



Fourth Sunday of Advent - A  
December 18, 2022

“Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel," which means, "God is with us.”

*Matthew 1:23*

### **Welcome and Announcements**

- † Trinity is Welcoming, Open, Inclusive and Accessible.
  - Trinity is an Affirming Congregation
- † Our building is open 9:00 am to 1:00 pm, Monday through Thursday

**Cookie Sale** - Last Chance! Foyer, \$6:00 or Offering.  
Thank You for your Support. The Kitchen Co-ordinators.

**Stewardship** - No Giving Envelopes will be ordered for 2023. Folks are encouraged to use up their current supply. If additional envelopes are needed the Church Secretary can provide a supply.

**Smiths Falls Community Food Bank** appreciates donations

Please pray for our **Children and Children's Programming and Activities**

**Phase One “An Introduction to Healing Pathway”** is being offered in Kemptville 20, 21 January 2023, 9:00am – 5:30pm. This is a great

opportunity to learn about energy healing in a small group, hands-on setting. Beth Donovan Hospice, 1107 French Settlement Road, Kemptville. Covid protocols and snow dates in place. For more information Howard Clark at [healingpathwayeast@gmail.com](mailto:healingpathwayeast@gmail.com) 613-421-5335 or Nancy at [healingpathwayhol@gmail.com](mailto:healingpathwayhol@gmail.com) 613-989-5358

## **The Belonging Project**

*Experience and practice good connection through this introductory series of five sessions.*

Together we'll practice the skills of **really listening** to others while asking questions that lead to **richer and more authentic connections**.

In the process we'll **listen to our own hearts** and **share to our own comfort level**.

The first series is for adults only. Those who wish may take part in a second series to which teenagers and young adults will be invited and the adults will play more of a mentoring role.

Can't attend but want to support? Please talk about this with others, old and young and/or sign up to provide snacks on one of the five afternoons.

Want to know more? See the December Communicator or contact Carol Williams, 613 269 4427, [journey@ripnet.com](mailto:journey@ripnet.com)

Tuesday Jan 31 to Feb 28th 3—5 p.m. The Chapel at Trinity  
Please plan to attend all five sessions for the full two hours.

**Book Group meets** in the Upper Room on Mondays at 1:00pm  
**Advent Study** Wednesdays at 10:00 am

**Potluck and Prayers**, 20 December, 6:00pm, Christmas theme.

December

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

24 - **Children's Service**, 4:30  
**Candles and Carols**, 7:30  
**Communion**, 10:30

25 - **Presents and Pyjamas**, 10:30am

**Confirmation Class** will be held in the New Year

**Introit** 61 "Of The Father's Love Begotten"

Of the Father's love begotten, ere the worlds began to be,  
Christ is Alpha and Omega, Christ the source, the ending he,  
of the things that are and have been,  
and that future years shall see, evermore and evermore.

O that birth for ever blessed!  
When the Virgin, full of grace, by the Holy Ghost conceiving,  
bare the Saviour of our race, and the babe, the world's redeemer,  
first revealed his sacred face, evermore and evermore.

*(Lighting of Christ Candle)*

### **Acknowledging Traditional Territory**

Smiths Falls is located on the traditional territory of the Algonquin peoples dating back countless generations. We are grateful for our neighbours and recognize the opportunity to exercise the Ministry of Reconciliation

### **Lighting of the Advent Candle**

We are people of love.

God has loved us so much that God has chosen to come as Immanuel, the God who is with us.

**We are free to love others, because God first loved us.**

The fourth candle of Advent invites us to reflect God's love in our lives.

We light this candle so that we can see who we are called to love today

(Light the candle of Love)

**Holy One, help us to know we are deeply loved and to share that same unconditional love with others.**

**May our lives reflect the warmth and wonder of this flame.**

**Make your church a place of love and acceptance in our community. Amen.**

## **Call to Worship**

The light shines in the darkness,

**We come to worship, seeking the peace of Christ.**

Shine into our lives and your world this Advent.

