Welcome to Cochrane Street United Church

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

USHERING TEAM FOR DECEMBER

Jalna McMaster, Fraser Ellis, Jo-Ann Kelly, David Molyneux, Sig Lenser,

THIS WEEK AT COCHRANE STREET DECEMBER 7 – DECEMBER 13

Thursday:	10:00 Zoom Prayer Group	
Sunday:	10:00 AM Choir Practice	

OFFICE

Office Hours:	Tuesdays	9:00 am	_	4:30 pm
	Fridays	9:00 am	—	4:30 pm

Email: <u>info@cochranestreetuc.com</u> Phone: 709-722-3023 Website: <u>www.cochranestreetuc.com</u>

Cochrane Centre Contact information for bookings 709-754-2532 or info@cochranecentre.ca

CONTACT REV. MIRIAM

Have a question or need to make an appointment? You can reach Rev. Miriam in the following ways: Email: revmiriam@cochranestreetuc.com or Cell: 709-728-8410

Like us on Facebook or Follow us on Twitter! www.facebook.com/Cochranestreetuc and @CochraneStreet

GATHERING AS GOD'S PEOPLE

*please stand as you are able

LAND ACKNOWLEGEMENT

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:

INTROIT VU #7: Hope Is a Star vs 2

2 Peace is a ribbon that circles the earth, giving a promise of safety and worth. R REFRAIN: 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.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please see your congregational email for detailed announcements.

*LIGHTING OF CHRIST CANDLE & PASSING OF THE PEACE:

The light of Christ is with us

Here. Now. In this place.

In Christ, although we are many,

We are one.

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 VU# 17: O Ancient Love vs. 2

O homeless love, that dwells among the stranger;
 O lowly love, that knows the mighty's scorn;
 O hungry love, that lay within a manger: R
 REFRAIN: O living Love, within our hearts be born,
 O living Love, within our hearts be borne.

CALL TO WORSHIP:

In this Advent of expectation draw us together in unity, that our praise and worship might echo in these walls and also through our lives. In this Advent of expectation draw us together in mission, that the hope within might be the song we sing, and the melody of our lives. In this Advent of expectation draw us together in service, that the path we follow might lead us from a stable to a glimpse of eternity.

PRAYER OF APPROACH: God,the One who comes in your name comes again with grace and power, with forgiveness and strength, with truth and imagination, with gentleness and love. May the Coming One enter the hearts of those who wait with quiet expectation for all that is good and holy and just. Amen.

HYMN # 18: There's a Voice in the Wilderness vs 1 & 3

 There's a voice in the wilderness crying, a call from the ways untrod: prepare in the desert a highway, a highway for our God!
 The valleys shall be exalted, the lofty hills brought low; make straight all the crooked places where God, our God, may go!

 But the word of our God endureth, whose arm is ever strong;
 God stands in the midst of nations, and soon will right the wrong.
 God shall feed the flock like a shepherd, the lambs so gently hold;
 to pastures of peace will lead them, and bring them safe to fold.

ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING Readers: Evan, Tiffany, Harrison & Oliver

Reader: Our lists are long, even in this strange mess we find ourselves living in and through. And we want to do it right, we want to be safe, but we want to enjoy the season. We've got work to do to put right what has gone wrong, to heal what is broken, to mend the relationships, and to prepare for God to come and dwell among us once more.

Reader: The prophet Isaiah reminded us that there is work to be done. "Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight in the desert a highway for our God."

Reader: When God comes in, then peace is to be found, but we need to make peace the way; we need to open the door into our lives.

Reader: We light this candle of peace. This candle reminds us of the peace that Jesus brings into the world.

(The second blue candle is lit)

All: Help us prepare for your coming, O God, with peace in our hearts. In a world that is confused and confusing, help us to know peace as we prepare for you to dwell among us. Amen

ADVENT CANDLE CAROL: A Candle is Burning vs. 2

2 A candle is burning, a candle of peace, a candle to signal that conflict must cease: for Jesus is coming to show us the way; a message of peace humbly laid in the hay.

