

St James United Church

400 Burnhamthorpe Road, Etobicoke M9B 2A8 416-622-4113

www.stjamesunitedchurch.com

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 6, 2020

10:30 am

*Second Sunday of Advent ~ Peace
Blue Christmas ~ École Polytechnique*

Welcome!

*We are glad you have joined us in worship.
May you feel the warmth of God's presence.*

Our Mission:

To live God's love through our actions: Seek, Serve, Challenge.

Reflection Question: "How do you find peace in your life?"

WE GATHER AND APPROACH GOD

***Bold indicates words said by All**

PRELUDE

Emmanuel (with O Come, O Come, Emmanuel) (arr. Joel Raney)
J.-C. Coolen, piano

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Karen Munday

GATHERING MUSIC

Peace Shines as the Solitary Star

MV 220

(Sung twice: Cantor alone, then congregation & cantor)

Cantor: Kathleen Wells, Soprano Choral Lead/Soloist

Piano: J.-C. Coolen, Music Minister

Peace shines as the solitary star,
faith is the inner light.

You and I together mirror the Light of Lights,
and illumine the pathway home.

Words: Catherine Faith McLean. © 2007 Catherine Faith McLean. Reproduced under One License #A-622413.

ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING

We are living in a season when many yearn for Peace.

**When we light this candle, we listen keenly to the voices crying out
in the streets, in the hospitals, at seniors' residences and
we grieve for those who have been silenced.**

Silenced by violence, by respirators, by time...

We celebrate the Way in you, O God.

We live into the Shalom you promise by repenting our sins,
claiming our worth and opening ourselves to trusting you.

**You have sent us messages of peace,
you have called us to the paths of forgiveness.**

We hear you say, "Comfort now, Comfort now my people."

OPENING HYMN Isaiah 40: Comfort, Comfort Now My People VU 883

Cantor: Kathleen Wells, Soprano Choral Lead/Soloist

Piano: J.-C. Coolen, Music Minister

1 Comfort, comfort now my people;
 speak of peace; so says our God.
 Comfort those who sit in darkness,
 mourning under sorrow's load.
 Cry out to Jerusalem
 of the peace that waits for them;
 tell them that their sins I cover
 and their warfare now is over.

2 For the herald's voice is crying
 in the desert far and near,
 calling all to true repentance,
 since God's judgement now is here.
 Oh, that warning cry obey!

Now prepare for God a way!
 Let the valleys rise in meeting
 and the hills bow down in greeting.

3 Then make straight what long was crooked;
 make the rougher places plain.
 Let your hearts be true and humble,
 as befits a holy reign.

For the glory of our God
 now on earth is shed abroad,
 and all flesh shall see the token
 that God's word is never broken.

Words: Johannes G. Olearius; trans. Catherine Winkworth, alt. Public Domain.

OPENING PRAYER

O Prince of Peace,
 the bare brown trees etched across the wintery sky,
 the leaves fallen, rustling, and the cold, hard ground
remind us to prepare for your coming,
remind us to prepare for the time
when the soles of your feet will gently touch the ground,
 when you will be here with us once more.

Be with us now.

We come to you from our sacred spaces
seeking your reassurance and hope.

We come in the midst of noise
 listening for your gentle heartbeat.
 For sometimes, we are chilled by grief and pain.

And so we pray...

Bring the warmth of your Love for those who are overwhelmed
Bring the cooling calm of your peace
for those who are caught in the glare of expectations of glee

Bring the comforting darkness of your Love.
 For those who find themselves in the shadows of anxiety,
bring the birthing dawn of your care and compassion. Amen.

shall see Christ's promised reign of peace.

2 Then shall the wolf dwell with the lamb,
nor shall the fierce devour the small;
as beasts and cattle calmly graze,
a little child shall lead them all.

Then enemies shall learn to love,
all creatures find their true accord;
the hope of peace shall be fulfilled,
for all the earth shall know the Lord.

Words: Carl P. Daw, Jr. © 1982 Hope Publishing Company. Reproduced under One License #A-622413.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

PASTORAL PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER

VU 921

**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 those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil:
For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory
forever and ever. Amen.**

CLOSING HYMN

Hark the Glad Sound

VU 29

Cantor: Kathleen Wells, Soprano Choral Lead/Soloist

Piano: J.-C. Coolen, Music Minister

1 Hark, the glad sound! The Saviour comes,
the Saviour promised long:

let every heart prepare a throne,
and every voice a song.

