

Peace



*“Son, when you dance
'll be on your shoulder
and you'll feel it.”*





Sydenham Street United Church
Sunday, December 10, 2017
Morning Worship at Ten Thirty
Second Sunday of Advent ~ Peace
Minister: Rev. Rienk Vlietstra
Interim Music Director: Damien Macedo
(* Indicates Stand If You Are Able)

BOLD TEXT INDICATES CONGREGATION'S PARTICIPATION

Gathering in Community

Prelude: Three short variations on Gregorian 'Ave Maria'

Welcome & Announcements

Carols: **75** "While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks" (verses 1, 2, 5 & 6) ~ *Winchester Old*
64 "O Little Town of Bethlehem" (verse 4) ~ *St Louis*

Introit: Rejoice, O Jerusalem ~ *H. Willan*

Candle Lighting Liturgy & Call to Worship

In St. John's Gospel, the first word the resurrected Jesus has for his disciples, "*Peace be with you,*" leaves them cold. Undaunted, he reveals his wounded hands and side, then repeats the greeting to his disciples, "*Peace be with you.*"
Suddenly—just as doubting Thomas would later on - they recognize Jesus, who commissions them:

"As the Father sent me, so I am sending you." And, breathing on them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive anyone their offences against God and the neighbour, they are forgiven. But, if you begrudge anybody God's gracious forgiveness, both you and they will continue to feel the absence of true peace."

We light the Advent Candles of Hope and Peace, reminding us that God wants true Peace for everyone. (Candles are lit)

Sung Response 7 "Hope is a Star" (verse 2)

May that Peace of Jesus make us gracious toward everyone.

All: Let there be peace for all. In prayer we gather to worship.

We prepare to worship in a moment of reverent silence

Invocation Psalm 85 (pg. 802 in Voices United)

***Hymn 29** "Hark the Glad Sound" ~ *Richmond*

Time with the Young and Young at Heart

*Mary and Joseph continue toward the stable
Gift basket items are brought to the cradle*

Choir Anthem: Rorate Coeli ~ *A. Batten*

Listening for God's Word

Scripture Readings: Jeremiah 6:13-17, Mark 1:1-8

For the Word of God in Scripture

For the word of God among us

For the Word of God within us

Thanks be to God!

***Hymn 20** “On Jordan’s Bank” (verses 1, 2 & 4) ~ *Winchester New*

Message: “Peace on Your Shoulder” “Son” and “Secret Path”

“They treat the wound of my people carelessly, saying, ‘Peace! Peace! When there is no peace.’”
Jeremiah 6:14

Responding to God’s Love

***Hymn 28** “Herald! Sound the Note of Gladness” ~ *Neander*

Prayers of the People, including silent Prayer and the Lord’s Prayer

Offerings of Our Life and Work

Offertory Anthem: Deliver Us, O Lord our God ~ *M. Praetorius*

Sung Response (#81.3 in Voices United, adapted)

**As they offered gifts most rare... at that manger crude and bare,
So may we with holy joy, pure and free from evil’s ploys,
All our costliest treasures bring, Christ, to you, our heavenly King.**

Please remain standing for the Offertory Prayer (in unison)

Offertory Prayer

God of peace... with hope-filled confidence we respond to your promise of peace. May these gifts—and all the other ways we serve—be instruments of peace for all humanity, and through them for all creation, in Christ’s name we pray, Amen.

Please remain standing for the closing Hymn

***Closing Hymn 79** “Arise, Your Light Is Come” ~ *Festal Song*

Commissioning

Benediction: O come, Divine Messiah! (v. 2) ~ *M.A. Charpentier*

Postlude: Fugue in g minor (op.7) ~ *M. Dupré*

Weekly Quote: “*The glory of God lives among us. Truth and Faithfulness come together. Justice and Peace kiss one another.*”

Psalm 85:9b & 10

Welcome to the service this morning

You were greeted by Lynn and Russ Freeman. After Worship join us for coffee and conversation in the lower hall. Your hosts are Mary LeRoy and Jan Bryant.

Thank you this morning to Lay Reader, Lynn Freeman.

For those people who are hearing impaired, we have hearing-assist equipment available.

Hospitality for our youngest children!

A “drop-in centre” for children (up to 4 years old) and their parents is set up in the Conference Room. No supervision is available but if your little one is restless, needs to play and have some space, please check out this inviting option.

SSUC Announcements

PLEASE JOIN US FOR LUNCH on Sunday, December 17th, following worship, when the Executive Committee will host a lunch to express our appreciation to Rev. Rienk Vlietstra for his Ministry with us over the last 15 months. If you would like to contribute a dessert to our "sweet" buffet, please contact Lynn Freeman, 613 544-9703, or Barbara Parker 613 544-0624.

