

ADVENT 1 - HOPE

Sunday, December 2, 2018



Rideau Park United Church



Welcome to Rideau Park United Church. Please note: Audio loops are available from the ushers. Prayer requests for today's services can be noted on the lists at the entrances. Childcare for pre-schoolers is available in room B-12 (lower hallway). Quiet activity boxes are also available for children in the chapel each Sunday. ****Indicates where the congregation is invited to stand as able. After the service you are invited to join us for refreshments and conversation in the Parlour.***

ADVENT 1—HOPE, Sunday, December 2, 2018

We Gather Together

Gathering Music:

Lighting of the Chancel Candles: 2 Samuel 22: 29 "Indeed, you are my lamp, O Lord. God lightens my darkness."

*Call to Worship:

ONE: Come in hope this day. Come to worship our God,

ALL: for God is the source of our deepest desires. God places a longing in our hearts.

ONE: Let the light dance and the anticipation stir.

ALL: It is Advent, the season of waiting and longing. May we be filled with a living hope.

ONE: Now is the time to worship with hope!

***Processional Hymn: 1 VU**

O Come, O Come Emmanuel
(verses 1-4)

Veni Emmanuel

Prayer of Approach: HOPE

ONE: In the spirit of hope, we come, Holy God,
on this first Sunday of Advent.

As we enter into a season of anticipation and waiting,

Help us to appreciate each day of this sacred time.

Prepare our hearts, we pray, to receive the babe of Bethlehem. Amen.

Lighting the Advent Candles - Advent 1 HOPE

Candle Lighters: Allison van Diepen,
Jeremy, Nathaniel, and Emma Geelen,

***Advent Song: 7 VU**

Hope Is a Star

Moon Beams

(Following the hymn, the children are invited to go to their Sunday School classes.)

We Listen for God's Word

Scripture Reading: Jeremiah 33: 14-16

Lay Reader: Bob Roden

Anthem:	"Mary, Did You Know" Chancel Choir	B. Greene
Scripture Reading: Luke 21: 25-36		Lay Reader: Bob Roden
Sermon:	Until it Grows	Steve Clifton
*Hymn: 20 MV	God of Still Waiting	Hesychia

We Offer Ourselves In Service

The Life and Work of the Church
Offering

Offertory Music	"The Lost Chord"	Arthur Sullivan
Soloist:	James Coole-Stevenson	

WE CELEBRATE AT GOD'S TABLE

*Presentation Hymn: 469 VU	We Gather Here	Divernon
-----------------------------------	-----------------------	----------

Words of Invitation

Prayer of Thanksgiving

ONE: May God be with you.

ALL: And also with you.

ONE: Lift up your hearts.

ALL: We lift them up to God.

ONE: Let us give thanks.

ALL: It is right to give God our thanks and praise.

ONE: Blessed are you, gracious God, Creator of light, giver of all life, Source of love; Your song rang out before the world began; your ancient love still touches us and stirs within us. Even when we turn away from you, you keep faith with us. You send your messengers to prepare the way through the wilderness of our time, to guide us in the path of wholeness, to call us to repent.

ALL: Thanks be to you, God!

ONE: In Mary, woman of promise, you showed us courage and faith; in the fullness of time she brought forth our prince of peace and herald of hope. So it is that we join in the Advent prayer of all your people: "O Come, Emmanuel." And as we wait and watch for your coming, we proclaim your goodness.

**ALL: Holy, holy, holy God. Power of Life and love!
Heaven and earth are full of your glory! Hosana through the ages!
Blest is the One who comes to bring your justice on earth!**

ONE: On the last night with his friends, Jesus took an old tradition and gave it new meaning. He took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to those around him, saying: "Take, eat, this is my body, broken for you. Whenever you do this, remember me." After supper he took a cup of wine, and gave it to them saying: "This is the new covenant in my blood. Each time you drink of it, remember me." We remember and we proclaim the mystery of our faith:

**ALL: Christ has died.
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.**

ONE: Send your Holy Spirit upon us, O God, that we and these gifts, empowered by the Spirit, may become signs of shalom to one another and to all the peoples of the earth.

**ALL: Through Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Spirit,
all glory is yours, now and forever. Amen.**

Breaking the Bread and Lifting the Cup

(Today we will be serving communion in the pews. It is our tradition to eat and drink together, when all have been served.)

Jesus' Prayer (p. 921 VU)

WE GO FORTH IN EXPECTATION

***Hymn: 30 VU**

Hail to God's Own Anointed

Crüger

Commissioning

Voluntary:

Rideau Park News

2203 Alta Vista Drive, Ottawa, ON K1H 7L9
(613) 733-3156 rideaupark.ca

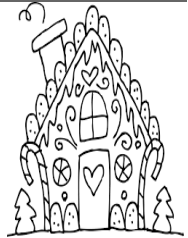


Upcoming Worship Events

Dec 3	UCW Candlelight Service	1:30pm
Dec 5	Advent Evening Retreat	7:15pm
Dec 9	Christmas Celebration Concert	7:30pm

ADVENT HAPPENING - TODAY! Following the service we will again be making Gingerbread Houses as ADVENT HAPPENING marks the beginning of the Christmas Season. A pot-luck lunch will follow. An offering of \$10.00 to cover the costs of the houses, icing and candies will gladly be accepted at the door. Thank you!

