



**TRINITY**  
UNITED CHURCH  
Smiths Falls, Ontario, Canada

Third Sunday of Advent - A  
December 11, 2022

“He has brought down the powerful  
from their thrones, and lifted up the  
lowly;”

*Luke 1:52*

### **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

**Second Annual Cookie Sale** - Today, the 11th and 18th. Cookies can be purchased after the service in the main entrance / foyer. \$6:00 / Dozen or an 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

Our next **Potluck and Prayers**, 20 December, 6:00pm, will have a Christmas Potluck theme.

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

December

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.

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

**Carols -**

64 "O Little Town of Bethlehem" vs. 1,4

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.

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.

74 "What Child is This?" vs. 1,3

What child is this, who laid to rest,  
on Mary's lap is sleeping?  
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet  
while shepherds watch are keeping?

***Refrain -***

***This, this is Christ the King,  
whom shepherds guard and angels sing;  
haste, haste to bring him laud,  
the babe, the son of Mary!***

So bring Him incense, gold, and myrrh,  
Come, peasant, king to own Him.  
The King of kings salvation brings;  
Let loving hearts enthrone Him.

***Refrain -***

***This, this is Christ the King,  
whom shepherds guard and angels sing;  
haste, haste to bring him laud,  
the babe, the son of Mary!***

**Introit** 166 "Joy Comes At The Dawn" vs. 1, 3

*Joy comes with the dawn;  
Joy comes with the morning sun,  
Joy springs from the tomb and scatters the night with her song,  
Joy comes with the dawn.*

Weeping may come;  
weeping may come in the night, when dark shadows cloud our sight.

*Joy comes with the dawn;  
Joy comes with the morning sun,  
Joy springs from the tomb and scatters the night with her song,  
Joy comes with the dawn.*

We will rejoice,  
we will rejoice, and give praise, to the One who brings us grace.

*Joy comes with the dawn;  
Joy comes with the morning sun,  
Joy springs from the tomb and scatters the night with her song,  
Joy comes with the dawn.*

*(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 joy.

God causes flowers to bloom in the desert;  
the wilderness is glad and breaks into song.

**We open our eyes and we are surprised by joy in our lives!**

The third candle of Advent reminds us that we are called to live as people of joy.

We light this candle, recalling moments  
of laughter, great beauty and deep faith.

(Light the candle of Joy)

**Holy One, regardless of what happens in our lives or in our world,**

**May we reflect the warmth and wonder of this flame.  
Make your church a place of joy and life in our community.  
Amen.**

## **Call to Worship**

The light shines in the darkness,

**We come to worship, seeking the joy Mary sang to welcome her saviour.**

Source of light, shine into our lives and your world this Advent.

**Renew in us the joy of our salvation.**

## **Opening Prayer**

Creator God, Maker of heaven and earth,

With the sea and the stars, and everything in between,

we praise you for the wonders of this world and beyond it.

You set all creation in relationships both fruitful and fragile.  
You make deserts bloom and refresh the earth with seasonal rain.

With your care for the vulnerable in our hearts,  
we praise you with joy song this day,  
Our God, who is the Source, Saviour and Spirit of life,  
perfect in unity, splendor and truth.

**Hymn** 35 "Good Christian Friends, Rejoice"

Good Christian friends, rejoice  
with heart and soul and voice!  
Give ye heed to what we say:  
News! News!  
Jesus Christ is born today.

Ox and ass before him bow,  
and he is in the manger now.  
Christ is born today!  
Christ is born today!

Good Christian friends, rejoice  
with heart and soul and voice!  
Now ye hear of endless bliss:  
Joy! Joy!  
Jesus Christ was born for this!

He hath opened heaven's door,  
and we are blest for evermore.  
Christ was born for this!  
Christ was born for this!

Good Christian friends, rejoice  
with heart and soul and voice!  
Now ye need not fear the grave:  
Peace! Peace!  
Jesus Christ was born to save!

Calls you one and calls you all  
to gain his everlasting hall.  
Christ was born to save!  
Christ was born to save!

## **Prayer of Confession**

### **Gracious Judge,**

**We look around us and consider what we see.  
We criticize and listen only to those who agree.  
We grumble that the past holds our solutions,  
forgetting its inequities and iniquities.  
We are impatient for things to improve  
but we do not want to change our ways.  
Forgive us for sharing in the unhappy mood of our times,  
and renew in us the joy and gratitude we once knew  
for your gifts to us in Christ Jesus.**

## **Assurance of Pardon**

Receive the Good News in joy. With great mercy, God forgives and offers us new life in Christ.

