



Trinity United Church

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You are... Wanted... Included... Affirmed

Sunday, December 22, 2024 - 10:00 AM

Theme: Advent 4 – Hope Is Worth the Risk



WORDS FOR THE BEGINNING

† indicates stand as you are able

MV = More Voices

Bold indicates participation by the people

VU = Voices United

Core Values: Living Faith - Inclusive Fellowship
Joyful Service – Being Anti-Racist – Affirming All

GATHERING AS COMMUNITY

PRELUDE

WELCOME & TERRITORIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Hadih, Bundada honzoo, welcome in the name of The Christ.

All: Welcome to this place of worship, situated on the Ancestral and unceded lands of the Lheidli T'enneh people.

Welcome to this place of blessing, this space of grace, and this holy sanctuary.

This place where we discern how to live into the way of Jesus.

All: We gather this morning to share in song, word, and prayer, to publicly, intentionally, and explicitly affirm that we are all an expression of the divine's holy light.

Be welcomed.

All: Be present.

Be a blessing.

LIFE & MINISTRY (Announcements)

THE PEACE OF CHRIST SHARED WITH ALL

The peace of Christ be with you!

And also with you.

LEARNING AND SPEAKING PEACE – Lheidli Dakelh

Peace of Christ be with you – Dez-ghel nawhulh 'unt'oh

And also with you – Cha nyulh 'unt'oh

CALL TO WORSHIP (Responsive)

In this weary world,

we sing of joy.

In this fragile world,

we lift each other up.

In this beautiful world,

we look for God.

In this tender world,

we hold onto hope.

This is the invitation of faith.

So in this time of worship,

may we sing, lift up, look for, and hold onto our with-us God.

With hope in our hearts, amen!

CANDLES OF ADVENT – Love

SUNG RESPONSE: Hope is a Star (Verse 1-4)

VU#7

PRAYER FOR RECONCILIATION AND HEALING (Responsive)

L: Friends, Hope can feel slippery....join me in the prayer.

M: Gracious God, You paint pictures of what could be, but we declare those visions impossible. You speak of the lion lying down with the lamb, but we spout skepticism and uncertainty. You dream of a more just day, but we poke holes in the plan, unable to fathom that horizon. Forgive us for losing sight of hope. Forgive us for assuming that what we see is all there is. Open up our hearts to see the world as you see it. Open up our hearts to risk hope, to dream dreams, and to not be afraid of either. With gratitude, we pray, amen.

EMBRACING GOD'S LOVE AND GRACE (Responsive)

Friends,...And the same will be true tomorrow.

We are loved. Our hope is in God. We are invited to do the good that is ours to do trusting that God walks alongside us. Thanks be to God for this new beginning. Amen.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

† HYMN: *Joy to the World*

VU#59

A STORY FOR THE AGES

Lectionary@Home: Luke 1:47–55; Psalm 80:1–7; Hebrews 10:5–10; Luke 1:39–45, (46–55)

TRINITY KIDS: Christmas Story

HOLY QUIET

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (Unison)

We believe in a God who gives us reason to hope,

a God who fills our nights with stars,
who follows winter with spring,
who dwells with and among us.
We believe that this God has dreams for creation,
dreams of justice like a mighty stream
and swords that will be beaten into plowshares.
Therefore, we push cynicism aside. We risk vulnerability.
We hold onto hope,
and we declare:
“My soul magnifies the Lord,
my spirit rejoices in God my Savior.”

† HYMN: *O Come, All Ye Faithful* VU#60

PRAYERS FOR OTHERS, OURSELVES, AND THE WORLD

BEING THE CHURCH THROUGH SERVICE

SHARING OUR GIFTS FOR MINISTRY

OFFERTORY PRAYER (Unison)

Listening God,
We know that you are constantly speaking to us.
Through music, scripture, nature, and relationships,
you make yourself known again and again.
In gratitude, we long to return the favour.
In gratitude, we long to meet you halfway.
In gratitude for the opportunity of new beginnings, we bring
these expressions of our commitment to the ministry
you've entrusted to us. Use them and us to be incarnations
of your love in the world. Amen.

† HYMN: *Once in Royal David's City* VU#62

† COMMISSIONING & BENEDICTION

† HYMN: *I am Walking a Path of Hope, Peace, Joy & Love*
MV#221

POSTLUDE

PARTICIPATING IN WORSHIP LEADERSHIP TODAY: *Worship Leader – Rev. Dr. Bob Fillier; Worship Assistant – Judy Thomas; Pianist – Vic Steblin; Choir Director – Erica Skowron; Associate Choir Director – Diane Kjørven; Adult Choir; Digital Ministry – Rebecca Fillier and John Neumann*

