



Sunset United Church

December 4, 2022



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

Welcome & Announcements

Candle Lighting

Centering Time

Call to Worship and Opening Prayer

One: May the love of God be with you all,

All: And also with you.

One: The spirit of Shalom will soon be born!

All: Let all the world rejoice and flock to see this birth.

One: This child will show us the way to peace born of justice;

All: True peace, not born in fear of violence, but born in God's love.

One: Come, the journey is far, and won't always be easy,

All: But we will worship along the way and give thanks for all God is doing!

One: Let us pray:

All: Holy One, Eternal God, long ago the world waited for the birth of your love and we wait as well. We count the days until Christmas but we also count on your promise of the world to come: we long for peace, we yearn for justice, we search for your presence in our lives. Let our worship be our pledge that we'll gather at the manger and help usher in the birth of peace. 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#29 Hark the Glad Sound¹

**Hark, the glad sound! The Saviour comes,
the Saviour promised long:
let every heart prepare a throne,
and every voice a song.**

**He comes, the prisoners to release
in Satan's bondage held;
the gates of brass before him burst,
the iron fetters yield.**

**He comes, the broken heart to bind,
the bleeding soul to cure,
and with the treasures of his grace
to bless the humble poor.**

**Our glad hosannas, Prince of Peace,
your welcome shall proclaim;
and heaven's eternal arches ring
with your beloved name.**

Theme Time VU#7 Hope is a Star (v. 1 & 2)²

**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.**

Anthem

Scripture Reading Isaiah 11:1-10
 Matthew 3:1-12

Hymn VU#68 All Poor Ones and Humble³

**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.**

**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

Reflection

Hymn MV#173 Put Peace into Each Other's Hands⁴

**Put peace into each other's hands
and like a treasure hold it,
protect it like a candle flame,
with tenderness enfold it.**

**Put peace into each other's hands
with loving expectation;
be gentle in your words and ways,
in touch with God's creation.**

**Put peace into each other's hands
like bread we break for sharing;
look people warmly in the eye:
our live is meant for caring.**

**Give thanks for strong yet tender hands,
held out in trust and blessing.
Where words fall short,
let hands speak out;
the heights of love expressing.**

**Reach out in friendship, stay with faith
in touch with those around you.
Put peace into each other's hands;
the Peace that sought and found you.**

Minute for Mission

Response Hymn VU#55 In the Bleak Midwinter (v. 4)

**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.**

Pastoral Prayer

Hymn VU#18 There's a Voice in the Wilderness⁵

**There's a voice in the wilderness crying,
a call from the ways untrod:
prepare in the desert a highway,
a highway for our God!
The valleys shall be exalted,
the lofty hills brought low;
make straight all the crooked places
where God, our God, may go!**

**O Zion, that bringest good tidings,
get thee up to the heights and sing!
Proclaim to a desolate people
the coming of their King.
Like the flowers of the field they perish,
like grass our works decay;
the power and pomp of nations
shall pass, like a dream, away.**

**But the word of our God endureth,
whose arm is ever strong;
God stands in the midst of nations,
and soon will right the wrong.
God shall feed the flock like a shepherd,
the lambs so gently hold;
to pastures of peace will lead them,
and bring them safe to fold.**

**There's a voice in the wilderness crying,
a call from the ways untrod:
prepare in the desert a highway,
a highway for our God!
The valleys shall be exalted,
the lofty hills brought low;
make straight all the crooked places
where God, our God, may go!**

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)



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