

# Bayview United Church

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Church Administrator: M. Leone

Custodian: K. Bryan

Music Director: K. Quinton

Minister: Rev. C. Cooper

*As a diverse and inclusive Christian community, our mission is to empower individuals to connect with God, Jesus and the Holy Spirit and equip them to live their faith in just and compassionate ways that will help transform themselves, their neighbourhood and the world.*

## Advent IV: Pre-Christmas Service

Sunday, December 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2018 11:00 a.m.

(\* indicates please stand as you are able)

### Praising God

Prelude "In Dulci Jubilo" arr. Franz Liszt

Welcome & Announcements C. MacLean

Musical Interlude

#### Call to Worship

One: Love comes to us each Christmas.

All: **We are filled with awe and wonder as we anticipate the celebration of Christ's sacred birth into our lives once again.**

One: Love fills our hearts at Christmas.

All: **Teach us to listen for the voice of the angels and to look for the signs of God's coming in the people around us.**

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One: Come, Lord Jesus, come and surprise us with hope, peace, joy and love as we worship this day!

\***Processional Hymn (36)** "Angels, from the Realms of Glory"

#### Opening Prayer (unison)

God of the coming One, Whose labour of love has begun, soon the earth will be in the throes of birth. You have promised that the child leaping in the world's womb will exceed our hopes and expel our fears. May we, like Elizabeth and Mary, celebrate Your promise of new life and draw support and strength from one another. Open our hearts to feel the love and mystery of this season. Amen.

Advent Candle Lighting "Candle of Love"  
(Little Family)

Candle Lighting Hymn (6) "A Candle Is Burning" vs. 1 - 4

#### A Time with the Young People

#### Prayer and The Lord's Prayer (unison)

Our Father, Who art in heaven,  
Hallowed be Thy name,  
Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done,  
On earth as it is in 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.

Carol (38) "Angels We Have Heard on High" vs. 1,2,3  
(Young people leave for classes.)

**Prayer for Grace (unison)**

**God of baby Jesus, God of Mary and Elizabeth, God of wonder, help us to recognize Your presence in our lives. Break forth into our hearts and open our minds to Your Spirit at work within us and in our world. Help us to focus on the positive opportunities before us as we seek to worship and praise You this day. Amen.**

**Assurance of Grace**

**Listening to God's Word**

**Hebrew Scripture** Micah 5:2-5a  
(Out of Bethlehem in Judea will come a leader.)

**Gospel Reading** Luke 1:39-45  
(Mary visits Elizabeth.)

**Anthem** "I Wonder as I Wander" arr. John Rutter

**Sermon** "The Power of Faith" Rev. Cooper

**\*Hymn (55)** "In the Bleak Midwinter" vs. 1,2,4

**Responding to God**

**Offertory** "Christmas Carol from Anjou" César Franck

**\* Dedication** (tune: (74) "What Child Is This?")

**Love fills our hearts and overflows,  
Love fills our lives, expands and grows,  
Loving is how we're called to live.  
Loving is how each one can give.  
This, this is Christ the King,  
Whom shepherds guard and angels sing;  
haste, haste to bring Him laud,  
the Babe, the Son of Mary!**

**\*Prayer**

**Prayers of the People**

**\*Hymn (43)** "Go, Tell It on the Mountain"

**\*Commissioning and Benediction**

**\*Choral Amen** (tune: (48) Hark! the Herald Angels Sing)  
**Saviour, dwell with us that we  
may go forth, Your light to be.  
Send us out, good news to sing;  
hope, peace, joy, and love to bring.  
God incarnate, with us dwell.  
Come, O come, Emmanuel.  
Come, Lord Jesus, don't delay;  
shine Your joy through us this day.  
Saviour, dwell with us that we  
may go forth, Your light to be. (Rachel Frey)**

**Postlude** "Christians, Awake!" arr. Noel Rawsthorne

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**Sunday, December 23rd, 2018**

**Head Usher: B. Jackson**

**Ushers: M. Cruise, C. MacLean, P. Widgery, P. Watanabe**

**Scripture Reader: P. Tibbles**

**Welcome to worship at Bayview United Church.** If you are visiting or here for the first time, please sign the guest book located at the main entrance to the sanctuary. Everyone is invited for light refreshments following the service at a cost of \$3.00 per person; children are free. The money raised will go to support the Mission and Service Fund of The United Church of Canada.

**Please remember we are a nut-free building.**

**Prayers and Concerns:** Please remember in your prayers all those in need of hope, comfort and healing.

May the Spirit of Christmas bring peace on earth to you and your families and friends. **Poinsettias** are placed in appreciation of the BUC Prayer Group. If you care to donate flowers for a Sunday morning worship service, in memoria or for a special occasion, please contact C. Ichiyen by Wednesday prior to a service.

