

Sunset United Church



November 29, 2020 – Advent 1B

Minister: Rev. Tricia Gerhard

Children & Youth Minister: Michelle McConkey

Choir Director: Corinne Groff

Pianist: Shirley Hill

Reader: Jean Cameron

Special Music: Sung by Corinne Groff,

Ross Macnab, Dave Warden and Bosco Hui

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*

The power of dreams lies in waking up.

For when we close our eyes,

We can see a better world.

When we close our eyes,

We can dream a better dream.

But when we open our eyes,

We begin the work of faith.

The power of worship is the same.

When we enter this time,

We can see a better world.

When we enter this time,

We can dream a better dream.

But when we leave this time,

We begin the work of faith.

So come. Dream your dream.

Find hope here.

For in an hour,

We will begin the work of faith.

Let it be so.

Lighting the Advent Candles*

I dream of sunflower fields

I dream of key lime pie with a mile-high meringue

I dream of the days when we could be part of a crowd

I dream of snow days

I dream of empty beds in jail cells

I dream of a world that will let kids be kids.

I dream of full tables instead of empty bellies.

I dream of schools with enough money to teach.

I dream of parents with enough money to feed.

I dream to keep awake, because if we don't dream of better days, then we might forget that this is not what God imagined.

So today we light the candle of hope, for hope is the very thing that keeps dreams afloat. (*Light candle*)

May this light be an invitation to keep awake.

May this light be our invitation to be Advent people-people who dream.

Amen.

MV#220 Hope Shines as the Solitary Star

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*Hope 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*

Original Dreamer,
Over and over again in scripture,
We hear your dream for a beautiful world.

**We hear your dream for peace
and reconciliation.**

We hear your dream for harmony and togetherness

**We hear your dream for community and hope. We
hear your dreams, and yet we do not open our eyes.**

We continue to live with the curtains drawn,

**The covers pulled tight, eyes shut to the realities of the
world.**

Forgive us.

Kindle a hope in us that will burn through the shadowed
nights.

Give us the strength and the will to keep awake in this sleeping
world. With hope, we pray.

(time of silence to offer personal prayers)

Affirmation of Forgiveness

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

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

2. *Jesus came bringing us peace,
Jesus came bringing us peace,
Jesus came bringing us peace,
hallelujah forever more!*

3. *Jesus came bringing us love,
Jesus came bringing us love,
Jesus came bringing us love,
hallelujah forever more!*

4. *Jesus came bringing us joy,
Jesus came bringing us joy,
Jesus came bringing us joy,
hallelujah forever more!*

Sharing the Story

Hymn: VU#38 Angels We Have Heard on High

1. *Angels we have heard on high
sweetly singing o'er the plains,
and the mountains in reply,
echoing their joyous strains.*

Gloria, in excelsis Deo!

Gloria, in excelsis Deo!

2. *Shepherds, why this jubilee?
Why your joyous strains prolong?
What the gladsome tidings be
which inspire your heavenly song?*

Gloria, in excelsis Deo!

Gloria, in excelsis Deo!

3. *Come to Bethlehem and see
Christ whose birth the angels sing;
come, adore on bended knee
Christ, the Lord, the newborn King.*

Gloria, in excelsis Deo!

Gloria, in excelsis Deo!

4. *See him in a manger laid,
whom the choirs of angels praise;
Mary, Joseph, lend your aid,
while our hearts in love we raise.*

Gloria, in excelsis Deo!

Gloria, in excelsis Deo!

WE LISTEN

Scripture: Isaiah 64: 1-9
Mark 13: 3-9

Reflection

Special Music – “Will We Know Him”

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

Prayers of the People & The Lord’s Prayer

Hymn: VU#2 Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus

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1. *Come, thou long-expected Jesus,
born to set thy people free:
from our fears and sins release us,
let us find our rest in thee.*
2. *Israel’s strength and consolation,
hope of all the earth thou art,
dear desire of every nation,
joy of every longing heart.*
3. *Born thy people to deliver;
born a child and yet a king;
born to reign in us for ever;
now thy gracious kingdom bring.*

4. *By thine own eternal Spirit
rule in all our hearts alone;
by thine all-sufficient merit
raise us to thy glorious throne.*

Commissioning and Benediction

Postlude



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