

# CHALMERS UNITED CHURCH



Rev. Dr. Paul Currie

Christmas Eve December 24, 2021

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Due to a resurgence of Covid, Chalmers service will be online only.

**This Family Friendly service can be viewed two different ways:**

**1.** Join the Zoom "coffee hour" "Chalmers Worship and Fellowship" at 4 pm. At 4:30 pm the service will be streamed for anyone wishing to watch, or listen by phone, at that time.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83823105027?pwd=WUxMZFM3ZWIEL1l1NnN1Z1dVQoh3Zz09>

**OR 2.** Watch the service online at your convenience after 4 pm on YouTube at Chalmers YouTube channel. Found on the Chalmers home page.

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

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

## WE GATHER TO WORSHIP

### PRELUDE

*I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day*

Words: Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, 1864 Music: Waltham (Calkin) John B. Calkin, 1872 Setting: *The Book of Common Praise* 1885 © public domain. This score is part of the Open Hymnal Project 2006 Rev.

### 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

*The Four Advent Candles are lit.*

One: Here we are together, in a world caught between anxiety and hope, celebrating what God has done in Christ. We will never be alone. May our remembering and celebrating change how we live and open our hearts and communities, so that all can together live and share in fullness of life.

*The Christ Candle is lit.*

**All:** God-always-with-us, we thank you for your love that keeps faith with and encourages us to imagine a world where the power of love can loosen the grip on restrictive ways to embrace a new life of flourishing possibilities. Through Jesus, stir us by the light of your love so that we may return to your way of fullness of life you intend for all. Amen.

## INTROIT

### HYMN VU 6 *A Candle is Burning*

v. 5

We honour Messiah with Christ-candle's flame,  
our Christmas Eve candles glad tidings proclaim.  
O come, all you faithful, rejoice in this night,  
as God comes among us, the Christian's true light.

Word: Sandra Dean 1986 © 1986 Sandra Dean Music: James R. Murray 1887  
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## CALL TO WORSHIP

Cold is the earth, stone cold;  
**no hope, no change, just cold relentless.**  
Yet, cold in the earth is the seed,  
**hidden, waiting for the warmth of spring**  
**to bring it alive.**  
In a cold cattle stall,  
a baby stirs.

## CENTRING PRAYER

O Holy One,  
heavenly angels spoke to earthly shepherds  
and eternity entered time in the child of Bethlehem.  
Through the telling of the Christmas story,  
let our temporal lives be caught up in the eternal  
in that same child,  
that we might join shepherds and all the heavenly host  
in praising the coming of Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.

## SCRIPTURE

Isaiah 9: 2 – 7

**CAROL VU 62** *Once in David's City*

- 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

## SCRIPTURE

Luke 2: 1 – 14

**CAROL VU 69** *Away in a Manger*

v. 1-3

**1** Away in a manger, no crib for a bed,  
the little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head.  
The stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay,  
the little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.

**2** The cattle are lowing, the baby awakes,  
but little Lord Jesus, no crying he makes.  
I love you, Lord Jesus; look down from the sky,  
and stay by my side until morning is nigh.

**3** Be near me, Lord Jesus, I ask you to stay  
close by me for ever, and love me, I pray.  
Bless all the dear children in your tender care,  
and fit us for heaven, to live with you there.

Words: author unknown

Music: William James Kirkpatrick 1895, arr. Desmond Hassell 1992

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## SCRIPTURE

Luke 2: 15 – 20

## CHRISTMAS MEDITATION

Rev. Dr. Paul Currie

**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, 16<sup>th</sup> century, arr. by H. Barrie Cabena 1970,  
Eng. words © 1927 The Frederick Harris Music Co. Arr. © 1971 H. Barrie Caben  
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COMMITTING TO THE FUTURE  
OFFERING ANNOUNCEMENT

DEDICATION OF THE OFFERINGS

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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CAROL VU 58 *Infant Holy, Infant Lowly* v. 1-2

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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PASTORAL PRAYER

LORD'S PRAYER

**CAROL VU 59** *Joy to the World*

V. 1-4

**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 Frideric Handel 1742, arr. Lowell Mason 1836

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**COMMISSIONING AND BENEDICTION**



**CAROL VU 67** *Silent Night, Holy Night*

v. 1-3

**1** Silent night, holy night!  
All is calm, all is bright  
'round yon virgin mother and child.  
Holy Infant so tender and mild,  
sleep in heavenly peace,  
sleep in heavenly peace.

**2** Silent night, holy night!  
Shepherds quake at the sight;  
glories stream from heaven afar;  
heav'nly hosts sing "alleluia!  
Christ, the Savior, is born!  
Christ, the Savior, is born!"

**3** Silent night, holy night!  
Son of God, love's pure light  
Radiant beams from thy holy face,  
With the dawn of redeeming grace,  
Jesus, Lord, at thy birth,  
Jesus, Lord, at thy birth.

Source: Santo, Santo, Santo: cantos para el pueblo de Dios = Holy, Holy, Holy: song for the people of God #83

Words: Joseph Mohr 1818, English trans. John Freeman Young 1863, et al.

Music: Franz Xavier Grueber 1818 Used by permission. #A715424 OneLicense.net

## 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.

<b>Co-Liturgist</b>	Heather Faris
<b>Organist</b>	Juliet Milsome, Aurora Dokken
<b>Readers</b>	Heather Faris, Hannah Faris
<b>Hymn Singers</b>	Barb Fletcher, Al Fletcher, Margot Craft, Paul Currie, Marian Holobow, Mary Davis Little, Janice Moncrieff, Linda Steinberg, Rob Bruce, Joan Egnatoff, Bill Egnatoff, Juliet Milsome, Anja Troje
<b>Sound &amp; Media Techs</b>	Brigitta Holzschuh, Catie Doane
<b>Technical Chair</b>	Nick Steinberg

## UPCOMING SERVICES

**Dec. 26:** There will not be a Chalmers service this week to allow everyone more time to spend with family.

Instead, you are invited to watch a special presentation shared by Rev. Don McLean of Norwood - Westwood Pastoral Charge. Link: [Dec 26 Full Service Stream.mp4 on Vimeo](#)

**Feel like singing?** Gather the family and enjoy again last year's service on favourite Christmas Carols and the stories behind them:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LtRXWLAoz8Q&t=13s> (or go to Chalmers' YouTube channel and watch last year's service on **Dec 27, 2020.**)

**Jan. 2, 2022:** please view the service online at:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83823105027?pwd=WUxMZFM3ZWlEL1lNnN1Z1dVQoh3Zz09>.

**To submit materials for the bulletin**

please use: [bulletin@chalmersunitedchurch.com](mailto: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](mailto:bulletin@chalmersunitedchurch.com)

and Linda Steinberg: [hpsesp14@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto: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 K7L 3K3
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](mailto: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](mailto:envelopesecretary@chalmersunitedchurch.com) or by calling 613 546 3263 ext. 221

