



Sunset United Church

December 2, 2018 - Advent 1C



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 Words

Lighting the Advent Candles



In this season of Advent, we long for God's presence.

Christ is our light and the source of our hope.

In this season of Advent, we search for God's justice.

Christ is our light and the source of our hope.

In this season of Advent, we seek God's wisdom.

Christ is our light and the source of our hope.

In this season of Advent, we remember God's promise.

Christ is our light and the source of our hope.

This morning we light the first candle, the candle of hope.

This candle reminds us that God's promises give us reason to be filled with hope - hope for unity in world of division, hope for healing in a world of pain, and hope for peace in a world filled with anger. We remember that Christ is our light and the source of our hope.

Sung Response:

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.

Opening Prayer:**

**In the Spirit of Hope, we come, Holy One
On this first Sunday of Advent.**

**As we enter into a season of anticipation and waiting,
Help us to appreciate each day of this sacred time.**

**Prepare our hearts, we pray,
To receive the Babe of Bethlehem.**

Hymn: VU#01 O Come, O Come Emmanuel (v. 1-3) ****

Prayer Seeking Reconciliation

God of Mystery,
Waiting is hard.
It's hard to wait at any time of year,
But it is especially hard to wait during Advent.
We want time to fly
So that we can get to the "real" celebration.

We know that the waiting is important,
But couldn't we just wait for two weeks instead of four?

Help us to know that the waiting is important.

We're sorry that sometimes

We just want to skip this time.

Help us to open our hearts

To the waiting time,

Knowing that at the end of Advent,

We get the best gift of all.

Silent prayer

Words of Grace

Passing the peace

WE LISTEN



Anthem: Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

Sharing the Story

Hymn: VU#56 Jesus, Our Brother (v.1 & 2) *****

Scripture: Luke 21: 25-36

Reflection

Hymn: VU#4 God of All Places <<

WE RESPOND

Offering Dedication

Hymn: MV#191 What Can I Do? <<<

Prayer

Communion

God is with us

We are not alone

Christ is present here

The Spirit moves within us.

Let us give thanks to God

In memory and in hope.

Blessings be to you...

...and light everlasting

Your song of wisdom echoes through the ages,

Your ancient promise still brings us hope.

Over the ages...

...surround the world.

They came in the midst of our despair and filled us

with hope.

And then...

...in a new way.

Promising her a son, who would be called Jesus.

Promising her that in her son the world would be

changed.

And now...

...ancient cry.

O come, O come Emmanuel

And also we lift our voices in song,
Singings together the praises of ages (MV#203, tune:
Kingsfold)

O holy holy holy God,
O God of time and space.
All earth and sea and sky above
Bear witness to your Grace.
Hosanna in the highest heav'n,
Creation sings your praise.
And blessed is the One who comes
And bears Your name always.

Yet even now...
...will live.

We remember how he broke the bonds of tradition
To show all what the Banquet of Hope could be
As he ate openly with the despised and the outcast of
his world.

And we remember...
...closest friends.

Gathering them together in an upper room
To share the story of liberation,
He prepared them for liberation.

And at the end of the meal...

And in our remembering, we sing the mystery of faith
(VU#204, tune: Kingsfold)

Sing Christ has died and Christ is risen,
Christ will come again!
Sing Christ has died and Christ is risen,
Christ will come again!

God, you...

...and all the people sang (MV#205, tune: Kingsfold)

Amen, amen, O Holy One!

Hosanna and amen!

Amen, amen, O Holy One!

Hosanna and amen!

And now, as beloved children of a loving caretaker, we pray

Our Father...

The pouring and breaking and serving.

Prayer after Communion

God of child-like hope, we have refreshed ourselves at your table.

May the eating and the drinking fill us with hope in a world of despair. May we be beacons of hope as we wait for the day when the world will be changed.

Grant that this simple meal give us the hunger for peace and justice in our community and around the world. Amen.

Hymn: VU#333 Love Divine, All Loves Excelling <*<*

Commissioning and Benediction

Postlude



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*** Communion liturgy adapted from one written by Gord Waldie, found on his website: worshipofferings.blogspot.com

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