

EMMANUEL UNITED CHURCH

December 24, 2018 Christmas Eve 7:00 pm

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: Pastoral Symphony (from Messiah) - Handel

*Processional Hymn: VU #60 *O Come, All Ye Faithful*

Joining the Throng

A Christmas Prayer: VU #53

Eternal God,

**in Jesus Christ your light shines in our darkness,
giving joy in our sorrow and presence in our loneliness.**

**Fill us with the mystery of your Word made flesh,
until our hearts overflow with praise and joy,
for he is the beginning and the end of all that exists,
living forevermore. Amen.**

Lighting of the Christmas Candle - Jesus

(four blue candles are lit) - Haggerty Family

In the stillness and the expectation of this night we light this Christmas candle. We know that we are called to be the light of Christ in the world.

The candle is lit

The evangelist John reminds us that he, and us, are called to testify to the light.

This Light shines in the darkness, and the darkness cannot overcome it.

*Hymn: VU #69 *Away in a Manger*

Hearing the Story

Isaiah 62.6-12 Reader: Rachel Baker

Psalm 97 VU # 817

Christmas Pageant

Hymn: VU #43 Go, Tell it on the Mountain

Living the Story

Hymn: VU #48 Hark! the Herald Angel's Sing

Offertory

*Hymn of Presentation

**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

Creator, in the stillness of this moment and in the light of night, we offer these gifts in thanksgiving for the love given to us. May we carry a spirit of generosity each and every day, and may our hearts soften when faced with the hardness of injustice. We give thanks for this Christmas light. In the name of the child born, we make this prayer. Amen.

A Prayer for Parting

We pray that we may carry the wonderful mystery of this night in our hearts and in our hopes each and every day. Amen.

*Hymn: VU #67 *Silent Night, Holy Night*

(When lights are dimmed, flick or turn on your candles)

Postlude: "Noël Suisse"

-Louis Claude Daquin

In Appreciation

Minister: All the Congregation and Rev. Don Uhryniw

Music: John Jull; AV: Deb Donovan

Elevator, Ushers and Greeters: Kathy Gillis

*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*