

Advent 1

Sunday, December 1, 2019



Rideau Park United Church

We acknowledge, with respect the history, spirituality, and culture of the indigenous peoples of Canada, and their stewardship of the unceded Algonquin land where this church is built. Rideau Park is an Affirming Congregation in the United Church of Canada. All are invited to participate fully, with mutual respect, in the life and work of the church, including those of diverse ages, abilities, gender identities and sexual orientations, races ethnicities, religions, and economic backgrounds.

Sunday, December 1, 2019 - Advent 1- Hope

WE GATHER TOGETHER

Organ Prelude

***Call to Worship:**

All around us days shorten and nights lengthen,
but we are told that the night is almost over, and a light is drawing near.

We wait on God's light together

Chaos surrounds us as the business of the season approaches,
but we are called along pathways of peace

We wait on God's peace together

In this season of friends and family,
we dearly miss the faces that are absent this year

We wait on God's comfort together

Though the world can seem dark and chaotic both within and without
we are told that God will build a house among us

We wait on God's presence together

***Processional Hymn: 1 VU**

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel
(verses 1-2, 6-7)

Veni Emmanuel

Prayer of Approach

Lighting the Advent Candles – Advent 1 HOPE

Mi-Kyong Lee, Timothy Gulliver and Hae-Bin Gulliver.

One: Who do you say Jesus is?

Two: To a student, Jesus is like a teacher, who helps us to learn and grow.

One: To a traveller, Jesus is like a guide, leading us in new directions.

Two: We wait for Jesus, the wise teacher and guide, who leads us to hope

All: We wait for Jesus

(Lights first Advent candle)

ALL SING: 6 VU – verse 1

**A candle is burning, a flame warm and bright.
A candle of hope in December's dark night.
While angels sing blessings from heaven's starry sky
Our hearts we prepare now for Jesus is nigh.**

**Dedication of the Window
Words of Introduction**

Lighting of the Christ Candle: Chloe, Emma-Mae, Lily and James Chant

Prayer

Presentation: Pat Becker and Chloe Chant

Prayer of Dedication

Prayer of Thanksgiving

One: God of the whole human family,
we thank you for all that was beautiful and good
in the lives commemorated and honored today;
and of all who gather in the name of Jesus.
Creator God, source of all inspiration and beauty,
we thank you for the gift of this window
now dedicated to the glory of your name.

**All: May your Holy Spirit guide us
in reverent and loving use of all things,
remembering always your great gift to us,
Jesus Christ, your Son, our Saviour. Amen.**

Touch of Brass: Love Goes On (In memory of Marcia Gosse)

Celebration of Baptism

Sacrament of Baptism - Extending the Christian Family

† Statement of Purpose

† Introduction of the Candidates

† Questions of Commitment

† Profession of Faith-A New Creed VU 918

† Pouring of the Water & Prayer of Thanksgiving

† Act of Baptism

† Giving of the Baptismal Candle

† Sung Blessing VU 965 (sung by all)

Prayer: (unison)

God of gracious welcome, hear our prayer for Gabriella baptized today. May she be blessed in all of life's journey. May we who hold the mark of baptism hold her in faith and Christian love. May she know the grace of your Holy Spirit in all the days ahead. Amen.

Puer Nobis Nascitur

And, as we wait and watch for your coming among us,
we proclaim your goodness.

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

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 and Benediction**

Voluntary

*Today we welcome through the sacrament of baptism
Gabiella and her parents, Carly and Alessandro Pagliarello.*

"We eat simply so that others may simply eat." With the celebration of **communion today**, we invite you to make a special donation to the Benevolent Fund. This is a discretionary fund used by the ministers to offer financial support to individuals and households in the congregation and community. Thanks to the congregation's generosity, we have been able to subsidize fees for events and programs at the church, we have kept the utilities on in people's homes, we have put food in children's lunch bags. With your help, we can continue to respond to these emergencies, with compassion and care. Please use the Benevolent Fund envelope in this bulletin.

ADVENT HAPPENING, TODAY! (Previous sign-up was required.) Following the service we will again be making Gingerbread Houses as ADVENT HAPPENING marks the beginning of the Christmas Season. A potluck 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.



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.*

Rideau Park News
(613) 733-3156 rideaupark.ca



Upcoming Worship Events

Dec 4	Encarna	6:30pm
Dec 11	Advent Retreat	7:15pm
Dec 22	Blue Christmas	3:00pm

Ring in Christmas! Get in the Christmas mood with a lovely concert TODAY at 7:00 p.m. performed by our talented hand bell and chimes ringers, under the leadership of Jeanette Caton, Gord Dewis and Andrea Laliberté. All are invited. This annual concert features Rideau Park's five handbell and chime choirs: **Touch of Brass, Grace Notes, La Bell Ensemble, Note-Able Sound Chimes and Ringing Praise**, playing the popular and sacred music of the Christmas season. Freewill offering in support of Christmas Cheer and Heron Road Foodbank.



Christmas Shoeboxes: Thank you Rideau Park for your generosity thus far! This Christmas season we have been asked to provide 140 shoeboxes within our community. We still have 18 children that need supporting. Please come see us during coffee hour.

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. Our first nativity has an unusual feature: the garments of five of the figures carry painted illustrations, each depicting an important part of the Christmas story. Perhaps it is a message that we all carry Christmas within us.



