

ADVENT 4-LOVE

Sunday, December 23, 2018

10:00 a.m.



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 preschoolers 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 4 - LOVE, Sunday, December 23, 2018

We Gather Together

Gathering Music:

“Il Dulci Jubilo”
Touch of Brass

Lighting of the Chancel Candles: John 1: 4-5 (from The Message) “The Life-light blazed out of the darkness; the darkness couldn’t put it out.

*Call to Worship: based on Psalm 80

ONE: Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel, you who lead your people like a flock!
You who are enthroned upon the cherubim, shine forth before all the nations.

ALL: Stir up your might, and come to save us!

ONE: Restore us, O God; let your face shine, that we may be saved.

ALL: Let your hand rest on us, that we may have strength.

ONE: Let us worship in gratitude and faith.

***Processional Hymn: 36 VU Angels, From the Realms of Glory** Regent Square

Lighting the Candle of Love:

Candlelighters: The Legace Family

In a spirit of love, we come, Holy God,
on this fourth Sunday of Advent.

The word of your prophet is given to us,
the One who bears your love will come to us.

O shine forth your wisdom on us
that we might know your salvation.

Prepare our hearts, we pray,
to receive Emmanuel, God with us. Amen.

Advent song: 7 VU

Hope Is a Star, verse 4

Moon Beams

A Time for All God's Children

Song: Jingle bells, Christmas Bells (words on PowerPoint)

(Following the song, the children and youth can go out to their Sunday School classes.)

To Listen for God's Word

Carol: 91 VU

The First Nowell (verses 1-5, with bells)
(Introduced by Joan Dewis)

Anthem:

“In the Bleak Midwinter“

O. Gjeilo

Scripture Reading: Luke 1: 26-38

Responsive Reading: 898 VU Song of Mary (no sung refrain)

Carol: 73 VU

The Virgin Mary Had a Baby Boy (verses 1-2)
(introduced by Elizabeth)

The Virgin Mary

Solo:

“Gesù Bambino”

Pietro A. Yon

Soloist:

Jessyca Morgan

Carols:

God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen and We Three Kings Mash-up
(Introduced by Meg Steele)

We Respond with Our Gifts

Offering

Offertory Music

Ere Zij God

(Introduced by Alyce Dunnewold)

*Offertory Response: 55 VU - verse 4

**What can I give him, poor as I am?
If I were a shepherd, I would bring him a lamb;
if I were a wise man, I would do my part;
yet what can I give him - give my heart.**

Prayer of Thanksgiving and Concern and the Lord's Prayer

The Life and Work of the Church

Carol:
(verses 1,2 and 5)

Good King Wenceslaus
(Introduced by Helen Beck)

*Commissioning and Benediction

Postlude



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.

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.

Rideau Park News

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



Upcoming Worship Events

Jan 6	Epiphany	10:00am
Jan 13	Installation of UCW Executive	10:00am
Jan 27	"I Have a Dream" Service	10:00am

The Christmas Nativity - Week Four: 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. This Sunday's nativity comes from the town of Assisi in Italy. It depicts an imaginary scene in which the holy family exchange greetings with St. Francis of Assisi, and St. Clare, one of his first followers. Francis broke with all church practice when he invited local people to bring their farm animals and take a direct part in celebrating Jesus' birth. In doing so he brought the meaning of the story to life as never before, and made Christmas pageants and nativities an indelible Christmas tradition.

Christmas Cheer thanks our many volunteers, those who made monetary contributions, our suppliers of food and turkeys (Independent Grocers and Glebe Meat Market), Food Basics (grocery carts). We delivered hampers to 78 families and presented gift cards to an additional 76 families. There are now a lot of happy people!

"This will help me as I undergo my cancer treatment."

"It made me cry when I received the hamper."

"Will we get the children's Christmas Card again? (We thank the Guides for them!) It's been so long since I had something handmade from a kid. I still have the one from last year on my fridge."

We are pretty close to reaching our \$15,000 goal, but the Christmas Cheer committee is confident that we will be successful. Thanks for all your help!

A very BIG thank you! The RPUC Christmas Cheer Committee would like to offer our sincere thanks to Tom Wilson and his staff at Wilson Independent Grocer, and Stephane and his staff at Glebe Meat Market (and Dymon for the boxes) for making this year's Christmas Cheer Program so successful!



*The poinsettias at the front of the church are donated by the UCW
in loving memory of Marcia Gosse.*

50+ Fitness Group: Tuesdays and Thursdays, 9:00-10:00 a.m., starting back Tuesday, January 8. Please join us and get moving, strengthening, and stretching. All levels of fitness (male and female) are encouraged and supported by Faiza, our Certified Seniors' Fitness Instructor (SFIC). The cost of the Winter Session is \$60.00 for 20 classes. Pay by cash or cheque. Drop-in fee \$8.00. For more info, call the church office (Monday-Friday 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.) 613-733-156 ext. 229.

PLEASE NOTE: Teen Bells, Chimes, Cherubs, KinderPraise and Joyful Noise choir practices AND HearSay dinner, are **back on schedule for Thursday, January 10.**

Gentle Yoga: Fridays, 9 - 10am, from January 11 to March 8 . Yoga enhances any other exercise routine as well as stretching and strengthening. Certified Yoga Instructor, Lynda Spalding, will lead beginner to advanced (male and female) students through a gentle therapeutic flow class. Fees: 4 or more classes - \$6/class. Drop-in fee \$8.00. **Chair Yoga is also offered on Fridays, 10:30 -11:30am from January 11 to March 8.** For more info and fees, contact Lynda: 613-422-3565 or 4livingyoga@gmail.com

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.

