



Mount Royal United Church

"At Mount Royal United Church, our mission is to serve God;
living our faith inside and outside these walls and nurturing
each individual on their faith journey."

2nd Sunday in the Christmas Season January 2nd, 2022

Congregational responses in bold.

We Come Together

Prelude

Greeting

Land Acknowledgement

Announcements

Call to Worship:

One: This is a new day,

All: a new week,

One: the beginning of a new year,

All: and we have come to worship.

One: May our hearts be open to all the wonders God would have
us experience in this time,

**All: and as we leave from this place may God's light lead
us and guide us as we serve the world.**

One: Come, let us worship God.

**Opening Prayer: God of new beginnings, as we set out on
the journey of a new year, be with us. Like those who have
travelled through uncharted territories in the past, give us
the courage to face new challenges. Like those who have
known the uncertainty of what lies ahead, give us the
confidence to know that you are there to guide us. Like
those who have assumed they had all the answers even
before the questions were asked, give us the humility to be**

surprised by your presence and open to being upheld by your people everywhere. Give us the strength we need, the sensitivity others need from us, and the wisdom to respond in ways that nurture all of creation. This we pray in Jesus' Holy name. Amen.

Hymn: "What Child is This" (Stephanie Mah) **VU#74**

Personal Prayer "Kindle a Flame to Lighten the Dark" x2 **VU#19**
(concluded as we pray together the Lord's Prayer)

We Listen to the Word

Learning Time Lesson

Learning Time Prayer

Your Word, dear God came one day, bringing us the light. The light that shines in all the darkness, that everything may be bright. Our lives, as well, can bring that light in all we say and do. Please guide us in your holy way that all life may be made new. Amen.

Hymn: "Good Christian Friends Rejoice" **VU#35**

Prayer for Understanding

Reader: Tracy Parrott

Scripture Reading: John 1: 9-18

One: This is the Word of God.

All: Received by our hearts this day.

Sermon "Words Embodied"

Anthem "O Holy Night" France & Lee

Pastoral Prayer

We Respond to the Word

Invitation to the Offering: Everything came into being through the Word and the Word is the light for all the people. This light is a gift that is always before us guiding, holding, and comforting. This light is the great gift of Jesus being born among us as one of us. In response to that love, we offer our own gifts this day praying

they be used in ways which go beyond our knowledge and wildest expectations that God's light may be shared with all.

Offertory Prayer (unison): **God, whose love has been born among us and for us, bless the offering we make this day. Transform it, bringing hope to the despairing, peace to the restless and love to those living in the shadows of indifference. Allow your grace to enfold us now, enabling your continued ministry in our community and world. In Jesus' wonderful name we pray. Amen.**

Hymn: "It Came Upon a Midnight Clear" **VU#44**

Blessing: Friends, in this coming year may you: experience God's voice clearly, know God's heart deeply, rest in God's love more fully, trust in God's care completely, and hold within you the peace that only Christ can provide. **Amen.**

Our candles of Hope, Peace, Joy, Love and Christ continue to lighten our way...

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Ministers: The Gathered Community
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Office Hours this week: Wednesday – Friday, 9am - 3pm

Screen operators for the coming weeks:

Jan 2 – Esther, Jan 9 – Elizabeth, Jan 16 – Erik, Jan 23 – Debbie

Sound/Prompter operators for the coming weeks:

Jan 2 – Stephen, Jan 9 – Tracy, Jan 16 – Stephen, Jan 23 – Tracy