

CHALMERS UNITED CHURCH



SUNDAY, DEC. 10, 2023 10:30 AM

LESSONS AND CAROLS

2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

REV. DR. DON MISENER

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 is still encouraged in the sanctuary and MacCallum Hall.

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Bold Text indicates the parts that everyone reads together.

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP

PRELUDE

Piano Duet

Forest Green with Jesus Shall Reign

arr. Weekly and Arganbright

WORDS OF WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF THE LAND

The lands on which we are gathering today are the traditional territories of the Anishinaabe and Haudenosaunee Peoples. We acknowledge their enduring presence on this land, as well as the presence of the Huron-Wendat, Metis, Inuit and other First Nations from across Turtle Island. We deeply respect the many generations of people who have cared for this land and whose spiritualities, teachings and ways of knowing are closely tied to it. We seek to build right relations with these Peoples, to learn from them and to live together on this land with respect and gratitude.

Prepare ye from Godspell

Singers: Janice Moncrieff, Margot Craft

From the Musical Production *Godspell* © 1971 by the Herald Square Music Co. and New Cadenza Music Corp. Words and Music: Stephen Schwartz

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

Gerald and Euan McGrath



The second candle on the Advent wreath represents **Peace**. Like the first candle it is also purple. Also called the **Bethlehem Candle**, it reminds us of the courage and perseverance of Mary and Joseph in response to the challenges they faced. Building on the meaning of the Prophecy candle, this second candle recalls all the division, destruction and disappointment the Hebrew people met in their journey to the hope of peace on earth. Jesus coming affirmed arrival of a kingdom of peace-making that we believe is among us.

HYMN VU 6 *A Candle is Burning*

2 A candle is burning, a candle of peace,
a candle to signal that conflict must cease:
for Jesus is coming to show us the way;
a message of peace humbly laid in the hay.

Word: Sandra Dean 1986 © 1986 Sandra Dean

Music: James R. Murray 1887 Used by permission. #A715424 OneLicense.net

ADVENT PRAYER

All: We praise you O God for your Son, Jesus.
He is "Emmanuel" - the hope we celebrate at Advent.
May your blessing come upon us as we travel this Advent season
and may it waken us afresh to your grace,
expressed so clearly in Jesus' birth.
As we light the candles of this wreath,
may their light be a confirmation of your eternal love,
an assurance that we do not walk alone,
a reminder of Your Presence over the course of our journey
throughout this season. Amen.

LESSON 1

Murray Anderson

Isaiah 43: 1 - 3, 5

But now thus says the Lord,
He who created you, O Jacob,
Do not fear for I have redeemed you:
I have called you by name, you are mine.
When you pass through the waters, I will be with you:
and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you;
when you walk through the fire you shall not be burned,
and the flame will not consume you.
For I am the Lord your God,
the Holy One of Israel, your Saviour.

Pastoral Reflection

CAROL VU 2 *Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus*

1 Come, thou long-expected Jesus,
born to set thy People free:
from our fears and sins release us,
let us find our rest in thee.

3 Born thy people to deliver;
born a child and yet a king;
born to reign in us for ever;
now thy gracious kingdom bring.

4 By thine own eternal Spirit
rule in all our hearts alone;
by thing all-sufficient merit
raise us to thy glorious throne.

Words: Charles Wesley 1744 Music: Psalmody Sacra 1713
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LESSON 2

Aidan McClung

Matthew 1: 18 - 21, 24

Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way.
When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before
they lived together, she was found to be with child from the Holy
Spirit. Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to
expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly. But
when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to
him in a dream and said, 'Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to
take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the
Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for
he will save his people from their sins.....When Joseph awoke from
sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him.

Pastoral Reflection

HYMN **VU 29** *Hark the Glad Sound*

1 Hark, the glad sound! The Saviour comes,
the Saviour promised long:
let every heart prepare a throne;
and every voice a song.

2 He comes, the prisoners to release
in Satan's bondage held;
the gates of brass before him burst,
the iron fetters yield.

4 Our glad hosannas, Prince of Peace,
your welcome shall proclaim;
and heaven's eternal arches ring
with your beloved name.

Words: Philip Doddridge 1738 alt.
Music: Thomas Haweis 1792, adapt. Samuel Webbe 1808, desc. John Wilson
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LESSON 3

Shannon Royer

Luke 2: 1 – 7

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus, that all the world should be registered....All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

Pastoral Reflection

CAROL VU 62 *Once in David's City*

v. 1 solo: Margot Craft

- 1 Once in royal David's city
stood a lowly cattle-shed
where a mother laid her baby
in a manger for his bed.
Mary was that mother mild,
Jesus Christ her little child.
- 2 He came down to earth from heaven,
who, with God is over all,
and his shelter was a stable,
and his cradle was a stall.
There among the poor and lowly
lived on earth our Saviour holy.
- 3 For he is our lifelong pattern;
daily, when on earth he grew;
he was tempted, scorned, rejected,
tears and smiles like us he knew.
Thus he feels for all our sadness,
and he shares in all our gladness.
- 4 And our eyes at last shall see him,
through his own redeeming love;
for that child who seemed so helpless
is our Lord in heaven above;
and he leads his children on
to the place where he is gone.

Word: Cecil Frances Alexander 1848

Music: Henry John Gaunlett 1849, Harm: Arthur Henry Mann

Desc: David Willcocks 1970 © Harm: 1957 Novello & Co. Ltd. Desc: © 1970 Oxford University Press Used by permission. #A715424 OneLicense.net

LESSON 4

Marjorie Mason

Luke 2: 8 – 15

In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flocks by night. Then an angel of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them "Do not be afraid; for see – I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord....When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us."

