

# Cochrane Street United Church

81 Cochrane Street ♦ St. John's, NL ♦ A1C 3L7



**December 4, 2022**  
**The Second Sunday of Advent**

Guest Presiders: Bert Riggs  
Minister Emeritus: Rev. Eric Hillier  
Minister of Music: Patricia Young  
Director of Music: Tristan Cleveland-Thompson  
Technical Operations: John Williams

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# Welcome to Cochrane Street United Church

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Whether you are here for the first time or this is your church home – welcome to our community of faith.

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## USHERING TEAM FOR DECEMBER

Ian McMaster, Gerry Penny, Bill Squires, Blair Bradbury

## OFFICE HOURS

Tuesdays 9:00 am – 1:30 pm  
Thursdays 10:00 am – 2:30 pm  
Fridays 9:00 am – 4:30 pm

Email: [info@cochranestreetuc.com](mailto:info@cochranestreetuc.com)

Phone: 709-722-3023

Website: [www.cochranestreetuc.com](http://www.cochranestreetuc.com)

Cochrane Centre Contact information for bookings  
709-754-2532 or [info@cochranecentre.ca](mailto:info@cochranecentre.ca)

## PASTORAL EMERGENCIES AND FUNERALS

Rev. Oliver Dingwell will cover all pastoral emergencies and funerals.  
He can be reached at (709) 640-4632

Like us on Facebook or Follow us on Twitter!  
[www.facebook.com/Cochranestreetuc](http://www.facebook.com/Cochranestreetuc) and @CochraneStreet

# GATHERING AS GOD'S PEOPLE

\*please stand as you are able

\*\*bold is in unison

## LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

We respectfully acknowledge the territory in which we gather as the ancestral homelands of the Beothuk, and the island of Newfoundland as the ancestral homelands of the Mi'kmaq and Beothuk. We would also like to recognize the Inuit of Nunatsiavut and NunatuKavut and the Innu of Nitassinan, and their ancestors, as the original people of Labrador. We strive for respectful relationships with all the peoples of this province as we search for collective healing and true reconciliation and honour this beautiful land together.

**PRELUDE:** Still Still Still, *arranged by James Pethel*

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*Please see your congregational email for detailed announcements.*

**\*INTROIT VU #34: Come Now, O God of Peace**

**O Master, let me walk with thee,**

**in lowly paths of service free;**

**Teach me thy secret, help me bear**

**the strain of toil, the fret of care**

**\*LIGHTING OF CHRIST CANDLE & PASSING OF THE PEACE:**

We give thanks for the light of hope—unrelenting and inexplicable.

**Our hope in Christ shines on.**

We give thanks for the light of peace—strong and unafraid.

**The peace of Christ lights our way.**

We give thanks for the light of joy—persistent and unpredictable.

**The joy of Christ brightens our lives.**

We give thanks for the light of love—hot and holy.

**The love of Christ comforts and challenges.**

Now let us light the Christ candle as we celebrate the birth of Jesus.

**Thank you, God, for your light in this world through Jesus Christ.**

The light shines in the darkness.

***And the darkness has not overcome it.***

Let us greet one another with the peace of Christ.

## REFLECTIVE MUSIC VU 7: Hope Is a Star vs. 2

**Peace is a ribbon that circles the earth,  
giving a promise of safety and worth**

**When God is a child there's joy in our song.**

**The last shall be first and the weak shall be strong,  
and none shall be afraid.**

### **\*CALL TO WORSHIP:**

Get ready, people of God! The time of peace and hope is at hand.

**We are called to action rather than reaction.**

Open your hearts to God's word and God's will.

**Help us to be workers for God rather than observers.**

Come, draw near to God in faith.

**Let us prepare our hearts to receive the wondrous gifts of  
God. AMEN.**

### **\*PRAYER OF APPROACH:**

**God of timeless grace, you fill us with the expectation of and  
desire for peace. Make us ready for the message that prepares  
the way, that with upright hearts and holy joy we may eagerly  
await the kingdom of your son, Jesus Christ, who reigns with  
you and the Holy Spirit, now and forever. Amen.**

**\*HYMN:                    Come Thou Long-Expected Jesus                    # 2 VU**

## **LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLES**

Readers: Paula and Tim Reynolds

*Light Candle*

### **\*ADVENT PRAYER:**

**May this light be a reminder that Christ is coming. God was  
with the generations before, God is with us today, and God will  
be with us tomorrow. Even now, God is on the way.                    AMEN**

