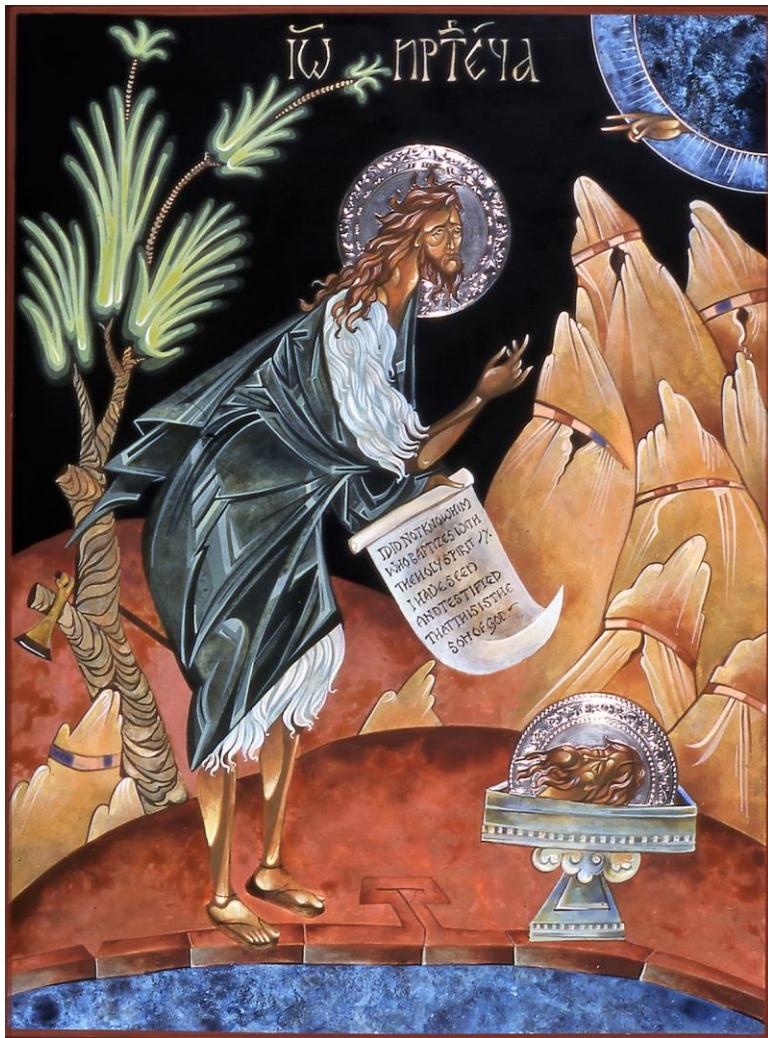




THE UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA

CLOVERDALE
UNITED CHURCH



"John the Baptist in the Wilderness"
narrative icon by Mary Jane Miller, 2008

The 2nd Sunday of Advent
A Service of the Word

4 December 2022 • 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 usually celebrate Communion 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 2nd Sunday of Advent

“Were John the Baptist to return and denounce the sin of the world, once more they'd cut off his head.”

—Jacopone da Todi (*circa 1230-1306*), Italian Franciscan friar and theatre pioneer

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

* **Introit** 찬송 —from “Hope Is a Star”

Voces United #7 – v. 2 only

* **Advent Light Calls Us into Worship** 대림절 촛불 점화

The candle of peace is lit.

* **Greeting** 인사

The Rev. Matthew Emery

One: 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.

* **Prayer of the Day** 오늘의 기도

One: Let us pray.

Many: God of the keen blade,
which cuts the roots of arrogant power:
you raise voices of promise in the dry lands of our desire,
children of faith from the stones of the earth.
Make us ready to receive the Spirit
and the fire of love—wild and fierce and free;
through Jesus Christ, the one who is to come. Amen.

* Hymn 찬송 — “Hark! A Thrilling Voice is Sounding”

FREUEN WIR UNS ALL IN EIN

Voices in unison.

1 Hark! A thrill-ing voice is sound - ing!
 2 Star - tled at the sol-emn warn - ing,
 3 See the Lamb, so long ex-pect - ed,
 4 so, when next he comes in glo - ry
 5 Hon - our, glo - ry, might, and bless - ing

“Christ is near,” we hear the cry.
 let the earth-bound soul a - rise;
 comes with par-don down from heav’n.
 and the world is wrapped in fear,
 to the Fa-ther and the Son

“Cast a - way the works of dark - ness,
 Christ, its sun, all sloth dis-pel - ling,
 Let us haste, with tears of sor - row,
 he will shield us with his mer - cy
 with the ev-er-liv-ing Spir - it

all you chil - dren of the day!"
 shines up - on the morn - ing skies.
 one and all, to be for - giv'n;
 and with words of love draw near.
 while e - ter - nal a ges run!

