

The first part of the paper discusses the importance of understanding the cultural context of the research. It highlights the need for researchers to be sensitive to the values and beliefs of the communities they are studying. This is particularly important in the field of education, where cultural differences can significantly impact learning outcomes. The paper then moves on to discuss the challenges of conducting research in culturally diverse settings. It notes that researchers often face difficulties in establishing rapport with participants and in interpreting their responses. To address these challenges, the paper suggests several strategies, including the use of local informants and the development of culturally appropriate research instruments. The final part of the paper discusses the importance of ethical considerations in cross-cultural research. It emphasizes the need for researchers to obtain informed consent from participants and to ensure that the research is conducted in a way that respects the dignity and rights of all individuals.

Almonte United Church

106 Elgin Street, P.O Box 190 Almonte, Ontario KOA 1A0

Tel: 256-1355 • Email: office@almonteunited.com • Web: www.almonteunited.com

Sunday, December 22, 2024, 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 Announcements

Call to Worship and Lighting of the Fourth Advent Candle

One: Describing God's unconditional love for us, St. Paul writes:

**All: "Love is patient; love is kind;
love is not envious or boastful or arrogant or rude.
Love does not insist on its own way;
it is not irritable or resentful;
it does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth.
Love bears all things, believes all things, hope all things,
endures all things.
Love never ends."**

Choral Responses: #7 (VU; All Verses) "Hope is a Star"

The Gathering Prayer: (together)

Ever gracious God, we come from the darkness of a long night into the light of this shiny new day; we come from our own space and time to this holy place and sacred time; and we come with expectation as we await the coming of your Holy Child into our human midst. So we pray that

you might be especially with us now during our Advent worship. Amen.

The Scripture Reading: “Mary’s Song of Praise” found at Page 898 in VU with Refrain #1. “Known as the Magnificat, this poem is Mary’s response to the angel that she will bear a child who will be called the Son of God.”

The Cantata by the Choir

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 sing with joy. I’ll say a prayer.

I’ll bring my love. I’ll do my share” x2

Dedication of Offerings

The Pastoral Prayers and The Lord’s Prayer

The Closing Hymn: 43 (VU) “Go, Tell It on the Mountain”

Extinguishing the Advent Candles and Benediction

Musical Postlude



CONGREGATIONAL NEWS

We wish to send an extra-special Thank You to our valued choir members for their dedication to providing beautiful music and sharing their talented voices each week at our services.

Decorators Needed!

Ron and Mary MacMeekin are giving up their decorating creativity after many years of diligent work. When you see the church building transformed during the various seasons, you know that Mary and Ron have been working their magic! Many, many thanks to Mary and Ron for their dedication to AUC!

So.... we need new volunteer decorators...one person or a team, who would like to continue the MacMeekin's legacy. They are willing to help you find the storeroom, decorations, etc. Our church building would look very sparse without the seasonal decor. If you or a team are interested, please speak to Rev. Heather or Peter Mansfield.

New volunteer decorators are needed for January 2025.

The 2025 envelopes are now available in the back of the Sanctuary.

The Office is now closed and will reopen January 6 at 10:00am

Potluck Lunch

Please join us to bring in the New year with a New Year's Potluck Appetizer & Dessert Party on 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.

Marvelous Monday Meals

If you are on our Marvelous Monday Meals email list, you will be receiving the January 6th offering on Thursday, December 26th. If you wish to be on the list please email: marysmiley1@gmail.com. On December 2nd, we prepared 42 meals. Thank you for your support.

If you wish to top- up your offering, now is a great time to do it! Every donation is greatly appreciated and helps AUC continue its work to serve our community.

Financial Donations by E-transfer:

During the pandemic we began to receive donations by e-transfer. For many people it is a quick and easy way to make a weekly financial donation. The email address

is office@almontheunited.com and please include your name and contact information in the message line.





A Month Before Christmas

**'Twas a month before Christmas
So let's get it right,
It's not about stockings
Or a day very white.**

**It's about baby Jesus
Who came to this Earth
And was born in a stable
What a humbling birth.**

**It's about the Man Jesus
Who went to the cross
To save and forgive us
Oh, what a cost.**

**It's about the Man Jesus
Who rose from the grave
To give us new life
And make you and me brave.**

**To tell the good news
to those that we meet,
And say "Merry Christmas"
To those we meet on the street.**

**So let's do that today
And get it all right
No matter whether our Christmas
Is snowy or white**

by Lois E. Rourke... Merry Christmas to all

WHAT'S ON AT AUC THIS WEEK

OFFICE HOURS:

**The Office is now closed and will reopen January 6 at
10:00am**

Monday, December 23

Tuesday, December 24

7:00 Christmas Eve Services

Wednesday, December 25

Christmas Day

Thursday, December 26

Boxing Day

Friday December 27

Saturday, December 28

8:00 Erin Carmichael Yoga

Sunday, December 29

10:30 Sunday Worship

Sunday School

Youth Group

7:00 Lindsey Lambden Yoga



