



## ORDER OF WORSHIP

*4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent, December 22<sup>nd</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:**

Gerald Martindale

Carols for December –VU#62-Once, In Royal David's City

- 1 Once in royal David's city  
stood a lowly cattleshed,  
where a mother laid her baby  
in a manger for his bed.  
Mary was that mother mild,  
Jesus Christ her little child.**
  
- 2 He came down to earth from heaven  
who, with God, is over all,  
and his shelter was a stable,**

**and his cradle was a stall.  
There among the poor and lowly  
lived on earth our Saviour holy.**

**3 For he is our lifelong pattern;  
daily, when on earth he grew,  
he was tempted, scorned, rejected,  
tears and smiles like us he knew.  
Thus he feels for all our sadness,  
and he shares in all our gladness.**

**4 And our eyes at last shall see him,  
through his own redeeming love;  
for that child who seemed so helpless  
is our Lord in heaven above;  
and he leads his children on  
to the place where he is gone.**

VU#73 – The Virgin Mary Had a Baby Boy)

**1 The virgin Mary had a baby boy,  
the virgin Mary had a baby boy,  
the virgin Mary had a baby boy,  
and they say that his name is Jesus.  
He come from the glory, (clap, clap)  
he come from the glorious kingdom.  
He come from the glory, (clap, clap)  
he come from the glorious kingdom.  
Oh, yes! believer! Oh, yes! believer!  
He come from the glory, (clap, clap)  
he come from the glorious kingdom.**

**2 The angels sang when the baby was born,  
the angels sang when the baby was born,**

**the angels sang when the baby was born,  
and they say that his name is Jesus. R**

**3 The shepherds came where the baby was born,  
the shepherds came where the baby was born,  
the shepherds came where the baby was born,  
and they say that his name is Jesus. R**

## **WELCOME, BIRTHDAYS, ANNIVERSARIES & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

How are you today? **We are blessed and highly favoured.**

## **LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE OF LOVE**

*Madelyn Crawford & Claire McDonald*

(Sung response – By Choir – Bring Us Hope)

## **WE PRAISE AND PRAY**

### **CALL TO WORSHIP:**

God is with us!

**We know God is with us; the prophets foretold God's  
Promised One.**

**We believe God is with us, for we have read the story  
of Joseph's acceptance of Mary, whom God had  
chosen.**

We experience God with us, for our hearts are moved with the  
wonder of God's love, in the child who is to be born.

**We prove God is with us through the words of  
compassion and deeds of caring. Emmanuel, thanks  
be to God** (*Prayers to Share – Year A – David Sparks*)

**\*HYMN:** VU#9 "People, Look East"

BESANÇON

**1 People, look east. The time is near  
of the crowning of the year.  
Make your house fair as you are able,**

**trim the hearth and set the table.  
People, look east and sing today:  
Love the guest is on the way.**

**4 Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim  
one more light the bowl shall brim,  
shining beyond the frosty weather,  
bright as sun and moon together.  
People, look east and sing today:  
Love the star is on the way.**

**5 Angels, announce with shouts of mirth  
Christ who brings new life to earth.  
Set every peak and valley humming  
with the word, the Lord is coming.  
People, look east and sing today:  
Love the Lord is on the way.**

## **PRAYER OF INVOCATION**

*Hewitt Holmes*

Shepherding God, whose signs are everywhere, restore in us your light that we may discern what you are about.

**Shine upon this gathering to give life to our tired routines.**

Fill our longing hearts with quiet confidence.

**Awaken the child in us to experience your revelation.**

By your presence with us, deepen the prayers we utter, and turn our fears to eager anticipation.

**Touch us to lend strength and confidence as we reach out to You and one another for help and healing.**

**Amen**

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

## **PASSING OF THE PEACE**

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

**SUNG RESPONSE:** VU# 958 "Halle, Halle, Hallelujah"  
**Halle, halle, hallelujah! Halle, halle, hallelujah!**  
**Halle, halle, hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!**

CARIBBEAN

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

**HYMN:** "Love is a Flag Flowing High"

DAMON

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

**Love is a flag flying high from the castle of my heart,  
From the castle of my heart, from the castle of my heart.  
Love is a flag flying high from the castle of my heart,  
For the King is in residence there.**

**[Chorus]**

**So let it fly in the sky let the whole world know,  
Let the whole world know, let the whole world know.  
So let it fly in the sky let the whole world know,  
That the King is in residence there.**

**BIBLE READINGS:** Matthew 2:1-12

Joyce Moore

<sup>2</sup> After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the time of King Herod, Mag from the east came to Jerusalem <sup>2</sup> and asked, "Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews? We saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him." <sup>3</sup> When King Herod heard this he was disturbed, and all Jerusalem with him. <sup>4</sup> When he had called together all the people's chief priests and teachers of the law, he asked them where the Messiah was to be born. <sup>5</sup> "In Bethlehem in

Judea," they replied, "for this is what the prophet has written: <sup>6</sup> "But you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for out of you will come a ruler who will shepherd my people Israel." <sup>7</sup> Then Herod called the Magi secretly and found out from them the exact time the star had appeared. <sup>8</sup> He sent them to Bethlehem and said, "Go and search carefully for the child. As soon as you find him, report to me, so that I too may go and worship him." <sup>9</sup> After they had heard the king, they went on their way, and the star they had seen when it rose went ahead of them until it stopped over the place where the child was. <sup>10</sup> When they saw the star, they were overjoyed. <sup>11</sup> On coming to the house, they saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped him. Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. <sup>12</sup> And having been warned in a dream not to go back to Herod, they returned to their country by another route.

