

## PARKDALE UNITED CHURCH

building connections – living faith – acting for justice

January 2, 2022

### PRE-SERVICE CAROL SINGING

Good Christian Friends, Rejoice! VU 35 st. 1,2

Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart and soul and voice!

Give ye heed to what we say: News! News!

Jesus Christ is born today.

Ox and ass before him bow, and he is in the manger now.

Christ is born today! Christ is born today!

Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart and soul and voice!

Now ye hear of endless bliss: Joy! Joy!

Jesus Christ was born for this!

He hath opened heaven's door, and we are blest forevermore.

Christ was born for this! Christ was born for this!

Words: 14<sup>th</sup> c. Latin, translated J.M. Neale Tune: IN DULCI JUBILO

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The First Nowell VU 91 st. 1,2,3,5

The first nowell the angel did say

was to certain poor shepherds in fields where they lay;

in fields where they lay a-keeping their sheep

on a cold winter's night that was so deep.

Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell,

born is the King of Israel.

They looked up and saw a star

shining in the east beyond them far;

and to the earth it gave great light

and so it continued both day and night.

Nowell, Nowell...

And by the light of that same star

three wisemen came from country far;

to seek for a king was their intent,

and to follow the star wherever it went.

Nowell, Nowell...

Then entered in those wise men three,

full reverently upon their knee,

and offered there in his presence

their gold and myrrh and frankincense.  
Nowell, Nowell...

Words: English traditional Tune: THE FIRST NOWELL  
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## INTRO

Here at Parkdale United Church, we use three short phrases to describe our ministry: building connections – living faith – acting for justice.

Building Connections: We believe church is about community, building relationships, creating a village, so you don't have to journey alone.

Living Faith: How do we live out our faith? How do we practice what we learn from our sacred texts, our worship services, our book studies and Bible studies to make the world a better place for all?

Acting for Justice: We strive to stand up for the marginalized, oppressed, and those who are suffering. We do this by reaching beyond the walls of Parkdale to those who need a little more love and attention.

## LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

In the spirit of reconciliation, we acknowledge that we live, work and play on the borrowed traditional territories of the Blackfoot Confederacy (Siksika, Kainai, Piikani), the Tsuut'ina, the Stoney Nakoda Nations, the Métis Nation (Region 3), and all people who make their homes in the Treaty 7 region of Southern Alberta.

## LIFE AND WORK OF THE CHURCH

### OPENING PRAYER

God of our hopes, Christ of our faith, Spirit in our hearts, we come to worship you with joy and gladness. Your goodness knows no limits of generation or gender, of condition or citizenship. You are kind to all, and we praise you.

### CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Praise be to God,

**People: creator of time and space!**

Leader: Who has set eternity in the human heart,

**People: who gives us today in which we can be thankful.**

Leader: Today, which is a gift from God,

**People: Today, in which we can celebrate a New Year.**

Leader: Let us worship the One who makes everything beautiful in its time.

**People: For everything God does will endure forever. Forever and ever. Amen.**

## HYMN

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing VU 48 st. 1, 3

Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King,  
peace on earth and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!"  
Joyful, all ye nations, rise, join the triumph of the skies;  
with the angelic hosts proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem!"  
Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King!"

Hail, the heaven-born Prince of Peace! Hail, the Sun of Righteousness!  
Light and life to all he brings, risen with healing in his wings.  
Mild he lays his glory by, born that we no more may die,  
born to raise us from the earth, born to give us second birth.  
Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King!"

Words: Charles Wesley Tune: MENDELSSOHN  
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## CHRIST CANDLE/CHILDREN'S TIME

Once there was a person who said such amazing things and did such wonderful things that people began to follow him. But they didn't know who he was. So, one day, they simply had to ask him. "Who are you?" and he said, "I am the light."

## BAPTISM OF ISABEL ANNIKKI WYATT SHUMKA

**Leader:** Let us celebrate God's gift of grace given to us in the sacrament of baptism.

**All: There is one body and one Spirit; and one Son of Man**

**Leader:** There is only one God, creator of us all.

**All: Out of the water of baptism we rise with new life, forgiven, renewed and one with God and all of God's children.**

**Leader:** The sacrament of baptism proclaims and celebrates the grace of God.

As we come to this font of living water, let us recall the meaning of baptism.

For just as the body is one and had many parts, and all the parts work together to create a whole body, so it is with the Divine.

For it is by the Holy Spirit we are all baptized into one Holy Church. Poor or rich, queer or straight, sick or healthy, plain or colourful, imprisoned or free, Religious or not; we are all God's children. We are all members of God family; together, yet separate individuals.