**Please feel free** to contact Rev. Cooper anytime, at 416-447-5941 (church office). Thank you.

**The offering envelopes for 2019** will be available for pick-up from the table set up in the narthex.

**Call for Choir Members:** All voices are welcome, (particularly sopranos at the moment). Recordings of our music are available and many are on YouTube. Please contact K. Quinton.

**Audio CD of the Service:** We can make an audio copy of the service. If you would like a copy, please speak to B. Kai.

**Hearing Assistance Devices:** If you are having trouble hearing the service, we have hearing assistance devices. If you would like to try one, please speak to B. Kai.

**Welcomers:** Would those individuals who agreed to be welcomers please sign the sign-up sheet on the narthex bulletin board. Please wear the special Welcomer nametag. Thank you.

**Today, Sun. Dec. 23<sup>rd</sup> – 11:00 a.m. – Advent IV with candle lighting and Pre-Christmas Worship Service. 12:30 p.m. – Christmas Eve drama** rehearsal in the sanctuary.

**Mon. Dec. 24<sup>th</sup> – 7:00 p.m. – Christmas Eve Family Service** with a Christmas drama, carols, solos, scriptures and candle lighting. Come celebrate and relive the Christmas story once again!!

**Sun. Dec. 30<sup>th</sup> – 11:00 a.m. – New Year's Eve Carol Service** Come and sing your favourite carols.

**Please note** refreshments will **not** be available following the service.

**Sun. Jan. 6<sup>th</sup> – 11:00 a.m. – Epiphany Sunday**

**Sun. Jan. 13<sup>th</sup> – 11:00 a.m. – Worship Service 1:00 p.m. – Japanese Language Service** in the sanctuary.

**Wed. Jan. 16<sup>th</sup> – 2:30 p.m. – Worship Service at the Donway.** Everyone is welcome to attend.  
**7:00 p.m. – Worship team meeting** in the narthex.

**Sun. Jan. 20<sup>th</sup> – 11:00 a.m. – Worship Service 1:00 p.m. – Council Meeting** in the narthex.

**Thurs. Jan. 24<sup>th</sup> – 2:00 p.m. – Worship Service at Momiji.** Everyone is welcome to attend.

**Sun. Jan. 27<sup>th</sup> – 11:00 a.m. – Worship Service Outreach Sunday (Soup)**

**Japanese Social Services Holiday Drive -** We will be accepting cash donations or cheques made out to Bayview United Church marked JSS Holiday Drive. Please place donations in the offering plate. Donations will be accepted until the end of December. Thank you.

**Lansing United Church (49 Bogert Ave.) Nearly New Shop** is now open. They are happy to receive your gently used

clothing, toys, kitchenware, shoes, jewelry, baby clothes, bedding, and other linen goods. They cannot accept stuffed toys, appliances, baby furniture or car seats. Items can be dropped off Monday to Friday, 9 a.m. – 2:30 p.m. and Thursday evenings until 8:30 p.m. Thank you for your support.

**BUC Prayer Group:** These individuals offer confidential prayer support to anyone who is in need of God's healing love, support and compassion in their lives. Prayers may be for a relative, a close friend or yourself. Please contact B. Marshall or E. Turnbull with your prayer request. Thank you.

**Eva's Place:** All toiletries, soap, shampoo, toothbrushes, toothpaste, etc., are accepted weekly to help the youth at Eva's Place. Please place these items in the **Eva's Place** bin.

**Food Bank:** On the first and third Sundays of each month, you are invited to bring non-perishable food for the Lansing Food Bank. They especially need items for infants, non-beef soup and canned black beans. Thank you for your support.

**Eyeglasses Project:** The Community and Global Team are supporting the Lions Club Sight Program. By recycling old or no longer used eyeglasses and sunglasses, we will be supporting teams of doctors running volunteer eye clinics in many countries. They do not use the cases. **Please leave the glasses in the box at the entrance to the narthex.**

**STAMPS:** We are collecting used postage stamps for The Leprosy Mission Canada, who sell them to dealers to raise money for medicine, care and rehabilitation for people suffering from leprosy. They prefer that the stamps be cut from the envelopes, **leaving about a ¼ inch paper border.** The stamps can be left in the **STAMP BOX on the table at the entrance to the narthex.**

**Alcoholics Anonymous** meets downstairs every Tuesday and Thursday, at 8 p.m. For more information, call our main help line: 416-487-5591. If you have a problem with alcohol, we have the solution.

**Sunday, December 30th, 2018**

**Head Usher:**

**Ushers:** J. Bennett, G. Omoto, M. Griffiths, M. Kitagawa

**Scripture Reader:** H. Ichiyen