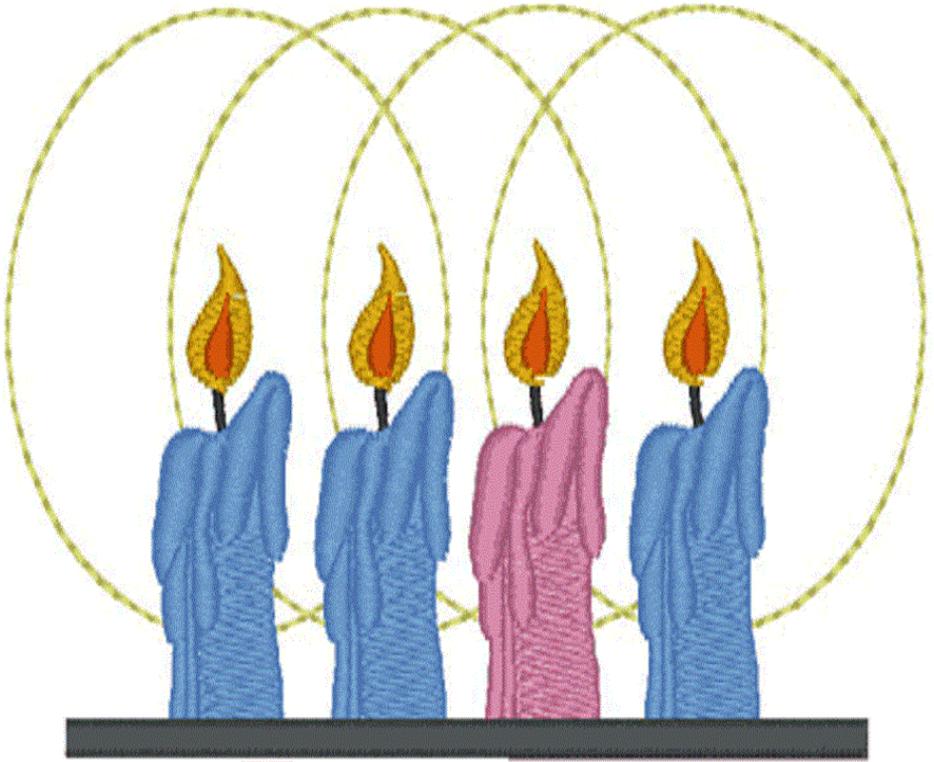


St. David's United Church
December 2, 2018
Advent of Hope



Hope

Growing and Deepening our Spiritual Lives in an Affirming and Inclusive Community

Welcome to St. David's United Church

3303 Capitol Hill Crescent NW

Calgary, Alberta T2M 2R2

Telephone: 403 284-2276

e-mail: admin@sduc.ca

Sunday, December 2, 2018

Presiding: Peggy McDonagh, Guest Speaker – Dawn Boustead, "Brenda's House" part of The Children's Cottage

We gather as a Christ-infused Community of Faith

Regardless of your age, stage, gender, sexual identity, or how great or small you feel your faith is we each bring something of ourselves to this place. Come as you are -- and be.

Prior to the service the Creation, Affirming and Value candles were lit to affirm that all humanity and creation must be respected and valued. The Treaty 7/Metis Region 3 candle was lit to show respect for the land and to affirm our continued commitment to live into right relations with our indigenous brothers and sisters.

SEED OF MEDITATION

Hope is the Thing with Feathers by Emily Dickinson

Hope is the thing with feathers –
That perches in the soul –
And sings the tune without the words –
And never stops – at all-

PRELUDE

Wachet auf, ruft uns die Stimme

*settings by J.S. Bach
& J.G. Walther*

CAROL SINGING

Angels We Have Heard on High vs. 1 & 3

VU #38

- 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!

- 3 Come to Bethlehem and see

Christ whose birth the angels sing;
come, adore on bended knee
Christ, the Lord, the newborn King. R

It Came Upon a Midnight Clear vs. 1 & 2

VU #44

- 1 It came upon the midnight clear,
that glorious song of old,
from angels bending near the earth
to touch their harps of gold,
'Peace on the earth, good will to all,
from heaven's all-gracious King!'
The world in solemn stillness lay
to hear the angels sing.
- 2 Still through the cloven skies they come
with peaceful wings unfurled;
and still their heavenly music floats
o'er all the weary world;
above its sad and lowly plains
they bend on hovering wing,
and ever o'er its Babel sounds
the blessed angels sing.

COMMUNITY NEWS AND GREETING

LIGHTING THE VALUE CANDLE: *SUPERHEROES*

ENTRANCE INTO WORSHIP

People of God, be welcome into the season of Advent
We come together during this busy Christmas time to take a breath.

**To breathe in together the life that God gives us.
To listen to the beat of God's heart and the blessings and
lessons this season brings to us.**

Each week we will light an Advent Candle that reminds us of God's presence
with us.

