



THE UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA

CLOVERDALE
UNITED CHURCH



"John the Baptist," William Wolff, colour woodcut, 1968.

The 3rd Sunday in Advent
A Service of the Word

12 December 2021 • 10:30 AM

Welcome to Cloverdale United Church! As we say at nearly every worship service, “No matter who you are, or where you are on life’s journey God welcomes you... and so do we.” We take these words seriously. We strive to be a community as diverse and hospitable as God’s kingdom. We don’t all look or act alike; God knows we don’t all think alike. We don’t all read the Bible the same way. We come from different religious backgrounds, we bring different questions, and we carry different burdens. But every Sunday, we gather and worship God together as one.

In this lovely old church, we do Sunday morning in some fairly traditional ways. We study the teachings and the actions of Jesus. We gather around the waters of grace and the feast table of Christ, just as Christians have done for nearly two thousand years. Some of the songs we sing (certainly not *all* of them, though) are ones our grandparents might also have sung in their day. And yet, amidst rituals and rites rooting us in a deep heritage, we wrestle with the challenges of the modern world and we listen for God’s Spirit still speaking into our lives today. We hope your heart will hear something personal and relevant this morning—a word of comfort, a spur to action, a call to a deeper relationship with God.

After the service, please stick around. Have a cup of coffee or a bite to eat with us. Introduce yourself to other worshippers or our pastor. There are plenty of opportunities here to feed your soul and expand your spirit. Try one out. You never know—you just might be home!

Children are welcome at all services! It is important for families to worship together. Don’t feel your child must be absolutely quiet or still, for we are glad to have children—and all their wiggles, giggles, and squiggles—as part of our community and worship life! After all... as an old saying goes, “faith is caught, not taught!”

 **Washrooms** can be found just outside the sanctuary through the door at the front right of the space (the northeast corner of the room).

 Thank you for **silencing cell phones** and other devices, and for refraining from flash photography.

The Sacrament of Holy Communion: *All* are welcome, *including* children, to share in the feast at Christ’s table. We typically celebrate Communion during on the first Sunday of each month, as well as on certain other holy days.

The Sacrament of Holy Baptism: We gladly offer the sign and seal of God’s grace in the waters of baptism, both to children and adults of any age. *For more information, contact the minister.*

The language of worship is rich and diverse, and yet always inadequate to express the fullness of the divine. In our worship, we strive to use *inclusive* language for humanity and *expansive* imagery for the divine, while respecting the poetry and imagery of texts handed down to us from the ages. Honouring our diversity, in those places where we speak or sing together, worshippers may use language with which they are comfortable or familiar.

The 3rd Sunday in Advent

“Our sense of urgency is balanced by the requirement to wait—to wait on the timing of God, which we can neither predict nor force. And the poor of the world have much to teach us about waiting—waiting with hope, purpose, and active preparation for change; waiting without falling into despair. For activists it may be hard but necessary to thank God for ‘the darkness of waiting,’ and for what we learn ‘through failing where we hoped to succeed.’”

—Janet Morley, in *Bread of Tomorrow: Praying with the World’s Poor*

As you are able, whether in body or in spirit, **please rise for those parts marked with an asterisk “*”**

Please remember to **silence cell phones** and other devices, and be mindful of those who wish to use the prelude as a time of prayer, meditation, and preparation for worship.

GATHERING 모임

The Spirit gathers us in unity on the first day, the day of Christ’s resurrection

Prelude 전주

Emma Rui-Xuan Shi

Greeting 인사

The Rev. Matthew Emery

One: Awake from your sleep: salvation is near!
The night is far gone; the day is at hand.

Romans 12:11-12

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

Many: And also with you.

Advent Light Calls Us into Worship 대림절 촛불 점화

Amy Yang

One: “Rejoice in the Lord always;
again I will say, Rejoice.”
The world says, “Worry,”
and we say, “Rejoice.”
The news says, “Fear,”
and we say, “Rejoice.”
The world says, “Be happy,”
and the church says, “Be faithful.”

As we light our third Advent candle,

Many: We pray for hope, peace, and joy.

The candle of joy is lit.

One: Come now, O child of Mary.

