



Sunset United Church

December 16, 2018 - Advent 3C



Minister: Rev. Tricia Gerhard
Children & Youth Minister: Michelle McConkey
Choir Director: Nancy Edwards
Pianists: Shirley Hill/Kevin Petrychyn

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

WE GATHER

Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

Centering Time

Choir: "Mighty Good News!"

Centering Words



Lighting the Advent Candles

In this season of Advent, we celebrate with joyful hearts

Christ is our light and the source of our joy.

We count our blessings and give thanks for God's
goodness and grace.

Christ is our light and the source of our joy.

We strive to search for the good in neighbours near and
far.

Christ is our light and the source of our joy.

We remember that God has promised us full and joyful lives.

Christ is our light and the source of our joy.

This morning we light three candles – the candles of hope, peace and today, Joy. This candle reminds us that we have reason to be joyful even in the midst of strife. We remember that the angel proclaimed Jesus’ birth as “Good news of great joy, to all people!” We celebrate today with joyful hearts and commit ourselves to spreading that joy to the world around us.

Sung Response (remain seated):

O Come, O come, Emmanuel
And end this gloom of night.
Bring hope to the world,
Bring peace to the earth,
And fill us with love’s pure light.

Call to Worship & Opening Prayer (inspired by Isaiah 35)

Listen – all creation rejoices, can you hear it?

There is so much noise and chatter, are you sure there is music?

Listen – the wilderness and desert are breaking out in song, can you hear it?

It’s been so long since we’ve heard a melody of praise.

Listen – the crocus blooms with joyful singing, the very mountains join the refrain. Can you hear it?

We join our voices in joy, worshipping our Creator who brings forth a new song in the world.

Life giving God, we are a blessed people.

In this moment of worship we pray that you might
bless us anew.

Give us ears to hear the melodies of praise that fill the
world around us.

And as we hear the songs, teach us to sing,

To dance with abandon,

To rejoice in the wonders of your grace.

Open our eyes to the places where Joy is springing up

And lead us by your Spirit in the pathways of hope,
peace and joy.

Amen.

Story

Choir: "Breath of Heaven"

"Christmas Adoramus"

"Rise up Shepherds and Follow"

Passing the Peace



Children's Time

Hymn: VU#56 Jesus, Our Brother (verses 1-4) *

WE LISTEN

Scripture

Zephaniah 3: 14-20

Philippians 4: 4-7

Reflection Reading

Choir: “Ave Maria”
“Child in the Manger”
“Emmanuel”

WE RESPOND

Offering Dedication

***Hymn:** MV#191 What Can I Do? **
Prayer

Prayer: “My Christmas Prayer”

Choir: “Good News, Great Joy!”

Commissioning and Benediction

Postlude



**Words: French carol, 12th century; trans. Robert Davis, alt. Music: medieval French melody; attrib. Pierre de Corbeil; harm. Carlton R. Young 1987. Translation copyright © CPP/Belwin, Inc. Harmony copyright © 1989 the United Methodist Publishing House. All rights reserved. Used with permission. One License # 605683*

***Words and music: Paul Rumbolt and Michele McCarthy: arr. Alan C. Whitmore, 2005. Words and music copyright © by Paul Rumbolt and Michele McCarthy. Arrangement copyright © 2005 Alan C. Whitmore All rights reserved. Used with permission. One License # 605683*