

Advent 2019

“The World Waits for Good News of Great Joy!”

December 8, 10:30 a.m., Advent 2: White Gift Sunday

“The Lord is Coming: Let’s be Prepared!”

December 15, 10:30 a.m., Advent 3:

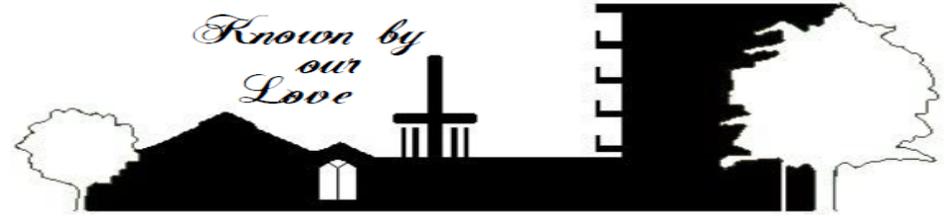
“Joy for the Journey, the Lord Is Coming!”

December 22, 10:30 a.m., Advent 4:

“A Sign of Emmanuel: God’s Expression of Love”

Tuesday, December 24, 6:30 p.m.: Christmas Eve

“A Child Is Born For Us.”



EMMANUEL UNITED CHURCH

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December 8, 2019 10:30am

Thank you for worshipping with us today!

If you are new to Emmanuel, we hope that you feel welcome and that your faith has been enriched through the worship today and that you may come again!

Please introduce yourself to our minister, Rev. Roni Beharry, & please sign the Guest Book before you leave.

Rev. Roni EMERGENCY Contact: 1-416-271-5313

Please note: Rev. Roni is off Monday & Tuesday.

Office Hours:

December 11, 12, 13, 16, 17, 20, 2019

9:00am-1:00pm

CLOSED :

December 18, 19, 25, 26, 27, 2019

January 1, 2, 3, 2020



Staff

Minister: Rev. Roni Beharry

Organist: John Henderson

Secretary: Sheila Durand

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

Reader: Bud McMartin

Ushers: JoAnne Livingston

Doreen McLuhan



Coffee Fellowship:

Please join us for a time of fellowship after our service in the Bert Passmore Hall.

WE GATHER
SUNDAY DECEMBER 8th, 2019
“THE LORD IS COMING. LET’S BE PEACEBUILDERS”
SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Carol Sing

Welcome

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: Today we get a glimpse of God’s vision for the world. Each one of us has a role. Let us prepare our hearts to worship God on this second Sunday of Advent.

WE ENTER INTO GOD’S PRESENCE

Call to Worship:

May your earth yield prosperity for everyone, O God.

**May the poor be defended,
the oppressed delivered.**

May enemies live in peace.

May no one hurt or destroy.

May all the world rejoice.

Empower us to be agents of your joy and peace.

For this is your mighty vision for our world.

May we believe it so.

Advent Litany: “The Hope of Your Coming”

Words and Music by Ruth Elaine Schram and Aren Newell Williams

Choir

May the hope of Your coming guide us from the dark.

May the peace of your promise rest upon our heart.

May the joy of Your presence glow throughout the night.

May the love, Your deep love, fill this room, fill this room with light.

We pray:

Choral Response:VU #34

**Come Now, O God of Peace,
we are your people,
pour out your spirit
that we be one body.**

Lord’s Prayer:

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name,
Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth
as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us
our trespasses, as we forgive them that
trespass against us.

And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil:
for thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory,
forever and ever.

Amen.

SENT TO SHOW CHRIST’S LOVE

Hymn: “Herald! Sound the Note of Gladness” VU#28

Benediction:

“May the God of hope fill you with all joy
and peace in believing,
so that you may abound in hope by the power
of the Holy Spirit.”

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.
Go now in peace, in faith and in love.**

*Prayers for this service are adapted from the Abingdon Worship Annual 2019,
December 8th 2019, written by Hans Holznagel.*

Epistle Reading: Romans 15: 4-13

Advent Week 2

One: Listen to what the Spirit is saying to the church

ALL: Come and pray in us Holy Spirit.

Choir Anthem: "Creation Will Be At Peace"

(by J. Paul Williams and Anna Laura Page)

Gospel Reading: Matthew 3: 1-12

One: This is the Good News of Jesus Christ!

