

## 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*



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.

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**Christmas Eve, December 24, 2017, 11 a.m.**

### Words of Welcome

### Acknowledgement of the Land

### Community News

### Lighting the Advent Candle

### Candle Lighting Song (tune: VU 218)

**We're lighting our candle, our candle for Christ now,  
we're lighting our candle to burn through the night.**

**We rejoice in the Christ Child, we rejoice in his coming,  
in joy this holy Advent, we rejoice in the light.**

### Invitation to Worship

On Christmas day, O God, you showed us what your love looked like.

**Your love looks like baby Jesus.**

Today you show us what your love looks like.

**Your love looks like baby Jesus.**

Help us to see your love, O God, in the coming days of celebration.

### Opening Prayer

**Story Time with Darren:** "Christmas Day in the Morning" by Pearl S. Buck, illustrations by Mark Buehner

### Lifting our Voices in Song

"Joy to the World" VU 59 verses 1 & 2

**Reflection:** “Showing, Not Telling”

### **Band Together**

**Listening for God’s Word:** Luke 2:1-5 - **Mary and Joseph**

**Lifting our Voices in Song**

“O Little Town of Bethlehem” VU 64 verse 1

**Listening for God’s Word:** Luke 2:6-7 – **the Animals**

**Lifting our Voices in Song**

“The Virgin Mary Had a Baby Boy” VU 73 verse 1

**Listening for God’s Word:** Luke 2:8-14 – **the Angels**

**Lifting our Voices in Song**

“Angels We Have Heard on High” verse 1

**Listening for God’s Word:** Luke 2:15-20 – **the Shepherds**

**Lifting our Voices in Song**

“Away in a Manger” VU 69 verse 1

**Listening for God’s Word:** Matthew 2:1-11 - **the Magi**

**Lifting our Voices in Song**

“Silent Night, Holy Night” VU 67

**Minute for Mission:** “Perfect Little Thing: our heart and soul is Mission & Service!”

### **Offering Our Gifts**

### **Offering Song ““In Gratitude and Humble Trust” VU#544 (O Little Town of Bethlehem)**

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.

### **Praying for Others and Ourselves & The Prayer of Jesus**

### **Words of Blessing**

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

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