**In the long dark nights of December, in this busy Christmas
season, we welcome God's hope, peace, joy and love
and make room for them in our hearts.**

People of God, welcome to this waiting season of Advent.

OPENING HYMN

Hark the Glad Sound

VU #29

- 1 Hark, the glad sound! The Saviour comes,
the Saviour promised long:

let every heart prepare a throne,
and every voice a song.

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

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

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

LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLE OF HOPE

Today we light the Advent candle of hope. (The first blue candle is lit)

**We welcome the light of hope, the light of God's presence,
the light that stills a frightened heart, the light that guides us to
the stable of love.**

Come, God of Life, beacon of hope on this Advent journey, shine in our hearts.

We receive the light of hope.

HYMN RESPONSE

A Candle is Burning

vs. 1 VU #6

1 A candle is burning, a flame warm and bright,
a candle of hope in December's dark night.
While angels sing blessings from heaven's starry sky,
our hearts we prepare now for Jesus is nigh.

ADVENT PRAYER

**Breath of God awaken us to your divine encouragement, that
causes us to turn around and pay attention to the divine midst
the lure of the twinkling lights, familiar carol sounds, cooking
and shopping, parties and gift giving. We hear your whisper to
us, inviting us to seek the quiet center that settles our hearts and
calms our busyness allowing us to wait patiently for the rebirth
of your love. We pray in the name of the coming one. Amen.**

FAITH CHAT

READINGS Hebrews 6:19; Quote by St. Paul; Romans 5:2-5; Quote by Sue Paton Theole, in *Sowing Seeds of Positive Change in Your Life and in the World*

ANTHEM *A Time for Advent* S. Harris

REFLECTION Guest Speaker – Dawn Boustead, Brenda's House

We respond. . .

HYMN Advent's Hope (Tune: VU #2)
(words by Rev. Peggy McDonagh)

Advent hope begins the journey
into this new Christian year;
may we show God's grace and goodness,
hope and love be ever near.

Loss of country, broken families,
Fear and harm cause hearts to mourn;
Advent hope frees hearts from darkness,
human lives love will transform.

Advent is a time to ponder,
waiting for our hearts to see
peace and justice, human loving
touch the world and set it free.

God of Promise, bless this Advent,
bringing hope and joy our way;
fill all hearts with awe and wonder,
for the dawn of Christmas day.

INVITATION TO OFFER OUR GIFT

Let us present our offering given from the heart of hope - hope powerful enough to transform the world during this season of goodwill and peace.

OFFERTORY *Peace in the Valley* T.A. Dorsey/arr. L. Shackley

RECEPTION OF OFFERING AND DEDICATION HYMN (Tune VU #344)

Our Advent offering now we bring,
these gifts our faith express;
we offer them in gratitude,
and know our hearts are blessed.

May we each strive this Advent time
to live with hope each day;
to share ourselves with gracious hearts,
give strength and love, we pray.

PRAYERS OF THE HEART & THE LORD'S PRAYER SUNG

VU #959

Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done
on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil

for the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours,
now and forever.

...and are blessed.

HYMN

May the God of Hope Go With Us

VU #424

- 1 May the God of hope go with us every day,
filling all our lives with love and joy and peace.
May the God of justice speed us on our way,
bringing light and hope to every land and race.
Praying, let us work for peace,
singing, share our joy with all,
working for a world that's new,
faithful when we hear Christ's call.
- 2 May the God of healing free the earth from fear,
freeing us for peace, both treasured and pursued.
May the God of love keep our commitment clear
to a world restored, to human life renewed.
Praying, let us work for peace,
singing, share our joy with all,
working for a world that's new,
faithful when we hear Christ's call.

BLESSING

As we leave this gathered time let us continue to ponder the question, what is Christmas?

It is tenderness for the past, courage for the present, hope for the future.

May the God of Hope, the Christ of Compassion, and the Spirit of Wisdom bless this Advent.

CLOSING HYMN

Go now with hope, go now with hope,
May the love of God surround us
Everywhere, everywhere, we may go.

POSTLUDE

Improvisation

**GROWING AND DEEPENING OUR LIVES THROUGH WORSHIP
AND SPIRITUAL NURTURE**

ADVENT OF PEACE

December 9, 2018

Guest Speaker: Shari Harding, Food Bank Ambassador

December 16, 2018

White Gift Sunday & Advent Brunch

BAPTISM SUNDAY CELEBRATION

– January 27, 2019

On Sunday, January 27 we are planning to have a worship service honouring and celebrating the sacrament of baptism. In preparation for this exciting event we are inviting people to consider if they would like to be baptized on that Sunday morning. This will be a baptism service celebrated by the entire community.

If you would like to be baptised or have children baptized or would like to reaffirm your faith, please contact Peggy McDonagh, Alison Demeter or the office.

Notice of Congregational Meeting

December 23, 2018

Immediately after worship

WELCOME TO ST. DAVID'S UNITED CHURCH

We hope that your heart is touched, your faith inspired, and your spiritual life deepened in this gathering time and worship experience. If you are visiting for the first time please know that you are welcome, you are valued, and you enhance this sacred place by your presence.

