

First United Church

2nd Sunday of Advent

December 9, 2018

Worship Leaders Cheryl Perry, Donald Schmidt
Music Alleluia Singers, Frances Chiasson
Pageant Cast **Narrators:** Nicola Atwell, Caitlyn Bertetic, Brock Campbell, William Campbell, Sophia Chiasson, Matthew Lapointe, Marina Leader, Ciera Saundry, Charlotte Seethaler, Islene Vernet, Jessica Vinton, **Ensemble Singers:** Nicola Atwell, Charlotte Batey, Ailie Bertetic, Caitlyn Bertetic, Alexander Campbell, Brock Campbell, William Campbell, Noah Chiasson, Sophia Chiasson, Tru Fabbi, Tyson Fabbi, Ada Goodsmith, Adelaide Hogan, Declan Hogan, Matthew Lapointe, Logan Park, Gregor Ward-Rodriguez, Jonathan Ward-Rodriguez, Charlotte Seethaler, Islene Vernet, Jessica Vinton, Emma Zhu, Ethan Zhu, **St. Martin:** Ron Green, **Beggar:** Kyle Vinton, **Train Conductor:** Ron Green, **Reporter #1:** Ciera Saundry, **Reporter #2:** Ben Seethaler, **Reporter #3:** Kyle Vinton, **Pageant Helpers:** Rachel Anweiler, Leslie Atwell, Arata Campbell, Margaret Newbury-Jones, Margaret Vellenoweth, Suki Vernet, **Music Directors:** Frances Chiasson, Christine Moore
Greeters Susanne Donkin, Myrna McRae, Helen Verokosky
Ushers.....Marian Hamilton, Ken Ottoson, Marlene Spicer
Sound System.....Kim Ducs
ProjectionistGreig McPhee
Coffee HourBrenda and Greg Maier
Minute Person.....Chas Moore

Welcome Table in the hall after worship - Information about activities and services we offer at First United.

Prayer Cycle - This Sunday we join with other churches to pray for Winfield United Church and their minister, Jim Hannah.

Offering Counters Today – David Bertetic, Maggie Craig, Edna Rennie.

Peace & Justice Table in the hall after worship - Environmental issues, urgent actions & Fair-Trade items.

Healing Ministry - Please contact Judy at 250-862-0712 for appointment.

Gathering

Prelude

Ringing of the Bell, Welcome, Announcements, Minute Person

The Peace

Introit "Wait for the Lord" (*Voices United 22*)

Wait for the Lord, God's day is near.

Wait for the Lord, be strong, take heart! (repeat)

Call to Worship

One: As Christmas draws nearer, how shall we prepare?

All: By decorating with wreath and greens, with tree and candles

One: Oh, yes. But more, much more, we prepare for the Guest.

All: How shall we prepare?

One: By making a place of silence and waiting, no rushing, no filling

All: Let us prepare a place in our heart for the Guest who is coming.

Hymn "People, Look East" (*Voices United 9*)

Advent Prayer and Candle lighting (Lapointe family)

Prayer (**unison**)

Thank you, God, for the light of peace. As we prepare for Christ's coming, help us to share our peace with others.

Sung response "Come, Lord Jesus"

(Carey Landry, The Rainbow Songbook)

Our hearts are open, our hearts are open,

Our hearts are open: come and be born in our hearts.

Word

Word for all Ages

Hymn “The First Nowell” (*Voices United* 91 vs. 1, 2, 3)

Pageant

“Good News to all People” – Christmas in Many Cultures

Scene 1: Hawaiian Culture

“Mele Kalikimaka”

R. Alex Anderson

Scene 2: German Culture

“Laterne, Laterne”

Traditional

Scene 3: Mexican Culture

“Nochebuena/Las Posadas Song”

arr. Nancy Raven

Scene 4: Japanese and Chinese Culture

“Silent Night”

Joseph Mohr

Scene 5: Deaf Culture

“A Candle is Burning”

Sandra Dean

Scene 6: Canadian Culture

The invitation to the offering

Thanksgiving

A Time of Musical Reflection and Thanksgiving

“No Crowded Eastern Street” (*Voices United* 49, vs. 1, 2 & 4)

Offering Presentation “O Little Town of Bethlehem”

(*Voices United* 64, vs. 3)

**How silently, how silently the wondrous gift is given!
So God imparts to human hearts the blessed gift of heaven.
No ear may hear his coming; but in this world of sin,
where meek souls will receive him still
the dear Christ enters in.**

