



# South Regina United Community

## December 17, 2023



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

### Welcome & Announcements

### Centering Time

### Call to Worship and Opening Prayer

One: May the love of God be with you all,

**All: And also with you.**

One: Come, gather in close; we have a story to share,

**All: A story of a child that will soon be born.**

One: This child will enter the world as one who is poor and helpless,

**All: But will live a life of miracles and speak of great wisdom.**

One: Come, gather in close; it's time to prepare;

**All: Prepare the way for the love of God, born in a child!**

One: Let us pray:

**All: Loving God, the blessings you provide cause all of creation to dance and sing with joy. We gather here today to hear your wisdom and to take part in the universal celebration of your grace. Teach us that each moment of our lives is worship, that each breath is a gift, and that this church and this world is one community of siblings drawn to you, our God.**

**We pray to you who is**

**our mother and 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.

**Hymn** VU#35 Good Christian Friends, Rejoice<sup>1</sup>

**Good Christian friends, rejoice  
with heart and soul and voice!  
Give ye heed to what we say: News! News!  
Jesus Christ is born today.  
Ox and ass before him bow,  
and he is in the manger now.  
Christ is born today! Christ is born today!**

**Good Christian friends, rejoice  
with heart and soul and voice!  
Now ye hear of endless bliss: Joy! Joy!  
Jesus Christ was born for this!  
He hath opened heaven's door,  
and we are blest forevermore.  
Christ was born for this! Christ was born for this!**

**Good Christian friends, rejoice  
with heart and soul and voice!  
Now ye need not fear the grave: Peace! Peace!  
Jesus Christ was born to save!  
Calls you one and calls you all  
to gain his everlasting hall.  
Christ was born to save! Christ was born to save!**

### **Advent Candle Lighting**

**Hymn** VU#6 A Candle Is Burning<sup>2</sup> (v. 1 -3)

**A candle is burning, a flame warm and bright,  
a candle of hope in December's dark night.  
While angels sing blessings from heaven's starry sky,  
our hearts we prepare now for Jesus is nigh.**

**A candle is burning, a candle of peace,  
a candle to signal that conflict must cease:  
for Jesus is coming to show us the way;  
a message of peace humbly laid in the hay.**

**A candle is burning, a candle of joy,  
a candle to welcome brave Mary's new boy.  
Our hearts fill with wonder, and eyes light and glow  
as joy brightens winter like sunshine on snow.**

**Scripture**     Isaiah 7:10-14

**Anthem**        Rejoice, Rejoice Emmanuel!

**Scripture**     Isaiah 9:2-7

**Anthem**        The People Who Walk in Darkness

**Message**

**Anthem**        Advent Blessing

**Minute for Mission**

**Sung Response**   VU#55 In the Bleak Midwinter (v. 4)

**What can I give him, poor as I am?  
If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb;  
If I were a wise man, I would do my part;  
Yet what I can I give him – give my heart.**

**Anthem**        Pavane for Silent Night

**Scripture**     Isaiah 11:1-9

**Anthem**        Christmas Peace

**Prayers for the World**

**Anthem**        A Song of Christmas

**Hymn**     VU#59 Joy to the World

**Joy to the world! the Lord is come:  
let earth receive her King!  
Let every heart prepare him room,  
and heaven and nature sing, and heaven and nature sing,  
and heaven, and heaven and nature sing.**

**Joy to the earth! the Saviour reigns:  
let all their songs employ,  
while fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains  
repeat the sounding joy, repeat the sounding joy,  
repeat, repeat the sounding joy.**

**No more let sins and sorrows grow,  
nor thorns infest the ground:  
he comes to make his blessings flow  
far as the curse is found, far as the curse is found,  
far as, far as the curse is found.**

**He rules the earth with truth and grace,  
and makes the nations prove  
the glories of his righteousness  
and wonders of his love, and wonders of his love,  
and wonders, wonders of his love.**

## **Blessing and Sending**



**Minister:** Rev. Jim Tenford (he/him)

**Children & Youth Minister:** Michelle McConkey (she/her)

**Choir Director:** Corinne Groff (she/her)      **Pianist:** Shirley Hill (she/her)

**Audio/Visual Technician:** Bonnie Tudor (she/they)



<sup>1</sup> Words: Latin, 14th Century. Translated by John Mason Neale. Music: German melody. Harmony: © 1989 The United Methodist Publishing House. Words, Translation, Music: Public Domain. Harmony: The United Methodist Publishing House. Reprinted under One License 605683.

<sup>2</sup> Words: © 1986 Sandra Dean, 1134 Plant Dr., Ottawa, ON K1V 9E8. Music: James R. Murray.

