

Advent IV- Love

Prelude

GATHERING

Welcome & Announcements

WE GATHER BEFORE GOD



HYMN VU 6 *A Candle Is Burning (vs1-4)*

Call to Worship

Come, people of God, for the Holy One
welcomes us with unfailing love.

**We come with longing and with hope,
trusting the God who is love.**

In a world of hurry and fear, God offers love
that is patient, kind, and steadfast.

**We open our lives to this steadfast love,
that it may heal, restore, and renew us this day.**

In Jesus Christ, love took on flesh and came to
earth to live among His creation.

**May we let every word song,
and prayer be offered in love to God.**

HYMN VU 62 *Once in Royal David's City*

Opening Prayer

Preparing for the arrival of love, we center our prayer upon Emmanuel and the beauty to come. With open hearts and lifted hands, we breathe deeply, as we wait. Help us to recognize Your glory in everything around us this Christmas as we anticipate the miracle of Jesus' birth. Holy God, may we celebrate today and cultivate peace and contentment inspired by Your Love each day.

WE LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD

SERVICE OF THE WORD TODAY'S SCRIPTURE

Luke 2:22-35

NKJV

Jesus Presented in the Temple

Now when the days of her purification according to the law of Moses were completed, they brought Him to Jerusalem to present *Him* to the Lord (as it is written in the law of the Lord, "Every male who opens the womb shall be called holy to the LORD"), and to offer a sacrifice according to what is said in the law of the Lord, "A **pair of turtledoves** or two young pigeons."

Simeon Sees God's Salvation

And behold, there was a man in Jerusalem whose name *was* Simeon, and this man was just and devout, **waiting for the Consolation of Israel**, and the Holy Spirit was upon him. And it had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Christ. So he came by the Spirit into the temple. And when the parents brought in the Child Jesus, to do for Him according to the custom of the law, he took Him up in his arms and blessed God and said:

"Lord, now You are letting Your servant depart in peace,
According to Your word;
For my eyes have seen Your salvation
Which You have prepared before the face of all peoples,
A light to bring revelation to the Gentiles,
And the glory of Your people Israel."

And Joseph and His mother marveled at those things which were spoken of Him. Then Simeon blessed them, and said to Mary His mother, "Behold, this *Child* is destined for the fall and rising of many in Israel, and for a sign which will be spoken against (yes, a sword will pierce through your own soul also), that the thoughts of many hearts may be revealed."

This is the word of God for the people of God
ALL; Thanks be to God.

HYMN VU 14 *To a Maid Whose Name Was Mary*

Choir Anthem

When will He Come?

Sermon Message “Two Turtle Doves” – Rev. Naumann

Ministry of Music

Zion Hears - Bach

Advent Prayer

Loving God, as we journey through this Advent season, prepare our hearts with the light of Your love. Fill our homes with peace and our gatherings with joy. May every shared meal, every laugh, and every quiet conversation draw us nearer to You and to one another.

Bless those who travel during this season, watch over them and bring them safely to their destinations. Guard our families with Your mercy and surround us with patience in all that we do. May this time of waiting for the coming of Christ renew our faith, deepen our love, and remind us that every gift of kindness reflects Your divine presence among us.

WE GO FORTH AS GOD’S PEOPLE

Invitation to the Offering

DOXOLOGY VU 55 *In the Bleak Midwinter, verse 4*

Offering Dedication

Lord of Heaven, accept these gifts from our hearts, that they may fulfill the purposes of your people. As Christ’s light shines upon us, we rejoice in the opportunity to share our abundance with others. Bless these offerings to the Christ child and to our resurrected Lord.

HYMN VU 48 *Hark! The Herald Angels Sing*

COMMISSIONING AND SENDING FORTH

Go in faith anticipating the greatest gift of all...Christ, the Light of the World. May you experience the joy of being restored in love, hope, and peace. Go and spread cheer for all you meet this Christmas.

As we leave this Quiet Place – Nancy Price, Don Besig

"As we leave this quiet place, the light of Christ will guide us.

As we share His truth and grace, our Lord will walk beside us.

May the peace of God be with us as we live and serve in faith.

May the love of Christ within us show in all we do and say.

Amen, Amen."

Postlude



Leading Worship:

Rev. Lisa Naumann

Music Director

Craig Garnham

Sunday December 21, 2025

Thank you!