Confession and Forgiveness 죄의 고백과 용서

CALL TO CONFESSION 고백으로의 초청

PRAYER OF CONFESSION 죄의 고백

Many: God of new beginnings,

we confess that we have not always welcomed your holy reign.

We have strayed from your paths.

We prepare for war instead of peace.

We dishonour one another and your creation.

We have failed to stand up to predators,
and failed to defend helpless prey.

Help us, Holy One.

Purify us with your refining fire
and set us again on your way of love,
that we may bear fruit worthy of repentance,
and welcome your coming among us.

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: 그리스도의 평화가 당신과 함께 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 — “Prepare the Way of the Lord” by William Rowan

The Choir

Prepare, prepare, the way of the Lord! Prepare the way! Make straight his path.

Every valley shall be exalted, every hill made low;

and the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough places plain.

And the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all mankind shall see it, shall see it together.

Prepare, prepare, the way of the Lord! Prepare, the way! Make straight his path.

—from *Isaiah 40:4-5*

The Early Word 어린이 설교

Robyn Garland

Refrain 찬송 —from “Come Now, O Prince of Peace / 오소서”

Come now, O Prince of Peace; make us one body.
오소서 오소서 평화의 임금
O - so - seo O - so - seo, pyeong-hwa-ui im-geum.

Come, O Lord Jesus; reconcile all people.
우리가 한몸 이루게 하소서
u - ri - ga han - mom i - ru - ge ha - so - seo.

First Reading 성경봉독 —Isaiah 11:1-10

pew bibles OT p. 640

Isaiah describes the coming of a future, ideal ruler who will renew David's royal line (the stump of Jesse). Gifted by the spirit of God, this ruler will reign with perfect justice. Enmity and danger will be restored to harmony and peaceful coexistence.

after the reading:

One: Word of God, Word of Life.

Many: Thanks be to God.

Second Reading 성경봉독 — Matthew 3:1-12

pew bibles NT p. 2

Just before Jesus begins his public ministry, John the Baptist appears, calling people to mend their ways and speaking of a powerful one who is to come.

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

Melanie Ihmels

a time of quiet follows the sermon

* Hymn 찬송 — “There’s a Voice in the Wilderness”

Voices United #18

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, through automatic monthly gifts via Pre-Authorized Remittance (contact the 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 page.



Prayer Requests — As the morning offering is collected:

- in-person worshippers can share prayer petitions (thanksgivings and intercessions, joys and concerns) on the **purple-topped prayer request cards** found in the pew racks and place them the offering plates as they are passed.
- live-via-Zoom online worshippers are welcome to submit prayer petitions (thanksgivings and intercessions, joys and concerns) in the **Zoom “chat” feature**.

OFFERTORY MUSIC

Emma Rui-Xuan Shi

* PRESENTING OUR GIFTS 경배 찬양
from "Creator of the Stars of Night"

CONDITOR ALME SIDERUM

To God Cre - a - tor, God the Son, and God the Spir - it,
Three in One, praise, hon - our, might, and glo - ry be
from age to age e - ter - nal - ly. A - men.

* PRAYER OF DEDICATION 감사기도

Many: God of hope,
you call us from the exile of sin
with the good news of restoration;
you build a highway through the wilderness;
you come to us and bring us home.
Use us and our gifts, we pray,
as a part of your saving work in the world,
transforming us more and more
into true signs of your kingdom at hand. Amen.

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

Many: Our Father, who art in Heaven, 하늘에 계신 우리 아버지여,
hallowed be thy name, 이름이 거룩히 여김을
thy kingdom come, 받으시오며, 나라이 임하옵시며,
thy will be done 뜻이 하늘에서 이룬 것같이
on earth as it is in heaven. 땅에서도 이루어지이다. 오늘날
Give us this day our daily bread, 우리에게 일용할 양식을
and forgive us our trespasses 주옵시고, 우리가 우리에게 죄
as we forgive those 지은 자를 사하여 준 것같이 우리
who trespass against us. 죄를 사하여 주옵시고, 우리를
And lead us not into temptation, 시험에 들게 하지 마옵시고,
but deliver us from evil, 다만 악에서 구하옵소서. 대개
for Thine is the Kingdom, 나라와 권세와 영광이 아버지께
the power, and the glory, 영원히 있사옵나이다. 아멘.
for ever and ever. Amen.

