

Cell Phones interfere with our sound system, therefore we request that all phones be turned to “airplane mode” or off. Thank you.

** Please stand in body or spirit, as you are able.*

December 9, 2018

Advent 2

ORDER OF SERVICE

WE GATHER

Silent Prayer and Preparation

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

* **Gathering Hymn 1** – *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*

* Opening Words: Lighting the Candle of Peace (*responsively*)

See, I am sending my messenger
to prepare the way before me,
says the Lord of hosts.

The light of hope has awakened our spirits.

A voice cries out in the wilderness,
“Prepare the way of the Lord,
make his paths straight.”

**Renew in us your covenant, O God,
that we may be ready for the dawn of your salvation.**

We light a second candle to bring light to every darkness
and to guide us in the way of peace.

**With gratitude for your light, O God,
we will prepare to welcome a new birth of your love.**

(We light the candle of peace singing ... MV 220)

Peace shines as the solitary star.

Faith is the inner light.

**You and I together mirror the Light of Lights,
and illumine the pathway home.**

(Congregation may be seated.)

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Prayer of Approach: (*in unison*)

Covenant God,

you send us messengers

to cleanse and refine us for your coming.

Help us endure the prophets’ message,

that we may see you

when you suddenly appear among us.

Holy One, through your Holy Spirit

instruct us by the light of your prophets.

Illumine our hearts, that we may hear your call

to become your path into the world,

in Jesus Christ, in whose words we pray as we sing ...

The Prayer of Jesus: *VU 959 (sung)*

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,

your kingdom come, your will be done

on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins,

as we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil

for the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours,

now and forever.

Choir Anthem:

“Carol For Advent”

- Price/Besig

WE LISTEN

Bible Readings:

Malachi 3: 1-4

- Marleene Kretchman

Responsive Reading: Luke 1: 68-79 - VU pg. 900

Luke 3: 1-6, 10-14

Sermon

WE GIVE THANKS

* **Hymn 18** – *There’s a Voice in the Wilderness*

The Offering

* Offertory Response: *VU 81, vs. 3*

**As they offered gifts most rare
at that manger crude and bare,
so may we with holy joy,
pure and free from sin's alloy,
all our costliest treasures bring,
Christ, to you, our heavenly King.**

* Prayer of Dedication: *(in unison)*

**God of all righteousness,
receive these gifts of gratitude,
the offerings of our lives.
Purify them with your refining fire
so that they may serve your purposes
and shine with your glory;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Prayers of God's People

Choral Response: *MV 90*

**Don't be afraid.
My love is stronger, my love is stronger
than your fear.
Don't be afraid.
My love is stronger and I have promised,
promised to be always near.**

WE GO FORTH

* **Closing Hymn 28** – *Herald! Sound the Note of Gladness*

* Benediction

* Choral Blessing: *MV 211*

**Go now in peace, guided by the light of Christ
so you may be nourished by the Word of Life.**

Postlude

(The congregation is invited to stay and listen to the postlude.)



WELCOME

We welcome all who worship with us today, but especially our guests. We would like to have a chance to meet our visitors. Please sign the guest book at the main entrance doors and introduce yourself to the greeter in the foyer or to the minister. After worship, the congregation visits over refreshments in the lower hall and we hope you will join us.

If you would like the minister to call on you, please contact the church office (905 892-6433); the church office is open Tuesday to Thursday from 9:00 am to 2:00 pm.

Assisted Hearing Devices are available at the back of the sanctuary for improved sound. Please feel free to ask an usher for a headset. As well, large print copies of the hymns are available at the back of the sanctuary. You are welcome to use them during the service.

Ushers: Jim Bradley and Ralph Watters

Counters: Keith Rae and Ken Brydon

Announcements

A Community Christmas Carol Sing will be held at Central United Church **this evening** at 7:00 pm. All are welcome to attend this service of seasonal music with four combined choirs, including the Fonthill choir, and congregational singing.

The UCW will be going out for a Christmas luncheon at the Swiss Chalet this Wednesday December 12 at 12:00 pm. All ladies are welcome – please let Maxine McPhail or the church office know if you will be joining us so we can reserve the space.

Memorial Donations – Anyone wishing to make a Christmas donation to go towards the decorating of the church may bring their donation into the church office or place in the offering plate. Memorials will be printed in the December 23rd and 24th bulletins.

The Friendship Group is planning to go to Betty's Restaurant for its Christmas Lunch on December 16. They will carpool after worship and drive together. Everyone is invited to come along, but please let Virginia Haun know you are coming so reservations can be made.

Gifts With Vision catalogue - Are you looking for a meaningful gift to give someone for Christmas? The 2018 *Gifts with Vision* catalogues are on the table in the Narthex. It is a great way to make a difference and show someone that you care. Please feel free to take one home.

These Days devotional booklets for January-March are now available beside the bulletin board on the lower level.

Sound System – We are looking for someone to help monitor the microphones during worship services. It's an easy job and we will show you what to do. It is a shared duty so you do not have to be here every week. Please tell Garry if you can help us.

The Week Ahead

Mon.	Dec 10	6:00 pm	Pickleball
Tues.	Dec 11	9:00 am	Badminton
		1:00 pm	Presbytery Executive Meeting
		3:00 pm	Music Lessons
		6:00 pm	A Cappella Niagara Practice
Wed.	Dec 12	10:00 am	Worship Committee Meeting
		12:00 pm	UCW Lunch at Swiss Chalet
		3:00 pm	Music Lessons
		6:00 pm	Scouts
		6:30 pm	Cubs and Beavers
Thurs.	Dec 13	9:00 am	Badminton
		9:30 am	Quilting
		3:00 pm	Music Lessons
		7:00 pm	Choir Practice
		7:00 pm	Tai Chi
Sun.	Dec 16	9:30 am	Worship Service – ADVENT 2 <i>Choir Cantata</i>

Fonthill United Church

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December 9, 2018

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Music Director: William Outred
Council Chair: Brian McDonald
Secretary: Patrice Walker