



## ORDER OF WORSHIP

*2<sup>nd</sup>. Sunday of Advent, December 8<sup>th</sup>, 2019 – 10:30 am*

\*Invites you to stand, as you are able

**You are invited to say or sing the bold print**

### **WE GATHER AS GOD'S PEOPLE**

**MUSICAL PRELUDE:** "Es ist ein Ros' entspringen" Brahms    John Charles  
Carols for December –VU#64-O Little Town of Bethlehem

- 1    O little town of Bethlehem,  
          how still we see thee lie!  
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep  
          the silent stars go by;  
yet in thy dark streets shineth  
          the everlasting light;  
the hopes and fears of all the years  
          are met in thee tonight.**
  
- 2    For Christ is born of Mary;  
          and gathered all above,  
while mortals sleep, the angels keep  
          their watch of wondering love.  
O morning stars, together  
          proclaim the holy birth,  
and praises sing to God the King,  
          and peace to all on earth.**

**3 How silently, how silently  
the wondrous gift is given!  
So God imparts to human hearts  
the blessed gift of heaven.  
No ear may hear his coming;  
but in this world of sin,  
where meek souls will receive him, still  
the dear Christ enters in.**

**4 O holy child of Bethlehem,  
descend to us, we pray;  
cast out our sin, and enter in;  
be born in us today.  
We hear the Christmas angels  
the great glad tidings tell;  
O come to us, abide with us,  
our Lord Emmanuel.**

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.**

**3 Enough for him, whom cherubim worship night and day,  
a breast full of milk, and a manger full of hay.  
Enough for him, whom angels fall down before,  
the ox and ass and camel which adore.**

**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.**

**WELCOME, BIRTHDAYS, ANNIVERSARIES & ANNOUNCEMENTS**  
How are you today? **We are blessed and highly favoured.**

## **LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE OF PEACE**

*Stewart, Carlin & Vienna Aitken*

(Sung response – VU#6 – A Candle Is Burning v. 2)

**A candle is burning, a candle of peace,  
a candle to signal that conflict must cease:  
for Jesus is coming to show us the way;  
a message of peace humbly laid in the hay.**

## **PASSING OF THE PEACE**

Welcome one another as Christ welcomes you. Greet one another with the love of Christ that welcomes each and all of us.

## **WE PRAISE AND PRAY**

### **GATHERING WORDS:**

Rejoice together, people of God.

Let all the earth praise our Creator:

**We have gathered to honor our God.**

**In awe and reverence, we seek God's Word.**

This is a time to take delight in the Spirit.

This is the hour to seek Truth and Wisdom.

**We are ready to learn what the Spirit teaches.**

**We are awakening to the Spirit's gifts.**

*(Lavon Baylor – Taught By Love – Worship Resources – Year A)*

\***HYMN:** VU#30 "Hail to God's Own Anointed"(vv. 1-2 & 4) CRUGER

- 1 Hail to God's own anointed, great David's greater Son!  
Hail, in the time appointed, God's reign on earth begun!  
Christ comes to break oppression, to set the captive free,  
to take away transgression, and rule in equity.**
  
- 2 Christ comes with justice surely to those who suffer  
wrong,  
to help the poor and needy, and bid the weak be strong,  
to give them songs for sighing, their darkness turn to  
light,  
whose souls, condemned and dying, are precious in his  
sight.**
  
- 4 To him shall prayer unceasing and daily vows ascend,  
his kingdom still increasing, a kingdom without end.  
The tide of time shall never his covenant remove.  
His name shall stand for ever: that name to us is Love.**

## **PRAYER OF INVOCATION**

*Hewitt Holmes*

Come, Spirit of God, to rest on our community, embracing the poor, bringing equity to the meek, turning away all expressions of evil. **(Silence)**

Come into our congregation to enliven our worship, to immerse us in righteousness and to prompt our faithfulness. **(Silence)**

Rain on us your hope and peace, filling the whole earth with your glory, as the waters cover the seas. **Amen.**

