



# SYDENHAM STREET UNITED CHURCH



ADVENT 1 - HOPE  
Rev. Elizabeth Macdonald

NOVEMBER 29, 2020  
10:30 am

Since time immemorial, Indigenous peoples have occupied and cared for this land. In acknowledging this land, the traditional home of the Anishinaabe and Haudenosaunee, we seek to rebuild right relations with First Nations, Metis and Inuit peoples, to learn from them, and to live on this land with respect and gratitude for its bounty.

## FOR YOUR INFORMATION

**Song Books: VU Voices United MV More Voices**

**At this time, we do not have a minister for the congregation.**

**If you have a pastoral care concern, please contact Marylil Megginson at 613-544-9420**



## CHURCH

**Sydenham Street United Church** as an Affirming Congregation seeks to be a vital faith community within The United Church of Canada engaged in spirituality, justice and creativity, informed by Jesus Christ and the Bible, and discerning the call of the Trinity as we celebrate diversity, inclusivity and abundant life.

## OFFICE HOURS

**The Spire/SSUC Office:** Monday-Thursday 9:00 am-1:00 pm

**82 Sydenham St. Kingston ON K7L 3H4**

**SSUC Administrator:** [613-542-9616 x 202](tel:613-542-9616)

**Email:** [sydenham@kos.net](mailto:sydenham@kos.net)

**Rentals/Room Bookings @ The Spire:** [613-542-9616 x 201](tel:613-542-9616)

**Web:** [www.sydenhamstreet.ca](http://www.sydenhamstreet.ca)

**Online Sunday Services:** [www.youtube.com/user/SydenhamStreet](http://www.youtube.com/user/SydenhamStreet)

**Bold Text** indicates the parts that everyone reads together

## **GATHERING IN COMMUNITY**



### **PRELUDE**

“Variations on a Theme of Haydn (*St. Anthony Chorale*)”  
~ Brahms (*piano duet*)

### **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF THE LAND**

### **WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **CENTRING MUSIC**

### **CALL OF THE ADVENT WREATH**

*(For those joining us from home, we invite you to light one Advent candle)*

This first candle of our Advent Wreath burns brightly—  
Calling us to Hope

**God of hope, come to us again this Advent  
that we may worship and work together in hope ...  
that we may live in hope!**



### **ADVENT INTROIT VU 6**

Verse 1, “A Candle is Burning” ~ *Away in a Manger*

- 1 A candle is burning, a flame warm and bright,  
a candle of hope in December’s dark night.  
While angels sing blessings from heaven’s starry sky,  
our heart’s we prepare now for Jesus is nigh.

## ADVENT PRAYER OF HOPE

Holy Mystery, Wholly Love –  
Source of the Hope we need and long for.  
Free us from whatever anxiety or stress  
blocks our seeing ...experiencing...trusting  
the hope you keep offering us  
in and through people and situations all around us.  
As we prepare for the birth of Jesus in Bethlehem,  
the coming of Christ into this world here and now,  
prepare us to share and spread your gift of Hope  
wherever and however this world needs and longs for.  
Amen.

## ASSURANCE OF GOD'S LOVE



### HYMN VU 215

Verses 1 & 2 "Hope of the World" ~ *Donne Secours*

- 1 Hope of the world, O Christ of great compassion,  
speak to our fearful hearts by conflict rent;  
Save us, your people, from consuming passion,  
who by our own false hopes and aims are spent.
- 2 Hope of the world, God's gift from highest heaven,  
bringing to hungry souls the bread of life,  
still let your Spirit unto us be given  
to heal earth's wounds and end its bitter strife.