**Renew in us Jesus' call to be peacemakers this day.**

## **Opening Prayer**

Emmanuel, God with us,

We praise you for your presence throughout the amazing universe you have made.

The shining stars sing your praise which echoes in the depth of space.

In Jesus, you were born among us, one of a kind, yet one with a kind, to show us how your great love is lived out day by day.

Inspire us with your loving Spirit as we move through Advent toward Christmas Day, so that our celebrations of love made flesh in Jesus will share the presence of your love with those who need it most.

So may we live the praise we offer to you,  
Emmanuel, God with us, now and evermore.

**Hymn** 38 "Angels We Have Heard on High"

Angels we have heard on high sweetly singing o'er the plains,  
and the mountains in reply, echoing their joyous strains.

*Gloria in excelsis Deo!*

*Gloria in excelsis Deo!*

Shepherds, why this jubilee? Why your joyous strains prolong?  
What the gladsome tidings be which inspire your heavenly song

*Gloria in excelsis Deo!*

*Gloria in excelsis Deo!*

Come to Bethlehem and see Christ whose birth the angels sing;  
come, adore on bended knee Christ, the Lord, the newborn King.

*Gloria in excelsis Deo!*

*Gloria in excelsis Deo!*

See him in a manger laid, whom the choirs of angels praise;  
Mary, Joseph, lend your aid, while our hearts in love we raise.

*Gloria in excelsis Deo!*

*Gloria in excelsis Deo!*

**Anthem** "Hurry To Bethlehem"

**Reading**

**Anthem** "The Huron Carol"  
Crystal Shawanda

Have courage all you human beings  
Jesus has come.  
The spirits in the sky have words  
To share with everyone.  
They've come here with exalted voice  
Saying Mary's given birth; Rejoice!  
Jesous Ahatonhia, Jesus is born, Jesous Ahatonhia.

Three men of great authority  
Left for the Sacred place.  
'Tis then the star appeared to lead them  
On their path with grace.  
And somewhere far from where He lay  
The star, to them said, "Come this way"  
Jesou Ahatonhia, Jesus is born, Jesous Ahatonhia.

With sunflower oil they rubbed his scalp  
Anointing his head. (make this a four syllable word)  
The elders said, "The spirits wish  
Your love for everyone.  
And, Jesus, how we want to see  
A people as one family".  
Jesous Ahatonhia, Jesus is born, Jesous Ahatonhia.

**Offering**

This Sunday we celebrate the Advent of Love, embracing us in Jesus.  
Think of your gifts as signs of that love which we can place in the world  
God loves.

## Offering Options

- E-transfers to [secretary@trinityunitedsf.ca](mailto:secretary@trinityunitedsf.ca)
- delivery to church office
- through Trinity website DONATE button
- PAR

## Time for the Young

### Hymn 46 "Gentle Mary Laid Her Child"

Gentle Mary laid her child lowly in a manger;  
there he lay, the undefiled, to the world a stranger.  
Such a Babe in such a place, can he be the Saviour?  
Ask the saved of all the race who have found his favour.

Angels sang about his birth, wise Men sought and found him;  
heaven's star shone brightly forth, glory all around him.  
Shepherds saw the wondrous sight, heard the angels singing;  
all the plains were lit that night, all the hills were ringing.

Gentle Mary laid her child lowly in a manger;  
he is still the undefiled, but no more a stranger.  
Son of God of humble birth, beautiful the story;  
praise his name in all the earth; hail the King of glory!

## Reading

### Anthem 55 "In The Bleak Midwinter"

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan,  
earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone;  
snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow,  
in the bleak midwinter, long ago.

Our God, heaven cannot hold him, nor earth sustain;  
    heaven and earth shall flee away when he comes to reign.  
In the bleak midwinter a stable place sufficed  
    the Lord God Almighty, Jesus Christ.

Angels and archangels may have gathered there,  
    cherubim and seraphim thronged the air;  
but his mother only, in her maiden bliss,  
    worshiped the beloved with a kiss.

