

## Sunset United Church



## December 24, 2019 – <u>Christmas Eve Candlelight Communion Service</u> Minister Dev Tricis Carbord

Minister: Rev. Tricia Gerhard Pianists: Shirley Hill

Welcome

**Opening Words** 

## Lighting the Christ Candle

A candle is burning, a flame warm and bright. This is the flame of friendship, of daring love. We see the flame, we feel it.

Let it burn within us and within everybody. Let it burn in cold places and lonely places. Let it burn in troubled places. Let love grow and grow until no one is cold, No one is lonely, no one is troubled. And for the times we let the flame of love flicker, The times we keep it to ourselves, The times we turn our back on it, Help us, enlighten us, and encourage us. May it be so. Amen.

Hymn: VU#60 O Come, All Ye Faithful (verses 1, 3, 5)

Hope Scripture: Matthew 1: 18-25 Poem: *Messiah* by Mark Doty (from Sweet Machine: Poems. Copyright 1998)Hymn: #68 All Poor Ones and Humble

Peace

Scripture: Isaiah 9: 6-7 Poem: *Christmas Carol* by Sara Teasdale Hymn: #47 Still, Still, Still

<u>JOY</u>

Scripture: Luke 2: 1-14 Poem: *Christmas Mail* by Ted Kooser Hymn: #74 What Child is This

Love Scripture: John 1: 1-5 Poem: On Christmas by Marion Strobel

Special Music - Christa Eidsness

## **Communion Introduction:**

Love came down at Christmas... ...through the gifts of bread and wine. We come with open hearts, that we may receive the gifts we need, so that we may become the gift others need.

On this special night of nights...

... given to sustain the people of the world. ALL: Let us share this bread and be strengthened, that we, in the way of the Christ, might bring hope and peace to the world. This is the cup of love, given to sustain the people of the world.

ALL: Let us share this cup and be strengthened, that we, in the way of the Christ, might bring joy and love to the world.

Breaking of the Bread - Sharing of the cup

Prayer after Communion We are filled with joy For we have heard good news of great joy. We are filled with love for we have tasted the sign of God's great love. We are filled with hope for the angels still sing in our world And there is a light for us to cherish. Amen.

Sharing the Light

Hymn: #67 Silent Night, Holy Night

Blessing