

Order of Worship
Sunday December 6, 2020
Advent 2
White Gift



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 (Peace)

Congregational response

Take your encouragement from Christ,
that your joy may be complete.

We will share in the Spirit;

We will find consolation in love.

Practice a ministry of humility and compassion

For God is at work in you, empowering you

We will welcome Christ into our hearts.

We will live lives worthy of the Gospel.

We will go forth in hope and in peace.

Advent Prayer

Hymn 18 *There's a Voice in the Wilderness* (words below)

The Word of God Proclaimed

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Matthew 3:1-12

Sermon *People Who Dream* Rev. Jessica McCrae

Video *Here I Am To Worship/Away in a Manger*

Our Response to God

Prayers of the People

Hymn 5 *All Earth is Waiting* (words below)

Blessing and Benediction

Postlude

White Gift Sunday



Announcements

This Week's Sunday School Activity – This is the Second Sunday in Advent.

1) Bible reading: Isaiah 40:1-11

Other Scriptures to read

Psalm 85: 1-2, 8-13

2 Peter 3: 8-15a

Mark 1: 1-8

I encourage you to read these Bible readings with your family and talk about them.

2) Ways you get ready for Christmas

a) Brighten someone's day by telling them what you love about them

b) Care for yourself by listing five things that bring you joy

c) Care for each other by doing a kind deed for someone else

d) Help to worship God by praying for those who are lonely and in need of a friend.

3) Prayer for Today

Holy one, grant us a stillness to silence the troubles and concerns around us.

May we find courage that would move us to action. Grant that our actions would reflect Love come into the world. Amen

Announcements (cont'd)

Senior Choir Christmas - Next Sunday, December 13, will see our annual Senior Choir Christmas concert. (In the past, during that service, a collection is taken up for the choir; has been used to provide gowns, choir hymn books, installation of the French organ and provide gifts to our music leadership. Donations can be made by e-transfer to choir@streetsvilleunited.ca or by cheque mailed to the church. [More details here.](#)

Finance Letter – an update from finance including your statement of givings for 2020 (up to Dec. 3) was mailed Thursday. Tax receipts will be mailed in February.

Virtual Christmas Pageant - Help us create SUC's first ever Virtual Christmas Pageant. Please submit your photos to Rev. Jessica at Rev. no later than Dec. 11 to be included. (see below for more information from Rev. Jessica)

Study Group - Rev. Jessica will be leading a study group on Zoom: Mondays December 7, 14, 21 at 7 pm - People Who Dream
If you are interested in participating, please let her know revjmccrae@gmail.com

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.

18 There's a Voice in the Wilderness

- 1 There's a voice in the wilderness crying,
a call from the ways untrod:
prepare in the desert a highway,
a highway for our God!
The valleys shall be exalted,
the lofty hills brought low;
make straight all the crooked places,
where God, our God, may go!
- 2 O Zion, that bringest good tidings,
get thee up to the heights and sing!
Proclaim to a desolate people
the coming of their King.
Like the flowers of the field they perish,
like grass our works decay,
the power and pomp of nations
shall pass like a dream away.
- 3 But the word of our God endureth,
whose arm is ever strong;
God stands in the midst of nations,
and soon will right the wrong.
God shall feed the flock like a shepherd,
the lambs so gently hold;
to pastures of peace will lead them,
and bring them safe to fold.
- 4 There's a voice in the wilderness crying,
a call from the ways untrod:
prepare in the desert a highway,
a highway for our God!
The valleys shall be exalted,
the lofty hills brought low;
make straight all the crooked places,
where God, our God may go!

5 All Earth is Waiting

- 1 All earth is waiting to see the Promised One,
and open furrows await the seed of God.
All the world, bound and struggling, seeks true liberty;
it cries out for justice and searches for the truth.
- 2 Thus says the prophet to those of Israel,
'A virgin mother will bear Emmanuel,'
One whose name is 'God with us,' our Saviour shall be,
through whom hope will blossom once more within
our hearts.
- 3 Mountains and valleys will have to be made plain,
open new highways, new highways for our God,
who is now coming closer, so come all and see,
and open the doorways as wide as wide can be.
- 4 In lowly stable the Promised One appeared.
Yet, feel that presence throughout the earth today,
for Christ lives in all Christians and is with us now;
again, on arriving, Christ brings us liberty.

Our First Ever Virtual Christmas Pageant

I need your help! Covid has disrupted all of our usual routines and many of our traditions, but we are learning to adapt. This year I need your help to create the first ever Streetsville UC Virtual Christmas Pageant. This will be a safe and fun way to involve the whole family in the Christmas story and it will be available to view starting on Christmas Eve day from the safety and comfort of your own homes. And share the link with family far away!

I will narrate the story in a way that is accessible for all ages and I need your help to bring the story to life with your photos. Please dress up as your favourite characters in the Christmas story and take photos in your home, your yard, the park, at a farm (only if you know the farmer!), in the community, anywhere at all. Use your imagination and be creative!

We need photos of:

Mary alone

Mary with an Angel

Mary and Joseph

Someone standing with a sign saying "This Way to Bethlehem"

Innkeeper standing with a sign saying "No Room at the Inn"

Baby Jesus in the Manger (or in Mary's arms)

Animals (any animals you think were at, or would have liked to have been at, the manger)

Angels

Shepherds

Wise Men (and Women!)

So pull out your Bibles, read the Christmas story and let's get creative and have some fun! (Psst! Participation is not limited to children. Or to members of SUC. If you are new to our church via livestreaming we'd love to see you too!)

By submitting photos you agree to have the photos used in our Virtual Pageant and broadcast publicly. Names will not be included with any photos. Please submit photos to

Jessica.mccrae@streetsvilleunitedchurch.ca by Dec. 11th.

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 **NEW** secure, locked mailbox.

Streetsville United Church Leadership Team

Minister: Rev. Jessica McCrae Jessica.McCrae@streetsvilleunited.ca

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Church Council Chair: Bill Powell

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