SENDING 파송

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

* Hymn 찬송 — “Prepare the Way, O Zion”

Voices United pg. 882

* Charge and Benediction 파송과 축도

* RESPONSE 파송 찬양 — “Jesus Came Bringing Us Hope” *More Voices #33*

A musical score for three voices (Soprano, Alto, Tenor/Bass) in common time, featuring a treble clef for Soprano and Alto, and a bass clef for Tenor/Bass. The vocal parts are accompanied by a piano or organ part. The lyrics are: "Je sus came bring-ing us peace, Je sus came bring ing us peace," followed by "Je-sus came bring-ing us peace, hal le - lu-jah for - e-ver-more!" Measure numbers 1 through 10 are indicated above the staff. Three measures are grouped together with a bracket labeled '3'. Measures 1-3, 4-6, 7-9, and 10 are each grouped with a bracket labeled '3'.

* 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!

Life at Cloverdale United Church

Worship

About today's cover art: "Matthew 3: John says, 'I did not "know" him who baptizes with the Holy Spirit, but I have testified he is the son of God.' This icon portrays the fate of John the Baptist amidst the mountain heights, desert expanse, and at the river's edge. We are told that John spent his life calling people to repentance, speaking the wisdom he gained from his time in solitude. He lived an austere life, eating locusts and honey. John is often identified in iconography by his wild hair, camel hair shirt, and shaggy garments. John is a cousin of Jesus; yet because he lived in the wilderness of Judea, he perhaps did not 'recognize' Jesus when he arrived in the River Jordan. John the Baptist in the Wilderness shows two events happening at different times within the same icon. Narrative icons often distort time to include related events that are not in chronological order. This icon depicts John, the saintly teacher of repentance, receiving wisdom and knowledge from God above. The blessing hand of God reaches out from space, conferring a blessing upon John before or after his martyrdom. Sacred time merges with the eternal present to reveal where what was and will be." (*Statement by the artist*)

Mary Jane Miller is a self-taught Byzantine-style iconographer with over 28 years of experience, born in New York and living in Mexico full time. Her collections of sacred art are contemporary, with a proficient command of egg tempera. The work is extraordinarily rich in style and has been exhibited in museums and churches in both the United States and Mexico. As an author, Miller blends historical content and personal insights to arrive at contemporary conclusions about faith. Her six self-published books include *Icon Painting Revealed*, *Mary in iconography*, *In Light of Women*, and *Life in Christ and The Stations*. Websites: <https://www.millericons.com/>, <https://sanmiguelicons.com/>

Many thanks to today's ...

readers: 고지원 Jiwon Ko, Ursula Maxwell-Lewis

ushers/greeters: Yunghee & Junghee

digital ushers: Jamie Brown, Doug Sowerby

fellowship time hosts: Muriel Grossman, Margaret Rose



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:

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Coming up in Worship...

- **December 11th – the Third Sunday of Advent:** Rev. Matt preaching, "Together for Joy" Stewardship Campaign Dedication Sunday with fellowship celebration after worship
- **December 18th – the Fourth Sunday of Advent:** Rev. Matt preaching
- **December 24th (Saturday) – the Birth of Our Lord: Christmas Eve**
 - 5:00 pm – Intergenerational Service
A heart-warming and fun experience for people of all ages, featuring lots of favourite Christmas carols and a come-as-you-are, no-muss-no-fuss participatory pageant
 - 9:00 pm – Festival Service
Our joyful, pull-out-all-the-stops traditional worship experience for Christmas! Choir, candlelight, carols old and new, and the Communion Feast at Christ's Table.
- **December 25th (Sunday) – the Birth of Our Lord: Christmas Day**
10:30 am – WHAT IF GOD WAS ONE OF US? READINGS, REFLECTIONS, & CAROLS
An uplifting worship experience for Christmas featuring a variety of readings old and new, poetic reflections, heart-felt prayer, and diverse songs of the season

Learn

CUC Youth Group 청년교회: Join us for the first Sunday of the month for Youth Group! Youth group is open from ages 12-18 to come for fun, food, games and bible study! The youth will meet in the lounge from 10:30-11:30. Each lesson will have a game, a bible study, a discussion, and a brief worship. Next gathering coming up today. For more info, contact Robyn Garland: robyn@cloverdaleunitedchurch.ca.



