

Order of Worship
Sunday December 20, 2020
Advent 4
Christmas Sunday
God Invites Us to Gather



Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

Land Acknowledgement

We acknowledge that our church is on the Treaty Lands and Territory of the Mississaugas of the Credit. For thousands of years the first peoples gathered, love, celebrated, created, and overcame great obstacles on this land. We give thanks that we can create community here too and pray that the communities we create will be spaces of peace and respect for all.

Lighting the Advent Candle (Love)

Congregational response

Live with the certain knowledge

That God is always coming into the world.

**We will seek God, not in a long ago stable or ancient manger,
But in the people we meet and the depths of our own hearts.**

May the blessing of Christmas make you a blessing to others;

May the peace of the season pervade all that you do.

We will welcome the challenge of discipleship.

We will offer ourselves as God's disciples.

We will go commit to live in hope, peace, joy, and love.

Advent Prayer

Hymn 2 *Come Thou Long Expected Jesus* (words below)

The Word of God Proclaimed

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Luke 1:26-38

Sermon *In the Mood for a Miracle* Rev. Jessica McCrae

Video *Hearts Waiting/Joy to the World*

Our Response to God

Prayers of the People

Hymn 74 *What Child is This?* (words below)

Blessing and Benediction

Postlude



Christmas Eve Services

Virtual Pageant Service

This all ages family service is a retelling of the Christmas story brought to life by you. In this virtual service Rev. Jessica tells the story and photos, sent by members and friends of Streetsville United, are shown to help bring the story to life, just like a regular pageant, but socially distanced, with photos and music!

Christmas Eve Communion Service

Our second Christmas Eve service is a traditional evening service with the lighting of the Christ Candle in the centre of our Advent wreath, the Christmas reading from the gospel of Luke, a sermon, music and communion. This is a time to celebrate the birth of the Christ Child and think about the ways we can see Christ entering our world today, and consider how we can reflect that love and hope that Christ brings. I hope you will join us!

2 Come Thou Long Expected Jesus

- 1 Come, thou long-expected Jesus,
born to set thy people free:
from our fears and sins release us,
let us find our rest in thee.
- 2 Israel's strength and consolation,
hope of all the earth thou art,
dear desire of every nation,
joy of every longing heart.
- 3 Born thy people to deliver;
born a child and yet a king;
born to reign in us for ever;
now thy gracious kingdom bring.
- 4 By thine own eternal Spirit
rule in all our hearts alone;
by thine all-sufficient merit
raise us to thy glorious throne.

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Music: Psalmodia Sacra 1715, (Public Domain)
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74 What Child Is This?

- 1 What child is this, who laid to rest,
on Mary's lap is sleeping?
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet
while shepherds watch are keeping?
*This, this is Christ the King,
whom shepherds guard and angels sing;
haste, haste to bring him laud,
the Babe, the Son of Mary!*
- 2 Why lies he in such mean estate
where ox and ass are feeding?
Good Christian, fear; for sinners here
the silent Word is pleading. R
- 3 So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh;
come, one and all, to own him.
The King of Kings salvation brings;
let loving hearts enthrone him. R

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Announcements

This Week's Sunday School Activity – This is the Fourth Sunday in Advent. Reflect, Resist, Re-imagine

1) Bible Reading- Luke 1: 26-38

The Angel Gabriel appears to be the bringer of good tidings in the announcement of the births of John the Baptist and Jesus. We are reminded of what is possible by the power of God and how he will come into the world.

Additional Scripture readings: Luke 1: 46b-55, 2 Samuel 7: 1-11, 16, Psalm 89: 1-4, 19-26

This week's scripture passages reflect God's love for the world. We are encouraged to awaken our imaginations and live into God's love.

2) Ways to get ready for Christmas

- a) Tell someone what you love about them
- b) List your hopes and goals
- c) Pray for those who are looking for signs of hope and in the world
- d) Make a handmade gift for someone

3) Prayer - Love incarnate, we ask that you move us beyond the daydream of a world that shows your love to the reality that is your love in the world. Move and breathe within us until your reality becomes our reality. Amen

Virtual Coffee Hour - Gather at your computer, tablet or smartphone on Zoom for coffee hour at **11:00 am** Sunday. We can support up to 100 participants on this. For more information click on <https://www.streetsvilleunited.ca/events/virtual-coffee-hour-2/>

Wed. 11:00 am – Virtual Café Join us on your computer, tablet or smartphone on Zoom for coffee! Every Wednesday morning. For more information click on <https://www.streetsvilleunited.ca/events/virtual-cafe/>

Please let Rev. Jessica know when any of our members or friends are in hospital or in need of pastoral attention – 647-222-9683 (cell); 905-826-1542 (office); revjmccrae@gmail.com

Our Prayer Chain is available. When you have a prayer concern, call Kate Sparrow @ 905-302-4549 or the church office.

Covid-19

Givings - We continue to have expenses, such as utilities and salaries. If you are not on PAR, offering can be provided by:

- You can now **e-transfer** directly to the church. From your online banking, add a recipient using the name **Streetsville United Church** and email address info@streetsvilleunited.ca E-transfers are automatically deposited in the church account with no need for a password. Please note that e-transfers **will** be included on your tax receipt. [More guidance here.](#)
- You can now **e-transfer** directly to the **UCW**. From your online banking, add a recipient using the name **UCW Streetsville United Church** and email address ucw@streetsvilleunited.ca. E-transfers are automatically deposited in the church account with no need for a password. Please note that e-transfers **will** be included on your UCW tax receipt. In the comment line please add if the donation is for one of the groups or for general UCW. [More guidance here.](#)
- Canada Helps (tax receipts provided by Canada Helps) at <https://www.canadahelps.org/en/dn/13238>
- Mailing in a cheque (or post-dated cheques to Streetsville United Church at 274 Queen St. South, Mississauga, ON L5M 1L8
- Pre-Authorized Remittance: We also now have over ten years' experience with United Church PAR, which automatically makes monthly deposits to the church. For more details, contact Ken Boulton at kjboulton@rogers.com or 647-938-3350.
- Cheques/envelopes can also be dropped off in the mailbox at the front doors of the church. It is a secure, locked mailbox.

Streetsville United Church Leadership Team

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