



Sunset United Church

July 23, 2023



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

Welcome & Announcements

Centering Time

Call to Worship

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

All: And also with you!

One: The time is right, the time has come,

All: To celebrate the birth of God's love for the world!

One: While the snow is missing,

All: God's grace blankets us with freshness and beauty.

One: While the weather is warm,

All: The birth of the Christ child, will thaw frozen hearts, and remove the chill of fear and hatred.

One: The time has come, the time is now!

All: Let us celebrate Christmas!

Hymn VU#60 O Come All Ye Faithful

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.

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.

Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,

sing, all ye citizens of heaven 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.

**See how the shepherds summoned to his cradle,
leaving their flocks, draw nigh with lowly fear;
we too will thither bend our joyful footsteps;
O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord.**

**Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning;
Jesus, to thee be glory given;
word of the Father, now in flesh appearing:
O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord.**

Opening Prayer

**God of new birth and new life,
while we may be thinking of mowing lawns rather than
shovelling snow,
while we're eating fresh produce rather than Christmas
baking,
we celebrate the birth of Jesus.
We know that Jesus brings a message of love and hope
for all seasons and so we pray that the birth of love
incarnate inspires and sustains us this day and every day.
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#36 Angels, from the Realms of Glory¹

**Angels, from the realms of glory,
wing your flight o'er all the earth;
ye who sang creation's story,
now proclaim Messiah's birth:
come and worship, come and worship,
worship Christ, the newborn King.**

**There among the poor and lowly
lived on earth our Saviour holy.**

**For he is our lifelong pattern;
daily, when on earth he grew,
he was tempted, scorned, rejected,
tears and smiles like us he knew.
Thus he feels for all our sadness,
and he shares in all our gladness.**

**And our eyes at last shall see him,
through his own redeeming love;
for that child who seemed so helpless
is our Lord in heaven above;
and he leads his children on
to the place where he is gone.**

Message

Hymn VU#48 Hark! the Herald Angels Sing

**Hark! the herald angels sing,
'Glory to the newborn King,
peace on earth, and mercy mild,
God and sinners reconciled!'
Joyful, all ye nations, rise,
join the triumph of the skies;
with the angelic host proclaim,
'Christ is born in Bethlehem!'**

**Hark! the herald angels sing,
'Glory to the newborn King!'**

**Christ, by highest heaven adored,
Christ, the everlasting Lord,
late in time behold him come,
offspring of a virgin's womb.
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see;
hail, the incarnate deity,
pleased with us in flesh to dwell,
Jesus, our Emmanuel!**

**Hark! the herald angels sing,
'Glory to the newborn King!'**

**Hail, the heavenborn Prince of Peace!
Hail, the Sun of Righteousness!
Light and life to all he brings,
risen with healing in his wings.
Mild he lays his glory by,
born that we no more may die,
born to raise us from the earth,
born to give us second birth.
Hark! the herald angels sing,
'Glory to the newborn King!'**

Minute for Mission

Sung Response 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.**

Prayers for the World

Hymn VU#67 Silent Night, Holy Night

**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.**

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

**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.**

Blessing and Sending



Minister: Rev. Jim Tenford (he/him)

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

Choir Director: Corinne Groff (she/her) **Pianist:** Shirley Hill (she/her)

Audio/Visual Technician: Bonnie Tudor (she/they)



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