



# SYDENHAM STREET UNITED CHURCH



CHRISTMAS EVE  
Rev. Elizabeth Macdonald

DECEMBER 24, 2020  
7:30 PM

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 Nan Hudson at 613-539-3751**



## 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

## **Following the Stars to the Stable**



### **PRELUDE**

### **LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

### **WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **CALL OF THE CHRIST CANDLE IN THE ADVENT WREATH**

(for those joining from home, we invite you to light your own Christ candle)

In the midst of the Advent Candles  
calling us to Hope, Peace, Joy and Love  
The Light ... the Love of Christ shines brightly.

**Light of Christ, come into our midst again this Christmas Eve  
that we may incarnate and embody  
the Light of Your Love for all the world  
to see . . . and know . . . and trust!**



**VU 6**

### **ADVENT INTROIT**

“A Candle is Burning” ~ Away in a Manger

Verse 5

- 5** We honour Messiah with Christ-candle’s flame,  
our Christmas Eve candles glad tidings proclaim.  
O come, all you faithful, rejoice in this night,  
as God comes among us, the Christian’s true light.

Words: *Sandra Dean*, 1986, Music: *James R. Murray* 1887  
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## GATHERING PRAYER

**Holy Mystery, Wholly Love on this Holy Night we come - joyful and grateful - that you come to us quietly, vulnerably, powerfully in the child born of Mary, the child born to Joseph; the child born to be with us, born to heal and free us, born to live and die like us and to rise again for us, born to love us. Make us ready to welcome the child again as you welcome us again and again. Amen.**



### CAROL VU 60

#### O Come, All Ye Faithful

Verses 1, 3

- 1 O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant,  
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem:  
come and behold him, born the King of angels;  
**O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord.**
  
- 3 Sing, choir of angels, sing in exultation,  
sing, all ye citizens of heaven above;  
glory to God in the highest:  
**O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord.**

Words: Frederick Oakeley 1841 Music: John Francis Wade 1743

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## **Gathering Around the Cradle**



### **SCRIPTURE**

**Luke 2:1-20**

## **Christmas Eve Prayer**

By Rachel & Leo

Two thousand years ago, in a stable in Bethlehem, a baby was born. This baby was to become a king and a saviour. Angels said he shall be called Jesus. Shepherds brought their sheep from all over the valley to celebrate the baby's birth. We imagine villagers in Bethlehem also came to see the newborn king. Wisemen, called magi, came from afar to worship the baby, and they followed the Star. Tonight we remember the newborn king, whose parents, Joseph and Mary, loved him. That is why we celebrate Christmas. Amen.



### **SPECIAL MUSIC**

**O Holy Night**

Soloist Michael T. Fenn, Music Director

# **Sharing the Gifts...Spreading the Light**

## **INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

### **CHRISTMAS EVE COMMUNION PRAYER**

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

#### **SHARING THE BREAD AND JUICE**

### **CAROL VU 67**



### **Silent Night**

- 1** Silent night! Holy night!  
All is calm, all is bright  
round yon virgin mother and child.  
Holy infant so tender and mild,  
sleep in heavenly peace, sleep in heavenly peace.
  
- 2** Silent night! Holy night!  
Shepherds quake at the sight:  
glories stream from heaven afar,  
heavenly hosts sing Hallelujah,  
Christ the Saviour is born, Christ the Saviour is born.
  
- 3** Silent night! Holy night!  
Son of God, love's pure light  
radiant beams from thy holy face,  
with the dawn of redeeming grace,  
Jesus, Lord, at thy birth, Jesus lord at thy birth.

Words: John Freeman Young Music: Franz Xavier Gruber

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## SENDING FORTH

### THANK YOU FOR TALENTS SHARED

**Music Director & Organist**

**Michael Fenn**

**Worship Leader**

**Rev. Elizabeth Macdonald**

*With recordings by*  
**The SSUC Choir**

#### **Special thanks to:**

Barb Parker for reading the Christmas Story  
&  
Leo and Rachel for writing the Christmas Prayer

## **WE COMMIT TO THE FUTURE**

### **SHARING OF OUR GIFTS**

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.**

# NOTICES



## 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



**January 12<sup>th</sup> 2021 : The Two Church Lunch and Learn Group will meet** by ZOOM on January 12<sup>th</sup> , gathering at 1:00 for announcements and chat, with the speaker starting at 1:15. Our speaker will be Jamie Swift from the Basic Income Advocacy Group. The title of Jamie's talk is "The Role of Basic Income in Pandemic Recovery". 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 January 12<sup>th</sup> . There will be no charge for attending this Lunch & Learn session.

Our next Lunch and Learn meeting will be on February 9, 2021. The topic is "Racism" with Stephany Simpson, Associate VP (Human Rights, Equity and Inclusion) as our speaker



### **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