ALL: Glory to you O Christ.

Sermon: "Preparing the way."

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

Hymn: "On Jordan's Bank" VU#20

Announcements

Offering: Music during Offering: "Not Too Far From Here."

Words and music by Kim Boyce. Performed by Michael Crawford.

White Gifts are brought forward for a special blessing.

Offertory Blessing:

**May these gifts further God's vision
of a world of justice, righteousness, equity
and mutual thriving.**

Amen.

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 vs.4*

Pastoral Prayer Litany

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give God thanks and praise.

Narrator: How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of those who bring good news, who proclaim peace.

Congregation: *Oh Lord, You are our Peace.*

Narrator: Lord, we pray You will guide our feet into the path of peace.

Congregation: *Oh Lord, You are our Peace.*

Narrator: Our hearts long for the Peace your arrival will bring.

Congregation: *Oh Lord, You are our Peace.*

Narrator: God's promises are true. We await the birth of Christ, the Promised Child, the Saviour of the World.

Peace is coming soon

Congregation: *Oh Lord, You are our Peace.*

Choir

May the hope of Your coming guide us from the dark.

May the peace of your promise rest upon our heart.

May the joy of Your presence glow throughout the night.

May the love, Your deep love, fill this room, fill this room with light.

May the love, Your deep love, fill this room, fill this room with light.

Lighting of the second advent candle:

Opening Prayer:

Visionary God,

in this season of preparation and reflection,

let us see, as through your eyes,

the way the world can be.

Peace is more than aspirational;

Help us to be peacebuilders,

beginning with our self-awareness.

We pray in the power of the Holy Spirit,

Amen.

Opening Hymn: "There's A Voice in the Wilderness Crying"

VU#18

Prayer of Confession:

Creator, we thank you for reminders, gentle or urgent,
that, we, too, should be agents of harmony,
reconciliation, peace, justice, and righteousness.
Make us advocates of your vision for the world.
Transform our hearts through your grace,
Amen

Prayer of Assurance:

As the prophet Isaiah proclaims,
“The earth will be full of the knowledge of the Lord
as the waters cover the sea.”
This sure vision is ours.
Let us embrace God’s promise.
Amen.

Choral Assurance of Forgiveness:

O holy child of Bethlehem,
descend to us, we pray;
cast out our sin, and enter in;
be born in us today.
We hear the Christmas angels
the great glad tidings tell;
O come to us, abide with us,
our Lord Emmanuel. *“O Little Town of Bethlehem” VU#64 vs.4*

Children’s Time: “Flowers for Jesus”

A Story from Mexico. Adapted from Joy To The World! Christmas Stories
from Across the Globe

Advent Prayer of Illumination:

Advent is a time of waiting.
We acknowledge that sometimes we find it hard to wait,
O God.
Advent is a time of preparation.
Open our hearts and minds, O God, so that we may prepare
for the Christ Child to be born in us.
Help us to receive your word to us, O God,
Your word of peace for today, in words written long ago.
Amen

By: Phyllis Flemming, Grace U.C., Thornbury, ON Gathering A/C/E 2019/20

WE LISTEN FOR GOD’S WORD

Old Testament Reading: 11:1-10 *to be read responsively*

A shoot shall come out from the stock of Jesse,
and a branch shall grow out of his roots.
The spirit of the LORD shall rest on him,
the spirit of wisdom and understanding,
the spirit of counsel and might,
the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD.
His delight shall be in the fear of the LORD.
He shall not judge by what his eyes see,
or decide by what his ears hear;
but with righteousness he shall judge the poor,
and decide with equity for the meek of the earth;
he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth,
and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked.
Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist,
and faithfulness the belt around his loins.
The wolf shall live with the lamb,
the leopard shall lie down with the kid,
the calf and the lion and the fatling together,
and a little child shall lead them.
The cow and the bear shall graze,
their young shall lie down together;
and the lion shall eat straw like the ox.
The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp,
and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder’s den.
They will not hurt or destroy
on all my holy mountain;
for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the LORD
as the waters cover the sea.
On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the
peoples; the nations shall inquire of him, and his dwelling
shall be glorious.

One: Herein is Wisdom

All: Thanks be to God