

SEEKING GOD TOGETHER

CAROL SING

PRELUDE Prelude on the Sussex Carol
(Russell Schultz-Widmar)

**WELCOME & CONGREGATIONAL LIFE
PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP**

Lighting of the Christ Candle

Acknowledgment of Territory/Every Child Matters
Peter & Andrea Drost

INTROIT O Ancient Love (Michael Joncas)

CALL TO WORSHIP

Be with us, God, in stone stillness
and quiet corners.

**Help us to be lights in the darkness,
lights that burn bravely
in the circle of your love.**

Hear our prayers, O God,
our yearnings, and our caring,
our concerns, and our questions.

**Help us to be lights in the darkness,
lights that burn bravely
in the circle of your love.**

Be in us, God,
in our work, our calling,
our journeys, our wondering,
our worship...

**Help us to be lights in the darkness,
lights that burn bravely
in the circle of your love.**

(R.Burgess, Winter, Iona Community, adapted)

***HYMN** O Come, O Come, Emmanuel **VU 1**
Vss 1-5

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLES— Love

Margaret & Myles Heney

Three candles are lit.

Today is the Advent of love. As we light this candle,
we remember all who are feeling lonely and distressed
at this time of year.

**We live in a world that fears the stranger
and the strange.**

We light this candle as our commitment
to the love that is expressed in inclusivity.

**We are the community that welcomes
unconditionally and generously.**

We light this candle for Jesus,
the Lover of us All.

The fourth candle is lit.

**We trust that you are with us always. As love that
Bursts forth from all your people, love is born again
and again in all creation.**

SUNG RESPONSE Hope is a Star (B.Wren) *VU 7*

**Love is a flame that burns in our heart,
Jesus has come and will never depart.
When God is a child there's joy in our song.
The last shall be first and the weak shall be strong,
and none shall be afraid.**

CHRISTMAS PAGEANT - Introduction: Myles Heney

Video presentation by the children, teachers & parents
of the Funday Sunday program.



FINDING GOD TOGETHER

SCRIPTURE Isaiah 7:10-16 *p. 636 Pew Bible OT*
(The sign of Emmanuel.) Kathie Blackman

ANTHEM What Sweeter Music (J.Rutter)

GOSPEL Matthew 1:18-25 *p.1 Pew Bible NT*
(Joseph's dream.)

Come to the quiet...a time for reflection

SERMON Dreamscape

***CAROL** He Is Born (Il est né) **VU 50**
(trad. 19th century French carol; trans. G.Evans)

*He is born, little Child divine; play on the reeds while
the lutes are strumming. He is born, little Child divine;
join the song to announce the day.*

Through long ages of the past, prophets have foretold
his coming; thru long ages of the past, now the time has
come at last!

O how lovely, O how pure is this perfect child of heaven;
O how lovely, O how pure, gracious gift to human kind!

Lowly lodged in a stable poor, laid on straw for his infant
cradle. Lowly lodged in a stable poor, God come down
to our mortal aid.

*He is born, little Child divine; play on the reeds while
the lutes are strumming. He is born, little Child divine;
join the song to announce the day.*

Jesus, Lord of all the world, coming as a child among us;
Jesus, Lord of all the world, grant to us your heavenly
peace.

*He is born, little Child divine; play on the reeds while
the lutes are strumming. He is born, little Child divine;
join the song to announce the day.*

SHARING GOD’S LOVE

OFFERING OUR GIFTS TO GOD

OFFERTORY Mary, Did You Know? *(B.Greene)*
Lisa Kyriakides

***DEDICATION** As We Offer Gifts *(Tune: VU 81)*

**As we offer gifts most rare
at your stable crude and bare,
and we bend our knee before
Christ, whom heaven and earth adore;
so our humble hearts we bring,
Christ, to you our praise we sing.**

OFFERTORY PRAYER & Prayer Shawl Blessing

PRAYER PRELUDE We Call to You O God
We call to You, O God, *(Mayberry/Kai)*
in faith and with open heart, hear our prayer.
We call to You, O God,
**In faith and with open heart,
hear, hear our prayer. Hear, hear our prayer.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & LORD’S PRAYER
VU p.910

***HYMN** The Virgin Mary Had a Baby Boy **VU 73**

*** COMMISSIONING**

And now, as we move into the last days of our watching
and waiting, may God’s hope, peace, joy and love
surround you and sustain you, until we meet together
at the manger.

***SUNG BLESSING** Hope Shines as the Solitary Star
MV 220

**Love shines as the solitary star,
faith is the inner light.
You and I together mirror the Light of Lights,
and illumine the pathway home.**

POSTLUDE Toccata on “Adeste Fideles” *(David H. Hegerty)*

ALL YOU NEED IS LOVE David Pilkey

Christmas Eve Service

Be sure to return here to the Trinity sanctuary
for our Christmas Eve service,
next **Saturday, December 24th—5pm.**
Come for the carols, the candles, the story-
telling, and, especially the opportunity to
welcome the Christ-Child alongside
family & friends, old and new.



The United Church of Canada acknowledges that its buildings and ministries,
from coast to coast to coast, are on traditional territories of Indigenous
Peoples.

**AURORA UNITED
CHURCH**

Church Office 905-727-1935
www.auroraunitedchurch.ca

Rev. Lorraine Newton-Comar & Rev. Andrew Comar
Music Coordinator—Margaret Heney



ADVENT 4—LOVE
December 18, 2022
11:00 AM

*Christmas came simply: a pregnant woman,
a worried father, a night birth—a healthy child.
Just God unwrapped, vulnerable, lying in a manger,
living in our world. (R.Burgess, Winter)*

O come, O come, Emmanuel

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel that mourns in lowly exile here until the Son of God appear.

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come, O Wisdom from on high, who orders all things mightily; to us the path of knowledge show, and teach us in her ways to go. **R**

O come, O come, great God of might, who to your tribes on Sinai's height in ancient times once gave the law in cloud, and majesty, and awe. **R**

O come, O Rod of Jesse's stem, from every foe deliver them that trust your mighty power to save, and give them victory o'er the grave. **R**

O come, O Key of David, come, and open wide our heavenly home; make safe the way that leads on high, and close the path to misery. **R**

O come, O Dayspring, from on high, and cheer us by your drawing nigh; disperse the gloomy clouds of night, and death's dark shadows put to flight. **R**

O come, Desire of nations, bind all peoples in one heart and mind; O bid our sad divisions cease, and be for us the Prince of Peace. **R**



The Virgin Mary Had a Baby Boy

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.

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**

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**