Words: *Georgia Elma Harkness*, 1952, alt., Music: *melody in*  
*Genevan Psalter 1551, harm. adapt. from Claude Goudimel 1565.*  
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# **LISTENING FOR GOD'S WORD**



## **SCRIPTURE READING**

Isaiah 43:1-7, 18-21

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church  
**Thanks be to God**

## **SERMON**



## **MEDITATION MUSIC**

“Sheep May Safely Graze”

~ J.S. Bach (*piano duet*)

# **RESPONDING TO GOD'S LOVE**

## **GIFTS OF THE SEASON –**

*Christmas Gift Cards & Gifts with Vision*

## **PRAYER OF BLESSING**

**Gracious and Generous God. We are ever grateful for all you have given us. Today we are especially mindful of those who will use and benefit from the Christmas Gift Cards and Gifts With Vision our gifts will fund. As we hold them in our hearts and minds, we ask you to bless them and to bless these Christmas Gift Cards and Gifts with Vision. May all the gifts we offer and the gifts we receive be expressions of our shared gratitude for your gifts to us and our shared desire to be generous and compassionate with all those around us as you are with all Creation. Amen.**

Offerings are gratefully received.

They may be left on the plate near the front door as you exit the sanctuary or received online through: **Canada Helps**

<https://www.canadahelps.org/en/charities/sydenham-street-united-church/> or **e-transfers** to [givingssuc@kos.net](mailto:givingssuc@kos.net) or **Canada Post.**

♪  
**SUNG RESPONSE MV 191**

OFFERING AND THANKSGIVING

**191**                      **What Can I Do?**

♩ = 88      G                      C                      G

What can I do?                      What can I bring?

What?                      What can I do?                      What can I bring?

D                      G

What can I say?                      What can I sing?                      I'll sing with

What can I say?                      What can I sing?

C                      G

joy. (I'll sing with joy.)      I'll say a prayer.                      I'll bring my

I'll say a prayer.

D                      D7                      G                      G

love.                      I'll do my share.      share.

I'll bring my love.      I'll do my share.      share. I'll do my share.

*Repeats*      *Last time*

*A joyful song of offering and dedication.*

Words and music: Paul Rumbolt and Michele McCarthy; arr. Alan C. Whitmore, 2005  
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 Arrangement copyright © 2005 Alan C. Whitmore. Used by permission.

## **PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

*(from Voices United with additions)*

### **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

**Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name,  
thy Kingdom come,  
thy will be done,  
on earth, as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread,  
And forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us.  
And lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil:  
For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory  
forever and ever. Amen.**



### **HYMN VU 2**

Verses 1 & 2 “Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus” ~ *Stuttgart*

- 1 Come, thou long-expected Jesus,  
Born to set thy people free:  
From our fears and sins release us,  
Let us find our rest in thee
  
- 2 Israel's strength and consolation,  
Hope of all the earth thou art,  
Dear desire of every nation,  
Joy of every longing heart.

Words: *Charles Wesley*, 1744, Music: *Psalmody Sacra* 1715  
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## COMMISSIONING

### SUNG BENEDICTION ~ F.R.C. Clarke



### POSTLUDE

Andante Religioso

F. Mendelssohn

### THANK YOU FOR TALENTS SHARED

<b>Organist:</b>	Juliet Milsome
<b>Piano:</b>	Marian Holobow & Juliet Milsome
<b>Choristers:</b>	Martha Clarke Donna Delyea Bruce Hutchinson Sylvia Mann Barb Carr Marilyn Huffman
<b>Worship Leadership:</b>	Retired Minister Elizabeth Macdonald

#### **Our thanks today those sharing worship leadership:**

Lay Reader, Vicki Ruthven; SSUC Treasurer and Christmas Basket Coordinator, Kirby Ruthven

#### **Gifts with Vision from The United Church of Canada**

Are you trying to find a gift for a member of your family who has enough “stuff”? Check out Gifts with Vision!! Pick a meaningful gift from the Gifts with Vision catalogue. Gifts range from sending a child to camp in Canada to helping women entrepreneurs in Sri Lanka. Talk with children in your family about what project they would like to support.

Search on-line for “Gifts with Vision – United Church!!!

<https://giftswithvision.ca>

For more information, call Bruce Hutchinson at 613-328-3093



The Covid-19 virus continues to spread, in the province and now in Kingston. If we don't follow the rules of distancing and masks, we won't be safe – and we won't be able to continue attending services in our Sanctuary. Here's how we must behave if we want to continue coming to our church on Sundays.