Many: Come now, O Prince of Joy.

*** Hymn 찬송** — “Prepare the Way, O Zion”

Voices United pg. 882

Confession and Forgiveness 죄의 고백과 용서

CALL TO CONFESSION 고백으로의 초청

PRAYER OF CONFESSION 죄의 고백

Many: We confess to you, O God,
 that we are not prepared to welcome your way
 of righteousness, justice, and peace.
 You call us to repentance,
 but we refuse to change our ways.
 You call us to resist oppression,
 but we resign ourselves to evil.
 You call us to be reconciled,
 but we remain divided and afraid.

Forgive us, God of grace.
 Pour out your Spirit in our lives
 so that we may be forgiven, set free,
 and made ready to meet you
 at the coming of your holy realm;
 through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Quiet is kept for personal confession and reflection.

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS 용서의 선언

One: ... Friends, believe the good news of the Gospel:

Many: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Thanks be to God!

* THE PEACE 평화의 인사

One: Ch ri s to ui pyounghwaga dahngsingwa hahmkeh hashi gi rul
 그리스도의 평 화가 당 신과 함 께 하시기를.
 The peace of Christ be with you all.

Many: And also with you.

Words of Welcome & News from Our Life Together 교회소식

WORD 말씀

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song

Anthem — “Long-Awaited One” by Nicole Elsey

The Choir

Come now, Child of promise, hope of all the earth.
 This broken world will be healed by your most humble birth.
 Come now, Child of mercy, Prince of Peace and grace.
 Your life will silence our fears and all our sins erase.
 Long awaited one, we will find rest in your love.
 We have walked in darkness; let us see light from above.
 Emmanuel, God with us, hope has begun. Emmanuel, you are the light, God's only Son.
 You will come to save us all, o long-awaited one.
 Come now, Child of heaven. O living word of the Father now to us descend.
 Come now, Child of wonder, A waken all of creation, set our spirits free.
 Long-awaited One, we will find rest in your love.
 We have walked in darkness, let us see light from above.

Emmanuel, God with us, hope has begun. Emmanuel, you are the light.
 God's only Son. You will come to save us all. O long-awaited one.
 Come now, Child of promise, come now, child of promise, come now, come now, come.

The Early Word 어린이 설교

Refrain 찬송 — “Kindle a Flame to Lighten the Dark”

Voices United #19

First Reading 성경봉독 — Zephaniah 3:14-20

pew bibles OT p. 877

The prophet Zephaniah’s message is mostly one of judgment for sin. This reading, however, which comes from the conclusion of the book, prophesies joy for Judah and Jerusalem. Judgment has led to repentance, and God’s salvation is at hand.

after the reading:

One: Word of God, Word of Life.

Many: Thanks be to God.

Second Reading 성서봉독 — Luke 3:7-18

pew bibles NT p. 60

John the Baptist heralds the mighty one who is coming. John teaches that preparation for God’s reign is not a matter of identity but of bearing fruits of merciful justice, radical generosity, and vocational integrity.

IN ENGLISH

after the reading:

One: Word of God, Word of Life.

Many: Thanks be to God.

IN KOREAN

after the reading:

One: 아멘 (Amen).

Many: 아멘 (Amen).

Sermon 설교 — “Eyes on the Prize”

a brief pause of quiet follows the sermon

RESPONSE 응답

We begin our lives of responding to the gospel, in prayer and offering

Responding with our Gifts 봉헌

Many ways to give! We welcome your offering in the way that works for you: by cash or cheque in the offering plates located at the entrances, through automatic monthly gifts via Pre-Authorized Remittance (contact the church office to enrol), by free eTransfer from your bank account (to cloverdalepastoralcharge@gmail.com), or by credit card via CanadaHelps.org (service fees apply). Want to give right now but don't have cash or cheque? Scan the QR Code → to be taken to our [CanadaHelps](http://CanadaHelps.org) page.



An Offering Thought:

“Rejoice in the Lord always; again, I will say, Rejoice” (Philippians 4:4). Joy is the theme for the third Sunday of Advent. Philippians reminds us to rejoice – to find the joy – in God. Always! Though we live in a world that has many troubles, we can always find joy, in God’s love. Joy is a way of life for steward/disciples.