If you wish to know more about St. David's, please fill in a "Response Card" found at the back of the Sanctuary and place it in the box or the offering plate.

Thank you for making this a scent free environment. It is a joy to have you with us today, you are welcomed and embraced. Please join us following worship in the TM room for conversation, coffee/tea and fellowship. Washrooms are opposite the front entrance and in the basement.

The Rainbow Room Nursery is available for infants to pre-school age, downstairs at the end of Robertson Hall.

OFFERING ENVELOPES are available in the Voices United hymn book, at the back of the church, or from an usher. If you would like to have contribution envelopes, please contact the office. Tax receipts are issued at the end of the year for all identified donations and offerings. If you give through PAR, PAR cards are available from the ushers to be placed on the offering plate as a symbol of your offering given through PAR.

PRAYER CONCERNS The prayer chain is committed to praying for you in times of crisis for a period of 30 days. Please contact the office or one of the ministers.

FLOWERS enhance our church services each Sunday. Remember loved or joyous occasions all year with donations to the flower fund. Dedications are placed in the worship folder.

If anyone has celebrations or events, they wish to have acknowledged in the worship folder or newsletter, please contact the office administrator at the church office at 403 284-2276 or admin@sduc.ca no later than Wednesday at 9:00 a.m.

PASTORAL CARE *If you have any pastoral concerns about yourself or others please contact Peggy McDonagh or Debbie Stockdale at the church office. If you know someone who is in long term care, in hospital or needs a visit, please contact the office.*

We need your help ... in a congregation the size of St. David's it can be difficult to know who has not been present in worship for some time. If you are aware of someone you have not seen for a while, please contact the office or contact the people and let them know that they are missed. As a congregation, we all must be aware of one another and acknowledge those absent to ensure everyone feels cared for and valued. Let us all do our part to keep connected.

THANKS TO THOSE ASSISTING WITH OUR SUNDAY WORSHIP EXPERIENCE

Greeters.....November Sacred Service Team
 UshersNovember Sacred Service Team
 Counters.....Colin Outtrim, Bertha Hancock
 Reader.....Ruth Cross
 Projection.....PSALT Team
 Sunday Receptionist.....Margaret Pellicci
 MusicSanctuary Choir
 Accompanist.....Garrett Krause

MINISTRY PERSONNEL

Peggy McDonagh	Minister, Congregational Operations and Worship	peggy@sduc.ca	Voice Mail #104
Chantal Winslow	Office Administrator	admin@sduc.ca	Gen Voice Mail
Brent Tucker	Music Director	music@sduc.ca	Voice Mail #106
Wayne Holst	Adult Spiritual Development Ministry	asdm@sduc.ca	Voice Mail #113
Alison Demeter	Minister of Families	children@sduc.ca	Voice Mail #109
Wally Pelley	Custodian		Gen Voice Mail
Paige Martin	Accountant	accounting@sduc.ca	Voice Mail #107
Stephanie Price & Trent Burke	Faith Quest Leader		Voice Mail #110
Debbie Stockdale	Pastoral Care	pastoralcare@sduc.ca	
Vanessa Hansen	Nursery		

ST. DAVID'S WEEK AT A GLANCE

Sun. Dec 2	10:00 am 10:00 am 11:00 am 11:00 am 2:30 pm	Sunday Worship – Sanctuary Faith Quest – Robertson Hall Refreshments – TM Room February Sacred Service Team Potluck – Robertson Hall Iglesia Ni Cristo Church – Sanctuary & TM Room
Mon. Dec 3	12:30 pm 5:30 pm 5:30 pm 7:00 pm 7:30 pm	Best Beginnings – Robertson Hall Sparks – TM Room Brownies – Robertson Hall Girl Guides – Robertson Hall Angel Voices - Sanctuary
Tues. Dec 4	6:00 pm	Iglesia Ni Cristo Church of Christ – Sanctuary & TM Room
Wed. Dec 5	9:30 am 7:00 pm 7:00 pm	Qigong – Robertson Hall Healing Touch – Robertson Hall Adult Recreational Choir - Sanctuary
Thurs. Dec 6	7:00 pm 8:00 pm	Chamber Choir Practice - Sanctuary Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal - Sanctuary
Fri. Dec 7	4:00 pm 6:00 pm 7:00 pm	Anthony Edmunds Music Lessons – Lacombe Youth Group – Robertson Hall Iglesia Ni Cristo - Sanctuary
Sat. Dec 8	4:00 pm 6:00 pm 6:00 pm	Music Recital – TM & Sanctuary Youth Group – TM Room True Light Church – Robertson Hall
Sun. Dec 9	8:00 am 10:00 am 10:00 am 11:00 am 2:30 pm	Sacred Service Breakfast – Robertson Hall Sunday Worship – Sanctuary Faith Quest – Robertson Hall Refreshments – TM Room Iglesia Ni Cristo Church – Sanctuary & TM Room

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