

Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council

Plymouth-Trinity United Church

Order of Worship

December 9, 2018, Advent 2

Prelude

Welcome and greetings

Call to worship

Children's time

Gathering hymn

VU 7 (1, 2)

Hope is a star, Peace is a ribbon

Advent candle lighting

See insert

***Opening hymn**

VU 336

Christ whose glory fills the skies

Prayer of confession and Affirmation of grace

***Response**

VU 23

Joy shall come even to the wilderness,
and the parched land shall then know great gladness;
as the rose, as the rose shall deserts blossom,
deserts like a garden blossom.

For living springs shall give cool water,
in the desert streams shall flow;
for living springs shall give cool water,
in the desert streams shall flow.

OT: Old Testament

NT: New Testament

VU: Voices United

MV: More Voices

* the congregation standing, as able

***Affirmation of faith**

Hymn

MV 134

There was a child in Galilee

Prayer for illumination

Scriptures

Malachi 3:1-4

(OT 889)

Luke 1:68-79

(NT 58)

Philippians 1:3-11

(NT 196)

Luke 3:1-6

(NT 60)

The word of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God.**

Message : The birth and birthing of peace

Personal reflection

***Hymn**

VU p. 899

Magnificat

Minute for mission

Offering

***Offertory/Prayer of dedication**

VU 537

Your work, O God, needs many hands to help you everywhere,
and some there are who cannot serve unless our gifts we share.
Because we love you and your work, our offering now we make:
be pleased to use it as your own, we ask for Jesus' sake.

Announcements and sharing in the life of the community

Acknowledging the land and Prayers of the people followed by the Lord's Prayer

***Hymn**

VU 421

Lead on, O cloud of presence

***Benediction**

***Closing response**

MV 221

I am walking a path of *peace*

I am walking a path of *peace*, I am walking a path of *peace*,
I am walking a path of *peace*, lead me home, lead me home,
I am home.

Postlude

Carol singing around the piano

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Office hours are Tuesday to Friday, 9 a.m. to noon

Announcements

Welcome to all who are worshipping with us today. On this second Sunday of Advent, may the gentle winds of the Holy Spirit push us toward understanding Shalom/ Salaam/ Peace, and help us act accordingly, as we actively await the coming of Emmanuel.

Bienvenue à l'Église Unie Plymouth-Trinity! Des **Bibles en français** se trouvent à l'arrière.

If you are a visitor, please join us for fair-trade coffee or a cold drink after the service and take a peace candle back to your congregation. You will find the candles on the table at the back of the sanctuary.

We thank our volunteers:

Reader: Vivienne Galanis

Ushers: Inge Lunkenbein & Val Rawlings

Sexton: Jim Innes

Happy birthday to Martha Welsh (Dec. 15); happy anniversary to Françoise & Steve Elkas (Dec. 13) and Roberta & Ron Clark (Dec. 15).

Bulletin covers this week are donated by Brian Cullen & family in memory of their mother Beth who died December 12, 2007.

It is with great sadness that we announce that Rev. Faye Wakeling, partner of Rev. Pierre Goldberger, has been called home by her Creator after a life well-lived as mother, partner, friend, minister and source of inspiration to so many because of her leadership.

A service of celebration will be held at St. Columba House (2365 Grand Trunk, Montreal) on Saturday, December 15, with visitation beginning at 1 p.m., and the service at 2 p.m.

Baptism, membership classes: If you are interested in joining Plymouth-Trinity, or in having a child baptized, please contact the minister.

Pick up our P-T Advent calendar for this month's events listings (on the table at the back of the sanctuary) if you missed it last Sunday.

2019 Church calendars: On sale via the UCW for \$7. To reserve, and arrange pickup/delivery, contact Janet McBurney at 819-565-9716 or janetjammcb@gmail.com .

Bulletin covers 2019: Inge Lunkenbein (819-346-7750) is collecting donations for 2019: \$10 a Sunday in memory of a loved one. Sign up at table at the back of the sanctuary.

