

Welcome to the worship service of  
**St. Andrew's United Church**, Chalk River, Ontario  
on this **Second Sunday of Advent/PEACE**  
**Dec. 6, 2020**

Kindly enter this time centering on God, prepare to meet God.  
The musical prelude is to assist you in this quiet meditative time.

### GATHERING IN COMMUNITY

#### MUSICAL PRELUDE

**INTROIT:** "Peace Shines as the Solitary Star" (MV 220)

Peace shines as the solitary star. Faith is the inner light.

You and I together mirror the Light of Lights, and illumine the pathway home.

#### LIGHTING of the ADVENT CANDLE/CALL TO WORSHIP

"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" (VU 1) verse 1

(The first Advent candle is lit)

What is Jesus like for you?

**For some of us Jesus is like a tree with strong roots giving strength and support. For others, they see themselves as seeds and Jesus is the gardener, nurturing and caring.** (A moment of silent contemplation as you think about who Jesus is to you.) **We wait for Jesus, the firm foundation and soulful gardener, who nurtures peace.**

(The second Advent candle is lit)

We wait for Jesus as we pray: **God of the unexpected and undreamt: You have called us here in this holy season, instill your peace in our hearts. Prepare us again so we can hear the song of the angels and see again the beckoning star. Amen** (Celebrate God's Presence 1G003)

"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" (VU 1) verse 4

**WORDS OF GREETING:** Psalm 80:1-3

**Acknowledgement of Traditional Territory:**

**WELCOME**

**OPENING PRAYER:** God of glory, we find it difficult to recognize you in our midst and listen for your voice. Our faith is fragile, and our self-concern is massive as we live our lives feeling no need to account for the gift that life is. In pandemic times we are focused on survival, our own and our churches, rather than our mission of service to the world. We have failed to prepare the way for Christ's

entry into our everyday environment. Change us and live through us, we pray. Amen

**Opening Hymn:** "Hark the Glad Sound" VU 29

**CALL TO CONFESSION:**

**THREADS OF PEACE:** God of glory, we find it difficult to recognize you in our midst and listen for your voice. Our faith is fragile, and our self-concern is massive as will live our lives feeling no need to account for the gift that life is. In pandemic times we are focused on survival, our own and our churches, rather than our mission of service to the world. We have failed to prepare the way for Christ's entry into our everyday environment. Change us and live through us, we pray. Amen

**ASSURANCE:**

#### HEARING GOD'S WORD

Old Testament: Isaiah 40:1-1

MINISTRY OF MUSIC

Gospel: Mark 1:1-8

MESSAGE: "The Things That Make For Peace"

**HYMN:** "All Earth is Waiting" VU 5

#### RESPONDING TO GOD'S CALL

**LIFE AND WORK OF THE CONGREGATION**

**INVITATION TO ACTION:**

**OFFERTORY PRAYER:** While we are waiting and preparing for Christ to appear, we are seeking, O God, to act as faithful followers. May what we offer extend the promise of salvation to people whose lives are broken by neglect, abuse, and bad choices. May our gifts offer peace to all those whose suffering and loss seems too heavy to bear. May our church be a listening, caring presence for all its members, and through us may all who we meet find comfort and support. Amen

"Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying" VU 400

**PASTORAL PRAYER AND LORD'S PRAYER:**

**CLOSING HYMN:**

**BLESSING/SENDING**

**Three-fold Amen**

**"Go Now in Peace" VU 964**

WORSHIP NOTES:

1. Advent Candle Lighting Liturgy adapted from [www.united-church.ca/worship-theme/advent-unwrapped](http://www.united-church.ca/worship-theme/advent-unwrapped) Advent Candle Lighting Liturgies: Who Do You Say Jesus Is? © 2019 The United Church of Canada/L'Église Unie du Canada. Licensed under Creative Commons Attribution Non-commercial Share Alike Licence. To view a copy of this licence, visit <http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-sa/2.5/ca>.
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What are the things that make for peace?

Please let Gayle Barks know if you plan to attend the Christmas Eve Service.

The Mitten Tree is up in the back of the sanctuary. Please bring donations of mitts, hats, scarves, socks, .... for North Renfrew Family and Children's Services. Let's also remember the Food Bank!