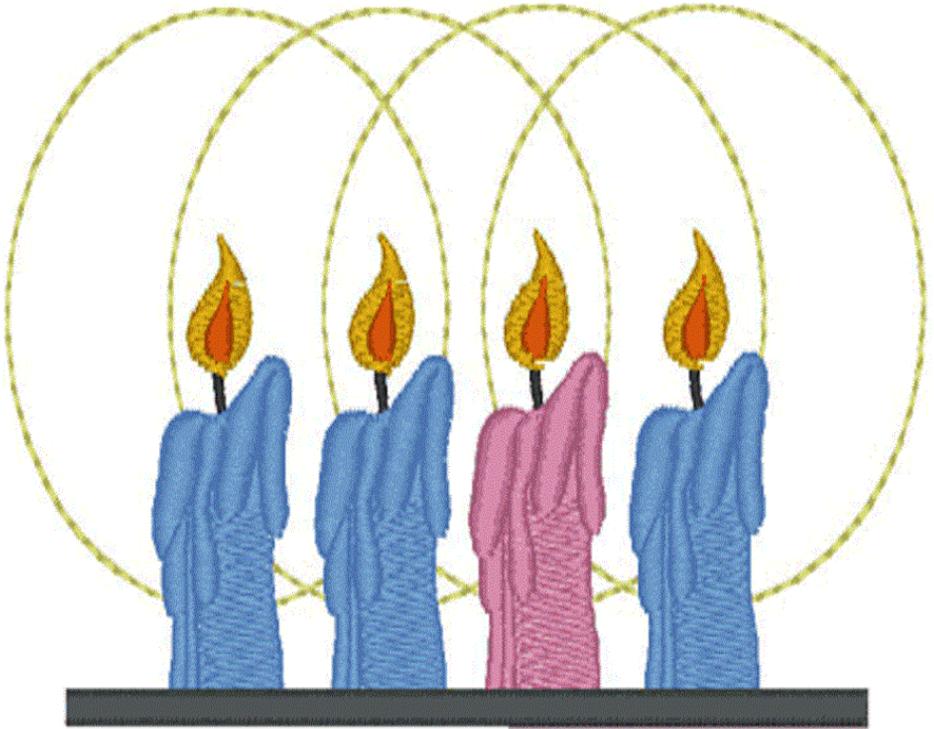


St. David's United Church
December 9, 2018
Advent of Peace



Peace

***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 9, 2018

Presiding: Peggy McDonagh, Guest Speaker – Shari Harding, Food Bank Ambassador

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

“But I am sure that I have always thought of Christmas time, when it has come round...as a good time; a kind, forgiving, charitable, pleasant time; the only time I know of, in the long calendar of the year, when men and women seem by one consent to open their shut-up hearts freely.”

Charles Dickens

PRELUDE *Duet Suite – III – Minuetto & IV- Romance*
Piano – Eric Nyland

D. Bedard

CAROL SINGING Hark the Herald Angels Sing

VU #48

1 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!'

2 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! R

3 Hail, the heaven born 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. R

O Little Town of Bethlehem

VU #64

1 O little town of Bethlehem,
how still we see thee lie!
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep
the silent stars go by;
yet in thy dark streets shineth
the everlasting light;
the hopes and fears of all the years
are met in thee tonight.

2 For Christ is born of Mary;
and gathered all above,
while mortals sleep, the angels keep
their watch of wondering love.
O morning stars, together
proclaim the holy birth,
and praises sing to God the King,
and peace to all on earth.

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.

- 4 O holy child of Bethlehem,
descend to us, we pray;
cast out our sin, and enter in;
be born in us today.
We hear the Christmas angels
the great glad tidings tell;
O come to us, abide with us,
our Lord Emmanuel.

COMMUNITY NEWS AND GREETING

INTROIT *Matin Responsory*

G.P. da Palestrina

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

All Earth is Waiting

VU #5

- 1 All earth is waiting to see the Promised One,
and open furrows await the seed of God.
All the world, bound and struggling, seeks true liberty;
it cries out for justice and searches for the truth.
- 2 Thus says the prophet to those of Israel,
'A virgin mother will bear Emmanuel.'
One whose name is 'God with us', our Saviour shall be,
through whom hope will blossom once more
within our hearts.
- 3 Mountains and valleys will have to be made plain,
open new highways, new highways for our God,
who is now coming closer, so come all and see,
and open the doorways as wide as wide can be.
- 4 In lowly stable the Promised One appeared.
Yet, feel that presence throughout the earth today,

for Christ lives in all Christians and is with us now;
again, on arriving, Christ brings us liberty.

LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLE OF PEACE

Today we light the Advent candle of peace. (The first and second blue candles are lit)

We welcome the light of peace, the light of peace Jesus sought to bring.

