

Joy



December 16, 2018

St. John's United Church

400 Prescott Street, P.O. Box 340
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Minister: Rev. Lynda Harrison

Organist and Choir Director: Larry Wesley

December 16, 2018

*Please note that an asterisk * invites you to stand as you are able
Assistive Listening Systems are available - see ushers*

Welcome

Announcements

To Praise God

Call to Worship: – from Isaiah 61 *The Message*
The spirit of God is on me because God anointed me;

sent me to bring good news to the poor,
heal the heartbroken,
announce freedom to all captives,
I will sing for joy in God,
explode in praise from deep in my soul.
Come, let us worship.

***Hymn:** "People Look East" #9

Prayer of Approach:

In a spirit of joy, we come, Holy God, on this third Sunday of Advent. Instill in us a sense of your merciful presence and of the wonderful things you have done, that we might lift our voices to praise you and give you glory, now and always. Prepare our hearts, we pray, to receive the One who brings justice. Amen.

(Written by Cindy Randall, Advent Gathering, p.31)

Lighting of Advent Wreath

"It Only Takes a Spark" (on screen)

Lighting of the Joy Candle

Cliff, Krista, Spencer and Justine Stroud

Refrain:

**We light this candle for Joy.
Await the new life within. May our hearts now
live each day, so Joy can find a way, so Joy can
find a way.**

Sunday School begins

Choir Cantata: "Rejoice Believers"
Narrator: Justine Stroud

To Respond in Faith

Offering

***Doxology:** #191 MV (on screen)
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Prayer of Dedication

Prayers of the People

We Return, Strengthened, To Live Our Faith

***Hymn:** : "Go, Tell It on The Mountain" #43

Benediction

Choral Blessing: VU #973

Ushers: Cathy and Terry Little, Ron Patterson

Announcements

Envelopes for 2019 are ready at back of church for pickup. If you wish to get a box of envelopes please see Helen in the office as we have spare boxes.

United Church Observer renewals and new subscriptions - please see Gertie Flay. Cost for 1 year is \$25.

Advent Study: Living Nativity - Tuesday, December 18th at 7 pm. This Advent Study is based on a resource called "Living Nativity" from the Prayer Bench by Janice MacLean. During this three week study we will take a closer look at the figures in the Nativity and how their presence in the story connects with the human spiritual journey.

Sun. Dec. 23 - Fourth Sunday of **Advent**

Mon. Dec. 24 - **Christmas Eve**
Family Service 6 pm
Worship with Communion 9 pm

Sun. Dec. 30 - Worship at 10 am

Reports for the 2018 St. John's United Church Annual Report are due Monday January 7, 2018.

Ottawa Valley Male Choir with guest performers, The Humming Birds, present their "**Chrismoose Concert**" on **today at 7:00 pm** at North Gower United Church. Tickets \$10 from Chris Morgan, Don Buwalda or Jean Jacques Rousseau or at the door.