Pastoral Reflection

CAROL HYMN VU 75 *While Shepherds Watched Their Flock*

1 While shepherds watched their flocks by night
all seated on the ground,
the angel of the Lord came down,
and glory shone around.

2 "Fear not," said he, for mighty dread
had seized their troubled mind;
"glad tidings of great joy I bring
to you and humankind.

3 "To you, in David's town this day
is born of David's line
a Saviour, who is Christ the Lord;
and this shall be the sign:

4 "The heavenly babe you there shall find
to human view displayed,
all meanly wrapped in swathing bands,
and in a manger laid."

5 Thus spake the seraph; and forthwith
appeared a shining throng
of angels praising God, who thus
addressed their joyful song:

6 "All glory be to God on high,
and to the earth be peace;
good will to all from highest heaven
begin and never cease."

Words: Nabum Tate 1700, alt. Music: adapt. from Este's *Whole Booke of Psalms* 1592
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COMMITTING TO THE FUTURE

OFFERING ANNOUNCEMENT

DOXOLOGY

HYMN VU 541 *Praise God from Whom all Blessings Flow*

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
praise God, all creatures high and low;
give thanks to God in love made known:
Creator, Word, and Spirit, One.

Words: Thomas Ken ca. 1674 Music: Genevan Psalter 1551
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PASTORAL PRAYER

LORD'S PRAYER

All: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy Name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil; for thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen

LESSON 5

Doug Arrand

Matthew 2: 1 – 5a, 7 – 10

In the time of Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the east came to Jerusalem, asking where is the child been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage” When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him, and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. They told him in Bethlehem of Judea....Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star appeared. Then he sent them to Bethlehem saying “Go and search diligently for the child and when you have found him bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage.... On entering the house they saw the child with Mary his mother and they knelt down and paid him homage....And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod they left for their own country by another road.

Pastoral Reflection

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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LESSON 6

Ivan Brandsma

Matthew 2: 13 – 15

Now after the wise men had left an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said , "Get up, take the child and his mother and flee to Egypt and remain there till I tell you, for Herod is about to search for the child to destroy him. Then Joseph got up took the child and his mother by night and went to Egypt and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfill what had been spoken by the prophet, Out of Egypt I have called my son."

Pastoral Reflection

BENEDICTION

CAROL VU 59 *Joy to the World*

1 Joy to the world! the Lord is come:

let earth receive her King!

Let every heart prepare him room,

and heaven and nature sing,

and heaven and nature sing,

and heaven, and heaven and nature sing.

2 Joy to the world! the Savior reigns:

let all their songs employ,

while fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains,

repeat the sounding joy,

repeat the sounding joy,

repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

3 No more let sins and sorrows grow,

nor thorns infest the ground:

he comes to make his blessings flow

far as the curse is found,

far as the curse is found,

far as, far as the curse is found

4 He rules the earth with truth and grace,

and makes the nations prove

the glories of his righteousness

and wonders of his love,

and wonders of his love,

and wonders, wonders of his love.

Word: Isaac Watts 1719, alt.

Music: attrib. George Frederic Handel 1742, arr. Lowell Mason 1836

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POSTLUDE

Piano Duet

Angels We Have Heard on High

trad. French-English Carol, arr. Tom Roed

THANK YOU FOR TALENTS SHARED

Minister **Rev. Dr. Don Misener** Born and raised on a farm near Brantford, Ontario in 1943 Don has ministered in a variety of settings including Kingston Pen, St Paul's Hospital and College of Emmanuel and St Chad in Saskatoon, Kingston Institute of Pastoral Care and congregations in eastern Ontario. In all of these settings he has taught a ministry of spiritual care. Don is married to Bonnie who has co-taught pastoral and spiritual care with him. They are parents of 3 boys and grandparents of 9.

Co-Liturgist	Linda Steinberg
Organist	Juliet Milsome
Piano Duet	Juliet Milsome, Marian Holobow
Hymn Singers	Members of Chalmers Choir
Readers	Murray Anderson, Aidan McClung, Shannon Royer, Marjorie Mason, Ivan Brandsma, Doug Arrand
Candlelighters	Gerald and Euan McGrath
Counters	Murray Anderson, Gerald McGrath
Media Techs	Brigitta Holzschuh, Aidan McClung
Technical Chair	Nick Steinberg
Refreshments	Heather Faris

After the service you are invited to share in refreshments and fellowship in MacCallum Hall.



Flowers in the Sanctuary
are in loving memory of
*Shirley and Peter Faris and
Douglas and Bonney Clark*
from Heather, Matthew,
Sam, Ethan and Hannah.



To submit materials for the bulletin

please use: bulletin@chalmersunitedchurch.com
Please send announcements by end of day Monday, or
late editions by end of day Tuesday for inclusion the
following Sunday.

Please send verbal announcements

to: bulletin@chalmersunitedchurch.com
and Linda Steinberg hpsesp14@gmail.com

At 10:30 join us in person at Chalmers or watch live-streamed on Chalmers' YouTube channel.

The service will also be posted later to the same channel.
https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCUgl1tZaiRji18sFwj_j2P2Q

The link for Chalmers YouTube channel can also be
found on the home page of the Chalmers website
www.chalmersunitedchurch.org

After the service, you are invited to share refreshments
and conversation.



A donation has been made to Chalmers General Fund
by their family in loving memory of
John F. Lucyk and
Daryl S. Lucyk