

Please remember to have your proof of vaccination ready to show each time you come to worship. Thank you.

**Trinity-St. Andrew's United Church
Sunday, November 28, 2021
Gathering as God's People
Anniversary Sunday, Advent One**

Prelude and Announcements

Welcome

Land Acknowledgement

Long ago, all of this land was covered by ice

Clothed in a winter without end

But God our Creator brought back the warmth

Pulling back the ice and revealing this land

Plants and animals returned to the land

And it was good

Then God gave to the land a people

And a people to the land

To care for one another

To live together

And in this time, we celebrate the gifts of Treaty 20 and the Williams Treaty and the Homeland of the Mississaugas, now of Alderville.

We celebrate all who make this place a home

We celebrate the promise of hope

Hope for a future good beyond imagining

When all will share this land together

in hope, peace, joy and love. Amen.

Hymn VU 578 As A Fire Is Meant For Burning

- 1 As a fire is meant for burning
with a bright and warming flame,
so the church is meant for mission,
giving glory to God's name.
Not to preach our creeds or customs,
but to build a bridge of care,
we join hands across the nations,
finding neighbours everywhere.

- 2 We are learners; we are teachers;
 we are pilgrims on the way.
 We are seekers; we are givers;
 we are vessels made of clay.
 By our gentle, loving actions,
 we would show that Christ is light.
 In a humble, listening Spirit,
 we would live to God's delight.
- 3 As a green bud in the springtime
 is a sign of life renewed,
 so may we be signs of oneness
 mid earth's peoples, many-hued.
 As a rainbow lights the heavens
 when a storm is past and gone,
 may our lives reflect the radiance
 of God's new and glorious dawn.

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An Advent Prayer

The Candles of Advent

Sung Response:

**Open our eyes
To the wonder of the season,
Open our hearts to your hope
God of the universe
We are dust within such vastness
God of the baby,
Stars and angels sing your praises.
Open our eyes to your hope, God.
Open our heart to your peace.
Open our eyes to your joy, God,
And open our hearts to your love.**

Hearing God's Word

Jeremiah 29:4-14; Luke 4: 16-20

Let us hear what the Spirit is saying to the church

Thanks be to God

Choir Anthem: Come Thou Font

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Sermon Title: Called to Purpose

Hymn: MV 158, Dream A Dream vs 1,3

1. Dream a dream, a hopeful dream,
as children do on Christmas Eve,
imaginings, surprising things
to hold and to believe. (to believe.)
3. Dream a peace, our planet's peace,
the greening of the earth at play,
the holy ground where life is found,
where God has touched the clay. (touched the clay.)

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Offering Our Work and Love

Offering Invitation

Offering

*Offering Dedication VU 55, v.4

What can I give him, poor as I am?

If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb;

If I were a wise one, I would do my part;

yet what I can I give him - give my heart.

Invitation to Communion and Remembering Those in our Community

Prayer list:

- teachers and students and their families
- Farmers as they harvest
- Ron, Hiddo, Erin, Chyvonne, Dani, Ross, Robbie, Keith, Miguel and Lidia, Thelma
- And all those suffering from cancer or cancer treatment

Holy Communion

May God be with us,

God is here among us

Let us open our eyes, our ears, and our hearts to God

We open them to God and one another,

Let us give thanks to God,

It is right to give out thanks and praise.

Beloveds of God,

we are invited to come and gather at the table of love and liberation,

to open our eyes and feast on the dreams of God,

to be nourished by but-a-taste of what God desires to do among us.

God calls us from institutional halls of power,

From shelters and the streets;

God calls us from classrooms and pulpits,

zoom meetings and prison cells.

God calls us as we are,

from wherever we are,

to come and be rooted in solidarity with Christ,

who lives and loves on the margins,

in unexpected places,

and in the everyday.

God whispers “come,”

be nourished and live abundantly,

***turning from all* that claims blessings flow from money, power, or control.**

To answer the call of Christ

is to find ourselves,

despite our social location,

despite how small we feel,

and instead

choosing to align ourselves with

the marginalized, the oppressed,

the outcast, and the isolated,

with the faith that

together,

we might birth new possibilities

of healing,
of connection,
of freedom from all that destroys.

To answer the call of Christ
is to live into that spectacular view,
where we are called toward something bigger,
choosing to follow that deep yearning
that enables us to open ourselves to God,
to one another,
beyond our judgements, our arrogance, our pride,
beyond feelings of inadequacy, isolation and simply existing,
Where we live into something bigger,
beyond ourselves,
as transformed beloved community,

**When these desires are rooted in our hearts
and our eyes are opened
we open beyond ourselves to, the yes, of God.**

And so let us come to the table
expectant,
eager,
open,
to tasting the rich blessings before us
born from unexpected places, unexpected people, and unanticipated
experiences.

In this meal,
we remember the life, death, and resurrection of
the One
who still takes on flesh
in everyday people, and
everyday experiences, in
everyday places
among us.

On the night he would be arrested,
Jesus gathered his friends and companions.

In the midst of a tense and dangerous time,
they found each other at table,
 connecting over lived experience and faith.

And as they did so,
Jesus took bread, gave thanks to God,
broke the bread and shared it with his disciples saying,
“Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.”

When the supper was over,
he also took the cup, gave thanks to God,
and shared it with his disciples, saying,
“Drink from this, all of you; this is the cup of the new covenant. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.”

And so, we pray,
 Come Holy Spirit,
 Breath of God,
 Inspirer of life,
settle on these gifts and all who gather here,
That we may be transformed
 in our remembrance of the breaking of the bread and the sharing of
the cup,
That in word and deed
 we may make your radical love and eternal potential known.
May your grace make all things new,
 both seen and unseen.
And may we be sent out into the world,
 remembering as we go,
We are called from where we are
 to live into God’s invitation to something far bigger than we can imagine.
May we bring that invitation and vision to all those we meet along the
journey.
As we look to your future, we also remember the words given us by Jesus
himself, as we pray
to our **Mother and father 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. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory, forever and ever.
Amen.**

Distribution of the Elements

Prayer After Communion

**With this meal we have tasted the time
the wolf will lie down with the lamb, and the lion will eat straw.
We have seen your vision rooted in justice, food for all, shelter for the vulnerable,
and peace on Earth.
With this meal, we have entered a reality that is vast and wondrous
with the grandeur of your presence, Holy One;
one that our faithful hearts can trust, in Jesus' name. Amen.**

Closing Hymn: MV 212, Sent Out In Jesus' Name

**Sent out in Jesus' name,
our hands are ready now
to make the world the place
in which the kingdom comes. (2X)**

**The angels cannot change
a world of hurt and pain
into a world of love,
of justice and of peace.
The task is ours to do,
to set it really free.
O, help us to obey,
and carry out your will. (2X)**

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Embodied Blessing:

**Let's go from this place today...
trusting
in the voice of God,
whispered in the soft brush of wings
trusting
in the hand of Christ,
offering to help**

**when we feel small
trusting
in the power of the Holy Spirit
that reminds us of a larger story
Let's go in peace
Amen.**

Postlude

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