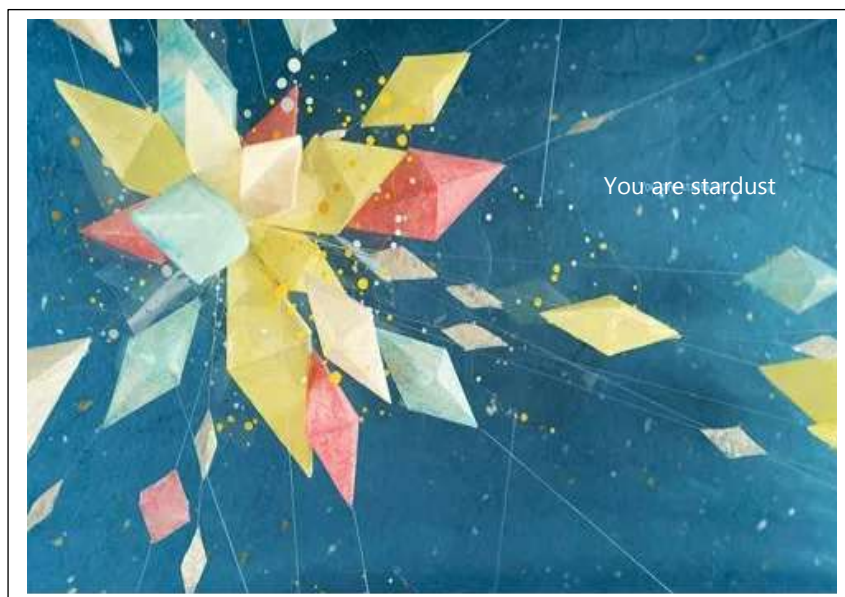


CHALMERS AND SYDENHAM STREET
UNITED CHURCHES OF CANADA
SHARING WORSHIP



THE STAR LEADS TO WONDER
“NOW – IS THE TIME FOR YOU TO....”
10:30 am December 1, 2019

The Rev. Barry King INTENTIONAL INTERIM MINISTER
Email: barry.king@chalmers-sydenhamstreet.com
Minister at Chalmers: 613-546-3263 ext. 226
Hours: CUC Mondays & Tuesdays 9:30 am - 1:30 pm
Minister at Sydenham Street: 613-542-9616 ext. 203
Hours: SSUC Wednesdays & Thursdays 9:30 am - 1:30 pm
Church Office: 613-546-3263 ext.222
Open: 9:30 am - 4:30 pm, Mon. - Thurs.

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

December Services are at Chalmers United Church, 212 Barrie St.

January Services are at Sydenham St United Church, 82 Sydenham St.

Assists Hearing Devices and Large Print Bulletins, available from Greeters

Growing Spirits Children are invited to meet with Hope Yen and Lynn Freeman in the Clergy St. foyer, when prompted.

Washrooms are in the Clergy St. foyer.

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

Ringers Off on electronic devices, please. Thank you.

Prayers of the People Prayer requests for persons ill (with permission) and for global, national and local concerns may be left at the Prayer Desk at the south back wall of the sanctuary. These will be brought to the Communion Table with the Offering and will be included in the Prayers.

CHURCHES

Chalmers United Church is a community of God's people who embrace Christian tradition and encourage new ideas. We gather to: Celebrate God's love; Search and be challenged; Nurture and be nurtured. We seek to: Welcome all who come; engage all ages in Ministry; be guided by faith in daily life; and be a compassionate, hopeful presence in the world. We are not alone. Thanks be to God. (1997)

212 Barrie St. Kingston ON K7L 3K3

p 613-546-3263 **f** 613-546-3340 **Rentals/room bookings** 613-546-3263 x 222

e office@chalmersunitedchurch.com **Web** www.chalmersunitedchurch.com

Live Online when at 212 Barrie St. www.chalmersunitedchurch.com – weekly worship

Facebook.com/chalmersunited

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.