Jesus said, "I give you peace so don't be worried or afraid."

This is not the peace that this world seeks through violence. It is the light of peace that ends violence, the light of peace that frees the heart of fear, the light of peace that calms midst busy lives.

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

We receive the light of peace.

HYMN RESPONSE

A Candle is Burning

vs. 2 VU #6

2 A candle is burning, a candle of peace,
a candle to signal that conflict must cease:
for Jesus is coming to show us the way;
a message of peace humbly laid in the hay.

ADVENT PRAYER

Breath of God awaken us to your divine encouragement, that causes us to turn around and pay attention to the divine amidst 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

A reading adapted from the Christian Scriptures, Romans 14:17-19, 2 Corinthians 13:11, Quote by Rudolf Joseph Lorenz Steiner, (Austrian philosopher, social thinker, and writer), and a Quote by Ms. Hafsat Abiola (Nigerian human rights, civil rights, peace and democracy activist born in Lagos.)

ANTHEM

The Best of Rooms

R. Thompson

REFLECTION Guest Speaker – Shari Harding, Food Bank Ambassador

to share ourselves with gracious hearts,
give strength and love, we pray.

PRAYERS OF THE HEART & THE LORD'S PRAYER SUNG

...and are blessed.

HYMN Put Peace into Each Other's Hands vs. 1, 2, 4 & 5 MV #173

Put peace into each other's hands
and like a treasure hold it,
protect it like a candle flame,
with tenderness enfold it.

Put peace into each other's hands,
with loving expectation;
Be gentle in your word and ways,
in touch with God's creation

Give thanks for strong yet tender hands,
held out in trust and blessing;
Where words fall short, let hands speak out
the heights of love expressing.

Reach out in friendship,
stay with faith in touch with those around you.
Put peace into each other's hands;
the peace that sought and found you.

BENEDICTION

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 Peace, the Christ of Compassion, and the Spirit of Wisdom bless this Advent.

SUNG BLESSING Go Now in Peace VU #964
Go now in peace, go now in peace
May the love of God surround you
Everywhere, everywhere, you may go.

POSTLUDE *Allegro con brio from Sonata in C major, op. 53, "Waldstein"*

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

ADVENT OF JOY

December 16, 2018

White Gift Sunday & Advent Brunch

BLUE CHRISTMAS SERVICE

December 21 at 7:00 pm TM Room

ADVENT OF LOVE

December 23, 2018

Lessons & Carols and Christmas Communion

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 baptized 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.....December Sacred Service Team
 UshersDecember Sacred Service Team
 Counters.....Kerry Duncan McCartney & Bob Clare
 Reader.....Eldon Godfrey
 Projection.....PSALT Team
 Sunday Receptionist.....Bertha Hancock
 MusicChamber Choir
 Minute speak.....ACTS, Blue Christmas

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 9	8:00 am 10:00 am 10:00 am 11:00 am 2:30 pm	SS Team Breakfast – Robertson Hall Sunday Worship – Sanctuary Faith Quest – Robertson Hall Refreshments – TM Room Iglesia Ni Cristo Church – Sanctuary & TM Room
Mon. Dec 10	12:30 pm 1:30 pm 5:30 pm 7:30 pm	Best Beginnings – Robertson Hall Prayer Shawl Meeting – TM Room Sparks – TM Room Angel Voices - Sanctuary
Tues. Dec 11	6:00 pm	Iglesia Ni Cristo Church of Christ – Sanctuary & TM Room
Wed. Dec 12	9:30 am 5:30 pm 7:00 pm 7:00 pm	Qigong – Robertson Hall City of Calgary – TM Room LaCocinelle Board Meeting - Lacombe Adult Recreational Choir - Sanctuary
Thurs. Dec 13	7:00 am 7:00 pm 8:00 pm	Coffee & Muffin Day - Sanctuary Chamber Choir Practice - Sanctuary Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal - Sanctuary
Fri. Dec 14	4:00 pm	Anthony Edmunds Music Lessons – Lacombe
Sat. Dec 15	4:00 am 10:00 am 6:00 pm	Iglesia Ni Cristo – TM & Sanctuary Flower Class – Robertson Hall True Light Church – Robertson Hall
Sun. Dec 16	8:00 am 10:00 am 10:00 am 11:00 am 2:30 pm 7:00 pm	Sacred Service Breakfast – Robertson Hall Sunday Worship – Sanctuary Faith Quest – Robertson Hall Advent Brunch – Robertson Hall Iglesia Ni Cristo Church – Sanctuary & TM Room Evening Compline - Sanctuary

Hymns printed with copyright permission
 Music Licenses: CCLI#391453 LicenSing #C2173