

North Kildonan United Church
174 Pentland St, Winnipeg, MB R2G 2S3
Church Office: 204-667-7408
email: nkuc@mymts.net
www.nkuc.ca



Minister: *Rev. Don Johnson*
(204)885-9879
Pianist/Choir Director: *Joanne Diplock*
Office Administrator: *Wilma Fehr*
Property Manager: *Heinz Goetz*

Our Mission...

to be an accepting Christian community dedicated to living, sharing and teaching the Word of God.

We respect all aspects of people including race, ethnicity, gender expression, sexual orientation, socio-economic background, age, religion, mental wellness, and ability.

The Third Sunday of Advent
December 12th, 2021

**The asterisk invites all to stand, if they are able, and the double asterisk ** indicates when to be seated;
Bold print indicates a congregational response.*

WE GATHER IN COMMUNITY

WELCOME

CHORAL INTROIT #1 VU – “**O Come, O Come, Emmanuel**”

(Music used with permission under license #A-620529 One License)

~translation: John M. Neale

~Joanne Diplock

GREETING

*The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.*

And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

**God of power and mercy,
you call us once again to celebrate the coming of your Son.
Remove those things which hinder love of you,
that when he comes
he may find us waiting
in awe and wonder for him;
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. Amen**

*HYMN: #29 VU – “**Hark the Glad Sound**”

(Words reproduced & music played with permission under license #A-620529 One License)

~words: Philip Doddridge

~Joanne Diplock

- 1 Hark, the glad sound! The Saviour comes,
the Saviour promised long:
let every heart prepare a throne,
and every voice a song.**
- 4 Our glad hosannas, Prince of Peace,
your welcome shall proclaim;
and heaven's eternal arches ring
with your beloved name.**

THE WORD OF GOD

LEARNING TIME AND LIGHTING OF THE THIRD ADVENT CANDLE

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come, thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread,
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil:
For thine is the kingdom,
the power and the glory
forever and ever. Amen.**

*HYMN: #7 VU – "Hope Is a Star"

(Words reproduced & music played with permission under license #A-620529 One License)

~words: Brian Wren

Joanne Diplock

- 1 Hope is a star that shines in the night,
leading us on till the morning is bright.
When God is a child there's joy in our song.
The last shall be first and the weak shall be strong,
and none shall be afraid.**
- 2 Peace is a ribbon that circles the earth,
giving a promise of safety and worth. R**
- 3 Joy is a song that welcomes the dawn,
telling the world that the Saviour is born. R**

CHILDREN'S PRESENTATION: "A Candy Cane at Christmas"

SONG: "Candy Cane Song"

Scripture Reader: *Peggy Latimer*

The First Lesson: **Philippians 4: 4-7**

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

The Gospel:

Luke 3: 7-18

John said to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, 'You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruits worthy of repentance. Do not begin to say to yourselves, "We have Abraham as our ancestor"; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the axe is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.'

And the crowds asked him, 'What then should we do?' In reply he said to them, 'Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise.' Even tax-collectors came to be baptized, and they asked him, 'Teacher, what should we do?' He said to them, 'Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you.' Soldiers also asked him, 'And we, what should we do?' He said to them, 'Do not extort money from anyone by threats or false accusation, and be satisfied with your wages.'

As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, John answered all of them by saying, 'I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing-fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing-floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.'

So, with many other exhortations, he proclaimed the good news to the people.

RESPONSE: *Your Word is a lamp to our feet and a light to our path.*
 Thanks be to God.

CHOIR ANTHEM: **"Let Every Heart Prepare a Throne"**
 (Music used with permission under license #A-620529 One License)

~words: Mark Patterson
~Joanne Diplock

MEDITATION: ~Rev. Don Johnson (see attached sermon)

PIANO SOLO

~Joanne Diplock

WE RESPOND TO THE WORD

LIFE and WORK of the CONGREGATION

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT of the LAND

We acknowledge that we meet in Treaty 1 land, the traditional lands of the Anishinaabe, Cree and Dakota peoples, and the homeland of the Metis nation. We are thankful for these first inhabitants, and we commit to working together towards justice, truth and reconciliation.

AN ADVENT STATEMENT OF FAITH ~Rev. Rebecca F. Harrison, Spanish Springs Presbyterian Church, Sparks, NV

**We are an Advent people,
a people of hope.**

**For us, Advent is a time of waiting,
and so we wait.**

**We wait for the coming of the One
who is the fulfillment of God's promise,
the fulfillment of hope,
the declaration that we have been redeemed.**

Even so, we are not a naïve people.

**We know that the world in which we live
will continue to be filled with pain and sorrow.**

We know that hatred and violence will continue to exist.

We know that death and separation will continue to be a part of our lives.

**But because we are an Advent people,
we know that none of these things will win in the end.**

**The Holy One is coming,
to make holy once again
all that was, is, and ever will be.**

**And in our waiting and our hoping,
we work and worship,
pray and play,
in all things hoping that peace, love and joy will reign
in our lives and in our world,
now and forever.**

THE PRESENTATION of our OFFERINGS

Offertory Verse #55 VU **"In the Bleak Midwinter"**
(Words reproduced & music played with permission under license #A-620529)

*~words: Christina Georgina Rossetti
~Joanne Diplock*

**4 What can I give him, poor as I am?
If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb;
if I were a wise man, I would do my part;
yet what I can I give him - give my heart.**

OFFERTORY PRAYER

~VU #11 "An Advent Prayer"

**God of all wisdom,
our hearts yearn for the warmth of your love,
and our minds search for the light of your Word.
Increase our longing for Christ our Saviour,
and strengthen us to grow in love,
that at the dawn of his coming**

**we may rejoice in his presence
and welcome the light of his truth.
This we ask in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.**

PRAYERS

***HYMN: #64 VU – “O Little Town of Bethlehem”**

(Words reproduced & music played with permission under license #A-620529 One License)

~words: Phillips Brooks

~Joanne Diplock

- 1 O little town of Bethlehem,
how still we see thee lie!
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep
the silent stars go by;
yet in thy dark streets shineth
the everlasting light;
the hopes and fears of all the years
are met in thee tonight.**
- 3 How silently, how silently
the wondrous gift is given!
So God imparts to human hearts
the blessed gift of heaven.
No ear may hear his coming;
but in this world of sin,
where meek souls will receive him, still
the dear Christ enters in.**
- 4 O holy child of Bethlehem,
descend to us, we pray;
cast out our sin, and enter in;
be born in us today.
We hear the Christmas angels
the great glad tidings tell;
O come to us, abide with us,
our Lord Emmanuel.**

THE BLESSING

CHORAL BENEDICTION

~Joanne Diplock

**May the Lord go with you,
let him take your hand.
Keep his love within you,
until we meet again. Amen.**

POSTLUDE

~Joanne Diplock