82 Sydenham St. Kingston ON K7L 3H4

p 613-546-3263 x 221 **Rentals/room bookings** 613-542-9616 x 201

e sydenham@kos.net **f** 613-542-8784 **Web** www.sydenhamstreet.ca

Live Online when at 82 Sydenham St. www.youtube.com/user/SydenhamStreet

Facebook.com/Sydenham-Street-United-Church

OFFICE HOURS

Chalmers and Sydenham St Church House Office: Mon to Thurs 9:30 am-4:30 pm

The Spire/SSUC Office: Tuesday to Thursday 9 am to noon

For bulletin materials please use: bulletin@chalmers-sydenhamstreet.com

Please send announcements by end of day Monday, or late editions by end of day Tuesday for inclusion the following Sunday.

**"I would rather have a mind opened by wonder
than one closed by belief."** - Gerry Spence

1ST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

☞ indicates you are invited to rise in body and spirit as you are able
Bold Text indicates the parts that everyone reads together

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP

PRELUDE

Lucis Creator Optime: Createur de la Lumiere - Marcel Dupré

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF THE LAND

POEM

The Heart of Night by Bliss Carmen Juliet Huntly

CHORAL INTROIT

seated In Dulce Jubilo

trad. Arr. Willcocks

GATHERING IN COMMUNITY

The earth turning...
Exploding orb of helium and hydrogen,
firing our lives into existence.
We are here.
We mindfully take our places in life again.
Imagine... we are one, connected, family.
Gathered together
We wait for the light.
Standing together
We trust in the light.
Praying together
We hope for the light.
Seeking together
We step out with the light.
Singing together
We are blessed by the light.

☞ **VU 93** *When Heaven's Bright with Mystery*

ADVENT PRAYER

Advent is about the birth of something sacred.
For something sacred needs to be born:
born from the mating of what is, and what might be.
It needs a manger.
So, let us prepare a manger in our hearts.
Amen.

LIGHTING THE FIRST ADVENT CANDLE

Sheila Menard, Susan Irving

As the wise men wondered at the star,
As the shepherds wondered at the angel voices,
As Mary wondered at her disturbing calling.
As Einstein wondered at the expanding universe,
As we wonder that we are here at all,
We light this candle of wonder.

TIME WITH CHILDREN

You are Stardust by Elin Kelsey read by Katharine Smithrim
Children may leave for their programs.

A WORLD ENGAGED WITH GOD

A PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

**Into this day will break moments of awareness, tiny shards
of light that illumine the whole reality of existence. May
these readings be such a moment, and may we be blessed
by their gift.**

Matthew 2: 1-4, 9-10

Juliet Huntley

seated *Star of Wonder (sung response)*
Star of wonder, star of night,
Star with royal beauty bright,
Westward leading, still proceeding,
Guide us with your perfect light.

The Universe is a Green Dragon - Brian Swimme

Juliet Huntley

seated *Star of Wonder (sung response) (as above)*

ANTHEM

I wonder as I wander - John Rutter

SERMON

THE STAR LEADS TO WONDER

"NOW – IS THE TIME FOR YOU TO...."

Rev. Barry King

🌀 **VU 97** *When a Star is Shining*

COMMITTING TO THE FUTURE

(said by all)

BLESSING OF THE SSUC CHRISTMAS CAKE AND CARDS, 2019

Gracious and Generous God.

We are ever grateful for all you have given us.

Today we are especially mindful of those in our community who are with us in spirit, but who are no longer able to be as physically present or active in church life.

We ask you to bless these gifts of Christmas cake and cards, and to bless the people who will deliver these gifts on our behalf.

We thank you for the creativity of Beth, Barb and David who have made these gifts that we, in turn, may give them to others.

May 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 as you are. Amen.

STEWARDSHIP MINUTE

People Making a Difference

Joan Egnatoff

OFFERTORY

Veni Emmanuel - Noel Rawsthorne

PRESENTATION OF OUR GIFTS



MV 143 *Abundant Life*

verse 3

**God calls humanity to join as partners in creating
a future free from want or fear, life's goodness
celebrating, that new world beckons from afar,
invites our shared endeavor**

that all may have abundant life and peace endure forever.

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PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

We are moved with wonder as we consider
the magnificence of this planet
which is our home for the journey.

In creation, we engage mystery.

The universe proclaims the great love story.

Blessed be our lives.

Blessed be our land.

**Blessed be the love in which all that is
lives and moves and has its being.**

We have been entrusted with responsibility in creation,
respecting its systems, enjoying its beauty;
studying its ways, repairing its wounds,
tending its resources, loving it tenderly.