The secretary is away from the office Wednesday, December 12, but the office is open regular hours, 9 a.m. to noon, on Tuesday, Thursday and Friday of this week.

Today

Christmas-time can be difficult for some; AA (Alcoholics Anonymous) meets at P-T every Sunday night at 7, but exceptionally tonight from 5 to 9 p.m. All are welcome.

Festival of Lessons and Carols, at St. Mark's Chapel on the Bishop's University campus, at 4 p.m.

This week

Tuesday, December 11: UCW Christmas potluck at 6 p.m., followed by a meeting in the parlour and Secret Pal gifts.

Wednesday, December 12: We will hold a special service from 6 to 7 p.m. of song and prayer for members of the community who have lost loved ones this past here. The service will be followed by fellowship and food. All are welcome.

Thursday, December 13: Deadline to order a home-made Christmas pudding (\$7 or \$15) from Janet McBurney, at 819-565-9716 or janetjammcb@gmail.com .

Next Sunday, December 16, Advent 3

White Gift Sunday: Following our tradition of many, many years, we will collect non-perishable food – and cash – for Sherbrooke Elementary School’s Christmas baskets for which we are the principal donors.

Lectionary readings: Zephaniah 3:14-20; Isaiah 12:2-6; Philippians 4:4-7; Luke 3:7-18
Worship in English at 10:30 a.m.; culte en français à 13 h

Poinsettias: Sunday the 16th is the deadline to contact Kristi Roht (kristiroht@gmail.com or 819-566-6296) for a poinsettia donation to decorate the sanctuary for Advent, in memory of a loved one.

Ecumenical Advent Carols and Candlelight service, led by the ministers and choirs of Plymouth-Trinity and our neighbouring churches, at St George’s Anglican Church (84 Church Street in Lennoxville), Dec. 16 at 4 p.m. All are welcome.

United Church of Canada / Église Unie du Canada

Open to the Spirit: the Soul’s Alphabet, Awakening – Zeal: Reflections and ideas for writing. This booklet contains weekly columns from *The Sherbrooke Record* by the Rev. Mead Baldwin, the Rev. Lee Ann Hogle, and others. It is available at \$18 from Mead at 819-837-1112 or meadbaldwin@live.com and Lee Ann at 819-571-7233 or lahogle@cgocable.ca ; all profits to local United Church endeavours.

Perfect Gift cards: Looking for a gift for someone who has everything, or a gift with meaning? Consider giving a perfect gift, by making a donation to the United Church’s Mission and Service or the local food bank, Moisson Estrie, in the name of a

family member or friend. Hand-made cards are available, in English and French, on the tables at the front and back of the sanctuary.

We thank Janet McBurney for these beautiful cards.

Outreach

The local food bank assists 60 families each day as well as providing food for almost 50 other community organisations.

Especially needed at this time of year are baking ingredients (flour, sugar...), pasta, rolled oats, cereals and tinned food.

There are boxes marked for the Moisson Estrie food bank at the front and back of the sanctuary. Hunger still helps define poverty. Cheques are also welcome!

The new Gifts with Vision catalogue is here – to help us celebrate special occasions throughout the year—no wrapping paper necessary! There are gifts of food for people near and far, for our United Spirit/Esprit Uni summer camp, solar power gifts, gifts for beekeepers, gifts for reconciliation, and more at giftswithvision.ca. You will also find paper copies of the new catalogue at the back of the sanctuary and opposite the coffee table. \$25 helps train an organic farmer on the Philippine island of Palawan.

Community

The St. Francis Valley Naturalists' Club holds its annual Christmas Bird Count (and more) on Saturday, December 15 -- count birds in the designated areas at feeders or in various teams arranged by Gary (at gmcormi@ubishops.ca). If you would like to join Ruby Robinson's team in North Hatley from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., please phone 819-346-0288.

Counters are welcome to then attend the annual potluck at 4 p.m. at the Amédée Beaudoin Centre (10 rue Samuel Gratham, Lennoxville), followed by the Speakers' Fund Raffle.