

# Hope



December 2, 2018

# *St. John's United Church*

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**Minister:** Rev. Lynda Harrison

**Organist and Choir Director:** Larry Wesley

December 2, 2018

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

## **Welcome**

## **Announcements**

**Prelude:** "Gentle Mary, Tender Mary" Jay Althouse  
*Soloist: Nancy McIntyre*

## **To Praise God**

### **Call to Worship:**

Come, people of God, begin the journey to Bethlehem once more. Step by step by step, let us journey through the gift of these Advent days.

**Let us make the journey in hope, in confidence, and in trust, for God is with us. Come, let us worship God.**

### **Prayer of Approach:**

**In the spirit of hope, we come, Holy God, on this first Sunday of Advent. As we enter into a season of anticipation and waiting, help us to appreciate each new day of this sacred time. Prepare our hearts, we pray, to receive the babe of Bethlehem. Amen.**

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

### **Lighting of Advent Wreath**

**"It Only Takes a Spark"** (on screen)

### **Lighting of the Hope Candle**

Alison Palser, Sarah & Liam Collver

### **Refrain:**

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

**can find a way.**

***To Open the Scriptures***

**Scripture:** 1 Thessalonians 3: 9-13 NT p.249

**\*Hymn:** "Jesus Loves Me" #365

**Time to Wonder**

**Presentation of White Gifts**

**The Lord's Prayer**

**Scripture:** Luke 21: 25-36 NT p.104

**Ministry of Music:** "Every Time I Hear His Name"  
*J.E. Coates*

**Sermon**

**Affirmation of Faith:** VU #918 (on screen)

***To Respond in Faith***

**Offering**

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

**\*Hymn:** "All Who Hunger" #460

**Sacrament of Communion:** (on screen)

**Prayers of the People**

***We Return, Strengthened, To Live Our Faith***

**\*Hymn:** "Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus" #2

**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.

**UCW** will hold their Advent Event on December 3rd at Bayfield Manor at 2:00p.m. You are invited to join us on our "Journey to Bethlehem".

**Advent Study: Living Nativity** - Tuesday, December 4th 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.

**Spencerville Community Choir** presents: "**Home for Christmas**" A concert of Christmas music and readings. Sunday, December 2, at 2:00 pm and Monday, December 3, at 7:30 pm. Spencerville United Church, Centre St., Spencerville. Tickets available at the door. Proceeds to the House of Lazarus and the Edwardsburgh Foodbank.

The **North Grenville Concert Choir** with members of Ottawa's **Divertimento Orchestra** proudly present Handel's **MESSIAH** on Saturday, December 8<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 PM and 7:30 pm at St. James Anglican Church in Kemptville. A performance will also be held on Sunday, December 9<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 pm at Woodroffe United Church in Ottawa. Tickets \$20 at Brewed Awakenings, at [ngcc.eventbrite.ca](http://ngcc.eventbrite.ca) or at the door. Info: [www.ngcc.net](http://www.ngcc.net) Come and enjoy this wonderful music!

**Ottawa Valley Male Choir** with guest performers, The Humming Birds, present their "**Chrismoose Concert**" on Sun. Dec 16th at 7:00 pm at North Gower United Church. Tickets \$10 from Chris Morgan, Don Buwalda or Jean Jacques Rousseau or at the door.

**Advent Announcements continued on insert given out last week. Ask ushers if you need this insert.**