

CHALMERS UNITED CHURCH



DECEMBER 20, 2020
ADVENT 4

GUEST MINISTER REV. G. DAVID KING
"SURPRIZE"

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Pre-recorded Services are posted at 6 a.m. on Sunday mornings.
We invite you to listen online at a time that you choose to set aside for
worship and meditation. <https://chalmersunitedchurch.org/weekly-worship/>

Services in our Sanctuary are live streamed with a recording
subsequently posted on Sunday afternoons on our YouTube channel.

Christmas at Chalmers

Everything is different this year...

All our services to celebrate this wonderful season will be online.

Missing worshipping with your loved ones, who will be far away this year? Why not tune into a service together. Join on Zoom, then share and listen to the service together. A brief how-to tutorial is attached here and will also be posted under 'Weekly Worship'.

If you have not used Zoom and would like to, zoom has lots of tutorials to get you started! Just google 'Zoom how to get started'. If you have problems, please phone Monika at 613 541 3939 and we will help you sort it out.

20 December

- **Today's Advent 4 Service** was pre-recorded and posted on our YouTube channel.

24 December

- **Christmas Eve:** Hear the Christmas story in music and word. We are bringing you Katherine Paterson's *Exultate Jubilate*, a Christmas story appealing to adults of all ages. Please feel comfortable to invite anyone – they don't have to be churchgoers to appreciate this wonderful story, and the music to go with it: Holly Gwynne-Timothy, Director of Melos, will sing Mozart's *Exultate Jubilate* for us. This is a pre-recorded service that will be available at 4 pm on the Chalmers YouTube channel:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCUgl1tZaiRji18sFwj2P2Q>

- **Christmas Eve for families of young children:** We regret especially that we are unable to offer an in-person Nativity Play this Christmas, which is always well attended. Instead, we are providing a short reflection to give parents some ideas how to speak to young children about Christmas. The resource will be on our webpage under 'Weekly Worship' <https://chalmersunitedchurch.org/weekly-worship/> and is also attached here. We ask that you forward it to anyone in your life with little ones!

25 December

- **Christmas Day:** We had a beautiful *Lessons and Carols Service* on 13 December. If you have not heard it or would like to listen again to the prophetic scriptures and beautiful music of our Hymn choir and soloists, you can find it on the Chalmers YouTube Channel.

27 December - 10:30 am

- In this service, we want to enjoy coming together in a virtual way and singing Christmas carols, which recount an important part of our faith story. We will also hear about the inspiration behind many of our favourite carols - stories of great faith and witness. Sing with gusto at home, where we are allowed to do so, accompanied by Aurora Dokken on the organ in the sanctuary.

A live get-together over zoom and teleconference.

We start with a coffee hour at 10 am, the service begins at 10.30.

Follow this link:

<https://queensu.zoom.us/j/96724164939?pwd=Y2NCMzIYMXIibHZ5Wnk5WlJjNoZNdzo9>

Or phone +1 613 209 3054 (or +1 647 374 4685)

Meeting ID: 967 2416 4939, Passcode: 458454

3 January - 10:30 am: House Church

- Members of the congregation will minister to each other. Please let us know if you are planning to share a bible verse, a poem or song at the beginning of the new year 2021 - contact Gerald McGrath mcgrathg@queensu.ca. This will be a live get-together over zoom and teleconference.

We start with a coffee hour at 10 am, the service will begin at 10.30.

Follow this link:

<https://queensu.zoom.us/j/96492372239?pwd=NoM4NTZzQXBIVXZYbUxwakNzdFViZzo9>

Or phone +1 613 209 3054 (or +1 647 374 4685)

Meeting ID: 964 9237 2239 Passcode: 777560



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

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

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP

PRELUDE

Forest Green (O Little Town of Bethlehem) with Jesus Shall Reign

arr. Weekley and Arganbright
Piano Duet

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF THE LAND

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.

LIGHTING THE FOURTH ADVENT CANDLE

INTROIT

Hope Is a Star

VU 7, vs all

1 Hope is a star that shines in the night,
leading us on till the morning is bright.

Refrain:

when God is a child there's joy in our song.
the last shall be first and the weak will be strong,
and none shall be afraid.

