



GLADWIN HEIGHTS UNITED CHURCH

3474 Gladwin Road

Abbotsford, BC

V2S 7B4 Canada

Phone: 604.852.3984

Email: info@gladwinheightsunitedchurch.org

December 5 2021

Minister: Rev. Tim Bowman

Song Leader: Rita Green

Pianist: Jacob Greenan

Office Administrator: Angela Darychuk



We look forward to seeing you all *in person* this Sunday!
Worship is at 9:30

We are checking COVID vaccination status and please remember that masks will be mandatory for everyone over the age of 12. There will be a sign in sheet for everyone to sign. There are no exceptions aside from choir members, music leaders and readers / presiders while speaking or singing and physically distanced

Worship via ZOOM: We are working with Sapphire Sound to livestream our worship services. In the meantime, we understand that some of you are unable to join us in person and would like to do so remotely. Therefore, as a courtesy we are offering a Zoom option. However, please understand that this is a temporary measure and that there will be no video provided, the sound is what it is, and no one will be monitoring chat messages or admitting participants once the service has started

Link to the Zoom

meeting: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/5410632113?pwd=eDhHL3ZUMkszcFArQzlyZ2lXbEEExdz09>

Meeting ID: 541 063 2113

Passcode: 123

Alternatively, go to zoom.us, select Join a Meeting, and enter the above Meeting ID (and password if necessary.)



Church office hours:

Gladwin Heights office is open 9:30am - 2:30pm, Tuesday

St. Andrews' office is open 9:30am - 2:30 pm, Wednesday

Remote office hours for both Gladwin Heights and St Andrews' are Monday and Thursday 9 am to 4 pm

Reverend Tim's office hours:

Tim can be reached from 10am - 4pm Monday and Wednesday at St Andrew's office, 10am to 4pm Tuesday at Gladwin's office. Please check for availability.

Tim's contact is: 778-791-3545, or bowmantimothy@gmail.com

Readings for December 5 2021

Malachi 3:1-4

Luke 1: 68-79 [VU 901]

Luke 3: 1-6

Hymns and Music for December 5 2021

“Woke Up This Morning With Hope in My Heart”

VU 28 – “Herald! Sound the Note of Gladness”

MV 115 - “Behold I Make All Things New”

Hymn – “Prepare the Way With Quietness”

VU 606 – “In Christ There is No East or West”

VU 221 – “I am Walking a Path of Peace”



Birthdays for December

Sam Assels	December 6
Rita Green	December 11
Kate Jordan	December 12
Irene Hill	December 22
Ross Gordon	December 27
David Assels	December 31



Offering Envelopes

The 2022 Offering Envelopes are available. Ask Gayle LaPointe for yours on Sunday.

December Calendar of Events

Socks for Souls

We are collecting toques, socks, mitts in the box in the Narthex. They will be collected on December 19th for Dennis at the 5/2 ministry.

ROMEO {Retired Old Men Eating Out} Dec 10 2021

All men from all congregations are invited to this breakfast meeting every other Friday at 8:00 am. The next meeting is on Friday, December 10 2021 Why not join and have some great breakfast company? The breakfast is held at JoJo's Bana Restaurant in Abbotsford.

White Gift Sunday – December 12 2021

There is a greater need than ever for our donations to the Christmas bureau and food bank. We encourage the gift of cash in an envelope as your White gift. This will enable the Christmas bureau to purchase their most needed items.

Christmas Luncheon - December 12 2021

Our Christmas Luncheon will take place after service December 12th. Turkey and Ham will be provided. Bring your favorite side dish as potluck. There will be a Bake sale and Bazaar. All are welcome!

UCW Meeting December 15 2021

the UCW meeting in December will be on the 15th at 1:30 (at the church), we will fill the Warm Zone bags and enjoy some pizza and good cheer!" All are welcome!

Joint Service Christmas Pageant December 19 2021

Our joint service will take place at Gladwin Heights United Church at **9:30 am**