### **\*The Holy Fire of Advent (vs.2)**

**The call of peace rings in our ears when all around is raging.**

**Within, without temptation shouts; our wrathful whims engaging.**

**Wait, wait, our Saviour's near: our weapons drop to the ground here.**

**Be joined in family, the holy fire of Advent.**

## **CANDLE LIGHTING & MESSAGES**

**LEARNING TOGETHER: "The Second Sunday of Advent"**

**OFFERING INVITATION & VOLUNTARY**

*There are many ways you can offer your financial gifts. As you enter the sanctuary you may lay your offering in the plate. You can send your offering by mail or drop them off in the mailbox. You can donate via eTransfer: [csuctreasurer@gmail.com](mailto:csuctreasurer@gmail.com). You can sign up for PAR (Pre-Authorized Remittance) or use the donate button on our website.*

**\*OFFERTORY HYMN VU 81: As With Gladness Men of Old vs. 3**

**As they offered gifts most rare  
at that manger crude and bare,  
so may we with holy joy,  
pure and free from sin's alloy,  
all our costliest treasures bring,  
Christ, to you, our heavenly King.**

**\*OFFERTORY PRAYER**

**God of Peace, we offer not only financial gifts, but our commitment to serve in your name. We long to use our skills and abilities in ways to glorify you. We seek to share words that tell the Good News. We dedicate to you the fullness of who we are, as we present our offering. Praise be to you, Ever-Gracious God. Amen.**

**GOD'S WORD FOR US TODAY**

**PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION:**

**Out of the embrace of mercy and righteousness, you have brought forth love and dignity for your people, O Holy One of Israel. Remember now your ancient promise: make straight the path that leads to you, and smooth the rough ways, that in our day we might bring forth your compassion for all humanity. Amen.**

**OLD TESTAMENT READING: Isaiah 40: 1-5**

**RESPONSIVE READING Psalm 85 (pg. 802 VU)**

**SCRIPTURE READING Luke 3:1 - 6**

**The Word of the Lord – Thanks be to God.**

**ANTHEM: In the Bleak MidWinter, by Darke**

**SERMON:** “Make a Straight Path for Him”

**REFLECTIVE MUSIC VU 10:** Prepare the Way of the Lord  
Prepare the way of the Lord!  
Prepare the way of the Lord!  
Make a straight path for him, make a straight path;  
Prepare the way of the Lord!

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE and THE LORD’S PRAYER**

Our Father, who art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name.  
Thy Kingdom Come, Thy will be done on earth as it is 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, and the power and the glory,  
for ever and ever. Amen.

**GOING FORTH TO SHARE GOD’S LOVE**

**\*HYMN:** On Jordan’s Bank # 20 VU

**PRAYER FOR GUIDANCE**

Holy God, Dreamer of dreams,  
We offer Cochrane Street United Church to you. We are your people, this is your church. We come to you seeking your guidance, your purpose, your vision. Align our will with yours, so that we will be willing to do whatever it takes to carry out your plan. We ask you to break through in new ways in our church. Show us the great ministry you have in store for us. Help us dream your dreams. Pour out your Holy Spirit on us, giving us the vision, boldness, and confidence to do all that you call us to do. Amen.

**COMMISSIONING AND BENEDICTION**

**\*SUNG BENEDICTION MV 220:** Peace Shines as a Solitary Star  
Peace shines as the solitary star.  
Faith is the inner light.  
You and I together mirror the Light of Lights,  
And illumine the pathway home.

**POSTLUDE:** Veni Emmanuel, *by Phil Lehenbauer*

*Please take your bulletins with you when you leave the pew.*

## **MARK YOUR CALENDARS**

- DEC 4: CSUC – Bert Riggs  
DEC 11: CSUC – Karen Bursey, WHITE GIFT SUNDAY  
DEC 11: Community Christmas Tree Lighting & Carol Singing  
4:00pm, Songs & Stories of Labrador  
5:00pm, Cochrane Street patio area  
DEC 18: CSUC – Church Council, LESSONS & CAROLS  
Saturday, DEC 24: CSUC – Rev. Oliver Dingwell, NATIVITY OF THE LORD  
9:00pm, Candles, Carols, Communion  
DEC 25: CSUC joining Cowan Heights

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:** If you wish to have an announcement included in the bulletin, please have it into the office by Thursday at noon.

