

Sunday, December 30, 2018—10:00 a.m

Shared Worship

Emmanuel, Riverside, Rideau Park
and Southminster United Churches



Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. Colossians 3:14

Gathering Music

Lighting of Chancel Candles:

Psalm 119:105 Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.

Carol Sing:

68 VU – All Poor Ones and Humble

73 VU – Twas in the Moon of Wintertime

47 VU – Still, still, still

***Hymn: 50 VU He is born/ Il est né (verse 1 in French, verses 2-4 in English)**

***Call to Worship:** (responsive, based on Psalm 148)

ONE: Let us praise the Lord of all creation.

ALL: Let all creation praise our God.

ONE: God's name shall we praise, whose glory is reflected in earth and heaven.

ALL: Praise our God, provider and saviour, who called us into being and holds us close. Praise the Lord!

Prayer of Approach (*seated, unison*)

**Holy One you have guided and accompanied us throughout this year,
and today, as we move into the new year, we give thanks for your blessings.**

Our faith draws us into the heart of life:

to rejoice with those being born,

to pray with those dying,

to offer support and care to those who are on the threshold,

as life changes, as light fades, or dawn comes.

You meet us there and welcome us.

We are your Bethlehem: the place you are born.

As we consider our passing year,

May we be inspired by your call to serve you as your church

And to love you as your body, blessed, bewildered and beloved. Amen

Hymn (seated) 69 VU – Away in a Manger

Theme Conversation

Scripture Reading: Colossians 3:12-17

Anthem: Combined Choir

Reflection: Elizabeth Bryce

Sung Refrain: 115 MV-

**Behold, behold, I make all things new
Beginning with you, and starting from today.
Behold, behold, I make all things new,
My promise is true, for I am Christ the way.**

Reflection: Trisha Elliot

Sung Refrain: 115 MV - Behold, behold, I make all things new

Reflection: Paul Dillman

***Hymn: 82 MV – Bathe me in your light**

OUR RESPONSE

Offering

Offertory Music:

*Offertory Response: 68 VU – chorus

**Then haste we to show him, the praises we owe him
Our service he ne’er can despise;
Whose love still is able to show us that stable.
Where softly in stable, he lies.**

Prayers of the People and the Lord’s Prayer (p. 921 VU)

***Hymn: 43 VU - Go, tell it on the Mountain**

*Commissioning:

ONE: Creator God, on the cusp of the New Year

TWO: When thoughts turn again to new beginnings and starting afresh

THREE: Accompany us as we gaze into the distance

FOUR: Of fresh ground on which to service you

ONE: Of hopes and dream, opportunities for service

TWO: Challenges and uncertainties.

THREE: Empower us through the Spirit

FOUR: Who breathes life into this world And into our lives.

UNISON: Walk with us into this new year of opportunity.

Benediction

Postlude



Welcome to our worship today! Come and join us in Beecroft Hall for refreshments and conversation following the service.

All undesigned offerings today will go to **Centre 507**.

Centre 507 is, above all, a community. *Everyone* is welcome. We bring people together, some of whom might otherwise be isolated. It often starts with a great bowl of soup and a conversation with someone at the same table. They get to know more people and feel a friendly, positive vibe. Over time, they might see or hear about our partners who visit the centre to offer support in areas such as health, housing or job skills. They see others clearing tables and helping unload food orders or donations. So they pitch in too. And the sense of belonging and community grows stronger.