

Bayview United Church

2609 Bayview Avenue
Toronto, Ontario
M2L 1B5

416-447-5941

Website: www.bayviewunitedchurch.ca

Email: info@bayviewunitedchurch.ca

Church Administrator: M. Leone

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 22nd, 2019 11:00 a.m.

(* indicates please stand as you are able)

Praising God

Prelude "The Coventry Carol/Away in a Manager"
arr. Cindy Berry

Welcome & Announcements C. MacLean

Musical Interlude

Call to Worship

One: An angel appeared to Joseph in a dream, saying,

All: Do not be afraid! I have good news, you will have a son.

One: The angel gave Joseph the strength to respond courageously to the news.

All: We can count on God's support to help us respond to situations in our lives.

One: As we listen for the angels speaking to us, let us come and worship Christ, the one born to be King.

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

***Processional Carol (1)** "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"
Vs. 1-4

Opening Prayer (unison)

God of Abiding Love, as we rush to complete our Christmas preparations and hear the carols playing all around us, keep us close to You, that we may know a peace and joy that we ourselves cannot create. Help us to be open to Your love, which has the power to change us into compassionate and generous people. Open our hearts to feel the love and mystery of this season. Amen.

Advent Candle Lighting "Candle of Love"
The Liddle Family

***Hymn** "Give Us Love for Our World" (tune: Give Us Oil)

Give us love in our world, we are hurting,

Give us love for ourselves, we pray,

Give us love flowing out towards others,

Give us love in our lives today.

Chorus: Light a candle, light a candle
Light a candle while we wait and pray.
Light a candle, light a candle,
Light a candle of God's love.

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 (69) "Away in a Manger"
(Young people leave for classes.)

Prayer for Grace (unison)

**How far to Bethlehem? For me, thousands of miles across
Canada, across the ocean, across borders. For the wise
men? A long camel ride with an uncertain end. For Mary
and Joseph? A long, dusty way by donkey and on foot,
complicated by advanced pregnancy. For the shepherds?
Just over the hill. How far to Bethlehem? In my heart
farther than for my feet! All the way to peace, all the way
to joy, all the way to love; a pilgrimage I want to make, but
something always stops me. Lord, forgive my interrupted
journey, my stops for self, for family, for security. Lead
me to the Bethlehem of my soul, where Christ is born in
my heart. Amen.**

Sung Assurance (55) "In the Bleak Midwinter" vs. 1,2

Listening to God's Word

Hebrew Lesson Isaiah 7:10-16
(The people ask for a sign, and God promises the birth of
Immanuel.)

Gospel Reading Matthew 1:18-25
(Joseph honours God's messenger.)

Anthem "Shepherd's Pipe Carol" John Rutter

Sermon "Love That Changes Everything" Rev. Cooper

***Hymn (38)** "Angels We Have Heard on High" vs. 1,2

Responding to God

Offertory "Let Us Go to Bethlehem" from Romanian
Christmas Carols Béla Bartók

*** 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

*** Carol (48)** "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing"

***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 "We Wish You a Merry Christmas"
arr. Noel Rawsthorne

Hymn use Copyright # 3094581

Today, December 22nd, 2019

Head Usher: K. Koyama

Ushers: L. Hirowatari, K. Saito, M. Kaneko

Scripture Reader: B. Rivait

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 in Fellowship Hall 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.

Flowers which grace our service are placed by D. and B. Rivait and family in loving remembrance of dear mother, Sally Simpson, on her 119th birthday, Nov. 24, 2019.

If you care to donate flowers for a Sunday morning worship service, in memoriam or for a special occasion, please contact **C. Ichiyen** by Wednesday prior to a service.

If you have any announcements for the bulletin, please send them to M. Leone at office@bayviewunitedchurch.ca or call 416-447-5941 by Wednesday.

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.

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

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.

Sun. Dec. 22nd – 11:00 a.m. – Advent IV candle lighting. Pre-Christmas Service.
12:30 p.m. – Christmas Eve drama rehearsal.

Tues. Dec. 24th – 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. 29th – 11:00 a.m. – Carol Service. Come and sing your favourite carols.

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

Sun. Jan. 5th – 11:00 a.m. – Epiphany Sunday

Sun. Jan. 12th – 11:00 a.m. – Worship Service
1:00 p.m. – Japanese Language Service in the sanctuary.

Wed. Jan. 15th – 2:30 p.m. – Worship Service at the Donway. Everyone is welcome.

Sun. Jan. 19th – 11:00 a.m. – Worship Service
1:00 p.m. – Council meeting in the narthex.

Thurs. Jan. 23rd – 2:00 p.m. – Worship Service at Momiji.
Everyone is welcome to attend.

Sun. Jan. 26th – 11:00 a.m. – Worship Service

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.

The choir needs YOU!!!

All congregation members who have time and enjoy singing are invited to join the choir. A long commitment is not essential. Special recordings of our music are sent to you for practice, and YouTube videos are available for many anthems online, if you are not able to come to Thursday evening (7:30) practice. Some of our members have always participated in this way. We are flexible, friendly, helpful, and every voice type is welcome. Please contact K. Quinton.

Church Cancellation Notification Procedure: In the event of bad weather conditions, it may become necessary to cancel the Sunday worship service. - Here is how the decision will be made and how you will be notified: Rev. Cooper and C. MacLean (alternate K. Shikaze) will have a conversation before 8:00 a.m. Sunday morning and will decide whether or not to cancel the service that day. Those who are on the email list will be notified by 8:30 a.m. Sunday morning, if in fact the service is going to be cancelled. - So, if the weather is bad, please check your email before heading off to church. Others will be notified by telephone by 8:30 a.m., or shortly thereafter.

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 M. Sakamoto 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.

Next Sunday, December 29th, 2019

Head Usher: S. Hu

Ushers: C. MacLean, P. Widgery,

Scripture Reader: B. Kai