During the offertory, those worshipping via Zoom livestream are welcome to submit prayer requests—thanksgivings and intercessions, joys and concerns—in the Zoom “chat” feature.

QUIET FOR MEDITATION

* **PRESENTING OUR GIFTS:** from “Come Now, O Prince of Peace / 오소서”

Come now and set us free, O God, our Sav-iour.
 오 소 서 오 소 서 자 유 의 임 금

Come, O Lord Je - sus; rec-on-cile all peo-ple.
 우 리 가 한 몸 이 루 게 하 소 서

* *PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING* 감사기도

Many: Loving, generous God,
we bring our gifts to be used in the service
of your kingdom of justice and love.
Together with our money,
help us to offer joyfully our work, our play, and our selves
in this and every coming week. Amen.

Prayers of the People, *ending with* The Lord's Prayer 회중기도와 주기도

Many: 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,
the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

SENDING 파송

God blesses us and sends us forth in mission for the world

* **Hymn** 찬송 — “Awake! Awake, and Greet the New Morn” *this bulletin*, pg. 8

* **Charge and Benediction** 파송과 축도

* **RESPONSE** 파송 찬양 — *from* “Hope Shines as the Solitary Star” M.V. #220

Joy shines as the sol-i-tar-y star, faith is the in-ner
light. You and I to-gether mir-ror the Light of
Lights, and il-lu-mine the path-way home.

* **Postlude** 후주

Be Our Guest! Come on down to the Lower Hall for coffee or tea or another beverage, a bite to eat, and a chat! Access to the Lower Hall is down the stairs outside the door at the front right of the sanctuary or via the elevator at the front left of the sanctuary. Follow the crowds on down, or ask an usher to guide you... We look forward to seeing you!

"Awake! Awake, and Greet the New Morn"

REJOICE, REJOICE



1 A - wake! A - wake, and greet the new morn, for an - gels
2 To us, to all in sor - row and fear, Em - man - u -
3 In dark - est night his com - ing shall be, when all the
4 Re - joice, re - joice, take heart in the night. Though dark the



her - ald its dawn - ing. Sing out your joy, for soon he is
el comes a - sing - ing; his hum - ble song is qui - et and
world is de - spair - ing, as morn - ing light so qui - et and
win - ter and cheer - less, the ris - ing sun shall crown you with



born, be - hold! the Child of our long - ing. Come as a ba - by
near, yet fills the earth with its ring - ing; mu - sic to heal the
free, so warm and gen - tle and car - ing. Then shall the mute break
light; be strong and lov - ing and fear - less. Love be our song and



weak and poor, to bring all hearts to - geth - er, he o - pens
bro - ken soul and hymns of lov - ing - kind - ness. The thun - der
forth in song, the lame shall leap in won - der, the weak be
love our prayer and love our end - less sto - ry; may God fill



wide the heav'n - ly door and lives now in - side us for - ev - er.
of his an - thems rolls to shat - ter all ha - tred and vio - lence.
raised a - bove the strong, and weap - ons be bro - ken a - sun - der.
ev - 'ry day we share and bring us at last in - to glo - ry.

Life at Cloverdale United Church

Worship

Christmas Eve Worship at Cloverdale United

Church: Mark your calendars and plan to take part in either or both of our worship services on Christmas Eve, Friday, December 24th, as we worship God together in celebration of the birth of our Lord, Jesus Christ—God-with-us.

- **4:30 pm Intergenerational Service:** A family-friendly service that includes the singing of lots of favourite carols, and the telling of the Christmas story through a no-muss-no-fuss pageant open to all (no prep required).
- **9:30 pm Festival Service:** A joyous and majestic traditional Christmas service including the singing of lots of favourite carols, Rev. Matt’s Christmas sermon, music from our Choir, Holy Communion, and candlelight.

Official proof of vaccination and identification *will* be checked at the door for Christmas Eve services, so please allow for a little extra time at arrival.



