

CHALMERS AND SYDENHAM STREET  
UNITED CHURCHES OF CANADA  
SHARING WORSHIP



**"WHEN YOU THINK OF GOD – WHAT DO YOU SEE !"**

10:30 am December 8, 2019

**The Rev. Barry King** INTENTIONAL INTERIM MINISTER

**Email:** [barry.king@chalmers-sydenhamstreet.com](mailto: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](http://www.chalmersunitedchurch.com)

[Facebook.com/chalmersunited](https://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](http://www.youtube.com/user/SydenhamStreet)

[Facebook.com/Sydenham-Street-United-Church](https://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](mailto: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.

"To pay attention, this is our endless and proper work. Ten times a day something happens to me like this - some strengthening throb of amazement - some good sweet empathic ping and swell. This is the first, the wildest and the wisest thing I know: that the soul exists and is built entirely out of attentiveness."  
- Mary Oliver

SHEPHERDS KEEP WATCH  
THE SPIRITUAL PRACTICE OF PAYING ATTENTION  
2<sup>ND</sup> 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**

*Ding Dong Merrily on High*

arr. S. Tucker  
Flute Choir

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF THE LAND**

**LIGHTING OF PRAYER CANDLES FOR CHALMERS AND SYDENHAM STREET**

**CHORAL INTROIT**

*seated Break forth, O Beauteous Heavenly Light*

**GATHERING IN COMMUNITY**

We know not at what hour we will experience the sacred,  
**Whether in the middle of the night or at the break of day,  
at a time to come or in this very hour.**

We know not in what place we will experience the sacred  
**whether in the darkness of a city alley  
or on a hill warmed by the sun's rays,  
in a far-off, distant land or in the stillness of this place.**

We know not through whose face we will experience the sacred,  
**whether in the tired eyes of a stranger  
or in the warm embrace of a loved one,  
within a people yet unknown or within this community of faith.**

We come together today with the hope  
that we will be open to Holy Mystery.

**Keep us awake; keep us alert that as we pray and as we sing,  
as we make a joyful noise and as we keep holy silence  
we might encounter the sacred in this time,  
in this place, within this community.**

*☞☞ VU 75 While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks*

### 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 SECOND ADVENT CANDLE

Elaine, Mary and Jos Bryans

Observe and contemplate the cosmos and our little earth.  
Observing, we affirm the worth of sun and stars and light unfurled.  
**So, let us, seeing, celebrate the glory of Love's incarnate Birth  
and sing its joy to all the earth.**  
We light this second advent candle to remind us to pay attention  
and to contemplate the birth in the stable.

### TIME WITH CHILDREN

*The Man with the Violin* Read by Joan Egnatoff  
Kathy Stinson (Author), Dusan Petricic (Illustrator)

## 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.**

Luke 2: 8-10,15

Mary Ev Wyatt

*seated* VU 38 *Angels We Have Heard on High*

verses 1&2

From: *An Altar in the World: A Geography of Faith* by Barbara Brown Taylor  
Read by Mary Ev Wyatt

To remind you that an acorn can become an altar in this world, we are  
going to give an acorn to each of you today. The children are going to pass  
them around. Please keep your acorn in your pocket or purse to remind  
you of the wildest and the wisest thing the poet Mary Oliver knows that the  
**soul** exists and is built entirely out of attentiveness."

### ANTHEM

*Angel's Carol - John Rutter*

### SERMON

**"WHEN YOU THINK OF GOD - WHAT DO YOU SEE !"** Rev. Barry King

 VU 18 *There's a Voice in the Wilderness*

# COMMITTING TO THE FUTURE

## OFFERTORY

*O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*

arr. R. Lombardo  
Flute Choir

## 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 & LORD'S PRAYER

In these cold, dark days of winter  
when we long for light and sunshine on our face,  
may we find light in other places:

The glow of a fire,  
The Christmas lights in our neighbourhood,  
The brilliance of a friend's eyes when we laugh,  
The million sparkles of sun on the snow,  
The thousand sparkles of stars in the sky.

**We are a sleepy lot. Slow to the calling of the cosmos  
Deaf to the cries of the earth  
And the forgotten ones  
Human and other that human**

We distract ourselves with trivialities that have become idols:  
While the sun and the moon darken, and the stars fall from the sky,  
We are mesmerized by the market's alluring power;  
Eyes unflinchingly fixed upon the navel of our own self worth.

**"O that you would tear open the heavens and come down"  
Cries the prophet.**

## CHORAL INTERLUDE

*Choir only VU 40 Before the Marvel of This Night*

Or at least may we tear open our hearts, pry open our eyes,  
And end this slumber that blocks out pain,  
But with it, wonder.

*We pray in silence, raising our other concerns.*

Our hope is found in eyes wide open,  
In hearts linked in common cause  
In small gestures of compassion,  
And in alertness to the coming of the baby.

**A fire kindles brushwood and cause water to boil,  
so we wait to be set on fire with hope and gospel passion.**

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*Come, Christmas Child*

**Come, Christmas Child, come again in your wonder,  
changing the world with the light that you hold,  
burst through the mist and the dust of the ages,  
Word for our time to unwrap and enfold.**

**Refrain: Come, Christmas Child. Come again, Christmas Child.  
Oh, come, Christmas Child.**

**Come to be born in a comfortless cradle,  
come where our cruelties keep us in chains:  
Herod still hunts for the innocent children,  
Rachel still weeps and her sorrow remains.**

**Refrain**

**Bring us your mirror of hope and compassion,  
bring us your mind-set that mends and restores,  
bake us the bread of new life you will offer,  
knocking once more on humanity's doors.**

**Refrain**

**Come, Christmas Child, in the festival's flurry,  
come in the silence, the pain and the night,  
come in the hearts that are faithful as Mary,  
bringing the joy of the love you unite.**

**Refrain**

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**SENDING FORTH AND SUNG CHORAL BLESSING**

Paying attention need not cease.

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

Carry attentiveness with you wherever you may go.

**All sing: *Gloria in Excelsis Deo, Gloria in Excelsis Deo***

**POSTLUDE**

*Carol of the Bells*

arr. J. Christensen  
Flute Choir

**TALENTS SHARED, THANK YOU**

- Flute Choir** Julia du Prey, Bill Egnatoff, Heather Faris,  
Karina Gerhardt-Strachen, Katie Legere, Susan Lew,  
Heidi Picken, Hope Yen
- Greeters** Mike Hartlin, Mary Ev Wyatt
- Hospitality** Gail Blackwood, Jan Trites
- Counter** Bill Galt
- Sound Techs** Brigitta Holzschuh, Olivia O'Driscoll

## STAFF

**The Rev. Barry King** INTENTIONAL INTERIM MINISTER

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**Justin Sowik, Lisa Leavitt** SSUC BUILDING STAFF

**Please Note: Announcements** for bulletin insertions must be submitted by Dec. 15<sup>th</sup>. After that date, please email Rev. King for announcements to be made verbally, on January 5<sup>th</sup>. Bulletins on Dec 24<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> will not contain written announcements. Thank you.

A contribution to the Chalmers' benevolent Fund has been  
made by their family in loving memory of



**John Frederick Lucyk**

and his grandson, **Daryl Stephen Lucyk.**

Flowers in the Sanctuary are in Loving Memory of

**Lai (Lily) Yen**

from the Yen-Houlden families.



**Worshipping Sundays Together**

at Chalmers United in December  
and at Sydenham Street United in January.