



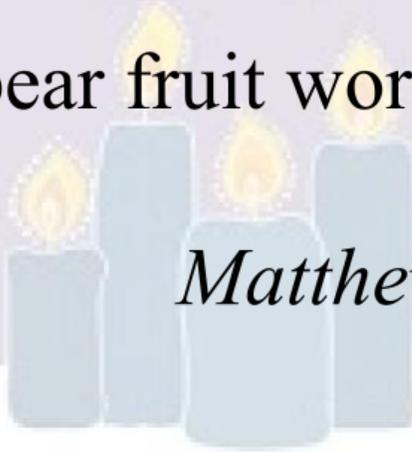
TRINITY
UNITED CHURCH
Smiths Falls, Ontario, Canada

Second Sunday of Advent - A
December 4, 2022

“Therefore, bear fruit worthy of
repentance,...”

PEACE

Matthew 24:44



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

Our guest speaker today is Erin Lee from Interval House. The UCW have placed a designated bowl beside the offering plate for donations.

Items continue to be collected at the front entrance for Interval House until December 10th. Contact Diane Combdon or Joanne Hunter for any questions.

White Gift Sunday - Next week

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**

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

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

Our next **Potluck and Prayers** will have a Christmas Potluck theme.

Salvation Army Kettles Mary Lynn Wilson at 613-283-3563. If wish to make a referral contact the office

Christmas Cards are set up in the Church Hall

Wendy is eager to play your favourites for Advent. Requests to w.wearl@hotmail.com or write your request at the back of the sanctuary.

December

11 - **White Gift Sunday**

18 - **A Service of Music**

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

Gifts with Vision! Each year's gift catalogue gives a glimpse of the breadth of our Mission & Service ministries and programs.

UCW Budget Planning Meeting and potluck lunch. Tomorrow in the Church Hall at 11:00. Bring a plate and cutlery to ease cleaning up.

National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women - December 6, 1:00pm in the Sanctuary

Confirmation Class will be held in the New Year

Carols - Silver Bells

Silver bells, silver bells

It's Christmas time in the city

Ring-a-ling, (ring-a-ling) hear them ring (ting-a-ling)

Soon it will be Christmas day

City sidewalks, busy sidewalks
Dressed in holiday style
In the air there's a feeling of Christmas
Children laughing, people passing
Meeting smile after smile
And on every street corner you hear

Silver bells, (silver bells) silver bells (silver bells)
It's Christmas time in the city
Ring-a-ling, (ring-a-ling)
Hear them ring, (hear them ring)
Soon it will be Christmas day

Strings of street lights, even stoplights
Blinkin' bright red and green
As the shoppers rush home with their treasures
Hear the snow crunch, see the kids bunch
This is Santa's big day
And above all this bustle you hear

Silver bells (The corner Santa Claus)
Silver bells (Is busy now because)
It's Christmas time in the city
Ring-a-ling, it fills the winter air
Hear them ring, you hear it everywhere
Soon it will be Christmas Day.

I'm Dreaming of a White Christmas

I'm dreaming of a white Christmas
Just like the ones I used to know
Where the treetops glisten
And children listen
To hear sleigh bells in the snow

I'm dreaming of a white Christmas
With every Christmas card I write
May your days be merry and bright
And may all your Christmases be white

I'm dreaming of a white Christmas
Just like the ones I used to know
Where the treetops glisten
And children listen
To hear sleigh bells in the snow

I'm dreaming of a white Christmas
With every Christmas card I write
May your days be merry and bright
And may all your Christmases be white

Introit "For Everyone Born, A Place At The Table" vs. 1,2,5

For everyone born, a place at the table,
For everyone born, clean water and bread,
A shelter, a space, a safe place for growing,
For everyone born, a star overhead,

Refrain -

***And God will delight when we are creators of justice and joy,
Compassion and peace:***

***Yes, God will delight when we are creators of justice,
Justice and joy.***

For young and for old, a place at the table,
A voice to be heard, a part in the song,
The hands of a child in hands that are wrinkled,
For young and for old, the right to belong,

Refrain -

***And God will delight when we are creators of justice and joy,
Compassion and peace:***

***Yes, God will delight when we are creators of justice,
Justice and joy.***

For gay and for straight, a place at the table,
Transgender and queer, in one single tree,
Engaging each gift, and blessing each cov'nant,
For gay and for straight, a new way to be.

Refrain -

***And God will delight when we are creators of justice and joy,
Compassion and peace:***

***Yes, God will delight when we are creators of justice,
Justice and joy.***

(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 peace.

God seeks justice and compassion. God listens to the cries of the vulnerable and longs for wars to cease.

**We pray God's peace is at work in our hearts, our homes,
our neighbourhoods and the world.**

The second candle of Advent reminds us that we are called to live as people of peace.

We light this candle as an invitation to work for justice and peace.

(Light the candle of peace)

Holy One, help us to fan the flame of peace.

