



TRINITY UNITED CHURCH

Sunday, November 29, 2020

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

November 29, 2020

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

*Welcome to 'in person' worship...and welcome also to those of you
worshipping with us via YouTube.*

*May these offerings of word, music and prayer help you attend to
what the Spirit is sharing with you today.*

Note: *Due to present restrictions, congregation is NOT permitted to sing.
You may hum softly with masks on.*

PRELUDE: Advent Meditation Robert Grandy
(The Bells of Trinity)
"Sleepers, Wake" J.S.Bach

CHOIR INTROIT: "Now Is the Time" Richard Shephard

ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING¹

Hymn: VU6 v.1

A candle is burning, a flame warm and bright,
a candle of hope in December's dark night.
While angels sing blessings from heaven's starry sky,
our hearts we prepare now for Jesus is nigh.

Prayer: (In Unison Softly)

**We come to worship with the image
of flickering light seared in our minds.
It dances as your Spirit dances
within our hearts, gracious God,
drumming the rhythm of hope,
which enlivens us all.**

**As you bless us with the Way of Jesus,
may we invite others to Christ's dance
of loving transformation. Amen.**

WELCOME

◆ **HYMN: VU1²(1&7)**

O come, O come, Emmanuel,
and ransom captive Israel
that mourns in lowly exile here
until the Son of God appear.

Refrain: Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come, Desire of nations, bind
all peoples in one heart and mind;
O bid our sad divisions cease,
and be for us the Prince of Peace. R

TIME FOR THE YOUNG AT HEART

HEBREW SCRIPTURE READING: Isaiah 2: 1-5

CHOIR ANTHEM: "Could This Be the Day" Joseph Martin

GOSPEL READING: Matthew 24: 36-44

REFLECTION: *"The Welcome Thief"*

HYMN: VU9³ (vs.1,3,4) "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.

Birds, though you long have ceased to build,
guard the nest that must be filled;
even the hour when wings are frozen
God for fledging time has chosen.
People, look east and sing today:
Love the bird 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.

LIFE and ACTION of the COMMUNITY OF FAITH

PRAYER OF DEDICATION OF OFFERTORY:

*Your offering may be placed in the plate, as you enter or leave the sanctuary.
Thank you for your donation.*

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

Invitation

Hymn: VU457⁴(v.1) "As We Gather at Your Table"

As we gather at your table,
as we listen to your word,
help us know, O God, your presence;
let our hearts and minds be stirred.
Nourish us with sacred story
till we claim it as our own;
teach us through this holy banquet
how to make Love's victory known.

Great Thanksgiving

Minister: God be you.

People: And also with you.

Minister: Turn to God, the source of life.

People: We lift our hearts in prayer.

Minister: Let us give thanks.

People: We offer joyful thanks to God.

Minister: Blessed are you, gracious God...
at Christmas and in the birth of
every new baby.

**People: We remember the message of love
and the promise of your presence with us.
We think of our surprise and delight,
when we encounter your loving care
right in the midst of our busy and fretful
lives. We give thanks for the responsibility
and opportunity to share that message of
love with others.**

Minister: God of wonder....

...you sent us Jesus, the Christ, herald of
hope, prince of peace.

ALL: (sung) (MV124)

**Glory to God in the highest
and peace to God's people on earth.**

Minister: We remember that, when Jesus ate with...

....Grant that in praise and thanksgiving,
we may so offer ourselves to you
that our lives may proclaim the mystery of faith.

ALL: (sung) (MV124)

**Glory to God in the highest
and peace to God's people on earth.**

Lord's Prayer VU914

Distribution of Elements

Prayer After Communion: (in unison softly)

**God of tender care,
at your table, we have celebrated
your love for us and for all people.
May we be strengthened by these holy gifts
to show your love in our lives
by caring for one another and
for your beloved world. Amen**

- ◆ **HYMN: VU2⁵ "Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus"**
Come, thou long-expected Jesus,
born to set thy people free:
from our fears and sins release us,
let us find our rest in thee.

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE: "Saviour of the Nations, Come"

J.S. Bach

Please remain seated until a greeter comes and indicates that it is your turn to leave the Sanctuary. Please proceed directly to the exit. If you require the lift, remain seated and a greeter will let you know when the correct time is to proceed to the lift. We appreciate your cooperation in moving directly outside. We ask that you maintain social distancing even in the parking lot.

Leading in worship today are Rev. Joanna MacQuarrie; Robert Grandy, Minister of Music; Lyn Braun, Worship Leader; COVID Choir this week is Karla Buckborough, Wendy Brown, Jane Darling, Margaret Marris, Dave Freeman and Peter Darling. Our sound operator is Doug Watt and the Sunday custodian is Shawn Loucks. The ushers this week are Barb Rimmer, Chris Freeman, Sherry Oldham, Doug Lavery and Elizabeth Powell.