LEARNING TOGETHER

HYMN VU #28: Herald! Sound the Note of Gladness vs. 1 & 4

- Herald! Sound the note of gladness! Tell the news that Christ is here; make a pathway through the desert for the one who brings God near. *REFRAIN:* Sound the trumpet! Tell the message! Christ the Saving One has come!
- 4 Herald! Sound the note of triumph! Christ has come to share our life, bringing God's own love and power, granting victory in our strife. R

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Raiden Leslie Raymond Garland Son of Roylynn Gough & Randy Garland

Oliver Watts Smith Son of Tiffany Smith & Evan Smith

Brothers and Sisters, we gather now to celebrate the gift of God's grace that is given to us in the Sacrament of Baptism.

We are one body and one spirit.

We have one hope in the risen Christ.

There is one Lord, one faith, one Baptism. One God and Creator of us all.

Out of the waters of baptism we rise to new life, forgiven of sin and one with Christ, members of Christ's body.

Presentation

On behalf of the congregation I present the following persons for initiation into the Body of Christ through Baptism:

Raiden Leslie Raymond Garland Oliver Watts Smith

Profession of Faith

Desiring the freedom of new life in Christ, do you promise to resist evil and to live in love and justice?

I do, by the grace of God.

Do you believe in the Holy Trinity: Father, Son and Holy Spirit—in God, source of love, in Jesus Christ, love incarnate, and in the Holy Spirit, love's power?

I do, by the grace of God.

Will you join with your brothers and sisters in the mission and ministry of Christ's Church?

I will, God being my helper.

Vows for the parents:

Will you share with your child the Christian life, and seek to grow with him in faith, hope and love?

I will, God being my helper.

Vows for the Sponsor and Godparents

Do you promise through prayer and example to support and encourage Raiden Leslie Raymond and Oliver Watts to be faithful Christians?

Vows for the Congregation

Let us pledge our support and care for those being baptized today: As a baptized and baptizing congregation, we commit ourselves to support and uphold you within a community that worships God, loves and serves others, seeks justice and resists evil. May God grant us all the grace to live out our baptism.

Let us with the whole Church confess our faith:

We are not alone,

we live in God's world.

We believe in God:

who has created and is creating, who has come in Jesus,

the word made flesh,

to reconcile and make new,

who works in us and others

by the Spirit.

We trust in God.

We are called to be the Church:

to celebrate God's presence,

to live with respect in Creation,

to love and serve others,

to seek justice and resist evil,

to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen,

our judge and our hope.

In life, in death, in life beyond death, God is with us. We are not alone.

We are not alone.

Thanks be to God.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

We give you thanks, Eternal God, for you nourish and sustain all living things by the gift of water. You led Israel out of slavery, through the waters of the sea, into the freedom of the promised land.

Blessed are you, O God.

In the waters of the Jordan, Jesus was baptized by John. and anointed with your spirit. By the baptism of his own death and resurrection, Christ set us free from sin and death. And opened the way to eternal life.

Blessed are you, O God.

We praise you that in baptism you give us your Holy Spirit, who teaches us and leads us into all truth, filling us with a variety of gifts, that we might proclaim the gospel and serve as a royal priesthood.

Blessed are you, O God.

Pour out, O God, your Holy Spirit upon us, and upon this water that this font may become our fount of blessing and source of grace.

Blessed be the Lord our God, now and forever. Amen.

The Act of Baptism

I present to you Raiden Leslie Raymond Garland / Oliver Watts, members of the Body of Christ through Baptism.

In God's circle of love, we hold on to each other; I can see God's love through you.

In God's circle of love, we learn to love each other; Each of us is special, in God's circle of love.

Oh Raiden did you know that you are very special? You're so special to us all Oh come if you will to our circle of love.

Each of us is special, in God's circle of love.

Oh Oliver did you know that you are very special? You're so special to us all Oh come if you will to our circle of love.

Each of us is special, in God's circle of love.

