

Église Unie Summerlea United Church

Sunday, December 08 2024 dimanche 08 Décembre

White Gift Sunday

Welcome to our community as we worship together.

Bienvenue à l'Église Summerlea. Venez nous rejoindre pour les rafraîchissements dans la salle de l'église ce matin, après le service.

Please join us for fellowship hour in the church hall following the service.

There are no visitors here, for we are all part of the family of God.

Summerlea United Church is located on land that has long served as a site of meeting and exchange amongst Indigenous peoples and nations. We honor, recognize, and respect these nations as the traditional stewards of the lands and waters on which we meet today.

WE GATHER

Prelude

Introit "God of All Places"

VU 4

Welcome and Announcements

A Prayer for Peace During Advent

O God of peace,
As we prepare our hearts for the coming of Christ,
We ask for your peace to fill our world,
Our homes, and our lives.

In this season of Advent,
May the hope of the Christ Child,
Born in the quiet of Bethlehem,
Guide us to embrace peace in all that we do.

Help us to be peacemakers,
To offer compassion where there is conflict,
And kindness where there is fear.
Let your peace reign in our hearts,
So that it may shine in our actions and words.
May your Spirit of love heal divisions,
Bring understanding to those who differ,
And transform hearts to seek unity and harmony.
Lord, we pray for the peace of all nations,
For the healing of broken relationships,
And for the end of suffering and injustice.

As we wait for the coming of your Son,
Fill us with the courage to be instruments of peace,
Reflecting the light of Christ to all we encounter.

In his name, we pray.
Amen.

Lighting the Advent Candle – (Responsively)

Come to me! Hear my voice! Look! A star will guide you
to the Saviour!

Through the cities, the wilderness, the sea, and the land, we come!

Come closer! Pray my name! Tell about the Spirit and be
ready!

Yes! We come, we heard you calling us, and we left at once.

Be my own. Be my children. Be those I need to bring
Peace to the world.

**We gather and share our hope and peace so that
Christ can be born again among us.**

The Candle of Peace is lit.

Hymn “O Little Town of Bethlehem” VU 64

Reading:

Book of Isaiah 40:1-5 - Prepare the Way of the Lord

Hymn “Prepare the Way of the Lord” VU 10

Reading:

Romans 8:18-25 – What is hope? How do we wait?

Hymn “Hope Is a Star” VU 7 verses 1 & 2

Time with Children

Children’s Hymn “A Candle is Burning” VU 6, verses 1 & 2

We Listen to the Word of God

Scripture Reader: Marion Golden

Prayer of Illumination

- The Song of Zechariah – VU 900
- Philippians 1:3-11

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Rev. Christine's Sunday Message

Anthem "He Will Come"

We Respond to God's Love

Invitation to the Offering

Offering Prayer

Gracious God,
Now in the Second Sunday of this holy season of Advent,
we bring before You our offerings,
gifts of love, hope, and faith.

We offer these tokens of our hearts,
trusting that they will be used
to further Your work of peace, justice,
and mercy in the world.

May these gifts be a sign
of our anticipation for the coming of Christ,
who brings light into our darkness.

Bless these offerings, O Lord,
that they may be used to build Your kingdom,
to care for the needy,
and to share the joy of Your salvation with all.

As we await the birth of the Saviour,
may our hearts be opened
to receive Him with generosity, kindness, and love.

Let these offerings reflect our commitment to follow Christ
and to live in service to others.

In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

Offertory Hymn "Open Our Hearts"

MV 21

Pastoral Prayer and The Lord's Prayer

Closing Hymn "O Lord, How Shall I Meet You" VU 31

Commissioning

You are sent from this holy place
Go out to bring Hope and Peace to your world.

**As we pass this door, we become a messenger
of God.**

You are, wherever you go, and whoever you meet!

We are the new Magi and Shepherds of our time

And you are blessed.

Blessing and Choral Amen.

Postlude