**No SCENTS MAKES GOOD SENSE!** A friendly reminder that members of our congregation are sensitive to scented products. Thank you for helping.

**PASTORAL COVERAGE FOR CSUC:** While Cochrane Street United Church is without a minister, Rev. Oliver Dingwell will be covering all pastoral emergencies and funerals. He can be reached at (709) 640-4632 or by email at: [odingwell@cowanheightsunited.ca](mailto:odingwell@cowanheightsunited.ca). If Rev. Oliver is not available, please contact Paula Reynolds [pt2reynolds@gmail.com](mailto:pt2reynolds@gmail.com).

**PLEASE NOTE:** When leaving the church after worship service, the only exit route is left on Military Road heading towards Rawlins Cross due to the Downtown Christmas Parade.

**DECORATING OF SANCTUARY:** A thank you to Paul and Tim Reynolds, Faith Roberts Pike and Stephen Jewczyk who gave up their time and effort to decorate the sanctuary for this year's Advent and Christmas season.

**THANK YOU!** A Big Thank You to our volunteers who assisted with the recent mailout. We are very grateful for your gifts of time and careful attention to detail.



**2021 CHURCH CALENDARS** can now be picked up at the church office, available at a cost of \$6.00. To place an order, please contact the Church Office at 722-3023 or [info@cochranestreetuc.com](mailto:info@cochranestreetuc.com).

**CHRISTMAS MEMORIALS:** Just a friendly reminder that Christmas Memorials need to be received into the office by Wednesday, December 14, 2022.

**NEXT MEETING OF CHURCH COUNCIL** has been rescheduled for Monday, December 12, at 7pm via ZOOM. If anyone has a matter they wish to bring to the attention of Council, please contact Stephen Jewczyk Council Chair at [sjewczyk@gmail.com](mailto:sjewczyk@gmail.com).

**THE COMMUNITY HALL RENOVATIONS:** Work on the community hall is almost fully completed. The community hall is once again available for church related functions. Bookings to reserve the space will be through FIRST LIGHT. Should you need access to the building, please for the moment continue to contact the church office ([info@cochranestreetuc.com](mailto:info@cochranestreetuc.com), 722-3023) or First Light (754-2532) before arriving so we can let you in through the Minister's entrance/laneway or the church doors. Your patience and cooperation during this period has been greatly appreciated.

**DEADLINE FOR CONTRIBUTIONS:** As per Canada Revenue Agency, only contributions received before December 31 will be included on 2022 official receipts.

**VOLUNTEER REQUEST:** Council has started the updating of the Historical Roll for CSUC. This project is a requirement for all pastoral charges. Linda Bowden, CSUC's archivist, is providing invaluable information and leadership for the project. Volunteers are reviewing the lists of persons on the Roll and contributing valuable additional information to Council. Anyone interested in assisting with the project should contact Brian Johnston who is the lead for Council with this project, through the church office at 722-3023 or [info@cochranestreetuc.com](mailto:info@cochranestreetuc.com).

**Christmas Decorations Donation Request:** The Sri Lankan Association of Newfoundland and Labrador is a non-profit organization that is planning to have a Christmas gathering and trying to create a Christmas environment to welcome newcomers to Canada. Anything such as Christmas trees, ornaments, garlands, lights, Christmas linens or table runners, wreaths/swags, tree skirts, tree toppers, Christmas dinnerware, etc., would be most appreciated. If you can help, please drop off items by Sunday, December 11, at Cochrane Centre in the church office during CSUC office hours or on Sunday (10:00am – 12:00pm).

**United Church Bookstore & Gifts:** The bookstore is seeking volunteers to help with the yearly inventory. If you have a couple of hours free time that you can give to the inventory project, please contact Leona at [l laundry@united-church.ca](mailto:l laundry@united-church.ca).

**BRIDGES TO HOPE: BRIDGES TO HOPE:** At this time of year, the need for food donations is even greater. As a goal, we are trying to fill our shelving units every week to assist with this need. Please assist with the following items: Canned Beans, Canned Milk, Canned Meats, Mac n Cheese, 1 litre Juice, Cereal, Canned Fruit, Pasta Sauce, Crackers, Cereal. Any other non-perishable food item would be much appreciated. Thank you for your continued co-operation and support.