

WESLEY UNITED CHURCH

3913 Hillsdale Street, Regina, SK S4S 3Y6

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Wesley United Church, located on Treaty 4 land, is an Affirming Ministry of Jesus Christ, nurturing spiritual exploration and growth. We advocate for justice and social action. We love and care for ourselves and our neighbours throughout the world.

Minister: Cindy Bourgeois
Office Coordinator: Tina Blair
Youth Coordinator: Hannah Dove
Caretaker: Jon Weichel
Choir Director: Sarah Stubbe

President: Stephanie Dove
Vice-President: Dan Holbrow
Past President: David Kyle
Secretary: Al Goudie
Treasurer: Jim Chernick

1ST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

December 2, 2018 10:30 a.m.

Assisting in Worship

Reader: Kathy Blais

Communion Servers: Sharon Hurd, Barb Jones,
Pam Thomas, Marv Wilson

Advent Candle Lighting: Dan Holbrow, Naomi Beingessner,
Edith Holbrow

Guest Cellist: Joel MacDonald

Congregational responses are indicated by bold italics.

*** You are invited to stand**

WE GATHER IN COMMUNITY

PRELUDE

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING

Advent is a season of waiting. Waiting for the world to come. But as we watch and wait, we remember that

our lives, our actions, and our prayers help create the world to come. And we remember that in our prayers, reflection, and actions we might make space for hope.

Watching, waiting, making space for hope.

We recognize the world's turmoil and, so often, our own reasons for despair. But in despair lies Hope.

Watching, waiting, making space for hope.

Hope is found from recognizing the good that lies in us – the good that we can do – the good we that we can offer to others – the good that we too often lose sight of until we remember this season's central promise: through our actions, grounded in hope, symbolized in the birth of a child, that the world, and all in it, can become whole.

Watching, waiting, making space for hope.

So today we light the candle of Hope.

WE SING VU #6

A Candle Is Burning (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.

OUR OPENING PRAYER

*WE SING VU #1

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

TIME WITH THE CHILDREN

WE LISTEN

SUNG PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

WE SING VU #8 Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming

GOSPEL

Luke 21:25-36

As we reflect on these words from our tradition,

may we find wisdom for living.

ANTHEM

We Wait

by Ruth Elaine Schram

SPECULATION

WE RESPOND

MV #80

Beyond the Beauty and the Awe

Beyond the beauty and the awe,
beyond the fear and dread,
we long, O God, to hear your word,
to taste your transformed bread.

Our lives feel torn between the world,
whose needs are grimly real,
and empty talk of peace and joy
with distant, vague appeal.

Oh, teach us how to hear your voice
despite the traffic's din,

to keep the blasts of rancour out
and let your Spirit in.

In sound or silence, sight or smell,
may we some token find
that makes your living presence known
to body, soul, and mind.

Then help us live as Jesus taught,
as light and salt and yeast,
that others may be brought to share
your promise and your feast.

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MINUTE FOR MISSION AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

WE ARE CHALLENGED TO SHARE

OFFERTORY

*OUR RESPONSE VU #5 All Earth Is Waiting (V.3)

Mountains and valleys will have to be made plain,
open new highways, new highways for our God,
who is now coming closer, so come all and see,
and open the doorways as wide as wide can be.

*WE DEDICATE OUR GIFTS AND OURSELVES

WE CELEBRATE HOLY COMMUNITY

WE SHARE THE PEACE

May the peace of Christ be with you all.

and also with you.

WE SING VU #456

Now to Your Table Spread

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

PRAYER OF GREAT THANKSGIVING

God be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift our hearts in prayer.

Let us give thanks to God.

It is good to give God thanks and praise.

Blessed are you...

....So it is that we join the song of all creation to
proclaim your goodness:

Holy, holy, holy God,

power of life and love!

Heaven and earth are full of your glory!

Hosanna through the ages!

***Blest is the One who comes to bring your
justice to earth!***

Born to an unwed mother living in an occupied
country....

....that our lives may sing the mystery of faith:

Christ has died

Christ is risen

Christ will come again

BLESSING THE BREAD AND CUP

Amen.

We gather these and all our prayers, as a mother hen gathers her brood, thankful that we may turn to you, as we pray the prayer that Jesus taught us all those years ago:

***Our Mother and Father, who art 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.***

***And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil:***

***For thine is the kingdom,
the power, and the glory
forever and ever. Amen.***

SHARING THE BREAD AND CUP

TIME OF SILENCE

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

WE GO FORTH TO SERVE

*WE SING MV #144

Like a Healing Stream

Like a healing stream in a barren desert,
Spirit water bringing life to dusty earth,
God is trickling through our lives as in a dream
unfolding,
promising revival and rebirth ...
like a healing stream.

Like a gentle rain on a thirsty garden,
Spirit water come to nourish tiny seed,
God is bubbling through the soil to coax a new
creation,
yearning for an end to want and need ...
like a gentle rain.

Like a river strong with a restless current,
Spirit water rushing on to distant shore,
God is carving out a channel in a new direction,
calling for an end to hate and war ...
like a river strong.

Like a mighty sea reaching far horizons,
Spirit water with a love both deep and wide,
God is working in our hearts to shape a new
tomorrow:
God will always challenge and provide!
Like a mighty sea, like a river strong,
like a gentle rain, like a healing stream.

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BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE