

**TRINITY UNITED CHURCH
PETERBOROUGH, ONTARIO**

January 3, 2021



**Trinity United Church
360 Reid Street
Peterborough, ON K9H 7G6
Telephone: 705-743-3301**

**We acknowledge that we meet and live
on the traditional territories of the
Mississauga Anishinaabe People.**

**We give thanks for their care for the land
over thousands of years and
for their deep spirituality and
honouring of the Creator and the creation.**

**May we live with respect in God's creation
and in harmony with our neighbours.**



TRINITY UNITED CHURCH

January 3, 2021

First Sunday after Christmas

We Welcome All who Worship with us this morning

PRELUDE: Prélude sur l'Introit de l'Épiphanie Maurice Duruflé
"We Three Kings" Larry Shackley

WELCOME

INTROIT: "Arise, Shine; For Your Light Has Come" Mark Bender

CALL TO WORSHIP & PRAYER OF APPROACH¹

In our journey of living,
as we search for the Light of the World, we come.

**We have been traveling—often wondering
what each new day will reveal—often wondering
if the journey is worth the effort.**

We come in our seeking, in our yearning for revelation,
in our desire to find the truth that sets us free.

**As we journey, we find companions along the way,
neighbours with different perspectives,
who enrich our knowing.**

We treasure one another, yet we seek—we need--another, the
one found through prayer:

**Holy God, who spoke light into reality,
who shares the revealed light of Jesus,
whose Spirit infuses the light
with challenge and with mystery,
open our understanding to the brilliance of your vision, open
our minds to the wholeness of your calling,
open our souls to the many relations possible
within your invitation,
open us to who we may become
in our journeying with you. Amen**

HYMN: VU91² "The First Nowell"

The first Nowell the angel did say
was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay;
in fields where they lay akeeping their sheep
on a cold winter's night that was so deep.

Refrain: Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell,
born is the King of Israel.

They looked up and saw a star,
shining in the east, beyond them far;
and to the earth it gave great light,
and so it continued both day and night. R

And by the light of that same star
three wise men came from country far;
to seek for a king was their intent,
and to follow the star wherever it went. R

This star drew nigh to the northwest;
o'er Bethlehem it took its rest,
and there it did both stop and stay,
right over the place where Jesus lay. R

Then entered in those wise men three,
full reverently upon their knee,
and offered there in his presence
their gold and myrrh and frankincense. R

Then let us all with one accord
sing praises to our heavenly Lord,
that hath made heaven and earth of nought,
and with his blood our life hath bought. R

TIME FOR THE YOUNG AT HEART:

"The Gift That Keeps on Giving"

ANTHEM: "Gifts of the Magi"
(Narrator: Dave Freeman)

Lloyd Larson

GOSPEL READING: Matthew 2: 1-12

EPISTLE READING: Ephesians 3: 1-12

REFLECTION: “By Another Way”

HYMN: VU96³ “Will You Come and See the Light”

Will you come and see the light from the stable door?
It is shining newly bright, though it shone before.
It will be your guiding star, it will show you who you are;
will you hide, or decide to meet the light?

Will you step into the light that can free the slave?
It will stand for what is right, it will heal and save.
By the pyramids of greed there's a longing to be freed;
will you hide, or decide to meet the light?

Will you tell about the light in the prison cell?
Though it's shackled out of sight, it is shining well.
When the truth is cut and bruised, and the innocent abused,
will you hide, or decide to meet the light?

Will you join the hope, alight in the young girl's eyes,
of the mighty put to flight by a baby's cries?
When the lowest and the least are the foremost at the feast,
will you hide, or decide to meet the light?

Will you travel by the light of the babe new born?
In the candle lit at night there's a gleam of dawn,
and the darkness all about is too dim to put it out:
will you hide, or decide to meet the light?

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,
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. Amen.**

PASTORAL PRAYER

LORD'S PRAYER

LIFE AND ACTION OF THE COMMUNITY OF FAITH

CLOSING HYMN: VU87⁴ “I am the Light of the World”

Refrain: 'I am the light of the world!
You people come and follow me!
If you follow and love you'll learn the mystery
of what you were meant to do and be.