**When we falter or forget,
may our hearts be moved to fierce protection
at the sight of the night sky,
a December sunset, a rosy cheeked child.
May our hearts be opened
to all the dwelling places of the holy.
In wind and fire, in rain upon dry land,
in the song of sparrows,
in storm and stillness, the sacred emerges.
In silence and speech, in disturbance and rest,
in our nearest breath, and in the farthest star,
spirit is among us.**

(we pray in silence, raising our other concerns)

At this and other times, we remember Jesus of Nazareth
in whose life and death we experience a vision of a new humanity
and in whose story we are called...

**To celebrate the sacred, to live with respect in creation,
to love and serve others, to seek justice and resist evil.**

❧❧ VU 9 *People, Look East*

SENDING FORTH AND SUNG CHORAL BLESSING

Wonder need not cease.

**It can echo in our lives,
in our words,
in our deeds,
in our moods,
in our dreams.**

Carry wonder with you wherever you go.

All sing Gloria in Excelsis Deo, Gloria in Excelsis Deo

POSTLUDE

Der Tag, Der ist so Freudenreich - J. S. Bach

TALENTS SHARED, THANK YOU

Greeter	TBA
Hospitality	Al & Barb Fletcher
Counter	Barb Laidlaw
Sound Techs	Brigitta Holzschuh, Olivia O'Driscoll

COMING UP

- **SSUC Circles of Companionship Christmas Connections**

Today, as we bless Christmas cake and Christmas cards, we think of SSUC people who are no longer able to be as active as they once were in church activities. In the next week or so, Point Persons of the Circles of Companionship will visit these folks, taking the blessed cake and cards as a greeting from all of us. Many thanks to Beth Leake for the Christmas cake, and to Barb Carr and David Craig for the cards. . . . and of course, to our Circle Point Persons who will visit on our behalf.

- **Star Campaign 2019** Our annual Star Campaign begins today and continues throughout the Advent season. Please read the insert in this bulletin and consider making a Star Gift in memory of someone/in appreciation of someone/in thanks for something/just because, during Advent. It will help whichever church you choose, and will help to fill the sanctuary with lovely, sparkling stars underneath the balcony. Let's create a galaxy of our own.

- **Chalmers' Book Table** If you have enjoyed some good books and would like someone else to have the same pleasure, please consider donating your book(s) to the Chalmers' Book Table found in the foyer by MacCallum Hall. It would be appreciated. Thank you.

- **Chalmers' Benevolent Program** is in need of donations of shampoos and conditioners, as well as laundry soap and dish soap. These would be welcomed at church house.

- **Stamp Program:** Please save your cancelled actual stamps (not from a metered machine) from home or business mail, especially through the Christmas season. The corner of the envelope is all that is required. Please drop them off in the stamp box in the foyer, or at the Church Office. (Use mail slot if the Office is closed). With Thanks to Ernie, (pictured) who uses the value of our used stamps towards new stamps, he saves the church hundreds of dollars annually in postage costs. Thank you.



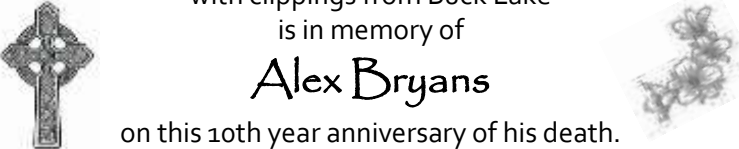
Thursday, Dec. 5

- **12 pm: Weekly catered lunch** in MacCallum Hall. \$8 per person. Come and enjoy *Old Farm Fine Food's* lovely salad and entrée and dessert by Jane McEwen. Everyone is welcome. If you have not attended but would like to attend, please phone Jane MacEwen at 613-546-3905.

Saturday, Dec. 7

- **11 am: Flute Choir** rehearses at Chalmers in MacCallum Hall. Anyone who'd like any extra time can meet me at 9 am. The full group will begin at 10. We meet weekly. If you know of another flute player who might be interested, please invite them and let me know. Bill Egnatoff 613-634-3341.

Flower arrangement in the Sanctuary by Jos and Mary
with clippings from Buck Lake
is in memory of
Alex Bryans
on this 10th year anniversary of his death.
Love and prayers from
Elaine Bryans, children and grandchildren.



Worshipping Sundays Together
at Chalmers United in December
and at Sydenham Street United in January.