



Sunset United Church

December 18, 2022



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

Welcome & Announcements

Candle Lighting

Hymn VU#7 Hope is a Star¹

**Hope is a star that shines in the night,
leading us on till the morning is bright.
When God is a child there's joy in our song.
The last shall be first and the weak shall be strong,
and none shall be afraid.**

**Peace is a ribbon that circles the earth,
giving a promise of safety and worth.
When God is a child there's joy in our song.
The last shall be first and the weak shall be strong,
and none shall be afraid.**

**Joy is a song that welcomes the dawn,
telling the world that the Saviour is born.
When God is a child there's joy in our song.
The last shall be first and the weak shall be strong,
and none shall be afraid.**

**Love is a flame that burns in our heart,
Jesus has come and will never depart.
When God is a child there's joy in our song.
The last shall be first and the weak shall be strong,
and none shall be afraid.**

Centering Time

Call to Worship and Opening Prayer

One: Listen, can you hear it?

All: **A song is being sung.**

One: It's a song that has been sung throughout time;

All: It's a song of love for all people
It's a song of redemption and grace
It's a song of new life and infinite possibility.

One: It's a song that comes from God,

All: It's a song heard in the birth of a child,
seen in a guiding star,
and lived in the lives of all those who wish to sing
along.

One: Let us pray:

All: God of all wisdom, we come to this place looking
for the star that leads us to the side of the coming
baby.

We wait with anticipation for the new life that Jesus
will bring.

We wait with joy for the celebrations that will
accompany Christ's arrival.

We wait with humility for the one who will be an
example for all humanity.

We wait with hope for the baby that will bring new
life as well as a closer understanding and
relationship with you, our loving 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#36 Angels, from the Realms of Glory²

Angels, from the realms of glory,
wing your flight o'er all the earth;
ye who sang creation's story,
now proclaim Messiah's birth:
come and worship, come and worship,
worship Christ, the newborn King.

Shepherds in the field abiding,
watching o'er your flocks by night,
God with us is now residing,
yonder shines the infant Light:
come and worship, come and worship,
worship Christ, the newborn King.

Sages, leave your contemplations;
brighter visions beam afar;
seek the great desire of nations;
ye have seen his natal star:
come and worship, come and worship,
worship Christ, the newborn King.

Saints before the altar bending,
watching long in hope and fear,
suddenly the Lord, descending,
in his temple shall appear:
come and worship, come and worship,
worship Christ, the newborn King.

Cantata

Blessing



Minister: Rev. Jim Tenford (he/him)

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

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



¹ Words: Brian Wren 1985 Music: Joan Collier Fogg 1987. Words, Music: © 1989 Hope Publishing Company. All rights reserved. Used by permission. Words, Music: Hope Publishing Company. Reprinted under One License 605683.

² Words: James Montgomery 1816. Music: Henry Thomas Smart 1867, alt.: desc. Ruth Girard 1994. Descant copyright © 1996 Ruth Girard. Reprinted under One License 605683.

