

First United Church

Christmas I

December 29, 2019

Worship Leader	Bob Wallace
Music	Alleluia Ringers, Nikki Attwell, Jessica Crawford
Greeters	Alyssa Campbell, Skip Kozuska, Linda Ottoson
Ushers.....	Bill Hetland, Lori Hetland
Sound System.....	Carl Stef
Projectionist	Benita Worley
Coffee Hour	Gerry Hewitt, Marlene Spicer
Offering Counters.....	David Bertetic, Norma Laing, Kathleen Smith

TODAY'S service - Children are welcome to stay in the sanctuary for the duration of the service as there is no Sunday school today. A craft is available on a table at the back and room 13, the nursery, is open if you'd like to use it.

Welcome Table in the hall after worship - Information about activities and services we offer at First United. Remember to update your Family Record so we have current contact information and emergency numbers and if you have not filled out a Family Record you are invited to do so!

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

Food Share Containers in the hall - for non-perishable food & hygiene items.

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

Gathering

Prelude

Ringing of the Bell, Welcome, Announcements

Hymn “Joy is Now in Every Place” (Voices United 45)

Call to Worship (responsive)

All creation, all people: praise the Lord!

stars shooting across the sky, sing glad songs to our God!

Snow clouds approaching, birds sitting on a branch: praise the Lord!

Sleeping cats and barking dogs, sing new choruses of praise!

Rich and poor, leaders and followers: praise the Lord!

Old and young, families and singles, we will lift our joy to our God!

Carol “Angels We Have Heard on High” (Voices United 38)

Call to Reconciliation

Prayer of Reconciliation (unison)

We could proclaim your name, God of this holy season, but we spend too much time talking about the latest social media exploits. We could tell others about all your gracious deeds. Instead, we are busy comparing notes about our favourite athletes. We could let your Word guide our lives, but instead we do what the politicians and celebrities think is best.

Why? Because we forget who we are called to be—the beloved children of an always-loving God.

But you remember, Faithful God. You remember that we put our trust in others, not you; you remember how we chase after idols, not follow you; you remember to save us in our distress, which is why you sent Jesus to us, our Lord, our Saviour.

Silence is kept

Words of Hope (responsive)

In the silence, in the dreams, in the wonder, in the words, God comes to save us and have mercy on us.

It is fitting that we offer our thanks and praise to the One who forgives us. Thanks be to God! Amen.

Sung response “Ways of Wisdom” (Spirit Anew 142)

**Let us follow ways of wisdom
and delight in ways of wisdom.**

All her paths are peace.

All her paths are peace. (2x)

Passing the Peace

Word

Word for All Ages

Carol “Hark the Herald Angels Sing” (Voices United 48)

Anthem “In the Bleak Midwinter” –arr. K. McChesney

“Away in A Manger” –arr. Robert Ivey

Matthew 2:13-23

Carol “Once in Royal David’s City” (Voices United 62)

Reflection

Carol “What Child Is This?” (Voices United 74)

Thanksgiving

Prayer of Intercession

Lord’s Prayer (Voices United 959)

A Time of Musical Reflection

“Lo, How A Rose E’er Blooming” -arr. Kevin McChesney

Offertory "When Heaven's Bright" (Voices United 93, vs. 4)

**When heaven's bright with mystery
and stars still lead an unknown way,
when love still lights a gentle path
where courts of power can hold no sway,
there with the Magi, let us kneel,
our gifts to share, God's world to heal.**

Prayer of Thanksgiving (unison)

**As we offer our gifts to you, Holy One, may they join all
creation in blessing and serving your people. Called to be
your people, may we notice those who are forgotten and
offer our lives and hearts to them. In Jesus' name, we pray.
Amen.**

Sending Forth

Carol "O Come, All Ye Faithful" (Voices United 60)

Commissioning (responsive)

Praising God is not enough.

**And so we will go to offer practical help to our sisters and
brothers.**

Joyful noises do not feed those around us.

**And so we will go with Jesus to the food pantries and
shelters, to care for those forgotten by our society.**

Songs of thanksgiving do not replace service.

**And so we will go to share the peace of the Spirit
with a broken, yet hopeful world.**

Benediction

Sung Response "He Is Born" (Voices United 50, vs. 4)

**Jesus, Lord of all the world,
coming as a child among us,
Jesus, Lord of all the world,**

grant to us your heavenly peace. (2x)

Postlude "Good Christian Friends, Rejoice"-arr. Kevin McChesney

Next Week's Lectionary Readings:

Jeremiah 31:7-14; Psalm 147:12-20; Ephesians 1:3-14; John 1:10-18

New Year's Day Dinner 2020 - If you have any questions please talk to/email/phone Alyssa @ 778 363-3414 amcampbell88@yahoo.ca

THIS WEEK AT FIRST UNITED DECEMBER 29 - JANUARY 5, 2020
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Today	10:00AM Sunday Worship: Sanctuary
	11:00AM Refreshments: Hall
Monday	Church office closed
Thursday	Church office reopens January 2, 2020
	8:30AM Healing Ministry: Vestry
	10:00AM Coffee Hour & Outreach: Hall/Kitchen
Next Sunday	8:30AM Informal Worship: 14
	10:00AM Sunday Epiphany All Ages Worship: Sanctuary
	11:00AM Refreshments: Hall
	3:00PM Alleluia Ringers rehearse: Belfry