2 Peace is a ribbon that circles the earth,
giving a promise of safety and worth. **R**

3 Joy is a song that welcomes the dawn.
Telling the world that the Saviour is born. **R**

4 Love is a flame that burns in our heart,
Jesus has come and will never depart. **R**

Words: Brian Wren 1885 Music: Joan Collier Fogg 1987 © 1989 Hope Pub. Co.
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CALL TO WORSHIP

from Isaiah 40:1-5

Gracious God,
you come to us as the light of a new dawn, grace-filled yet baby
frail.

May our hearts cradle you, our voices sing to you,
our spirits leap for you, and our hearts dance with you,
as we work, as we witness, and as we worship. **Amen.**

OPENING PRAYER

We join our hearts in prayer... let us pray:

Holy Mystery, Gracious God, as we continue our spiritual journey to witness the coming of Jesus into our lives, we acknowledge you as our faithful companion, the one present since the very moment of our inception. For from before there was time and space, substance and form, you were. You were and are life itself.

Life as energy and life as matter.

Life so dynamic, life so marvelous, and life so expansive, that it is for us as the air we breathe, the sights we see, the flavours we taste, the emotions we experience, and the love – the love that surpasses our human understanding and whose aim is... better relationships, more stability, sufficient provisions for all so that none will want and each will have enough.

May this holy season kindle anew in us belief that when our faith is anchored in you, the repair and redemption of our broken world is promised. As those committed to following the way of Jesus into a love- filled tomorrow. **Amen**

HYMN VU 30 *Hail to God's Own Anointed*

1 Hail to the Lord's Anointed, great David's greater Son!
Hail in the time appointed, God's reign on earth begun!
Christ comes to break oppression, to set the captive free,
to take away transgression, and rule in equity.

2 Christ comes with justice surely to those who suffer wrong,
to help the poor and needy, and bid the weak be strong;
to give them songs for sighing, their darkness turn to light,
whose souls, condemned and dying, are precious in his sight.

3 Christ shall come down like showers upon the fruitful earth,
and love, joy, hope, like flowers, spring in his path to birth.
Before him on the mountains shall peace, the herald, go,
and righteousness, in fountains from hill to valley flow.

4 To him shall prayer unceasing and daily vows ascend,
his kingdom still increasing, a kingdom without end.
The tide of time shall never his covenant remove.
His name shall stand forever: that name to us is Love.

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A WORLD ENGAGED WITH GOD.

A PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Holy One, Sacred Mystery,
greater than words can express;
whose love for us and all creation
exceeds our capacity to imagine,
open our hearts and minds. Amen.

Luke 1: 26 - 38

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

In Dulci Jubilo - arr. R. L. Pearsall

MEDITATION

Surprise!

Rev. G. David King

COMMITTING TO THE FUTURE

SHARING OF OUR GIFTS

Offerings gratefully received online through
Canada Helps or by Canada Post
or now by e-transfer to:

envelopesecretary@chalmersunitedchurch.com.

When using e-Transfer, please allocate where
you wish your funds placed, in the "Message".

Undesignated funds will be allocated to the General Fund.

OFFERTORY

Sheep May Safely Graze - J.S. Bach

Piano Duet

arr. for piano duet - Mary Howe

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

LORD'S PRAYER

HYMN VU 27 *Tomorrow Christ is Coming*

1 Tomorrow Christ is coming
as yesterday he came;
a child is born this moment,
we do not know its name.
The world is full of darkness,
again there is no room;
the symbols of existence
are stable, cross and tomb.

2 Tomorrow will be Christmas,
the feast of love divine,
but for the nameless millions
the star will never shine.
Still is the census taken
with people on the move;
new infants born in stables
are crying out for love.

3 There will be no tomorrows
for many a baby born;
Good Friday falls on Christmas
when life is sown as corn.
But Jesus Christ is risen
and comes again in bread
to still our deepest hunger
and raise us from the dead.

4 Our God becomes incarnate
in every human birth.
Created in God's image,
we must make peace on earth.
God will fulfil Love's purpose
and this shall be the sign:
we shall find Christ among us
as woman, child, or man.

