

CHALMERS UNITED CHURCH



Rev. Dr. Paul Currie

Lessons and Carols

10:30 am December 12, 2021

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Chalmers is open for live in-person services following current Covid protocols. This includes a request that only fully vaccinated people attend in the sanctuary. For those who cannot attend in person, the service will also be live-streamed and then posted to Chalmers' YouTube channel.

Bold Text *indicates the parts that everyone reads together*

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP

PRELUDE

Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers (Had trones lampa färdig Swedish folk tune)

arr. Anne Krentz Organ

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.

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH CANDLE

Candles from Advent One and Two are lit.

One: Here we are together. We are not alone. We gather on this third Sunday in Advent with gratitude and overflowing generosity, blessed multiple times by our give-away God. We are witnesses to joy.

Advent Three Candle is lit.

All: God-who-lights-up-life give us joyful, generous, and courageous hearts. As we lean on your love, may your joy well up in us, so that our joy may overflow and flourish, witnessing to a life of constant gratitude, full of grace, cathartic hilarity, and goodness. Amen.

INTROIT

HYMN VU 6 *A Candle is Burning*

v. 3

A candle is burning, a candle of joy,
a candle to welcome brave Mary's new boy.
Our hearts fill with wonder, and eyes light and glow
as joy brightens winter like sunshine on snow.

CALL TO WORSHIP

Your promise dawns upon us, Living God—
we wait expectantly.
Your hope arises among us, Living God—
we wait confidently.
Your Cherished One appears for us, Living God—
we wait in joy.

CENTRING PRAYER

Holy One, give us the courage to be ourselves, as we prepare for Christ's arrival,
so that, like the Magi, we can take a different path, seek help from unlikely places, and
like all of the people who have followed the star, own and love our part in Christ's story.
Help us to be ourselves, as we prepare. Amen.

LESSONS AND CAROLS

SCRIPTURE Isaiah 40: 1-11 Comfort, O comfort my people

CAROL VU 62 *Once in Royal David's City* (solo v. 1) v. 1-4

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 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

SCRIPTURE Jeremiah 23:5-6 Hope for a righteous branch, a just ruler

CAROL VU 55 *In the Bleak Mid-Winter*

v. 1-4

- 1 In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan,
earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone;
snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow,
in the bleak midwinter, long ago.
- 2 Our God, heaven cannot hold him, nor earth sustain;
heaven and earth shall flee away when he comes to reign:
in the bleak midwinter a stable place sufficed
the Lord God almighty, Jesus Christ.
- 3 Enough for him, whom cherubim worship night and day,
a breast full of milk, and a manger full of hay.
Enough for him, whom angels fall down before,
the ox and ass and camel which adore.
- 4 What can I give him, poor as I am?
If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb;
if I were a wise man, I would do my part;
yet what I can I give him -- give my heart.

Word: Christina Georgina Rossetti ca. 1872 Music: Gustav Theodor Holst 1906
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SCRIPTURE Zechariah 9:9-10 Promise of a leader, a reign of peace

CAROL VU 40 *Before the Marvel of this Night*

v. 1-3 Choir only

- 1 Before the marvel of this night,
adoring, fold your wings and bow,
then tear the sky apart with light,
and with your news the world endow.
Proclaim the birth of Christ and peace,
that fear and death and sorrow cease:
sing peace, sing peace, sing gift of peace,
sing peace, sing gift of peace!
- 2 Awake the sleeping world with song,
this is the day the Lord has made;
assemble here, celestial throng,
in royal splendor come arrayed.
Give earth a glimpse of heavenly bliss,
a teasing taste of what they miss:
sing bliss, sing bliss, sing endless bliss,
sing bliss, sing endless bliss!

3 The love that we have always known,
our constant joy and endless light,
now to the loveless world be shown,
now break upon its deathly night.
Into one song compress the love
that rules our universe above:
sing love, sing love, sing God is love,
sing love, sing God is love!

