



# Sunset United Church

December 21, 2021 - Longest Night

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

## WE GATHER

Gathering Music

Words of Welcome

Opening Poem

Hymn VU#55 In the Bleak Midwinter<sup>1</sup>

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan,  
earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone  
snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow,  
in the bleak midwinter, long ago.

Our God, heaven cannot hold him, nor earth sustain;  
heaven and earth shall flee away when he comes to reign;  
in the bleak midwinter a stable place sufficed  
the Lord God almighty, Jesus Christ.

Enough for him, whom cherubim worship night and day,  
a breast full of milk, and a manger full of hay.  
Enough for him, whom angels fall down before,  
the ox and ass and camel which adore.

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.

## Prayer for Illumination

Scripture     Isaiah 40:1-11  
                  Lamentations 3:21-24  
                  Psalm 121

## Prayers of the People

(with “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”<sup>3</sup> refrain)

*Refrain*

**Rejoice! Rejoice!**

**Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.**

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, and the power, and the glory,  
for ever and ever. Amen.

## Individual Prayer

## Sending Forth and Blessing

*Postlude*



**Minister:** Rev. Tricia Gerhard (she/her)

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

**Choir Director:** Corinne Groff (she/her)

**Pianist:** Shirley Hill (she/her)



<sup>1</sup> Words: Christina Georgina Rossetti ca. 1872. Music: Gustav Theodor Holst 1906. Reprinted under One License 605683.

<sup>2</sup> Words: from the Latin antiphons for Advent, ca. 9<sup>th</sup> century; trans. John Mason Neale 1851, et al. Music: 15<sup>th</sup> century plainsong melody; arr. Healey Willan. Words copyright © The Church Pension Fund. Used by permission. Arrangement copyright © Concordia Publishing House. Reprinted under One License 605683.

<sup>2</sup> Worship liturgy and prayers written by Rev. Sarah (Are) Speed | A Sanctified Art LLC, sanctifiedart.org. Used with permission.