Many thanks to today’s ...

readers: Trixie Martyn, Jiyeong Park

ushers/greeters: Laurel & Doug Zulke

digital ushers: Jamie Brown, Terry Wright

fellowship time hosts: Debbie Jordbakke, Sharon McBain, & Thelma Smidt



Recording and streaming in use: Please note that video cameras and microphones are capturing our worship services, and that the resulting content may be transmitted over Zoom, YouTube, or other platforms. Likewise, from time to time still photography of our worship services may be taken and used for church communications, websites, and other uses. By your presence within the sanctuary, you are indicating your consent to the possibility that your likeness may be captured and used in any of these ways. While video capture of congregants in the pews is relatively minimal, if you wish to guarantee you will not ever be depicted on video, the area at the rear centre of the pew seating area is unable to be picked up on camera.

Acknowledgements:

- Call to Worship (Advent Candle Lighting) from *Call to Worship: Liturgy, Music, Preaching, and the Arts*, vol. 55.1 – *Lectionary Aids 2021-2022, Year C*, ©2021 Office of Theology and Worship, Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)
- Prayer of Confession from *Connections: Worship Companion*, ed. David Gambrell, Year C, vol. 1, ©2021 Westminster John Knox Press.
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- Offertory Prayer of Thanksgiving by Karl Lam and Ronald Ewart (2003), in *Worship for All Seasons II: Selections from Gathering, Year C*, ed. Thomas Harding & Bruce Harding, ©2006 The United Church of Canada; alt.
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Learn

Hopeful Economics Podcast: You're a busy person. It's not often that you can commit to sitting down to an hour-long webinar to learn new things about your faith. Why not check out some podcasts during your commute or while you're doing your chores. The *Hopeful Economics* podcast, brought to you by EDGE and New Church Ministry, explores ways of making the world's assets and abundance work for all people! In just the few episodes produced so far, you'll hear from an incredible line of speakers, including:

- Adriana Beemans, Inclusive Local Economies Program Director, The Metcalf Foundation
- Rev. Michael Blair, General Secretary, The United Church of Canada
- Rev. Dr. Japhet Ndhlovu, Executive Minister of Church in Mission, The United Church of Canada

Tune in right now for an introduction into what the Hopeful Economics podcast is all about! <https://hopefuleconomics.transistor.fm/>



Meet

A Carol Sing-along & Community Concert: *Friday, December 17th, 7:00 pm.* We're excited to welcome all to a community concert and Christmas carol sing-along on December 17, 2021, from 7:00-8:30 pm. There will be plenty of opportunity for attendees to sing along with wonderful Christmas carols (both sacred and secular) and also enjoy a 'variety show' of solo and small ensemble performances. Admission is by donation and proceeds will go to the redevelopment of the Mission at First United Church on the Downtown East Side, providing services and non-market housing to indigenous people as part of our commitment to Truth and Reconciliation. In accordance with health orders, as well as Christian responsibility toward love of neighbour, masks and proof-of-vaccination will be required of all in-person attendees. The event will also be livestreamed.

Serve

A Word from your Christmas Hamper Committee: Over many years our Cloverdale United Church congregation has given generously to create a special Christmas for those in need. Our donations have made a tremendous difference in the lives of many who endure hunger and hardship during our time of celebration. Because of Covid the Christmas Hamper Committee will not be sponsoring individual families again this year. However, we are asking for donations of money and gift cards to support local charities such as the Cloverdale Soup Kitchen, several local shelters, and the Guildford Park Community group.

In addition, this year, our thoughts are very much with our Indigenous brothers and sisters who continue to suffer the effects of residential schools, especially on the Downtown East Side. As part of The United Church's

commitment to Truth and Reconciliation, we are asking for donations of money to support the redevelopment of First United Church. Many new and exciting plans are in place for building a new facility with non-market housing and venues for social programs, and building will begin soon. Information on what is offered can be found on line at <https://firstunited.ca> and we will be sharing information each Sunday during Advent.

We will be collecting donations throughout the season of Advent to support all these causes and we thank you in advance for your ongoing generosity.

