

Welcome Team

Assisting This Week: *Sanctuary Lead* – Jennifer Honsa

Narthex – Nadean Harley *Elevator* – Tony Tadros *Reader* – Ken Boulton *Coffee Hour* – Outreach *Tech* – Wendy Dowling

Assisting Next Week: *Sanctuary Lead* – Gail Boulton Narthex – Ruth

Kochanuk *Elevator* – Kevin Dowling *Reader* – Bill Powell

Coffee Hour – Men's Group *Tech* – John Sparrow

Communion – Bill & Katie Powell, Ruth Kochanuk

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

Emergency Automated External Defibrillator (AED) Onsite

Located in the sanctuary on the landing going up to the balcony on the center of the wall. **Naloxone Kit** in the red First Aid box.

Sharing Our Offerings:

Streetsville United Church needs you now more than ever. Please consider any of the several ways to support our congregation and our work in the surrounding communities. Small changes, like a slight weekly or monthly increase, or more regular givings, can go a long way. All giving methods are on the website or contact the office for help.

- You can e-transfer directly to the church (use info@streetsvilleunited.ca) or the UCW (use stvlucw@bell.net)
- Mailing in a cheque or post-dated cheques to the church (or drop off at secure mailboxes front and back of the church)
- Pre-Authorized Remittance (PAR) – automatic monthly deposits to the church. For more details, contact Bev Mathew at bev.mathew@rogers.com or 905-826-5005.
- Canada Helps (tax receipts provided by Canada Helps)

Streetsville United Church Leadership Team

Minister: Rev. Joe Hopkins revjoehopkins@streetsvilleunited.ca

Music Director: Michelle Chung music@streetsvilleunited.ca

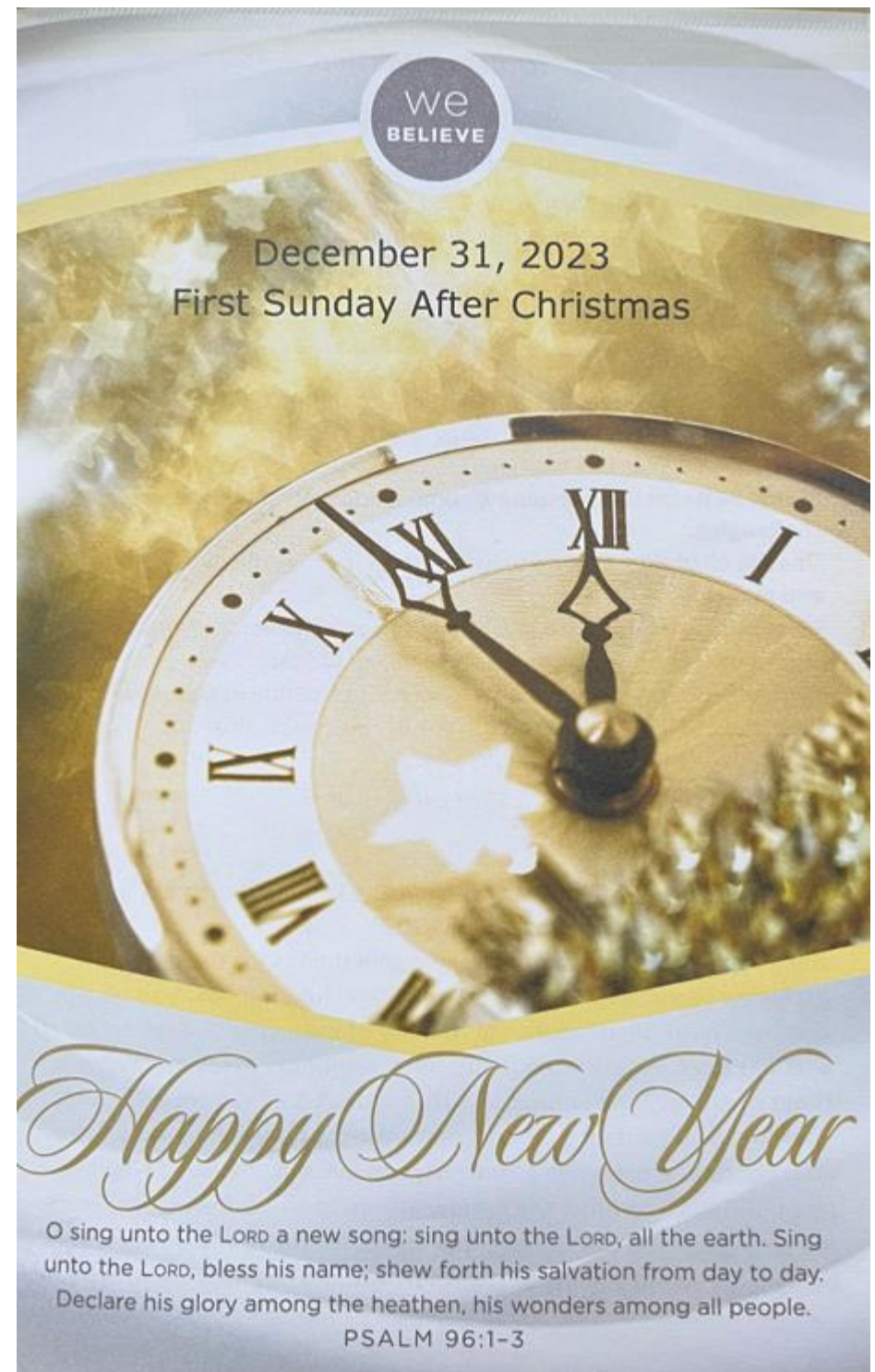
Church Council Chair: Neil Beattie nbeattie@rocketmail.com