- 2 He comes, the prisoners to release
in Satan's bondage held;
the gates of brass before him burst,
the iron fetters yield.
- 3 He comes, the broken heart to bind,
the bleeding soul to cure,
and with the treasures of his grace
to bless the humble poor.
- 4 Our glad hosannas, Prince of Peace,
your welcome shall proclaim;
and heaven's eternal arches ring
with your beloved name.

Words: Philip Doddridge, alt. Public Domain.

BENEDICTION

CONGREGATIONAL COMMISSIONING *People, Look East* **VU 9, v.2**
Cantor: Kathleen Wells, Soprano Choral Lead/Soloist
Piano: J.- C. Coolen, Music Minister

- 2 Furrows, be glad. Though earth is bare,
one more seed is planted there:
give up your strength the seed to nourish,
that in course the flower may flourish.
People, look east and sing today:
Love the rose is on the way.

Words: Eleanor Farjeon. Public Domain.

POSTLUDE *Every Valley Shall Be Exalted from The Messiah* (arr. Emily Lund)
J.-C. Coolen, piano

Giving leadership in today's service:

J.-C. Coolen, Music Minister

Rev. Maya Douglas, Minister of Pastoral Care, Word and Sacrament

Karen Munday, Presider

Kathleen Wells, Soprano Choral Lead/Soloist

We are also thankful for those serving as tech support:

Gord Burrell, Don Munday, Karen Munday, Jasmin Li.

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PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Please join Rev. Maya in praying for the members and adherents in our Directory for an ongoing cycle. We hold these members of our faith community in prayer this week:

Kay Baxter; Brenda and John Beaton; Jean and Norman Beauchamp; Lenore Beecham; Joe Belowus; Rosanne Belowus; Linda and Richard Biasatti, and Matthew, Marcus; Betty Ruth and John Bond; Beth Bow; Lila Bowen; Diane Brereton and Michael; Marie Brown; Roberta Brubacher; Pat Burkell; Milly and Bob Burns; Norma and Al Cheadle.

We join in prayer for healing and transformation with:

Elda Dunham, Betty and Bernie Ginger, and Joe Tyler (Nancy Cormier's dad).

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NEXT WEEK: 3rd Sunday of Advent - Joy

Scripture Readings: Psalm 100, Isaiah 61.1-4, 8-11, John 1.6-8, 19-28, 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Happy Birthday to our St. James family members who celebrate their birthdays this coming week. We are glad you were born and give God thanks for your lives: Mary Siegrist December 6, Mark Purvis December 7, Elizabeth Leigh December 8, Eleanor Crymble-Shapero December 9, Daria Klufas December 11, Olga Thompson December 12. Please note: anyone submitting the names of people celebrating birthdays needs the permission of those individuals first.

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Our Advent Outreach Offering will be received during the month of December to support the Red Door Shelter. Since 1982 the Red Door Family Shelter has provided emergency shelter and support for women and children affected by domestic abuse,

families experiencing a housing crisis, and refugee claimants with nowhere else to turn. Please give generously. Thank you.

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The Christmas Poinsettias decorating the sanctuary today have been donated in loving memory of family and friends and will be distributed to the sick and shut-ins of our congregation before Christmas.

If you would like to donate a poinsettia in memory of a loved one, you can go ahead and do so using one of the following ways:

1. Put \$10 in an envelope with the name of the person you wish to remember, and your own name.

Mail it or put it through the front door slot of the church.

OR

2. E-transfer \$10 to *stjames_uc@rogers.com*

Leave the name you are memorializing in the message

Security Question: "What is this contribution for?"

Answer: "poinsettias"

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Worship Service Coffee Hour: To join Rev. Maya after worship at 12:30 p.m. on Sundays in lieu of "meet and greet", please use one of the following options.

Using the link below:

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81414121724?pwd=S1lJakFPSnM5UEx1UWVUNHI5MktSUT](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81414121724?pwd=S1lJakFPSnM5UEx1UWVUNHI5MktSUT09Using)

09Using Zoom:

Meeting ID: 814 1412 1724

Passcode: 555637

OR

If you wish to phone in, please use the following information.

Dial by your location

+1 647 558 0588 Canada

+1 647 374 4685 Canada

Meeting ID: 814 1412 1724

Passcode: 555637

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Sharing Christmas Joy Sessions:

Christmas Carols on the Guitar or Ukelele with Bob Harris and Gord Burrell: Saturday, December 12, at 2 p.m. A selection of simple Christmas carols will be provided to play and sing-along. All levels welcomed, beginner to advanced! Learn some tunes to impress your family this Christmas! You will need: a guitar or ukulele to play. Music will be available by email or can be picked up (hard copy) at the church the week before. Please practice your basic chords and tune your instrument before coming, especially if it has been a while since your instrument was out!

