

Welcome Team

Assisting Christmas Eve: *Sanctuary Lead* – Laura Mara *Narthex* – Karen Monk
Elevator – Peter Mara *Tech* – Megan Sweetman *Reader* – Cathy Hitchcock
Communion – Bill & Katie Powell, Cathy Hitchcock

Our Prayer Chain is available. When you have a prayer concern, call Kate Sparrow @ 905-302-4549 or the church office.

Emergency Automated External Defibrillator (AED) Onsite

Located in the sanctuary on the landing going up to the balcony on the center of the wall. **Naloxone Kit** in the red First Aid box.

Streetsville United Church Leadership Team

Minister: Rev. Joe Hopkins revjoehopkins@streetsvilleunited.ca

905-826-1542 ext. 2

Music Director: Michelle Chung music@streetsvilleunited.ca

Church Council Chair: Neil Beattie nbeattie@rocketmail.com

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Office Hours: Tue – Fri 8:30 – 12:30 pm

*Christmas Responsive Reading 1, "Light Looked Down," *Cloth for the Cradle: Worship Resources and Readings for Advent, Christmas, & Epiphany*, Wild Goose Worship Group, 1997, p. 82.

Opening Prayer by Laura Turnbull, Penticton, B.C. **Gathering, *Advent/Christmas/Epiphany 2024/2025*, page 38. Used with permission.

***"The Incarnation," *Cloth for the Cradle: Worship Resources and Readings for Advent, Christmas, & Epiphany*, Wild Goose Worship Group, 1997, p. 86-90.

****Sending Words by Taylor Croissant, Southminster U.C., Lethbridge, Alta. **Gathering**, *Advent/Christmas/Epiphany 2024/2025*, page 40. Used with permission.

Christmas Eve

7:00 PM

SILENT NIGHT *Holy Night*

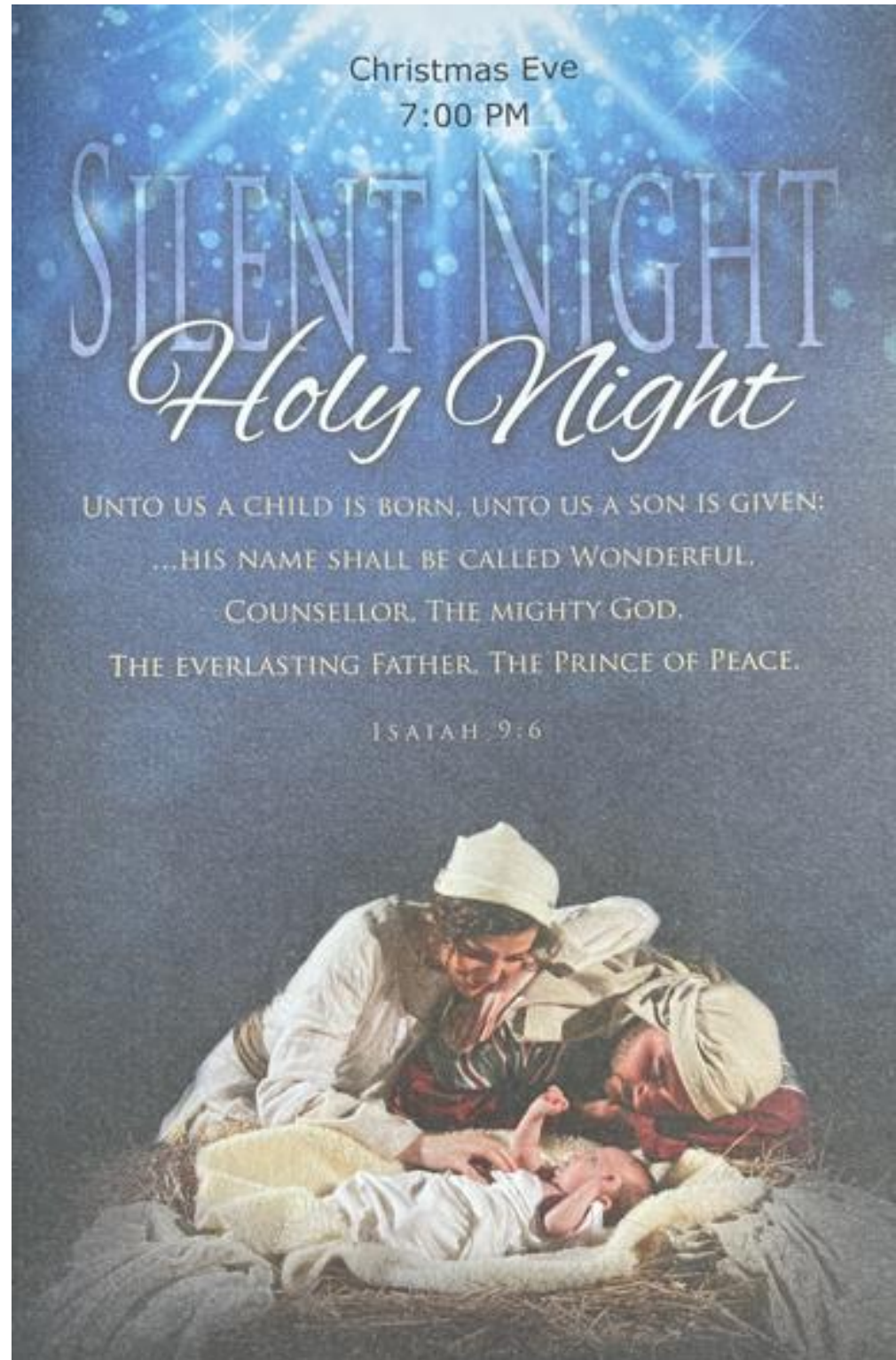
UNTO US A CHILD IS BORN, UNTO US A SON IS GIVEN;