Word: Jaroslav J. Vajda 1979 © 1981 Jaroslav J. Vajda
Music: Carl F. Schalk 1981 © 1989 G.I.A. Pub. Inc
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SCRIPTURE Haggai 2: 6-9 The promise of a new and glorious temple

CAROL VU 91 *The First Nowell*

v. 1-6

1 The first Nowell the angel did say
was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay,
in fields where they lay a-keeping their sheep
on a cold winter's night that was so deep.

Refrain:

**Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell,
born is the King of Israel.**

2 They looked up and saw a star,
shining in the east beyond them far;
and to the earth it gave great light,
and so it continued both day and night. **R**

3 And by the light of that same star
three wise men came from country far;
to seek for a king was their intent,
and to follow the star wherever it went. **R**

4 This star drew nigh to the northwest,
o'er Bethlehem it took its rest,
and there it did both stop and stay,
right over the place where Jesus lay. **R**

5 Then entered in those wise men three
full reverently upon their knee,
and offered there in his presence,
their gold and myrrh and frankincense. **R**

6 Then let us all with one accord
sing praises to our heavenly Lord,
that hath made heaven and earth of nought,
and with his blood our life hath bought. **R**

Word: Eng. trad. carol, ca. 17th century, alt.
Music: Eng. trad. melody, harm. John Stainer 1871, desc. and harm. Healey Willan 1926,
Refrain harm. and desc. © 1926 Oxford University Press Inc.
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SCRIPTURE Isaiah 35: 1-10 The desert shall rejoice and blossom

CAROL VU 8 *Lo How a Rose e'er Blooming* v. 1-2

1 Lo, how a rose e'er blooming from tender stem hath sprung,
Of Jesse's lineage coming, as seers of old have sung.
It came a blossom bright,
Amid the cold of winter, when half spent was the night.

2 Isaiah 'twas foretold it, the Rose I have in mind,
With Mary we behold it, the virgin mother kind.
To show god's love aright
She bore for us a Saviour when half spent was the night.

Words: German, 15th century Music: German trad. Melody 1599, Harm: Michael Praetorius 1609 Used by permission. #A715424 OneLicense.net

SCRIPTURE Luke 1: 26-35, 38 The birth of Jesus foretold by Gabriel

CAROL VU 71 *'Twas in the Moon of Wintertime* v. 1-4

1 'Twas in the moon of wintertime,
when all the birds had fled,
that mighty Gitchi Manitou
sent angel choirs instead;
before their light the stars grew dim,
and wondering hunters heard the hymn:

Refrain:

**Jesus your King is born,
Jesus is born,
In excelsis gloria.**

2 Within a lodge of broken bark
the tender babe was found,
a ragged robe of rabbit skin
enwrapped His beauty round;
but as the hunter braves drew nigh,
the angel song rang loud and high: **R**

3 The earliest moon of wintertime
is not so round and fair
as was the ring of glory on
the helpless Infant there.
The chiefs from far before him knelt
with gifts of fox and beaver pelt. **R**

4 O children of the forest free,
the angel song is true,
the holy Child of earth and heaven
is born today for you.
Come kneel before the radiant Boy,
Who brings you beauty, peace and joy. **R**

Words: Jean de Brébeuf ca. 1641, Eng. trans. Jesse Edgar Middleton 1926, alt.
Music: French folksong, 16th century, arr. by H. Barrie Cabena 1970,
Eng. words © 1927 The Frederick Harris Music Co. Arr. © 1971 H. Barrie Caben
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SCRIPTURE Mark 1: 1-15 Jesus proclaims the coming of God's reign

CAROL VU 76 *See Amid the Winter's Snow*

v. 1-5

1 See amid the winter's snow,
born for us on earth below,
see, the tender Lamb appears,
promised from eternal years.

Refrain:

**Hail, thou ever-blessed morn;
hail, redemption's happy dawn;
sing through all Jerusalem,
Christ is born in Bethlehem.**

2 Lo, within a stable lies
God who built the starry skies,
who enthroned in height sublime
sits amid the cherubim. **R**

3 Say, ye humble shepherds, say
what your joyful news today;
wherefore have ye left your sheep
on the lonely mountain steep? **R**

