

# Cochrane Street United Church

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



## November 25<sup>th</sup>, 2018

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Minister Emeritus: Rev. Eric Hillier

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# GATHERING AS GOD'S PEOPLE

\*please stand as you are able

## PRELUDE:

**\*INTROIT VU # 1: O Come, O Come Emmanuel vs. 1**

**\*WELCOME, ACKNOWLEDGEMENT & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**\*PASSING OF THE PEACE:**

Let our hospitality towards each other reflect God's love.  
The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us greet one another with the peace of Christ.

**REFLECTIVE MUSIC #34 Come Now, O God of Peace**

Come now, O God of Peace, we are your people;  
pour out your spirit that we be one body.

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP:**

The God of all time and space is in this place.

**Come, Creating God;**

**shape us according to your hopeful vision.**

Renewal of life—of trust that God is always with us—is in this place.

**Come, Living Christ; reveal to us your way of peace.**

The source of life and inspiration is in this place.

**Come, Holy Spirit; stir us to the gift and joy of compassion.**

Loving God, to you we raise our hearts and voices.

**Shine your light of love in us and in all that we do.**

**\*PRAYER OF APPROACH:**

God of Wonder and Hope,

Your vision of peace and wholeness

comes to us in sweeping revelations

and in tiny signs of hope.

Kindle our hearts that we might be a hopeful people.

Keep us from growing weary of waiting,

Lest we miss the glory of your appearing.

Draw near to us as we watch and wait. Amen.

**\*HYMN VU # 5: All Earth Is Waiting**

**Learning Together with First Light  
Cedar Teachings – Jenelle Duval**

**OFFERING INVITATION**

**SOLO: “Humble and Kind” by Tim McGraw**  
***Soloist: Shelley Neville***

**\*OFFERTORY HYMN: #55 vs. 4**

What can I give him, poor as I am?  
If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb;  
if I were a wise man, I would do my part;  
yet what I can I give him - give my heart.

**FIRST CANDLE**

*O Wisdom, O holy Word of God,  
You govern all creation with your revealed, compassionate care:  
Come and show your people the way of salvation.*

Reading: Isaiah 40:1 – 11                      reader: Lloyd Brown  
O Wisdom: send your light to our world.  
**Come and teach us the way of insight.**

*Lighting of the Candle*

**PRAYER**

God of All,  
known by many names, we pray for our neighbours of many faiths  
and no faith, as we find your image in all people. We give you thanks  
for the beauty of diversity, the challenge of difference, and the joy of  
curiosity and discovery. We pray for mutuality and respect in all our  
relationships, as individuals and as communities. Set your love as a  
seal upon our hearts, that we might learn to see others as you do, as  
your beloved children.

**God of Joy, unite us in heart and purpose by your love.**

We pray these things and offer now the unspoken prayers of our  
hearts ... (*silence*)

**\*HYMN VU #29: Hark the Glad Sound**

**SECOND CANDLE**

*O Root of Jesse, you are raised up as a sign for all peoples;  
Leaders can only stand silent in your presence;  
Your people lift their hearts in worship before you.  
Come to Us Living, Hope*

Reading: Isaiah 11:1 – 10

reader: Jacob Critch

O Root of Jesse: send your light to our world.

**Come and set us free.**

Lighting of the Candle

**PRAYER**

Holy One,

in Jesus you reveal true power in humility and true strength in peace. You pray that we all may be one, that we would seek the good of others before our own. As the nations rage, you come with no weapon and no threat, revealing the Way of Love: the soil in which change for the better takes root. Inspire us to be witnesses to truth, that we might share in the work of your kingdom: peace and justice and plenty for all.

**God of Hope, we long for change. Bring peace to your world and people.**

We pray these things and offer now the unspoken prayers of our hearts ... (*silence*)

**ANTHEM:** A Christmas Laudamus arr. Lee Dengler

**THIRD CANDLE**

*O Key of David, source of life and life eternal:  
Come, break down the prison walls of death  
For those who dwell in the shadow of death.*

Reading: Luke 1:46 – 55

reader: Stephen Jewczyk

O Key of David: send your light to our world.

