

Sunset United Church

An Affirming Ministry of the United Church of Canada



www.sunsetunited.ca

December 24, 2016

Pianists: Shirley Hill

Guitarist: Alex Platt



MINISTERS: ALL OF US!

With Kathy Platt & Michelle McConkey

CHRISTMAS EVE

WE GATHER

Prelude

Worship begins with the ringing of the prayer bowl

Welcome

Hymn: #60 – O Come All Ye Faithful (v. 1,3, and 5)

(words on screens)

Lighting the Advent Wreath

Opening Prayer*

Amazing God, you love us so much that you came to us as an infant.

**Wrapped in swaddling clothes, you slept in a manger
because there was no crib.**

You call us to a radical love – a love that creates an inclusive church where everyone is welcomed.

No one was turned away from the stable door.
You keep calling to us to open our doors, to welcome the
outcasts, to house the homeless, to feed the hungry.
Lambs and cows, chickens and donkeys, men and
women and children – angels of all kinds
surrounded you.
Help us to create a world and a church in which people of all
diversity are safe and loved, affirmed and welcomed.
One star brighter than the rest led the world to your
door.

May our love and work in the world be a beacon of hope to
those who have been hurt by homophobia, prejudice, racism,
or injustice of any form. May our churches be warm stables -
places of peace and healing for those who have been wounded
by violence of word or action.

Give us the courage and the strength to follow you
with all of our hearts and minds and souls – to be the
church that you call us to be...
(Silent prayers of the heart....)Amen.

Assurance of God's Blessing

Hymn: #64 – O Little Town of Bethlehem (v. 1 & 4)
(words on screens)

Gathering at the table to enjoy our connection one to the other – as
we break bread together!

WE LISTEN

Hearing & Pondering the Christmas story – how will it speak to us
this night?

WE RESPOND

Prayers of the People & Lord's Prayer

Hymn: #67 - Silent Night
(words on screens)

Commissioning & Blessing

Sung Response: *Amen, amen, amen!*

Postlude



*Based on Manger Litany, written by Frances A. Bogle in *Before the Amen – Creative Resources for Worship*, edited by Maren and Maria Tirabassi, ©2007, The Pilgrim Press.

MERRY CHRISTMAS TO US ALL!!

Thank you for coming to the service tonight. If you would like to make a
donation to support the ongoing ministry of Sunset United Church, there are
offering plates at the back and you are welcome (but not obliged) to make a
donation on your way out.

*Worship at 10:30 a.m. Sunday, Jan 1st –
muffins and coffee will be served.*

*Office is closed Dec 24 – Jan 3rd
Kathy is available by cell phone: 306-529-4009*
