

CENTRAL UNITED CHURCH
Lunenburg, Nova Scotia

The United Church of Canada
Sunday, December 3rd, 2017

Advent 1 - Hope

Minister: Rev. Grace Caines-Corkum
Guest Organist/Pianist: Gus Webb
Lay Reader: Barry Corkum

Email: centralunitedch@bellaliant.com

Website: www.centralunitedlunenburg.ca

Scent-free Policy at Central United

We encourage everyone to recognize that some members of our Church family are very sensitive to strong odours. There is a designated seating area for this purpose.

The music for the weekly sung responses (e.g. Gathering, Offering) is available on laminated sheets which are located in the Narthex.

Prelude

Greetings

Gathering Music: *Hope Is a Star* (verse 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.*

VU #7



Hymn: *“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”*
(Verses 1, 2, 4, 5 and 6)

VU #1

Invitation:

One: Let us open our ears and hearts and listen for the gentle voice of hope.

All: We will listen in the midst of the noise of life around us.

One: It is hope that fills children with life and fun.

All: It is hope that brings smiles to the faces of neighbours and friends.

One: It is hope that fills voices with the shout for justice,

All: And makes freedom a restless song in longing hearts.

One: It is hope that moves the hearing of the “good news” to the living of it,

All: And helps words and worship become actions.

One: We recognize hope in the voices of creation,

All: In the voices of all humanity.

One: Can we hear them this Advent?

All: We will come and with all our hearts and strength we will be open.

This is hope.

The Prayer of Jesus

Welcome



Minute for Mission

Offering our Gifts:

Regular Offering

Choral Dedication:



Offering Hymn: “*In the Bleak Midwinter*”

VU 55 vs. 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.*

(Please stand, as you are able, when the Greeters/Elders bring forward the Offering)

Dedication of Our Offering:

Offering Response: “*In the Bleak Midwinter*”

VU 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.*

Scripture: Luke 1: 5 – 25 & 57 - 66



A Savior Born, A Gift of Joy (Sing once)(Tune: **O WALY WALY – VU #372**)

*A Savior born – a gift of hope,
 A manger bed, a star of light,
 A Mother's laugh, a tiny boy,
 A father's prayer – such gifts that night!*

*O God of hope, your word uplifts –
 The poor now laugh and know their worth.
 May we your church give Christmas gifts
 That bring your hope to all the earth.*

Lighting The First Advent Candle – “Hope”

Gift of Music: “*She Walked in the Summer*” (VU #12)
Women's Chorus

Hymn: “*When Old Zechariah Saw What God Had Done*” (Insert)
 (Tune: Cradle Song – VU #69 – “*Away in a Manger*”)

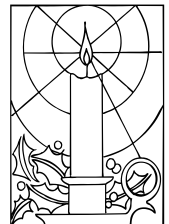
Sermon “Waiting In Silence”**Prayers of the People**

Hymn: “*Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus*” VU #2

Benediction

Sending Us Out: “*Go Now in Hope, Guided by the Light*” (MV #211)
(Sing twice)

*Go now in hope,
 guided by the light of Christ,
 So you may be
 nourished by the Word of Life*



Postlude

WELCOME

Welcome to our Sunday Service. If you are a guest with us, please sign the "Guest Book" at the back of the sanctuary and introduce yourself to our Minister.

ELDERS

Carolyn McAllister
Ivan Carey

GREETERS

Fred & Helen Bennett

ADVENT NEWSLETTERS are ready for pick up today.

Elders please pick up the newsletters for your districts.



13th ANNUAL UCW MEMORIAL & CELEBRATION TREE LIGHTING

Lights can be purchased in memory or celebration of Loved Ones for \$5.00 each. Please call: **Peggy Greek (902-634-8601)** or **Carolyn Tanner (902-640-2370)**.

CHRISTMAS CHEER BASKETS

Christmas Cheer Baskets will again be distributed to those who are sick or shut-in. If you know of somebody in our congregation who would benefit from a **Cheer Basket**, please **call** and we will bring a little "*Christmas Cheer*" to them.