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.

## **Prayer**

Come, Christ Jesus,  
    Be a guest in our hearts and our homes this Christmas.  
Enter our lives today with your blessing.

We are grateful for the wonder you bring.  
Draw near to us in friendship and faithfulness, so that in this season  
of celebration, we may know your presence and can sing with all your  
people:

***Joy, joy for Christ is born, the babe, the son of Mary.***

Come, Christ Jesus,  
    Be our guide through the darkening days and the chill of winter.  
Show us the way to wisdom and gratitude.



We are thankful for the kindness we know in friends and good neighbours, in warm houses and warm smiles.

Encourage us to reach out to those who need your embrace and ours, so that together we may sing of your presence:

***Joy, joy for Christ is born, the babe, the son of Mary.***

Come, Christ Jesus,

Be our hope in the uncertain times in which we find ourselves.

Touch us with your healing and grace.

We remember before you those we know and those known to you alone

who are living with loss or illness this season,  
those who face depression or discouragement,  
and any who will find it hard to be merry this year.

Shine the light of your courage and comfort into their lives so that we may sing together in your love

***Joy, joy for Christ is born, the babe, the son of Mary.***

Come, Christ Jesus,

Be our king and claim your rightful place in our hearts.

Our world is struggling for the justice and mercy you bring.

Draw near to all leaders and all citizens working for peace and justice.

Encourage honourable action and co-operation on all sides.

Give hope to people under oppression

and those who live with fear or hunger day by day.

Hasten the day when the world's peoples will live as neighbours, reconciled in your truth and freedom so that all may know the joy we sing

*Joy, joy for Christ is born, the babe, the son of Mary.*

With voices united in love and loyalty, we offer the prayer you taught us -

### **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,  
for ever and ever. **Amen.**

### **Hymn 54 "Unto Us A Boy Is Born"**

Unto us a boy is born! King of all creation,  
came he to a world forlorn,  
the Lord of every nation,  
the Lord of every nation.

Christ from heaven descending low comes, on earth a stranger;  
ox and ass their owner know;

becradled in the manger,  
becradled in the manger.

Herod then with fear was filled: "A prince," he said, "in Jewry!"  
All the little boys he killed  
at Bethlem in his fury,  
at Bethlem in his fury.

Now may Mary's son, who came so long ago to love us,  
lead us all with hearts aflame  
unto the joys above us,  
unto the joys above us.

Omega and Alpha he!  
Let the organ thunder,  
while the choir with peals of glee  
doth rend the air asunder,  
doth rend the air asunder.

## **Benediction**

Go in love this day, to greet friend or enemy, neighbour or stranger  
with the warmth and wonder of Jesus in your smile.

And may the all-forgiving grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
the all-inspiring love of God,  
and the all-embracing communion of the Holy Spirit  
be yours this day and in each day to come,  
now and evermore. Amen.

## **Choral Amen**

**Postlude** "Christmas Grace"

## Recurring Events and Activities at Trinity

Every Monday, 1:00pm	Book Group
First Monday, 9:30am	UCW
Fourth Monday, 9:30am	Property Team / Church Hall
Every Tuesday, All Day	Pastoral Visitation
First Tuesday, 1:00pm - 3:00pm	Retirement Residences
First Tuesday, 7:00pm	Outreach and Social Justice
Third Tuesday, 9:30am	Stewardship & Finance Team / Upper Room
Third Tuesday, 6:00pm	Potluck and Praise
Every Wednesday, 10:00am	Bible Study / Seasonal Study
Second Wednesday, 12:30pm	Healing Pathway
Second Wednesday, 7:00pm	Spiritual Leadership Meeting
Fourth Wednesday, 12:30pm	Healing Pathway
Last Wednesday, 7:00pm	Council
Second Friday, 6:00pm	Rainbow 101
Every Sunday, 11:30am	Soaking Prayer
Second Sunday, 8:30am	Early Communion
Last Sunday, 1:00pm	Lanark Drum Circle