

Sunset United Church

December 24, 2020 – Christmas Eve

Minister: Rev. Tricia Gerhard

Children & Youth Minister: Michelle McConkey

Choir Director: Corinne Groff

Pianist: Shirley Hill

Special Music: Christa Eidsness, David Gerhard

Reader: Bryan Tudor



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

WE GATHER

Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

Gathering Carol: VU# 60 O Come, All Ye Faithful (v. 1-3) **

1. *O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant,
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem:
Come and behold him, born the King of angels;*

*O come, let us adore him, O come let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord.*

2. God of God, light of light,
lo, he abhors not the virgin's womb;
very God, begotten, not created:

*O come, let us adore him, O come let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord.*

3. Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,
Sing, all ye citizens of heave above;
Glory to God in the highest:

*O come, let us adore him, O come let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord.*

Call to Worship*

This year, we dreamed of world peace,

We dreamed of deep breaths and restful sleep.

We dreamed of love that lasts and suffering that passes.

We dreamed of doors open wide and a cure to disease.

We dreamed, because to dream is to believe.

For to dream is to hope; to dream is to see.

So make room in your being to dream yet again,

**Of a world without fear, and a God that draws
near.**

For it is almost Christmas.

Love is almost here.

May we dream to see, and hope to believe. Let us worship
together this Christmas Eve.

Lighting the Advent Candles*

Hymn: MV#220 Love shines as the Solitary star

*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.*

Story: “Little Mole’s Christmas Gift”

Carol: VU#69 Away in a Manger

- 1. Away in a manger, no crib for a bed,
the little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head.
The stars in the bright sky look down where he lay,
the little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.*
- 2. The cattle are lowing, the baby awakes,
but little Lord Jesus, no crying he makes.
I love you, Lord Jesus; look down from the sky,
and stay by my side until morning is nigh.*
- 3. Be near me, Lord Jesus, I ask you to stay
close by me forever, and love me, I pray.
Bless all the dear children in your tender care,
and fit us for heaven, to live with you there.*

Sharing the Story- Completing the nativity

Prayer of Illumination

Carol: VU#56 Jesus, Our Brother (verses 1,2, 4, 5) **^

1. *Jesus, our brother, kind and good,
Was humbly born in a stable rude,
And the friendly beasts around him stood,
Jesus, our brother, kind and good.*

2. *“I,” said the donkey, shaggy and brown.
“I carried the mother uphill and down,
I carried his mother to Bethlehem town;
I,” said the donkey, shaggy and brown.*

4. *“I,” said the sheep with curly horn,
“I gave him my wool for his blanket warm,
He wore my coat on Christmas morn;
I,” said the sheep, with curly horn.*

5. *“I,” said the dove, from the rafters high,
‘I cooed him to sleep that he should not cry,
We cooed him to sleep, my mate and I;
I,” said the dove, from the rafters high.*

WE LISTEN

Scripture: Luke 2: 1-20

Carol: VU#59 Joy to the World ^^*

1. *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.*

2. *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.*

3. *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.*

4. *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.*

A Pandemic Pageant

Special Music

Christmas Eve Prayers

Commissioning and Benediction

Candlelight Carol: VU#67 Silent Night, Holy Night 

1. *Silent night! holy night!
All is calm, all is bright
round yon virgin mother and child.
Holy infant so tender and mild,
sleep in heavenly peace, sleep in heavenly peace!*

2. *Silent night! holy night!
Shepherds quake at the sight:
glories stream from heaven afar,
heavenly hosts sing Alleluia,
Christ, the Saviour, is born, Christ, the Saviour, is born!*

3. *Silent night! holy night!
Son of God, love's pure light
radiant beams from thy holy face,
with the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord, at thy birth, Jesus, Lord, at thy birth.*

Postlude



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