

# EMMANUEL UNITED CHURCH

December 8, 2019

## The 2nd Sunday in Advent - Human Rights 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: "Wachet Auf, Ruft Uns Die Stimme" - arr. J. G. Walther*

Welcome, Announcements & Lighting of the Candles

*\*Gathering Hymn: VU 9 "People, Look East"*

*\*Centering Time for Worship*

### Hearing the Voice

*\*Invitation to Community*

We have begun to receive the Good News

**The Good News of God with us**

Yet we are in the wilderness

**The wilderness of want and need**

Let us listen closely for words of comfort

**Words that will comfort and provoke!**

*\*Gathering Prayer*

**Great Spirit we are so anxious for your spirit, your voice, your embrace.**

**We feel unwanted, unworthy, unwelcome.**

**Remind us that you are always with us, even in the wilderness places of our lives, and that you call out to us words of comfort.**

**In the name of Jesus, the anticipated one, we make this prayer. Amen.**

*Hymn: VU 16 "Mary, Woman of the Promise"*

*Advent Candle Liturgy: The Second Sunday in Advent*

Reader 1: On this day we highlight peace.

We often call Jesus the Prince of Peace.

And so, we offer this light of Peace.

In Jewish theology Peace—Shalom—is not just the absence of war but a world where everything and everyone lives in harmony.

Reader 2: The Gospels tell us that when Jesus entered Jerusalem in his final days, what we call Palm Sunday, he was probably riding a donkey.

Sometimes we think of donkeys as not being that bright, but they are sure and steady.

As we, as a community of faith, embrace this Peace, let us be sure and steady on our journey.

*Advent Hymn: VU 6 “A Candle is Burning” vs 2*

*Candles of Joy and Concern*

### **Comfort?**

*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:* Reader: Sue Masters

Isaiah 40.1-11 Psalm 85, VU 802

Mark 1.1-8

*Special Music: “Wait! Watch!” - David Lanz III*

Reflection:

*Response: VU 5 “All Earth Is Waiting” vs 2*

### **Making the Rough Places Plain**

*Affirming Minute:*

*Offering: “The Little Drummer Boy” - Davis/Onorati/Simeone*

*\*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:*

**For the voices that cannot be heard, for the hills and valleys of life, and for those who cry out for justice, we offer these gifts, and we offer ourselves. In the name of the Prince of Peace, we make this prayer. Amen**

*Hymn: VU 28 "Herald! Sound the Note of Gladness"*

*\*Sending Forth:*

Proclaim the Good News

**God with us**

Be instruments of Peace

**Peace, greater than justice**

Prepare the way of the Lord

**For we are called to do Holy work**

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

*Postlude: "Meditation on Veni Emmanuel" - arr. John Scrivener*

## **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: Carol Atkinson*

*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*