**May our lives reflect the warmth and wonder of this candle.
Make your church a place of peace and sanctuary 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

God of wisdom and understanding,
of peace and promise,

You are the giver of life and you live in us.

You have welcomed us as your children,

and called us to live out your image with hospitality toward each other.

In Jesus Christ, you offer us living water

to wash away our sin and sorrow,

and call us back to paths of justice and righteousness.

With the Holy Spirit, you baptize us for service and life in community,
refreshing us each day with your presence and purpose.

Glory and honour and praise be yours,

Creator, Christ and Spirit,

this day and every day, now and evermore.

Hymn 20 "On Jordan's Bank"

On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry
announces that the Lamb is nigh;
awake and hearken, for he brings
glad tidings of the King of Kings.

Then cleansed be every breast from sin;
make straight the way for God within;
and let each heart prepare a home
where such a mighty guest may come.

In you, we find abundant life,
our refuge in the midst of strife;
without your grace we waste away
like flowers that wither and decay.

Stretch forth your hand, our health restore,
and help us rise to fall no more.
O let your face upon us shine,
and fill the world with love divine.

All praise to you, eternal Son,
whose advent has our freedom won;
and praise to God whom we adore,
with Holy Spirit evermore.

Prayer of Confession

God of peace and promise,

We confess that we have taken your commitment to us for granted.

**We assume what we do is acceptable to you,
yet we judge others more harshly.**

**We have been slow to welcome others,
especially if their cultures or convictions differ from ours.**

You call us to repentance,

**but we resist seeing anything needing change in our hearts
or our habits.**

Forgive our self-satisfied attitudes,

**and challenge us with your vision of a peaceable kingdom
where all can be made new.**

Assurance of Pardon

Receive the Good News in peace. With great mercy, God forgives what we have confessed and offers us new life in Christ. Receive the peace of Christ, and be at peace with God, with yourself and with one another.

Scripture Isaiah 11:1-10
 Psalm 72: 1-7, 18-19
 Matthew 3:1-12

Isaiah 11:1-10

A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse,
and a branch shall grow out of his roots.
The spirit of the Lord shall rest on him,
the spirit of wisdom and understanding,
the spirit of counsel and might,
the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord.
His delight shall be in the fear of the Lord.

He shall not judge by what his eyes see
or decide by what his ears hear,
but with righteousness he shall judge for the poor
and decide with equity for the oppressed of the earth;
he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth,
and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked.
Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist
and faithfulness the belt around his loins.

The wolf shall live with the lamb;
the leopard shall lie down with the kid;
the calf and the lion will feed together,
and a little child shall lead them.

The cow and the bear shall graze;
their young shall lie down together;
and the lion shall eat straw like the ox.
The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp,
and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den.
They will not hurt or destroy
on all my holy mountain,
for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the Lord
as the waters cover the sea.

Psalm 72: 1-7, 18-19 (VU790)

Refrain -

Hail to God's own anointed, who rules in equity.

Give the ruler your justice, O God,
and your righteousness to the royal heir,
**for judging your people rightly,
and upholding the poor with justice;**

that the mountains may bring forth peace for the people,
and the hills, prosperity with justice.

Refrain -

Hail to God's own anointed, who rules in equity.

May your anointed defend the cause of the poor among the people,
save the children of the needy, and crush the oppressor.

**May your anointed live as long as the sun endures,
as long as the moon from age to age.**

May your anointed be like rain falling upon the grass,
like showers that water the earth;

**may your anointed be one in whose days
justice shall flourish and peace abound
till the moon is no more.**

Refrain -

Hail to God's own anointed, who rules in equity.

Blessed are you, O God, the God of Israel,
who alone does marvellous things.

Blessed is your glorious name for ever.

May the whole earth be filled with your glory.

Refrain -

Hail to God's own anointed, who rules in equity.

Matthew 3:1-12

In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near." This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said,

"The voice of one crying out in the wilderness:
'Prepare the way of the Lord;
make his paths straight.'"

Now John wore clothing of camel's hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. Then Jerusalem and all Judea and all the region around the Jordan were going out to him, and they were baptized by him in the River Jordan, confessing their sins.

But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming for his baptism, he said to them, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the coming wrath? Therefore, bear fruit worthy of repentance,

and do not presume 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; therefore every tree that does not bear good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire.

"I baptize you with water for repentance, but the one who is coming after me is more powerful than I, and I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and will gather his wheat into the granary, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

Meditation "My Sister, My Friend"

written and performed by Flora Riley

Reflection

Hymn 8 "Lo How a Rose"

Lo, how a rose e'er blooming from tender stem hath sprung!
Of Jesse's lineage coming, as men of old have sung.
It came a flow'ret bright,
Amid the cold of winter, when half spent was the night.

Isaiah 'twas foretold it, the Rose I have in mind,
With Mary we behold it, the Virgin Mother kind.
To show God's love aright she bore to us a Savior,
When half spent was the night."