No Pageant rehearsals are scheduled today-enjoy Advent Happening!



Ring in Christmas: Start your Christmas season with the handbell and chimes concert TODAY at 7:00 p.m. All are invited to attend. This annual concert features the five handbell and chimes choirs from Rideau Park: Touch of Brass, Grace Notes, La Bell Ensemble, Note-Able Sound Chimes, and Ringing Praise, playing the popular and sacred music of Christmas. Not to be missed! Freewill offering.

The Christmas Nativity - Week 1: As we journey through Advent together, please take time to look at our Nativity scene at the front of the church. Each week, one or more different scenes will be on display as the Advent Liturgy unfolds and we travel to Bethlehem and beyond. Christmas is celebrated in many ways in countries all over the world. The nativities on display today come from many lands, and some have been specifically intended for export, to bring in desperately needed funds. Nevertheless, their construction and artistic conception show how this universal story is seen through the eyes of a myriad of cultures.

Rideau Park's Christmas Shoebox program - Please return your wrapped Christmas Shoebox during coffee time in the Parlour. There are a few more boxes left to be given out as well.



UCW Candlelight Service: Monday, December 3 at 1:30 p.m. All UCW members are invited to join the Annual General meeting and Candlelight Service which will be followed by refreshments.

A BIG thank you to all the helpers at the Roast Beef Dinner on Friday evening! Set up, food preparation, serving, clean up, all take many generous hands to make a very successful dinner!

“Christmas Celebration” December 9th at 7:30 p.m. Rideau Park’s Chancel Choir presents Camille Saint-Saëns’ Christmas Oratorio, featuring Rideau Park section leads, organist Andrew Ager, harpist Caroline Leonardelli and a string quintet ensemble, led by Kevin James. In addition, audience members can join with the choir and Touch of Brass Bells during the singing of treasured Christmas music and carols. A Freewill collection will be taken at this service.



Harmony Club for Seniors (60+) will meet on **Wednesday, December 5**. Registration begins at 11:00 a.m., as members begin to gather. The annual fee is \$4.00. At 12:00 noon, a delicious lunch will be served by volunteers (cost is \$6.00). From 1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. there will be a Christmas carol sing-along led by Iain Macpherson, Music Ministry Coordinator, accompanied by Organist Andrew Ager on the piano. Please spread the word that presentations are open to all, without charge or prior notice. Plan to join us again on January 30, 2019.

In the midst of all the December busyness, set aside some time for our series of Advent retreats. On **Wednesday evenings, December 5, 12 and 19**, take some time to pause and reflect in this season of preparation:

December 5 from 7:15 to 9:00 p.m, Nancy DeKemp, a local spiritual director and member of Rideau Park, will lead us in a retreat, moving between the Parlour and the Sanctuary. With prayer, silence, reflection and symbols, we will be invited to ponder what Advent means for us.

December 12 from 6:30-8:30 p.m, Encarna will be held in the sanctuary. Come experience the Advent season in multimedia, prayer stations, and meditation.

December 19, from 6:30-8:30 p.m, the Labyrinth will be laid out in Beecroft Hall for walking meditation and prayer, with an Advent theme.

Carleton Exam Pause Table: We will be supplying volunteers and baked goods to the Pause Table at Carleton on **Wednesday, December 12** from 10am until early afternoon. Signup sheets for food donations or for volunteer help are on the Help Wanted bulletin board at the end of the upper hallway.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED - Stage Set-up and Take-Down! The Christmas Pageant stage will be set up on **Friday, December 14 at 7:00 p.m.** We are in need of many volunteers to help with ***both the set-up next Friday evening and with the take-down immediately following the service on December 16.*** If you can help, please e-mail Marc Laliberté at marcandrea@rogers.com or phone him at 613-248-1283.

RPUC Website: Go to rideaupark.ca for all the latest church news and information on upcoming events, and join us on Sunday mornings for our live streaming service. This site is maintained by the office staff and volunteers.

Note: 2019 offering envelopes can be picked up on the Sunday school counter.

Do you have a favourite Christmas carol or holiday song that makes your heart sing? For the service on **Sunday, December 23**, we are inviting you to suggest special Christmas songs and memories for our morning worship. Much like the service we held last spring, we hope you will introduce that “song in your heart”. Suggestions are not restricted to the Hymn Book! If we can find the music to play and words for a PowerPoint, we can all join in your favourite holiday song together. *We will have time for 8 speakers, so don't delay!*



Christmas Eve 2018 – As you prepare for the holidays, keep in mind these services on **December 24** at Rideau Park:

6:30 p.m – Lessons and Carols led by the children and youth, featuring Cherubs, Joyful Noise, Noteable Sound and Grace Notes.