Rejoice that you can make a new beginning and share the joy in mercy and forgiveness with others.



**Scripture**            Isaiah 35: 1-10  
                              Psalm 146:5-10  
                              Luke 1:46b-55

Isaiah 35: 1-10

The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad;  
the desert shall rejoice and blossom;  
like the crocus it shall blossom abundantly  
and rejoice with joy and shouting.  
The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it,  
the majesty of Carmel and Sharon.  
They shall see the glory of the Lord,  
the majesty of our God.

Strengthen the weak hands  
and make firm the feeble knees.  
Say to those who are of a fearful heart,  
“Be strong, do not fear!  
Here is your God.  
He will come with vengeance,  
with terrible recompense.  
He will come and save you.”

Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened,  
and the ears of the deaf shall be opened;  
then the lame shall leap like a deer,  
and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy.  
For waters shall break forth in the wilderness  
and streams in the desert;  
the burning sand shall become a pool  
and the thirsty ground springs of water;  
the haunt of jackals shall become a swamp;

the grass shall become reeds and rushes.

A highway shall be there,  
and it shall be called the Holy Way;  
the unclean shall not travel on it,  
but it shall be for God's people;  
no traveler, not even fools, shall go astray.  
No lion shall be there,  
nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it;  
they shall not be found there,  
but the redeemed shall walk there.  
And the ransomed of the Lord shall return  
and come to Zion with singing;  
everlasting joy shall be upon their heads;  
they shall obtain joy and gladness,  
and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

Psalm 146:5-10

*Refrain -*

*Give your praise to God, O my soul!*

Happy are those whose help is the God of Jacob,  
**whose hope is the Maker of heaven and earth,**  
**the sea, and all that is in them,**  
the One who keeps faith for ever,  
**who gives justice to the oppressed,**  
**who gives food to the hungry.**

*Refrain -*

*Give your praise to God, O my soul!*

God sets prisoners free, restores sight to the blind.

**God straightens those who are bent;  
loves those who are just.**

God cares for the stranger in the land,  
and sustains the widow and orphan;  
**but the way of the wicked God turns to ruin.**

God shall reign forever, O Zion.  
**your God for all generations.**

*Refrain -*

*Give your praise to God, O my soul!*

Luke 1:46-55

And Mary said,

“My soul magnifies the Lord,  
and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,  
for he has looked with favor on the lowly state of his servant.  
Surely from now on all generations will call me blessed,  
for the Mighty One has done great things for me,  
and holy is his name;  
indeed, his mercy is for those who fear him  
from generation to generation.  
He has shown strength with his arm;  
he has scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.  
He has brought down the powerful from their thrones  
and lifted up the lowly;  
he has filled the hungry with good things  
and sent the rich away empty.  
He has come to the aid of his child Israel,  
in remembrance of his mercy,  
according to the promise he made to our ancestors,  
to Abraham and to his descendants forever.”

**Meditation** "Christmas Time is Here / Linus and Lucy"

**Reflection**

**Hymn** 48 Hark, The Herald Angels Sing

Hark! the herald angels sing,  
"Glory to the newborn King,  
peace on earth, and mercy mild,  
God and sinners reconciled!"  
Joyful, all ye nations, rise,  
join the triumph of the skies;  
with the angelic hosts proclaim,  
"Christ is born in Bethlehem!"

*Refrain -*

*Hark! the herald angels sing,  
"Glory to the newborn King!"*

Christ, by highest heaven adored,  
Christ, the everlasting Lord,  
late in time behold him come,  
offspring of a virgin's womb.  
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see;  
hail the incarnate deity.  
pleased with us in flesh to dwell,  
Jesus, our Emmanuel!

*Refrain -*

*Hark! the herald angels sing,  
"Glory to the newborn King!"*

Hail, the heaven-born Prince of Peace!  
Hail, the Sun of Righteousness!  
Light and life to all he brings,  
risen with healing in his wings.  
Mild he lays his glory by,  
born that we no more may die,  
born to raise us from the earth,  
born to give us second birth.

***Refrain -***

***Hark! the herald angels sing,  
"Glory to the newborn King!"***

## **Invitation to the Offering**

This Sunday we celebrate the Advent of Joy, through Jesus.  
Think of your gifts as seeds of that joy we plant 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

## **Offering Prayer**

God, our Judge and our Joy, receive our gifts as seeds of gratitude for your gift to us in Christ Jesus. Bless these seeds with growth so that joy will blossom for people depleted by challenges, and places overwhelmed by scarce resources. Be their justice and their joy.

