

Saint James United Church

December 11th, 2016 – Third Sunday of Advent

Cantata

120 Chapel St. Woodstock, N.B. E7M1H1

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Minister's Cell Phone No: 323-1304

Minister: Rev. Debra Baker

Music Director and Organist: Amy Anderson

Admin. Assistant: Mary Wheelan C.D. Coordinator: Joan Hall

Ushers: David and Sandra MacNally, Jeff Wright, Conrad Anderson

Candle Lighters: Nigel and Carolyn Drake



Welcome all visitors and their families who may be worshipping with us this morning. We pray that you will feel at home here at Saint James and that you will feel the presence of God's Holy Spirit, as we worship. After the service please introduce yourself to

Rev. Debra, sign our guest book at the back of the sanctuary and join us in the Board Room for Coffee, Tea and Fellowship.

WE GATHER

Prelude

Introit VU#10 – Prepare the Way of the Lord (sung twice)

Welcome

Call to Worship

The earth cries out for healing. The prophet Isaiah says that one day the wilderness and the dry land shall rejoice!

A voice is calling, calling in the wilderness, prepare the way of the Lord.

Those of us without hope wonder if God has forgotten us; Jesus calls us to look for signs of hope and life in our midst.

A voice is calling, calling in the wilderness, prepare the way of the Lord.

DATES TO REMEMBER

Dec. 11th	Third Sunday of Advent Cantata Sunshine Singers Coffee, Tea and Fellowship Youth Group	10:30 a.m. 6:00 p.m.
Dec. 12th	Community Cantata Followed by Dessert in the C.E. Centre	7:30 p.m.
Dec. 13th	Games Pathfinders Sparks Board of Stewards	1:00 p.m. 6:30 – 8:00 p.m. 6:30 p.m. 7:00 p.m.
Dec. 14th	Advent Bible Study Quilting Choir	10:00 a.m. 1:00 p.m. 7:15 p.m.
Dec. 18th	Fourth Sunday of Advent Sunday School Concert Family Christmas Pot Luck in the C. E. Centre	10:30 a.m.

JUST A REMINDER Due to many people suffering from allergies, we have tried to maintain a Scent Free Environment within Saint James United Church. We would like to remind everyone to please consider this request.

PAR REMITTANCE PROGRAM

This is a great time of year to sign up for our PAR REMITTANCE PROGRAM! If you have automatic debits from your bank account to pay your bills, then you understand the PAR principle. It means regular contributions throughout the year. Even when we are away, our church has commitments every week. This is a convenient way to support both the local church and M&S. CONTACT THE CHURCH OFFICE DETAILS.

WE RESPOND TO THE WORD OF GOD

Presentation of the Offering

Offertory (tune: *Good King Wenceslas*)

Here our gifts we offer, God, thankful for your blessings.
Take them, Spirit use them to spread the joyful message
that Christ comes to bring to us life for all creation.
May our gifts help bring to all love and transformation.

Offertory prayer

Thank you loving Creator, for the many ways you give us joy. As we bring these offerings to you, use them to bring joy for a better world to every corner of our world. We pray in Christ's name. Amen.

(From The Whole People of God © Wood Lake Publishing, 2016)

Minute for Mission (printed in the bulletin)

Announcements

Prayers of Thanksgiving and Concern and the Lord's Prayer

Blessing and Sending Forth

To all of you, God's beloved, who are called to be saints – set apart to serve our God: grace to you, and peace from God our Creator and from Jesus the Christ.

Thanks be to God. Amen.

(From *Whole People of God* worship resources ©Wood Lake Publishing 2016.)

Choral Benediction MV#220 – Joy Shines as the Solitary Star

Postlude

We wonder out loud why the powerful seems always to win; Mary sings her song of praise and hope, and with her we rejoice at what God has done, and what God is doing.

A voice is calling, calling in the wilderness, prepare the way of the Lord.

(From The Whole People of God © Wood Lake Publishing, 2016)

Advent Candle Lighting

God delights us with wonder and blessing each morning.

God brings smiles to our faces and joy to our sleepy souls.

Let our delight burst forth with the birth of new life today.

(light two blue candles and one pink candle)

Let our candle of joy reflect our desire for inward happiness.

