

Tsawwassen United Church

3rd Sunday of Advent

Dec. 14, 2007, 10:00 AM

During the season of Advent we wait expectantly to celebrate the arrival of the Christ child and the coming of God's realm of peace. The colour for Advent is blue.

*Portions of the service printed in **bold** are spoken by the whole congregation.*

*At the points marked "*****", those who are able are invited to stand.*

PRELUDE: Song of Mary

~ Robert Howell

THE JESSE TREE

CALL TO WORSHIP:

Today we worship in the season of Advent. Advent is a time of waiting, a time of hoping and preparing for God to come and live among us once again.

During Advent we remember some of the people who waited and hoped for the birth of the Messiah.

One way to remember is with a Jesse tree. Each day we hang a symbol on the tree to remember all those people who came before and pointed the way to Jesus.

Today we are reminded of our connection with God's people across the ages as we plant our Jesse tree.

*HYMN: O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

VU 1, vs. 1-4

READER: Genesis 2:15

READER: Genesis 6:11; 7:4

*HYMN: Will Your Anchor Hold

VU 675, vs.1 and refrain

READER: Genesis 12:1-7; 15:1-6

*HYMN: To Abraham and Sarah

VU 634, vs.1-3

READER: Genesis 28:12-13

READER: Genesis 37:26-28

READER: Acts 7:30-34

LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLES (*with Marleen Soutar*)

*HYMN: Hope is a Star

VU 7, vs. 3

READER: Judges 6:11-14

READER: 1 Samuel 3:1-9, 19

READER: Samuel 16:11-13a

READER: Isaiah 6:1-13

READER: Jeremiah 1:4-10; 2:4-13; 7: 1 - 15; 8:22-9:1-11

*HYMN: Teach Me, God, to Wonder VU 299, vs. 1 and 3

READER: Habakkuk 1:1-2:1; 3:16-19

*HYMN: O Come, All Ye Faithful VU 60, vs. 1, 3, 4

READER: Luke 1:57-80; 3:1-20; 7:18-30

*HYMN: There's a Voice in the Wilderness VU 18, vs. 1

READER: Luke 1:30-31, 35, 38

*HYMN: All Earth is Waiting VU 5, vs.1-2

READER: Matthew 1:20-21

READER: Luke 2:6-7

READER: Matthew 2:11-12, 16

*HYMN: The First Nowell VU 91, vs.1 and 5

READER: John 1:14

SOLO: Little Road to Bethlehem ~ Margaret Rose & Michael Head
Soloist: Freda Wise

LEADER: Isaiah said, "A shoot shall come out of the stump of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots."

ALL: Thank you, God, for all who hold out hope for your peaceful kingdom.

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

CHOIR'S ANTHEM: Peace, Peace, Peace ~ Ken Bible & Richard Kingsmore

CELEBRATING THE GIFTS OF THE PEOPLE:

- The Offering is Collected
- Announcements of the Congregation's Life & Ministry
- *Doxology: What Shall I Bring Him VU 55, vs. 4 only
- Offering Prayer

PRAYERS OF THE COMMUNITY

*COMMISSIONING & BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE: Rejoice Greatly in the Lord ~ Rex Koury

*We wish to thank Brianna Almond, Bud Pritchard, Marilyn Merry
and Sandra Timuss for participating in today's service.*

*The Jesse Tree, written by Sally Meyer, Lacolle-Clarenceville P.C. and Henningford P.C., Que.
Gathering, Advent/Christmas/Epiphany 2008-2009, pages 47-49. Used with permission.*

Welcome to Tsawwassen United Church

www.tsawwassenunited.org

693 53rd Street, Delta, BC ❖ 604-943-2911 ❖ E-mail: info@tsawwassenunited.org
Office Hours: 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., Monday to Friday

