

WELCOME

If you are a visitor or newcomer, our first hope is that you will experience God's love and care. Our second hope is that you will also experience our love and care. Some of us are shy and quiet. Others of us are bold and outgoing. Yet, in all our ways we want to say:
"YOU ARE WELCOME!"

OUR OFFERING

Offering gifts to God's service is an integral part of our worship. Many people at St. Martin's have chosen to make their offering by post-dated cheque or PAR. Others prefer weekly offering envelopes. Visitors and guest should not feel obligated to share in our offering, but may do so using the envelope in the back of the hymn book.

MUSIC

At St. Martin's we are richly blessed by many fine musicians. We encourage you to acknowledge their contributions to worship through silence, or when impelled by the Spirit, through applause.

OUR CHURCH LEADERSHIP TEAM

Bob McPherson - Chair of the Board
Cathy Anderson - Secretary of the Board
James Cook - Treasurer
Kevin Hurlburt - Caretaker
Brandy Emmerich - Office Administrator
Brian Walton - Pastoral Care & Worship Leadership
Keith Hall - Youth, Young Adults, Newcomer Relations,
Volunteers & Pastoral Care
Darren Wooff - Children's Ministry & Outreach
Betty Lou Agnew - Organist
Cara Wilson - Handbell Choir
Keith Hall & Erin Tempel - Contemporary Singers
Aliah Nelson & Mars Zhao - Sanctuary Choir
Lori Cline Flath - Band Together
Donna Thiessen - Wolf Pack



A congregation of The United Church of Canada

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Vision: To be a thriving, welcoming faith community
that makes the example of Christ relevant to our living.

The Second Sunday to Celebrate Advent (Advent I)

December 3, 2017, 9:30 a.m.

Words of Welcome

Acknowledgment of the Land

Community Concerns

Invitation to Worship

Come, those who seek a path to live by;

Come, those who would explore the teachings of Jesus,

Come, those who open themselves to life's Holiness.

**We come seeking, exploring and opening ourselves
to the wonder and mystery of the Christmas story
and the good news that God is in our midst.**

Opening Prayer

Come into our daily routine

with the wine of new life, oh God.

We live amidst many demands,

and during Advent the hustle seems to increase.

It is so easy to lose sight of the things that matter most.

Calm us, comfort us and redirect us

toward a life of balance and relative simplicity;

in the tradition of Jesus and for the sake of the Spirit, we pray.

Amen.

Lifting our Voices in Song

“O Come, All Ye Faithful” VU#60 (vs. 1, 2 & 3)

Story Time with Darren

Children are Invited Downstairs

Prayer of Reconciliation

Offering Our Gifts

Offering Song “In Gratitude and Humble Trust” VU#544

In Gratitude and Humble trust
we bring our gifts today
to serve your cause and share your love
with all along life’s way.
O God, who gave yourself to us
in Jesus Christ, your Son.
teach us to give ourselves each day
until life’s work is done.

Listening for God’s Word: (selected readings from Luke 1 & 2)

In the sixth month of Elizabeth’s pregnancy, God sent the angel Gabriel to Nazareth, a town in Galilee, to a virgin pledged to be married to a man named Joseph, a descendant of David. The virgin’s name was Mary. The angel went to her and said, “Greetings, you who are highly favored! The Lord is with you.” Mary was greatly troubled at his words and wondered what kind of greeting this might be. But the angel said to her, “Do not be afraid, Mary; you have found favor with God. You will conceive and give birth to a son, and you are to call him Jesus ... “I am the Lord’s servant,” Mary answered. “May your word to me be fulfilled.” ... In those days Caesar Augustus issued a decree that a census should be taken of the entire Roman world. And everyone went to their own town to register. So, Joseph also went up from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to Bethlehem the town of David, because he belonged to the house and line of David. He

went there to register with Mary, who was pledged to be married to him and was expecting a child.

Sanctuary Choir

“Advent Hymn”

Reflection on the Theme

Lighting of the Second Advent Candle

Theme Song: “I Need a Silent Night”

I need a silent night, a holy night to hear an angel voice,
through the chaos and the noise.
I need a midnight clear, a little peace right here,
to end this crazy day with a silent night.
To end this crazy day with a silent night.

Response to the Reading

Lifting our Voices in Song

“Come and Find the Quiet Centre” VU#374

The Sacrament of Holy Communion

The Lord be with you

And also with you.

Open up your hearts

We open them to God.

Creator, Christ and Spirit

we praise you for your love revealed to us in Jesus,
who walks with us, our Wisdom and our Way,
sharing our joy and sorrow,
healing the sick, feeding the hungry
and setting the captive free.

Tender and Intimate God,

in Jesus we recognize:

light, life and love revealed in words
that confront and comfort us;

in teachings that challenge and change us;
in compassion that heals and frees us.

We remember that when Jesus ate with his friends

he took a loaf of bread, and, after blessing it,
he broke it and gave it to them saying:

“Take, eat. This is my body given for you.”

Then he took a cup, and after giving thanks,
passed it to his friends saying:

Drink from this cup that is poured out for you,
a covenant with God in my blood.

At this time of feasting we pause to remember
all with whom you would have us share.

We pray for those,
in sorrow or pain ...

who are ill or alone ...

who live with fear or oppression ...

for our friends and family ...

Send, O God, your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these gifts
that all who share in this loaf and cup
may be the Body of Christ in the world. Amen

Breaking and Sharing

As Elements are shared:

Let us hum the tune to “Away in a Manger” VU #69

Prayer after Communion

**For the bread we have eaten,
for the wine we have tasted,
for the life we have received,
we thank you God**

**Grant that what we have done
and have been given here
may so put its mark upon us,
that it may remain always in our hearts.**

Grant that we may become mature Christians

**that ours may be the faith which issues in action.
Remembering the Christ, we pray. Amen.**

Lifting our Voices in Song

“A Candle is Burning” VU#6 (vs. 1 & 2)

Words of Blessing

Sung Blessing Blessing “Hope Shines Like a Solitary Star” MV#220

Peace shines as the solitary star,
faith is the inner light.
You and I together
mirror the Light of Lights,
and illumine the pathway home.

(Sung twice)