

### **ALMONTE UNITED CHURCH**

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### Sunday, January 5, 2025 10:30 am

We gather today on the traditional and unceded territory of the Algonquin Anishnaabe Nation.

May we dwell on this land with respect and peace.

### **Musical Prelude**

#### **Welcome and the Announcements**

### The Call to Worship:

One: The Wise Ones followed a star to find the place where the Christ Child was dwelling.

All: In faith, we gather here with the certain knowledge that Jesus, the Christ, dwells here in this place and in our hearts.

One: The Wise Ones brought symbolic gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh.

All: We bring both our monetary gifts and the gifts of ourselves to continue the work of Christ here in this time and this place.

So let us worship our great Triune God: Creator, Sustainer and Holy Spirit!

Opening Hymn: 81 (vu) "As with Gladness"

### The Opening Prayer:

Great Guide of all our seasons, we gather here at the beginning of this shiny New Year grateful for your great unseen Presence in the past. And we pray that, with obedience, patience and faith, we might feel and know your great guidance in all our future endeavours, for we pray in the name of your precious Christmas Gift, Jesus Christ. Amen.

#### The Children's Time with Gus and Gloria

### The Choir Anthem

**The Gospel Reading**: Matthew 2:1-12. Page 783. "The Magi visit the Christ Child"

### Meditation

Hymn: 97 (vu) "A Star is Shining"

The offering is collected-\*Sung Response: MV#191

"What can I do? What can I bring? What can I say? What can I sing? I'll say a prayer. I'll bring my love. I'll do my share" x2

**Dedication of Offerings** 



### **Prayer of Thanksgiving and Commitment**

The Lord Be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to God.

We thank you, God-among-us, for your many blessings and care. When in the beginning you stretched forth your hand, Your own light burst forth to conquer darkness; You spoke and a world was born to give you praise.

### God Creator, now we raise this our song of grateful praise.

We give you thanks, O God, for times and seasons, And now for winter nights when stars shine coldly bright; For winter days when trees in blackened limbs hold promise of resurrection.

For cold and still soft snow which falls like absolution to heal a wounded earth.

## God of all seasons, now we raise this our song of grateful praise.

We give thanks for the child whose birth we celebrate in winter, So all may know that God-with-us enlightens dark winter nights And mercy blankets all the land more surely than the snow.

# Child of Christmas, now we raise this our song of grateful praise.

O God of Life, who has created us with hearts capable of love: We thank you as we gather in this community. Help us cherish each other as gifts of God, Rejoice with each other and wipe the tears from each other's eyes.

### Giver, Gift, to you we raise this our song of grateful praise.

For those in our lives that enable community, And for those that enable our various ministries We sound our thanksgiving.

For blessings of hospitality, safe journeying and caregivers at home;

For food for the mind and spirit to nourish our communion; For commitment in the Spirit, we give thanks.

### God of Blessing, help us raise this our song of grateful praise.

O Sustaining God, who provides new joys each day; Grant us the caring of a creator and the flexibility of the seasons; Grant us the wisdom of children and generosity to honour the gifts in each other.

You are the God of Promise whom we thank and praise as we live out the promise and possibilities of our lives.

### Faithful God, to you we raise this our song of grateful praise.

In thanksgiving, wonder and joy, we join the angels who praise you in unending song:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might. Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.

Called as partners in the life of the church,

We commit ourselves anew to our calling and to each other. God of new life, you are the power at work within us; You are able to do far more than we can ask or imagine; To you be honour and glory, in the church and in Christ Jesus, Now and forever, Amen.

J.T Nolan and Fred Graham

The Sacrament of Holy Communion

The Closing Hymn: 87 (vu "I am the Light of the World"

**Extinguishing the Advent Candles and The Benediction** 

**Musical Postlude** 



### CONGREGATIONAL NEWS

### **Potluck Lunch**

Please join us to bring in the New year with a New Year's Potluck Appetizer & Dessert Party next Sunday, January 12, 2025 following the service. These items can be your choice of hot or cold. As we have many allergies in the congregation, we ask you to please keep all dishes nut/peanut free and list out the ingredients on a card beside your items. We look forward to a wonderful time to connect, enjoy great food, and share fellowship with one another. We hope to see you there.

# ST. PAUL'S/DUNROBIN UNITED CHURCH – CAFES EVENT SAVE THE DATE!

On **January 17, 2025** St. Paul's United Church will host a collaborative community workshop event with **CAFES** (Community Associations For Environmental Sustainability):

Date: Friday, January 17th, 2025

Time: 5:30pm-8:30pm

**Location**: St Paul's United Church Carp, 3760 Carp Rd, Ottawa, ON K0A 1L0 **Food: Pizza!** Enjoy a pizza supper and beverages. Connect with community members about climate action. Ideal for ages 16 and up, and no prior knowledge of climate science is required.

Attendance for the event will be limited - pre-registration will be required. Please use the following link to register:

LINK: https://bit.ly/stpaulscarp

### WHAT'S ON AT AUC THIS WEEK

### **OFFICE HOURS:**

Monday from 10 to 2 Thursday from 10 to 3 Friday 10 to 12 noon

Monday, January 6 5:30 Taekwon Do

Tuesday, January 7
10:00 Mom & Baby Physio Workout

10:00 Mom & Baby Physio Workout 6:30 Almonte Embers

Wednesday, January 8

1:00 Carebridge Pilates 5:30 Taekwon Do 7:00 Choir Practice

Thursday, January 9

10:00 Mom & Baby Physio Workout 6:30 Rhythm & Song Choir

Friday January 10

9:30 Lisa Kmiel Yoga

Saturday, January 11

Sunday, January 12

10:30 Sunday Worship & Potluck lunch
Sunday School
Youth Group
7:00 Lindsey Lambden Yoga



