

EMMANUEL UNITED CHURCH

December 15, 2019

The Third Sunday in Advent – White Gift Sunday

A warm welcome to all who have joined us for worship today.

Please note this is a scent free environment.

(*please rise in body or spirit)

Prelude: “Fantasy on Forest Green” - arr. Lani Smith

Welcome, Announcements & Lighting of the Candles

**Gathering Hymn: VU 1 “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”*

**Centering Time for Worship*

Coming Home

**Invitation to Community*

We have been liberated

The exile is no more

We have returned to the house of our God

Let us give thanks

For we have been restored to our Creator

In the fulness of Holy Love

**Gathering Prayer*

Holy One, we celebrate the joy that you have given to each one of us: the joy of relationships, the joy of community, the joy of promise. As we journey closer to the manger remind us that you are always with us—Emmanuel—and that you lead us in the path of joy. In the name of the child Jesus, we make this prayer. Amen

Hymn: VU 31 “O Lord, How Shall I Meet You” (Thornbury)

Advent Candle Liturgy: The Third Sunday in Advent

Reader 1: Today is a day of Joy. As people of faith and followers of Jesus, we carry with us great Joy: the joy of community, the joy of promise, the joy of love. The warmth of this flame is a strong symbol of joy.

Reader 2: Here are Mary and Joseph. They were anticipating great joy at the birth of their child, even in the midst of uncertainty and turmoil. If we, as a community of faith, carry that joy with us, we can face and disarm the disarray in our lives.

Advent Hymn: VU 6 "A Candle is Burning" vs 3

Bringing forward Gifts and Soxs

Candles of Joy and Concern

Simeon, Anyone?

Preparation for Proclamation:

Prepare the Way, Prepare the Way.

Awaited Christ expected one.

We will await, we will await.

The birth of God's own son. X2 - A. Gray

Scriptures: Reader: Shelly Joyes

Ezra 1.1-4, 3.1-4, 10-13 Psalm 92, VU 810

Luke 2: 25-35

Special Music: "Jesus Christ is Coming" Arr. by J. A. Shafferman

Reflection:

Response: VU 5 "All Earth Is Waiting" vs 3

Departing in Peace

Offering: "What Child is This" - arr. David Lasky

**Hymn of Presentation: VU 55 (vs.4)*

What can I give him, poor as I am?

If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb;

if I were a wise man, I would do my part;

yet what I can I give him - give my heart.

**Prayer of Dedication:*

We offer all these gifts that all people will see Your salvation and the consolation of your love. Amen

Prayers of the Faithful

Hymn: VU 248 "When Long Before Time"

**Sending Forth:*

Live like you have been liberated

Freed to share the Good News

Be vigilant and seek Holy love

Love that is all around us

Build up that which is has been torn down

We will live in the house of the Lord

**Concluding Rite: MV 20 "God of Still Waiting" vs 4*

Postlude: "The Christmas Rose" - arr. Gilbert M. Martin

In Appreciation

Minister: All the Congregation and Rev. Don Uhryniw

Music: Arlene Gray and the Choir

Thank You: to Ushers, Greeters, Elevator monitors, Offertory collectors and Refreshment angels.

AV: Ted Shaw

Powerpoint: Patti Shaw

*An Affirming Congregation of the United Church of Canada
We acknowledge that we live on the traditional territory
of the Mississauga People of the Anishnaabe Nation*