Contacts

Minister:	Rose-Hannah Gaskin604-943-2911 rose-hannah@tsawwassenunited.org
Minister of Children & Families	Brenda Miller 604-274-2864brendammiller1@gmail.com
Director of Music:	Leona Prowse.....604-943-2911lprowse@tsawwassenunited.org
Administrative Assistant	Mary Almond.....604-943-2911malmond@tsawwassenunited.org
Pastoral Care Contact:	Jean Ryan 604-948-9880
Prayer Requests:	Ethel 604-943-2949 or Rhoda..... 604-943-1674

EVENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

December 14, 2008

*Bob and Carole Baturin have placed flowers in the sanctuary today
in loving memory of their parents.*

*Elaine Pallister has placed flowers in the sanctuary today
in loving memory of her father, George Wyllie.*

WHAT'S HAPPENING THIS WEEK AT T.U.C.

TODAY **Kinsmen Service** – at **9:30 a.m.**

Intergenerational Worship Service – at **10:00 a.m.**

Advent 3 — Candle of Joy.

Advent Candlelight Gathering – from **7:00 to 8:30 p.m. at TUC**

“The hush of heaven holds my heart . . .”

We invite you to nurture your soul, and take time for stillness during this sacred season. Join us for inspirational readings, meditation, joyful stillness, community connection and to sing along to original songs and chants. Led by Rev. Rose-Hannah Gaskin. Original music by Sandra Dawn and Nathen Aswell. By donation.



Prayer Cycle for Vancouver South Presbytery and B.C.

Conference – Today we pray for the members of Vancouver South Presbytery and the Chair, the Reverend Rose-Hannah Gaskin.

MON. **Walking Group** – meet at **9:15 a.m.** at the school track across from the church and walk for your health and have fun and fellowship while walking.

WED. Junior Choir..... 3:30 p.m.

THURS. Choir..... 7:45 p.m.

NEXT SUN. **Worship Service** – at 10:00 a.m.

Advent 4 — Candle of Love.

And Glory Shone Around, cantata presented by the Senior Choir.

UPCOMING EVENTS AT T.U.C.

- **CHRISTMAS EVE FAMILY SERVICE, WEDNESDAY, DEC. 24, AT 4:00 P.M.**
Family service with readings and carols.
- **CHRISTMAS EVE COMMUNION SERVICE, WEDNESDAY, DEC. 24, AT 10:00 P.M.**
The Sacrament of Communion will be celebrated. Join us as we celebrate Christ's birth in word and song, and enjoy some candlelight.
- **SUNDAY, DECEMBER 28TH, AT 10:00 A.M.**
A service of carols and readings for the first Sunday after Christmas, led by the Senior Choir.
- **EPIPHANY — SUNDAY, JANUARY 4TH, AT 10:00 A.M.**
YAYA, the Youth & Young Adult Ministries of the Vancouver South & Vancouver Burrard Presbyteries of the United Church, will be leading the worship service. We will share in worship through drama, music, storytelling, and scripture!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

• DONATION ENVELOPES

Donation envelopes for 2009 are available for pick-up in the narthex. Some envelope holders have been assigned new numbers, so **please do not use 2008 envelopes in 2009.**



• TAX RECEIPTS

If you want a donation included in your 2008 tax receipt please ensure the office receives it by Sunday, December 28th.

• OUTREACH UPDATE

Narthex Christmas Tree

Again we have set up a Christmas tree in the narthex on which you can place your gifts to First United: \$10 in Safeway gift certificates (to be stored in the office), new gloves, socks, and underwear. Children's items may be donated and will be taken to the Oak Avenue Hub in time for Christmas. *Items will be delivered on Wednesday, Dec. 17th, so please have donations in by then.*

Birthday Bag Project — Early Warning

For the past several years, the Outreach Division has coordinated preparation of bags of goodies that would allow a family to host a birthday party for a child. We have focused on ages 3 to 8 and the bags we produce are delivered to the Neighbourhood Hub in Whalley and the Ladner Food Bank for distribution. The Birthday Bag project starts up again in January. You can start bringing in your cake mixes, icings, candles, etc., any time now. Our contacts in both places have in-depth knowledge of the real need of the people who attend their organizations. Our aim is to assist the working poor in both locations.