Prayer of Dedication and Intercession

Sending Forth

Hymn "Hark the Glad Sound" (*Voices United 29*)

Blessing

Commissioning "A Journey Just Begun" (*Strathdee vs. 1*)

**Come and join us on a journey just begun
As we celebrate the life of God's own son.
The stories of his life become our stories too,
In choices that we make, in everything we do.
Come join us on a journey just begun.
Preparing the way, preparing the way,
We're preparing the way of our God.**

Postlude

Next Week's Lectionary Readings:

Zephaniah 3:14-20; Isaiah 12:2-6

Philippians 4:4-7; Luke 3:7-18

Ministry Team

Donald Schmidt (*Minister for Worship & Leadership Development*)

Cheryl Perry (*Minister for Families & Social Justice*)

Frances Chiasson (*Minister of Music*)

Jessica Crawford (*Accompanist*)

Karen Kranabetter (*Liturgical Artist*)

Rachel Anweiler (*Youth Co-ordinator*)

Pat Totton (*Parish Nurse*)

Rev. Beverley Milton (*Minister Emeritus*)

Tanya Pritchard (*Office Administrator*)

Vivian Dunne (*Assistant Administrator*)

Keith Crawley (*Bookkeeper*)

Fikrije & Mahmut Kacuri (*Custodians*)

Office Hours: 9:00 AM – 2:00 PM Monday – Thursday, Fridays 9:00 AM-1:00 PM

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Advent Giving Bags Turn your “want list” into someone else’s “need list” as you focus this Advent season on the journey to Bethlehem. Pick up a set of bags at the Peace & Justice Table. Follow the instructions to fill and return these to the church each Sunday of Advent.

Feliz Navidad Today we will have a Christmas card to sign for our sister community in El Triunfo. Please drop by the Peace & Justice table in the hall if you would like send your greetings to El Salvador.

Rising to the Challenge Capital Fund year end drive! On November 18 the congregation met and decided overwhelmingly to support the recommendation of FirstUP! to proceed towards the replacement of the church hall with a new building. Terms of reference for this fund were approved by the Official Board in the spring. Now we’d like to kick off this ambitious project with a year-end drive to raise an initial \$50,000. Look for the table in the hall after worship where you’ll find more information!

Prayer Shawl Ministry Join us to knit or crochet prayer shawls for our congregation and the community at 1:00pm in room 14 on Thursday December 13. We’ll help those who are beginner knitters or crocheters.

With Ringing and Singing for Christmas Joy Our own Alleluia Ringers and Alleluia Singers will present a concert next Sunday, December 10 at 2pm in the sanctuary. Admission by donation at the door, suggested amount \$12.

New Year’s Day Dinner 2019 Food donations and volunteers are needed. Look for sign up sheets in the hall and at the back of the church following worship. You can also donate cash through offering envelopes and mark it New Year’s Day Dinner. If you have any questions, please talk to/email/phone Nancy @ nancy.hillmer1@gmail.com or 250-765-8776.

One day Women’s Retreat Saturday, January 26, 2019. 9am-5pm. Cheryl Perry and Rachel Anweiler are the facilitators. Glenmore location. Brochures available soon.

THIS WEEK AT FIRST UNITED
DECEMBER 9 - 16, 2018

Today	8:30AM Informal worship: 14
	10:00AM Worship - Pageant: Sanctuary
	11:15AM Coffee Hour: Hall/Kitchen
	3:00PM Alleluia Ringers rehearsal: Belfry
	4:30PM Christmas Lights tour and refreshments: 14
Monday	10:00AM Grandparents Raising Grandchildren: 14
Tuesday	10:00AM Coffee Hour & Outreach Ministry: Hall
	12:00PM Isabel Leitch Unit - Christmas Party: 14
	4:30PM Gone Fishin' final event: offsite
Wednesday	11:30AM Stewardship Christmas lunch: 14
	1:00PM Book Study: 14
	6:30PM Youth Group: Youth room
	7:00PM Bible study: 14 (Half hour later)
Thursday	8:30AM Healing Ministry: Vestry
	10:00AM Coffee Hour & Outreach Ministry: Hall
	1:00PM Prayer Shawl ministry: 14
	7:00PM Alleluia Singers rehearse: Sanctuary
Friday	
Next Sunday	8:30AM Informal Worship: 14
	10:00AM Worship - Cantata: Sanctuary
	11:15AM Coffee Hour: Hall/Kitchen
	2:00PM Ringing and Singing for Christmas Joy Concert: Sanctuary