Admin Assistant: Kelly Crewson kellycrewson@streetsvilleunited.ca

Office: info@streetsvilleunited.ca Tel: 905-826-1542

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Address: 274 Queen St. S, Mississauga, ON, L5M 1L8 Press 2 Rev. Joe



Order of Worship

God Invites Us to Gather

- indicates standing for all who are able

Prelude *All Things Bright and Beautiful* with
 For the Beauty of the Earth Michael Larkin

Welcome

Land Acknowledgement

Announcements

Call to Worship: (adapted words from The United Church of Canada, 'New Year's Eve Service and Liturgy' 2023)

One: What a year this has been!

Many: So much has happened; some wonderful and some very challenging.

One: In all of this, God journeyed with us, guiding, healing, comforting, and rejoicing.

Many: We are filled with gratitude for God's presence with us.

One: Today we are on the precipice of a new year.

Many: In all that is to come, we commit to trusting in God's love.

One: Together, we walk into this future as a faithful community of generosity, compassion, and joyfulness.

- Hymn VU 91 *The First Nowell*

Lighting the Christ Candle Megan Sweetman

Opening Prayer: (adapted words from The United Church of Canada, 'New Year's Eve Service and Liturgy' 2023)

God of past, present, and future, we give thanks for the gift of gathering to worship, singing, praying, and hearing how you lead us toward a faith-filled future. At the end of each year, we reflect on all that has been experienced in our lives, moments of joy and wonder, times of anxiety and confusion. Throughout it all we are grateful for your love and guidance. In this new year that is upon us we ask for your continued presence as we strive to live out the Good News of Jesus Christ, to comfort the lonely, attend to the suffering, welcome the stranger, feed the hungry, and speak for those whose voices are being ignored. In a spirit of togetherness and oneness we pray. Amen.

Words of Assurance

Time with God's Children

Prayer of Illumination Ken Boulton

Gospel Readings *Matthew 2:1-12* Ken Boulton
 Luke 21:1-4

Sermon: *It's Only Just Begun* Mary Parsons

- Hymn VU 68 *All Poor Ones and Humble*

Offertory *Panis Angelicus* César Franck

Our Offerings

Sung Dedication:

VU 55 *In the Bleak* Midwinter (Verse 4 only)

Prayer of Dedication

Prayers for the New Year and The Lord's Prayer

- Hymn VU 81 *As With Gladness Men of Old*

Sending Words: (words written by Cheryl Lawrie,
<http://holdthisspace.org.au/>)

Many: We leave today, going into a future as yet unmapped.

One: Take faith with you as you go; into the part of your life not yet travelled by love, into the parts of the world unexplored by grace.

Many: May compassion and hope be the roads we follow, today and always. Amen

Benediction in Song:

VU 87 *I Am the Light of the World*
 (refrain only)

Postlude *Let All Things Now Living* arr. Cindy Berry

This week, we warmly welcome Mary Parsons as guest preacher.

Mary Parsons, LLWL - Following retirement in 2020 from a long nursing career, Mary began studies through the United Church of Canada toward becoming a Licensed Lay Worship Leader. She has completed her course work and has met the requirements of our Horseshoe Falls Regional Council as a Licensed Lay Worship Leader. Mary grew up in a farming community in southwestern Ontario. Mary and her family have lived in Oakville since 1988 and are active members of Munn's United Church. Mary has been leading frequent worship services at Munn's in the past sixteen months during the ministerial search process. She and her husband Doug have three adult sons and are proud first-time grandparents of William. Mary describes her worship leadership style as deeply practical. She believes in the importance of honouring tradition, while bringing God's message of love and grace into our everyday lives. Worship is where we can be renewed and refreshed to face the challenges ahead and give thanks for the many gifts we have been given.

Church Office - Christmas

Administration of the Church Office will be closed from Fri. Dec. 22 to Tue. Jan. 2 inclusive. Regular office hours will resume Wed. Jan. 3 when emails and messages will be responded to.

Rev. Joe will be away from Mon. Dec. 25 to Jan. 1 inclusive.

If you have a spiritual emergency and would like to talk with a pastor, you may contact **Rev. Irene Ty**. You can email her at [**irenety888@gmail.com**](mailto:irenety888@gmail.com) and/or call her at **647-997-1378**.

Announcements

Fresh Start Meeting - We will hold our next United Fresh Start session on **Saturday, Jan. 13 from 1 – 4 pm** in Heritage Hall. Rev. Kathi Phillips will facilitate our group to explore how we remember our church history and articulate our vision for the future. Participation will be limited to 30 people, so please sign up either in the narthex or contact the church office.

***** Updated *** Eden Food for Change Donations** - Please bring your non-perishable donations to the church and place in the bin in the Narthex. **Things they need:** Canned fruit, canned vegetables, cookies, crackers, dish soap, sanitary napkins, salmon, chickpeas, canned pasta, jam, peanut butter, chunky soup, and ramen noodles.