Harmony Club for Seniors (60+) will meet on Wednesday, December 4. Registration begins at 11:00 a.m., as members begin to gather. The annual fee is \$4.00. At 12:00 noon, a delicious **Christmas 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 Minister 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 29, 2020.

No Pageant Rehearsals Today: There will be no rehearsals today due to Advent Happening.

TREASURER'S NOTE

Below are the year-to-date revenues and expenses for the period ending November 30, 2019 for the "Rideau Park Ministries and Program" (M&P) Fund, along with comparatives to the current budget for the period and the previous years' actual:

FINANCIAL RESULTS AS AT Nov 30:

	2019 Actual	YTD Budget	2018 Actual
M & P Revenues	\$ 454,663	\$ 464,250	\$ 463,239
M & P Expenses	<u>\$ 517,257</u>	<u>\$ 530,122</u>	<u>\$ 512,537</u>
Shortfall	<u>\$ (62,594)</u>	<u>\$ (65,872)</u>	<u>\$ (49,298)</u>

The M&P Fund is our operating fund out of which we pay salaries and other operating expenses during the year. It is not unusual for this fund to be in a deficit position at the end of November. However, as noted above, the M&P Fund is behind last year at this time, primarily due to a decline in envelope givings. We had already planned for a budget shortfall of \$25,000. We are in danger of surpassing this shortfall and therefore, need strong Congregational support over the next month so that we can keep the shortfall to less than or equal to plan in order to maintain our limited reserves.

Bob Roden, Treasurer

Christmas Celebration Concert! You are invited to join us on **Sunday, December 8, at 7:30 p.m.** for a marvelous, festive concert featuring Rideau Park's own Chancel Choir, Touch of Brass Bells, and organist Andrew Ager. Listen to the sacred music of Christmas and join in singing your favourite carols. Freewill offering. *There will also be a reception after the concert.*

Christmas Cheer needs \$15,000 to provide a hamper or gift cards to 150 families. To date we have raised \$2,404.25. Part of the funds raised for the Bell concert this evening and all of the funds from the Choir concert next Sunday will go the Christmas Cheer. Additionally, donations can be received on the offering plate, at the office or online using the CanadaHelps button on the website.

Blue Christmas: Please join us at **3:00 p.m. on Sunday, December 22**, for the gentle Blue Christmas service. A quiet, contemplative service; an alternative to traditional services. Maybe your year has been hard – for whatever reason (bereavement, illness, estrangement, loss of income, loneliness or worry)– and Christmas seems to highlight the difficulties. Or maybe in an over busy life, you just want space to reflect, recall, regroup.

Attention: In light of the recent events the **alarm access codes** are being reviewed. If you currently have a code or have occasion to need to have an alarm code please let Debi know before December 1 as the codes will be updated on December 2. Please note that there are only 16 slots available so priority for a code will be determined by the Administrator.

Activities Calendar: Dec 1-7		
<u>Sunday:</u>		
Meditation	9:10am	B-9
Advent 1 Communion	10:00am	Sanctuary
Advent Happening!	11:00am	Beecroft
Drums Alive!	11:30am	Sanctuary
Bells/Chimes Concert	7:00pm	Sanctuary
<u>Monday:</u>		
Knitting	12:30pm	Beecroft
UCW/Candlelight service	1:30pm	Parlour
<u>Tues:</u>		
50+ Fitness (last!)	9:00am	Beecroft
La Bell Ensemble	7:15pm	Sanctuary
<u>Wednesday:</u>		
Harmony Club	1:00pm	Parlour
Tai Chi	4:00pm	B-12
Gentle Yoga	5:30pm	B-12
Advent Encarna	6:30pm	Sanctuary
<u>Thursday:</u>		
50+ Fitness	9:00am	Beecroft
Quilters	9:30am	Parlour
Healing Pathway	1:00pm	B-9
Xpression Choir	6:15pm	B-12
NoteAble Sound Chimes	6:45pm	Sanctuary
Cherubs	6:45pm	B-12
Joyful Noise	6:45pm	B-12
Grace Notes	6:45pm	Sanctuary
Chancel Choir	7:30pm	Sanctuary
<u>Friday:</u>		
Morning Yoga	9:30am	Parlour
Chair Yoga	11:00am	Parlour
<u>Saturday:</u>		
Hand Bell Seminar	2:00pm	Parlour

Coffee Hour Volunteer

Dec 1	Nancy & John Durkee Susanne Beausejour Heather & Wayne Bennett
Dec 8	Doug & Elaine Robertson Ken & Dipty, Mikayla, Billy Tong
Dec 15	Christy Harris Mary & Keith Harris Susan & Colin Townsend
Dec 22	Pat & Gavin Currie Heather & Wayne Bennett

Sunday Duty Officers

Dec 1	Shanti Inman
Dec 8	Kate Whitridge
Dec 22	Judy Paré

Counting Volunteers

Dec 2	Bob Roden, Mark Inman
Dec 9	John Scollick, John Durkee
Dec 16	Gary Linberg

Main Office is open Monday to Friday, 9am-4pm
Visit our website: rideaupark.ca
Prayer Chain: Ext 227 or prayerchain@rideaupark.ca

Church Staff: 613-733-3156

Elizabeth Bryce - Minister	Mon-Thurs	ext. 224	ebruce@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
Geoff Scollick - Custodian	Mon-Fri	ext. 229	custodian@rideaupark.ca