4 "As we watched at dead of night,
lo, we saw a wondrous light;
angels singing 'Peace on earth'
told us of a Saviour's birth." **R**

5 Sacred infant, all divine,
what a mighty love was thine,
thus to come from highest bliss
down to such a world as this! **R**

Words: Edward Caswall 1851 Music: John Goss 1871
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MEDITATION

Advent Joy

Rev. Dr. Paul Currie

COMMITTING TO THE FUTURE

OFFERING ANNOUNCEMENT

DEDICATION OF THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY INTROIT VU 543 *We Give Thee But Thine Own* v. 1

We give thee but thine own,
what e'er the gift may be;
all that we have is thine alone,
a trust, O God, from thee.

Words: William Walsham How 1858
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PASTORAL PRAYER

LORD'S PRAYER

CAROL VU 60 *Come All Ye Faithful* v. 1-5

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. Roderick Oakeley 1841, Music: attrib. John Francis Wade 1743
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COMMISSIONING AND BENEDICTION

CHORAL BENEDICTION

VU 19 *Kindle a Flame*

Kindle a flame to lighten the dark and take all fear away.

Words and Music: The Iona Community 1987
Music: The Iona Community 1987 © 1987 WGRG, The Iona Community, Glasgow Scotland,
G.I.A. Pub. Inc. Chicago Used by permission. #A715424 OneLicense.net

POSTLUDE

The King of Glory (Israeli folk tune) arr. Anne Krentz Organ
flute, Bill Egnatoff, piano, Joan Egnatoff

THANK YOU FOR TALENTS SHARED

Guest Minister	The Rev. Dr. Paul Currie Paul recently retired to Bath following over four decades of pastoral ministry. These began under the mentorship of the Chalmers team of Stan Lucyk, Marg Quigley and David Cameron. He is continuing his enjoyment of choral music and serving as Voluntary Associate Minister at his former congregation, Edith Rankin Memorial.
Co-Liturgist	Linda Steinberg
Organist	Juliet Milsome
Readers	Representing various active groups Barb Fletcher (Choir) Al Fletcher (Pastoral Care & Choir) Jan Trites (Benevolent Program) Doug Arrand (Property & Worship) Doreen Morrison (Pastoral Care) Monika Holzschuh (Covid Reopening)
Flutist	Bill Egnatoff
Pianist	Joan Egnatoff
Hymn Singers	Margo Craft, Paul Currie, Barb Fletcher, Al Fletcher, Mary Davis Little, Janice Moncrieff, Linda Steinberg, Anja Troje
Sound & Media Techs	Catie Doane, Brigitta Holzschuh
Technical Chair	Nick Steinberg

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/UCUgl1tZaiRji18sFwj2P2Q>

UPCOMING SERVICES

Dec. 12 - Dec. 24: Rev. Dr. Paul Currie
Christmas Eve at 7pm: Family-Friendly Service

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 announcements you wish made verbally

to: bulletin@chalmersunitedchurch.com

and Linda Steinberg: hpsesp14@gmail.com

The Chalmers Church House Office

is open on Tuesdays and a second day by appointment.

Staff can be reached by telephone and email.

For Rentals/room bookings please email

office@chalmersunitedchurch.com

**To support Chalmers and the ongoing work it does in our community,
donations to the church** can be made by:

1. mailing in your gift to:
Envelope Secretary, 212 Barrie St. Kingston, ON K7N 1A3
2. dropping your envelope through the mail slot at the house, anytime to:
212 Barrie St. at Clergy St. Kingston.
3. using E-Transfer: envelopesecretary@chalmersunitedchurch.com.
When using e-Transfer, please allocate where you wish your funds placed, in the "Message". Undesignated funds are allocated to the General Fund.
4. donating online through Canada Helps CHALMERS UNITED CHURCH |
Charity Profile | Donate Online | Canadahelps and use the "Donate to this Charity" button.
5. submitting through PAR or Pre-Authorized Remittance is an automatic monthly withdrawal from your bank account, where you can give to what matters to you most. Register by contacting the Envelope Secretary at: envelopesecretary@chalmersunitedchurch.com or by calling 613 546 3263 ext. 221.