1 Corinthians 12: 12-14

<sup>12</sup>For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. <sup>13</sup>For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and we were all made to drink of one Spirit.

<sup>14</sup>Indeed, the body does not consist of one member but of many.

**Board Chair:** On behalf of the congregation of Parkdale United Church, I present Isabel for initiation into baptism.

**Leader:** Isabel do you believe in One God?  
Do you believe in Jesus, God's only Son?  
Do you believe in the Holy Spirit, the love between God and Jesus?  
If so, say I do, by the blessings of God.

Isabel, will you follow the teaching of Jesus Christ, loving others as you love yourself? If so, say I do with God being my helper

David and Maria, will you share your faith with Isabel, helping her grow in faith, hope and love? If so, say I do with God being my helper.

### **The Pledge of the Congregation**

**Let us promise to Isabel our support.**

**As baptized and baptizing people, we commit to pray for Isabel and write her a letter once a year to remind her she is part of our community of faith, that she is part of the worldwide church, that she is a child of God. With God being my helper.**

Gracious and Holy God, we bless you for the gift of life, and within, the gift of water. Over its unshapen promise, your Spirit hovered over creation. By water comes the growth of the earth. Through water, you led the children of Israel to freedom. In the waters of the Jordan, your Child Jesus was baptized. Now may your Spirit be upon us and what we do, that this water may be a sign for all of the new life of Christ. May this be so. Amen.

### **The Pouring of the Water**

As the water is poured, we recalled Isaiah's promise: "Water shall break forth in the wilderness and streams in the desert," and Ezekiel's declaration: "I will sprinkle clean water upon you and, you shall be clean." May God's Spirit be upon us and these waters of daily use which we no use to baptize and welcome Isabel into our family.

Listen to its free-flowing powers.

Listen to its releasing powers.

Listen to its welcoming powers.

Isabel, I baptize you in the name of the Father, the Son the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Isabel, may the blessings of God, who created us out of love, Jesus Christ, the one who redeemed love between God and Man, the Holy Spirit, the one who spreads the love, be with you today and always. Amen.

### **The Anointing with Oil**

Isabel, with the sign of the cross, you become an Anointed one, one that has chosen to be part of the Community of God.

### **The Presentation of the Candle**

Isabel, I light this candle to remind you to let your light shine before others that they may see your heart full of love and give glory to God. I encourage you to light it each year on your baptismal birthday to remind you of this day.

In the name of the Holy One, Isabel has been received into the holy Christian church, the body of Christ in the world. Let us now welcome her!

### **HYMN OF RESPONSE** Child of Blessing, Child of Promise VU 444

Child of blessing, child of promise, baptized with the Spirit's sign:  
with this water God has sealed you unto love and grace divine.

Child of love, our love's expression, love's creation, loved indeed!  
Fresh from God, refresh our spirits, into joy and laughter lead.

Child of joy, our dearest treasure, God's you are, from God you came.  
Back to God, we humbly give you; live as one who bears Christ's name.

Child of God your loving Parent, learn to know whose child you are.  
Grow to laugh and sing and worship, trusting in God's love and care.

Words: Ronald S. Cole-Turner Tune: STTUGART  
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## **CENTERING OURSELVES FOR WORSHIP**

### **PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

Dear creator of all, as we stand at the beginning of this new year, we confess our need of Your presence and Your guidance as we face the future.

We each have our hopes and expectations for the year that is ahead of us—but You alone know what it holds for us, and only You can give us the strength and the wisdom we will need to meet its challenges. Help us to humbly put our hands into Your hand, and to trust You and to seek Your will for our lives during this coming year.

In the midst of life's uncertainties in the days ahead, assure us of the certainty of Your unchanging love.

In the midst of life's inevitable disappointments and heartaches, help us to turn to You for the stability and comfort we will need.

In the midst of life's temptations and the pull of our stubborn self-will, help us not to lose our way but to have the courage to do what is right in Your sight, regardless of the cost.

And in the midst of our daily preoccupations and pursuits, open our eyes to the sorrows and injustices of our hurting world, and help us to respond with compassion and sacrifice to those who are friendless and in need.

We pray for our nation and its leaders during these difficult times, and for all those who are seeking to bring peace and justice to our dangerous and troubled world.

Bring our divided nation together, and give us a greater vision of what You would have us to be. As we look back over this past year, we thank You for Your goodness to us—far beyond what we have deserved. May we never presume on Your past goodness or forget all Your mercies to us, but may they instead lead us to repentance, and to a new commitment to make You the foundation and center of our lives this year.