8:30 p.m – Candlelight Communion, featuring music by our Chancel Choir and the celebration of **communion**.

10:30 p.m – Candlelight Reflections, featuring Touch of Brass bell choir and our Chancel Choir.

Christmas Day at 10:00 a.m. the service will be led by Sharon Sanderson.

Healing Pathway: Full sessions are offered most **Thursdays, by appointment, between 1:00 and 4:00 p.m., and once a month on Sunday evening between 7:00 and 9:00 p.m.** To book an appointment, please email healingpathway@rideaupark.ca, or speak to Sharon Sanderson or Brian Neal. Healing prayer is also offered in the Chapel, immediately following the service, most *Sundays*. No appointment is needed for these shorter, 3-5 minute sessions.

Each Sunday morning as the collection plate is passed around, while it may look bare, 198 members/families (over 85% of those making pledges) are actually contributing close to \$8,500 through pre-authorized remittance (PAR). Sunday PAR givings go primarily to the 3 major funds, which the Church uses to manage most of the work that we do. It takes a lot of financial support, approximately \$11,500 per week, to operate a Church our size and run all of the programs that we do. That is why we need strong financial support from all those attending our services. So when that plate goes by take time to reflect on what it takes to run our church and how your generosity can help make a difference.

Rideau Park United Church seeks to be a welcoming faith community, inclusive of all, including those of different economic, ethnic, racial and religious backgrounds, sexual orientations and gender identities. We have recently begun a study process with the goal of becoming an Affirming Ministry, as defined by the United Church of Canada.

We acknowledge, with respect the history, spirituality, and culture of the indigenous peoples of Canada, and their stewardship of unceded Algonquin land where this church is built.

Activities Calendar: December 2– December 8			Coffee Hour Volunteers	
<u>Sunday:</u>			Dec 02	Karen Humpheries & Rob Blake Ken & Dipty Tong & Family
Meditation	9:10am	B-9	Dec 09	Wayne & Janet Bond Pat & Gavin Currie
Sunday Service Advent	10:00am	Sanctuary	Dec 16	Carolyn & John Scollick Karin Ott & Bruce Dixon
Coffee Time	11:00am	Parlour	Dec 23	Marlene Hutchison Lois Jensen Daryl & Garry Lindberg
Advent Happening	11:15am	Beecroft	Sunday Duty Officers	
Drumming	11:30am	B-13	Dec 02	Judy Paré
Bell Concert	7:00pm	Sanctuary	Dec 09	Lynn Sherwood
<u>Monday:</u>			Dec 16	Maureen Stark
Knitting	12:30pm	Beecroft	Counting Volunteers	
UCW Candlelight Service	1:30pm	Parlour	Dec 03	Bob Roden & John Durkee
Ringing Praise	6:30pm	Sanctuary	Dec 10	John Scollick & John Durkee
Touch of Brass	7:15pm	Sanctuary	Dec 17	Susan Vaughan
<u>Tuesday:</u>			Main Office is open Monday to Friday, 9:00am-4:00pm	
50+ Fitness	9:00am	Beecroft	Visit our website: rideaupark.ca	
La Bell Ensemble	7:15pm	Sanctuary	Prayer Chain: ext. 227 or prayerchain@rideaupark.ca	
<u>Wednesday:</u>				
Harmony Club	1:00pm	Parlour		
Gentle Yoga	5:30pm	Parlour		
Advent Retreat	7:15pm	Parlour/Sanc		
<u>Thursday:</u>				
50+ Fitness	9:00pm	Beecroft		
Quilting	9:30am	Parlour		
Euchre	1:00pm	Beecroft		
Healing Pathway	1:00pm	Beecroft		
HearSay	5:45pm	Beecroft		
Joyful Noise 2	6:15pm	B-12		
Joyful Noise 1	6:45pm	B-12		
Chancel Choir	7:30pm	Sanctuary		
<u>Friday:</u>				
Morning Yoga	9:00am	Parlour		
Chair Yoga	10:30am	Parlour		

Church Staff: 613-733-3156			
Elizabeth Bryce - Minister	Mon-Thurs	ext. 224	ebryce@rideaupark.ca
Steve Clifton - Minister	Tues-Fri	ext. 225	sclifton@rideaupark.ca
Georgina Fitzgerald - Minister	Tues-Thurs	ext. 226	gfitzgerald@rideaupark.ca
Andrew Ager - Organist	Thurs-Fri	ext. 223	organist@rideaupark.ca
Iain Macpherson - Music Ministry Coordinator	Wed-Thurs	ext. 301	choirdirector@rideaupark.ca
Debi Brown - Administrator	Mon, Wed-Fri	ext. 228	administrator@rideaupark.ca
Debby Gerro - Administrative Assistant	Tues-Fri	ext. 229	adminassist@rideaupark.ca
Paul Sorg - Custodian	Mon, Wed-Fri	ext. 229	