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

**MUSIC MINISTRY:** "What Can I Get Him"

CHOIR

**SERMON:** "Love - The New Road Home"

*Hewitt Holmes*

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

\***HYMN:** VU#54 "Unto Us a Boy is Born"

PUER NOBIS NASCITUR

**1 Unto us a boy is born!  
King of all creation,  
came he to a world forlorn,  
the Lord of every nation,  
the Lord of every nation.**

**3 Herod then with fear was filled:  
'A prince,' he said, 'in Jewry!';**

**all the little boys he killed  
at Bethlehem in his fury,  
at Bethlehem in his fury.**

**4 Now may Mary's son, who came  
so long ago to love us,  
lead us all with hearts aflame  
unto the joys above us,  
unto the joys above us.**

### **OFFERING INVITATION**

In thanks for all God's gifts, and in response to the tears of so many of God's children, we now gather all that we have brought to share,  
**praying that these resources will accomplish much good  
among us and far beyond our individual reach.**

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

### **OFFERING & CARE CARDS**

Offering Music: "The First Nowell" (English carol, arr. David Paxton) Gerald Martindale

\*Offering Response: VU#540 "Grant Us, God, the Grace" STUTTGART

\*Offering Prayer:

Majestic God, thank you for inviting us to share the blessings you pour out to us.

**Use our resources to heal attitudes as well as  
bodies, to bring wholeness, not just cures.**

Help us to address the inequities of the earth that leave so many without food or shelter or love.

**Lead us to be your hands and feet in helping  
others to see your love. In Christ name we pray,**

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

**HYMN:** MV#90 "Don't Be Afraid"

BELL

**Don't be afraid,  
my love is stronger,  
My love is stronger than your fear.  
Don't be afraid, my love is stronger,  
And I have promised to be always near**

## **PRAYERS FOR OURSELVES & OTHERS**

**THE PRAYER OF JESUS** (The Lord's Prayer - spoken – Traditional):

**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.**

### **\*COMMISSIONING:**

Go faithfully from this fellowship with God's love!

**We go to search and not be defeated by doubt;**

**We go to serve, and not to be discouraged by a lack of response;**

**We go to create community, accepting that not all will feel at home;**

**We go to give thanks, yet not be overwhelmed at God's generosity.**

We go to take the gift of Christ's love and to respond with every fibre of our being today and always!

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

**\*HYMN:** VU#48 "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing"

MENDELSSOHN

**\*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:** "Here We Come A-Carolling" Gerald Martindale

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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*

*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)*

*Custodian – Vacant - [custodian@collierunited.ca](mailto:custodian@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 3 –Joyce Moore, Barb Hake, Peter & Linda Dean, Ria Won, Gord Etter.

***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.*

## **...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 Gerald Martindale as guest organist.



**MILESTONES BIRTHDAYS** – Iris Michieli(Dec. 22), Janice Laking, Matthew Rayner-Giles, Hudson McDonald(Dec. 23), Joan Harris(Dec. 25), Peter Magill(Dec. 26).

**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.

**SAVE THE DATE-** Sat. Jan. 11, 2020, Potluck dinner hosted by Leona Appleby. Let Leona know if you can make it out and bring your friends.

**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

**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.

**THANK YOU** – The staff wishes to thank everyone for their kind words and expressions over the holiday. We wish everyone a blessed holiday.

## AS WE WORSHIP GOD

		December: "The Road..."	
Dec. 29	Matt. 2:13-23	Don't Fear the Road Less Travelled	Rob Murdock
		January: "The Power to ..."	
Jan. 05	Mark 16:1-8 & Matthew 3:13-17	<i>The Power to Rise</i>	Hewitt Holmes
Jan. 12	Acts 4:32-35	<i>The Power to Belong</i>	Hewitt Holmes

## ...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. 23 – Rev. 14

Dec. 25 – Rev. 16

Fri., Dec. 27 – Rev. 18

Tues., Dec. 24 – Rev. 15 Wed.

Thurs., Dec. 26 – Rev. 17

Sat., Dec. 28 – Rev. 19

**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".

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



## *CHRISTMAS MEMORIALS*

*The flowers adorning the chancel this morning have been placed in:*

**In loving memory of Leon Periard**

*– Peg Periard*

**In loving memory of Murray Warnica**

*Marg, Carol, Cathy & Glen*

**In memory of Patricia Murdock & Cecil Attwell –**

*Robert Murdock & Maureen Attwell-Murdock*

**In memory of our parents, brothers, sisters, friends and  
Granddaughter Casandra**

*– Frank & Sharon Crossley*

**In memory of friends and family**

*– love Peter and Linda Dean*

**In loving memory of my husband Ken Valad & parent Charles and Elsie  
Hickling**

*– Marg Valad*

**In loving memory of Paul Michael**

*– Kathy, Ian, Dave , Andrew & Families*

**In loving memory of George Craig**

*– Jane Craig and family*

**In memory of Bud – husband , father & grandfather**

*– Joyce, John, Shelley & Joseph*

**In memory of my husband Don & sister Irene**

*– Lois Turney*

**In loving memory of our daughter in law Paola Marriott**

*Helen & Len Marriott*

**In memory of Oma, Opa & Granny –**

*Monica, Gary, Ryan, Robyn, Tessa, Asah, Shane & Adela*

**In memory of my dear husband Ron, parents & great grandson Evan**

*-Ruth Smith*

**In memory of loved ones**

*– John & Betty Hunter*

**In memory of loving parents Jack & Roberta Roberts**

*-Les, Joan & family*

**In memory of cherished friend Joy Simpson**

*-Les, Joan & family*

**In memory of cherished friend Myrna Sanderson**

*-Les, Joan & family*



**SERVICES:**

6:30 pm – Pageant for families

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