Meet

Cloverdale 55+ Coffee Social: Tues., December 13, 10:30 am, Pacific Community Church (5337 180 Street). You are invited to a Cloverdale 55+ Coffee Social, hosted by Brella Community Services Society (formerly Seniors Come Share Society) and the Cloverdale Community Kitchen. This is a free, drop-in event to encourage and build social interaction and connections for seniors in the community. We welcome anyone who wants to come in for some coffee, some snacks, and a chat! There may also be some light musical entertainment for the holiday seasons. The event will be on Tuesday, December 13th, 10:30am – 12:00pm, at the Cloverdale Community Kitchen/Pacific Community Church (5337 180 St, Surrey—Near KPU Cloverdale). No registration is required, however folks can sign-up for an email reminder at: <https://www.brellasociety.ca/community-events>

Cloverdale 55+ Coffee Social
5337 180 St, Surrey
(Pacific Community Church)
Free Drop-In
December 13th
10:30am-12:00pm
Just some coffee, some snacks, and
chat! Simple as that!
No registration required.
For any inquiries: (604) 531-9400 ext. 205

Surrey Intercultural Seniors SOCIAL INCLUSION Partnership (SISIP) Network

Funded in part by the Government of Canada's
New Horizons for Seniors Program

PICS SURREY SOURCES uniti Canada

Serve

You Serve with your Stewardship: “May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.” (Romans 15:13) Let Paul’s words be your call not only to find joy and hope, but also to share it with the world—especially those for whom the season brings sadness. That is good stewardship of your Christmas cheer!

Cloverdale Community Kitchen – Looking to Start a New Team: Many of us are familiar with the tremendous ministry of love and service carried out day-in and day-out by the Cloverdale Community Kitchen (www.myccck.ca). Through their signature Community Meals program—the program where it all began—they serve hot, nutritious meals every weeknight (M-F) to some 70 or more patrons each day. Each of those evenings is staffed by a team of volunteers, most often from various churches in the surrounding area.



We are looking into starting a United Church team to begin participating in this local ministry, with participation from Cloverdale United, Northwood United, and the United Churches of Langley. Ultimately, we're hoping to identify a 'core group' of people from our 3 congregations who are able to be team 'captains,' trained on how to run things fully, and then each scheduled time for our team to serve could be staffed by a flexible and rotating 'crew' of additional volunteers.

This would be a wonderful opportunity for us to... build face-to-face connection and relationship with people in need right here in our Cloverdale community... *and* build relationships among people from all three of our United Church congregations... *and* create an ongoing opportunity for people connected with our congregation to express their discipleship to Jesus in a concrete, hands-on ministry of mercy-making and service-outside-the-church-walls.

Right now, we're simply gauging interest. If you think you'd have any interest in being a part of such a ministry—whether as a 'captain' or an occasional crew volunteer—drop a line to Rev. Matt: matt@cloverdaleunitedchurch.ca. We'd be looking toward an informational session, tour, and (if we go ahead) training sometime after the first of the year.

Help with Hot Chocolate & Hospitality



The Surrey Santa Parade here in Cloverdale is coming up this weekend, Sunday, December 4th. CUC is very near the end of the parade route, and we suspect we'll be a prime location for parking (or others simply walking by)... so we're planning to be outside to engage with our local community. And what better way than

with Hot Chocolate and some Advent blessings?

If you're able to help out (prepping some hot chocolate and supplies, setting up, being friendly and engaging with community members), we'd love to have you here, joining with Robyn Garland (and Rev. Matt, as soon as he can get back from a concert in Abbotsford in which he's singing)!

(Parade start time is 5:00 pm; we'll want to be present before hand as people arrive and afterwards as people are departing)

If you're able and willing... please contact Robyn Garland as soon as possible: robyn@cloverdaleunitedchurch.ca, 604-574-5813.

Cloverdale UCW (United Church Women) News



Thank you: The apple pie fundraiser and the Community Handcraft Market are both behind us. Thank you for your generous support of these successful events. Wishing you all a blessed Advent and Christmas season.