"I Have A Dream" Service Sun. January 27 at 10:00 a.m. Mohammed Adam, Ottawa Citizen columnist will speak at this service. Everyone is invited. For more information, call 613-733-3156 x229 (Monday-Friday 9:00 a.m.- 4:00 p.m.).

Harmony Club for Seniors 60+ will meet on Wednesday, January 30, from 1:00 - 2.00 p.m., enjoy a presentation by Alta Vista author, Sue Taylor-Davidson on her debut novel, "To Pluck A Crow: The Hands Behind Shakespeare's Pen." All seniors are welcome. This Club is run by volunteers. For more information, call 613-733-3156 x229 (Monday-Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.)

Please note that the 2019 Offering envelopes are available to pick up on the Sunday School counter. Thank you.

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.

Funeral Team Volunteers needed: Serving funeral receptions is a Rideau Park ministry that was initiated about 5 years ago. Families who have lost a loved one and who desire a reception at RPUC following the funeral service at RPUC are paired with the lead of the reception team to co-ordinate the arrangements. Typically, the team sets up the room, makes tea and coffee, helps serve (all the food for receptions is now catered) and oversees the clean up. Usually each funeral team serves 3 – 4 times each year. Due to members moving or experiencing health issues, we need to recruit several people to continue this ministry. If you would like more information, please contact Judy Paré at 613-523-0098 or judy2006@sympatico.ca **We would welcome your help!**

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.

Phase 1 Workshop: January 18 -20, at Trinity United Church in Ottawa, Friday: 7:00 – 9.30 p.m., Saturday: 9:00 a.m. to 5.30 p.m., Sunday: 1:00 – 5.30 p.m. The Healing Pathway enables people to develop the gifts and skills of healing within the Christian tradition, and fosters the development of healing ministries in congregations and other communities. practitioners are trained to be a heart-centred, loving presence, and to use energy-based techniques in an intentional manner to facilitate and support the healing process of an individual, for physical, emotional, intellectual, and spiritual well-being. Speak to Brian Neal, Sharon Sanderson, or Rev. Clifton for more information. Brochures are posted on the bulletin board across from the Sunday School counter and available on line at healingpathway.ca (in Courses section). **Early Registration Fee:** \$210.00 (*\$230.00 after Jan 4*), half price to repeat as refresher. Subsidies are available.

Kitchissippi United is holding their annual curling and chili dinner at the [Granite Curling Club](#) the afternoon of **Saturday, February 16**. If you're interested or would like more information, please contact Gordon Dewis (gordon@dewis.ca or 613-482-1075).

Ontario Youth Parliament (OYP) 2019 will be held at Rideau Park United church on **February 15-19, 2019** (Family Day weekend). Young people interested in attending OYP can find information and register at oyp.on.ca If you can help by providing lodging for OYP delegates in February please visit oyp.on.ca/billeting or through email at billets@oyp.on.ca.

Activities Calendar: December 23-Jan 5

Sunday:

Meditation	9:10am	B-9
Sun. Service Advent 4	10:00am	Sanctuary
Coffee Time	11:00am	Beecroft

Monday:

Family Service	6:30pm	Sanctuary
Candlelight Communion	8:30pm	Sanctuary
Candlelight Reflections	10:30pm	Sanctuary

The office will be closed between:

Friday, December 21, 2018 at 4:00 p.m.

to Wednesday, January 2, 2019 at 9:00 a.m.

Sunday:

Shared Service at RPUC 10:00am Sanctuary



Regular Office hours: Monday to Friday, 9am-4pm

Ministers' pager number: 613-786-4340

Visit our website: rideaupark.ca

Prayer Chain: ext. 227 or prayerchain@rideaupark.ca

Coffee Hour Volunteers

Dec 23 Marlene Hutchison
Lois Jensen
Daryl & Garry Lindberg

Dec 30 Joanne Rodgers, Ron MacPherson
Carolyn & John Scollick
Susan & Colin Townsend

Jan 6 Ada McEwen & Morley Craig

Sunday Duty Officers

Dec 23 Merina Shulist

Dec 30 Patricia Whitridge

Jan 6 Don & Lois Harper

Counting Volunteers

Dec 28 Ron MacPherson, Bob Roden,
Christel Kurz, Pat Whitridge,
John Scollick, John Durkee,
Cameron Jeffrey, Barbara Jeffrey

Jan 2 Garry Lindberg

Church Staff: 613-733-3156

Elizabeth Bryce - Minister

Steve Clifton - Minister

Georgina Fitzgerald - Minister

Andrew Ager - Organist

Iain Macpherson - Music Ministry Coordinator

Debi Brown - Administrator

Debby Gerro - Administrative Assistant

Paul Sorg - Custodian

Mon-Thurs ext. 224

Tues-Fri ext. 225

Tues-Thurs ext. 226

Thurs-Fri ext. 223

Wed-Thurs ext. 301

Mon, Wed-Fri ext. 228

Tues-Fri ext. 229

Mon, Wed-Fri ext. 229

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