



# Sunset United Church



December 20, 2020 – Advent 4 – Love

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Children & Youth Minister: Michelle McConkey

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Pianist: Shirley Hill

Special Music: Sunset Choir

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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

Centering Music

Call to Worship\*

I knew joy, but when I heard the laugh of my child

**Suddenly, joy was overflowing.**

I knew love, but when you held my hand

**Suddenly, love was overflowing.**

I knew god, but when you showed me grace,

When you forgave me,

When you loved me,

When you raised me,

**Suddenly, God was overflowing.**

So, let us worship God together,  
As a reminder that God is here  
And we are never alone.

**This is community.**

This the body of Christ

**Welcome home.**

**Lighting the Advent Candles\***

I dream of music that makes my heart swell.

I dream of trees that take my breath away.

I dream of sunrises that wrap me in light.

I dream of family dinners that feel like home.

I dream of church services that give me hope.

I dream of love as the default.

So today, as we draw near to Christmas day, we light the  
candle of love. (*Light candle*)

May this light burn bright as a reminder that God is here and  
God is love.

We are not alone. Thanks be to God for a love like that.

Amen

**Hymn: MV#220 Love shines as the Solitary star**

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*Love shines as the solitary star,*

*Faith is the inner light.*

*You and I together mirror the Light of Lights,*

*And illumine the pathway home.*

**Prayer Seeking reconciliation**

God of Good News,

You say to me: "You are highly favoured,"

But I struggle to see how that could be.  
You say to me: "Do not be afraid,"  
But I am afraid all the time.  
You say to me, "Even the impossible is possible,  
Just look at Elizabeth!"  
But hope slips through my hands like water.  
The impossible still feels impossible.  
So today I pray,

**Today we pray:  
Teach us to sing like Mary.  
Teach us laugh like Elizabeth.  
Teach us to trust like the angels.  
Forgive us when we can only do  
One at a time, or none at all.**

*(Silent prayer)*

## **Affirmation of Grace**

**Sung Response: MV#33 Jesus Came Bringing Us Hope** \*\*\*

*Jesus came bringing us hope,  
Jesus came bringing us hope,  
Jesus came bringing us hope,  
hallelujah forever more!*

## **Sharing the Story**

**Hymn: VU#58 Infant Holy, Infant Lowly**

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1. *Infant holy, infant lowly, for his bed a cattle stall;  
Oxen lowing, little knowing Christ the babe is Lord of all.*

*Swift are winging angels singing,  
Noels ringing, tidings bringing:  
Christ the babe is born for all.  
Christ the babe is born for all!*

2. *Flocks were sleeping; shepherds keeping vigil till the morning  
new  
Saw the glory, heard the story, tidings of a gospel true.  
Thus rejoicing, free from sorrow,  
praises voicing greet the morrow:  
Christ the babe was born for you.  
Christ the babe was born for you!*

## WE LISTEN

**Scripture:** Luke 1:26-38, 47-55

**Reflection**

**Special Music**

**Dedication of gifts given during this time of COVID-19:**

**Prayers of the People & The Lord's Prayer**

**Hymn:** VU#68 All Poor Ones and Humble

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1. *All poor ones and humble and all those who stumble,  
come hastening, and feel not afraid;  
for Jesus, our treasure, with love past all measure,*

*in lowly poor manger was laid.  
Though wise men who found him  
laid rich gifts around him,  
yet oxen they gave him their hay,  
and Jesus in beauty accepted their duty;  
contented in manger he lay.*

Refrain

*Then haste we to show him the praises we owe him;  
our service he ne'er can despise;  
whose love still is able to show us that stable,  
where softly in manger he lies.*

2. *The Christ Child will lead us, the Good Shepherd feed us  
and with us abide till his day.*

*Then hatred he'll banish; then sorrow will vanish,  
and death and despair flee away.*

*And he shall reign ever, and nothing shall sever  
from us the great love of our King;*

*His peace and his pity shall bless his fair city;*

*His praises we ever shall sing.*

Refrain

*Then haste we to show him the praises we owe him;  
our service he ne'er can despise;  
whose love still is able to show us that stable,  
where softly in manger he lies.*

# Commissioning and Benediction

## Postlude



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