Credits:

¹ Adapted from Gord Dunbar, *Gathering*, 2020 ACE, 70.

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³ Words: Eleanor Farjeon © David Higham Associates: Harmony: Martin Fallas Shaw © 1928 Oxford University Press. Used with permission *Voices United*.

⁴ Text: Carl Daw, Jr. © 1989 Hope Publishing Company. Arrangement: © Ronald A. Nelson 1978 Lutheran *Book of Worship*. Used with permission, *Voices United*.

⁵ Public Domain

TODAY'S MUSIC

PRELUDE: After a long hiatus, the Bells of Trinity return to open the service with my most recent composition “Advent Meditation”, a piece based on “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”. I’ve always loved this ancient tune, so you’ll hear it throughout the work, supported by a little recurring bass theme, or sometimes by solid chords. Later in the piece you’ll hear the tune echoed in different keys. A bright shift to a major key completes the work.

For me, no Advent Sunday is complete without Bach’s “Sleepers, Wake”, from his collection of Six Schubler Chorales. Bach took the central movement of his Cantata, “Sleepers, Wake”, and luckily for us, transcribed it for organ. It remains one of his most popular organ pieces to this day, having been further transcribed for a variety of instruments.

CHORAL MUSIC: Today’s Introit picks up on the “wake up” theme of Bach. British composer Richard Shephard wrote a series of short Introits for the church year. “Now Is the Time” is based on a brief text from Romans 13:11. The rousing music and the little opening and closing trumpet call help to illustrate the idea.

Now is the time to wake out of sleep: for now our salvation is nearer than when we first believed.

“Could This Be the Day” is an excerpt from Joseph Martin’s Cantata “Canticle of Joy”. This anthem incorporates “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel” into a beautiful setting of an original text of the composer.

Could this be the day? Could this be the moment? Could this be the night all our darkness turns to light? Could this be the day? Could this be the promise? Could this be our miracle, our music in the night? Long we have waited. Long we have pleaded. Long we have wandered in darkness and sin. Long we have waited for your song to begin. Could this be the day... O come, O come, Emmanuel. God who holds the sands of time, give us a sign. Could this be the day? Come.

POSTLUDE: Bach’s “Saviour of the Nations, Come” is one of his Great 18 Chorale Preludes. This one is a large three-part fugue, with the old German tune in the pedals. Counter-themes and their inversions are heard throughout the piece.

OFFERING

Your donations are appreciated and used carefully to further Christ’s work in the community.

4 ways to Donate

1. **Envelopes** on plate at entrance to sanctuary.
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.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The video of our services are published each Monday on our Facebook page and our website.

Family Share – School for Young Moms

This will be the 11th year that Trinity has provided gifts for the moms and babies at the School for Young Moms. With pandemic restrictions in place, donations this year may only be made by cash or cheque. Money can be left in the secure mailbox at the Reid Street entrance to Trinity from now until Thursday, December 2. If you are unable to come to Trinity, Garry & Noreen Lister will come to your residence on Friday, December 3, to pick it up following all COVID protocols. **Please make cheques payable to Peterborough Child and Family Centre and reference SYM on the memo line.** Noreen will purchase gifts with the donations received. The Peterborough Child and Family Centre will issue tax receipts for all donations over \$20. Please make sure that your name and address are on the cheque in order for this to be done. If you have any questions, please contact Noreen Lister at (705) 742-6574.

Christmas Appeal for YES Shelter

The YES Shelter is a social services organization for youth and families. Their Christmas wish list includes a number of items which we are hoping the congregation of Trinity will contribute to. Items include toiletries, socks, underwear, art supplies and blank journals. A collection box will be placed in the Trinity lobby on Sundays, December 6 and 13. Please drop your items in box containers and they will be delivered to the YES shelter. If you wish to bring a donation into the church during the week, please call ahead to make sure that someone will be here to receive it. Office hours are Monday – Thursday from 9 am – noon.

Kawartha Food Share

This year we will not be able to collect food items in our big green container. We would like to remind you that the need is great this year with close to 9000 men, women and children being served each month by Kawartha Food Share. We encourage you to donate directly to them. For every dollar donated they are able to distribute \$6 worth of food. Cash donations allow Kawartha Food Share to get food through many different sources including bulk purchases, food drives and other food programs. Cash donations also let them purchase food that are needed the most.

Advent Missive

For those of you who receive the Missive by hard copy they are available for pick up at the church. Everyone on our mailing list should have received it on Friday, November 27.

ZOOM Sing-a-longs – Live Event

Join Bob and the choir as they sing our favourite Advent and Christmas Hymns. A document with full instructions was sent out via email on November 30 and will also be posted on the Trinity website Home Page. The dates are as follows:

December 3: 7 – 8 pm Zoom sing-a-long of Advent Hymns

December 17: 7-8 pm Zoom sing a long of Christmas Carols

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