**Come and liberate those held captive.**

## Lighting of Candle

### PRAYER

God of Light,  
who suffers with us and accompanies us through the valley, we pray  
for your children who walk in shadow: the anxiety of diagnosis and  
the long night of treatment; the pain of grieving the living who suffer  
depression, addiction and dementia; the helplessness of  
accompanying loved ones through illness and death; the emptiness  
of loss and loneliness. Renew our courage and strengthen us in  
times of trial.

**God of Healing, help us to see our neighbour's need, and to  
reach out in love.**

We pray these things and offer now the unspoken prayers of our  
hearts ... (*silence*)

**Anthem:** "Breath of Heaven" by Roger Emerson

**Soloist:** Shelly Neville

### FOURTH CANDLE

*O Radiant Dawn, splendor of eternal light, sun of justice:  
Arise, shine on those who dwell in the shadow of death.*

Reading: Jeremiah 23:5 – 6

readers: Will & Carrie Parsons

O Sun of Righteousness: send your light to our world.

**Come and give light to those who sit in darkness.**

## Lighting of Candle

### PRAYER

God of promise,  
we pray for justice in our time: for healing, reconciliation and  
deepened relationship and trust among Indigenous and non-  
Indigenous peoples in our lands;  
for respect and dignity among peoples of every race, creed and  
colour, gender expression and sexual orientation; for the fair and  
equitable treatment, employment and consideration of all people  
under the law.

Foster within us a longing not only for our own fulfillment, but the fullness of life for all.

**God of Love, shape us according to your life-giving vision.**

We pray these things and offer now the unspoken prayers of our hearts ... (*silence*)

**\*HYMN VU # 8:** Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming

Led by Shelley Neville

### **FIFTH CANDLE**

*O Emmanuel, revealed hope and source of trust:*

*Come and set us free for your work and witness.*

*Show us how to live your redeeming love.*

Reading: Isaiah 9:2 – 7

reader: Linda Facey

O Emmanuel: send your light to dwell among us.

**Come and save us, O God.**

Lighting of Candle

### **PRAYER**

From the desert of exodus to water from the rock; from the valley of dry bones to the mount of transfiguration; from the cradle to the cross to the empty tomb; you, O God, redeem life from death. Our story of faith is a story of redeeming: hope from despair, peace from strife, joy from grief and love from loneliness and fear. As your people, we pray that the ways of life would prevail. We pray that you would transform your world and your people to be bearers of light and life and love.

**God of all times and places, breathe life into your people and world.**

We pray these things and offer now the unspoken prayers of our hearts ... (*silence*)

**SOLO:** O HOLY NIGHT by Adolphe Adam

Soloist: Shelley Neville

## GOING FORTH TO SHARE GOD'S LOVE

**\*HYMN VU # 68: ALL POOR ONES AND HUMBLE**

### 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

CHORAL BLESSING VU #9: People Look East vs. 1

### POSTLUDE

*Everyone is welcome to come to the hall  
for coffee, tea and treats!*





**JOIN US THIS FESTIVE SEASON**  
**Cochrane Street United Church**

December 2<sup>nd</sup>\*: Draw Near to Hope  
Advent Communion Service

December 9<sup>th</sup>: Draw Near to Peace  
White Gift Sunday

December 15<sup>th</sup>: Messy Church 4 – 6 pm

December 16<sup>th</sup>: Draw Near to Joy

December 23<sup>rd</sup> Draw Near to Love – Lessons and Carols

December 24<sup>th</sup>: Draw Near to Jesus  
7:00: Kids, Candles and Chaos  
9:00: Carols, Candles and Communion

January 6<sup>th</sup>: Epiphany Guest Preacher: Oliver Dingwell

\*If the parade is postponed to December 2<sup>nd</sup>, service will be at 9:30am