...HIS NAME SHALL BE CALLED WONDERFUL,

COUNSELLOR, THE MIGHTY GOD,

THE EVERLASTING FATHER, THE PRINCE OF PEACE.

ISAIAH 9:6



Order of Worship
God Invites Us to Gather

- *indicates standing for all who are able*

Prelude

Welcome and Land Acknowledgement

Announcements & Centering Ritual

Christmas Eve Responsive Reading* & Candle Lighting

(by the Hodges family)

Reader 1: Light looked down and saw darkness.

Many: "I will go there," said Light.

Reader 2: Peace looked down and saw war.

Many: "I will go there," said Peace.

Reader 1: Love looked down and saw hatred.

Many: "I will go there," said Love.

Reader 2: So he, the Lord of Light, the Prince of Peace, the King of Love, came down and crept in beside us.

All candles are lit.

Readers: We light these candles for the incarnation.

Many: Come, Lord Jesus.

- **Carol VU 48** *Hark! The Herald Angels Sing*

Scripture *Luke 2:1-20* Cathy Hitchcock

Christmas Eve Prayer**

Many: Mysterious God, twinkling lights, starry skies, and candles ablaze remind us of the wonder of Christmas. Help us to hold on to the sense of wonder and curiosity we are experiencing on this holiest of evenings. Let us rejoice with the angels and tell others the amazing news of Christ's entrance into our lives. May it be an ever-current story. We pray in the name of Emmanuel. Amen.

Choir Anthem *Still, Still, Still* arr. Mack Wilberg

Scripture *John 1:1-5, 10-14* Cathy Hitchcock

A Christmas Skit & Reflection:

*The Incarnation****

(Madeleine Tume, Pierson Judd, Emily Hodges, Chris Monk)

- **Hymn of Preparation VU 64**

O Little Town of Bethlehem (v. 1 & 4)

Holy Communion

One: The Lord be with you.

Many: And also with you.

One: Lift up your hearts.

Many: We lift them up to the Lord.

One: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

Many. It is right to give our thanks and praise.

One: It is right, and a good and joyful thing...

Many: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, Heaven and earth are full of Your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

One: Holy are You, and blessed is Your song Jesus Christ...

Many: Christ has died; Christ has risen; Christ to will come again.

One: Pour out Your Holy Spirit on us gathered here...

The elements are distributed.

Stewardship Moment

Music during Offering: *O Holy Night*

(performed by Kim Perrin, Cathy Hitchcock, Joe Garcia, and Roy Kho)

Song of Dedication: VU 55

In the Bleak Midwinter" (v. 1 & 4)

Prayer of Dedication and for Others

Carol: VU 67 *Silent Night, Holy Night*

Lights are dimmed as we sing by candle light.

Sending Words*****

One: Go forth into this night rejoicing like the shepherd, glorifying and praising God for all we have experienced and received.

Many: May our hallelujahs ring out, into the new year and beyond, in love and service, celebrating the perfect gift we have received in Jesus, our incarnate God, the Word-Made-Flesh.

One: Go from here in the blessing of God: Creator, Christ, and Holy Spirit. Amen.

Postlude