OFFERING INVITATION & VOLUNTARY

There are many ways you can offer your financial gifts. As you enter the sanctuary you may lay your offeing in the plate. You can send your offering by mail or drop them off in the mailbox. You can donate via eTransfer: <u>csuctreasurer@gmail.com</u>. You can sign up for PAR (Pre-Authourized 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'S WORD FOR US TODAY

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION:

Holy God, help us to give voice to the wonderful news: you, yourself are coming to dwell among us! Quicken our imaginations to find new and creative ways to proclaim Christ's coming. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READING

The Word of the Lord – Thanks be to God.

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The Word of the Lord – Thanks be to God.

***RESPONSIVE READING**

"My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,

for he has looked with favor on the lowliness of his servant. Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed;

for the Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy is his name.

His mercy is for those who fear him from generation to generation.

He has shown strength with his arm; he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts

Luke 1:46b – 55

Luke 1:39 – 46a

Matthew 1:18 - 25

He has brought down the powerful from their thrones, and lifted up the lowly;

he has filled the hungry with good things,

and sent the rich away empty.

He has helped his servant Israel,

in remembrance of his mercy,

according to the promise he made to our ancestors to Abraham and to his descendants forever."

SOLO: Gesù Bambino

Soloist: Mary Antle

SERMON:

Reflective Music

GOING FORTH TO SHARE GOD'S LOVE

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND 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.

HYMN VU #12: She Walked in the Summer

- She walked in the summer through the heat on the hill.
 She hurried as one who went with a will.
 She danced in the sunlight when the day was done.
 Her heart knew no evening who carried the sun.
- Fresh as a flower at the first ray of dawn,
 she came to her cousin whose morning was gone.
 There leaped a little child in the ancient womb,
 and there leaped a little hope in every ancient tomb.
- 4 When you walk in the summer through the heat on the hill, when you're wound with the wind and one with Her will, be brave with the burden you are blessed to bear, for it's Christ that you carry everywhere, everywhere, everywhere.

CHRISTMAS CAROL VU #43: Go, Tell It on the Mountain vs. 1 &2

REFRAIN: Go, tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere. Go, tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born.

- While shepherds kept their watching o'er silent flocks by night, behold, throughout the heavens there shone a holy light. R
- 2 The shepherds feared and trembled when lo, above the earth rang out the angel chorus that hailed our Saviour's birth! R

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 Shine Like 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

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

December	6	—	Second Sunday of Advent 11 am
December	6	—	Christmas on Cochrane 5 pm
December	13	—	Third Sunday of Advent 11 am
December	13	—	Christmas on Cochrane 5 pm
December	20	—	Lessons & Carols 11 am & 7 pm
December	20	—	Christmas on Cochrane
			Jesus' Birthday Party (outdoors) 5 pm
December	24	_	Candles, Carols & Communion 7 pm

CHRISTMAS MEMORIALS: Just a friendly reminder that Christmas memorials need to be received by the office by Friday, December 18.

December 13th is White Gift Sunday! We are collecting items for the First Light Shelter. This year the items most in need are: personal hygiene items (deodorant, shaving cream, soap, shampoo) and items to help people stay warm like hats, mittens, scarves, socks.

Christmas Ministries: Part of our community outreach this year will be gift cards to Cochrane Centre tenants. If you wish to contribute please place a donation in an envelope marked Christmas Ministries. Your support is greatly appreciated.

2021 CHURCH CALENDARS will be available later this Fall at a cost of \$6.00. If anyone is interested, please contact the Church Office (722-3023, <u>info@cochranestreetuc.com</u>) as soon as possible to place an order.

BOOK SALE: Every Sunday Henrietta & Fraser Ellis will have books to sell, \$2 each. If interested, contact the church office at 709-722-3023 or <u>info@cochranestreetuc.com</u>.

NOTES FROM THE ARCHIVES

A NEW BEGINNING! Eighth of 9 Parts

The first service was held on Easter Sunday, April 23, 1916, in the Sunday School area of the building – a three story extension attached to the sanctuary. The church was dedicated on June 18, 1916, but without organ, stained glass windows and many light fixtures. The offering at the dedication amounted to \$10,400.