We are requesting some fillers – Christmas baked goods, candy or treats which will be distributed on December 14th.

Please call: **Thelma (902-634-3885)** or **Joan (902-634-4432)**

COMING WEEK

MONDAY, DECEMBER 4TH

7:00 pm – Stewards' Meeting – Fellowship Room

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 10TH – ADVENT II

9:30 am – Handbell Choir practice

10:30 am – Regular Service

LOOKING AHEAD

MONDAY, DECEMBER 11th

UCW Christmas Party

Where: Central United Church hall **When:** 12 noon

The UCW are looking forward to their Christmas party at **12 noon** on **December 11th**. A turkey dinner will be catered by the Riverport Community Centre Ladies. Those that wish to receive a gift are asked to purchase one, for no more than \$10 (no names). Also, if possible, please bring a gift for the mother of our sponsored Christmas family.



THURSDAY, DECEMBER 14TH

6:30 – 7:15 PM – Handbell Choir practice – Sanctuary

***** Note: Practice this week is on Thursday instead of Wednesday. *****

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 17TH

10:30 am – Advent III – “Service of Lessons & Carols”

This is a **CKBW taping** of the service to be aired on **CKBW** on **Sunday, December 31st**.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 21ST

6:00 PM – Harbour View Haven (United Church Service)

Everyone Welcome!

CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

Memorial Gifts and Christmas Flowers Deadlines

Thursday, December 21st -

Memorial Gifts

Words for your *dedications* (names of loved ones being remembered) **must** be received in the office by **December 21st**, so that they can be included in the **December 24th** bulletin.


Thursday, December 21st at noon -

Flowers

Flowers must be delivered **no later than** Thursday, **December 21st** at 12 noon.



This Week at Central United:

Wednesday, December 6 th	11:00 am	"Living the Questions" study group
Wednesday, December 6th		<u>NO</u> Choir practice this week <u>NO</u> Handbell practice this week
Friday, December 8 th	10:00 am	Adult Study Group
		

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COSTUME REQUEST FROM MUSIC & WORSHIP

Our Music & Worship Committee are requesting help from anyone who has costumes: animal costumes, haloes, angel wings, bathrobes – to be used at the **4:00 pm Church Service on Christmas Eve**. Please bring any costumes to the church office & **Thank you!**



GIFTS WITH VISION CATALOGUES

Catalogues are available at the back of the church.



CALL FOR PHOTOS

See your church in the **2019** Calendar!

Please submit excellent quality images of United Churches across the country for our 2019 church calendar. Deadline is December 30, 2017.

Send photos via online submission form:

https://unitedchurch.formstack.com/forms/calendar_submission or

mail entry form. Phone church office (902-634-4035) for entry forms.

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

MUSIC & MEDITATION FOR ADVENT – ST. JOHN’S ANGLICAN CHURCH

Music & Mediation for Advent begins on Wednesday, December 6th at noon at St. John’s Anglican Church, 81 Cumberland Street in Lunenburg.

Each half-hour musical presentation, three in all this December, features friends of St. John’s music program. The public is cordially invited to attend. A freewill offering is gratefully accepted in support of St. John’s music program.



Wednesday, **December 6th at noon** – Bonnie Romkey, *violin*; Ifan Williams, *cello*; Sharon Gow Knickle, *piano*

Wednesday, **December 13th at noon** – Jade Ley, *violin*

Wednesday, **December 20th at noon** – Duo Concertante

10TH ANNUAL LUNENBURG COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS

Date & time: Monday, December 25th at 1:00 pm **Place:** Lunenburg Fire Hall

Come join us at our Christmas dinner for 2 hours of festivities. All are welcome! Bring happy thoughts and a big appetite and a small donation of dried or canned goods for the Food Bank. Traditional turkey, served with all the trimmings ... plus entertainment. For those needing transportation, please refer to the details on the tickets.

\$10 a ticket ... seating strictly limited ... don’t miss out!

Tickets are available at “**Shop on the Corner**” after Nov. 11th.

Additional information phone **Debra Hofrichter** at 902-523-5552