## **QUIET CONFESSIONS AND THANKSGIVING**

**SUNG RESPONSE:** VU# 958 "Halle, Halle, Hallelujah" CARIBBEAN

**Halle, halle, hallelujah! Halle, halle, hallelujah!  
Halle, halle, hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!**

# SILENCE

## **WE GROW AS GOD'S PEOPLE**

**HYMN:** "Let There Be Peace on Earth"

MILLER

*Collier's Kids are invited to gather as the hymn is sung for a talk and prayer.*

**Let there be peace on earth  
And let it begin with me  
Let there be peace on earth  
The peace that was meant to be  
With God as our Creator  
Children all are we  
Let me walk with the others  
In perfect harmony.**

**Let peace begin with me  
Let this be the moment now.  
With Ev'ry step I take  
Let this be my solemn vow  
To take each moment and  
live each moment in peace eternally  
Let there be peace on earth  
And let it begin with me.**

**BIBLE READINGS:** Isaiah 9:2-7<sub>(NRSV)</sub>

Richard Moffat

<sup>2</sup> The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness—on them light has shined. <sup>3</sup> You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder. <sup>4</sup> For the yoke of their burden, and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian. <sup>5</sup> For all the boots of the tramping warriors and all the garments rolled in blood shall be burned as fuel for the fire. <sup>6</sup> For a

child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. <sup>7</sup>His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onward and forevermore. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

*This is the Word of God, for the People of God. **Thanks be to God.***

**MUSIC MINISTRY:** "The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came" CHOIR

**SERMON:** "The Road of Peace" *Hewitt Holmes*

## **WE RESPOND AS GOD'S PEOPLE**

### **QUIET REFLECTION**

\***HYMN:** VU#577 "I've Got Peace like a River" PEACE LIKE A RIVER

- 1** I've got peace like a river,  
I've got peace like a river,  
I've got peace like a river in-a my soul.  
I've got peace like a river,  
I've got peace like a river,  
I've got peace like a river in-a my soul.
  
- 2** I've got joy like a fountain,  
I've got joy like a fountain,  
I've got joy like a fountain in-a my soul.  
I've got joy like a fountain,  
I've got joy like a fountain,  
I've got joy like a fountain in-a my soul.

**3 I've got love like an ocean,  
I've got love like an ocean,  
I've got love like an ocean in-a my soul.  
I've got love like an ocean,  
I've got love like an ocean,  
I've got love like an ocean in-a my soul.**

## **OFFERING INVITATION**

As we join our voices in prayer and praise, so too, we bring together the symbols of our life investment: money we have earned, the hours we have before us, the abilities that are ours alone.

**Let us give ourselves in joy.** *(Lavon Baylor – Taught By Love – Worship Resources – Year A)*

## **OFFERING & CARE CARDS**

Offering Music: “La Nativité” G. Young JOHN CHARLES

\*Offering Response: VU#540 “Grant Us, God, the Grace”

\*Offering Prayer:

What a joy to give!

What a delight to join our efforts to your purposes, amazing God!

**Lead us, together, to your holy mountain, where all are valued and no one is excluded.**

**May our offering spread the Good News of your love in the world, widening the circle of inclusion and embrace, in Jesus’ name, we pray. Amen.**

*(Lavon Baylor – Taught By Love – Worship Resources – Year A)*

\***HYMN:** MV#221 “I Am Walking a Path of Peace”

TISSANDIER

**I am walking a path of peace,  
I am walking a path of peace,  
I am walking a path of peace,  
Lead me home, lead me home.**

## **PASTORAL PRAYERS**

### **THE PRAYER OF JESUS** (The Lord's Prayer sung – Traditional): (VU, pg. 960)

**Our Father (Creator), 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. Forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, forever and ever, Amen.**

### **WE GO TO BE GOD'S PEOPLE IN COMMUNITY**

**\*HYMN:** VU#25 "Lo, He Comes with Clouds Descending"

HELMSLEY

- 1 Lo, he comes with clouds descending,  
see the Lamb for sinners slain!  
Thousand, thousand saints attending  
join to sing the glad refrain:  
hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah!  
God appears on earth to reign.**
  
