

Children's Hymn: "Away In a Manger" VU#69

WE LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD

Gospel Reading: Luke 2: 41-52

One: *Listen to the wisdom of the Prophet*

ALL: Glory to God who speaks through the ages.

Message - Dramatic Reading - Jesus: Dawning of Wisdom

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

Hymn: "O Come, O Come Emmanuel" VU#1(v1,2 &3)

Offering

Offertory:

What can I give him, poor as I am?

If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb,

if I were a wiseman, I would do my part,

yet, what can I give him Give my heart.

"In the Bleak Midwinter" VU#55 (v.3)

Prayers of the People/The Lord's Prayer

SENT TO SHOW CHRIST'S LOVE

Closing Hymn: "Good Christian Friends, Rejoice" VU #35

Benediction

Choral Benediction:

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.

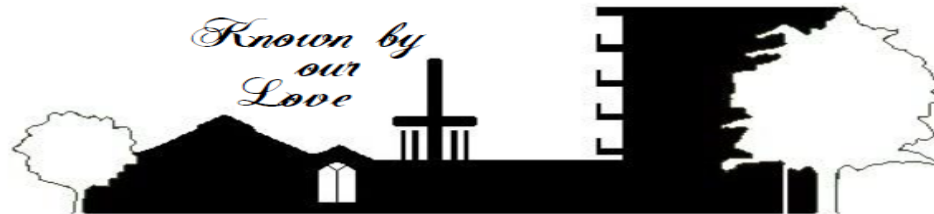
Know God will guide you in all you do.

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.



EMMANUEL UNITED CHURCH

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*Emmanuel United Church shall be a caring,
welcoming faith community, nurturing
spiritual life and sharing God's love
and grace as experienced in Jesus Christ.*

December 30, 2018 10:30am

Thank you for worshipping with us today!

Elizabeth Henderson will lead the service today.

Please sign the Guest Book before you leave.

**We hope that your faith has been enriched through the
worship today and that you may come again!**

**A special thank you to all participants
in today's service.**

Ushers: Mary & Ken Soutar

WE GATHER - SUNDAY DECEMBER 30^h

Welcome

Announcements

Territorial Acknowledgement:

“We gather today on the traditional territory of the Anishinaabeg people and, specifically, the Nipissing First Nation, the land they share with us as a result of the Robinson-Huron Treaty. May we live in peace and friendship as a treaty people.”

Greeting:

Leader: The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

Congregation: And also with you.

WE ENTER INTO GOD’S PRESENCE

Call to Worship:

Leader: Holidays bring hopeful anticipation of special times.

All: Holidays bring work: baking, church fundraising, festive meals, shopping and housecleaning sprees!

Leader: Holidays bring fun: parties, feasts and gifts with family and friends.

All: On this first Sunday after Christmas, right in the middle of our feasting and gift giving, we pause to come on bended knee before the Holy One who came bringing gifts of hope, joy, peace and love for all.

Opening Prayer: (unison)

Holy One, as we once again ponder the story of your birth we see your divine love moving through the lives of all the characters in this narrative. Your voice is heard in the angels, sent to deliver Your instructions and to allay human fears. We see You in the faithful, courageous hearts of Mary and Joseph.

We see You in the challenges Mary and Joseph faced, and in the tenderness of Your provision for them. Your love is in the heart of the innkeeper. We see You in the vulnerability of a newborn baby. We hear you in the sweet voices of the angel chorus, and in the surprised voices of the incredulous shepherds. Later Your wisdom comes through the visit from the Magi. All who saw You on that night held You in the centre of their hearts. We too want to worship You, hold You and feel Your love direct all our paths. **Amen.**

Opening Hymn: “Infant Holy, Infant Lowly” VU#58

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession: (unison)

Generous God, you have given us so much! Your gift of love in Jesus shows us the way to make a better world.

Your love in Jesus shows us how to work towards a world based on the gifts of hope, joy, peace and love.

For a moment let us be vulnerable before You as we ask the light of the Star of Bethlehem to shine on our lives as we look at the places in our lives where we have given up on hope and lost our joy. Places where we no longer have peace and need to rebirth love...

(Moment of silence)

Prayer of Assurance

Choral Assurance of Forgiveness:

How silently, how silently
the wondrous gift is given!

So God imparts to human hearts
the blessed gift of heaven.

No ear may hear his coming,
but in this world of sin,

where meek souls will receive him still,
the dear Christ enters in.

“O Little Town of Bethlehem” VU#64 vs. 3