

Trinity United Church
Advent 4 – C December 23, 2018
The Power of Purpose

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 - MV 120 "My Soul Cries Out" (A setting of the Magnificat)

Lighting the Christ Candle

Call to Worship - (Isaiah 7: 14)

We seek the extraordinary -

but God's sign is a common miracle:

A young woman is with child.

We defer to power -

but God points to the most vulnerable:

She gives birth.

We look afar for God's mystery,

but God points us home:

She calls this child Immanuel: God-with-us!

Let us rejoice, and worship God

God-with-us!

in our ordinary, vulnerable lives:

Prayer of Gathering

Lighting of the Advent Candle - *Three candles are lit*

Tomorrow, we will rejoice in the birth of the Holy Child.

Like children waiting for Christmas morning, we lie awake.

Christmas is nearly upon us and God's love will shine. Soon we will open the curtains to welcome the light of day.

Fourth Candle is lit

Hymn - 54 "Unto Us A Boy is Born"

Learning with Children -

Call to Reconciliation

Prayer of Confession

Silence

Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel!

You who are enthroned upon the cherubim:

Come to save us!

Restore us;

change our lives with your justice,

heal our lives with your compassion.

Reveal Your Promised One,

the one whom you sent.
Then we will never turn back from you;
give us life, and we will call on your name.
Restore us;
delight our lives with your love.

Assurance of Pardon

Scriptures

Micah 5:2-5a

Luke 1:39-55

Anthem - "Before The Marvel of This Night"

Reflection - The Power of Purpose

The Sacrament of Baptism

The sacrament of baptism proclaims and celebrates the grace of God.

By water and the Spirit,
we are called, claimed, and commissioned:
we are called God's own,
welcomed as children of God;
we are claimed by Christ,
united with Christ,
united with one another and the Christian community
of every time and place;
we are commissioned to Christ's ministry
of love, peace, and justice,
and strengthened by the Holy Spirit
for the work of the church in the world.

Presentation of Candidates

On behalf of the congregation of Trinity United Church,
I present Olivia for initiation into the body of Christ through baptism; the daughter of
Jake and Amy. The sister of Lincoln.

Profession of Faith and Promises

Do you believe in God, who has created and is creating,
who has come in Jesus, the Word made flesh,
to reconcile and make new,
and who works in us and others by the Spirit?

I do, by the grace of God.

Desiring the freedom of new life in Christ,
do you seek to resist evil, and to live in love and justice?
I will, God being my helper.

Will you proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen,
in your words and actions?
I will, God being my helper.

Will you join with your brothers and sisters in this community of faith
to celebrate God's presence, live with respect in creation,
and love and serve others?
I will, God being my helper.

Commitment of Parents

In baptism, Olivia marks an important step
in her journey of faith.
Will you care for her,
and help her to take her place
within the mission and witness of Christ's Church?
I will, God being my helper.

Commitment of Godparents

Will you grow in faith with Olivia,
trusting that, "you are not alone, you live in God's world"?
I will, God being my helper.

Congregational Commitment - The congregation may stand, as they are able, to pledge their support.

As Trinity United Church,
do you commit yourselves to support and nurture
these persons within a community which worships God,
loves and serves others, seeks justice, and resists evil?
We do, by the grace of God.

Affirmation of Faith - A New Creed

We are not alone,
we live in God's world.

We believe in God:
who has created and is creating,
who has come in Jesus,
the Word made flesh,
to reconcile and make new,

who works in us and others
by the Spirit.

We trust in God.

We are called to be the Church:
to celebrate God's presence,
to live with respect in Creation,
to love and serve others,
to seek justice and resist evil,
to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen,
our judge and our hope.
In life, in death, in life beyond death,
God is with us.
We are not alone.
Thanks be to God.

Prayer of Thanksgiving and the Pouring of Water

Gracious and Holy God,
we bless you for the gift of life,
and, within it, the gift of water.
Over its unshaped promise your Spirit hovered at creation.
By water, comes the growth of the earth.
Through water, you led the children of Israel to freedom.
In the waters of the Jordan your Child Jesus was baptized.
Now may your Spirit be upon us and what we do,
that this water may be a sign for all of new life in Christ,
in whose name we pray.
Amen.

Baptism in the Name of the Triune God

Olivia,
you are baptized,
in the name of the Father,
and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

Blessing

May the blessing of
God, Source of Love,
Jesus Christ, Love incarnate,
and the Holy Spirit, Love's power,

be with you today and always.

Amen.

Marking with the Sign of the Cross

Olivia, I mark you with the cross,
the sign of Love Incarnate.

Amen.

Lighting of a Candle

Olivia, let your light shine before others,
that they may see your good works,
and give glory to God.

Amen.

Declaration and Congregational Welcome

There is one Lord, one faith, one baptism:

By one Spirit, we are all baptized into one body.

We are children of the one God,

Mother and Father of us all.

We welcome you into the community of faith.

Blessing

May God bless you and keep you.

Amen.

May God's face shine upon you and be gracious to you.

Amen.

May God look upon you with kindness and give you peace.

Amen.

Hymn - 76 "See Amid The Winter's Snow"

We Respond to God's Word

Offering Ourselves

For The Work And Witness Of The Church

Minute for Mission

Invitation to Offering

The Love of God is born in the world

as often as we embody that love

in the works of compassion, peace and justice.

Let us offer our gifts in a spirit of generosity and hope.

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 - "Stille, Stille," medley, played by Gloria Stowell

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

***Offering Prayer**

With these gifts

**accept the praise and thanksgiving of our hearts,
which rejoice in your goodness and love.**

**Let our gifts point to your presence in the world,
and further your dream for the world
through Jesus, Emmanuel, God-with-us.**

Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer

We Depart to Serve with Joy

Hymn - 38 "Angels We Have Heard On High"

Commissioning / Benediction

Let us go forth with eyes to see and ears to hear and voices to proclaim:

In the ordinary and the vulnerable:

God-with-us!

In the challenge of the unexpected:

God-with-us!

In love giving life in justice and mercy:

God-with-us!

In the work of peace:

God-with-us!

Choral Amen

Organ Postlude - "Unto Us A Boy Is Born" (Young)

Announcements

Next Sunday –

First Sunday after Christmas Day, 30 December 2018 – Good News

Key Scripture Luke 2: 8-20

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

30 December - First Sunday After Christmas Day - “Good News”
LLWL, Norma W

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.

Church Books Close on December 31st, 2018. *Please have all 2018 contributions at the Church Office no later than noon.*

The Offering Envelopes for 2019 are available at the back of the Sanctuary this morning.

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.

Last Chance - Trinity Swag Shop is about to close for the season. Boxing Day prices: Stainless Steel Water Bottles (keep eggnog cold): 2 for \$30., Shopping Bags with storage pouch: 2 for \$15. Limited quantities available. For more info please see Jan or Chris

United Church Calendars are available, please contact Elizabeth.

Prayer Concerns - Our Archives staff, First Baptist Church.



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