— *Bev Siggs* (bevsiggs@gmail.com) & *Christine Connal* (christine.connal@gmail.com)

Flood Relief: Should you wish to contribute funds toward flood relief related work in Abbotsford, you are encouraged to send contributions *directly* to:

- The Canadian Red Cross: donate.redcross.ca/page/94172/donate/1 ;
- Abbotsford Disaster Relief Fund: abbotsfordcf.org/grants/disaster/ ; OR
- Trinity Memorial United Church: canadahelps.org/en/charities/trinity-memorial-united-church/

Your contribution will reach its intended beneficiaries more quickly and effectively if you make it directly to one of these agencies (i.e., there is no benefit to sending funds here to Cloverdale United Church for this need and, in fact, doing so adds delay and administrative overhead).

Other news and notes

Offering Envelopes are now Available: The 2022 Offering Envelopes are now available for pick up in the Narthex.

Poinsettias for Sale: We have remaining 2 baskets of Poinsettias for sale at \$10. If you want to avail, please contact Olivia in the church office.

NO Stitch Club in December: Our second-Tuesday-evenings Stitch Club will not be meeting in December. See you in January (January 11th)!

Broadview: *Broadview* is an independent Canadian magazine featuring award-winning coverage of spirituality, justice, and ethical living. Through compelling stories and engaging images, *Broadview* challenges and inspires readers seeking to live a purpose-filled life.



The spirituality reporting features Christian perspectives on belief and faith, as well as points of view from other religions and philosophies. *Broadview* covers social justice from local, national and global contexts, drawing attention to contemporary issues and our response as people of faith and as caring citizens. And ethical living stories offer inspiration and ideas on how we can all make a positive difference with our lives.

Broadview and *Broadview.org* are owned and operated by Observer Publications Inc., an independent non-profit corporation that sets its own

policies, procedures, and editorial programs while retaining an affiliation with The United Church of Canada. (Super-nifty fact: our own Dianne Nichols is on the board of directors!)

Are you currently getting *Broadview*? Or would you like to subscribe? ***Please advise the church office if you would like to start a new subscription or renew a current one.*** Payment of the \$25 annual subscription charge can be made to Cloverdale United Church.

God's Mission, Our Gifts

Gifts With Vision: The United Church of Canada developed *Gifts with Vision* in response to member requests to be able to give gifts to relatives, friends, and loved ones that are in direct support of our church's engagements with mission, service, and justice work here in Canada and around the world. Selecting a gift from *Gifts with Vision* is a great opportunity to give a "gift" to (or in honour of) someone who already has enough "things," with a real "gift" also going to one of a diverse constellation of crucial causes and initiatives.



With the gift you give, you help create healthy places to live, promote justice, provide social services, and enliven worship. None of the monies raised in this project support The United Church's regular annual Mission & Service funding (except for gifts to the Mission & Service Fund itself); rather, gifted monies are forwarded directly to the recipient.

Take a look and see if there's not some *Gifts with Vision* that fit with the loved ones on your "list"! You can pick up a print copy of the *Gifts with Vision* catalogue on the tables in the lobby of the church or find one inside the most recent issue of *Broadview* magazine. Or, you can view the catalogue and do all your "shopping" online: <https://giftswithvision.ca/>

We are a welcoming, historic, and progressive Christian community, reaching out from the historic heart of Surrey at Cloverdale since 1875. We seek to thrive in faith through relationship with God, one another, and the community.... to serve others as Jesus would.

CLOVERDALE UNITED CHURCH

17575 58A Ave., Surrey, BC V3S 1N1 | 604.574.5813 | cloverdaleunitedchurch.ca

Ministers All of the Congregation

Lead Minister

Rev. Matthew Emery – matt@cloverdaleunitedchurch.ca

Intercultural Ministry Coordinator

Chohee Won – chohee@cloverdaleunitedchurch.ca

Director of Music Ministries

Dr. Emma Rui-Xuan Shi – emma@cloverdaleunitedchurch.ca

Interim Children & Youth Leader

Sarah Zezchuk – sarah@cloverdaleunitedchurch.ca

Children & Youth Leader

Robyn Garland (*on maternity leave*)

Office Administrator

(*vacant*) – office@cloverdaleunitedchurch.ca

Church Council Chair

Doug Sowerby – doug@dsowerby.com