

Trinity United Church
Advent 3 – C December 16, 2018
Slaves to the Past

Trinity United Church extends a warm welcome to All

A Note for our Congregation -

- Newcomers please sign our guest book
- Pew cards with special requests may be placed with your offering
- Trinity seeks new ways to be Welcoming, Open, Inclusive and Accessible to all -
 - a lift is available for those with mobility concerns
 - we have accessible washrooms adjacent to the sanctuary and fellowship hall
 - hearing loops are available at the audio-visual desk
 - large print bulletins are available
 - we respect gluten sensitivities and vegetarians
 - we are scent-free
 - we offer mobile care and community by taking Communion to those who cannot come to church. Ask Cynthia.
 - we understand and welcome a variety of
 - gifts, talents, passions, interests and ages
 - ways of being
 - loving relationships and types of families
 - *Please alert us to any accommodation or accessibility requirements so that the “All” in “a warm welcome to All” includes you and the people you love.*
- We have a child-friendly space overlooking the sanctuary equipped with audio; please ask an usher
- Colour-coded emergency plan for safe evacuation

Join us for hospitality in the Fellowship Hall

Welcome and Announcements

Acknowledging Traditional Territory

Introit - VU 19 Kindle a Flame to Lighten the Dark

Lighting the Christ Candle

Call to Worship -

Come, let us rejoice in the God who is near in everyone around us.

We will sing glad songs of the One who is preparing God’s Kingdom in our midst.

Come, let us rejoice always in Jesus who baptizes us with hope and compassion.

We will join in choruses of praise of the One who brings justice to the forgotten in our midst.

Come, let us rejoice again and again in the Spirit who offers us new life in every moment.

We will sing full throttle of the One who fills us with gifts to share with everyone in our midst.

Prayer of Gathering

Lighting of the Advent Candle -

As increasing light colors the skies in a chorus of pinks and reds, birds, too, raise their song of greeting for the coming day.

Like that coloured sky, these flames remind us of the growing light that announces Jesus' birth with a chorus of angel songs proclaiming a new day.

May we pause to hear the twitter of that song and join our voices to the joyful cries of praise at Jesus' birth. Amen

Third Candle is lit

Hymn - VU18 There's a Voice in the Wilderness

Learning with Children -

Call to Reconciliation

Prayer of Confession

We admit, that sometimes it is easier to trust new words than yours which were spoken so long ago.

We know how afraid we are of tomorrow, because of what we do today, ignoring what you brought about so long ago. We, who have been given so much sometimes find it hard to share from our abundance.

Forgive us and have mercy on us. Lift us to our feet; draw us close into your loving embrace; immerse us in grace, drawn from the deep wells of life, as we follow Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with the Holy Spirit.

Assurance of Pardon

The good news is this: God is our hope. God is our life. God is our future.

We will sing aloud - We are forgiven, we are saved! Thanks be to God. Amen.

Scriptures

Zephaniah 3:14-20

Luke 3:7-18

Anthem - In The Bleak Midwinter

Reflection - Slaves to the Past

Hymn - VU 71 The Huron Carol

**We Respond to God's Word
Offering Ourselves
For The Work And Witness Of The Church**

Minute for Mission

Invitation to Offering

Let us gather our gifts together and present them as an offering to God.

Ushers will now receive our morning offering.

Ushers may be seated until the Offering Hymn, when the congregation will be invited to stand, if able.

PAR "offering" recognition cards are available on the table next to the audio/video booth for those who wish to place one on the offering plate as you would an offering envelope.

Offertory - Coventry Carol

***Offering Hymn - VU81 As with Gladness Men of Old vs 3**

***Offering Prayer**

We present our gifts -

May they be used to make a difference in the lives of people where hope is scarce.

May our gifts be a reminder, to those who receive them, of your love.

Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer

We Depart to Serve with Joy

Hymn - VU 59 Joy to the World

Commissioning / Benediction

Choral Amen

Organ Postlude - From Heaven Above

Announcements

**Next Sunday - Advent 4 – C December 23, 2018
The Power of Purpose**

**21 December - Longest Night - A Service of Candles, Communion and Community
6:30 pm in the Chapel**

**23 December - Advent 4 - C The Power of Purpose
Service of Baptism**

24 December - 4:30 pm Family / Children's Service
7:30 pm Lessons and Carols
10:30 pm Candlelight Communion

Looking Ahead

Dec 17 Stewardship Team, 6:30 pm in the Hall.

Dec 18 Fellowship on the Move - Trinity Walkers', Tuesdays, 9:30 am Start at Trinity.
End at a Café

Trinity on Tuesday Holy Hullabaloo, Tuesday December 18, 6:00 – 7:00 pm, fellowship hall, program 6:00 pm, supper to follow.

Dec 19 Bible Study, 9:30 am in the Minister's Study. All are welcome.

Trinity Notes

Christian Community Team offers mobile Pastoral Care and Community Presence with Communion. Contact the Church Office 613-283-4444.

Christian Community Line Dancing - Every Friday from 11:00am to 12:00pm. There is no charge but you may leave an offering, if you wish.

First Baptist Church "Music for a Winter's Afternoon", presented by Rideau Mellowdears and The Rosedale Singers, January 5, 2019, 2:00 pm. Free will offering.

January 18 – 20: Training Phase 1 – An Introduction

Location: Trinity United Church, (Ottawa, ON) 1099 Maitland Avenue. **Instructors:** Howard Clark, Joy Judd & Barb Loynes. Registration limited to 21 to avoid disappointment, register early. **Fee:** \$210 (\$230 after Jan 4th) \$50 deposit required with registration, non-refundable after January 4th Make Cheques payable to "First United Church."

Give meaningful gifts that make a difference with **Gifts with Vision!** Each year's gift catalogue gives a glimpse of the breadth of our Mission & Service ministries and programs.

Gifts with Vision has gift ideas to suit every interest, budget, and person. It's a great way to celebrate special occasions and honour loved ones!

Smiths Falls Community Food Bank appreciates donations, please fill our wagon at the back of the Sanctuary, it will be delivered monthly.

St. Francis de Sales - Blessed Sacrament Parish Annual Community Christmas Dinner. Christmas Day, doors open at 11:30 am, dinner at 12:15 pm, Hanley Hall. Dinner provided free of charge (donations accepted). To request delivery or a ride to Hanley Hall call 613-283-0220. All welcome.

The Interval House collection was a huge success again this year thanks to the generosity of all those that contributed to it. Those who benefit will be most grateful.

Trinity Swag Is Here and will make great Stocking Stuffers for Christmas! Stainless Steel Water Bottles: \$20 ea or 3 for \$50. Shopping Bags with storage pouch: \$10 ea. For more info please see Jan Montgomery or Chris Dickson

United Church Calendars are available, please contact Elizabeth Donaldson.

Prayer Concerns - Our UCW and women's and men's groups, Calvary Bible Church.

Lanark Drum Circle, 2nd Sunday of the Month, 1:00 - 3:30 pm
Gym of Trinity United, Smiths Falls