Sing VU#7 – Hope Is a Star (verse 3)

Children's Time

WE LISTEN FOR THE WORD OF GOD

CANTATA

Tapestry of Light: A Celtic Christmas Celebration

CANTATA

Ceremony of Candles by Joseph M. Martin

1. Carols of Hope and Light
2. Longing for the Light
3. An Advent Garden
4. The Holy Child of Mary
5. O Wondrous Night
6. The Celtic Noel
7. Handbells `Coventry Carol``
8. Carols of the Quest
9. A Celtic Gloria!
10. Bethlehem Light
11. Carols of Celebration

Narrator: Rev. Debra Baker

Soprano

Angela Young
Opalee Budd
Karen Arnold
Heidi Christian
Vanessa Belyea
Sharon Anderson
Anne Murray
Esther Rogers
Emily Clark

Tenor

Scott Palmer
Sam Arnold

Handbell Choir

Jolene Caverhill
Evelyn Clark
Kinley LaFrance
John Clark
Lin Ward

Narrator

Alto

Carole Montgomery
Lin Ward
Barb Kierstead
Lauren Graham

Bass

John Clark
David Daye

Angela Young
Angela Palmer
Gail Lipsett
Bonnie Stokes
Lynda Swan

Rev. Debra Baker

MINUTE FOR MISSION

DONATION

A donation has been made to the General Fund in loving memory of Clair Robinson by Phyllis Robinson and Family.

A donation has been made to the General Fund in loving memory of Val Stewart by The Dibblee Family, Robert and Ellen Key, Ron and Jean Mills, Emily A. Clark, Leonard Wilson, Shirley Gates, Dr. Gary and Jantje Beatty, Peggy Karnes, Mary Lynn Robertson, Donald and Margaret Beattie, Glen and Vivian Cummings, Phyllis Wilson,

A donation has been made to the Kirk Church in loving memory of Sister, Starr Morin, by Marion and Robert MacFarlane.

A donation has been made to the General Fund in loving memory of mother, Betty Bunting, by Marion and Robert MacFarlane.

A donation has been made to the General Fund in loving memory of Georgie Morse by Shirley and Wayne McCallum, Doug and Lynda Swan.

A donation has been made to the Kirk Church in loving memory of wife, Lorna Cluff by Donald Cluff,

A donation has been made to the Kirk Church in loving memory of Lorna Cluff by Blair and Angela Young.

ANGEL PROJECT *This year we have been decorating the hall outside the Church office with Angels in memory of loved ones. Please take a moment to come by and see the beautiful Angels that have been placed and take a moment to read the memorial cards.*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SNOWFLAKE TREE *This year our tree in the lobby is bearing snowflakes instead of snowmen. Thank you to all who have purchased gifts and returned to the church. We still have a few snow flakes left and would invite you to take a snowflake today, purchase a gift and have back to the church by Tuesday, Dec. 13th. Please sign the sheet beside the tree with your name and phone number.*

DECEMBER COMMITTEE MEETINGS

The Board of Stewards will be meeting on December 13th to prepare the 2017 Budget. Session will not meet in December. The next official board meeting will be in January 17, 2017.

ANNUAL REPORTS *are due for 2016 are due by January 15th, 2017 for preparation for the Annual Meeting scheduled February 12th, 2017.*

CHURCH CALENDARS 2017 *Have arrived. Check at the office if you wish to purchase one. Cost \$ 7.00*

UPPER ROOMS FOR JANUARY AND FEBRUARY.

Small copies have arrived and located at the back of the church. The Large copies are to be here for the first of January Cost is \$ 3.00.

COFFEE HOUR *Each week we are looking for volunteers to look after coffee and tea after church.*

BOOK CLUB *The book club will be reading "Brooklyn" by Colm Toibin when it arrives. We will be hopefully meeting in January.*

ADVENT CALENDAR OF DEVOTIONS 2016

The Advent Calendar of Devotions has arrived. They are available at the church office for a cost of \$ 3.00.

E-MAIL ADDRESSES AND UPDATED ADDRESSES

Keeping updated through email. I will try to keep you updated. Please contact the church office at 328-6114 so our addresses may be kept up to date. Tell your friends also so they can be added to our list.

CHRISTMAS IN THE DOORYARD December 15, 2016 7:00 p.m.

McCain Community Theatre at the Woodstock High School
Admission: by donation with all proceeds supporting the Dooryard Arts Festival
"Christmas in the Dooryard" featuring classic and contemporary seasonal music and Christmas stories, will be as warm and cozy as a good glass of egg nog in front of a crackling fireplace on Christmas eve. Very special guest, Sally Dibblee will be joined by Martin and Ypie Shaver, John Thompson, George Peabody, Leah Jones, Ebony Scott, Kelly Clark and Rebecca McKinley, Peter McLaughlin and choir, Laura Gallivan, Alie Ross, Katie Taylor, Jane McLean, Macauley and Micah Martin and others. Prepare to have your spirits lifted just as high as that bright shining star so many years ago.

ANGEL PROJECT *This year we will be decorating the hall outside the Church office with Angels in memory of loved ones. Please bring your Angel in and we will place them in memory with a place card naming hyour loved one. Any questions ?? ask Joan.*

FUNDRAISER FOR AMY MONTGOMERY

Woodstock High School annual alumni hockey game will be held on Tuesday, December 27 at 7:45 p.m. at the AYR Motor Centre. This year proceeds will go to benefit Amy Montgomery.