE GATHER

Gathering: *Oh, How Joyfully*

VU#57

Call to Worship:

One: The bells ring out.

All: Praise Him! Praise Him!

One: The carolers sing.

All: Praise Him! Praise Him!

One: The stars twinkle brightly.

All: Praise Him! Praise Him!

One: On the birthday of the King.

All: Praise Him! Praise Him!

Singing: *O Come All Ye Faithful* **VU#60 vs. 1,2,5**

Prayer: Loving and generous God, we thank You for the joys of this Christmas: the music and the singing, the gathering of family and friends, the gifts we give and receive. We thank You most of all for Your great gift to us, the gift born this night -- Your Child Jesus. May Christ's Spirit of love fill our hearts to overflowing. May Christ's Spirit of peace be upon everyone, everywhere. Amen.

Lighting of the Christ Candle

On the night before Christmas Day when we celebrate Jesus' birthday, we light all of the candles of the Advent wreath.

First we light the candle for HOPE because Jesus is our hope. Second, we light the candle for PEACE because Jesus is our hope and peace.

Third, we light the candle for JOY because Jesus brings joy. Fourth, we light the candle for LOVE because Jesus is love. Finally we light the center candle. This is the CHRIST candle. Jesus is born. Jesus has come with Good news! He has come to give life to all Who receive Him!

Singing: *Happy Birthday*

Anthem: *Hallelujah! A Baby is Born*

Singing: *What Child Is This ?*

VU#74

Scripture: Luke 2: 1-7

Singing: *Away in a Manger*

VU#69

Scripture: Luke 2:8-16

Singing: *Hark the Herald Angels Sing* **VU#48 vs. 1,3**

Scripture: Matthew 2:1-2, 9-12

Singing: We three kings of Orient are
Bearing gifts we traverse afar.
Field and fountain, moor and mountain,
Following yonder star.

**O star of wonder, star of night,
Star with royal beauty bright,
Westward leading, still proceeding,
Guide us to thy perfect Light.**

Singing: *The Virgin Mary Had a Baby Boy* **VU#73**

Reflections: For God So Loved the World that He Gave...

Singing: *Joy to the World* **VU#59**

We bring our ourselves and our gifts to God

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

Offering: **VU#81 vs. 3**

As they offered gifts most rare
At the manger crude and bare,
So may we with holy joy,

Pure and free from sin's alloy,
All our costliest treasures bring,
Christ, to you, our heavenly King.

Offertory Prayer: We offer these gifts, kneeling with those who came to the manger, to the Child Who came to bring peace, hope, joy and love to our world. Accept our songs, our prayers, and our gifts of silver and gold, as tokens of our acceptance of the Holy Child, born this night. Amen

We gather to pray ~

Reflective music by Wally Walker & Doreen Gilbert

Prayer

Singing: *Silent Night* **VU#67**

Benediction

Joyous Christmas greetings to you all! May you have the joy of Jesus, the Christmas Child with you this season and in the New Year. Our last Sunday service of 2019 will be held in Memorial Hall at 10:30 a.m. It will be an informal one of carol singing, sharing memories and reflections. Please feel free to bring along left over snacky food and we'll serve hot chocolate and tea and coffee, etc

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.



ST. ANDREW'S UNITED CHURCH

186th Anniversary Year ~ 1833-2019

~WORSHIP~

December 24, 2019 ~ 8:00 pm

Christmas Eve Service



St. Andrew's United Church
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Minister: Rev. K. Alice McAlpine
Director of Music Ministry: Doreen Gilbert Bangs

To greet you ~

Elder: Richard Fortier

Stewards: Cliff Henderson & Eric Robinson