

## Welcome Team

### Assisting Christmas Eve:

**Sanctuary Lead** – Gail Boulton **Upper Lobby** – Wendy Johnson **Elevator** – Doug Hitchcock **Tech** – Ken Boulton **Reader** – Cathy Hitchcock **Communion** – Katie and Bill Powell +1

### Assisting This Week:

**Sanctuary Lead** – Laura Mara **Upper Lobby** – Wendy Johnson **Elevator** – Kevin Dowling **Tech** – Wendy Dowling **Reader** – Ken Boulton **Coffee Hour** – Pastoral Care

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

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**Emergency Automated External Defibrillator (AED)** Onsite located in the lower lobby outside the Fellowship Lounge. **Naloxone Kit** in the red First Aid box at the back of the sanctuary.

### Sharing Our Offerings:

Streetsville United Church needs you now more than ever. Please consider any of the several ways to support our congregation and our work in the surrounding communities. Small changes, like a slight weekly or monthly increase, or more regular givings, can go a long way. All giving methods are on the website or contact the office for help.

- You can e-transfer directly to the church (use [info@streetsvilleunited.ca](mailto:info@streetsvilleunited.ca) or the UCW (use [stvlucw@bell.net](mailto:stvlucw@bell.net))
- Mailing in a cheque or post-dated cheques to the church (or drop off at secure mailboxes front and back of the church)
- Pre-Authorized Remittance (PAR) – automatic monthly deposits to the church. For more details, contact Bev Mathew at [bev.mathew@rogers.com](mailto:bev.mathew@rogers.com) or 905-826-5005.
- Canada Helps (tax receipts provided by Canada Helps)

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### Streetsville United Church Leadership Team

Minister: Rev. Joe Hopkins

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905-826-1542 ext. 2

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Address: 274 Queen St. S, Mississauga, ON, L5M 1L8

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

Wednesday December 24, 2025

Christmas Eve

Homily – “The Gift That Keeps Giving”



*Anchored in God's Word...  
Moving into God's Future*

*Centred on Christ, serving God and our neighbours.*

*To be a vibrant multigenerational congregation within  
our diverse community sharing God's truth and  
unconditional love.*

## *Order of Worship*

### God Invites Us to Gather

- *Indicates standing for all who are able*

**Prelude** Guest Flutiest: Terry Ellen Christophersen “*Away in a Manger*”  
arr. By Christopher Ruck  
“*Silent Night*” arr. Brendan Fox

### **Welcome and Land Acknowledgement**

*Our in-person worship occurs on the traditional land of Indigenous peoples including the Huron-Wendat, Haudenosaunee, Anishinaabe, and Mississaugas of the Credit.*

### **Announcements & Centering Ritual**

**The Birth Story of Jesus** Luke 2:1-20 Cathy Hitchcock

**Carol VU 62** “*Once in Royal David’s City*”

### **Christmas Eve Responsive Reading & Prayer\* & Candle Lighting**

*(All the candles are lit)* Neil Beattie and Philip Szmborski

Reader 1: As we gather on this sacred Christmas Eve, we light all the candles, including the centre candle, the Christ candle. Together, these candles symbolize the Light of the World coming to dispel the darkness. As we light this Christ candle, may its flame ignite the warmth of God’s love within us and spread the message of joy and salvation to all.

Reader 2: Tonight, we celebrate the birth of Jesus, the source of our hope.

**Many: Let heaven and nature sing.**

Reader 2: The Prince of Peace has come to dwell among and within us.

**Many: Let heaven and nature sing.**

Reader 2: The source of our joy and our salvation is here.

**Many: Let heaven and nature sing.**

Reader 2: The greatest gift of all, the gift of love, has been given.

**Many: Let heaven and nature sing.**

Reader 2: Let us pray together:

**Many: Gracious Creator, we thank You for the love that brought Christ into our lives, for the hope his birth represents, and for the peace that his presence brings. As we celebrate the birth of Jesus, may this Christ candle illuminate our hearts and minds, drawing us closer to You and to one another. In the name of the newborn King, we pray. Amen.**

### **Choir Anthem**

“*Come To Us Now, Emmanuel*” by Don Besig  
With Guest Flutiest Terry Ellen Christophersen

**Time with God’s Children** “*What’s in the Box?*”

**Bible Reading** Titus 2:11-14 Cathy Hitchcock

**Christmas Eve Homily** “*Grace Training*” Rev Joe

**Hymn of Preparation VU 473** “*Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence*”  
(v. 1 & 2)

### **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...

And so with Your people on earth and all the company of heaven  
We praise Your name and join their unending hymn:

**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...

We offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving

As we proclaim the mystery of faith:

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

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

All honour and glory is Yours, almighty God, now and forever. Amen.

### ***The elements are distributed.***

One: Please repeat after me: the body of Christ, the Bread of Heaven.

### ***All eat***

One: Again, please repeat after me: the blood of Christ, the cup of salvation.

### ***All drink***

**Stewardship Moment**

**Music During Offering**

Guest Flutist: Terry Ellen Christophersen  
"O Holy Night" Transcribed by Celeste Avery

**Offering** All loose cash will go to the Benevolent Fund

**Song of Dedication VU 55**    "*In the Bleak Midwinter*"    (v. 2 & 4)

**Prayer of Dedication and for Others**

**Carol VU 67**                            "*Silent Night, Holy Night*"

***Lights are dimmed as we sing by candlelight.***

**Sending Words\*\*\***

One: This holy night, may you feel God's presence with you.  
May you know Christ, as sure and powerful as a light in the shadows.  
And may the Spirit use you to be seeds of grace for a waiting world.

**Many: Merry Christmas! Amen.**

**Postlude**                            "*Hark The Herald Angels Sing*"    arr. Lani Smith

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Advent Responsive Reading & Prayer adapted from words written by Joel Raney in "Advent's Holy Light." ©2024 Hope Publishing Company. Used with permission.

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\*\*\*Sending Words written by Elaine Bidgood Sveet. **GatheringWorship.ca**. Used with permission.



**Announcements:**

United Church of Canada Mission & Service a number of our members ask that a portion of their donations to SUC goes to The United Church of Canada to support the Mission & Service fund. If you would like to know more about Mission & Service and what programs are supported through the fund, please go to; [united-church.ca](http://united-church.ca) and scroll about halfway down the page and click on the Mission & Service button. It is our hope, in the coming months, to share with you more about how Mission & Service “transforms and saves lives, inspires meaning and builds a better world”.

**Eden Food for Change Donations** – Please bring your non-perishable donations to the church and place them in the bin in the Lobby/Narthex. Oatmeal, canned vegetables, canned fruit, any soup but vegetable or tomato, cookies, juice, coffee, tea, canned pasta, salmon, canned meat, and dish soap.

**Rev. Joe** will be away for time with his family from Dec. 25 until Dec. 29. If you need emergency pastoral care during this time, you may call Rev. Irene Ty at 647-997-1378 or email her at [irenety888@gmail.com](mailto:irenety888@gmail.com).

**Heather Murray** will be out of the office Dec 30 and returning Jan 6. Dianne Nowoselski will be filling in for her during this time.

**After Christmas comes the season of Epiphany!** We encourage people to keep their Christmas lights up throughout the coming season (until mid-February). Additionally, our upcoming worship series will be “The E-Word: Evangelism That Doesn’t Hurt,” and Rev. Joe will lead a class called “Experimenting with Evangelism” (a sign-up sheet is in the upper lobby/narthex).“

**A True Selfless Act**