

SAINT LUKE'S UNITED CHURCH
House of Friendship

December 31, 2017 Christmas II 10:30 a.m.

¹¹The Lord GOD will cause righteousness and praise to spring up before all the nations.(Isaiah 61:11)

PLACING OURSELVES BEFORE THE WONDER OF GOD

Hymn Sing Praise Team

♪ **Hymn VU 59** Joy to the World

Call to Worship (Psalm 148) Peter Kopplin

One: How beautiful, how wonderful, is the coming of Jesus, who announces peace. "Peace on earth, good will to all people!"

All: The one who brings good news of a great joy for all people and announces salvation,

One: we declare his name will be Jesus, meaning "God saves" and Emmanuel, which means "God is with us."

All: The one who says to God's people, "Your God reigns with righteousness and equity."

Prayer of Approach (standing)

Lighting the Christ Candle (Four candles are lit.)

(All the advent candles are lit.)

One: For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government shall be upon his shoulder.

Two: His name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

All: He is also called Emmanuel, for in him, God is with us.
(Light the Christ Candle.)

♪**Sung Response** (VU 60)

O come, let us adore him,

O come, let us adore him,

O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord.

LISTENING TO THE WORDS OF GOD

Gospel Lesson Luke 2:22–40 Terry Burrows

♪**Hymn VU 71** 'Twas in the Moon of Wintertime

Hebrew Bible Lesson Isaiah 61:10—62:3 Doug Mills

Anthem

Sermon **The Births of Jesus** Andrew Macpherson

♪**Hymn VU 17** Oh Ancient Love

SHARING GOD'S LOVE WITH OTHERS

Joys and Concerns

Peter Kopplin

Presenting our tithes and offerings

The psalmist says to give God glory, come close and bring your best (Ps. 96:8). As we celebrate Jesus' birth, let us offer our gifts in thanks for God's precious gift to us.

Offertory

Praise Team

Doxology (VU 540)

Grant us, God, the grace of giving, with a spirit large and free, that ourselves and all our living we may offer faithfully.

Prayer of Dedication

Rev. Hoon Kim

Prayer of the People

Peter Kopplin

♪ **Hymn VU 87** I Am the Light of the World

Commissioning and Benediction

Rev. Hoon Kim

Postlude

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Welcome to Saint Luke's, the House of Friendship, where all are welcome regardless of age, gender, race, ethnic origin, sexual orientation, gender identity, differing abilities, or economic circumstances.

Please sign the Guest Book in the Narthex and join the congregation for a time of fellowship after the service.

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Check this schedule each week.

Service	December 24		
Ushers	Volunteers needed		
Counters	Gordon Winch Rose Marie Agustin		
Presiders	Youth and Sunday school		

Readers please check this schedule each week.

Date	Readers	Scripture Lessons
Jan 7	Avi Camerino Andrew Macpherson	Mark 1:4–11 Acts 19:1–7
Jan 14	Avi Camerino Andrew Macpherson	John 1:43–51 1 Samuel 3:1–10, (11–20)
Jan 21	Abraham Camerino Dennis Manankil	Mark 1:14–20 Jonah 3:1–5, 10
Jan 28	Ken Casey Judy March	Mark 1:21–28 1 Corinthians 8:1–13

Next Week

Scripture Lessons for January 7

Genesis 1:1–5 The first days of creation.
Psalms 29 God's voice is over the waters.
Acts 19:1–7 Paul baptizes with the Spirit.
Mark 1:4–11 Jesus is baptized by John.

Tuesday Study Group On The Old Testament by Christine Hayes at Yale (cf. <http://oyc.yale.edu/religious-studies/rfst-145>)

Today

Pastoral Prayer of this week:

Those in need of your prayers:
 Adeline Asencio, Ruben Flores, Anita Dorotheo, Marion Mallette.

Sam, Marites, Taylor, Sydney and Madison Ocampo; Angela Rabanillo and Ruth Belleno
 (The Pastoral Care Committee will put names for you to remember in your prayers. Please speak to Olga Semple, Rev. Hoon Kim or the church office)

Winter at a Glance

Rev. Hoon Kim delivers daily devotional, TeleHope, to you on internet and/or hand phone. Give him your e-mail address and/or hand phone number.

Thank you to all who participated in the pageant: children, their parents and two producers: Dawnlove Agamao and Andrew Macpherson

December 24 Advent IV: Christmas Eve Service with Pageant
 31 Andrew Macpherson will speak

Musicians for November and December
 Evelyn Camerino
 Rosa Lim
 David Hallman

Minutes for Missions

A Chaplain and Church Planter

Our gifts for Mission & Service have supported training for ministers and building churches. Let us hear the story of one man who made a huge difference in many lives!

The Rev. Dr. Waldo Edward Lovel Smith was a United Church minister, author, navy chaplain, professor, and church planter who is remembered fondly by former students, veterans, ministers, and parishioners. The ripples of his commitment can be felt today.

During World War 2, Waldo was granted a leave from his pastoral charge in Grafton, Ontario, to serve as chaplain in the 1st Canadian Armoured Brigade in Canada, England, and Italy. He was awarded the Military Cross for rescuing John Matheson in 1943 while serving in Italy. Waldo carried John from where he lay on the ground to a field hospital. John Matheson is the man who helped Canada choose the flag design we love today.

After the war, while teaching at Queen's Theological College, Waldo used support grants to create many churches in the developing communities around Kingston, Ontario. One that is still a thriving congregation today is St. Andrew's By-The-Lake United Church. Waldo formed the congregation in a nearby school in 1951. With support from the Missionary and Maintenance Fund (now Mission & Service), the church was created in its current location with student minister leadership until 1957, when it called its first full-time ordained minister.

We sing thanksgiving for the giving hearts of those who have answered the call to chaplaincy.

If Mission & Service is already a regular part of your giving, thank you so much! If you have not given for Mission & Service, please join me in making Mission & Service a regular part of your life of faith. In all our

Mission & Service giving, with a willing heart, we sing thanksgiving to God!

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Kelly Adams.

TeleHope

Follow the Stars/ Follow the Cross

Magi from the east came to Jerusalem and asked, "Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews? We saw his star in the east and have come to worship him." (Matthew 2:1-2)

We went out to the shore in Georgian Bay in the middle of the night. There were millions of stars clearly visible. It looked as if there were star shower. I could easily recognize the North Star and the constellations that we call the Little Dipper, the Big Dipper, Cassiopeia, Orion and the like. For centuries travelers (especially sailors) have navigated by the stars to find their way

Christians have been given an even more reliable navigation system — not the stars but the Bible. If we look to its stories and live by its wisdom, the Bible can guide us to "follow the cross" day by day. (Dick Clarke in South Carolina)

Dear Lord, thank you for the light you provide for our journey. Give us the power, courage, and wisdom to follow your guidance in our daily walk of faith. Amen.

TeleHope is a daily devotional program on the telephone. You can receive the message on your e-mail or your phone.

Contacting the Church