- **GIFT OF PEACE**

Enjoy a “Gift of Peace” in this busy season. Relax with an hour of calm, candlelight and meditation in the Ladner United Church sanctuary on **Wednesday, Dec. 17th 7—8:00 p.m.** A time for you from the Parish Health Ministry of Ladner United Church, 4960 - 48th Avenue, Ladner. Everyone is welcome.

- **REMINDER FROM FIRST UNITED**

As the weather is getting colder First United is in need of blankets for people sleeping in the Mission and out doors and mugs for early morning hot soup and coffee.

- **INTRODUCTION TO CENTERING PRAYER**

On **Saturday, January 24th**, Contemplative Outreach of Greater Vancouver is hosting an Introduction to Centering Prayer workshop. Christian monastics and mystics through the ages described and practiced a contemplative relationship with God that takes place in a silence deeper than words. Today, Centering Prayer offers a method of prayer that opens us to the gift of contemplation. It does not take the place of other prayer and devotions. Rather it may deepen the experience of other forms of worship by offering a way of quieting our faculties and preparing us to be more receptive to God’s presence.

The Introduction to Centering Prayer Program is instructional and experiential. It consists of a Saturday workshop, and the opportunity to participate in six weekly sessions of approximately 1 1/2 hours each. These sessions are an integrated part of the introduction and support participants with further instruction and encouragement as they establish a Centering Prayer practice. Contemplative Outreach of Greater Vancouver will provide instruction by commissioned presenters and the continuing sessions by experienced facilitators.

For more information go to www.cogv.org or refer to the notice on the bulletin board in the narthex.

PEW CLEAN-UP



Can you help with pew clean-up? At the end of worship services please ensure that the pew is left tidy. If you are not taking your bulletin home, leave it in the basket on the narthex table. If you notice bulletins or other items left behind by others please remove them from the pews on your way out and place them on the narthex table.

TSAWWASSEN UNITED CHURCH MISSION STATEMENT:

Reaching in, we strive to grow in Christ.

Reaching out, we nurture God's world.

- Newcomers:** If you are a newcomer, please sign our guest book in the narthex. Feel free to take home a "Welcome to this Place" brochure available on the table in the narthex. Our website contains more detailed information and a listing of upcoming events.
- Nursery Room:** Parents of infants and toddlers are invited to use the nursery room. The service can be heard there. Please ask an usher for directions.
- Fragrance Free Policy:** Tsawwassen United Church is a "fragrance free" building with regards to the scents that people wear.
- Sign-Up Sheets:** The sign-up sheets for counting and scripture reading are posted on the bulletin board to the left of the nametags board in the narthex for referral and further signing-up.
- Large Print Bulletins:** There are large print bulletins available on the table in the narthex for the vision impaired.
- Assisted Listening:** There are assisted listening devices available on the table in the narthex for the hearing impaired. Please ask an usher for directions on where to sit so it can be plugged in.
- Bulletin Deadline:** Please note that the deadline for the bulletin is Wednesdays at 10:00 a.m. Announcements can be e-mailed to malmond@tsawwassenunited.org.
- E-Letters:** The minister sends weekly letters via e-mail to members of the congregation. Please make sure the minister has your e-mail address. The e-letters are also posted on the church website at www.tsawwassenunited.org/ministersletter.htm. For those without internet access a printed copy of the e-mail can be found on the table in the narthex.
- Minister's Hours:** The minister's work days are Sunday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Saturday. Days off are Monday and Friday. If you have pastoral concerns or would like a visit from the minister, Rose-Hannah, please notify the church office.



We recycle our bulletins. If you are not taking your bulletin home, please leave it in the basket on the narthex table.