Names and Roses

"Lo, How A Rose E'er Blooming" is a Hymn of Hope. The vase of roses before us this morning represents 14 young women whose lives and contributions and hopes were lost to us 30 years ago at École Polytechnique in Montreal on December 6, 1989. In this season of Advent

and always, may pledge to continue to contribute to a society and world in which such hope will never be lost to us again.

Their names are -

Geneviève Bergeron, 21

Hélène Colgan, 23

Nathalie Croteau, 23

Barbara Daigneault, 22

Anne-Marie Edward, 21

Maud Haviernick, 29

Barbara Klueznick, 31

Maryse Laganière, 25

Maryse Leclair, 23

Anne-Marie Lemay, 22

Sonia Pelletier, 23

Michèle Richard, 21

Anne St-Arneault, 23

Annie Turcotte, 21

Invitation to the Offering

This Sunday we celebrate the Advent of Peace, born for us in Jesus. Think of your gifts as seeds of that peace which we can plant in the world God loves for Christ's sake.

Offering Options

- E-transfers to secretary@trinityunitedsf.ca
- delivery to church office
- through Trinity website DONATE button
- PAR

Offering Prayer

Our Peace and our Promise, receive our gifts as seeds of gratitude for your gift to us in Jesus. Bless these seeds with growth so that peace will take root in people who face conflict and danger, and places seeking to establish peace in the face of violence. Be their peace and their promise, through Christ our Lord.

Time for the Young

Hymn 29 "Hark, The Glad Sound"

Hark, the glad sound! The Saviour comes,
The Saviour promised long:
Let every heart prepare a throne,
And every voice a song.

He comes, the prisoners to release
In Satan's bondage held;
The gates of brass before him burst,
The iron fetters yield.

He comes, the broken heart to bind,
the bleeding soul to cure,
And with the treasures of his grace
to bless the humble poor.

Our glad hosannas, Prince of Peace,
your welcome shall proclaim;
And heaven's eternal arches ring
with your beloved name.

Prayers of the People

God of the peaceable kingdom Isaiah envisioned,
where predator and prey are reconciled,
and children play in safety,

We give you thanks for every step taken towards reconciliation
among rivals.

and every program provided to give children a reliable future.

Thank you for policies implemented on behalf of the climate
and every vulnerable creature,
to give us all hope for an enduring future in the world you
love,
for peace will not come if the earth keeps tilting out of
balance.

God of peace with justice,
Make us better stewards of the gifts you give us.

God of John the Baptist's rallying cry,
You raised up John in the wilderness as a voice calling us to
conversion.
We thank you for signs of renewal and change in the church,
and in communities grappling with historic injustice and current
outcry.

Guide advocates who work for change with both courage and
compassion.
As we await the coming of Christ,
awaken the church to new ways to undertake ministry and
mission,
and give us the energy and resources to reach out in ways
we have yet to imagine.

God of peace with justice,
Make us better stewards of the gifts you give us.

God of steadfast encouragement,
Paul called the followers of Christ to live in harmony,
and welcome those perceived as strangers to you and to them.
Thank you for welcoming us when we were strangers

to a new community, a new church or a life changed by unexpected circumstance.

We pray for people who dread this Christmas season
because life has changed for them,
or circumstances leave them feeling lonely and discouraged.
Draw close to those who suffer in body, mind or spirit,
and guide us to reach out to someone who needs comfort or encouragement.

God of peace with justice,
Make us better stewards of the gifts you give us.

God of justice and equity,
The psalms, the prophets and the gospels proclaim your care for the poor,
and your expectation that your people will look to the needs of the vulnerable.

We thank you that Canada has resources to share,
and pray that our leaders will attend to longstanding injustice and urgent need
without excuse or delay.

We pray for places torn apart by war,
and for communities devastated by storm, flood, fire or drought.

Challenge any who would hoard scarce resources or profit from the needs of others.

Open our hearts to share what we can, even in these difficult times.

God of peace with justice,
Make us better stewards of the gifts you give us.

Hear our prayers, O God, and strengthen us to serve you in faith and obedience.

We offer our prayers through Jesus who taught us to pray together -

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.**

[**EOORC Prayer Cycle**](#)

Manotick United Church

[**The Ecumenical Prayer Cycle**](#)

East Timor, Indonesia, Philippines

We Depart to Serve in Peace and with Love

Hymn 9 "People Look East"

People, look east. The time is near
of the crowning of the year.
Make your house fair as you are able,
trim the hearth and set the table.
People, look east and sing today:
Love the guest is on the way.

Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim
one more light the bowl shall brim,
shining beyond the frosty weather,
bright as sun and moon together.
People, look east and sing today:
Love the star is on the way.

Angels, announce with shouts of mirth
Christ who brings new life to earth.
Set every peak and valley humming
with the word, the Lord is coming.
People, look east and sing today:
Love the Lord is on the way.

Benediction

Go in peace this day, ready to bear fruit worthy of your commitment to Jesus Christ and his kingdom of justice and peace.

And may the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit and the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

Choral Amen

Postlude "O Come All Ye Faithful" (arr. Young)

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
Fifth 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