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Music: Cecil Armstrong Gibbs, 1929 © G. Schirmer, Inc. (ASCAP)
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COMMISSIONING

BENEDICTION

CHORAL BLESSING

Jubilate Deo - Michael Praetorius

VU 247

POSTLUDE

Der Tag, der ist so Freudenreich, BWV 605 - J.S. Bach

THANK YOU TO ALL TALENTS SHARED

Guest Minister **The Rev. G. David King**, B.A., M.Div., I.I.M. (UCCan), G.R.S.
Pastoral Charge Supervisor for Chalmers

Now in his 31st year of service, David was ordained by the Toronto Conference of The United Church of Canada, having graduated from Queen's Theological College (Queen's University) in Kingston, Ontario, with a Master of Divinity degree.

Further to nine pastoral ministry calls and appointments, David has also worked for the denomination's General Council Office, initially in Toronto, and then as deployed personnel in the Bay of Quinte Conference. In this latter position his duties included supporting congregations and presbyteries in their relations with ministry personnel, assisting in the resolution of congregational conflict, and future-forward planning.

Along the way, David has completed a variety of professional studies such that he is designated/recognized as an Intentional Interim Minister, a Certified Grief Recovery Specialist, an Insight Institute Funeral Celebrant, and a conflict intervenor.

Additionally, has served the Church at many levels of its governance, including being Secretary of Presbytery (Hills & Shores) and a Commissioner to the 42nd and 43rd General Councils.

In 2012 David was awarded the Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee medal in recognition of his "contributions to Canada" principally in relation to his work as a Command Chaplain with the Toronto Fire Services – a post he held for 5 years.

When not otherwise engaged in church responsibilities, David's focus is on building a new home, just north of Roseneath, ON. The completion date is May 2022.

David is presently appointed as the Intentional Interim Lead Minister of Bridge Street United Church, Belleville; he is also, as of October 2020, the Pastoral Charge Supervisor for Chalmers.

Interim Organist	Aurora Dokken
Piano Duet	Marian Holobow, Juliet Milsome
Hymn Choir	Rob Bruce, Margot Craft, Joan Egnatoff, Bill Egnatoff, Barb Fletcher, Al Fletcher, Juliet Milsome, Janice Moncrieff, Anja Troje
Sound & Media Techs	Brigitta Holzschuh, Catie Doane
Technical Chair	Nick Steinberg

Tuesday, Jan. 12

- **The Two Church Lunch and Learn Group will meet** by ZOOM gathering at 1pm for announcements and chat, with the speaker starting at 1:15. The speaker is Jamie Swift from the Basic Income Advocacy Group and his topic is "The Role of Basic Income in Pandemic Recovery". Everyone from Sydenham St. and Chalmers and your friends are invited to attend and will obviously not include lunch. To attend please contact Meikle Turner at 613-542-7744 or meikle_irish@yahoo.com. the event. Meikle will send you the link to the Zoom session shortly before Jan. 12. There is no charge for attending. Our next Lunch and Learn meeting will be on Feb. 9, 2021. The topic is "Racism" with Stephany Simpson, Associate VP (Human Rights, Equity and Inclusion) as our speaker
- **4 pm: CCE will meet by Zoom**
- **The ad hoc Music Committee welcomes** the contribution of musical offerings for our worship in the new year. If you, or someone you know, would be willing to prepare a recording, please contact one of us to discuss the details. Joan Egnatoff, joane@kingston.net; Bill Egnatoff, egnatoff@kingston.net 613 634-3341
- **The Blessing Box is in need of the following items please:** toothbrushes, toothpaste, bars of soap, baggies of laundry soap (or pods), cans of tuna, small jars of peanut butter and more Kraft dinners. Items are constantly being utilized. The hunger in our community does not seem to be subsiding. If you are able to donate any of these items, please contact Jan Trites 613-547-0480 or carolsleeth@chalmersunitedchurch.com to arrange a drop off time.
Thank you for your ongoing donations to the Blessing Box and for the financial contributions to the Benevolent Fund Program.
- **Cantabile Choirs:** We are all missing Cantabile Choirs 25th annual holiday concerts this year. However here is the next best thing: Cantabile's new Holiday Radio App gives you unlimited access to a huge archive of Cantabile holiday music. Over 160 songs to enjoy over the entire holiday season, right at your fingertips. Available for iPhone, iPad, and Android phones and tablets!
APP STORE: <https://apps.apple.com/us/app/cantabile/id1543031548>
GOOGLE PLAY: <https://play.google.com/store/apps/details...>