



# GATHERING AS GOD'S PEOPLE

\*please stand as you are able

## 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:

### INTROIT: Hope Waits

#### Hope Waits for Us at Advent

Verse 1

Amanda Udis-Kessler

Musical score for 'Hope Waits for Us at Advent' in G major, 4/4 time. The score consists of four staves of music with lyrics underneath. The lyrics are: 'Hope waits for us at Ad-vent. Hope waits for us to trust. Hope waits for our com-mit-ment to a land that's kind and just. In this time of pre-par-a-tion for the work of co-cre-a-tion, for the birth-ing of a world that heals the ones in pain, Hope is born in us a - gain.'

## 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 7: Hope Is a Star**

1 Hope is a star that shines in the night,  
leading us on till the morning is bright.  
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:**

Can you miss something you've never known?

**We long for a just world,  
for peace like rivers, for the end of suffering.**

We are a hopeful people—

**for joy that is contagious,  
for nations that feel like neighbors,  
and for hospitals that run empty.**

We come longing for the world God promises,  
**but we are on our way.**

God is here. God is still creating.

**Let us worship Holy God.**

### **PRAYER OF APPROACH:**

**God of Wonder and Hope,  
Your vision of peace and wholeness  
comes to us in sweeping revelations  
and in time 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 9: People Look East vs. 1, 4 & 5**

1 People, look east. The time is near  
of the crowning of the year.  
Make your house fair as you are able,  
trim the hearth and set the table.  
People, look east and sing today:  
Love the guest is on the way.

4 Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim  
one more light the bowl shall brim,  
shining beyond the frosty weather,  
bright as sun and moon together.  
People, look east and sing today:  
Love the star is on the way.

5 Angels, announce with shouts of mirth  
Christ who brings new life to earth.  
Set every peak and valley humming  
with the word, the Lord is coming.  
People, look east and sing today:  
Love the Lord is on the way.

## **LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLES**

Led by: Christina, Brian, Caleb, Sadie and Charlie

**Reader:** The pandemic has laid bare, and widened, economic disparity locally and globally. As we enter the Advent season, how can our church become a house where the Holy will be born anew—offering respite, sustenance and care, opening the doors ever wider to those seeking shelter from the onslaught of life?

**Reader:** No one church can do it all, but each can do something. As we study the biblical prophets that call us to care for our neighbors and “make room in the inn”, the lonely and frightened spaces within us are filled with the light of Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love

**Reader:** We hope for a world where all are fed.

**Reader:** We hope for a world with more bridges than walls.

**Reader:** We hope for a world with wide open doors.

**Reader:** We hope for a world with contagious laughter.

**Reader:** We hope for a world where trees grow tall and creeks run clean.

**Reader:** We hope for a world where all people feel at home—in their bodies, in the church, in their physical homes.

**Reader:** We light the candle of hope, because hope keeps our hearts alive as we wait.

**Reader:** Today we offer the Light of Hope. May this light shine in our hearts, in our lives, and in our church. May Hope awaken us to possibilities and lead us to greater hospitality. There *IS* room in this Inn, a House for the Holy.

Light Candle

Hymn: A Candle Is Burning vs. 1

- 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.

## LEARNING TOGETHER

### HYMN VU 55: In the Bleak Midwinter

- 1 In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan,  
earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone;  
snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow,  
in the bleak midwinter, long ago.
- 2 Our God, heaven cannot hold him, nor earth sustain;  
heaven and earth shall flee away when he comes to reign;  
in the bleak midwinter a stable place sufficed  
the Lord God almighty, Jesus Christ.
- 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.

### Sacrament of Baptism

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 person

for initiation into the Body of Christ through Baptism:

**Keagan Richard Rideout**

### ***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***

***Godparents: Todd and Tracy LeGrow***

Do you promise through prayer and example to support and encourage Keagan Richard to be a faithful Christian?

**I do.**

### ***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.  
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 Keagan Richard, a member 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 Keagan 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.

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.

## **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-Authourized Remittance) or use the donate button on our website.*

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

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:**

**God of the stars and God of our hearts  
Our days will pass but your words will last.  
So as we listen today,  
help us to hold onto what will last.  
Help us hold onto you. Gratefully we pray. Amen.**



**SCRIPTURE READING**

**Luke 21:25 - 36**

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

**ANTHEM:** *Glow, by Eric Whitacre*

**SERMON:**

*Reflective Music*

**GOING FORTH TO SHARE GOD'S LOVE**

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER**

**Sung Response:**

Make of my heart a stable, a house for the Holy,  
A warm and sturdy place, for hope to live and grow.

**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 35: Good Christian Friends Rejoice vs. 1–3**

- 1 Good Christian friends, rejoice  
with heart and soul and voice!  
Give ye heed to what we say: News! News!  
Jesus Christ is born today.  
Ox and ass before him bow,  
and he is in the manger now.  
Christ is born today! Christ is born today!
- 2 Good Christian friends, rejoice  
with heart and soul and voice!  
Now ye hear of endless bliss: Joy! Joy!  
Jesus Christ was born for this!  
He hath opened heaven's door,  
and we are blest forevermore.  
Christ was born for this! Christ was born for this!

3 Good Christian friends, rejoice  
with heart and soul and voice!  
Now ye need not fear the grave: Peace! Peace!  
Jesus Christ was born to save!  
Calls you one and calls you all  
to gain his everlasting hall.  
Christ was born to save! Christ was born to save!

