

CHALMERS UNITED CHURCH



SUNDAY, DEC. 25, 2022 10:30 AM

CHRISTMAS DAY

REV. DR. JOHN SUK

"MAKE ROOM"

Covid Precautions

1. Self-screening guidelines: If you have Covid symptoms or are isolating due to close contact, you should not attend in person. Services are also live-streamed.
2. Masking is encouraged but no longer mandatory.
Many will still choose to remain masked for their own or for others' safety. We welcome this choice and urge everyone to respect individuals' choices - each according to their own personal situation.
3. Social distancing still continues in the sanctuary and MacCallum Hall.

Bold Text indicates the parts that everyone reads together.

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP

PRELUDE

Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers
trones lampa färdig Swedish folk tune), arr. Anne Krentz
flute, Bill Egnatoff, piano, Joan Egnatoff

WORDS OF 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.

CENTERING PRAYER *(sung)*

HYMN VU 1 *O Come, O Come Emmanuel*

v.6

O Come, O Dayspring, from on high
and cheer us by your drawing nigh;
disperse the gloomy clouds of night,
and death's dark shadows put to flight. **R**

Refrain: Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel, shall come to thee, O Israel.

Words: from the Latin antiphons for Advent, ca 9th century, trans. John Mason Neale 1851
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LIGHTING OF THE CHRISTMAS CANDLE

Mike Hartlin

One: Today we light the Christmas candle.

Two: Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth receive her King;
Let every heart prepare Him room, and Heaven and nature sing!

All: Alleluia!

HYMN MV 33 *Jesus Came Bringing Us Hope*

Jesus came bringing us hope,
Jesus came bringing us hope,
Jesus came bringing us hope,
Hallelujah forever more!

Jesus came bringing us peace,
Jesus came bringing us peace,
Jesus came bringing us peace,
Hallelujah forever more!

Jesus came bringing us love,
Jesus came bringing us love,
Jesus came bringing us love,
Hallelujah forever more!

Jesus came bringing us joy,
Jesus came bringing us joy,
Jesus came bringing us joy,
Hallelujah forever more!

Words and Music: Cameroon 2007 © United Church of Canada
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CALL TO WORSHIP

(said in unison)

**Peace to all beings
whether near or far
known or unknown
born or yet to be born.**

**Peace to all creatures
within and beyond the imagination
in the world of ideas
and in the world of nature.**

**Finally, on this Christmas Day
may we all experience
the peace that passes all understanding.
Amen.**

CAROL VU 60 O Come All Ye Faithful

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;

Refrain:

**O come, let us adore him O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord.**

2 God of God, light of light,
lo, he abhors not the virgin's womb;
very God, begotten, not created: **R**

3 Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,
sing, all ye citizens of heaven above;
glory to God in the highest: **R**

4 See how the shepherds summoned to his cradle,
leaving their flocks, draw nigh with lowly fear;
we too will thither bend our joyful footsteps; **R**

5 Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning;
Jesus, to thee be glory given;
word of the father, now in flesh appearing: **R**

Words: Eng. Trans. Rederick Oakeley 1841, Music: attrib. John Francis Wade 1743
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A WORLD ENGAGED WITH GOD

A PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

One: Holy One, Sacred Mystery, whose foolishness is wiser than human
wisdom, open our hearts and minds.

All: **Amen.**

READING

Rev. Dr. John Suk

Luke 2: 1 - 7

Listen to what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Thanks be to God.

MESSAGE

Rev. Dr. John Suk

Make Room

CAROL VU 58 *Infant Holy, Infant Lowly*

1 Infant holy, infant lowly,
for his bed a cattle-stall;
oxen lowing, little knowing
Christ the babe is Lord of all.
Swift are winging angels singing,
noels ringing, tidings bringing:
Christ the babe is born for all,
Christ the babe is born for all.

2 Flocks were sleeping, shepherds keeping
vigil till the morning new
saw the glory, heard the story,
tidings of a gospel true.
Thus rejoicing, free from sorrow,
praises voicing, greet the morrow:
Christ the babe was born for you,
Christ the babe was born for you.

Word: Polish carol, trans. And para. Edith M. G. Reed 1921

Music: Polish folk melody, harm. A.E. Rusbridge, harm. © 1960 A.E. Rusbridge
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COMMITTING TO THE FUTURE

OFFERING ANNOUNCEMENT

PASTORAL PRAYER

CAROL VU 48 *Hark! The Herald Angels Sing*

1 Hark! The herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn King,
peace on earth, and mercy mild,
God and sinners reconciled!"
Joyful, all ye nations, rise, joint the triumph of the skies;
with the angelic host proclaim,
"Christ is born in Bethlehem!"

Refrain:

**Hark! The herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn King!"**

2 Christ, by highest heaven adored,
Christ, the everlasting Lord,
late in time behold him come,
offspring of a virgin's womb,
Veiled in flesh the godhead see;
hail, the incarnate Deity,
pleased with us in flesh to dwell
Jesus, our Emanuel! **R**

3 Hail, the heavenborn Prince of Peace!
Hail, the Sun of Righteousness!
Light and life to all he brings
risen with healing in his wings.
Mild he lays his glory by,
born that we no more may die,
born to raise us from the earth,
born to give us second birth. **R**

Words: Charles Wesley 1739 Music: Felix Mendelssohn 1840, Adapt: William
Hyman Cummings 1856
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BENEDICTION

CHORAL BENEDICTION

CAROL VU 38 *Angels We Have Heard on High*

Refrain only:

Gloria, in excelsis Deo!

Gloria, in excelsis Deo!

Words: Fre. Trans. James Chadwick 1880 Music: Fre. Carol melody, arr. Edward Shippen
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POSTLUDE

Nun Komi, dear Heiden Heiland, BWV 61

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

THANK YOU FOR TALENTS SHARED

Minister

Rev. Dr. John Suk is the recently retired minister of Lawrence Park Community Church (UCC) in Toronto. Before that he had a varied career as a minister, journalist, seminary professor, and president of the Institute for Christian Studies—a graduate school of philosophy affiliated with the Toronto School of Theology. John is the author of *Not Sure: A Pastor's Journey from Faith to Doubt*. (Eerdmans: Grand Rapids, 2011). He is married to Irene Oudyk-Suk, has two married children, and three grands. Irene is a practicing Couples Therapist. They live in Millhaven.

Co-Liturgist

Linda Steinberg

Organists

Juliet Milsome, Aurora Dokken

Flute & Piano

Bill & Joan Egnatoff

Hymn Singers

Members of Chalmers Choir

Candle Lighter

Mike Hartlin

Media Techs

Brigitta Holzschuh, Aidan McClung

Technical Chair

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