Friendship Gift Bags: On December 14 we will once again be assembling toiletry gift bags for the residents of the crisis shelter at the Bill Reid Centre in Cloverdale. We invite all of in the congregation to contribute items such as soap, washcloths, shampoo, gloves, hats, granola bars, gift cards ... There is a basket in the Narthex to place your donations.

Monthly Meetings:

Evening — Monthly evening meetings (Sunshine Group) usually take place on the *first Wednesday of the month* at 7 PM in the CUC Lounge or as announced.

Morning — Monthly morning meetings (Friendship and Alpha Groups) usually take place on the *second Wednesday of the month* (except October) at 10 AM in the CUC Lounge or as announced.

Mark Your Calendars

- December 7 Sunshine Group gathering
- December 14 Preparation of Friendship gift bags. Upper Hall 10:00 a.m.

For further information contact: Kim Forbes, UCW President blueforbes@icloud.com

Other news and Notes

Offering Envelopes available for pick-up: For those households that make use of offering envelope sets for their financial giving, note that the offering envelopes for 2023 will be available at the church beginning this Sunday. They can be picked up from the Narthex (the entry foyer at the back of the sanctuary). If you would like to use weekly offering envelopes but do not currently, please contact Judy Cook (iuki@shaw.ca, 604-576-8001).



Poinsettias for Advent & Christmas

Would you be interested in purchasing a Poinsettia to be placed in our Sanctuary during the Advent and Christmas seasons?

Orders can be placed over the next couple of weeks so that we have plants placed in our Sanctuary throughout the latter weeks of Advent and into Christmastide.

Purchasing a plant is a great way to make an offering in memory or honour of someone special. These dedications will be printed in the bulletins for our Christmas Eve services. **The cost of each plant is \$10.00.**

If you would like to participate, please fill out the form included in Sunday's worship bulletin. Or you can contact the office with name, email, phone number, number of plants to order, and dedication information ("in memory of" and/or "in honour of"). Please forward your payment (cash or cheque payable to Cloverdale United Church) at the time of order.

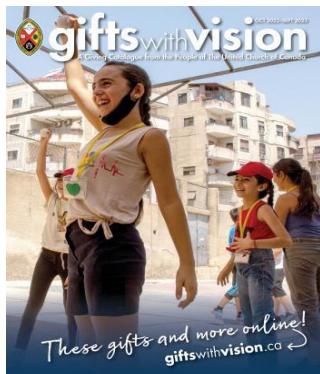
God's Mission, Our Gifts

Gifts with Vision Solves the What-To-Buy Dilemma

Is there someone on your Christmas list who is hard to buy for or doesn't need yet another gadget or figurine? Do you long to sidestep the consumerist trappings of the season for something more meaningful?

Gifts with Vision the United Church's giving catalogue—is the answer.

Gifts with Vision is full of gifts that will help transform people's lives throughout Canada and across the world. While Gifts with Vision continues to feature gifts for Ukraine and COVID-19, we have been busy adding new gifts to support people across the world who are experiencing the effects of climate change, economic instability, and war. Particularly children. There are several new gifts for children in this year's catalogue.



We have added a new category, too: anti-racism. Projects in Nunavut, Guatemala, and Palestine—just to name a few—support the rights, culture, and dignity of people who experience racism daily. In addition, several gifts that have been very popular in the past, like Operation Backpack, Help Build a Well, and A Safe Place to Heal, are returning in this year's catalogue.

And that's only the beginning!

Mindful of the environment, the print catalogue continues to be small—but there are a lot more gift choices on the Gifts with Vision website. Stories of our partners' projects are also available there.

Every Gift with Vision provides support for a specific Mission & Service partner offering a unique project. Without Mission & Service, Gifts with Vision projects would not be possible. Thank you for supporting both.

When Christmas rolls around, remember that a meaningful gift is a simple click away. If madly dashing around the mall on Christmas Eve is your gift-buying style, kick back and relax. Gifts with Vision has you covered!. Visit <https://giftswithvision.ca/> for more information.

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

Children & Youth Leader Robyn Garland – robyn@cloverdaleunitedchurch.ca

Director of Music Ministries Dr. Emma Rui-Xuan Shi – emma@cloverdaleunitedchurch.ca

Intercultural Ministry Coordinator Chohee Won – chohee@cloverdaleunitedchurch.ca

Office Administrator Mope Iruobe – office@cloverdaleunitedchurch.ca

Church Council Chair Doug Sowerby – doug@dsowerby.com