Christmas Eve Service December 24 2021

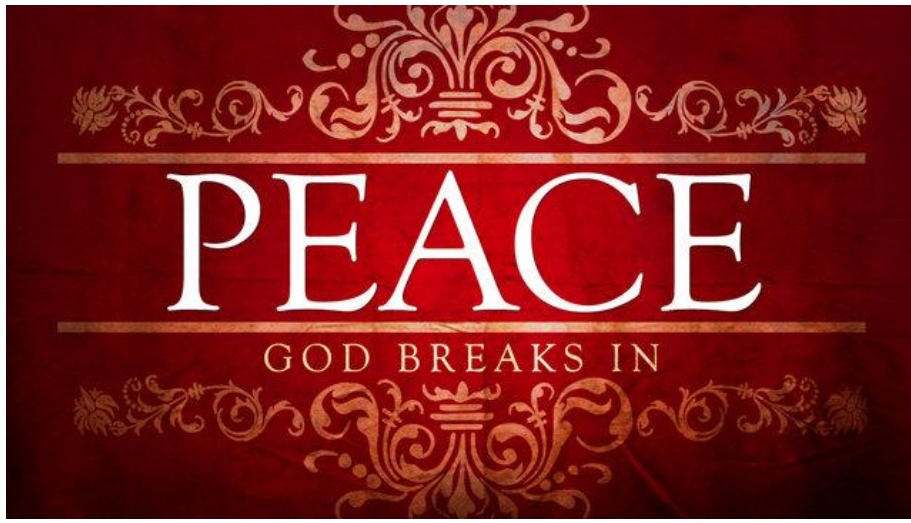
Join our Christmas eve service

Gladwin Heights United Church 7:00 pm

St Andrews United Church 9:00 pm

Carols and Scriptures December 26 2021

Join in on Carols and Lessons.



Minister's Message

"And you, child, will be called the prophet of the Most High; for you will go before the Lord to prepare his ways, to give knowledge of salvation to his people by the forgiveness of their sins. By the tender mercy of our God, the dawn from on high will break upon us, to give light to those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the way of peace." - Luke 1:76-79

John said to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruits worthy of repentance. Do not begin to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our ancestor'; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham." - Luke 3:7-8

Siblings in Christ,

Do you remember the most recent baptism you witnessed? Do you remember the presider? I'm going to assume that they were smiling; that they spoke softly; that they were happy to see people coming for baptism.

John...does not seem happy. Nor especially peaceful. "You brood of vipers! Bear fruits worthy of repentance!" What does this mean? We are told that John "appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins."

Repentance is something that you do after you confess your sins, to demonstrate your remorse and make amends. So, John is not refusing to baptize these people; he does not require them to earn their baptism; he's not demanding their Repentance Passports. He's haranguing them as and after he's baptizing them! John doesn't seem to believe that their repentance is genuine, but he baptizes them anyway.

Friends, I believe that God takes the initiative for our salvation; that we are saved in and with the rest of God's world; and that God acts in and through human beings. It gets a little theologically tricky when what we need to be saved from is the consequences of our crimes against God's world: COVID and floods are likely the consequence of our global patterns of food production, land management and energy consumption.

Baptism is not a magic seal of protection against evil; it is a ritual act inviting and celebrating the work of God in our lives before, during, and after the act of baptism. In Baptism we are plunged beneath the waters; we rise, gasping, with new life and new perspective.

As our houses, farms and vehicles are plunged beneath the waters of the resurgent Sumas Lake, we are called to bear fruit worthy of repentance: not to sink into despair, but to be radicalized into action; for this is the way of peace, and the way of the Lord who is surely coming to us.

Yours in Christ,

Tim

Lectionary for December 2021

December 5 Second Sunday of Advent

Baruch 5:1–9
or Malachi 3:1–4
Luke 1:68–79
Philippians 1:3–11
Luke 3:1–6

December 12 B2143 Third Sunday of Advent

Zephaniah 3:14–20
Isaiah 12:2–6
Philippians 4:4–7
Luke 3:7–18

December 19 Fourth Sunday of Advent

Micah 5:2–5a
Luke 1:46b–55
or Psalm 80:1–7
Hebrews 10:5–10
Luke 1:39–45, (46–55)

December 24/25 Christmas Eve/Day

Isaiah 9:2–7
Psalm 96
Titus 2:11–14
Luke 2:1–14, (15–20)

December 26 First Sunday after Christmas

1 Samuel 2:18–20, 26
Psalm 148
Colossians 3:12–17
Luke 2:41–52

Gladwin Heights United Church

Board Members

Chair – Gayle LaPointe
Secretary – Gina Hartley
Treasurer – Muriel Thomas
M & P Rep – Lois Chatham
Pastoral Care & Outreach – Arlene Kropp
Property Inside – Len & Carlene Stein
Property Outside – Daryl & Ellen Alstad
Sunday Morning Coordinator – Gladys Banks
UCW President – Carlene Stein

Members of Joint Committees with St. Andrews

Joint Board:

Gayle LaPointe,
Arlene Kropp
Gladys Banks

Joint M & P:

Lois Chatham
Kate Jordan

Joint Worship:

Rita Green
Carlene Stein
Arlene Kropp

Trustees

Secretary – Lois Gordon
Charles Bailey
Jan Green
Ross Gordon