- 2 Every eye shall then behold you,  
robed in awesome majesty;  
all who jeered, and mocked, and sold you,  
pierced, and nailed you to the tree,  
deeply grieving, deeply grieving, deeply grieving,  
shall the true Messiah see.**
  
- 4 Yea! Amen! Let all adore you,  
high on your eternal throne;  
crowns and empires fall before you,  
claim the kingdom for your own:  
O come quickly! O come quickly! O come quickly!  
Everlasting Christ, come down.**

**\*BLESSING & CLOSING SONG:** "Go Now in Peace" N. Price/D. Besig

**Go now in peace, never be afraid, God will go with you each hour of every day. Go now in faith, steadfast, strong and true. Know he will guide you in all you do. Go now in love, and show you believe. Reach out to others so all the world can see. God will be there watching from above. Go now in peace, in faith, and in love. Amen, amen, amen.**<sup>1</sup>

**POSTLUDE:**

John Charles

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## **OUR MINISTRY STAFF**

*Rev. Hewitt T. Holmes – Minister of Worship, Congregational Care and Leadership* [hholmes@collierunited.ca](mailto:hholmes@collierunited.ca)

*Rev. Dr. Donald Jay - Minister Emeritus & Voluntary Associate Minister Custodian –* [custodian@collierunited.ca](mailto:custodian@collierunited.ca)

*Vickie McMillan - Office Administrator -* [officeadmin@collierunited.ca](mailto:officeadmin@collierunited.ca)

*Valerie Samson - Bookkeeper –* [accounting@collierunited.ca](mailto:accounting@collierunited.ca)

*Laurie Crosson - Treasurer –* [treasurer@collierunited.ca](mailto:treasurer@collierunited.ca)

*Music Director – Vacant -* [music@collierunited.ca](mailto:music@collierunited.ca)

*Interim Choir Director – Sharon Saint*

**Tel. #:705-726-1511**

***Hewitt will be away from Dec. 26- Jan. 4, 2020.***

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## **WORSHIP SUPPORT TEAM & INFORMATION**

***USHERS:*** Team 1 –Peter Magill, Joan Fairbarn, Marnie & Phil Neale, Steve & Susan Carrod,  
Frank & Sharon Crossley.

***HEARING ASSISTS*** are available from an Usher.

***SCRIPTURE READERS*** needed for worship? Contact Hewitt or Joyce Moore.

***PARKING*** is available in the underground building next to the Lawyers office, on the streets and in the Church parking lot. ***WE kindly ask you NOT TO PARK your vehicle in the marked pathway between designated accessibility parking spots. Thank you!***

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## **ACKNOWLEDGING THE LAND:**

*Collier Street United Church acknowledges that long before those of us who are settlers, and those of us who are descendants of settlers, came to this land, there were people here. We know these First Nations peoples were Haudenosaunee (Iroquois), Ojibway/Chippewa & Anishinabek, who made Treaty 16 possible. Today, as a community of faith, we seek to be good stewards and give thanks for this land and our commitment to live in right relations with all peoples.*

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## **...STAY CONNECTED...TODAY**

**WELCOME** to worship at Collier. We are happy to have you with us. We ask our visitors to sign the book at the front main entrance. Feel free to worship the Holy One in Spirit and Truth. Please join us for a time of fellowship and refreshments in the Hall after the service. Today, we welcome back John Charles as guest organist.

## **MILESTONES**



**BIRTHDAYS** – Marinus Bouman(Dec. 8), Jason Deakins, Kathryn McLellan(Dec. 9), Kim Hambrook, Margaret Warnica(Dec. 10), Jim Collings(Dec. 11), Reg Battaglia(Dec. 12), Curtis McArthur(Dec. 13), Brody Johnston(Dec. 14).

**BIRTHDAY SONG:** Happy birthday to you, to Jesus be true.  
May God's richest blessing descend upon you!

## **...AS WE FORM COMMUNITY TOGETHER**

**COLLIER MISSION** - In December we will be donating to the Canadian Food Grains Bank.

In November, Collier Mission raised \$1221.83 for The Salvation Army.