### **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: Hope Shines as a Solitary Star**

Hope 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.*

### **MARK YOUR CALENDARS**

- |              |  |
|--------------|--|
| November 28: | First Sunday of Advent, 7pm worship service<br><i>There will be NO Morning Service</i>                       |
| November 28: | Christmas at Cochrane, 4–5pm   |
| December 5:  | Christmas at Cochrane, 4–5pm   |
| December 12: | White Gift Sunday, 11am  |
| December 12: | Christmas at Cochrane, 4–5pm   |
| December 12: | Blue Christmas Service, St. James United Church, 7pm<br>Co-led with United Churches of Eastern Avalon Region |
| December 19: | Lessons & Carols, 11am   |
| December 19: | Christmas at Cochrane, 4–5pm   |
| December 24: | Tree Lighting & Christmas Story, 4pm   |
| December 24: | Candles & Carols, 7pm  |
| December 24: | Candles, Carols & Communion, 9pm   |

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:** If you wish to add an announcement, please have it into the office by Wednesday at noon.

**SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 28:** The service on November 28 will be at 7pm due to the annual Downtown Christmas Parade taking place at 12pm that same day. Traffic congestions and parking will make it too difficult to access the church that morning.

**CHURCH COUNCIL** appreciates and thanks those who gave up their time and effort to decorate the sanctuary for this year's Advent season. What a wonderful job you have done beautifying the sanctuary! Merry Christmas to all and God Bless!  
*Stephen Jewczyk, Chair of CSUC Council.*

**CHRISTMAS MEMORIALS:** Just a friendly reminder that Christmas Memorials need to be received into the office by Wednesday, December 15.

**CORRECTION NOTICE:** Please note that the card sent in our Christmas mailout has the wrong start time for our **Christmas on Cochrane** event. It **will begin 4pm** and will last about an hour.

**Christmas on Cochrane Volunteers:** We are looking for 5–6 volunteers each week for Christmas on Cochrane (November 28, December 5, 12 & 19). Volunteers will be helping collect food for Bridges to Hope, monitoring the barricades, helping set up the sound system and set up for the event. Volunteers will need to arrive at 3:30pm then we should be done and cleaned up by 5:00pm.

**CHRISTMAS ON COCHRANE:** Everyone is welcome to join us for our newest Christmas tradition — a neighbourhood tree lighting. **Each Sunday at 4pm** we will have Christmas Carols, special guests and a joyful celebration of community as each week we light up trees for hope, peace, joy and love! We will also be collecting food for Bridges to Hope. Here is a list of the items most in need: cereal, canned milk, canned soup, canned beans, Mac-n-Cheese (ie kraft diner), Ravioli, SpaghettiOs etc, 1 litre Juice, canned fruit, pasta foods/sauce, cracker, packaged meals (Sidekicks, Mr. Noodles etc), hygiene items.

**CHRISTMAS CARDS:** This year you can buy cards with Robert Young's beautiful picture of those stained glass windows that are on the north side of our sanctuary. They are \$5.00 for 10 cards. You can buy them on our website or by calling the office 722-3023.

**Solid Wood Bookcase:** We are looking for a solid wood bookcase to be donated so we can return our hymn books to the sanctuary. Why solid wood? It needs to go on wheels so the hymn books can be stored between services. Please call or email Rev. Miriam if you can donate a bookcase. (728-8410 or [revmiriam@cochranestreetuc.com](mailto:revmiriam@cochranestreetuc.com))

**BRIDGES TO HOPE** has been selected as the recipient of Tim Horton's Holiday Smile Cookie Campaign. Purchase a \$1.00 Smile Cookie at a participating Tim Horton's in the greater St. John's Area from November 22–28. 100% of proceeds from each cookie sold will help to feed over 10,000 of your neighbours.

**EASTERN HEALTH** invites you to attend one of our FREE virtual “**Grieving: Coping with the Holidays**” sessions at 2:00–3:30pm or 6:30pm–8:00pm on DEC 1. No registration required. For more details, please contact Grief and Bereavement Services at [GriefandBereavement@easternhealth.ca](mailto:GriefandBereavement@easternhealth.ca) or 777-6959.

## MEMORIALS

*In Forever Memory of our good friend, Marion Bailey,  
who recently passed from this earth.*

*Marion was a devoted church goer, so with the ongoing pandemic,  
she always felt blessed and received spiritual inspiration  
from the sermons of Rev. Miriam which we acquired for her.  
Marion said Rev. Miriam preached the Bible and related the stories  
to today's world in her language.*

*Remembered Forever by Fraser, Henrietta,  
Roberta, Nancy and Donald*

*In Loving Memory of Fred Rowe,  
From Charlie Pope*

*In Loving Memory of Mrs. Beatrice Pope,  
From Patricia Rorke*

### **NOTES FROM THE ARCHIVES**

Next year, 2022, is the 140<sup>th</sup> anniversary of our congregation worshipping on Cochrane Street. I thought it might be interesting to look back 40 years. All “Notes” from November 14 to December 19 are taken from the 1982 Annual Report.

The Pairs and Spares group was formed in March of 1982. This was a social group for adults open to anyone in the congregation and which met twice a month. The activities of the group varied. Here are two: In the fall, a Jug Band was formed. It performed at Burry Heights promotional day in October and was very well received. A Chinese dinner was held in the gym on New Year's Eve and following the Watch Night Service returned to the gym for entertainment.