We thank You for the promise and hope of this new year, and we look forward to it with expectancy and faith. This we ask in the name of divine who has given us hope both for this world and the world to come. Please join me in saying the words Jesus taught us to say:

## **LORD'S PRAYER**

### **HYMN**

I Am the Light of the World      VU 87 st. 1,2,4

“I am the light of the world! You people come and follow me!”  
If you follow and love, you'll learn the mystery  
of what you were meant to do and be.

When the song of the angels is stilled, when the star in the sky is gone,  
when the kings and the shepherds have found their way home,  
the work of Christmas is begun.

“I am the light of the world...

To find the lost and lonely one, to heal the broken soul with love,  
to feed the hungry children with warmth and good food,  
to feel the earth below, the sky above!

“I am the light of the world...

To bring hope to every task you do, to dance at a baby's new birth,  
to make music in an old person's heart,  
and sing to the colours of the earth!

“I am the light of the world...

Words and Music: Jim Strathdee  
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## OFFERING

There are many ways to give to the church! This week, I want to thank everyone who volunteers at Parkdale. To all who use their time and talents to reach beyond these walls, thank you.

I want you to know that when you give to Parkdale, you are not only helping with our ministry here and now, but helping those near and far who need a little more love and assistance. I ask you to please take a minute to prayerfully consider giving to the church. If you feel called, there is a basket at the back of the sanctuary. If you are unable to give at this time, please know you are welcome, loved, and a valuable part of our community. For those of you who continue to give through PAR, thank you.

## OFFERTORY MUSIC

One Child (Jill Galina)

## READINGS

### Psalm 8

O LORD, our Sovereign,  
how majestic is your name in all the earth!  
You have set your glory above the heavens.  
<sup>2</sup> Out of the mouths of babes and infants  
you have founded a bulwark because of your foes,  
to silence the enemy and the avenger.  
<sup>3</sup> When I look at your heavens, the work of your fingers,  
the moon and the stars that you have established;  
<sup>4</sup> what are human beings that you are mindful of them,  
mortals that you care for them?  
<sup>5</sup> Yet you have made them a little lower than God,  
and crowned them with glory and honor.  
<sup>6</sup> You have given them dominion over the works of your hands;  
you have put all things under their feet,  
<sup>7</sup> all sheep and oxen,  
and also the beasts of the field,  
<sup>8</sup> the birds of the air, and the fish of the sea,  
whatever passes along the paths of the seas.  
<sup>9</sup> O LORD, our Sovereign,  
how majestic is your name in all the earth!

### John 1:1-9

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. <sup>2</sup> He was in the beginning with God. <sup>3</sup> All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being <sup>4</sup> in him was life,<sup>[a]</sup> and the life was the light of all people. <sup>5</sup> The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

<sup>6</sup>There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. <sup>7</sup>He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. <sup>8</sup>He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. <sup>9</sup>The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

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**MESSAGE** Happy New Year

**HYMN** As with Gladness Men of Old VU 81 st. 1, 4, 5

As with gladness men of old did the guiding star behold,  
as with joy they hailed its light, leading onward, beaming bright,  
so, most gracious Lord, may we evermore your splendour see.

Holy Jesus, every day keep us in the narrow way;  
and when earthly things are past, bring our ransomed souls at last  
where they need no star to guide, where no clouds your glory hide.

In the heavenly country bright none shall need created light;  
you its light, its joy, its crown, you its sun which goes not down;  
there forever may we sing hallelujah to our King.

Words: William Chatterton Dix Tune: DIX  
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**BENEDICTION**

May the God who gave us this year, and the Saviour who walked at our side each day, and the Spirit who filled us with life abundant, grace the coming year with peace, hope, and joy. Amen.

**CHORAL BLESSING** Go, Tell It on the Mountain VU 43 st. 1

Go, tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere.  
Go, tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born.  
While shepherds kept their watching o'er silent flocks by night,  
behold, throughout the heavens there shone a holy light.  
Go, tell it...

Words: J.W. Work Music: African-American spiritual  
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**POSTLUDE**

**MINISTER**

Kim Holmes-Younger

**ORGANIST**

Antonina Cox

**LAY READER**

Beth Balshaw

**WORSHIP HOSTS**

George & Irene Norton, Sheila Navrady

**SCREENS**

Beth & Jim Balshaw

**SOUND**

Ken Coburn