Vickie Forsyth for the scripture reading

Ruth Downey for being our greeter

Morra Family for the Advent Candle readings

Ruth & John Downey for preparing the coffee

Philip Armstrong for running the slides, recording & audio

Paul Sawatsky for guitar accompaniment

Mayfield United Church welcomes all to join us.

Join our weekly email list:

mayfieldunitedchurch.org

for more information:

P. 905.843.1035

secretary@mayfieldunitedchurch.org

for info regarding events



VU 6 – A Candle Is Burning

Words by Sandra Dean, 1986 © 1986, Sandra Dean Used with permission.

- 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.
 - 2 A candle is burning, a candle of peace,
 a candle to signal that conflict must cease:
 for Jesus is coming to show us the way;
 a message of peace humbly laid in the hay.
 - 3 A candle is burning, a candle of joy,
 a candle to welcome brave Mary's new boy.
 Our hearts fill with wonder, and eyes light and glow
 as joy brightens winter like sunshine on snow.
 - 4 A candle is burning, a candle of love,
 a candle to point us to heaven above.
 A baby for Christmas, a wonderful birth,
 for Jesus is bringing God's love to our earth.
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VU 62 – Once in Royal David's City

- 1 Once in royal David's city
 stood a lowly cattle-shed,
 where a mother laid her baby
 in a manger for His bed.
 Mary was that mother mild,
 Jesus Christ her little child.
- 2 He came down to earth from heaven
 who, with God, is over all,
 and His shelter was a stable,
 and His cradle was a stall.
 There among the poor and lowly
 lived on earth our Saviour holy.
- 3 For he is our lifelong pattern;
 daily, when on earth he grew,
 he was tempted, scorned, rejected,
 tears and smiles like us he knew.
 Thus he feels for all our sadness,
 and he shares in all our gladness.

4 And our eyes at last shall see Him,
 through His own redeeming love;
 for that child who seemed so helpless
 is our Lord in heaven above;
 and he leads His children on
 to the place where he is gone.R

VU 14 – To a Maid Whose Name Was Mary

1 To a maid whose name was Mary,
 the angel Gabriel came.
 "Fear not," the angel told her,
 "I come to bring good news,
 good news I come to tell you,
 good news, I say, good news.

2 "For you are highly favoured
 by God the Lord of all,
 who even now is with you.
 You are on earth most blest,
 you are most blest, most blessed,
 God chose you, you are blest!"

3 But Mary was most troubled
 to hear the angel's word.
 What was the angel saying?
 It troubled her to hear,
 to hear the angel's message,
 it troubled her to hear.

4 "Fear not, for God is with you,
 and you shall bear a child.
 His name shall be called Jesus,
 God's offspring from on high.
 And he shall reign forever,
 forever reign on high."

5 "How shall this be," said Mary,
 "that I should be with child?"
 The angel answered quickly,
 "The power of the Most High
 will come upon you shortly,
 your child shall be God's child."

6 As Mary heard the angel,
 she wondered at His words.
 "Behold, I am your handmaid,"
 she said unto her God.
 "So be it, I am ready according to your word."

VU 55 – In the Bleak Midwinter

Words by Christina Georgina Rossetti, 1872 Public Domain

- 4 What can I give Him, poor as I am?
 If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb;
 if I were a wise man, I would do my part;
 yet what I can I give Him - give my heart.
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VU 48 – Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

Words by Charles Wesley, 1739, alt. Public Domain

- 1 Hark! the herald angels sing,
 'Glory to the newborn King,
 peace on earth, and mercy mild,
 God and sinners reconciled!'
 Joyful, all ye nations, rise,
 join the triumph of the skies;
 with the angelic host proclaim,
 'Christ is born in Bethlehem!'

Refrain

*Hark! the herald angels sing,
'Glory to the newborn King!'*

- 2 Christ, by highest heaven adored,
 Christ, the everlasting Lord,
 late in time behold Him come,
 offspring of a virgin's womb.
 Veiled in flesh the Godhead see;
 hail, the incarnate deity,
 pleased with us in flesh to dwell,
 Jesus, our Emmanuel! R
- 3 Hail, the heaven-born Prince of Peace!
 Hail, the Sun of Righteousness!
 Light and life to all he brings,
 risen with healing in His wings.
 Mild he lays His glory by,
 born that we no more may die,
 born to raise us from the earth,
 born to give us second birth. R

Hymns