**FELLOWSHIP LUNCH – Wed., Dec. 18<sup>th</sup> at 12pm.** We will be having our annual Christmas luncheon with Fellowship, good food, carol singing,

fun table games & entertainment. Tickets are \$13.00 and are on sale Sundays and in the office during the week.

**DONATIONS** - Collier is collecting new socks, underwear, gloves, mitts and hats for people in need in our Shelters in the City. We have a big red box in the lobby, feel free to bring your items and place in the box. Thanks for being a good steward. Dave Johnston

**OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD** Shoebox campaign was a huge success in Simcoe County with over 7,000 shoeboxes collected. Thank you to all who participated.

**PRAYER REQUESTS** - *write on a care card and place in the offering plate.* Please hold in your prayers the following (at their request): Melanie Moffat, Rid & Agnes Groves, Louise Hamilton, Carol Duckworth, Ruby Johnston, Shirley Dunstan & Steve Tilleczek.

**CHRISTMAS BUILDING HOURS** – The building will be closed for the holidays beginning December 23<sup>rd</sup> and reopening on January 2, 2020. We will be open for Christmas Eve and Sunday services.

**JANUARY 2020 – WEDNESDAY OFFICE HOURS** – The Administrator will be unavailable but in the building on Wednesdays, from January 8th. The best way to connect is by telephone message or email. Thanks for your patience and understanding (M & P).

**SESSION AND OFFICIAL BOARD POSITIONS AVAILABLE** – Would you like to serve on our team of supporting leaders starting May 2020? If you do, talk with Sharon Crossley about the 5-7 people needed for the Session and Lianne Patterson about the 3-4 people needed on the Official Board.

## ...AS WE WORSHIP GOD

### December: "The Road..."

Dec. 15	Phil. 4:4-7	The Road of Joy	Hewitt Holmes
Dec. 22	Matt. 2:1-12	Love-The New Road	Hewitt Holmes
Dec. 29	Matt. 2:13-23	Don't Fear the Road Less Travelled	Rob Murdock

## ...AS WE LEARN & GROW IN FAITH

**DAILY READING** - *Physical Exercise is good but of limited value, Godliness is very dear, a pledge of life, both there and here. (1 Timothy 4:8).* So, we spend some time with God and the Scriptures each day this week:

Mon., Dec. 9 – Jude    Tues., Dec. 10 – Rev. 1    Wed. Dec. 11 – Rev. 2  
Thurs., Dec. 12 – Rev. 3    Fri., Dec. 13 – Rev. 4    Sat., Dec. 14 – Rev. 5

**CHAPEL** - located on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor, is open for daily prayer and meditation. Communion in the Chapel will be January 26, 2020, after morning's worship.

## ...SHARE THE GOOD NEWS

**COLLIER'S EMAIL NEWSLETTER** - We are now sending occasional newsletter emails to congregants (weekly or bi-weekly) with Collier news, events and updates. We encourage you to sign up to receive these emails. You can either call the office to give them your email address or go to the website - you can sign up right on the homepage under "Subscribe to our newsletter".

**SAVE THE DATE-** Sat. Jan. 11, 2020, Potluck dinner hosted by Leona Appleby. Sign up on the board outside M5.



Online donations visit [canadahelps.org](http://canadahelps.org)





## CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS



Poinsettia plants will decorate the Sanctuary **Sunday December 22<sup>nd</sup>** and then will be distributed by volunteers to the sick & shut in. Anyone wishing to donate towards the purchase of a poinsettia in honour of or in memory of a loved one – please complete form below, tear off and return, with your money, to the office, no later than **Thursday, December 19<sup>th</sup>**.

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Envelope #** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Amount:** \_\_\_\_\_

**In Memory of:** \_\_\_\_\_

**4<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL CHRISTMAS CAROL SING A LONG** – Just a reminder to Everyone that today at 2:45 pm is our 4th Annual Christmas Concert Sing A Long.

Thank you very much for your support during the year, Sharon Saint, Interim Choir Director. Merry Christmas from all of us in the Choir Loft.



### **CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES:**



**6:30 pm – Pageant for families**

**8:30 pm – Carols, Readings, Candles & Communion**