

EMMANUEL UNITED CHURCH

December 1, 2019

The 1st Sunday of Advent

World AIDS Day

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: Pastorale - Frederick Archer - arr. Lani Smith

Welcome, Announcements & Lighting of the Candles

**Gathering Hymn:* VU 4 "God of All Places"

**Centering Time for Worship*

Setting Our Minds on Devine Things

**Invitation to Community*

The days are coming

Days of light, days of promise

This day is the beginning of a new year

A year of promise, but not necessarily of peace

For we are called to be in the world

Serving, loving, giving

**Gathering Prayer*

Holy One, we are anxious for your presence. We cling onto the promise of hope, light, love. As we begin the adventure of Advent, hold us in your light, that we may hold each one of us in your peace. In the name of him who brings hope, we make this prayer. Amen

Hymn: VU 8 "Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming"

Advent Candle Liturgy: The First Sunday in Advent

All: Spirit of the Living God (sung)

**Spirit of the living God fall afresh on me;
Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.
Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me.
Spirit of the living God fall afresh on me.
Spirit of the living God, move among us all;
make us one in heart and mind, make us one in love:
humble, caring, selfless, sharing.
Spirit of the living God fill our lives with love.** Daniel Iverson, 1926

Leader: We are the Body of Christ

All: The Body of Christ, living with HIV

Leader: If we choose, we can make a difference

All: If we choose, we can help bring newness, hope and peace

Leader: In our homes, in our church, in our community, in our nation, in our world

All: In our bodies, in our minds, in our spirits

Leader: Our sisters and brothers, our parents and children are infected with HIV

All: We are living and dying with AIDS

Leader: If we choose, the blockages to healing can be removed

All: We choose compassion. We choose to respond

Leader: Will you respond with your money, with your time, with your love?

All: We are the Body of Christ. We choose to respond until the day of the last one:

- **the day of the last new HIV infection and the last child born with HIV;**
- **the day of the last time that someone is stigmatized or bullied because of HIV and AIDS;**
- **the day of the last time that someone dies from this disease.**

We pray and act for the day of the last one!

Reader 1: Today is the first Sunday in Advent, which is a time we prepare for the birth of Jesus. So as the days grow darker we can carry the light of this first candle in our hearts and in our hopes. And this first Sunday is a day of hope.

Reader 2: Today, we start to build our Nativity scene. We begin by placing sheep. Sheep and shepherd are very common themes in our Sacred Writings. In John's Gospel Jesus refers to himself as the good shepherd. And then there is the 23rd Psalm. Moses was a shepherd. So, as we begin our journey to the manger, we must remember that we too are part of a flock, the flock that is called Emmanuel United Church.

Advent Hymn: VU 6 "A Candle is Burning" vs 1

Candles of Joy and Concern

Meanwhile in Caesarea Philippi...

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. X3 - A. Gray

Scriptures:

Jeremiah 33.14-18

Mark 8.27-33

Reader: Sue Masters

Psalm 25, VU 752, Refrain 1

Special Music: "Gesù Bambino" – Pietro Yon

Special Guest Ringers: "UnBELLievable"

Reflection:

Response: VU 5 "All Earth Is Waiting" vs 1

Living the Identity

Affirming Minute: Phyllis Elvidge-Bell

Offering: "What Child is This" (bells)

**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:*

These are offerings of hope: hope in the face of uncertainty; hope in the shadow of injustice; hope for healing in a wounded creation. Loving

God push us into your future,

your path and your way that we and all will be yours.

In the name of Jesus, living hope, we make this prayer. Amen

Prayers of the Faithful: World AIDS Day Liturgy

All: What will it take, O God...

Left: for us to see a day of no more AIDS-related deaths, no more new HIV infections and no more discrimination in the land of the living?

All: What will it take, O God...

Right: for change to come in our community, in our lives?

All: What will it take, O God...

Left: for the scattered to be gathered that all may praise and dance together?

All: What will it take, O God...

Right: for us to see the end of AIDS?

All: What will it take, O God...

Left: for us, your church, to be free from ignorance and fear?

All: What will it take, O God...

Right: for us to recognize your Word become flesh and living among us with HIV?

All: What will it take, O God, for the dance to begin and the deaths to end?

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

The Invitation

**Communion Hymn: VU 479 "Draw Us in the Spirit's Tether"*

The Peace

Eucharistic Prayer (see insert)

Fraction and Distribution

Music During Communion: "The Holly and the Ivy" (bells)

Hymn: VU 711 "Sleepers, Wake"

**Sending Forth:*

Set your minds on Divine things

For we are children of God

We are defined by God

And we are identified by what we say and do

Let your advent light shine

To bring hope to the shadow places of the world

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

Postlude: "Of the Father's Love Begotten" - arr. David Lasky

In Appreciation

Minister: All the Congregation and Rev. Don Uhryniw

Music: Arlene Gray and the Choir

Ushers & Greeters: Kathy Gillis, Bill Gilbert, & Jacquie Robinson

Refreshments: UCW Elevator: AJ McNaught

Offering collectors: Choir members

Communion Servers: Dan Kingdon, Carol Parnell,

Ina Stenner, Frankie Schilke and AJ McNaught

AV: A. Gray

Powerpoint: Patti Shaw

Thank You to UnBELLievable: Lois Endicott, Arlene Gray,

Joanne Gray, Kenneth Gray (director) & Margo Tant

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*