Celebrating our friends who are 90 years old and over

If you know someone in our SSUC congregation who is in this esteemed group – and they are happy to share that info - please let us know so that we can send them a card of blessings on their birthdays. Contact Linda Hutchinson – 613-542-7645 or hutchinl@kingston.net

Good News!

Our submission to the Embracing the Spirit initiative of the United Church has been approved for a grant of \$20,000, to be delivered in 2018! These funds are to support a pilot project to determine how best to manage our two church buildings and accordingly develop an approach that could eventually be utilized by others. In addition to the financial support, we will receive mentoring from a volunteer with expertise in an area related to our project. This welcome funding and support will benefit our joint efforts and budgets – one more positive step forward!

Open House: The Rev. Rienk and Susan Vlietstra invite you to a Christmas Open House on December 17 from 2-4 PM in the afternoon and/or after the “Christmas Carol” event approximately 9-11 PM in the evening. Best Wishes only. Address: 485 Barnsley Cres. 613-384-6296

Many thanks to those who helped set up, prepare food for and served a turkey dinner at Princess Street United Church for brain injured clients and their families - Marylil Megginson, Kirby and Vicki Ruthven, Jim Berry, Linda and Bruce Hutchinson, Lynn and Russ Freeman, Dana and Heather Charlton, and Charlotte Beer. Much appreciated by the folks at Princess Street!!

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Advent Mobile: Hanging from the Advent Mobile are letters representing the four themes of Advent (Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love) as well as Christmas. You will have received a paper snowflake along with your order of service. At the end of the service, you are invited to come forward, find a letter for this week's theme, remove it from the paperclip and attach your snowflake in its place. Take the letter home with you, where it can be added to your Christmas decorations, placed on a display board, used as a bookmark, etc. The schedule of the letters is H (Dec. 3), P (Dec. 10), J (Dec. 17), L (Dec. 24), and C (Dec. 24 evening service.) Art and Soul thanks Diane Soule for producing the letters, and congregation members who made the snowflakes!

Star Gifts for Sydenham Street United

After the first Sunday in Advent, and of the 2017 *Say it With Stars* campaign, we have 17 Gift Stars hanging in the sanctuary and **more than \$3,750 in Gifts** have been donated. With **three more** Sundays in Advent, let's see if we can fill our sanctuary with stars by Christmas and start our new year off on a sound financial footing.

Fill out a Star Gift form (located outside the office or at the front entrance), enclose your gift and place it in the collection plate or drop it off in the office. For each gift, a star will be hung from the balcony. If you wish, the name of the donor and the person or event remembered (but not the amount donated) will be posted in the Sunday bulletins during Advent. And, you will receive a charitable tax receipt for the full amount of your gift. *Say it With Stars*.



RE-GIFTING AT ITS BEST: Last year SSUC provided our regular Voucher Program recipients with items to give as gifts to others – it was a tremendous success! We plan to repeat that initiative this year. You can help! Everyone has things in their closets that they received as gifts, or that they purchased for themselves but know they will never use. Why not de-clutter your closets, etc. and help us re-gift those items? Please bring any small, unused items that you have to SSUC – our regulars in the Voucher Program will be afforded an opportunity to select items that they, in turn, can give as a gift to a friend or relative at Christmas. Recommended items include: candles, candle holders, picture frames, small purses, makeup bags, scarves, toques, warm socks, gloves, etc. Please bring your donated items to Donna Delyea, Barb Landon, or leave them in the Church Office to Donna's attention by December 11th. Thank you!

The DECEMBER two Church **"JUST LUNCH"** for December will be our usual CHRISTMAS BUFFET at DOX RESTAURANT in the Kingston Waterfront Holiday Inn. The date/time is **FRIDAY DECEMBER 15th** at 12.00 noon. **Advance registration is required - contact Meikle Turner at 613-542-7744 meikle_irish@yahoo.com as soon as you have decided to come and not later than the evening of Sunday December 10th.**

Christmas Basket News

Your donations of non-perishable food items and grocery money provide a festive Christmas dinner for needy families in our community.

Please give generously - either grocery money, (using the envelopes provided in your bulletin), and/or grocery items as listed below. We need significant funds to buy perishable items: turkeys, potatoes, onions, carrots, oranges, apples & margarine.

Would you like to pick up food items, pack or deliver one of these baskets? If so, please sign up on the sheet posted in the lower hall or talk to Kirby Ruthven 613-531-0865 ksruthven@gmail.com

Christmas Baskets Food Donation Schedule

November 19th Canned Vegetables (corn, peas), Instant Coffee, Jell-O (please no instant pudding as some of our families may not have milk to make pudding)

November 26th Hot Chocolate, tea, Juice

December 3rd Boxed Stuffing, Canned Fruit, Cookies

December 10th Cranberry Sauce, Candy, Commercial Bar Cake (cherry, Spanish, lemon or pound.) Please check expiry dates!