**Time for the Young - White Gifts**

Hymn 50 "He is Born"

**Refrain -**

*He is born, little Child divine;  
play on the reeds while the lutes are strumming.  
He is born, little Child divine;  
join to song to announce the day.*

Through long ages of the past,  
prophets have foretold his coming;  
thru long ages of the past,  
now the time has come at last!

**Refrain -**

*He is born, little Child divine;  
play on the reeds while the lutes are strumming.  
He is born, little Child divine;  
join to song to announce the day.*

O how lovely, O how pure  
is this perfect child of heaven;  
O how lovely, O how pure  
gracious gift to humankind!

**Refrain -**

*He is born, little Child divine;  
play on the reeds while the lutes are strumming.  
He is born, little Child divine;  
join to song to announce the day.*

Lowly lodged in a stable poor,  
laid on straw for his infant cradle.

Lowly lodged in a stable poor,  
God come down to our mortal aid.

**Refrain -**

*He is born, little Child divine;  
play on the reeds while the lutes are strumming.  
He is born, little Child divine;  
join to song to announce the day.*

Jesus, Lord of all the world,  
coming as a child among us,  
Jesus, Lord of all the world,  
grant to us your heavenly peace.

**Refrain -**

*He is born, little Child divine;  
play on the reeds while the lutes are strumming.  
He is born, little Child divine;  
join to song to announce the day.*

## **Prayers of the People**

God of all creation,  
Every creature finds its way to rejoice in your presence.  
The desert blooms, a mountain top glistens,  
a stream makes music flowing over rocks.

We give you thanks for the joy in nature which can lift our hearts.  
Thank you for the joy we can share with each other,  
for familiar songs on our lips,  
for greetings from old friends,  
for the excitement of children in this season,

and for the promise born again in us as we anticipate Jesus' birth.

God who makes all things new,  
**Renew our life together.**

God of the world, its wonders and its woes,  
We know there are many people and places who cannot rejoice this year,  
so we open our concerns for the world before today.

We remember those who have been silenced  
by oppressive regimes  
by shocking tragedy  
by bullying and threats  
or by illness that takes away speech.

Help us listen with care when words are not easy to find,  
and show us when and how to speak when others cannot.

God who makes all things new,  
**Renew our life together.**

We remember those who have grown weaker  
Through months of isolation  
Through changing economic circumstances  
Through ageing or illness  
Through hunger and homelessness.

Renew their strength and courage to engage life as they are able,  
and show us when and how to offer our support and encouragement.



God who makes all things new,  
**Renew our life together.**

We remember those whose days are filled with fear  
because of war and conflict on their streets,  
because of intimidation and discrimination,  
because the security they relied on has disappeared.

Bring them protection and comfort in uncertain situations,  
and make us wise and generous neighbours who can offer  
relief.

God who makes all things new,  
**Renew our life together.**

We remember those whose lives seem empty  
because their cupboards are bare while others shop for the  
season  
because someone precious is absent  
because choices made have not been fulfilling

Fill empty lives with meaning and purpose.

Show us how to share what we have in ways that are generous and  
dignified,  
and let joy dawn again where it has died.

God who makes all things new,  
**Renew our life together.**

Renew in us all the joy that comes from the assurance of your love  
for we gather our prayers together in the words Jesus 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.**

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

**Rideau Pastoral Charge**

Westport

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

**Cambodia, Laos, Vietnam**

**We Depart to Serve in Peace and with Love**

**Hymn 59 Joy To The World**

Joy to the world! the Lord is come:  
let earth receive her King!  
Let every heart prepare him room,  
and heaven and nature sing,  
and heaven and nature sing,  
and heaven, and heaven and nature sing.

Joy to the world! the Savior reigns:  
let all their songs employ,  
while fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains,  
repeat the sounding joy,  
repeat the sounding joy,  
repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

No more let sins and sorrows grow,  
nor thorns infest the ground:  
he comes to make his blessings flow  
far as the curse is found,  
far as the curse is found,  
far as, far as the curse is found.

He rules the earth with truth and grace,  
and makes the nations prove  
the glories of his righteousness  
and wonders of his love,  
and wonders of his love,  
and wonders, wonders of his love.

### **Benediction**

Go with joy renewed this day,  
energized to share that joy with justice and generosity in the  
world God loves.

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** "While By My Sheep" (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