When the song of the angels is stilled,
when the star in the sky is gone,
when the kings and the shepherds have found their way home,
the work of Christmas is begun: R

To find the lost and lonely one,
to heal the broken soul with love,
to feed the hungry children with warmth and good food,
to feel the earth below, the sky above! R

To free the prisoner from all chains,
to make the powerful care,
to rebuild the nations with strength of good will,
to see God's children everywhere! R

To bring hope to every task you do,
to dance at a baby's new birth,
to make music in an old person's heart,
and sing to the colours of the earth! R

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE: Carillon on “The First Nowell”

H. Lefebvre Pope

Leading in worship today are Rev. Joanna MacQuarrie; Robert Grandy, Minister of Music; Dave & Chris Freeman Technical.

Credits:

¹ Adapted from Dunbar, Gathering, 2020-21 ACE, 41

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TODAY'S MUSIC

PRELUDES: French organist, teacher, recitalist and composer Maurice Duruflé (1902-1986) did not write a lot of music during his lifetime, only 14 published works and a handful of unpublished ones. He was very critical of his own works and often revised them later in his life. His "Prélude sur l'Introit de l'Épiphanie" was written in 1961, one of the last works he published. The melody in the left hand, played on a reed stop, is based on an ancient plainsong tune for Epiphany. Duruflé was titular organist at St. Étienne-du-Mont in Paris from 1929 until he suffered serious injuries in a car accident in 1975, which curtailed his performing career. I have been playing this piece on Epiphany Sunday for decades now in his memory.

The popular carol "We Three Kings" was written in 1857 by John Henry Hopkins, an Episcopal clergyman in Pennsylvania, for a Christmas pageant in New York City. It was an immediate success among his friends. After publication in 1863, it gained wide-spread popularity in the English-speaking world. American composer Larry Shackley arranged the tune for his piano volume "Following Yonder Star", keeping the mysterious Eastern flair of the original carol.

INTROIT: American composer Mark Bender took a text from Isaiah 60 and fashioned his short anthem "Arise, Shine; For Your Light Has Come". Written for just two parts, it is a suitable anthem for Epiphany when choral forces may be limited after Christmas. Notice that when the choir sings the words "arise" or "risen" or "rising", the music echoes the ascending image of those words.

Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you. And nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your rising. And the glory of the Lord has risen upon you. Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the holy Spirit. And the glory of the Lord has risen upon you.

ANTHEM: Lloyd Larson is a prolific American composer with over 1300 published compositions! His anthem, "Gifts of the Magi", from his Cantata, "The Christmas Promise", is a dramatic telling of the journey of the wise men to see the Christ Child, using the familiar "As With Gladness Men of Old" text, but using contemporary music that magically conveys the story.

As with gladness men of old did the guiding star behold; as with joy they hailed its light, leading onward, beaming bright, so, most gracious Lord, may we evermore be led to Thee. As with joyful steps they sped to the lowly cradle bed, there to bend the knee before Him whom heav'n and earth adore, so, may we with willing feet ever seek Thy mercy seat. As they offered gifts most rare at the cradle, rude and bare, so may we with holy joy, pure and free from sin's alloy, all our costliest treasures bring, Christ, to Thee, our Heav'nly King.

POSTLUDE: The popular carol, "The First Nowell", is a traditional English one from Cornwall, first published in 1823. The British composer and organist Herbert Lefevre Pope included a setting of this tune in his "Two Short Christmas Pieces". His Carillon on this tune opens with a rapid tower bell-like pattern, soon followed by the familiar melody in the bass. Lefevre Pope was for many years, Organist and Director of Music at Harrogate College in North Yorkshire, England.

OFFERING

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4 ways to Donate

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2. Cheques placed in secure mailbox beside main door of church
3. PAR (pre-authorized remittance monthly). Contact church office and they will make arrangements.
4. Electronically through e-transfer or by using Canada Helps, a Canadian not-for-profit organization. Just go to Trinity's web page <http://trinitypeterborough.com> and click on the 'Donate Now' button located at the upper right hand side of the page. Canada Helps will issue a tax receipt in Trinity's name.

*** Please visit our home page for the latest update on accessing church services and programming in times of COVID-19.**

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