December 17th The last day for Items that we are short of

Packing and Delivery day this year will be Thursday, December 21st

ICRP is happy to be sponsoring our 5th Syrian household, a family with 4 children currently in a refugee camp in Lebanon. This family is from the government's pre-approved list and should be arriving in 4-8 weeks. Please contact Anya Hageman (hagemana@econ.queensu.ca) or your ICRP contact person if you can contribute any of the following: crib with mattress, new twin mattresses or waterproof twin mattress protectors, new queen mattress or mattress protector, twin-size fitted sheets, twin-sized blanket, mattress protectors for the above (twin ones should be waterproof), infant car seat new or less than three years old, booster seats new or less than three years old tools such as screwdrivers, wrenches for family toolkit, flashlights, new vacuum cleaner, new pillows

The next luncheon meeting of our **Two Church Lunch and Learn Group** (formerly the Joint Men's Group but now a non gender-specific group) will be at 11:30 am, **Tuesday, Dec 12, 2017**, at Mino's Village Restaurant, 1762 Princess Street. Our guest will be Ron Lirette, Executive Director of Hospice Kingston. The title of his talk is "A Compassionate Community That Celebrates Life". Everyone from Sydenham St. U.C. and Chalmers is invited to attend. Individuals on call lists will be contacted by team captains. Others wishing to attend and/or to have their name added to our call list, please contact **Meikle Turner at (613) 542-7744 or meikle_irish@yahoo.com before 5 pm on Sunday, Dec.10.** This is to ensure that adequate accommodation can be arranged at Mino's. The cost for the luncheon, including tax & gratuity, is \$22. per person (a \$20 bill plus a toonie, please).

2018 CHURCH CALENDARS. They're as attractive as ever with big squares for writing and a change of pictures you'll enjoy every month. For sale at coffee hour or from Barbara Parrott (613-389-3601). \$6.50 each. Proceeds to SSUC Outreach.

Anyone who wants to meet others while enjoying a common activity is welcome to join a **SSUC Small Group**. Members of Small Groups find friendship and opportunities for casual conversation about important matters like social justice, and spirituality. Small Groups are one way people find that they can be church to and for each other at SSUC. Today there will be sign-up sheets and people happy to answer your questions, at the front of the Sanctuary and during Coffee Hour. Co-ordinators: Barbara Parrott 613-389-3601, Sue Doerksen 613-766-3254.

The Cantabile Choirs of Kingston present "The Angels Sing"

"Sing choirs of angels, Sing in exultation" ...Anon

Fri Dec 22, 7:30 pm Sat Dec 23, 2:00 & 7:30 pm

Cantabile's extraordinary candle-lit concerts are the jewels of the holiday season in Kingston. Traditional carols and favourite holiday songs new and familiar, performed by over 250 voices surrounding audiences with the music of the holidays.

Tickets are available at cantabilechoirs.ca, info@cantabilechoirs.net, 613 549 0099 and in person at The Church Bookroom, Novel Idea and Long & McQuade Music.

The Cantabile Choirs are pleased to announce the release of its 9th CD, WONDER--Cantabile Christmas Live. This is a disc of favourites from recent holiday concerts. Enjoy the magic of these memorable candlelight concerts throughout the holiday season. CDs are \$20 from the Cantabile office..

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gifts starting at \$10

choose **gifts** online!

www.giftswithvision.ca

This Christmas “Give a Gift with Vision”.
 To select gifts online visit: giftswithvision.ca. To read inspiring stories of how *Gifts with Vision* is changing lives, visit the United Church’s Round the Table blog: www.united-church.ca/blogs/round-table. Gifts with Vision catalogues are available on the table out side the sanctuary door in the lobby.

A
Quest Story
 of
Christmas
Dramatic Reading
 and
Carol
 by
 Charles Dickens

Admission by Donation
 In support of Social Outreach Initiatives for
 St. James Anglican Church & The Spire
 This traditional reading takes place at
82 Sydenham Street United Church

Sunday, Dec. 17th at 7pm

ORCHESTRA KINGSTON

presents the second concert in the 2017/18 season -
a festive evening of holiday music for voice & orchestra



A Christmas Story



Friday December 15, 7:30 pm
The Spire, Sydenham St United Church

with Frontenac Women's Chorus
Darrell Bryan, tenor

special appearance by Chris Whyman
to narrate The Night Before Christmas

Tickets: \$25 (adult) \$20 (student / senior) NEW \$50 Family Pass (admits 4) 16 & under FREE
Available at orchestrakingston.ca, the Church Book Room, Tara Foods, Long & McQuade & Novel Idea