Cooking with the Charlot Family: Saturday, December 19, at 2 p.m. A cooking class - a very festive and colorful zucchini casserole (vegetarian) and a fruit-carving demonstration! Ingredients you will need: 2 zucchinis, 2 red peppers, 1 large goat cheese bar, 8 slices of cheddar cheese, 1 can of crushed tomato, garlic, salt and pepper. Fruit carving ingredients: 1 cantaloupe, 4 kiwis, strawberries, 1 apple. Special Ingredient: *Lots of patience and love!

Join us on Zoom for any or all of these events, as your interest and time allows!

LINK TO JOIN (paste link on your web browser): <https://tinyurl.com/y52vffe6>
OR

Please use this Zoom link to participate in any of the activities:

Join Zoom Meeting (same link every time)

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81267637326?pwd=T21kYktYM1dQU3FhWUUs2Ujd3Vi9XUT09>

Meeting ID: 812 6763 7326

Passcode: 015803

Sunday School via Zoom, Sundays at 1:30 p.m. If you have a child/grandchild from JK to Grade 9 who would like to participate please contact Karen at karen_forgrave@hotmail.com so that she can be sure that you are included in the mailing list, and she can send you the Zoom Link.

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Our Bible Study group will be held over ZOOM every Monday at 1p.m. Please confirm your interest in joining by contacting Rev. Maya at revmaya.douglas@gmail.com and she will send you the log-in information. We will read through the four lectionary readings for the week and discuss each one as well as how they may impact our lives and the

world. An evening session will also be made available if a growing interest is shared with Maya. Newcomers are always welcome!

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The SJUC Junior and Youth Choir meets on Thursdays from 6:45 – 7:30 p.m. via Zoom. We are excited to announce the introduction of our very own Vocal Training Academy, for ages 5-17. For details see the e-flyer on St James' website. To register, please complete the short survey at: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/WZTN8YF>

There is no deadline for registration. Singers may join at any time. If you have any questions or concerns, contact Choir Director Wendy Simone at wcsimone@gmail.com.

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Senior Choir rehearsals are virtually over Zoom, on alternate Thursday evenings at 8 p.m. To participate in the Senior Choir, and for Zoom rehearsal meeting information, please contact J.-C. Coolen, Music Minister, at (905) 683-5757 or jccoolen@sympatico.ca.

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FUTURE SERVICES:

Sunday, December 13 is the 3rd Sunday of Advent (JOY). Christmas Pageant.

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Sunday, December 20 is the 4th Sunday of Advent (LOVE).

Sunday, December 20 at 7:30 p.m., Candlelight Carol Service. Our Candlelight Carol Service will feature congregational carols, Senior and Junior virtual choir numbers, vocal solos and small ensembles and keyboard music, all surrounding a reading of the Christmas story. We will be livestreaming the service on our YouTube channel.

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Thursday, December 24 at 7:30 p.m., Christmas Eve Communion Service.

Our Communion Service will be livestreamed over Zoom. Link details are forthcoming.

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**THE POINSETTIAS IN THE SANCTUARY
ARE PLACED
IN LOVING MEMORY OF**

LOVED ONES by Margaret & Bill Arscott

DENZIL DOUGLAS by Brigid Douglas

CLIVE BOWEN by Lila Bowen

ED SLAMEN by Margaret Cowan-Slamen

TERRY CASEY by Margaret Cowan-Slamen

ELIZABETH SLOMA by Margaret Cowan-Slamen

MORT, MARJORIE, CHUCK, CAROLYN, LENA & CHARLIE by Bob & Eleanor Harris

LOVED ONES by Carol Jones & Gord Burrell

POLLI MABLE by Hugh Mable

OUR PARENTS & LOVED ONES by Linda & Dave Maw & Family

TRIFF & BILL MANNING by Lynn & Nancy & families

MARION & ED MUNDAY by Don & Karen Munday

GARY WESTHOUSE by Don & Karen Munday

MARGARET, WILLIAM & DONALD ROBSON by Jean Spencer

ALL FAMILY & DEAR FRIENDS GONE AHEAD by Jean Spencer

OUR GRANDPARENTS by Karen Forgrave & Steven Truelove

BRUCE & ELDRED SMITH by their children

LOVED ONES by Harry & Ruth Sutton

LOVED FAMILY MEMBERS by Barbara Wane

DEAR FRIENDS by Barbara Wane

LOVED ONES by Randy & Joyce Wilson & Family

**A POINSETTIAS IN THE SANCTUARY
IS PLACED IN HONOUR**

OF THE 99TH BIRTHDAY OF RUTH WILSON by Lila Bowen