





# Sunset United Church



December 1 – Advent 1

Minister: Rev. Tricia Gerhard

Children & Youth Minister: Michelle McConkey

Choir Director: Nancy Edwards

Pianist: Shirley Hill

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Sunset United, located on Treaty 4 Territory,  
is an Affirming community of faith. All are welcome  
here.

## WE GATHER

### Prelude

### Welcome & Announcements

### Advent Candle Lighting

This Advent we take this season of waiting,  
Waiting for someone to gift us  
With the kind of neighbourhood  
We want to live in,  
And we turn it into a season of action:  
Of living the way we want the world to be.



In his Christmas special, Mr Rogers said:  
“the gift I would most like to give you is Hope.  
Hope that through your own doing  
And living with others,  
That you will be able to find what best fits  
For you in this life.”

**May we be good neighbours.  
May we have and share hope.  
“Thank you, God. Amen.”**

**Sing: MV#220 Hope Shines as a Solitary Star**

Hope shines as a solitary star,  
Faith is the inner light.  
You and I together mirror the Light of Lights  
And illumine the pathway home.

**Call to Worship**

Promises are made and hope is the result.

**Advent is the glorious season of hope-filled  
expectation!**

Signs of anticipation and yearning surround us.

**We long for the Christ child – the One who brings  
hope!**

**Opening Prayer:**

Ever faithful God,  
Once again we bring our hopeful journey  
To Bethlehem.  
We reflect back over many years,  
Our own as well as those of who have gone before.  
We seek peace, we seek joy, we seek love;  
But we are not always able to find them.  
Today, as we begin the Advent waiting  
We pray that your Spirit fills us  
With the confident expectation  
Of your hopes for this world fulfilled.  
Help us, as Advent people, to do our part  
In bringing hope, peace, joy and love  
Into the world.

Thank you, God. Amen.

**Hymn:** VU#1 O Come, O Come Emmanuel (v. 1,3,5)

**Prayer Seeking Reconciliation:**

**Holy One,**

**How many times have we wandered?**

**We spend our lives searching for answers**

**Which are often right in front of us,**

**If we would only look.**

**Forgive us, Holy One,**

**For using hateful words**

**Instead of ones of kindness and compassion.**

**For taking violence for granted**

**Instead of promoting peace and justice.**

**For allowing ourselves to sleep through life**

**Instead of being awake to your presence in creation.**

**Loving One,**

**Help us to keep awake to you,**

**So that when the Christ child comes,**

**We will be ready.**

- *Silent reflection* -

**Words of Assurance**

**Sung Response:** VU#34 Come Now, O God of Peace

**Passing the Peace**



## **WE LISTEN**

**Anthem: A Star Will Soon Shine**

**Sharing the Story**

**Hymn: VU#7 Hope is a Star (verse 1)**

**Scripture:** Isaiah 2: 1-5  
Matthew 24: 36-44

**Reflection**

**Hymn: VU#8 Lo, How a Rose e'er Blooming**

## **WE RESPOND**

**Offering Collection and Dedication**

**Hymn: VU#55 In the Bleak Midwinter (v.4)**  
**Prayer**

**Prayers of the People & The Lord's Prayer (sung)**

**Hymn: VU#424 May the God of Hope**

**Commissioning and Benediction**

**Postlude**