### **Important: Rules We *Must* Follow When We're in the Church!**

When Arriving:

1. When you enter the Sanctuary, please go directly to the seat the usher has indicated for you. Please *don't* stop anywhere to talk with anyone who's seated or move along an empty pew to visit with someone.
2. Please remain seated after you've removed your coat and hat.
3. Unless you're speaking at a lectern in the service, you *must* keep your mask on at all times

During the Service:

4. If you need to leave the Sanctuary for any reason, please move to the aisle nearest you and walk along it to the front of the Sanctuary. Exit by the right-hand door beyond the piano. When you return, please retrace this route, distancing yourself from others. You *must* keep your mask on.

After the Service:

5. You will leave through the front doors. People in the *rear* rows will exit *first*. If you have mobility challenges, you'll be helped to leave via William Street. Please put on your coat at your seat during the Postlude, so that you can move directly to the exit.
6. Please *do not stop* until you have left the building – not in the aisle, not in the doorway, not on the steps or ramp. Maintain the safe distance from others and help them to exit by leaving as efficiently and swiftly as you are able. Conversations are welcome – at a distance – once you're outside.

Thank you for obeying these rules every Sunday. We hope to maintain the privilege of attending church in the Sanctuary, and to do so we must behave safely. Then, we'll each feel safe when we're at Sydenham Street.

## NOTICES

### **The 2020 Christmas Basket Campaign**

Like most things during Covid-19 the 2020 Christmas Basket Campaign will look a lot different this year. Due to the number of people required to collect, pack and deliver food items, it is not possible to do these tasks safely. For that reason and the uncertainty of further restrictions due to Covid-19, the members of the voucher team have decided that, instead of collecting and purchasing food, we will be supporting needy families in our community with food cards for local grocery stores. This is consistent with other organizations like the Salvation Army who this year has decided to go with gift cards for their Christmas Hamper and Toy Drive.

You can support this important Sydenham Street outreach program by donating money to purchase food gift cards. This can be done

- By sending donations to the church through Canada Post
- By using Christmas Basket envelopes found in the pews
- By e-transfer to [givingssuc@kos.net](mailto:givingssuc@kos.net)
- By donating through Canada Helps

However, you contribute to this year's campaign, please indicate "for Christmas Basket Campaign" on your donation.

### **2020 SSUC STAR CAMPAIGN**

During Advent, SSUC will conduct its 9th annual Star Campaign. You are encouraged to make a Star Gift by placing a message of remembrance, of thanks, of joy or sorrow in a list and also by making a financial donation to Sydenham Street United Church which will go to our General Revenues to help us start the New Year off in a healthier financial position. For each Star Gift made, a bright star will be hung in the Sanctuary.

Please use the enclosed form which will explain how to go about making your Star Gift. Let's see how many Stars we can see hanging in our church by the end of the Advent season.

**December 8<sup>th</sup> : The Two Church Lunch and Learn Group will meet** by ZOOM on December 8<sup>th</sup> , gathering at 1:00 for announcements and chat, with the speaker starting at 1:15. Our speaker will be Kim Garrison, member of Princess Street United Church and chair of the Board of Trustees until earlier this year. The title of Kim's talk is "Tearing off the Band-aid" about the transformation at Princess St United Church. Everyone from Sydenham St. and Chalmers and your friends are invited to attend. If you wish to attend this event, please contact Meikle Turner at 613-542-7744 or [meikle\\_irish@yahoo.com](mailto:meikle_irish@yahoo.com). This session is being held on Zoom and the event will obviously not include lunch. Please let Meikle know if you plan to attend. Meikle will send you the link to the Zoom session shortly before December 8<sup>th</sup>. There will be no charge for attending this Lunch & Learn session.

Our next Lunch and Learn meeting will be on January 12, 2021. Topic is "Basic Income Guarantee".